Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Genesis 3:1; 1 Peter 3:15; Genesis 1:29-30

Introduction

- Over the past several weeks there has been a series of messages given that center around believing what the Bible teaches as truth.
- It has been mentioned that the Bible is full of “crazy” or “unbelievable” events and we cannot pick and choose which parts of it that we want to believe and which we want to “throw away.”
- **2 Timothy 3:16-17** says, “16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, **17 so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**”
- Satan has been attempting to undermine God’s Word from the very beginning.
- **Genesis 3:1** says, “Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, **‘Did God really say, ’You must not eat from any tree in the garden?’**”
- Satan attacked God’s Word in the beginning, and he is still doing so every day that goes by.
- In order to combat Satan’s questions, we must know what God’s Word says, and be ready to defend it.
- **1 Peter 3:15**, “But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”
- This morning we asking, **Does God’s Word Really Say, All Life Started Out Vegetarian?**

**Genesis 1:29-30**

29 Then God said, "I give you every seed-bearing plant on the face of the whole earth and every tree that has fruit with seed in it. They will be yours for food. 30 And to all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground—everything that has the breath of life in it—I give every green plant for food." And it was so.

- So, what does it say?
- It is clear that both humans and animals started out as vegetarians at least prior to sin entering the world.
- When it comes to which animals were vegetarian V.30 is really specific, **“all the beasts of the earth and all the birds of the air and all the creatures that move on the ground…”**
- This is a verse that is attacked greatly by the secular world because they say animals like lions and tigers only eat meat.
- The issue is that the secular world views the Bible through their secular worldview and because the Bible does not seem to fit with what they see right now, they don’t believe it.
- It all comes down to whether or not you accept the Bible as the authoritative Word of God or not.
- **Illustration 1**: If you do, then you will gather your information from the Bible and then view the world through your Biblical worldview.
- If you are using the Bible as your source of knowledge, you will also submit that God’s created the world just as he says he did in **Genesis 1-2**.
- That would mean that he would have created dinosaurs at the same time that he created other animals.
- If that was so, and you believe the Bible as written, that would mean that dinosaurs too would have started out as vegetarians.
- All means all, and the Bible does not teach evolution where there are millions of years of death and suffering before sin entered the world.
- Now the secular world does not accept the Bible as written and they put their faith in what they observe.
- What is the secular world’s proof about what they believe happened at creation and about ancient animals?
- Fossils and what they observe in the present day are their only proofs.
- What it interesting about that, is that we all have the same “evidence.”
• **Illustration 2:** Christians and secularists have the same fossils to look at and the same present-day observations, we just see different things when we look at the evidence.
  
  When a person with a secular worldview looks at the Lucy fossil, they see an ape-man, when a person with a Biblical worldview look at the same fossil, they see an ape.

• **Illustration 3:** What is this animal?
• **Illustration 4:** What type of food do you think this animal ate?
• If you were just walking in a museum and ran across this display without any plaque describing what it was, odds are you would have no idea what this animal was.
• You also would probably guess by looking at the skull that this was some vicious creature that ate meat.
• If you would have done that, you would have been wrong. This is a skeleton of a giant panda.
• **Illustration 5:** Do you know what pandas eat? Bamboo.
• **Illustration 6:** The skull of a fruit bat also appears at first glance to be a carnivore, but all they eat is fruit.

• The point of all of this is that the so-called proof that secularists have is ancient bones that must then be interpreted based on our fallible human minds and present-day observations that may not reflect what happened in the past.
• The Bible clearly teaches that prior to sin entering into the world, all humans and animals were vegetarians.
• We know that after the fall, animals began to eat meat, but not before.
• Man was not allowed to eat meat until **Genesis 9:3**, “Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.”
• Let’s allow the Bible to be our source of knowledge and then view the world through that lens, not the other way around.

  **Wednesday Night Bible Study:** The Book of Genesis