Implications of Allegorizing Adam and Eve

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A friend shared an article on Facebook earlier today that caught my eye. The Title of the article read "Ken Ham Agrees With Athiests On Literal View of Adam and Eve." Knowing that Mr Ham is a leading proponent of the Genesis account of creation, this title caught my attention, prompting me to read the article.

Read the original article here: http://www.christianpost.com/news/ken-ham-agrees-with-atheists-on-literal-view-of-adam-and-eve-50773/

The story was, in fact, covering an ongoing debate between Old Earth and Young Earth proponents. Young Earth proponents, such as myself, believe the Biblical accounts of both the creation and fall of mankind, the flood, fall of Babel, etc. Old Earth believers consider the Bible a tricky metaphor, not to be taken literally, and view the earth's creation through the lens of modern scientific theory (which I would call "science falsely so-called"). The witty title brought out the fact that even Atheists who read Genesis chapter 1 realize that it was written in a way to be take literally, not allegorically.

Well, you may say, "what's the harm in believing in an Old Earth?" What could be at stake in believing in evolution, as opposed to creation? The answer is simple: everything.

The rest of the scriptures are built around the concept of the fall of mankind and salvation through Jesus Christ.

First, in writing about the Total Depravity of mankind, Paul describes Adam as having headship

over all humans. When Adam fell, according to Paul, we all fell with and in him. If there was no Adam, this point becomes a fable and the book of Romans is not to be taken as literal truth.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned...death reigned from Adam..." Romans 5

Also, Paul compares the Federal Headship Adam had over all his children with the Federal Headship Christ has over all His children. Rejecting Adam as a literal figure is tantamount to rejecting Christ as a literal figure. Paul considered Adam just as literal of a being as Christ.

"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ." Romans 5:17

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam *[Christ - BW]* was made a quickening spirit. 1 Corinthians 15:45

Also, Paul bases the structure of authority within a Christian home on the fact that "Adam was made first, then Eve" (1 Tim. 2:13). If the story of Adam and Eve is merely a fable, marriage has no meaning and the defense of traditional marriage is a pointless, wasted effort. Worse than that, Paul teaches that the relationship between a husband and wife was designed by God as a picture of the relationship between Christ and His People. What scripture does Paul quote to make his point? Why, he quotes from Genesis, and the story of Adam and Eve! (Ephesians

5:30-33, Genesis 2:23-24)

Further, Jesus Himself considered the story of Adam and Eve to be a literal, historical fact. To claim that Genesis is an allegory is the equivalent of claiming Jesus Christ was confused about both the book of Genesis and the origin of Mankind. If our Beloved Lord (I speak as a fool) was deceived about this, what else was He deceived about? God forbid! What a foolish idea!

"And he [Jesus] answered and said unto them, Have ye not read, that he which made them at the beginning made them male and female,   And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?   Wherefore they are no more twain, but one flesh. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder." Matthew 19:4-6

I hope you see the severity of such a doctrine! To dismantle Genesis is to devastate the rest of Scripture. This may be one of the most crucial issues facing both our generation and the next generation of believers. I pray that YOU will stand with Christ, Paul, the early Church, and the faithful believers from that time until today in defending our God's Word against the scoffers.