



BIBLE & SCIENCE

An interdenominational group from Worcester's local churches



PROGRAMME FOR AUTUMN 2015/SPRING 2016

15th September: SCIENCE FICTION, THE MYTHOLOGY OF OUR SCIENTIFIC AGE

If you have ever read any science fiction, you'll know it tends to be biased towards atheism, and puts humans firmly in charge of a godless universe. It also warns us of possible catastrophes in the future, some of which do need to be taken seriously. Our speaker, *Rev Dr Stephen May*, is a science fiction fan, and author of *Stardust and Ashes: Science Fiction in Christian Perspective (1998)*.

3rd November: ASSISTED SUICIDE - DO HARD CASES REALLY MAKE POOR LAW?

The call to legalise assisted suicide is back on the political agenda. Polls suggest that a majority of the public would be in favour of such a change to the law, and religious opposition is seen simply as another example of ingrained conservatism. Doctors, however, do not want to terminate life and there is also strong opposition from disabled people who fear that a right to die would soon become a duty to die, as has happened in parts of Europe where euthanasia and assisted suicide have become legal. *Prof John Wyatt*, until recently Professor of Ethics and Perinatology at University College London, and author of 'Matters of life and Death' (IVP) will discuss these issues.

19th January: THE CHANGING DEBATE BETWEEN SCIENCE AND RELIGION

Both Christians and Muslims have been at the forefront of science in past centuries. Certainly Catholics have been blamed for their treatment of Galileo, and there have been other big confrontations, notably over Darwinism. And in the past hundred years scientific atheism has itself become a strongly held creed. Yet men and women of faith continue to make big contributions to science, as in the human genome project, space exploration and particle physics. Is it really necessary for faith to be pitched against science? *Professor John Hedley Brooke* will show how the debate has changed and developed throughout history.

23rd February: MARRIAGE AND COHABITATION COMPARED

Living together has become much more common in the west, with over six million couples now living together without marrying. Are they more likely to break up, or is marriage simply a piece of paper? *Philippa Taylor*, who works with the Care Trust, is head of public policy at the Christian Medical Fellowship, and has an MBA in Bioethics, will speak to us from both a social science and biblical perspective.

15 March: TO BE ANNOUNCED

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We are an interdenominational Christian group, affiliated to Christians in Science. We organise regular talks and discussions fronted by leading scientists and thinkers, to explore significant scientific, bioethical and technological issues of our day, and see how faith and science work together.

The meetings are open to all those who seek to make sense of this changing world, especially those interested in how scientific advance might impact on religious beliefs, and are not restricted to those with a "science" background. They take place at Lindisfarne House, 4 Barbourne Terrace, Worcester WR1 3JS.

The talks are generally from 8 to 9.30pm, in three sections, with space in between for questions, and finish with coffee and cake, and the opportunity for more informal discussion, or time to catch up with friends.

All are welcome - entry, parking and refreshments are free, although we suggest a donation of £3, to cover expenses.

For more information, please call 01905 641987, or visit our website:
www.bibleandscienceworcester.org.uk