

Title	Biblical Creation and Secular Belief
Topic/Field	Biblical creation / theology
Target audience	Professionals / General
<p>Compromised views in history</p> <p>In each age, there is a widely accepted secular belief which contradicts the Bible. In response, Christians have taken one of two ways to deal with this. One is the position to put trust in the pure and simple biblical words, excluding the secular teaching. In this case, there are no problems understanding the straightforward teaching of the Bible. The other position seeks a compromise between the secular belief and the Bible. In this case, there are problems since the secular belief contradicts the literal meaning of the Bible. To avoid contradiction, they have tried to give a different meaning to the Word, or to comprehend the Word figuratively.</p> <p>There are examples of compromised belief in Christian history. In the time of the apostle Paul, Gnosticism was a compromise with Greek philosophy (1 Timothy 6:20). In the 2nd to 3rd century, Origen of Alexandria argued that there was no contradiction between Christianity and Greek philosophy, and he kept trying to comprehend the Bible figuratively. In the 17th century, the Catholic Church accepted Aristotelian belief and claimed its geocentrism as the biblical teaching. Compromised views always tend to depart from reality.</p> <p>Recent compromised views and their problems</p> <p>In this age, the dominant secular belief is evolution over long ages. Since the early 19th century, there have been various attempts to compromise the Bible with it. Gap Theory in 1804, Day-Age Theory in 1823, Revelation Theory in 1857, Apparent Age Theory in 1857, Framework Hypothesis in 1924, Progressive Creationism in 1989, and Functional Creation View in 2009. All these theories put death, disease, and suffering in the world before Adam's sin; they always existed in the supposed secular history of living things. This undermines the central doctrine of the Bible of the creation of a very good heavens and Earth, with death and suffering introduced by Adam's sin. And this is the reason Jesus died, to save us from eternal death. Many Christians today believe some form of long-ages view, as above, not realizing these fatal problems.</p> <p>Education forms one's worldview</p> <p>In Japan, evolutionary education was introduced in middle school in 1899. This was very influential, and Japanese Christians had no means of confronting this so-called 'science'. Today, supposedly almost 99 % of Japanese believe in Evolution. Not many churches in Japan teach literal creation. In the United States, evolution itself was not allowed to be taught in the public schools until 1968. Before then, public education was mainly friendly to the biblical history of Creation. According to Gallup polls from 1983 to 2024, the percentages of people who believed in literal creation or theistic evolution gradually dropped, but belief in naturalistic evolution increased. These statistics show the importance of keeping biblical creation education in the church.</p> <p>Biblical reasons we should not take a compromised view</p> <p>The Bible keeps telling us not to compromise with secular belief but seek the pure and natural reading of the Word (Isaiah 40:6–8, Colossians 2:8, 1 Peter 2:1–2, 2 Peter 3:15–18). We should not let the secular belief speak for the Bible. We should let the Bible speak for itself.</p>	
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Curriculum Vitae

Minoru earned his B.A. degree at the University of California in Berkeley, and at Christian Heritage College, which was the undergraduate school of the Institute for Creation Research. When he studied Genesis at the college, he understood the importance of believing the history of Genesis literally. That if evolution were true, the death of living things was not caused by Adam's sin, and then we lose the foundational understanding of why we need to be saved by Jesus Christ. Since then, he started helping translate English biblical creation material into Japanese to help biblical creation ministry in Japan. Returning from the United States in 1997, he joined the ministry as a presenter of biblical creation, editor of the Japanese creation magazine, organizer of biblical creation seminars and camps in Japan. Now he is a president of Genesis Japan. He organized the All Asian Creation Conference in 2018 held in Okinawa, Japan. He is one of the core members of All Asian Creation Association that promotes biblical creation in Asian countries. He also is a pastor of Creator's Grace Bible church in Japan.