Men of Science — and God

There is a popular myth that science and belief in the Bible are incompatible. Nothing could be further from the truth. There are thousands of Christian scientists in the world who see no conflict between their beliefs and their research, and the fact that all the founders of our main scientific disciplines were Bible-believing Christians proves that science and belief in God can go hand-in-hand.

**BRILLIANT PIONEERS**

These brilliant pioneers saw no conflict between their faith and their work. In fact, modern science flowed from Christian faith and belief, and from people who felt they were “thinking God’s thoughts after Him.” They would have been very puzzled by the attitude of many today’s secularists to whom any mention of God is taboo, and who are desperate to find a natural explanation for everything — scientists such as Scott C Todd, who wrote, “Even if all the data point to an intelligent designer, such a hypothesis is excluded from science because it is not naturalistic.”

And the late Dr Ernst Mayr, who wrote, “Darwinism rejects all supernatural phenomena and causations.” These two scientists were allowing their world-view to restrict their research, and ruling out one line of enquiry even before they began. What a contrast between them and those great pioneers of science, such as Louis Pasteur, who wrote, “Science brings men nearer to God.” Among all the scientists who have ever lived, only a tiny minority were atheists. So why do so many modern scientists pretend that God can have no place in their research?

**THE HEAVENS ABOVE**

Pioneers in the science of astronomy supported the words of David 3,000 years ago, “The heavens declare the glory of God.” (Psalm 19: 1). Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) who formulated the laws governing the movements of the planets, said, “The chief aim of all investigations of the external world should be to discover the rational order and harmony which has been imposed on it by God,” and described the movements of the planets as “a divine mechanism derived by the most wise Creator.” It was Kepler who coined the phrase “thinking God’s thoughts after Him.”

William Herschel (1738-1832) who discovered the planet Uranus, declared that “the undevout astronomer must be mad.” And Sir Isaac Newton, who has been described as our greatest scientist, said, “This most beautiful [solar] system could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being.”

**THE EARTH BENEATH**

Many people believe that there is no room for the supernatural in biology, which would have surprised Swedish scientist Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778), who invented our modern biological classification system. A convinced Christian, he believed that the original kinds of plants and animals had been created by God. French scientist Henri Fabre (1823-1915) was an expert in the study of insects, and wrote ten books on the subject. He rejected Darwin’s theory of evolution, and once said, “You could take my skin from me more easily than my faith in God.”

Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) who conducted experiments which proved that life only comes from life, said, “The more I study nature, the more I stand amazed at the work of the Creator.”

**REFERENCES**


Factsheets published regularly by Creation Resources Trust, P O Box 3237, Yeovil, BA22 7WD. (Registered charity No 1016666). Further copies can be downloaded from our website www.crt.org.uk © 2006