

Chapter 1

SCIENCE AND SCRIPTURES – WAYS OF KNOWING

OVERVIEW: Many today believe that Science and the Bible are in conflict. Consider these principles:

- (1) Scriptures and natural sciences are both ways of acquiring truth.
- (2) Your worldview has a great influence upon how you interpret phenomena around you.
- (3) Where the limits of the scientific method are evident, we must realize the influence of presuppositions that arise from our worldview.

VOCABULARY – the “boards and nails” you need to reach the functional level of biological literacy:

presupposition	human sciences	hypothesis
objective truth	natural sciences	deductive reasoning
worldview	naturalism	theory
theology	supernaturalism	law
	reductionism	biology

LEARNING GOALS -- the following statements represent learning goals which, when attained will suggest mastery of the vocabulary and move you toward structural literacy:

1. How would you explain to a friend the relationship of Scripture and Science as sources of truth? Use the “Bible and Truth” model to aid your explanation.
2. Name and distinguish two worldviews that presuppose two very different explanations for the cause of the universe.
3. Large numbers of fish are dying in a stream flowing through your home town. Explain how you would apply the scientific method to solve this problem.
4. List three “foundation blocks” of modern science, and explain how scriptural truth undergirds the natural sciences through these “blocks.”
5. Distinguish “worldview” from “philosophy.” Illustrate this distinction by an example from Chapter 1.
6. Explain how denial of scriptural truth on the part of natural and human scientists distorts their view of humans.
7. From a biblical perspective, present a proper view of mankind and human scientific endeavor?

LECTURE EMPHASIS will be upon the following topics:

1. Considering how it was before the advent of the scientific age
 - a. Worldviews influence how we approach problems
 - b. What was missing before scientific age? [The importance of the three *faith presuppositions*]
 - c. Scientific method
2. Successes of natural science -- a new kind of revelation
3. Science -- launched by *faith* but undermined by *pride*
4. Scriptural perspective of natural science
 - a. Creation
 - b. Man
 - c. Science
 - d. Sin
5. A model to relate the sciences -- theological, natural, and human sciences