

YEC and Sophistry

What YEC says:



Tight Timeline 2

This is another illustration to get across the concept again that the only place people can try to fit millions of years into the Bible has to be before Adam, thus reinterpreting the days of Creation. To fit millions of years into the genealogies would utterly destroy them. (underline added)

As a result of trying to squeeze millions of years into the Bible, people came up with all sorts of compromise positions such as a ‘gap’ between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 (the classic ‘gap’ theory), or the ‘day-age’ theory (reinterpreting the days as long periods of time), or ideas that developed later, such as theistic evolution (i.e. God used the evolutionary process) or progressive creation (that God created millions of species over millions of years in accord with the basic evolutionary timeline concept). But again, all these ideas are trying to add millions of years into the Bible. (underline added)

http://www.answersingenesis.org/Home/Area/Overheads/pages/oh20020111_100.asp
(6/27/05)

By pointing the “Millions of years” in between the creative days, instead of pointing *to* the creative days, Young-Earth Creationism (YEC) is misrepresenting what it is arguing against.

A reinterpretation?

Moses himself understood the creative days to exceed solar days. This can be seen in how he described the complex events of days three and six, which included the planting and growth of flora and the planting and growth of the garden of Eden. (Genesis 1:11-13; 2:8-9)

Utterly destroy the creative days?

Confining the complex events of days three and six to solar days is what destroys them!
Consider:

- The planting and growth of flora, including tall shade trees and fruit trees. (Genesis 1:11-12; 2:8-9)
- Adam's activities of:
 1. cultivation (Genesis 2:15)
 2. settling in (Genesis 2:15)
 3. naming the animals (Genesis 2:19-20)
 4. falling into a deep sleep, not just a power nap (Genesis 2:21)
 5. marriage (Genesis 2:24-25)

The garden of Eden was planted and “grew from the ground” (2:8-9) to maturity in Day 6, with tall shade trees and fruit trees, and Adam had his five activities to complete in the same Day. Confining all these events to a portion of the daylight of Day 6 destroys it, as does confining the planting and growth of flora of Day 3 to the later part of that Day's daylight.

Trying to fit, squeeze, or add millions of years into the Bible?

A reasonable position to take is that the creative days cannot be limited to solar days, not with the complex, time-involved events ascribed to them.

Fundamental errors with YEC's creative days scheme:

In Genesis 1:1, the “heavens and the earth” are created. This point is not incorporated into their scheme, as shown repeatedly below:

- All four realities listed in “Day 1”: earth, space, time, and light, are included in Genesis 1:1's “heavens and the earth.” What did occur was diffused light from the sun penetrating the early atmosphere to an ‘earthly observer.’



- The atmosphere in “Day 2” was included along with the earth in Genesis 1:1. What did occur was a division of the waters: the start of the water cycle (Gen 1:6-8). This is different from the atmosphere in general.



- All three realities listed in “Day 4”: sun, moon, and stars, are included in Genesis 1:1’s “heavens and the earth.” What did occur was the light from the preexisting luminaries becoming clearer to an ‘earthly observer.’



Lastly, it is extremely unlikely that monstrous reptiles also inhabited the garden of Eden in “Day 6.” Notice the Tyrannosaurus rex dinosaurs:



What type of reasoning from YEC?

YEC presents plausible but misleading or fallacious reasoning, as can be clearly seen after considering the above. In other words: YEC presents sophistry.

After Eden Cartoons

The YEC "After Eden" cartoons spread YEC's sophistry:



In the beginning, anything done for the first time was a "new world record".

This cartoon reveals a major problem with YEC. Adam would have made all these "new world records" before he was married and became a family head. But in the YEC scenario, Adam had very little time after he was created (see: 'Utterly destroy the creative days?' above). Thus, the scenario above makes YEC's creator an unwise person. But the creator in the Bible is not unwise at all! In reality, Adam was lovingly given time to explore and set "new world records" *before* he was married and became a family head. This way, Eve would not get annoyed with her husband like the above cartoon portrays!



It was extra-difficult for Adam and Eve to explain the reason for bad things in this "broken" world, because they were the ones who broke it.

Notice the dead pet and the scripture Romans 5:12. This cartoon is teaching that animals die from the sin of Adam. But what does the cited scripture teach?

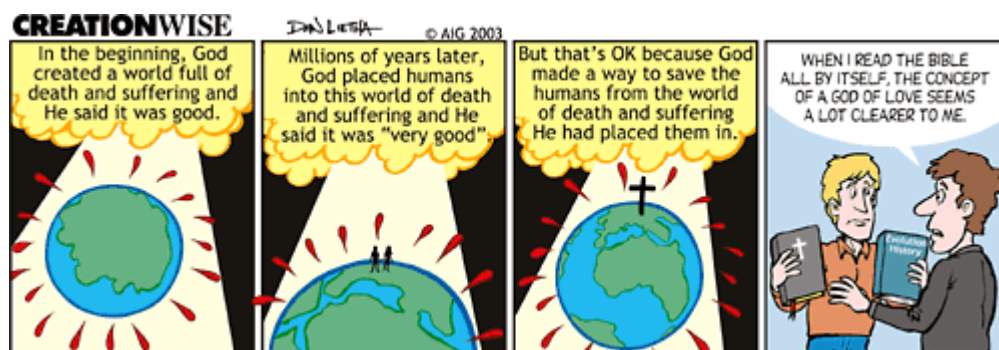
Romans 5:12

- Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned. (*King James Version*)
- Therefore as sin came into the world through one man and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all men sinned. (*Revised Standard Version*)
- That is why, just as through one man sin entered into the world and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men because they had all sinned. (*New World Translation*)

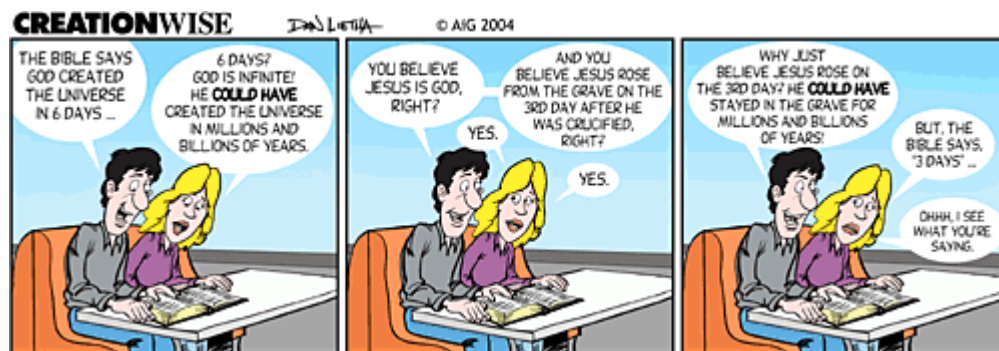
Conclusion: Romans 5:12 cannot be cited to show that animals have sin and death from Adam, since Romans 5:12 teaches humanity dies from sin, not animals.

Other cartoons

On a related theme are these cartoons from the same author:



While attempting to mock the separation of animal death from human death, they overemphasize animal death to outrageous absurdity by using the phrase “a world full of death and suffering” and the squirting blood. Animal death is natural in the Bible and is *never* linked with Adam’s sin! In fact, support for separating animal death from human death is found in 2 Peter 2:12, where sinful man is compared to natural animals that die. Further, the command for Adam to cultivate the earth indirectly spelled death for creatures of the ground like worms and ants.



Is this a “blond joke”? Do you see the problem? The creative days are unique and are stated rather poetically. They cannot be compared to other, non-creative days to determine their length.