THE CREED

THE FIRST ARTICLE (PART 1)

READERS THEATER

Characters: Reader 1, Reader 2

Setting: A conversation based on creation versus evo-

lution

Reader 1: Okay, I have a question that will stump you! It's the question that has been troubling man since the beginning of time. It's the question that scientists and philosophers struggle with daily. It's the stuff of which conventions, chat rooms, and class-

rooms are made! Ready?

Reader 2: (Sarcastically) On the edge of my seat.

Reader 1: Okay, here it is: Which came first—the chicken or the egg?

Reader 2: That's easy!

Reader 1: Wait! Easy? You have to answer this with careful thought. If the egg came first, then who laid it? If the chicken came first, didn't it hatch from an egg? Hmmm? See? This is anything but easy. So, which is it, Einstein? The chicken or the egg?

Reader 2: Like I said, that's easy.

Reader 1: You're not going to give me one of those ambiguous, wishy-washy answers are you?

Reader 2: No. My answer is abundantly clear and supported by the best of the best. Are you ready for the answer?

Reader 1: Yes, but before you answer, let me say, I don't think there's a real answer that will satisfy me. It's a conundrum. You know—a real mystery!

Reader 2: No mystery at all. Not a problem for me. The answer is a no-brainer. And like I said, my answer is authoritatively supported by the best.

Reader 1: Your answer?

Reader 2: Chicken.

Reader 1: Chicken? I'm not a chicken! I'm not scared of your answer. Go ahead. Give it to me!

Reader 2: No, I mean, the chicken! You know, which came first—the chicken or the egg? The chicken came first. There's my answer.

Reader 1: I'm afraid there are problems with your answer. If the chicken came first, then from what did it hatch?

Reader 2: Easy. God's hand.

Reader 1: God? God laid an egg?

Reader 2: Don't be ridiculous. He created the heavens and the earth, the animals of the field, birds of the air, and creatures of the oceans, Listen, "And God said, 'Let the waters swarm with swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the heavens.' So God created the great sea creatures and every living creature that moves, with which the waters swarm, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. And God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day. And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures according to their kinds—livestock and creeping things and beasts of the earth according to their kinds.' And it was so. And God made the beasts of the earth according to their kinds and the livestock according to their kinds, and everything that creeps on the ground according to its kind. And God saw that it was good" (Genesis 1:20-25).

Reader 1: I didn't hear chicken in there.

Reader 2: Chickens would be included in the words "let birds multiply on the earth." And of course, shortly after that, I'm sure came the eggs and more chickens!

Reader 1: This means you believe God created everything as we know it.

Reader 2: Yes and no. Yes, He is the author of all creation. That's why we call Him our Creator. No, because everything as we know it today has been affected by the fall of man. It's not perfect like it was on that fifth day.

Reader 1: So you're saying this never really was a hard question?

Reader 2: It was and is for those who look at creation separate from the Creator. They're left trying to figure out how all this came into being. Many make theories and suggestions, but like I said, my answer comes with the authority of the Bible. My faith says it's no mystery at all. God is the author of life!

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(READERS THEATER, CONTINUED)

DISCUSSION

It has been said, "Science looks for answers and bases them upon proof; religion looks for answers and bases them upon faith." Explain. Science is the search for truth. Christians accept the truths God has revealed to us through His Word by faith. Why is it important to believe in God as our Creator as well as our Redeemer? The Bible describes God as both our Creator and Redeemer. To doubt God's Word in part is to doubt all of it. The subject of creation provides the opportunity to begin the discussion of God with unbelievers. To believe that life simply sparked from nonlife and then evolved into all the forms we see around us is similar to sitting down to a banquet and accepting someone's claim that no one prepared it.