

CHRISTIAN FAITH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Session One: Faith and Science—Friend or Foe

Scripture Reading: John 1:1-14

Theology

Incarnation and Logos (Wisdom) are at the center of Creation.
Deeper meaning: the **Real Presence** of God in Christ in all.

Method

Anglican discipline interprets all questions/observations using:
The Four-Legged Table: Scripture, Tradition, Reason, Experience

Curiosity and discovery were drivers of science. **Scientific discovery led to practical innovation: “applied science”.**

Practical adaptations of manual labor: optics and printing press. Islam and cultures in India developed mathematics, influenced by ancient Greek and Chinese thinking. Three results *rooted in curious faith):

- ❖ **Telescopes/astronomy (Copernicus, Kepler and Galileo)**
- ❖ **The printing press and fonts/typefaces (Gutenberg)**
- ❖ **Banking systems/trade**

Three unforeseen consequences:

- ❖ **The earth is round and the sun, not the earth, is the central force**
- ❖ **People can read for themselves (Bible, Book of Common Prayer)**
- ❖ **Curiosity could find a financial base for further discovery**

The European Enlightenment supported discovery and innovation. Three major periods of faith, science and technology:

- ❖ **The Laws of Motion and Mechanics (physics)**
- ❖ **The Wave Theory (energy)**
- ❖ **Digital Transformation (information)**

These discoveries resulted in technologies that changed life—and challenged faith

- ❖ **Mechanization**
- ❖ **Power technologies**
- ❖ **Connectivity and distance**

Now, the crisis: “Man v. Machine”. Another way: The Real Presence and Wisdom of God v human discovery. Three results, with unforeseen consequences:

- ❖ **Mechanization requires little manual labor**
- ❖ **Unleashed energy can bring mass destruction**
- ❖ **Digitization creates an alternate reality**
- ❖ **All of which brings financial opportunity**

The secular mind **makes the human the center of life-or no longer requires a human being.**

And where is God?