

It is Wrong to Rule Out Scientific Data on the Age of the Earth *A Priori*¹

Creation with the Appearance of Age Does Not Explain Creation with the Appearance of History:

It is one thing to say that God created trees fully grown. It is another thing to say that God created trees with the appearance of insects boring into them, and thick and thin rings depending on the amount of water available to them.

It is one thing to say that God created star light in transit. It is another thing to say that God created light from non-existent super novas of non-existent stars.

In General, God Commands and Expects People to Observe Creation and Draw Conclusions:

"Go to the ant, O sluggard, observe her ways and be wise, which, having no chief, officer or ruler, prepares her food in the summer and gathers her provision in the harvest." (Prov 6:6-8)

"But He replied to them, "When it is evening, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.' And in the morning, 'There will be a storm today, for the sky is red and threatening.' Do you know how to discern the appearance of the sky, but cannot discern the signs of the times?" (Matt 16:2-3)

Specifically, God Expects Us to Learn about the Origin of Creation through Observing Creation:

"The heavens are telling of the glory of God; and their expanse is declaring the work of His hands." (Ps 19:1)

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. (Rom 1:18-20)

God holds people responsible to observe creation and discern that it was created by a creator with eternal power and a divine nature. But discerning this requires recognizing facts about creation's origin simply by observing creation apart from the Bible.

¹ Adapted from John Beckman.