

"It is he who made the earth by his power, who established the world by his wisdom, and by his understanding stretched out the heavens."

– Jeremiah 10:12

"By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."

– Hebrews 11:3

"For they deliberately overlook this fact, that the heavens existed long ago, and the earth was formed out of water and through water by the word of God."

– 2 Peter 3:5

"For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God."

– Hebrews 3:4

RACISM

According to the Merriam-Wester online dictionary the definition of racism is "a belief that race is a fundamental determinant of human traits and capacities and that racial differences produce an inherent superiority of a particular race."

How is racism shown to be false by Natural Revelation (Reality)?

Quoting from a 2019 book called "The Genealogical Adam and Eve":

All of us, in actuality, shared a common ancestor just two to three thousand years ago.... For a population of one million, universal ancestors arise in about twenty generations. For a population one thousand times larger, one billion, universal ancestors arise in about thirty generations. Going back just a little bit further, we

reach the identical ancestor point (IAP) where everyone at that point and more ancient is either ancestor of everyone alive today or ancestor of no one.... For a population of one million, for example, the IAP would be at about thirty-five generations. Using a generation time of twenty-five years, that is less than 900 years ago.... Very quickly, all our genealogies begin to "collapse" by sharing more and more of the same ancestors.

(The Genealogical Adam and Eve: the Surprising Science of Universal Ancestry, 2019, InterVarsity Press, Grove, IL, 2019 by S. Joshua Swamidass, p. 44-49)

The findings are summed up thus: "Recent universal ancestry affirmed the unity of all humankind... [and that] much of what we understood of race was naïve, an illusion not rooted in biology."

Besides genealogical research, DNA evidence also confirms that all humanity stems from a single human. The maternally-inherited mitochondria in our cells connects us all to a common ancestral mother.

Recent findings confirm that polygenesis (a theory supporting racism which states the races originated from a number of independent stocks of humanity) is scientifically unsupported and false. On the other hand, monogenism (the theory of a single origin of humanity) is now widely accepted as true and accurate.

Natural revelation rejects the concept of, and destroys the basis of, racism.

How is racism shown to be false by Special Revelation in Scripture (Truth)?

All people are created in the image of God (Gen. 1:27) and are the seed of one man Adam (and, then again, the one man Noah, Gen. 10:32). In this way, Paul could explain to the philosophers in Athens in 50 AD that "from one man God made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth" (Acts 17:26).

Throughout the text of Scripture and through the prophets and apostles, the Lord directly addressed many nations and ethnic groups. While Israel alone was chosen to preserve the knowledge of God, it was done in an effort to help facilitate God's plan for all nations.

In the Bible God is recorded as being involved with many cultures and people groups for both blessing and judgment. The Lord is clearly presented throughout the Bible as being impartial.

Jesus came to the Jews, but also ministered to people from other nations and cultures (Matt. 8:5; 15:22). In fact, Jesus' final commission to his Jewish disciples was to go to all the world and make disciples from all the nations (Acts 1:8; Matt. 28:19).

Paul taught that salvation in Jesus Christ goes beyond race, sex, or social standing (Gal. 3:28). In the end, when all believers are gathered to stand before the throne of God, there will be "a great multitude that no one [can] number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb" (Rev. 7:9).

SCIENTISM

Scientism is the belief that science is the best - or only possible - source of knowledge.

How is scientism shown to be false by Natural Revelation (Reality)?

The first problem with scientism is that its claim that science is the only source of knowledge was not developed through the process of science. It is not an experimentally proven fact, but a philosophical statement about the nature of knowledge.

Science is undeniably a source of knowledge - but we also know that logic, mathematics, history, and psychology are also sources of knowledge. Even science leads us to understand there is something beyond the limits of what science can examine.

As we've seen, science itself (as well as physical reality) leads us to believe there is a Creator and Sustainer. One could even make the case that science (and life) even suggests the need for a Redeemer, since it shows there is death and decline in a world otherwise designed for life.

How is scientism shown to be false by Special Revelation in Scripture (Truth)?

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right."

– 2 Timothy 3:16

"The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding he established the heavens; by his knowledge the deeps broke open, and the clouds drop down the dew. My son, do not lose sight of these—keep sound wisdom and discretion, and they will be life for your soul and adornment for your neck. Then you will walk on your way securely, and your foot will not stumble."

– Proverbs 3:19-23

"The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things that are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law."

– Deuteronomy 29:29

"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."

– Romans 1:25

"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

– John 4:24

"For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God."

– Romans 8:19-20

"He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

– Colossians 1:17

"Just as you have received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to walk in Him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ."

– Colossians 2:6-8

"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable."

– Isaiah 40:28

"Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth? Tell me, if you know so much. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?"

– Job 38:4-7

"Guard the deposit entrusted to you. Avoid the irreverent babble and contradictions of what is falsely called 'knowledge,' for by professing it some have swerved from the faith. Grace be with you."

– 1 Timothy 6:20-21

"Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world."

– 1 John 4:1

"For Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) Jesus then asked him, 'What is your name?' And he said, 'Legion,' for many demons had entered him. And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss."

– Luke 8:29-31

"Now the Spirit expressly says that in later times some will depart from the faith by devoting themselves to deceitful spirits and teachings of demons."

– 1 Timothy 4:1

"Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?"

– 1 Corinthians 1:20

"The 'wise men' shall be put to shame; they shall be dismayed and taken; behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD, so what wisdom is in them?"

– Jeremiah 8:9

"Claiming to be wise, they became fools."

– Romans 1:22

NATURALISM

The philosophy that natural laws are the only forces that determine behavior and govern the structure of the universe is called naturalism. According to this way of thinking, there is no supernatural realm, let alone any manifestation of the supernatural in this world.

Naturalism divides into two opposite camps of thought - the material naturalist, and the pantheist naturalist.

The material naturalist reduces everything that exists (including soul) down to matter. Everything that exists is made of material. Nothing non-material exists.

The pantheist naturalist reduces the source of all existence to the mind or spirit. In this view, the entire world is made of mind and spirit. An unexplainable event to a pantheist naturalist would be identified as merely an unusual manifestation of mind or spirit. In this case it would be identified as supernormal - yet still a natural, explainable event coming from the mind or spirit.

In a similar way, reductionism is a philosophical idea that tries to explain complex life forms and scientific processes merely with terms from the laws of physics and chemistry. It oversimplifies complicated things, such as the make-up of man, which is both material and immaterial (i.e., the physical and the soul). There are two layers here, but the reductionist would oversimplify man into merely a physical being. The simple physical nature of the man would then be the source of man's thoughts, attitude and words.

How are naturalism and reductionism shown to be false by Natural Revelation (Reality)?

Naturalism cannot replace an eternal God with eternal material

or with the mind/spirit. This position is insufficient for the same reason as the theories of atheism, evolution, etc., because it reduces everything that exists to only one type of thing - in this case, either mind/spirit, or matter.

Like other false philosophies, naturalism cannot explain the origin of material, order, design, time, or the morality of mankind. A scientific explanation that claims that material (and, mind/spirit) came from nothing at all is much more ridiculous than the biblical position that material, mind, and spirit are the creation of an eternal God who exists outside of material and time.

Naturalism strives to explain everything by saying that everything is caused by material, which itself has no evident - or explained - cause. Man's mind, soul, and emotions would have to be the result of materialistic chemical reactions.

The interior of the physical body of a man can be examined in every aspect, but the thoughts of the soul can never be known unless the thinker speaks. Yet scientists and philosophers that follow naturalism and reductionism use thought and logic - which are supposedly caused by materialistic chemical reactions - to form thoughts and logic to explain that thought and logic are merely chemical reactions. The theory they form and the logic they use to explain the material universe cannot be material itself.

How are naturalism and reductionism shown to be false by Special Revelation in Scripture (Truth)?

"For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him."

– Colossians 1:16

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made."

– John 1:1-3

"Above all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, 'Where is this "coming" he promised? Ever since our ancestors died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.' But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens came into being and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly... But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells. So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him."

– 2 Peter 3:3-7; 10-14

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

– Revelation 4:11

"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen."

– Romans 1:25

"God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

– John 4:24

"To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."

– 1 Timothy 1:17

"The angels who did not stay within their own position of authority, but left their proper dwelling, he has kept in eternal chains under gloomy darkness until the judgment of the great day."

– Jude 1:6

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

– Ephesians 6:12

"When the archangel Michael, contending with the devil, was disputing about the body of Moses, he did not presume to pronounce a blasphemous judgment, but said, 'The Lord rebuke you.'"

– Jude 1:9

"God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment."

– 2 Peter 2:4

"Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also came among them."

– Job 1:6

"Then Elisha prayed and said, 'O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see.' So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha."

– 2 Kings 6:17

MORAL RELATIVISM

Moral relativism is the view that morality (that is, ethical positions of right and wrong) are merely cultural opinions. Morals are established using a socially-determined standard for right and wrong. Morals may vary from culture to culture, or from time period to time period. Since there are no absolute ethics or any universal moral code, every culture and time period selects its own morals based on its own current cultural norms. Different cultures and time periods must be tolerant of the wide variety of moral standards. If there is any conflict between cultural norms, tolerance becomes the primary virtue.

How is moral relativism shown to be false by Natural Revelation (Reality)?

The establishment of the social expectation that there are no absolute universal morals is itself an establishment of an absolute universal standard. This ironic fact, combined with the call to societies to practice tolerance, establishes yet another absolute - which should not exist, given the definition of moral relativism. The establishment of any absolutes in moral relativism defeats the concept of moral relativism and situational ethics.

How is moral relativism shown to be false by Special Revelation in Scripture (Truth)?

"God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day."

– Genesis 1:31

"In him was life, and the life was the light of men."

– John 1:4

"You set a boundary that they may not pass, so that they might not again cover the earth."

– Psalm 104:9

"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."

– Ephesians 2:10

"For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened."

– Romans 1:21

"And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them... You have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very

same things. We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God?”

– Romans 1:28-32; 2:1-3

“Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!”

– Isaiah 5:20

“Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”

– John 14:6

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”

– Romans 12:2

“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

– 2 Corinthians 5:10

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments.”

– John 14:15

“You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

– John 8:44

“Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.”

– Colossians 5-10

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

– Hebrews 13:8

“For I the LORD do not change.”

– Malachi 3:6

