Name

Instructors' Name

Course

Date

"The Bible" and Modern Science

Lecture Four by Lynn Mitchell is titled "The Bible and Modern Science" where the lecturer explains the nexus between the biblical views and modern science. He begins his lecture by introducing a very crucial part of his discussion. He presents to the class a thesis that is so important that without its existence, the aforementioned discussion would not proceed. The lecturer introduces a thesis statement that precedes the discussion asserting that, indeed, the Bible does not mention modern science, but it does contain a wide variety of views on the world without which modern science could not have developed as it did. Lynn goes ahead to explicate that most of the scientific views that are applied to bring about the development in the modern world have a direct link to biblical views. This simply means that the modern world could not have developed as it did without making use of most views derived from biblical contexts.

However, the thesis has sparked a lot of questions, as explained by Lynn, even in most of his many previous classes. Many of these questions revolve around the credibility of the claim made in the thesis statement. For example, if this is true, why were there so few advancements in science in the Middle Ages? Lynn's answer appears simple, but as he continues to explain more about this question, his argument seems rather convincing. He enlightens that, indeed, there was much scientific advancement during

that time, but most people could hardly understand this. Lynn presents his argument in a rather comprehensive way so that it all turns out to be true when he gives some examples, such as Johannes Gutenberg who is the man behind the invention of the printing press.

He proceeds his explanation by giving relevant examples and mentioning prominent individuals who had greater intellect than people really thought of. He uses the example of Thomas Aquinas, whose intellectual prowess in the field of education and religion led to various significant changes that were worth embracing. He also mentions Martin Luther who made a remarkable contribution to opening the minds of people by explaining the compatibility between the biblical and scientific views in the social life. This implies that the contributions of these individuals towards developing biblical views in line with scientific views still plays an instrumental role in the contemporary world. Today, many individuals are able to draw distinctions between these two views and ensure that they take a specific approach to different matters within their societies.

In addition, the lecture introduces the Greek science as prominent scientific advancement that was predominantly in agreement with biblical views. Moreover, he explains that the reason why there was no further advancement in science was because of the lack of potential and relevant support to see through the development, as compared to modern science. Lynn also introduces the discussion about the period of Galileo Galilei as reactionary, unlike the time of Thomas Aquinas when people feared to disagree with the provisional hierarchy of the church. Lynn opines that people in the 21st century have not changed so much from who they used to be during the 17th century. Thus, he argues that since medieval scientific views to a certain extent relied on biblical views, the modern science

represents a transformation of the initial scientific views that were widely utilized during the Middle Ages.

Lynn elucidates that even the perceived battle between Christianity and science during the time of Galileo was not real because of the fact that the battle was in fact between the Catholics themselves. That is to say, the Catholics fought among themselves in the endeavor to interpret the Bible in the most preferable way without any contradiction. They also wrangled among themselves over the imminent support as far as new scientific views were concerned. Part of the Roman Catholics came out in support of Galileo because they believed he was right in his advocacy for scientific revolution by making a prolific contribution to the course without necessarily opposing biblical views. In other words, even though some of the views that Galileo suggested were not backed in the Bible, he still thought that Christianity had to do with science and that through the embracement of both, together they were going to make a difference. The continuous fights among the Catholics are believed to have led to the split of the church all over the globe. People followed their leaders on the basis of the views they believed in.

However, some Roman Catholics felt that Galileo's ideas were not compatible with those provided in the Bible; therefore, they sought to oppose him, hence the battle. Lynn gives a comprehensive explanation to the audience and convincingly tries to bring out the naïve nature of Galileo's advocacy who thought that he had a huge backing in effecting the revolution, while, in fact, he was leading a lone path without a significant number of followers. Lynn's lecture is certainly dominated by various themes that provide the discussion with numerous important topics worth listening to keenly. He also talks about the book titled *God and Nature* whereby the article devoted to Galileo clearly depicts the

character of Galileo and his endeavors to ensure the scientific revolution.

Throughout the lecture, there are various important points to note and, certainly, very interesting revelations to consider. For instance, one is able to learn new things about the relationship between the Bible and modern science. I have learnt that while the world continues to be in utter sophistication, the daily challenges encountered will always keep human beings on toes in the endeavor to develop scientifically, reduce the complexity, and provide solutions to everyday problems. The biblical knowledge has a share in most of the latest scientific advancement and will continue to be a predominant source of numerous ideas for as long as we live.