

**Co-Creators With God, by Daniel H. Kuhn, Jr. 01070603**  
**Romans 5:1-5 and John 16:12-15**  
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“What is truth?”<sup>1</sup>

On Monday, a new museum opened. It is located in Petersburg, Kentucky, just off Interstate Route 71, a little south of Cincinnati, Ohio. Inside the museum are tableaus populated by animatronic figures. Those are animals that move by means of motors and hydraulics, like the ones in Disneyworld. In one display, children play next to dinosaurs without a care in the world. Inside the \$27 million Creation Museum, the earth is barely 6,000 years old.<sup>2</sup> This is truth, according to Biblical Creationists.

There certainly is controversy over creation. Did God create everything in six days? Was a day a manner of speaking about longer period of time? How could there be light and how could crops bear fruit before sun was created?

There has been a raging controversy for 100 years now between creationists and evolutionists. The Creation Museum says that God created humans, dinosaurs, rocks and the sun six thousand years ago to appear as though they are much older! It is difficult for me to believe in a God who would get a thrill out of fooling human beings. That is the stuff of Greek mythology.

Scientists present what they call the "Big Bang Theory". A primordial mass exploded which caused the universe to be the way it is. For those scientists who have no use for God, though, my question is, how did primordial mass get there?

For me, the truth of the Genesis creation story is that God is responsible for creation, although we don't and may never know exactly how the universe was created. If it was a big bang, then it was God who caused it! If it happened in six days, then it was God who caused that too. The *how* does not make a lot of difference to my faith. The *who* does. To believe that God is responsible for creation means that I am in God's hands now.

Truth is not simply a matter of propositional accuracy. In the Bible, truth relates to faithfulness, sincerity, and justice. The truth is, God is faithful. Are we followers of the truth? Are we faithful to God?

A truth for me is that the creation process did not end with a bang or at the end of Chapter Two of Genesis. As I watch robins feed babies, I know God is still creating. Every newborn baby's cry is a shout of praise saying God continues to create. Every fine artistic performance which affirms cooperation, beauty, understanding, truth, or service to others is testimony to God's continuing creation.

God's creation continued through Noah, the call of Abraham, Rebecca, through judges, kings, prophets, through ministry of Jesus, through Peter, Paul, Lydia, Augustine, Martin Luther, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Martin Luther King Jr. It has continued through faithful church members through the centuries. The question is, will God's creation continue through me or not?

In Proverbs 8:22-31, another Scripture reading for today, Wisdom speaks: “The Lord created me at the beginning of his work... Daily I was his delight.”<sup>3</sup> This concept means that wherever wisdom is, there is the creation of God.

Wisdom is not the amassing of knowledge or bytes of data. A student went back to his economics professor twenty years after graduation and found that he was giving his students the same test he had taken. “Aren't you worried that former students will pass on the questions to new students?”

The professor replied, “No, because every year the answers are different!”

There is a difference between wisdom and knowledge of data. Wisdom is the love of learning, of

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<sup>1</sup>John 18:38

<sup>2</sup>Edward Rothstein, “Adam and Eve in the Land of the Dinosaurs” *New York Times* May 24, 2007

<sup>3</sup>Proverbs 8:22, 30

growth. It is prudence, humility, insight, and righteousness. Wisdom, the Word, the Creation of God, is still not complete. God continues to create. We are prime examples.

Through our birth, we were created. As we grow and develop, God is creating. Paul said in Romans that as we suffer we grow. God is creating. "...suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."<sup>4</sup>

We all face suffering and pain in our lives. It might be the loss of a loved one, illness, a job disappointment, or a nasty neighbor. We can handle such suffering in one of two ways. We can make others suffer through retaliation, or we can turn suffering into an opportunity for God to continue creating. We can look at our suffering and decide to make the best of it and grow in some new way, such as learning new activity or working in support of others suffering in a like manner. Those folks who believe that they learned all they need in kindergarten must hear this: learning is not over until we die. We must urge ourselves onward and learn more. The Sunday school faith we learned back when we were nine or ten years old is not enough. There are new things to learn about Bible and about the way God is working today. You are a prime example of God's continuing creation.

God is calling us to be co-creators. We can do that by being open to new learnings. Your learning did not stop when you graduated.

We learn much from other people. When another bothers or irritates us, we need grow, learn, and understand why they are the way they are.

Gordon was a successful businessman. He was active in church, but he was always criticizing others. He criticized sermons, criticized the church's purchase of new lawn mower, and criticized the small pledges of others, although he himself did not make a pledge. Finally, I confronted Gordon. He had hurt one too many hard-working lay persons. I learned that this tough critical man was to be pitied. He had been criticized unmercifully by his parents; he could never please them.

You can be co-creators with God by allowing your sufferings to be opportunities for growing and not for cursing. When we lament our suffering, we turn inward, become depressed, and destroy ourselves, the people, and the world around us.

You can be co-creators with God by understanding yourself. Why do particular subjects, words, or people upset you inappropriately? Why do you have a stronger reaction than is normal in such a circumstance? Frequently you will find an old deep down hurt has been aggravated, something that is not the other person's fault, something that the other did not intend to aggravate.

You can be co-creators with God by doing those things that make for a better life for all. It might be something political such as writing to a legislative representative: something to bring about peace and understanding; or something to get along with our earth and its resources more symbiotically-- more ecologically. In the words you speak, are you acting as a co-creator with God, or are you destroying? Are you destroying another's creativity? By not understanding another, are you judging harshly and destroying a person's character?

God knows and feels with us in our suffering. God understands. The creative Word of God is received and refined; it suffers, endures, builds character, and gives hope and hope does not disappoint us.

The wisdom of creation is a given. It has a future. In spite of us, it will be there. You have the opportunity to be a co-creator with God! And that's the truth!

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<sup>4</sup>Romans 5:3-4