

**It's Complicated:
The Faith-Science Relationship**

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I. Introduction

II. What you're in for ...

- It's Complicated: The Faith-Science Relationship (Apr 2)
- 'Todd Wilson Preaches Short Sermons' & Other Popular Myths (Apr 9)
- Science and Faith as Strange Bedfellows (Apr 23)
- Seeking Wisdom: Where Do We Go from Here? (Apr 30)

III. Why *this* conversation?

- Science and faith as eternal enemies is a popular image with New Atheists, e.g., Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens
- Similar rhetoric from some young-earth creationists, e.g., Ken Ham
- Image of 'warfare' between science and religion originates from the 19th century, e.g., John Draper, Andrew White, Thomas Huxley
- Also known as the 'conflict thesis'

IV. Early scientists and their faith

- Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)
- Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)
- Robert Boyle (1627-1699)
- Robert Hooke (1635-1703)
- Isaac Newton (1643-1727)

V. Christian assumptions that were conducive to the rise of science

- 1. God's creation is real and good
- 2. God's creation is rational and coherent
- 3. Human beings are made in God's image (and are thus, rational)
- Caveat: Christianity was not the *only* reason for the rise of science
- Historians like John Hedley Brooke advocate a '*complexity* thesis' instead of the '*conflict* thesis': science and faith historically have had a relationship that is diverse, subtle, surprising, tangled, messy