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ALLEGED CONTRADICTIONS OF SCIENCE

I Statement of Allegation and issues.

A. Scriptural statements and results of scientific research are opposed in many instances.

1. Some devout minds think that scientific research is hostile to religion.
2. Some feel that faith in a personal God and supernaturalism is unfriendly to a scientific investigation of nature.
3. Some affirm that the Bible was only written to teach morals and righteousness; an occasional scientific error should not alarm us.
4. Others try to "reconcile" science and the Bible; they say that the ancient revelation has never changed but our interpretation should change with the progress of science.

II Fundamental Considerations.

- A. It is not to be supposed that any fact of nature is in conflict with any clear revelation of God.
1. The fact of nature may not be established.
 2. The revelation of God may be misunderstood.

III Three principals in which science and the Bible are alleged to be in conflict are:

A. The Record of miracles.

1. Assumed impossibility of miracles by Athiests, Pantheists and Deists, has influenced minds.
2. No common ground between Athiest, Pantheist

and Christians.

- a. A personal god and miracles are considered as delusions of religion.

3. Deist cannot consistently deny possibilities of miracles.

- a. He believes in the miracle of creation by God.
- b. There is no logical reason why God couldn't modify, over rule or supercede His natural laws.

4. Three considerations to put proper light on miracles.

- a. Miracles are a part of divine order.
 - (1) They are striking manifestations of God's majesty and power.
 - (2) They are needed because of defects in nature.
 - (3) God uses them for moral purposes.
- b. God's revelation to men was gradually given.
 - (1) Miracles are a part of the historical unfolding of the true religion.
 - (a) With Moses in leading Israel out of Egypt.
 - (b) With the prophets to introduce bondage.
 - (c) With Christ & disciples to usher in Church age.
- c. The miracles of scripture are worthy of the divine author.
 - (1) Miracles of Moses were judgement in a Pagan religion.

(2) Prophet's miracles proved their divine authority.

(3) Christ's miracles had a redemptive significance.

B. Description of Physical Phenomena.

1. A false astronomy is represented in courses of sun, moon & stars.

Answer: Such expressions were merely the language of common life.

2. Joshua commanded the sun to stand still.

Answer: It may have been an optical refraction of rays or a poetic expression not to be literally interpreted.

3. Narrative of the deluge changed as being universal.

Answer: Hebraism such as "all flesh", "whole world" referred only to know world and animals. Flood was probably universal on the human race and local where they lived.

C. The Origin of the world and of man.

1. Three main theories have arisen from the Mosaic narrative.

a. The Geological - each day excludes a geological period.

Answer: The best components admit its errors and science does not support it.

b. The Cosmological - nebular theory of origin

Answer: Theory may be right but forcing it into Genesis one is unsound.

c. Idealistic theory - a mere poetic expression of idealism.

Answer: Form and style gives no indication of poetry.

2. Grammatico - historical interpretation.

- a. It does not refer to universal cosmology but a temporal and local stage setting for man.
- b. There is no valid assumption against a limited creation.
 - (1) Ministry of Jesus was limited to Palestine.
 - (2) Miracles of Moses was limited to Egypt.

This does not detract from their power and splendor. The Bible does not have occasion to touch on universal creation, but merely introduces Edenic - Adamic origins.