The Rabbit Room

Beer, Bible and Apologetics

We know from history that some of the greatest Christian thinkers discussed religion over ales. C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien used to gather at the Rabbit Room, the back room of The Eagle and Child pub, to talk about theology over drinks.



ALL INTERPRETATION IS PHILOSOPHICAL

WHEN SOMEONE SAYS THE SCIENCE SAYS THIS, IS THAT AN ACCURATE STATEMENT?

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN DATA AND INTERPRETATION?

HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO BIBLICAL STUDIES AND APOLOGETICS?



DOES SCIENCE SAY ANYTHING?

- The basis for the scientific method is to experiment on a thesis to disprove it.
- Experiments collect data (points of information)
- The data never tells you anything by itself.



DATA MUST BE INTERPRETED TO SHOW HOW WELL THE EXPERIMENT OR ANALYSIS MATCHES THE HYPOTHESIS.

- Data by itself rarely shows anything, only in proper context can the information be interpreted.
- It is possible to have the same data be interpreted differently by different scientists.
 - See the ACRIM gap controversy
 - Looking at the Sun Climate Discussion Nexus transcript with sources
 - Looking At The Sun (youtu.be) video source



HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO BIBLICAL STUDIES?

- The Bible is a giant data set.
- How you interpret passages will depend on many factors including
 - Your knowledge of the original context of the passage
 - How you interpret the concept of inspiration of the text
 - Your presuppositions



HOW DO WE USE THIS INFORMATION?

- Keep on open mind
- Every potential interpretation may not be valid, but some may be more valid than others
- Do not rely on gut feelings, but review, ponder, mull, come back to a passage... i.e. study the Bible.

