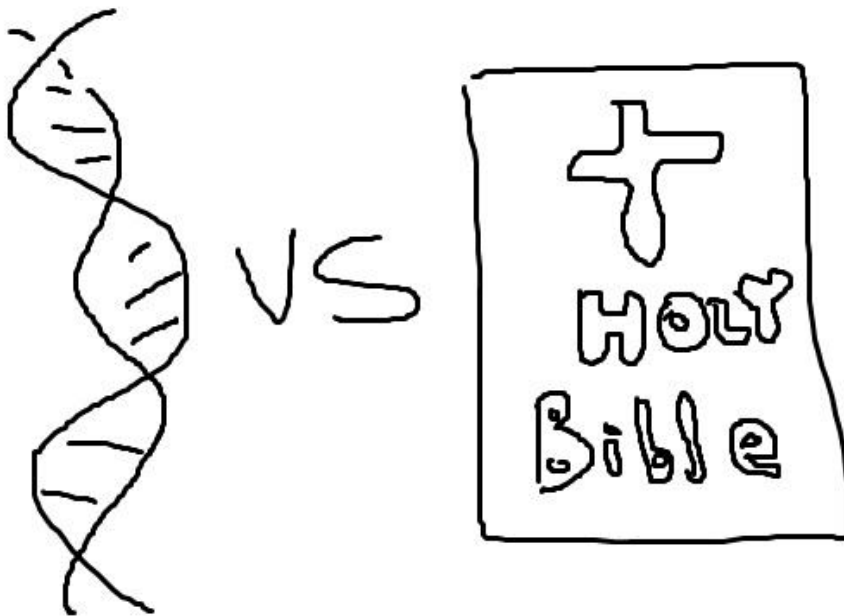


HOW SCIENCE DESTROYS CHRISTIANITY

By Bernie Dehler (ver. 1.0, March 2012)



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**Modern Science
and
Christianity
Conflict**

ABSTRACT

Christian theology is ultimately rooted in ***ancient*** stories, which were written in a culture of ***ancient science***. Depending on how one literally interprets these stories determines the amount of ***dissonance*** with ***modern science*** (cosmology, geology, biology, and neuroscience). Ultimately they all fail with the modern science of neurology, which disproves the Christian idea of a soul.

One ultimate and major consequence:

No soul means no eternal life.

Another major consequence:

Modern Science shows there is no evidence (at all) for the existence of God (just as science and reason is against the Easter Bunny). We now have the freedom, and responsibility, to create our own meaning for our lives, in the here-and-now (not the here-after). ***Secular Humanism*** is the right belief system for the future.

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Major Religious Traditions in the U.S.

Among all adults...

	%
Christian	78.4
Protestant	51.3
Evangelical churches	26.3
Mainline churches	18.1
Hist. black churches	6.9
Catholic	23.9
Mormon	1.7
Jehovah's Witness	0.7
Orthodox	0.6
Other Christian	0.3
Other Religions	4.7
Jewish	1.7
Buddhist	0.7
Muslim*	0.6
Hindu	0.4
Other world rel.	<0.3
Other faiths	1.2
Unaffiliated	16.1
Atheist	1.6
Agnostic	2.4
Nothing in particular	12.1
Don't Know/Refused	0.8
	100

The U.S.A. Religious Landscape

Most Americans are Christians. Most Christians are Protestant and Catholic. These two versions of Christianity conflict with science in different ways, so each will be discussed separately.

(Mormons, JW's, etc. won't be discussed since they are a small minority.)

Source: <http://religions.pewforum.org/reports#>

Christian Categories:

Protestant:

Young Earth Creationists (**YEC**)

Ken Ham

Ministry: Answers in Genesis

Old Earth Creationists (**OEC**)

Hugh Ross, Ph.D.

Ministry: Reasons to Believe

Evolutionary Creationists (**EC**)

Denis Lamoureux, Ph.D (x3)

Book: *Evolutionary Creationism*

Roman Catholic (RC)

Book: *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)*

NOTE

There is no conflict with **ancient** science and religious theologies. This is because religious theologies were invented in a culture of ancient science (geocentric universe, etc.). There's only a problem as science changes, and the theology can't change (as much) because it is rooted in Biblical stories based on ancient science.

THREE AREAS OF MODERN SCIENCE WHICH CONFLICT WITH MODERN CHRISTIAN THEOLOGIES

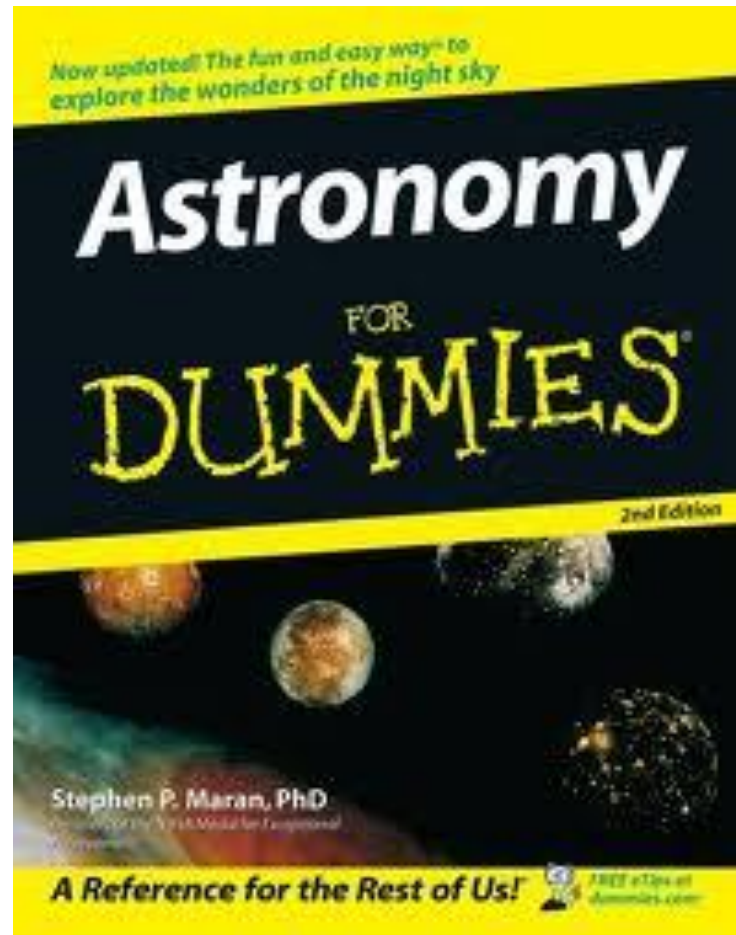
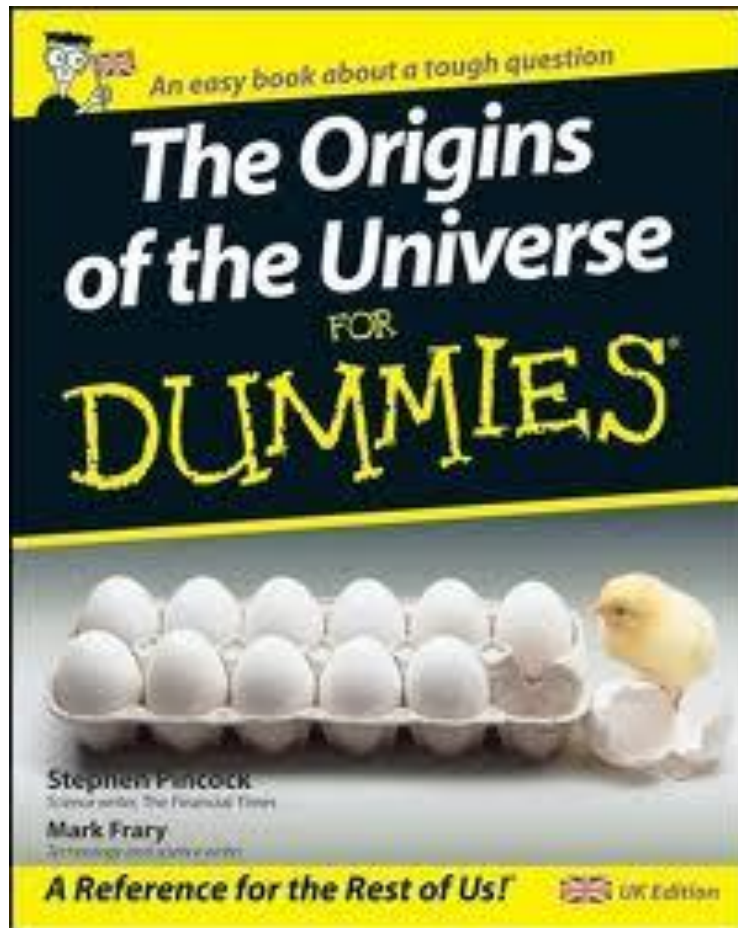
1 - COSMOLOGY- the age and origin of the universe

2- GEOLOGY- the age of the Earth, and the
Biblical Noah's ark story

3- BIOLOGY- the origin of humans

4- NEUROSCIENCE- the existence of 'soul' is disproved
just as previous wrong scientific concepts (Phlogiston)

COSMOLOGY



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REPORT CARD

COSMOLOGY- What is the age of the universe?

Correct Answer: About 13.75 billion years.

REPORT CARD

COSMOLOGY- What is the age of the universe?

YEC: **A few thousand years old. The Earth was created before the Sun. Rejects cosmological evolution per big-bang theory and timeframe. WRONG.**

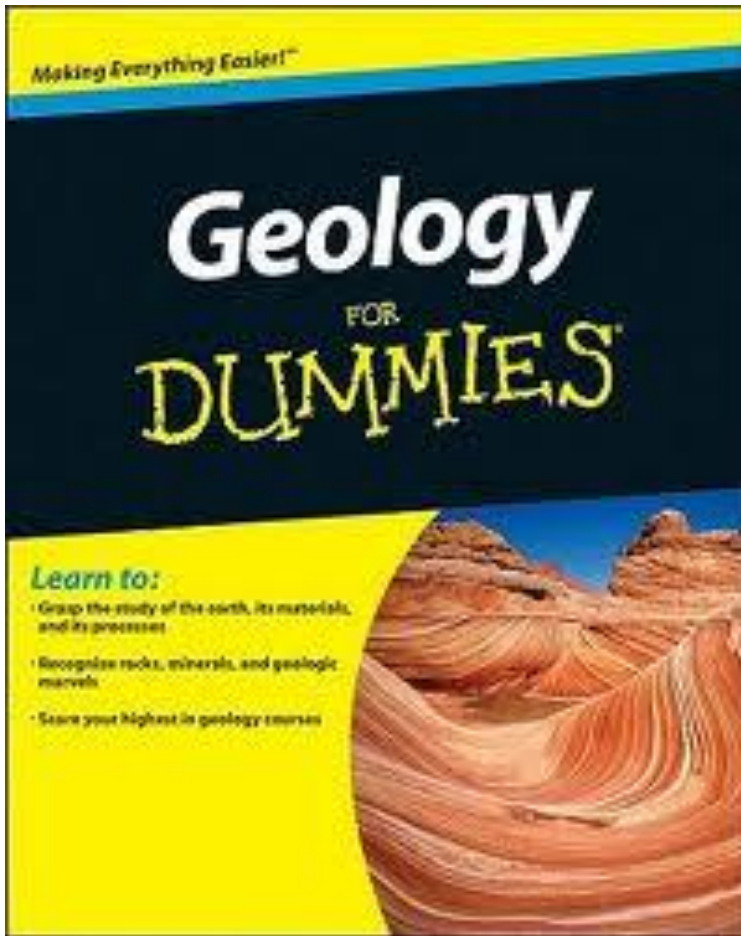
OEC: Agrees fully with modern science.

EC: Agrees fully with modern science.

RC: Not specified; assumed to be same as modern science. Genesis six day creation account is taken figuratively (CCC 337).

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GEOLOGY



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How Old Is the Earth: Radioisotope Dating

By [Greg Krukoni, PhD](#) and [Tracy Barr](#)

Scientists estimate that the Earth is about 4.5 billion years old, based on radioisotope dating techniques. To understand how this process works, you need to know a little bit about atoms and isotopes.

Often, any one atom has several different forms, called *isotopes*. Atoms are made up of electrons, protons, and neutrons, and the number of electrons and protons determines the type of atom. Hydrogen, for example, has one electron and one proton. Sometimes, it also has a neutron, in which case it is called *deuterium*. *Heavy water* refers to water in which each hydrogen atom has a neutron.

Some isotopes, like deuterium, are *stable*; they're perfectly happy with the number of electrons, protons, and neutrons they have. Other isotopes are *unstable* because the different number of neutrons interacts with the other atomic components in such a way that, over a period of time, the isotope changes into some other atom. When these unstable isotopes change to a different atom, they emit radioactivity. For that reason, they're called *radioisotopes*.



An important property of radioactive isotopes is the *half-life* — the time it takes for half of the atoms to undergo the transition from one atom to the other. In the first half-life, half the atoms make the transition. In the second half-life, half of the remaining atoms transition, leaving one quarter of the original parent material. In the third half-life, half again transition, and so on.

REPORT CARD

GEOLOGY- What is the age of the Earth? Was there really a flood in which Noah saved only 8 humans?

Correct Answer: The Earth is about 4.5 billion years old. The Earth was formed by accretion from the solar nebula (Earth was slowly formed after the Sun existed). There was **no** population bottleneck down to 8 humans about 4,000 years ago due to a (global or local) flood.

REPORT CARD

GEOLOGY- What is the age of the Earth? Was there really a flood in which Noah saved only 8 humans?

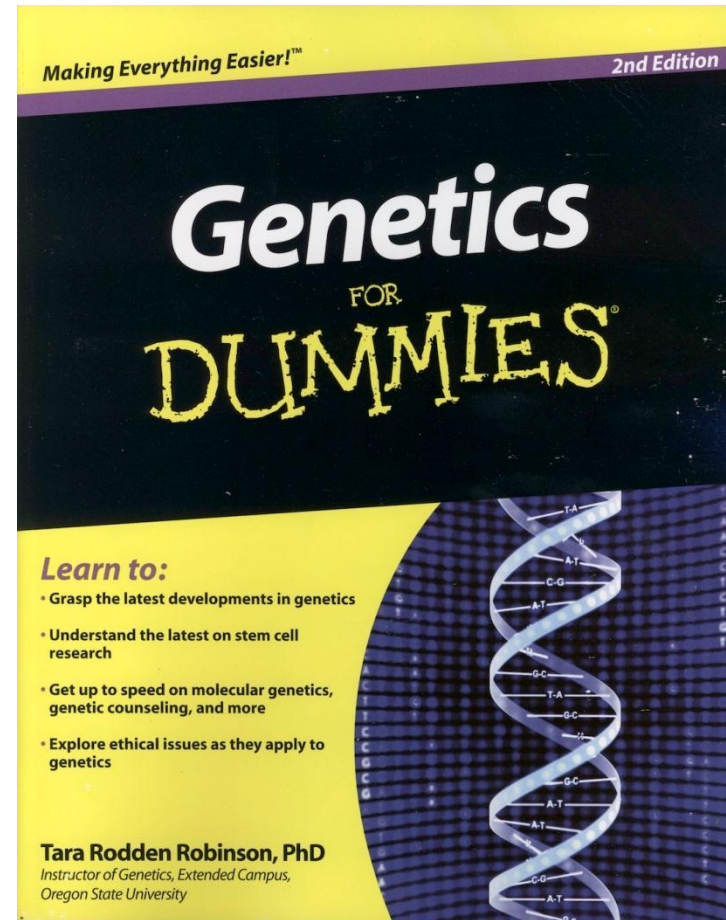
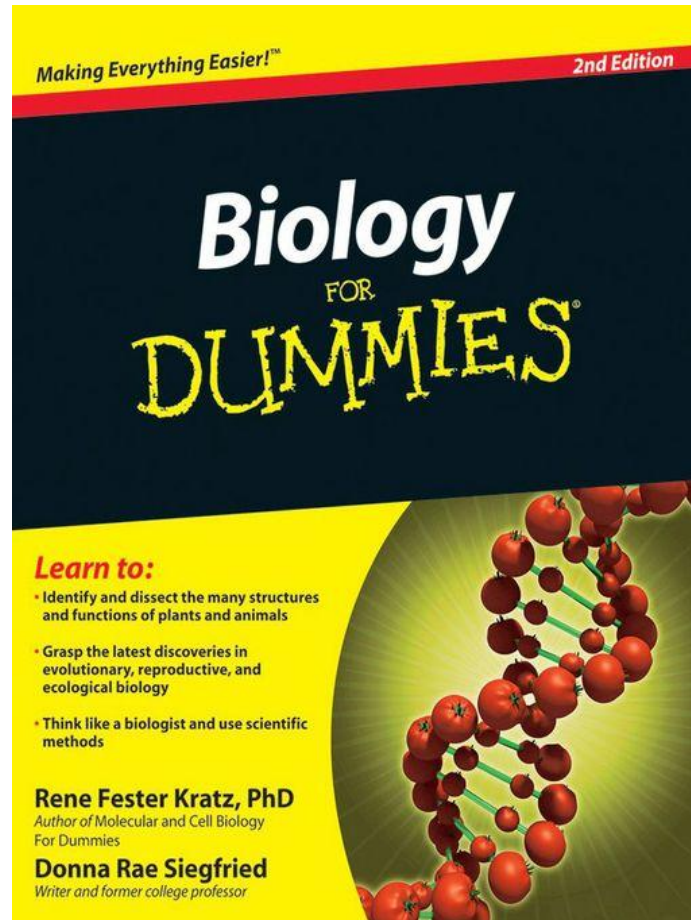
YEC: **About 6,000 years old. The Earth was created before the Sun. WRONG on both.**

OEC: Age: same as modern science. **Flood? Local in scope, which killed all humans except the eight saved on the ark.**

EC: Agrees fully with modern science. Noah's ark? A myth, intended to teach theology, not history.

RC: Age: not specified; assumed to be same as modern science. **Noah's ark is assumed to be a real historical event (CCC 1219).**

BIOLOGY



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REPORT CARD

BIOLOGY- How were humans created?

Correct Answer: Humans evolved from other animals, over a long time and in a population. It is not the case of a human popping-out of an ape for the first time. (Humans are also apes.)

REPORT CARD

BIOLOGY- How were humans biologically created?

YEC: **By a special creative act from God about 6,000 years ago. Humans did not evolve from other animals.**

WRONG on both.

OEC: **By a special creative act from God,** within the same time frame as noted by modern science. **Humans did not evolve from other animals.**

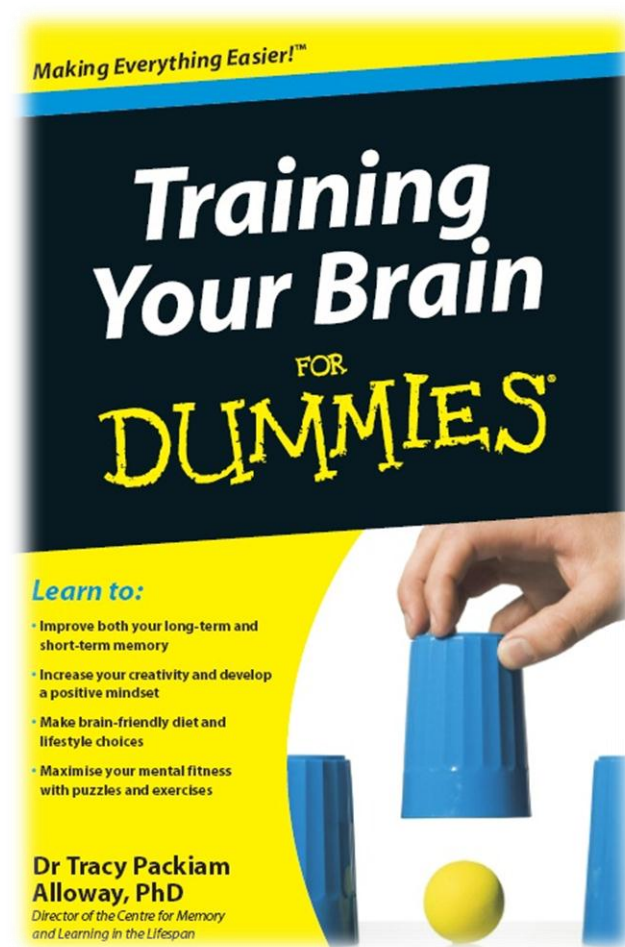
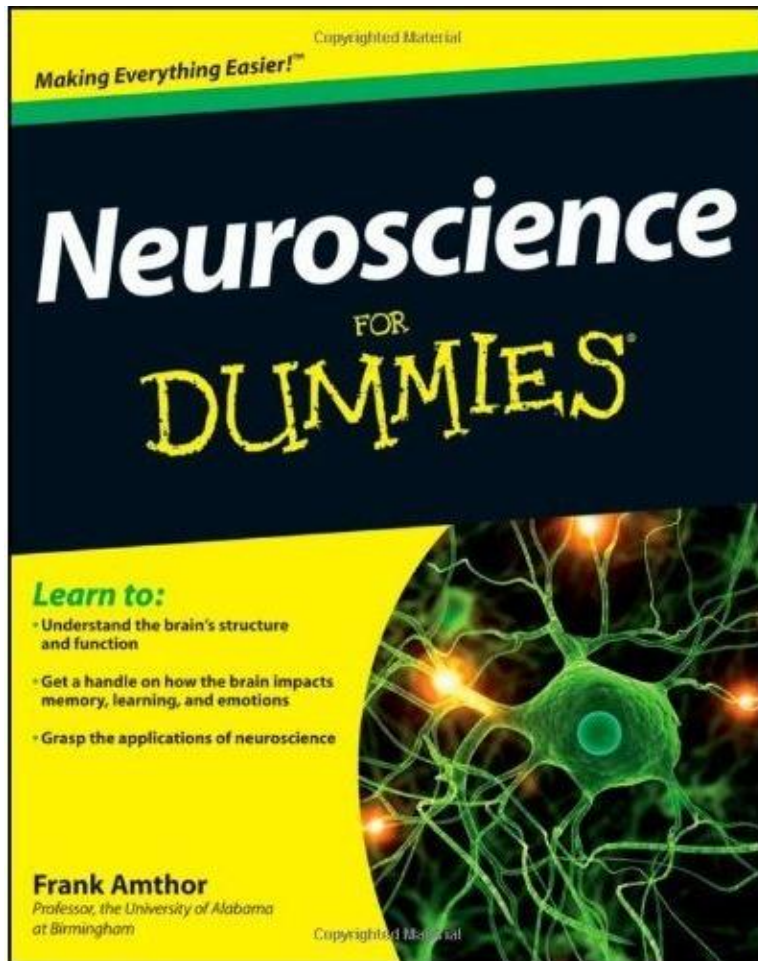
WRONG about special creation.

EC: Agrees fully with modern science.

RC: Not specified; assumed to be same as modern science. **A belief in a literal Adam and Eve, as parents of all humanity (CCC 390). (WRONG on unique “first humans,” regarding Adam and Eve as biological parents of all modern humans.)**

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NEUROSCIENCE



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REPORT CARD

SOUL – Is there a supernatural element to the mind that survives death?

Correct Answer: The mind emerges from the brain. There is no soul. All major aspects of thinking (conscious and subconscious) emanate from the brain, and the brain is being mapped to discover which areas control which functions.

REPORT CARD

SOUL – Is there a supernatural element to the mind that survives death?

YEC: **The spirit/soul is a supernatural entity.**

WRONG .

OEC: **The spirit/soul is a supernatural entity.**

WRONG .

EC: **The spirit/soul is a supernatural entity.**

WRONG .

RC: **The spirit/soul is a supernatural entity.**

WRONG .

SPECIAL NOTE

As we've seen, ***there is no official stand on the interpretation of Genesis by the RC church.*** Is this wise? No position means no consequences. Once they take a position, consequences will become apparent. I see this position as a shortcoming, and cowardice; unwilling to take a stand for fear of dealing with the consequences.

Some Protestants also take this strategy. For example, not taking a pro or con position regarding evolution (specifically human descent from other animals). For example, famous evangelical Christian philosophers Alvin Plantinga and W.L. Craig said they are willing to grant human descent from other animals (willing to grant, but not willing to take a pro or con position).

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TO DO:

End with message of hope:

- find your own way
- face survival instinct
- enjoy life (don't throw it away for "God and Country" thinking you'll go to eternal life after you give up your life here).

Joke picture:

in heaven, two people meet:

1. "How did you get here?"
 2. "I gave my life in a war for God and country"
 3. "me too" (20 people in background think (thought balloons), they are wearing uniforms from other countries)
- (Specify on iFreelance for \$50, ask for really basic 'peanuts' style drawings, black&white basic outline.)

The Decision

Can you make this pledge?

Even a Christian should be able to agree with these principles.

- 1. “Want vs. Is” : I promise to seek the truth. I promise to desire what is true, more than what I wish were true.*
- 2. I promise to disdain all forms of superstition. I acknowledge that everyone has some delusion as no one knows all things truly; but I will strive to eliminate delusion from my life as much as possible.*
- 3. I promise to base my worldview as much as possible on known facts. I commit to building a knowledge base over time, trying to learn a little about science and reason each day (cosmology, biology, philosophy, etc.).*
- 4. I take responsibility to own my own religion/philosophy. Nobody else can choose my religion/philosophy for me. I will not be bullied into accepting anyone else’s religion/philosophy. I will also support “freedom of conscience” for all others, even those of a different belief system.*

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THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION: Secular Humanism

My Definition:

Secular Humanism is a naturalistic belief system that promotes critical thinking and morality by way of modern science and reason.

BACKUP SLIDES

RC References (1 of 2)

1. Genesis 6 day creation is taken figuratively, P 337

”Scripture presents the work of the Creator symbolically as a succession of six days of divine "work", concluded by the "rest" of the seventh day.”

2. Noah’s flood event prefigures baptism, as only 8 humans were saved through water, P1219

“The Church has seen in Noah's ark a prefiguring of salvation by Baptism, for by it "a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water“ (1 Peter 3:20):

The waters of the great flood

you made a sign of the waters of Baptism,

that make an end of sin and a new beginning of goodness (Roman Missal).”

.....

1 Peter 3:18-20

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

RC References (2 of 2)

3. Adam and Eve were truly the first humans (from Catholic.com):

Adam and Eve: Real People

It is equally impermissible to dismiss the story of Adam and Eve and the fall (Gen. 2–3) as a fiction. A question often raised in this context is whether the human race descended from an original pair of two human beings (a teaching known as monogenism) or a pool of early human couples (a teaching known as polygenism).

In this regard, Pope Pius XII stated: "When, however, there is question of another conjectural opinion, namely polygenism, the children of the Church by no means enjoy such liberty. For the faithful cannot embrace that opinion which maintains either that after Adam there existed on this earth true men who did not take their origin through natural generation from him as from the first parents of all, or that Adam represents a certain number of first parents. Now, **it is in no way apparent how such an opinion can be reconciled** that which the sources of revealed truth and the documents of the teaching authority of the Church proposed with regard to original sin which proceeds from a sin actually committed by an individual Adam in which through generation is passed onto all and is in everyone as his own" (Humani Generis 37).

The story of the creation and fall of man is a true one, even if not written entirely according to modern literary techniques. The Catechism states, "The account of the fall in Genesis 3 uses figurative language, but affirms a primeval event, a deed that took place at the beginning of the history of man. Revelation gives us the certainty of faith that the whole of human history is marked by the original fault freely committed by our first parents" (CCC 390).

(Emphasis mine, to illustrate the admitted science/religion conflict by the RC Church itself)

Source: <http://www.catholic.com/tracts/adam-eve-and-evolution>

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