

have and being sure that you know exactly what you're standing for and standing for it positively.

The third thing is let's see what the Bible really does say. Does the Bible allow it to be believed that everything developed by natural processes? The Bible said, God said let this happen, God said, Let this happen, etc. There are divine interventions in creation clearly taught in Gen. one and two. Did you ever stop to ~~think~~ look at Gen. 1 and think, What kind of God do we have pictured here? We have a God who is omnipotent, a God who is separate from His creation, a God who has formed all things but who is separate from it. A God who has an ethical purpose of good in all He does. Look at chs. 1 and 2 and see what you can learn of the character of God from them. It's tremendous, the religious teaching of these two chs. But as far as evolution is concerned they teach that God has intervened, that God has acted and they teach that God has acted in orderly stages and that there are definite ~~stages~~ stages, and they teach that He created things to reproduce after their kind.

There was a Swedish Botanist named Linnæus who invented a system of scientific nomenclature which is used by all scientists today. It's developed of course since, but he originated the idea of the system of the species, the genus, the family, etc., a variety of systems of arrangement, and Linnæus believed that every single species was a separate invention of God. Linnæus is not an evolutionist. But Linnæus is not our authority; the Bible is our authority. Does the Bible say that God created every one of Linnæus' species as a separate thing to create after its kind? No it does not. It says God created the trees and the plants, the grass and herbs to reproduce after their kind? What does after their kind mean?

Did you ever see a parent ~~who~~ who had a child who was just exactly like the parent? You never did. The ~~chances~~ chances are you'll find qualities in that child that are very different from the parent; they may be exactly like one of the grandparents. But very different from the parent. And you never saw a child who was just exactly like the parent. "After their kind" does not mean exact duplication. It means within a certain area. There is a certain area within which things may develop. How big is that area? The Bible does not say. Are there a few million, as Linnæus's system of species applied to all the plants and all the animals might suggest? Are there only a few hundred thousand, if by "kind" he means genus instead of species? Are there ~~a~~ maybe a few thousand if he means families instead of genus? How many kinds, according to the Biblical word here, are there? Are there 10 million? Are there 100 thousand? Are there 100? Are there 50? The Bible doesn't say. All we know is that there are definite kinds. We know that. That precludes any idea that everything has developed by natural process from one individual simple start. But how many different stages, how many kinds God created, the Bible does not say. I've known young people from fine Christian homes who have become convinced that there had been a development from one species to another -- I'm not saying there is any such proof, of course the difficult is defining your species exactly anyway -- that's the thing on which people don't agree. But they have seen what was said to be absolute proof from one species to another, and they've said, That proves evolution.