Beginnings – ORIGIN (Where did we come from?)

- Only Two Choices
- Realize the Significance
- Is it Faith or Science?
 - o LAB Lookable, Accessible, Breakable
- **G**uess at the Evidence
- Inspect the Evidence
 - O Universe = "Decay"
 - Age of the Earth = "Can't Say"
 - Origin of Life by Chance = "No Way"
 - Evolution of Species and Man = "Lacks Genes and Tweens"
- No Compromise

DON'T - \underline{D} eath, \underline{O} rder of Creation, \underline{N} ames in genealogies, \underline{T} en Commandments refer to seven-day week

Intent of Life - LIFE (Why are we here?)

- Love GOD and MAN
- Increase GROW
- Faithfulness Time, Talent, Treasure
- Eternity Past, Present, Future

<u>Authority – POWER</u> (Who's in charge?) A God Who is:

- Personal and Loving
- Omnipotent
- Wise and All-Knowing
- Everywhere and Eternal
- Righteous and Reliable

Standards – RULES (What are the rules?) God's rules are:

- Revealed supernaturally, not derived by reason
- Universal and apply to everyone, everywhere, all the time
- Loving
- Enforced
- Steadfast

N - No Compromise

Is it possible to believe that both the Bible <u>and</u> evolution are true? Could God have used evolution to "create"? Many sincere Christians have tried to find a way to reconcile what the Bible teaches about our origins with current scientific theories. **However, closer examination shows that you must either believe the Bible accounts as they are given or reject the authority of the Bible.** Reinterpreting or ignoring the plain meaning of the Bible is the same as rejecting its authority.

The following acrostic "DON'T" summarizes four key reasons a Christian cannot logically reconcile the biblical account of our origins with any of the evolution-based compromise positions:

- Death did not come before mankind and sin
- Order of creation is not consistent with evolution
- **N**ames in genealogies do not allow for evolutionary timeframe
- Ten Commandments point to seven-day creation week as a model for our week

Compromise Theories

Many have tried to reconcile Genesis with evolution by "interpreting" Genesis 1 - 11 in ways such as the following theories::

Day-Age Theory

This interpretation says that the days in Genesis were not 24 hour days, but were instead the geological ages taught by evolution. The Hebrew word used for "day" ("yom") may refer to an ordinary 24-hour day, or it may be used to mean an indefinite period of time (such as "the day of the Lord"). It cannot mean a definite LONG period. You have to read it in context to determine which meaning is intended. The author says "and there was evening, and there was morning" on each day. A plain reading of this wording clearly settles that the author intended to describe a literal 24 hour day.

The passage in 2 Peter 3:8 that compares a day to a thousand years is sometimes used to defend this theory. That passage is not defining the word "day" as a thousand years. In context the passage has nothing to do with creation, but is poetically describing the fact that God is outside of time and is not limited by it.

The sequence of the account in creation also has no relation to the theoretical geological ages (see "Order of Creation" below) - God created large animals before small animals and insects! This theory also implies that the death shown in the fossil record existed before the fall of man, which is totally contradictory to the doctrine of the Bible (see "Death" below).

The Pre-Adamic Gap Theory

This theory says that between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 there were 5 billion years of geologic/fossil history before Satan's fall caused a worldwide cataclysm that left the earth "without form and void." Again, there is no evidence for this in the Bible and this theory requires that man, death, and suffering existed before the Creation/Fall account of Genesis.

The Genealogical-Gap Theory

This theory attempts to reconcile the Bible to evolution by proposing that there are gaps of at least a million years in the genealogies given in Genesis. Since the genealogies are also recorded in 1 Chronicles and Luke we must assume that they were meant to be taken as essentially complete records of the line from Adam through Noah to Abraham to Jesus.