2027 IFCA Youth Apologetics Topic Guide

Biblical Theology: Defend the biblical position of a literal six (24 hour) day creation as referenced in Genesis 1-2

1. The geological record shows that the Earth is millions of years old. How can you say it is not?
2. Along similar lines, radiometric and Carbon 14 dating demonstrate that the Earth is millions of years old. Why are you contradicting proven science?
3. Star light also proves that the universe is billions of years old. How is it possible that light from stars and galaxies billions of light-years away has reached us in only a few thousand years?
4. Evolution has been proven to be true by science. How can you hold to the childish fables found in Genesis 1?
5. What about the gap between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2? Isn't there a possibility of millions of years there for God to allow things to progress and age before the 6 days recounted beginning in verse 2?
6. Psalm 90:4 says, "For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night" so you see the Hebrew term for day (Yom) can be used to refer to something other than a 24-hour day. Why isn't it possible that these 'days' are actually long periods of time?
7. Since Genesis 1 is poetry and not historical narrative, the Creation story is not to be taken literally. Isn't it possible that the purpose of Genesis 1 account is not to tell *how* God made everything but *that* He made everything?
8. I believe that the days of creation are six, 24-hour days but the text allows for millions of years to take place between each day. Why can't this be the case?
9. The creation of the angels isn't mentioned in the creation narrative. Why isn't it possible that many other things were created during this undetermined period of time?
10. Why do you make such a big deal about a six-day creation since you don't have to believe in it to be saved?

Anthropology: Defend the biblical position that male and female are the only two genders/sexes

1. Aren't gender and sex two separate ideas?
2. Isn't gender just an idea that was made up by the culture?
3. Isn't it possible, based on people's desires, that gender is more of a spectrum of multiple genders rather than just the two?
4. We learned in our sex education class that there are 51 genders, are you saying science is wrong?
5. Aren't Intersex individuals proof that there are more than two genders?
6. Isn't it inappropriate for doctors to assign gender to a newborn before they know who they are?
7. I have a friend and they think that they are a girl trapped in a boy's body, are you saying that you know their own opinion of themself is wrong?

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8. If you believe that God made man in the image of God and man is male and female, do you believe that God is both male and female?
9. Why can't you respect another person's personal autonomy and call them by their preferred pronouns?
10. Why does it even matter how many genders there are, why can't we have as many as we feel there are?
11. I agree that society at the time that the Bible was written only believed in two sexes. However, look at the many ways in which Jesus challenged the culture! Why can't you just accept that times have changed, and society has progressed in our understanding of gender?
12. Galatians 3:28 says that "there is no male or female" so doesn't that mean that we are all the same and that there is no distinction anyhow?

Eschatology: Defend the biblical position of the premillennial return and millennial reign of Christ on earth as referenced in Revelation 19-20

1. Apocalyptic literature is full of metaphors and figures of speech. You see the bowls, seals, and trumpets as symbolic, so why do you insist on taking this one idea so literally?
2. 2 Peter 3:8 says, "But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day." God's Word often uses similar phrases to convey different periods of time–why isn't it likely that that is what is going on with the millennium as well?
3. In Mark 3:27, Jesus said, "In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house and carry off his possessions unless he first ties up the strong man." In the early church, Augustine and others tied this to Revelation 20 and understood that the millennium is a reference to the Church age when Satan can no longer deceive the nations and when the gospel is able to progress across the earth. How can you say that Christ is not reigning right now with the rapid progress of the gospel?
4. How can you say that Jesus isn't reigning on His throne today if He is seated "at the right hand of the Majesty on high" (Heb. 1:3-4)?
5. Your literal view of Revelation 20:4 would say that Jesus will physically reign as King on a throne. Where will that throne be located?
6. It seems more reasonable that the two resurrections in Rev. 20 are two *types* of resurrections, the first resurrection being a reference to being born again in salvation (a spiritual resurrection), the second resurrection being a reference to the resurrection of the dead for judgment (a physical resurrection). Why do you insist that they are *both* physical resurrections?
7. I have heard people in your premillennial viewpoint say that humans in the Kingdom will live much longer than today (Isaiah 65:20). Isn't it foolish and unscientific to say that a "young" death will be 100 years old when the average age of death in the world today is 74 years old?
8. Revelation is a hard book to understand; I really think that those who don't believe in premillennialism love Jesus and His Word, too. How can you be so sure that your interpretation is right and that our postmillennial and amillenial brothers are wrong?
9. If what you are saying is true, what sort of fellowship should premillennialists have with those who hold to a different position? Aren't they "false teachers" (2 Pet. 2:1)?
10. Why does it matter that a person takes a position on the Millennium? We all agree that Christ will return, and isn't that the main point?