

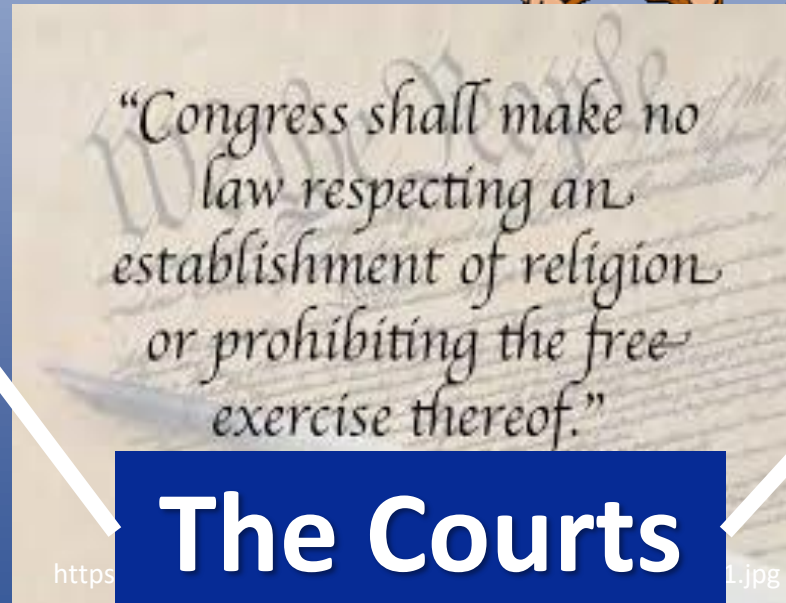
Reconciling Science and the Bible

Introduction

Earl F Dulaney, Ph.D.

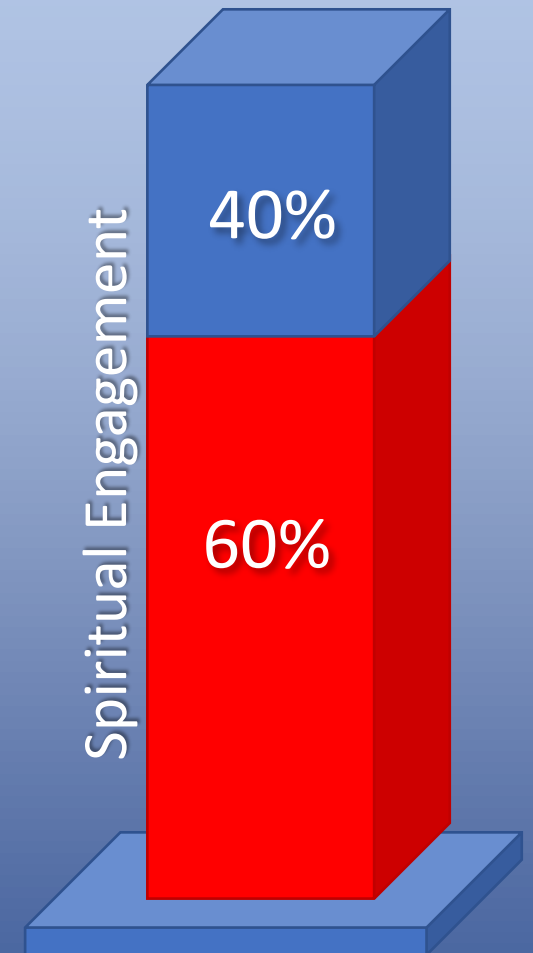
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Reconciling Science and the Bible



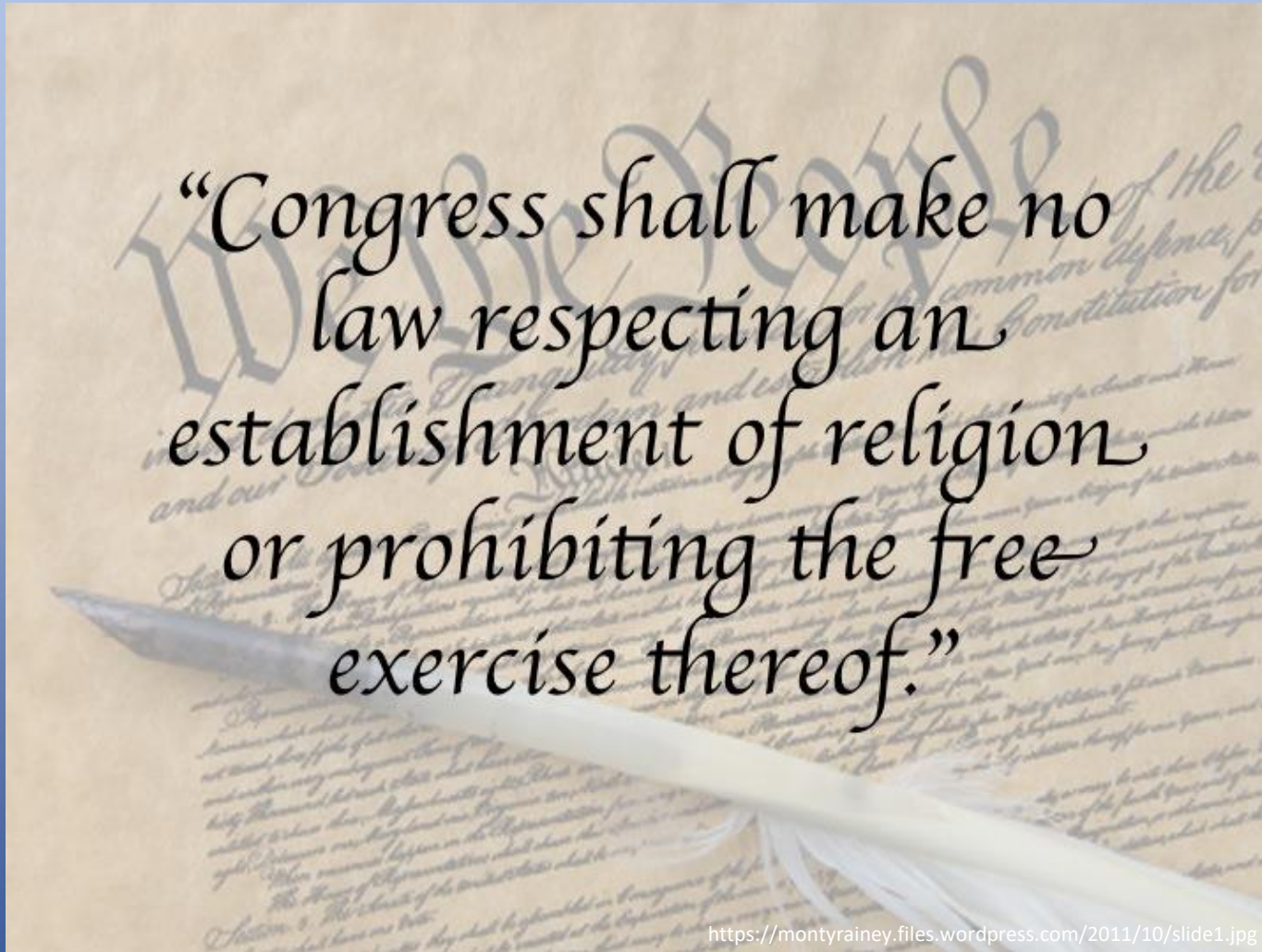
Did you Know?

- Today's youth are becoming disenchanted with Church
- Recent Barna research has shown:
 - 60%+ of churched teens will disengaged in their twenties
- Children: Spend 16-24 years in school
- Taught to tolerate ALL beliefs/points of view
- *“It is OK to think you are right. It is NOT OK to think someone else is wrong!”*
- 70% of individuals under 20 believe that **all** beliefs (including religious ones) are equally valid



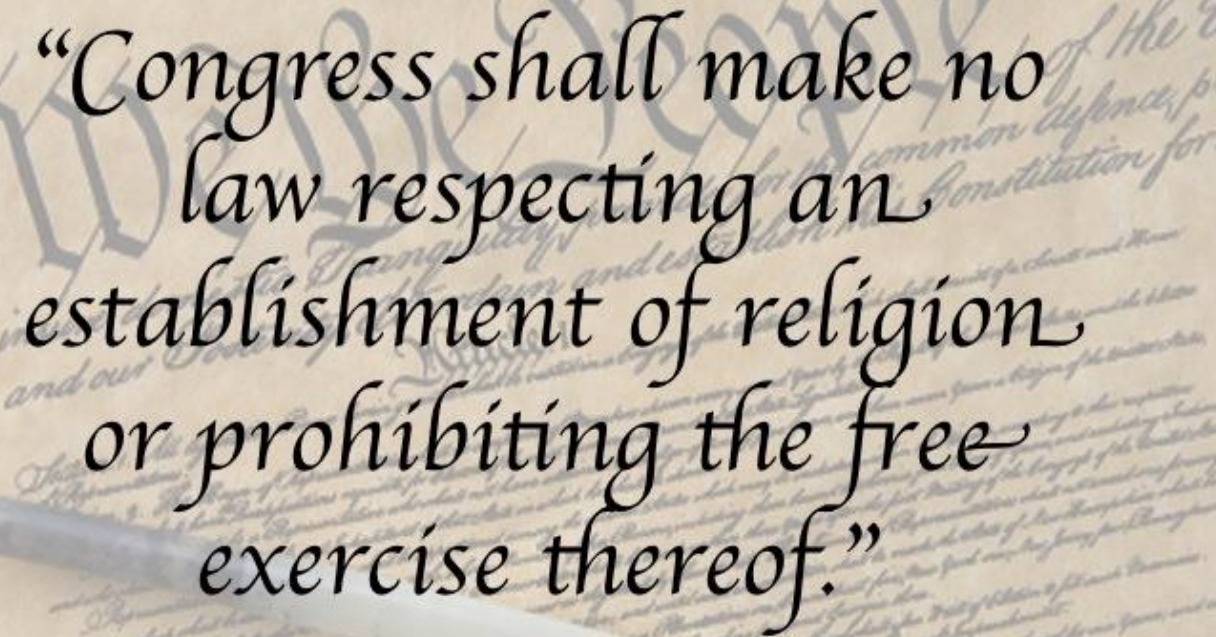
<https://www.gotquestions.org/losing-faith.html>

The Separation of Church and State



- 1st Amendment, Bill of Rights
- James Madison, 1789
- The 1st clause: Government must never **establish** a religion
- 2nd clause: All citizens have the right to worship in any manner they choose

The Separation of Church and State



“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Agnostic with respect to Religion

<https://montyrainey.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/slide1.jpg>

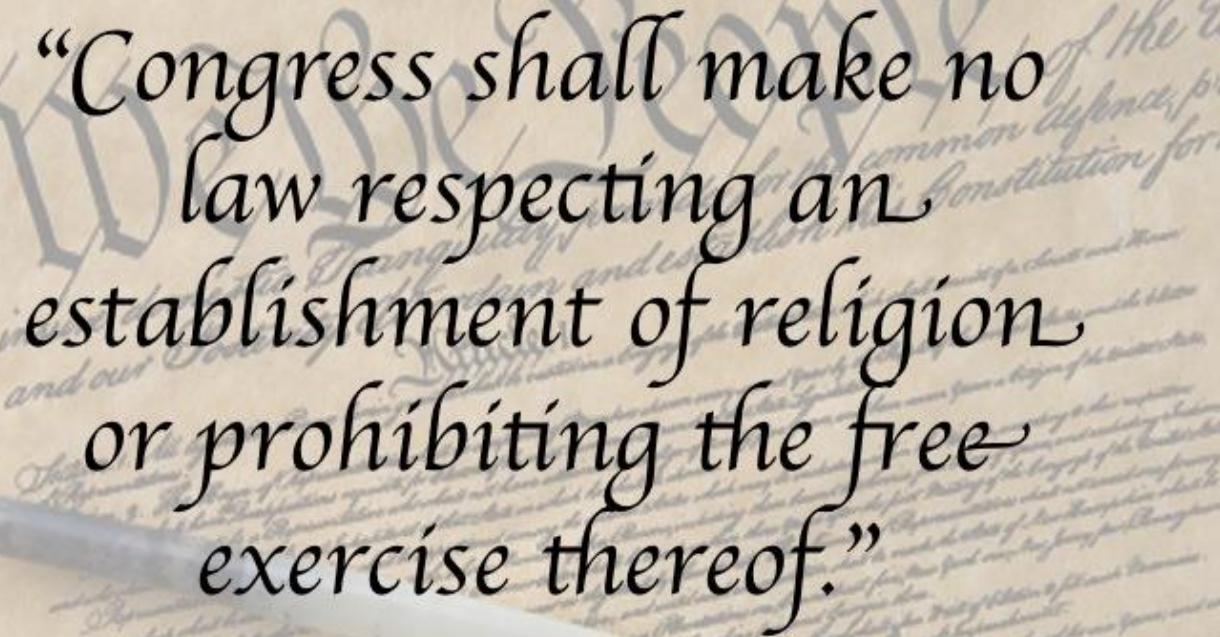
Congress is Agnostic:

Nothing is (or can be) known of the existence or nature of God or of anything beyond material phenomena

Congress must claim neither faith nor disbelief in God

Each session in the House and Senate opens in prayer (We separate Church and state, not God and state)

The Separation of Church and State



“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.”

Atheistic with respect to Religion!

Atheistic:

Disbelieve the existence of God

Has Congress become Atheistic?

<https://montyrainey.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/slide1.jpg>

Effect of 1963 Decision Removing Prayer?

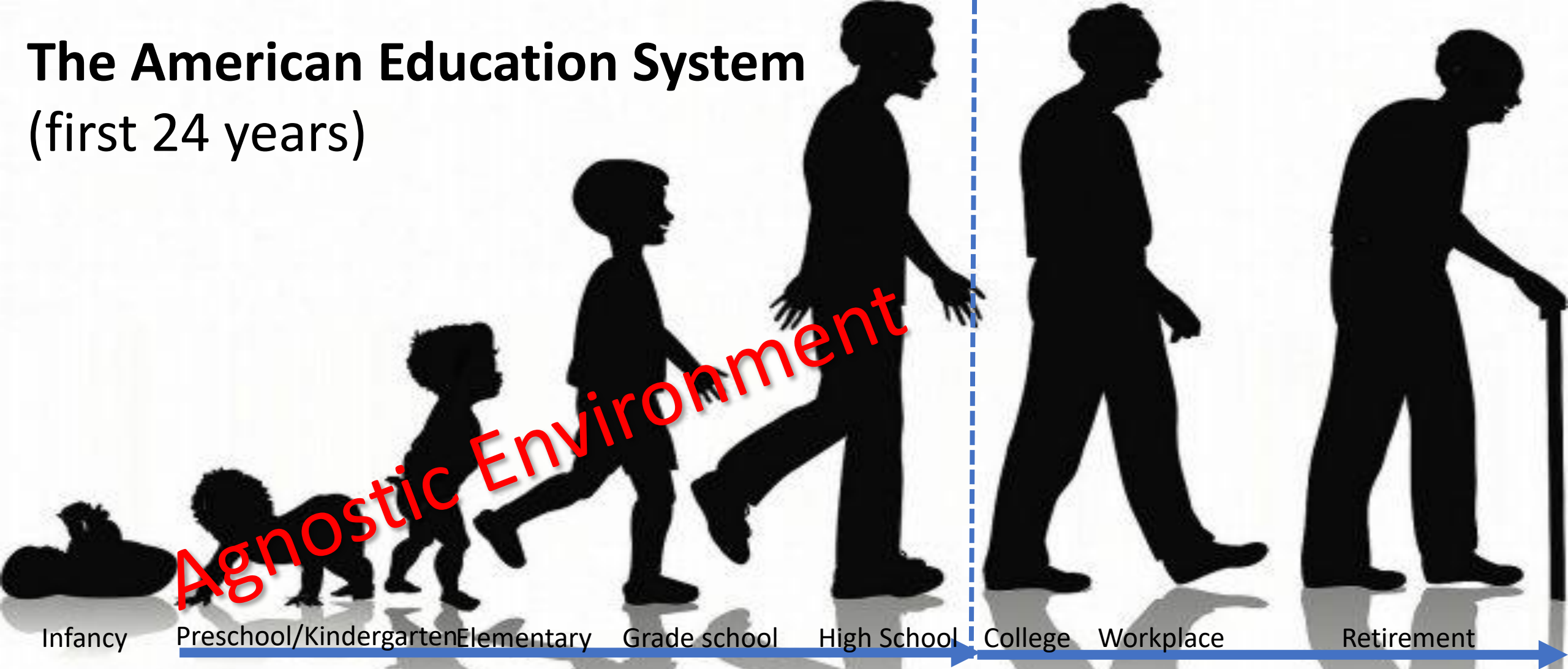
- The separation of Church and State clause of the 1st Amendment in 1791 made all public-school systems atheistic, or at best agnostic, regarding God
 - Children spend 16+ years in an “atheistic” environment
 - Taught that science and history have nothing to do with God
- Both prayer **and** the Bible were taken out of schools
- The education system teaches **tolerance for all beliefs**
 - There is NO Absolute Truth...My beliefs and yours are equally valid

Effect of 1963 Decision Removing Prayer?

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Religion was NOT thrown out...Christianity was replaced by the "religion" of atheism

The American Education System (first 24 years)



The average age of graduation from high school is 18 years

<https://www.quora.com/At-what-age-do-people-usually-graduate-from-college>

The average age of graduation from college is 24 years

<https://www.quora.com/At-what-age-do-people-usually-graduate-from-college>

The percentage of home-schooled children is 3.4% (US Dept Education, 2016)

<https://hslda.org/docs/news/2013/201309030.asp>

Barna: 3 out of 5 Children Leave the Church

- Church is insensitive to the real world
 - Demonizes *everything* (23%)
 - Ignores the real problems of the world (22%)



<https://www.barna.com/research/six-reasons-young-christians-leave-church/>

Barna: 3 out of 5 Children Leave the Church

- Church is insensitive to the real world
- Reason 2: Christianity is shallow
 - *Boring* (31%)
 - *Not relevant* (25%)
 - *Bible is not taught clearly* (23%)
 - *God is missing* (20%)



Barna: 3 out of 5 Children Leave the Church

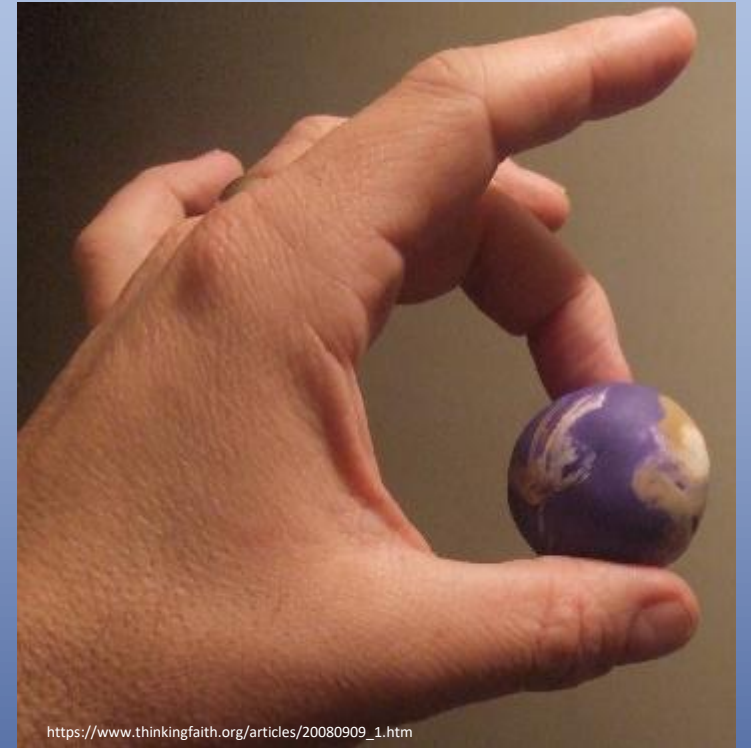
- Church is insensitive to the real world
- Reason 2: Christianity is shallow
- Reason 3: Church is antagonistic to Science
 - Christians “know it all” and science is wrong (35%)
 - Church is out of step with science (29%)
 - Church is anti-science (25%)
 - turned off by Creation vs Evolution debate (23%)



<https://www.barna.com/research/six-reasons-young-christians-leave-church/>

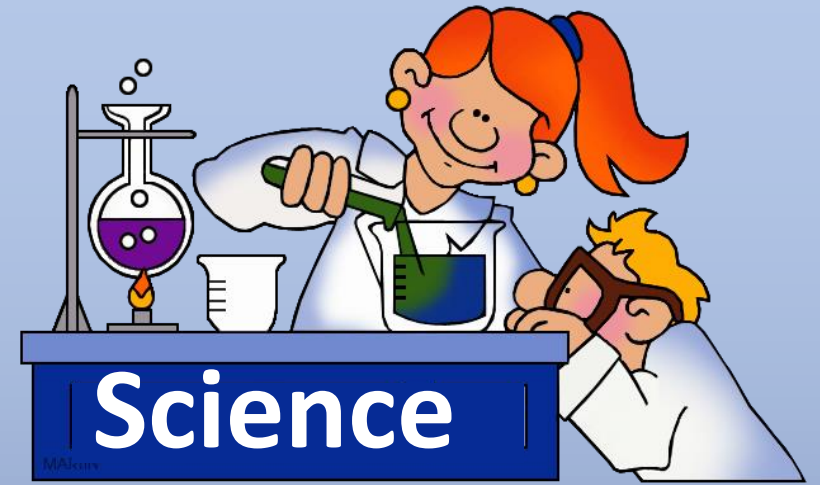
What's a Church to Do?

- Understand the Bible and God's desires for man
- Understand Science
- Teach and encourage children
 - HOW to reconcile Science and the Bible
 - Learn Physical Sciences
 - Understand Science is NOT a threat to religion
- Understand Atheism and Agnosticism



What is Science?

- The word derives from the Latin “Scientia” which means “knowledge”
- Systematic study of the physical/natural world by observation and experimentation
- The search for facts/truth about general laws in nature and the universe
- Aims:
 - How does the world work
 - Components making up the world
 - How the world got to be the way it is now



scientia potentia est (Knowledge is Power)

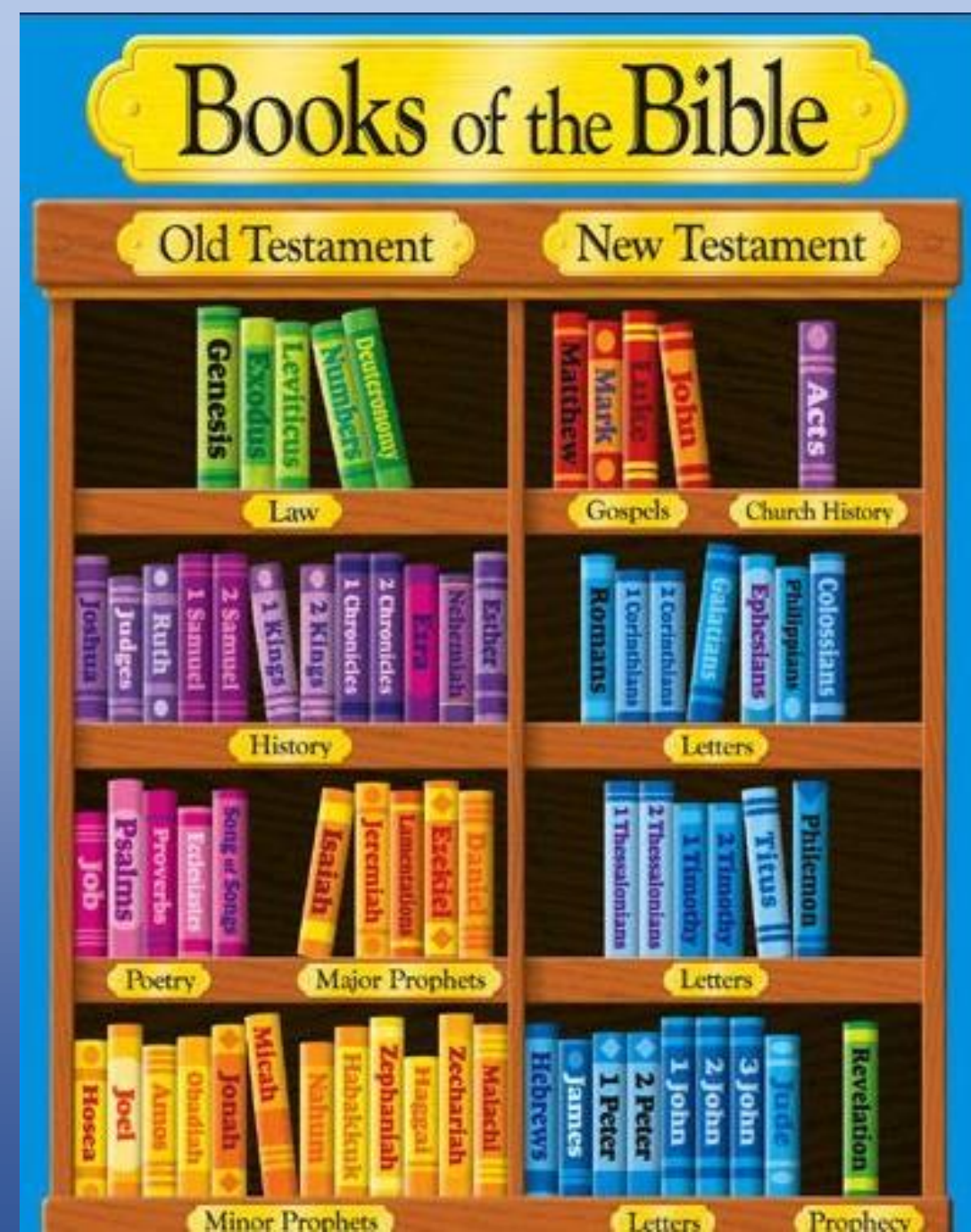
What is the Bible?

- A collection of books written over many hundreds of years
- Some books are one page long, others are lengthy
- Common theme: God wants to have a relationship with us!
- It asks and answers timeless questions:
 - Who am I?
 - Why am I here?
 - Where am I going when life is over?
 - How should I live?
- Central aim is **salvation**, and the central person is **Jesus Christ**
- God's word, written by inspired men



How Many Books in the Bible?

An Easy to Remember Process!



How Many Books in the Bible?

Letters: Old Testament

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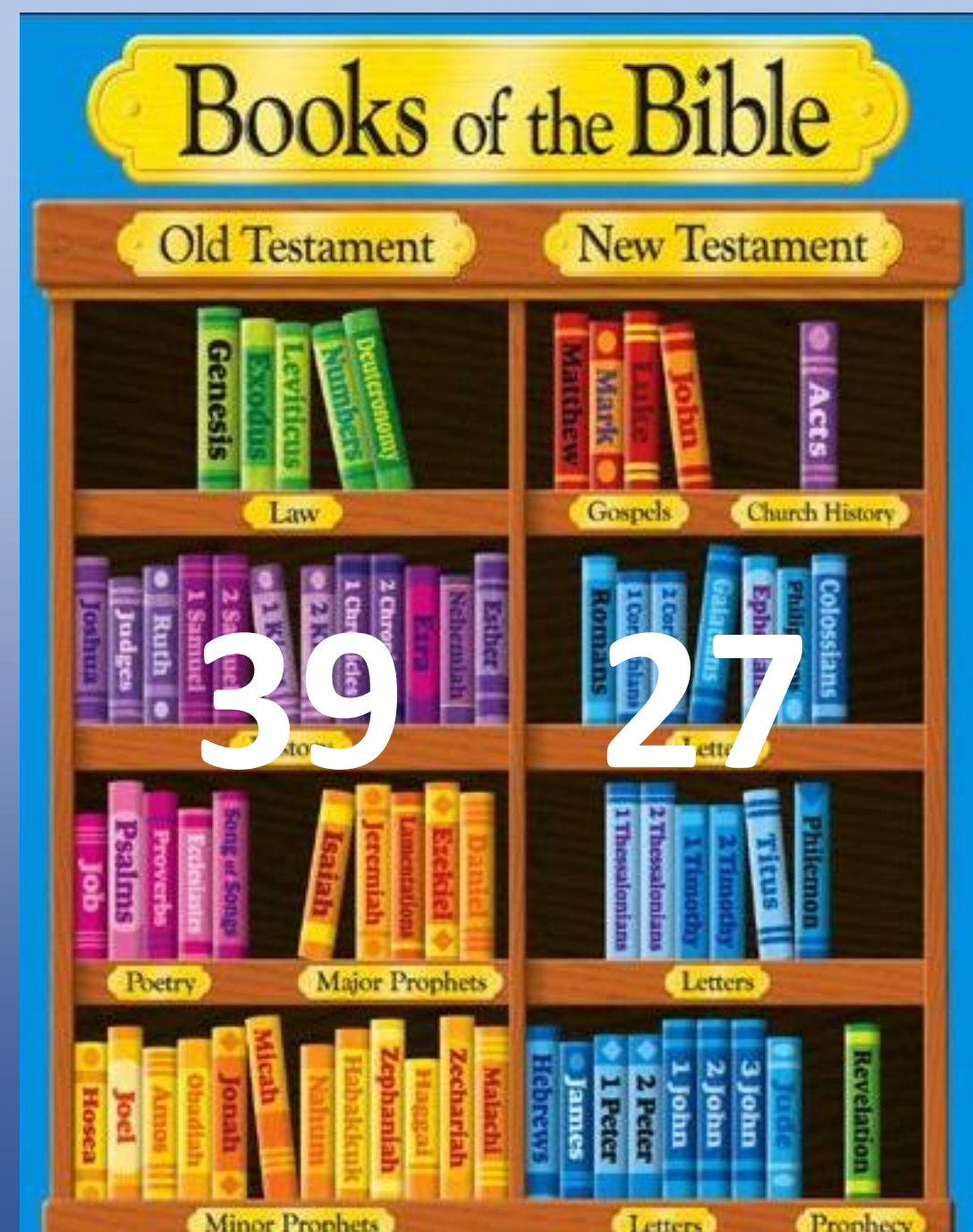
3

|

9

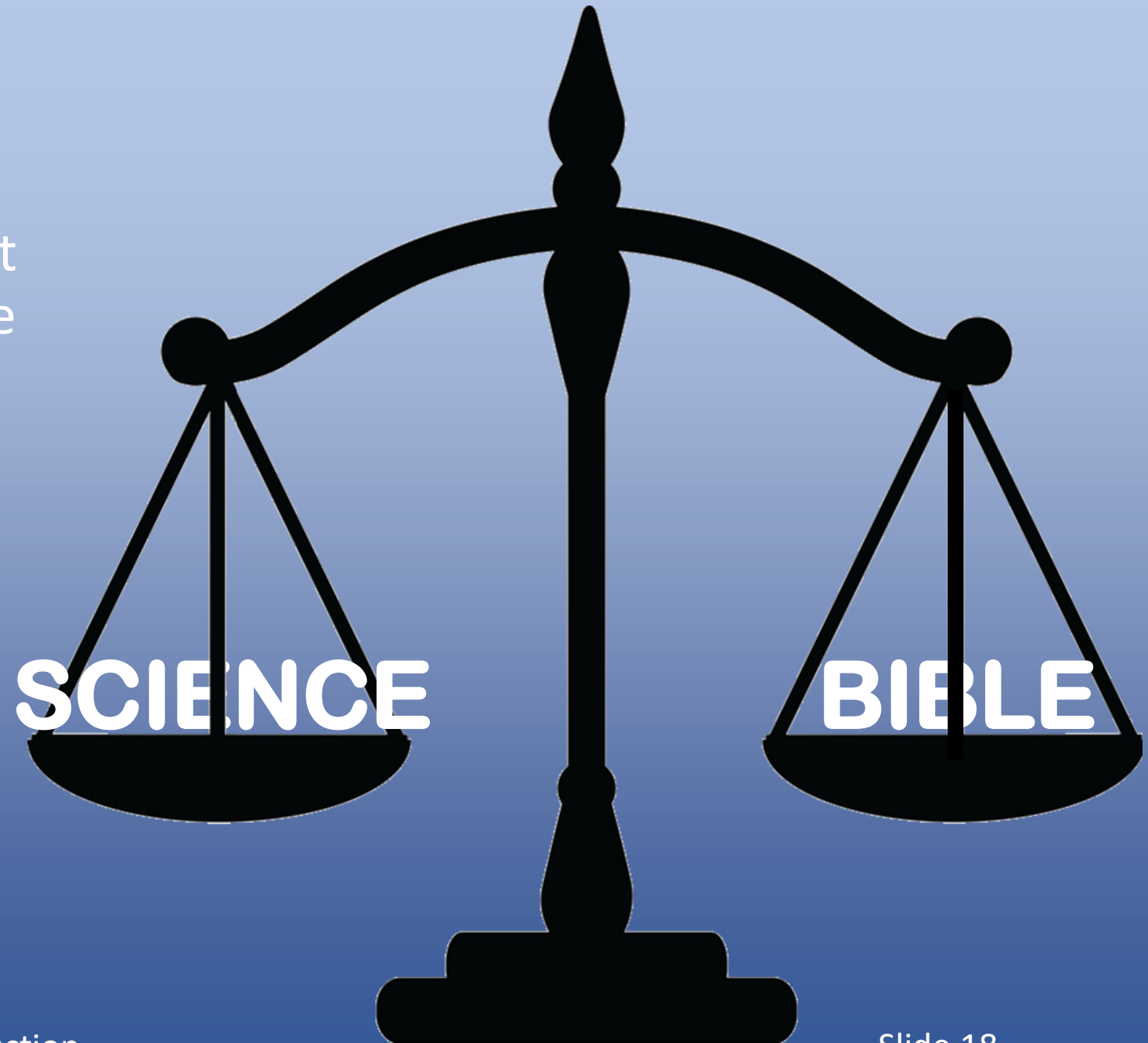
New Testament

$$3 \times 9 = 27$$



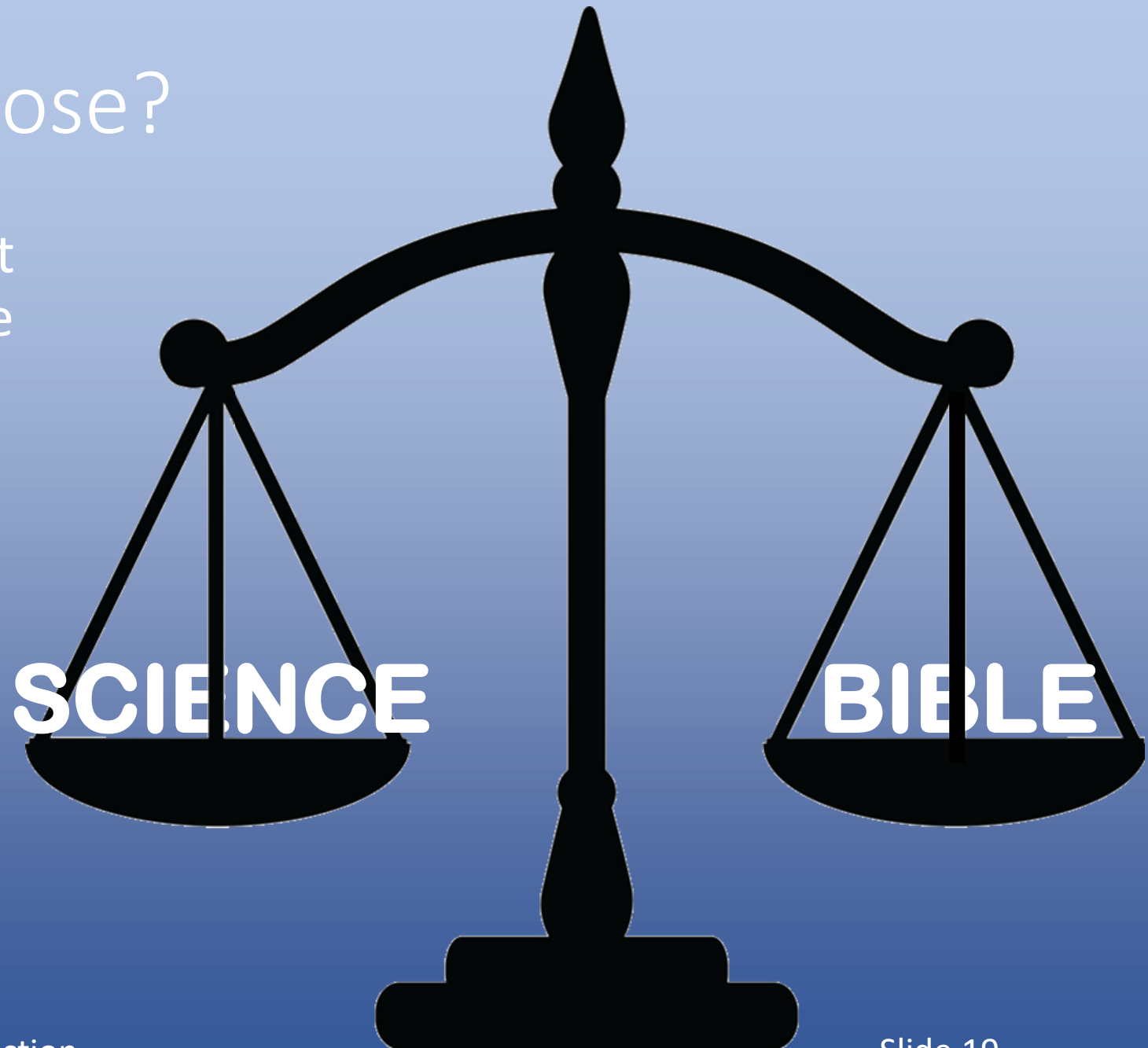
Must one Choose?

- If Science says something that you think is different from the Bible, what should you do?



Do you Have to Choose?

- If Science says something that you think is different from the Bible, what should you do?
 - First, try to find a way to **reconcile** the two
 - If you can't **then** take the Bible's account



Can Science and the Bible be Reconciled?

- This image was painted on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel by Michelangelo in 1508-1523 AD
- It shows a concerned God reaching out to man (or man to God)
- If science really is the pursuit of knowledge, then should the knowledge of God be considered the highest level of science?



Knowledge of God should be the Highest Science

- Science EXCLUDES anything not
 - Observable
 - Testable
 - Repeatable
 - Falsifiable by experimentation
- Competing alternatives
 - **Science** is the pursuit of knowledge through observation and experimentation
 - **Religion** is the pursuit of unverifiable truth through faith and belief



http://bible.phillipmartin.info/bible_creation_m.gif

So...School teaches something conflicting with Bible

- **Parents:**

- Not that involved in what kids are learning in school
- Not aware when a conflict has been taught
- May not have the knowledge to offer a Bible-based response

- **Schools:**

- Schools won't/can't ever say anything at all about what the Bible says, **ever!**

- **Kids:**

- *My science teacher is so SURE about his/her ideas*
- *My family and church won't talk about it, so they don't know*
- ***Science must be right...religion is wrong***

What this Course Teaches (For Parents)

- Science-related topics in the Bible
- Bible and Science saying the same thing?
- Try hard to find common ground
- Not a “Pick one or the other” decision
- Prepare a ready answer in advance for “hot topics”
- Communicate with your children about science

What this Course Teaches – For Students

- Hear something that conflicts with the Bible?
- Talk to your parents or family
- Ask, “Are they saying the same thing in different ways?”
- Try hard to find common ground
- Not a “Pick one or the other” decision
- If you think it doesn’t matter...it DOES matter!

The Lessons: Reconcile Science and the Bible

1. The creation of the universe (**Creation in the Bible** vs the **Geological Timeclock** and **Evolution**)
2. The **Big Bang** and how old is the earth (“In the Beginning...”)
3. Dinosaurs and **age of the Earth** (fossil record and why the Bible says nothing about dinosaurs)
4. The Existence of God: The **Argument from Logic**
5. The Existence of God: The **Anthropological Argument**
6. The Existence of God: The **Ontological Argument**
7. The Existence of God: **The Argument from Intelligent Design**
8. What is **truth**? Is the Bible true and can you trust it? Is there such a thing as Absolute Truth?
9. Was **Jesus a REAL person**? Is there any extra-Biblical evidence for the man’s existence?
10. Why does God allow **evil** to exist? The dilemma of a Good God and Evil in the world
11. Is there **life after death**? What happens when you die?
12. Is **God multidimensional**? What would we seem like to a multidimensional being?

Reconciling the Bible and Science

reconcile

rec·on·cile | \ 're-kən-,sī(-ə)| \ **reconciled; reconciling**

transitive verb

1a: to restore to friendship or harmony, as in “to *reconcile* the factions”

b: SETTLE, RESOLVE, as in “to *reconcile* differences”

2: to make consistent or congruous as in “*reconcile* an ideal with reality”

What is NOT Reconciling Science and the Bible?

- Science is “completely” wrong. The Bible is completely right!
- Science has it “mostly” right. It is just wrong on a few things.
- The “theory” of evolution is just that...a *theory*. Not grounded in truth.
- Don’t worry about what the Science or Biology teacher tells you... clearly, they do not read or even believe the Bible
- The government demands teachers remove ANYTHING to do with the Bible in the classroom. That is why **they have to say what they say.**
- The Bible says it. I believe it. That settles it!

Questions? Comments?

