

WHAT NORTHSIDE TEACHES STUDENTS ABOUT SCIENCE

- 1. The proper study of science adheres to the requirement that there be an observer.**
Any hypothesis or theory must be based on observations; otherwise, it is not science.
We therefore reject the theory of evolution since there was no scientific observer.
- 2. The proper study of science adheres to the requirement of replication.**
Any hypothesis or theory must be based on a replicable process; otherwise, it is not science.
We therefore reject the “big bang” as a theory of origins since it cannot be replicated.
- 3. The proper study of science limits itself to empirical phenomena.**
True science makes no statements regarding the possibility of non-empirical reality.
We therefore reject any attempt of science to postulate theories regarding theology (the existence of God), epistemology (the nature of truth), the reality of the soul, or the validity of any of the attributes of personhood, whether human or divine.
- 4. The proper study of science does not make *a priori* assumptions.**
For example, uniformitarianism (all processes exist now and proceed at the same rate as always) is not science: it is assumption and circular reasoning, since it assumes what it intends to prove.
We consequently reject carbon dating as valid for determining the age of the earth. If we accept creation as a working hypothesis for ultimate origins, we would also accept that all things are created with the appearance of age (trees, not only seeds). Northside teaches without apology that “in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth,” and that He did so in six twenty-four-hour days, about 6,000 years ago.
- 5. The proper study of science does not conflict with a proper study of the Bible.**
Though the Bible does not speak exhaustively of science, it does speak accurately.
All apparent conflicts are misunderstandings of either science or the Bible. Science continually revises and modifies its tenets, and occasionally we clarify our understanding of Scripture.
Although this statement is a matter of faith, its validity cannot be refuted scientifically.
- 6. The proper study of science reveals the glory of God in every aspect of His creation.**
His “eternal power” and “godhead” are evident in every scientific discipline (Romans 1.20): for example, power and divinity are displayed in astronomy, geology, biology, anatomy, physiology, zoology, chemistry, physics, etc. Although we gain a greater appreciation of His wisdom, omnipotence, benevolence, orderliness, and immutability by observing the creation, we do not make the environmentalist (pseudo-scientific) nor pantheistic (pseudo-religious) error of worshipping the creature-creation rather than the Creator.
- 7. The proper study of science is restrained by the proper study of ethics.**
It is obvious that current scientific technology has progressed far beyond current ethics and morals. Science cannot determine whether or not we *should* do things (e.g., cloning) simply because we *can* do them. Proper ethics is rooted in moral absolutes, which is beyond the proper scope of science. Absolutes are limited to the absolutely infallible Word of God, which is the expression of the nature and will of the absolutely immutable God.

Northside Christian School, with much prayer and deliberate care, employs faculty and selects curricular materials with the specific purpose of teaching science from this Biblical perspective.