



Reformation 500

THEOLOGY AND LEGACY OF THE EFCA



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Genesis and the Age of the Earth: Does the Bible Speak Definitively on the Age of the Universe?

Greg Strand
Executive Director of Theology & Credentialing



An Academic Debate



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An Academic Debate

A Local Church Discussion/Debate



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We affirm without reservation or equivocation the biblical truth “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Gen. 1:1). We profess with conviction, “We believe in one God, Creator of all things” (EFCA Statement of Faith, Article 1, God). We also profess with that same conviction “the Bible is without error in the original writings, the complete revelation of His will for salvation, and the ultimate authority by which every realm of human knowledge and endeavor should be judged” (EFCA Statement of Faith, Article 2, The Bible).




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With these foundational and essential truths, we humbly and charitably engage in dialogue and debate regarding the question, “Does the Bible speak definitively on the age of the universe?”



Genesis and the Age of the Earth Continuing the Discussion in the Local Church – A Case Study

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Questions for Discussion



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1. Briefly summarize the case-study: who is in the story, what happened, and where did it happen?



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2. What is Bob's (businessman) position? What is Scott's (scientist) position? Compare (similarities) and contrast (differences) their positions.



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2. What is Bob's (businessman) position? What is Scott's (scientist) position? Compare (similarities) and contrast (differences) their positions.
3. What is the main disagreement? Consider personal, biblical, theological, scientific, hermeneutical, and other elements of this disagreement.



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Questions for Discussion Cont'd

4. What action was taken and by whom? Based on the responses and actions, what problems were solved, and what new problems were created?



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Questions for Discussion Cont'd

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6. What is the role and responsibility of the pastor in this discussion in the local church?



Questions for Discussion Cont'd

4. What action was taken and by whom? Based on the responses and actions, what problems were solved, and what new problems were created?
5. Describe ways this situation could have been addressed personally, and corporately.
6. What is the role and responsibility of the pastor in this discussion in the local church?
7. What resources do you recommend in order to help others grow in their understanding of these issues and to help work through such situations?

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Assignment

Please take notes as you respond to the last question. We will collect at the conclusion and compile for an additional resource.




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Creation, EFCA Statement of Faith and *Evangelical Convictions*

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The Doctrine of Creation Pastor and Elder/Leadership Affirmation An EFCA Example*

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- **Theological Foundations**



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- 
- **Theological Foundations**
 - **Scientific Foundations**



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- 
- **Theological Foundations**
 - **Scientific Foundations**
 - **Pastoral Implications**



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