

SCIENCE VS. CHRISTIANITY

What defines who we are?

SCIENCE

2013 MOST MEMORABLE NEW PRODUCTS



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CHRISTIANITY

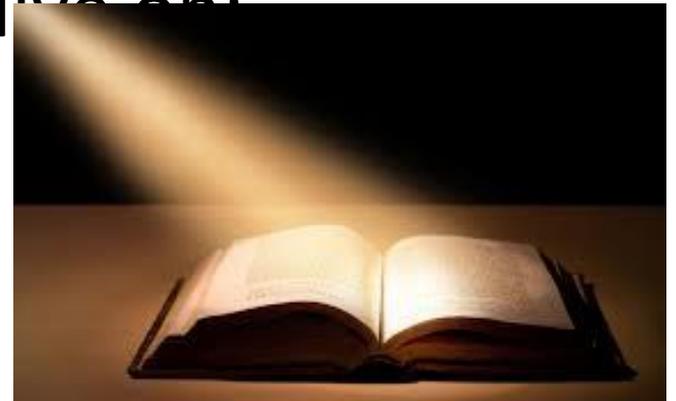


2 Timothy 3:16-17

“all scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness. So that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

We rest our lives and how we live on:

- God's word
- God's spirit
- God's people





Stephen Hawking

“There is a fundamental difference between religion which is based on authority, and science, which is based on observation and reason. Science will win because it works.”

Science acts on:

- Observational approach “scientific technique”
- Scientists
- The “spirit (idea) of science”

When science says:

1. Homosexuality is:

(a) Normal

(b) Innate/inherited, “biological”

(c) Irreversible

2. There are unlimited genders that again are:

(a) Normal

(b) Inherited

(c) Irreversible

HOW DO WE RESPOND??



OUTLINE

1. What is science?
2. Types of scientific inquiry
3. Limits of science



Science

“The intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.”

Science is an approach to defining who, what and where we are.





Genesis 1:28

“God blessed them, and God said to them, “be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth, and **subdue** it. **Rule** the fish of the sea ...”

Kâbaš: bring under control, bring into subjection, to make to serve

Radah: have dominion, prevail

Science as in the systematic understanding and “subduing” of our world and ourselves is:

- A. Commanded by God from Genesis
- B. Not a “modern” invention.

The techniques are modern.
The idea is not.



“Science is the best idea humans have ever had. The more people who embrace that idea, the better.”

Bill Nye

“Science is the key to our future, and if you don’t believe in science, then you’re holding everyone back.”

Bill Nye

“I really believe in science. It is a faith. It is a reverence akin to religion. But as we always say, it’s different from religion in that, as near as we can tell, it exists outside of us. It has an objective quality, the process of science.”

Bill Nye



Science of ideology or religion

Fundamental beliefs

1. materialism: that what exists is material and there is nothing beyond it. Science illuminates it for us.
2. Humanism: humanity is the ultimate end of nature, and science will tell us who we are and what we are.
3. Evolution: that all of life evolves – improves – progresses.. Through science we can become “gods” and live forever. We will conquer our limitations.

When I am discussing science with
someone is it:

Technique or religion we are discussing?



Types of scientific information

Prospective (set up experiments)

1. Double blind: no one knows what group they are in
2. randomized: to ensure groups are not selected
3. controlled: to control for variables that you are not studying

Minimize bias and more powerful results.

This is hard, if not impossible, to do in psychology, sociology and humanities in general.

- Unethical
- Too many variables
- How do you double-blind humans?

Types of scientific inquiries

Retrospective studies: too many variables to count

Genetic: no reproducible valid genetic studies on homosexuality

Structural (CT and MRI): no reproducible valid structural, biological changes

No bio-differences



Types of scientific inquiry

Surveys/client questionnaires:

Identify study topic. Send out survey with a list of questions. Accumulate/analyze data

Bias

e.g. Kinsey (1940-1950s)

“homosexuality was found to be 10% of the population - declared common, therefore “normal”.

Where did he send survey?

- men’s magazines
- Male prison population
- Gay affirming organizations

e.g. Marijuana surveys



Types of scientific inquiries

“Experts – consensus”

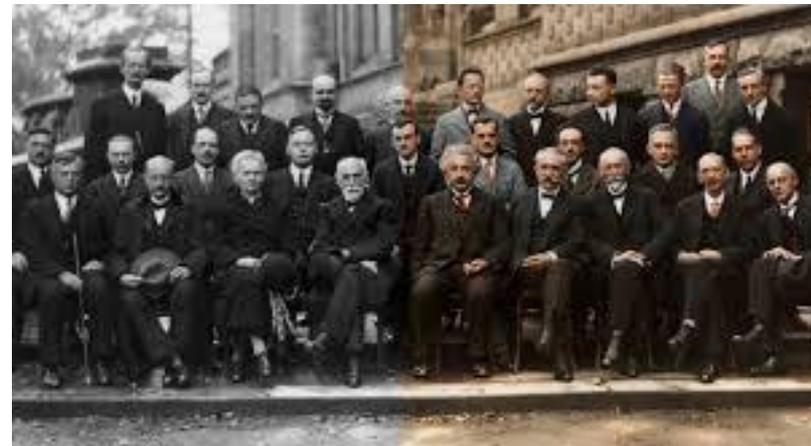
When you have complexity you can select group of experts and have them vote on a topic...

Consensus guidelines:

- psychiatry: problem academics vs clinicians
- Homosexuality removed from DSM (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders)

PROBLEM:

1. Who picks the experts?
2. Who chooses the questions?



Truth is not a matter of
opinion nor the outcome of
a democratic process.

Science is not what a
scientist or a group of
scientists believe.

Types of Scientific inquiry

CASE STUDY

“anecdotal”

“personal narratives that feed on emotional response”



Mennonite Conference on homosexuality

The “science” of sexuality

There is no quality research proving the biology of homosexuality and gender identity.

The science amounts to:

1. Poorly done surveys filled out by biased individuals
2. Consensus statements put out by “experts” with a strong bias either by profession or by lifestyle.
3. Case studies

This is not science (technical), it is science (ideological).

“In this age, in this country, public sentiment is everything. With it, nothing can fail; against it nothing can succeed. Whoever molds public sentiment goes deeper than he who enacts statutes, or pronounces judicial decisions.”
Abraham Lincoln



The limits of science

Mystery:

What do we do when there is no answer??

e.g. When does life begin?

- heart beat (5-6 weeks)
- electrical activity
- movement (14-16 weeks)
- viability (20 weeks)



The Limits of Science

Nature and Nurture
(programming the robot)

OR

Freedom of Choice



The Limits of Science



The Limits of Science



Metaphysics

1. Why am I here?
2. What happens after death?
3. Is there a soul?
4. What is love?
5. What is right and wrong (morality)?
6. Is there a God?

CONCLUSION

True scientific investigation and discovery does not conflict with Christianity. It is our calling.

What science has to say about the psychology and social functioning of man (especially his sexuality) is ideological. It is not experimentally based. It is opinion.

Science can say nothing about the metaphysical aspects of being human.

CONCLUSION

Deut. 8:3

“He humbled you by letting you go hungry; then he gave you manna to eat, which you and your fathers had not known, so that you might learn that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”

Matthew 4:4

“But he answered, “It is written; man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.”