

Rev. Betty W. Holley, Ph.D., African Methodist Episcopal introduction and personal statement

This video was recorded at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History on March 28, 2011

Betty Holley: 00:19 ... four answers. From God, made in God's image found in Genesis 1:26. From the dust of the earth, the second creation account found in Genesis 2:7. From Adam, which is also found in the second account of the creation story found in Genesis 2:21-22. And as [Wensel 00:00:44] said, from Africa, from the motherland. a 2006 survey was done by the Pew Research Center Forum on Religion and Public Life, and it revealed 63% of African Americans believe the following: that God created humankind. Humans and animals have either always existed in their present form or have evolved over time under the guidance of a Supreme being. (01:20) The survey also reveal that, relative to African-American church goers, higher than 66% believe that God made humans. They also have been taught for generations to use the teachers of the Bible. Like the two creation accounts found in Genesis that I've mentioned, and to cope with everything from slavery to Jim Crow. Excuse me. (01:59) When questions such as, "I came from where?" is raised and questions of these sort, which of course have science and religion implication, then it is believed that science and religion answer very different kinds of questions about human origin. Religion aids in grappling with questions of why there is life, and science answers questions relative to how life evolves on earth. Science is recognized as a legitimate interpretation of God's natural world. Science descriptions of cosmological, geological, and biological evolution are not in conflict with our Christian faith. Science expands human understanding of the natural world. Through science, an understanding of the mysteries of God's creation and God's words are enhanced. And finally, our Christian faith and science are complimentary rather than mutually incompatible. (03:16)

The question "I came from where?" Reasons why dialogues of this nature between science and religion needs to be encouraged, particularly in the African-American community. There are several reasons, but these are two important reasons. It increases the quality of life

through God's grace. And secondly, humankind's sustainability of life on earth should always remain and focused. Thank you very much.

[Return to the web page for this video, Rev. Betty W. Holley, Ph.D., African Methodist Episcopal \(I came from where\)](#)