

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; in *all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Romans 1:18-25 “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, who exchanged the truth of God for the lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.”

Quote: Get the beginning wrong and every further step aggravates the error. “*In the beginning God created....*”

There are pitfalls to the cycle of growth, awe and adoration that should be a way of life for true Christians. The allurements of the world, failure to obey the mandate to study the Word of God and Satan’s age-old tactic of seeking to denigrate God’s character or deny His very existence top the tactics that he uses in his lost cause. He tempts those people who believe that God exists to be discontented with what God has provided, to doubt God’s goodness and to disobey God’s Word. In Eden, Satan “put a question mark where God put a period.”¹ He asked Eve, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”² He misquoted God with a negative spin. God actually said, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat.”³ In other words, “You may eat from all but one!”

Satan’s frontal attack— ‘there is no God....’

Satan then contradicted God’s Word and attempted an assault upon God’s character. “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”⁴ Satan still tempts people to doubt God’s goodness and to question God’s Word.

Romans chapter one reveals that Satan’s tactics go beyond tempting mankind to denigrate God’s character to denying His very existence. Ignoring or mocking the divine “fingerprints” of creation and conscience,⁵ many have placed faith in the “theory” that a dense spec of matter from an unknown source violently expanded into our immense universe for unknown reasons. In spite of the evidence for design versus chance and purpose versus randomness, secularists ridicule the biblical record of creation! For decades, Satan has been hammering “In the beginning God created....” His seeds of doubt and denial have found fertile soil in the minds of those who are “futile in their thoughts,” and who, “professing to be wise, have become fools” who arrogantly declare, “There is no God!”⁶ You may reply, “You’re preaching to ‘the choir!’” Some of “the choir” are buying into Satan’s spin in an effort to gain credibility with agnostics and atheists.⁷ They are doubting, or diluting God’s historical account recorded in Genesis that states repeatedly that God created all living things “*after their kind.*”⁸ Some Christians have swallowed “the lie” by embracing the unequal yoke of naturalism and theology called theistic evolution. The only thing that evolution and creation have in common is faith. Faith in eternal matter that mysteriously sparked primitive life that then evolved by chance and for no reason, or faith in an eternal Maker Who miraculously created all life by choice for His own glory. For doubters and deniers, there are some challenging questions, the answers for which call for a Master Designer. We will look at a few of them in the next IMPACT.

1 Erwin Lutzer 2 Genesis 3:1-b 3 Genesis 2:16-17 4 Genesis 3:4-5
5 Romans 1:19-20 6 Romans 1:22; Psalm 14:1 7 II Timothy 3 8 Genesis 1:11, 12, 21, 24-26