

## **Rev. Betty W. Holley: Thoughts on Science, Religion, and Human Origins**

This video was recorded at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History on May 11, 2012

Rev. Betty W. Holley: 00:20

My understanding of science and religion is that they compliment each other. Science helps to explain all about our creation. I look at science as a way of interpreting exactly what has gone on in creation. I see them as compatible entities. In my denomination, because we are believers in Christ Jesus, we feel that when it comes to thinking about what it means to be human, we think about being made in the image of God. And because we believe in Christ, as our faith increase in Christ, we become more like God. Become in the likeness of God. (01:14) When we think about evolution and how things have evolved, we look at humankind as standing out because we are humans that have personality, we can abstractly think, we have moral judgment. So I think that's what distinguishes us between other primates. (01:55) I think there's so many opportunities to strengthen the bond between science and religion, particularly when it comes to becoming good stewards of the earth and understanding how to relate to the environment in which we live. There's so many environmental challenges, and when we look at science, science in my view helps us to interpret how we can better become knowledgeable, aware of different things relative to our environment and how we should interact appropriately so that we can continue to be caregivers of what God has left us to have dominion over. But not in a sense to look at it as having total control. I think were are to live in harmony with what God has created. And science helps us to interpret all the disciplines of science, biology, cosmology, astronomy, all those kinds of disciplines helps us to understand the magnificent universe, which I look at as God's total glory. (03:27) But majorly, I guess when it comes to the compatibility of science and religion, I think I look more so at the opportunities. There are challenges, but I guess I'm more so looking for the opportunities to learn more about me and how I look at or how I am to see God's creation in its entirety. And there's so much to learn,

and so many new things that are evolving day by day. Particularly when it comes to having good health. Looking at different herbs that are grown all over the world is an opportunity to understand how that can help us to live longer. (04:32) I guess I'm thinking about how God created creation, in all of its entirety. And of course, I look at the six days as periods, not a 24 hour day. God made us last, for us to step back and look at creation in it's entirety. But also to be cognizant of how we fit in to the lower organisms, what major role they help us to survive. Because sustainability is of importance when it comes to looking at the total universe. How we sustain not just us, but sustain all of creation and living, as I said, in harmony. For animals not to go extinct, or for plants to not to go extinct. How we look at that, and view.

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