

A golden wireframe dragon-like creature is positioned in the upper right corner of the image. The background is a fiery, orange and yellow gradient with a bright light source on the left side, creating a glowing effect. The overall scene is set against a dark, starry background.

Faith and SCIENCE

Wednesday, April 22, 2009



Two Books

Psalm 19: 1-4, 7-11, 14

Mike Moses, Lead Pastor

**“In Essentials Unity. In Non-Essentials Liberty. In all things
Charity.” (motto of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church)**



1. There are Two Books revealing God: Physical Creation & the Bible
Text of Psalm 19:1-4, 7-11, 14

2. Four Approaches to Relationship of Faith and Science:

Conflict/Warfare
Independence

Dialogue
Integration (from Polkinghorne 2004, p. 6)

3. The Bible isn't a science book. The Bible is a love story.

4. Science and faith ask different questions, and therefore give different answers.

Science asks 'what' and 'how,' faith asks 'who' and 'why.'

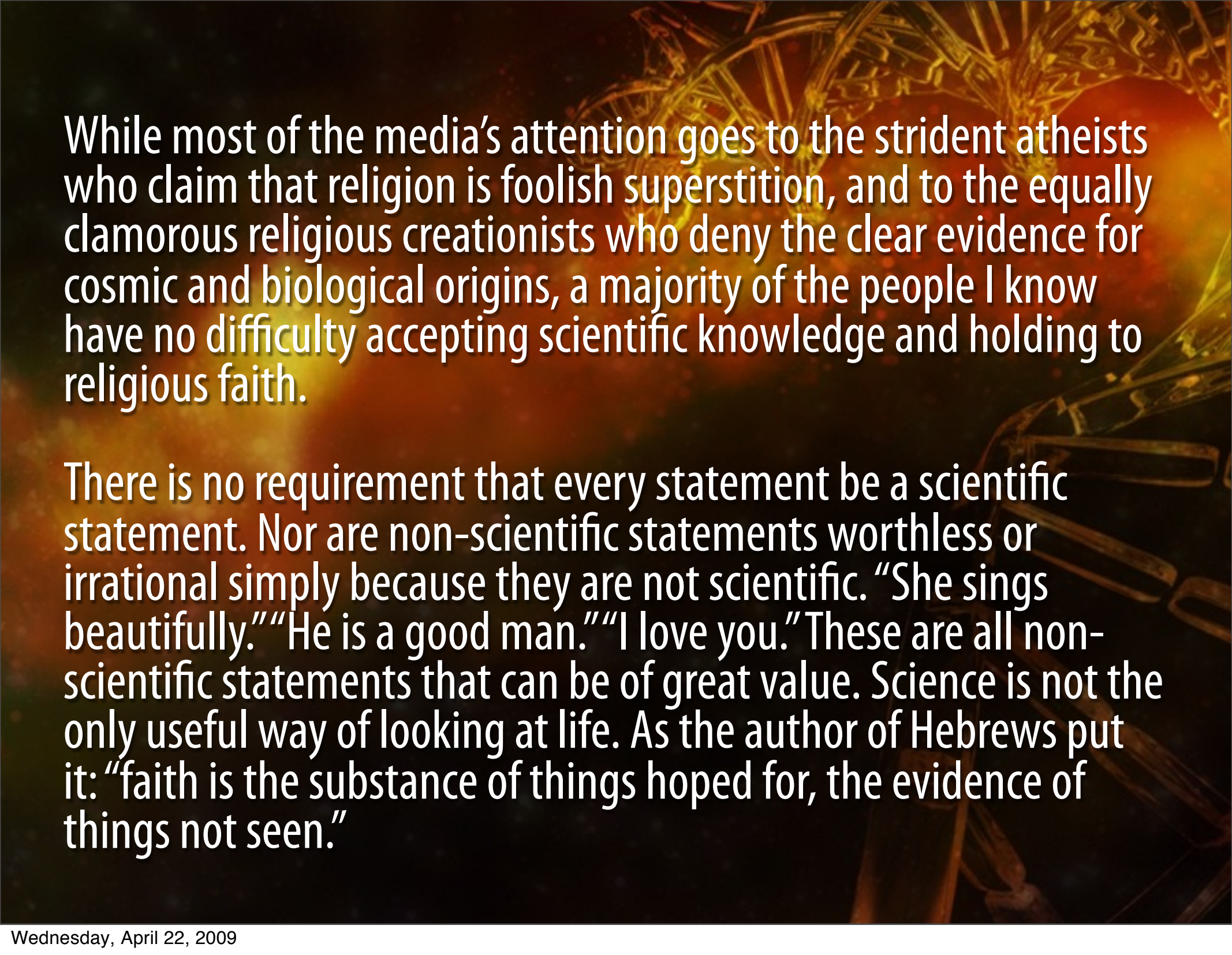
5. There is a connection between faith and science which comes from the Bible. It is the fundamental teaching of scripture that the physical world is "real."

6. Science is not an enemy of faith.

William D. Phillips, Nobel Laureate in physics, Fellow of the Joint Quantum Institute at U. of Maryland:

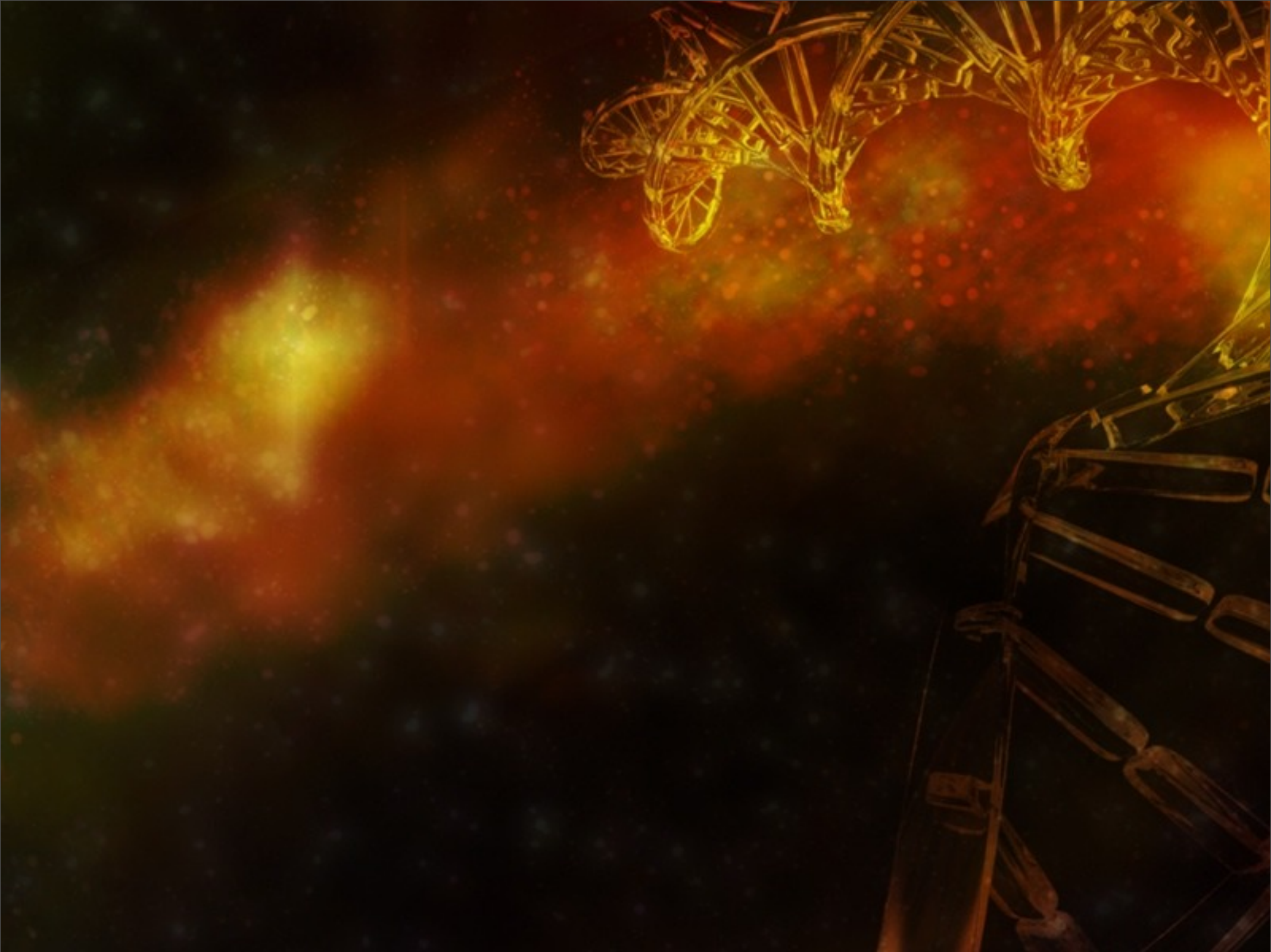
I am a physicist. I do mainstream research; I publish in peer-reviewed journals; I present my research at professional meetings; I train students and postdoctoral researchers; I try to learn from nature how nature works. In other words, I am an ordinary scientist.

I am also a person of Christian faith. I attend church; I sing in the gospel choir; I go to Sunday school; I pray regularly; I try to “do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with my God.” In other words, I am an ordinary person of faith. To many people, this makes me a contradiction—a serious scientist who seriously believes in God. But to many more people, I am someone just like them.



While most of the media's attention goes to the strident atheists who claim that religion is foolish superstition, and to the equally clamorous religious creationists who deny the clear evidence for cosmic and biological origins, a majority of the people I know have no difficulty accepting scientific knowledge and holding to religious faith.

There is no requirement that every statement be a scientific statement. Nor are non-scientific statements worthless or irrational simply because they are not scientific. "She sings beautifully." "He is a good man." "I love you." These are all non-scientific statements that can be of great value. Science is not the only useful way of looking at life. As the author of Hebrews put it: "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."



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