

**WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE ASA?**

With your membership you will receive the following:

- Connections and Information:** Connections and Information
- Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith:** Perspectives on Science and Christian Faith
- Newsletter:** Newsletter
- God and Nature:** God and Nature
- Annual Meeting:** Annual Meeting
- Local and Regional Meetings:** Local and Regional Meetings
- Discipline and Related Affiliate:** Discipline and Related Affiliate
- Christian Women in Science (CWIS):** Christian Women in Science (CWIS)
- And So Much More:** And So Much More

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## WHAT IS THE AMERICAN SCIENTIFIC AFFILIATION?

The American Scientific Affiliation (ASA) is a fellowship of men and women in science and related disciplines, who share a common fidelity to the Word of God and a commitment to integrity in the practice of science.

Founded in 1941, the purposes of the ASA are to investigate any area relating Christian faith and science and to make known the results of such investigations for comment and criticism by the Christian community and by the scientific community.



## WHAT IS THE ASA STATEMENT OF FAITH?

Our platform of faith has four important planks. First, we accept the divine inspiration, trustworthiness and authority of the Bible in matters of faith and conduct. Second, we confess the Triune God affirmed in the Nicene and the Apostles' creeds which we accept as brief, faithful statements of Christian doctrine based upon Scripture. Third, we believe that in creating and preserving the universe God has endowed it with contingent order and intelligibility, the basis of scientific investigation. Finally, we recognize our responsibility, as stewards of God's creation, to use

science and technology for the good of humanity and the whole world. These four statements of faith spell out the distinctive character of the ASA, and we uphold them in every activity and publication of the Affiliation.



## WHAT IS THE ASA POSITION ON CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES?

As an organization, the ASA does not take a position when there is honest disagreement among Christians on an issue. We are committed to providing an open forum where controversies can be discussed without fear of unjust condemnation. We believe that this is a necessary environment for any process of arriving at truth and understanding.

For example, biological evolution is one issue on which Christians are divided. ASA members are firm in the conviction that God is the Creator of all things, seen and unseen, and firm in the denial that evolution could ultimately rule out God or his sustaining activity in his created world. Some members argue that accepting evolution at the scientific level inevitably stems from or leads to "evolutionism," a religious and philosophical position antagonistic to Christian Theism, and thus reject it. Other members accept evolution as a scientific theory for its explanatory power and see it as God's creative means. Legitimate differences of opinion among Christians who have studied both the Bible and science are freely expressed within the Affiliation in a context of Christian love and concern for truth.

Other commonly discussed topics among ASA members are issues that Christians face in bioethics, environmental ethics, industrial ethics, and science education, and disciplines such as the social sciences, philosophy, and theology as they relate to science.



## WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE ASA?

The mission of the ASA is to integrate, communicate, and promote properly researched science and biblical theology in service to the Church and to the scientific community.

We seek to strengthen scholarship and enhance education in matters relating science and Christian faith, to facilitate fellowship of Christians in science, and to stimulate the use of science and technology for ministry to those in need.

ASA members have confidence that such integration is not only possible but necessary to an adequate understanding of God and his creation. Our total allegiance is to our Creator. We acknowledge our debt to him for the whole natural order and for the development of science as a way of knowing that order in detail. We also acknowledge our debt to him for the scriptures, which give us "the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Jesus Christ."

We believe that honest and open study of God's dual revelation, in nature and in the Bible, must eventually lead to understanding of its inherent harmony.



*The ASA seeks to foster the exchange of diverse ideas within the body of Christ. It is not an advocacy organization. Where there is honest disagreement on an aspect of science, Christian faith, or the relationship between the two, the ASA strives to create a safe environment in which dialogue can flourish and diverse ideas can be discussed with courtesy and respect.*



## WHO CAN JOIN THE ASA?

Anyone interested in the objectives of the Affiliation may have a part in the ASA.

Membership is open to all persons with at least a bachelor's degree in science who can give assent to our statement of faith. Science is interpreted broadly to include anthropology, archaeology, economics, engineering, history, mathematics, medicine, political science, psychology, and sociology as well as the generally recognized science disciplines. Philosophers and theologians who are interested in science are very welcome.

Those who are interested in science but are not scientists can join as Associate Members. Anyone preferring not to sign the statement of faith can join as a Friend. Full-time students can join at a basic or premier level.