United Methodist Church splits

*Taken from Answers in Genesis*

A recent announcement was no big shock to anyone following the story of the United Methodist Church in America. The church denomination (the second-largest Protestant denomination in the US) recently announced that it is planning to split, with some churches leaving to form a “traditional Methodist” denomination, with the remainder of the churches carrying on the name of the United Methodist Church. What are they splitting over?

Well, again, it’s no big shock what the issue is… gay “marriage” and LGBT individuals. At a general conference last year that was attended by Methodists worldwide, the church voted by a narrow margin to tighten the ban on gay “marriage,” recognising that it goes against God’s Word (this victory was largely due to churches outside of the US, which tells you something about the sad state of this denomination in the US). That was the culmination of several decades of tension. Since last year’s conference, a split in the denomination - which is not so “united” anymore - seemed inevitable.

It is correct for this denomination to divide over the gay “marriage” issue - that kind of division is biblical and necessary. But the thinking of so many churches on the issue of gay “marriage” is just a symptom of a more significant issue - the foundational issue.

The real divide needs to be over taking a stand on the absolute authority of God’s Word, beginning in Genesis! Once a church takes a stand on a literal Genesis, everything else follows from that, as all biblical doctrine is ultimately founded in Genesis chapters 1-11. And unless the church takes Scripture as it’s meant to be taken (e.g., Genesis is