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To follow along by smart phone, go to:

tinyurl.com/QnA20200808
DISCLAIMER: Inclusion of references in these slides does not constitute agreement with all conclusions from the various websites from which they were taken. Some creationists pounce on evidence prematurely, possibly like the image below. -MB
1. Theologian John Gerstner taught that God did not create out of nothing (ex nihilo). He said that God created out of Himself, while avoiding any hint of pantheism (creatio ex deo). Gerstner said nothing can come from nothing. What are your thoughts about how God created?

It probably does not matter, but God could have created the universe out of nothing. Everything in the physical universe exists in space-time, but God transcends physical reality. Being creatures within space-time (including Gerstner), our brain shorts out when we try to think outside that realm. Here is an interesting article, “The Extradimensional Nature of God” that makes an understandable analogy:

[link](tinyurl.com/extradofGod)
Hebrew word *tannin* is defined by *The Enhanced Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon* as “serpent, dragon, sea-monster.” It likely refers to certain reptiles, including giant marine creatures and serpentine land animals.

God describes at length a leviathan, a fire-breathing sea monster with impenetrable scales that none could face except its Creator. Read Job 41 and see if you picture a ferocious marine reptile, like a *Kronosaurus*. Leviathan is mentioned in five passages of Scripture and is identified as a type of *tannin* in Psalm 74:13–14 and Isaiah 27:1. Dragons are real—created creatures, some of which terrorized in the waters and others that roved the land and air.
2. How should creationists view medieval, fire-breathing dragons? (2)

Fire Breathing Dragons: Bible References (2)

https://answersingenesis.org/dinosaurs/dragon-legends/dragons-fact-or-fable/

The burden against the beasts of the South. Through a land of trouble and anguish, From which came the lioness and lion, The viper and fiery flying serpent, They will carry their riches on the backs of young donkeys, And their treasures on the humps of camels, To a people who shall not profit. (Isaiah 30:6)

In the book of Job, God describes a behemoth and a fire-breathing leviathan (Job 40:15–24; 41:1–34).
Dragons appear again and again in the records of cultures around the world, as well as in their art and pottery. The similarities are hints that many accounts may be based on actual encounters with these creatures—dinosaurs and other reptiles which God created on day five and six (Genesis 1:20–25) and which survived the Flood aboard Noah’s Ark (Genesis 6:19).

2. How should creationists view medieval, fire-breathing dragons? (4)

Dragons: Modern Comparison

https://biol2205mattsbombardierbeetles.weebly.com/physiology.html

Bombardier beetle escapes from a toad's stomach after...
Skeptics mock at the idea that “fire-breathing monsters” have any basis in reality. But who would have thought that an electric eel or firefly was real if they had not been seen? A few lines of evidence should be considered. Firstly, there is the fairly clear teaching of scripture. The Bible leaves very little room for a hyperbole or metaphor interpretation. Job 41:19-21 says of Leviathan that, “Out of his mouth go burning lamps, and sparks of fire leap out. Out of his nostrils goes smoke as out of a seething pot or caldron. His breath kindles coals, and a flame goes out of his mouth.” Secondly there is the matter of historical evidence. That is, multiple societies that were widely separated tell stories of fire-breathing dragons. Why did they all chance upon the dragon? Thirdly, we can consider some biological evidence. There is a “fire-breathing” beetle called the bombadier beetle. Hydrogen Peroxide and Hydroquinone are contained in separate chambers in the beetle’s abdomen, from
where they can be ejected with a catalyst to confront a predator with an explosive mixture reaching 212º F! Lastly, there is some paleontological evidence that a skull arrangement might have accommodated “fire-breathing.” In his delightful book Dinosaurs by Design, Duane Gish discusses how the hadrosaur nasal cavity could easily have connected to chemical reserves in the hollow, horny crest. There are four separate passage in the crest, two running up from the nostrils and two running down toward the throat. The Old English word “neesings” in Job 41:18 denotes a voluntary sneeze. Perhaps Leviathan used this ability as a defensive weapon, just like the beetles. No wonder God uses him to make the point in verse 10 “None is so fierce that dare stir him up: who then is able to stand before me?” This helps us understand God’s purpose in creating such huge, fearsome reptilian monsters. We would be terrified to have a close encounter with them. Do we realize that we will have a close encounter with their Creator? Each of us will give an account to our God after we leave this world (Hebrews 9:27).

2. How should creationists view medieval, fire-breathing dragons? (6)

Leviathan Article (2)

3. Richard Dawkins wrote, "Nearly all peoples have developed their own creation myth, and the Genesis story is just the one that happened to have been adopted by one particular tribe of Middle Eastern herders. It has no more special status than the belief of a particular West African tribe that the world was created from the excrement of ants." (The Blind Watchmaker, Page 316). How would you respond?

Prof. Dawkins’ assertion fails to address ultimate origins, requesting special privilege to “pick up the story in the middle”, just like most evolutionists, who know that abiogenesis is not chemically possible, but by faith they start the story with the first cell, which is a MIGHTY big leap into the middle. Anyway, to respond to Dawkins’ assertion logically, let’s ask a comparative question: If a robbery was committed by five criminals, who, when captured and questioned, all told dramatically different stories, would the conflict between the five accounts falsify all of them? What is the next step to get to the truth? Inference to the best explanation. Which one best matches the evidence?
4. Richard Dawkins continually refers to creationists as "history deniers" (The Greatest Show On Earth, Appendix). How would you respond?

Recorded history and historical sciences are different things. The former requires eyewitnesses, the latter are conducted when there were no witnesses. Creationists assert that we HAVE eye-witness, recorded history of creation. Why should we believe that Biblical record? MUCH support from different fields of study. Those who try to discredit the Bible in historical science fields inevitably end up subdued by further discoveries. See the following links for articles on Jericho archaeology, and historicity of Luke (I love the refutation of the Quirinius objection):

[link1]
[link2]
End of Slideshow
Thanks for viewing!