



Part 2 Lost in Space and Time
Part 2 Introduction
Ch.4 In The Beginning - God

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A Three-Fold Cord

Creation, Redemption & Dominion

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Part 2. Lost in Space and Time

Introduction

Chapter 4. Origins – In the beginning - God

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Part 2 Introduction

Origins and Eschatology represent the single greatest and most organized attack on Christian thought. Looking around I would say the attack has been successful. The Church in the West has lost most of its

influence and is largely irrelevant. When it comes to culture, “God is dead.” Bad theology is a cruel taskmaster, and the decaying fruit is all around us. As the Church dimmed its light and the salt lost its savor, the culture has deteriorated. Very few see the connection.

Many view both Origins and Eschatology as fringe theologies. They say, “Why do we fight over such things? We need to focus on preaching the Gospel, that is all that matters.” The very statement betrays an appalling failure to grasp the significance of these “fringe theologies.” In such a view, the Gospel itself is disconnected from its definitive context in space and time. The reason for the necessity of the preaching of the Gospel is disconnected from its moorings and set adrift in a shoreless and bottomless ocean of conflicting beliefs. There are no more points of reference. Scripture itself is dislodged from objective interpretation.

Question: What kind of Gospel is meant here?

There are more than 3000 Christian denominations and 10,000 cults. Yet conferences go on preaching to the choir complaining about how bad things are amidst applause and cheers and urges to get out there and preach more of the same ineffective words purported to be from God. Yes, some get saved while society descends into hell. But hey, don’t worry, Jesus is coming soon.

As always, our true point of reference is Scripture. Patristics (teachings of early church fathers) can shine light on our biblical understanding, but never lead it. The assumption, that since they were closer to the source, they would know better, is only partially true. They were people too, and some had some strange, if not foreign teachings. Heresy was more prominent in the first two centuries than today. These forced a more thought-out theology.

Often origins gets characterized as “religion” versus “science.” Mainly because the atheistic, secular types view themselves as religion free. It is a self-serving definition. But this is not a “religious” question but a question of history, past and future. But philosophical presuppositions determine how the unobservable past should be understood, as well as the prophetic future. These, in turn, affect how we live in the present. Thus, the connection to the Church’s irrelevance. All around, we see a great divergence in how lives are being lived. There are always visionaries warning of things to come but now it is in plain sight. Books like *The Dumbing Down of America*, *The Closing of the American Mind* and *The War on Boys* were written in the 1980s and 90s. In 1848, Karl Marx predicted a future also. Since most Christians send their kids to public school, they just follow right along. I say there is a direct connection with the topics at hand. One’s understanding of Beginnings and Endings plays out in the present.

In contrast to the other Indo-European peoples, including the Greeks, who believed that time moved in ever recurring cycles, the Hebrew people conceived of time as continuous, irreversible, and historical, leading to ultimate redemption at the end. They also believed, however, that time has periods within it. It is not cyclical but maybe interrupted or accelerated. It develops. The Old Testament is a story not merely of change but of development, of growth, of movement toward the messianic age — very uneven movement, to be sure, with much backsliding but nevertheless a movement forward.

Christianity, however, added an important element to the Judaic concept of time: that of transformation of the old into the new. The Hebrew Bible became the Old Testament, its meaning transformed by its fulfillment in the New Testament. In the story of the Resurrection, death was transformed into a new beginning. The times were not only accelerated but regenerated. This introduced a new structure of history, in which there was a fundamental transformation of one age into another. This transformation, it was believed, could only happen once: the life, death, and resurrection of Christ was thought to be the only major interruption in the course of linear time from the creation of the world until it ends altogether (Harold J. Berman, secular Jewish professor of law at Harvard University, *Law and Revolution: The Formation of the Western Legal Tradition*, Harvard University Press, 1983, 26-27).

Isaiah 46:9-10

9 Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me, 10 Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.

Question: What is God's pleasure?

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Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning God created...”

Genesis 1:31

Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So, the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

Revelation 4:11

You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and for Your pleasure they exist and were created.

What science cannot tell us; mankind cannot know. (Bertrand Russell, Atheist Philosopher)

Wisdom is the ability distinguish difference. (Mike Murdock)

1. Introduction

Every worldview ascribes creative power to something. Worldview precedes science. The question is, as always, “Which worldview gives the best answer, which makes sense in relation to human knowledge and experience?” Ultimately, which is true? Note the inescapable creation language below.

The core of humanistic philosophy is naturalism – the proposition that the natural world proceeds according to its own internal dynamics, without divine or supernatural control or guidance, and that we human beings are creations of that process.
(Edward L. Erickson, *The Humanist*, 9-10/2000, 30)

There are many that have done fine work in the area of “Scientific Creationism,” the scientific evidence that clearly demonstrates biblical reality. I could not hope to repeat their works in the space of this chapter. Even this has come with a price. Remember the discussion on Evidential Apologetics.

“Wills thinks that ... later anti-evolutionists [i.e., Creation Scientists], because they shifted the focus of their concern from the social impact of evolution [Social Darwinism] to technical defenses of biblical details, have both forfeited a vibrant Christian tradition and condemned themselves to intellectual irrelevance.”

Mark A. Noll, review of *Under God: Religion and American Politics* by Garry Wills, *First Things* 14 (June/July 1991), 43
<https://americanvision.org/24259/darwinisms-dirty-little-secret/>

This is the Sociology of Ideology, Beginnings and Endings in particular. The bibliography will have references for further study. I find that both atheists and Christians are years behind the science. Every year the sciences lean our way, as it should. After all, the Bible is right! It is no longer about what we

don't know but blame on God (God of the Gaps), but rather what IS known that poses obstacles for the atheistic, naturalistic, evolutionary crowd.

But beware, they will not give up their faith without a very noisy, maybe bloody, fight, using all their past resources to suppress the truth. Think Soviet Union and the People's Republic. God made His universe such that the truth will always rise to the surface for all to see, sooner or later.

What I hope to accomplish is to get underneath the entire enterprise and talk about the driving forces. There are fundamentally two: the truth and everything else. If the truth cannot be known, then nothing else really matters. "Origins" is not an isolated doctrine peripheral to the body of theological, philosophical, theoretical knowledge. It is foundational to material reality and to the Gospel itself. It spans the entire scope of human knowledge and experience. To err here means very little else can be properly understood. The modern noise and confusion is a direct result of failure to get the starting point correct, to "get the anthropology right." There is a reason evolution is taught in all public schools to the exclusion of competing worldviews. Only evolutionary anthropology is allowed. In some more liberal quarters even Christianity is taught with naturalistic presuppositions.

It is often stated that the only reason we Christians believe what we do is that it is required by our religion. I would say the same thing about the embrace of evolution by the atheistic, secular crowd, "It is also required by your religion, and you have no alternative. We, at least, have choices." I recognize that this simplistic approach is not worthy of thoughtful men. We must look deeper. First, we want to look at some sociological effect of turning men into animals.

We are in a time when there are some attempting to erase some very specific distinctions (see below) in the name of anti-discrimination. The stated underlying motivation is the removal of discrimination. But then, why do government officials require racial identification if we are moving to a colorblind society? A laudable cause where properly applied but the consequences of such a misguided project is having the opposite effect. Certain kinds of discrimination are worse than ever. Discrimination is inversely proportional to liberty. As discrimination increases, liberty decreases. We are less color-blind than ever. The content of one's character matters less. I think we have arrived at the time when Martin Luther King Jr. himself would be shouted down and banned from speaking at public universities because he doesn't fit the atheistic narrative. The attitudes and beliefs which exist today have very specific philosophical foundations.

a) The Creator and The Created

With the advent of organized atheism, a religion that is generally materially monistic (from chapter 2, "Apologetics") an attempted removal of all competing religions is underway. Ever heard of the Freedom from Religion Foundation (www.ffrf.org)? Even some Christians say, "Christianity is not a religion, it's a relationship." What nonsense, it's both! But the truth is that the atheistic/secular crowd is not only seeking freedom from all other religions but wants to impose their own religion on everyone else, by force if necessary. Peaceful atheists, like peaceful Muslims, are irrelevant because they do not control the agenda. I could make a whole chapter on statements being made against the so-called "religious" calling for the elimination of all religions because "Religion poisons everything," said the late Christopher Hitchens. He now knows he was wrong. It is toxic religion, including organized atheism, that poisons everything. Others say, "Remember when we threw your kind to the lions?" The Separation of Church and State is now a political/judicial fact in this country. By the way, why is there no talk of the separation of business and state?

What is fascism? Fascism is the merger of state and corporate power.
(Benito Mussolini (1883-1945), founder of Italian Fascism)

So, who are the real fascists in this country? But I digress. The modern separation is a tacit denial of America as a Christian nation, and God is simply banned from much of public life in a country founded on this magnificent, never before seen political statement:

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that **all men are created equal**, that they are endowed **by their Creator** with certain **unalienable Rights**, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men ...

(America's Declaration of Independence)

Isn't it interesting that the signers had no problem with "church and state" as espoused today? This is America's great sin, above all others: America was founded in full recognition of the Creator. "One nation, under God..." is an unmitigated insult to organized atheism.

Question: What is the purpose of government?

"If God does not exist, everything is permitted"
(Fyodor Dostoevsky's, *The Brothers Karamazov*, 1880).

How did we get here? A successful attack on the existence of the biblical Creator is the key to all others. A step-by-step philosophical unfolding from the university professors to the students in the classroom to the culture to the politicians and finally embodied in law. All law is someone's moral philosophy being imposed on everyone else. Consider the Third Reich. The very concept of Liberty originates with God. With the Creator suppressed in the minds of men, through indoctrination of millions of years and evolution, the worship of some aspect of the creation inevitably follows. Everyone worships something. As men elevate their own thinking to "final authority" they come full circle to worshipping themselves. "Amazing me, how great I am..." sung to the tune of "Amazing Grace."

One has only to contemplate the magnitude of this task to concede that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is impossible. Yet, here we are – as a result, I believe, of spontaneous generation.

However improbable we regard [the origin of life], or any of the steps which it involves, given enough time it will almost certainly happen at least once. ...Time is in fact the hero of the plot. Given so much time, the impossible becomes possible, the possible probable, and the probable virtually certain.

(George Wald, Nobel Laureate, *Physics and Chemistry of Life*, 12), Evolutionary Faith.

Because there is a law such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from nothing. Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists, why we exist. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the universe going (Dr. Stephen Hawking, *The Grand Design*).

I will come back to this irrational statement later.

Romans 1:18-20

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because **what may be known of God** is manifest in them, **for God has shown it to them**. 20 for since the creation of the world His invisible attributes **are clearly seen**, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, **so that they are without excuse**.

God Himself has made Himself known to every person such that in the end they will have no excuse. The charge at their trial will be the “suppression of evidence,” a crime in every civilized society.

Question: Why is suppression of evidence even a crime?

b) Man and Animal

Since there is no Creator, the man-animal becomes the culmination of a mindless, purposeless, directionless myriad of evolutionary mutations. This is true for every form of life that has ever lived. Man is nothing more than a complex of biochemical factors and simply the current dominant animal species in an ongoing evolutionary chain and no more valuable than an amoeba. His day will come to an end, and some other creature will take his place. Nothing is permanent. What is true is constantly changing. There are no absolutes.

The Sociology of this Ideology has had serious and direct ramifications. Evolution says there is a superior animal and an inferior animal. Take a white man, a black man, and a gorilla. Which one is not like the others? The answer depends on your starting point, your presuppositions. Since Darwin, various people have been dividing humanity into sub-species or races, with developmental rankings. Ernst Haeckel did it in the late 1800s, and the progressives and Nazis did it in the early 20th century. We dispose of spare dogs and cats, why not spare or inferior people? Or we can use them as beasts of burden – slaves. Darwin believed that the superior (lighter skin) races would wipe-out all the inferior (darker skin) races. This is the toxic fruit of the enlightenment project, the rise of man-animals. Until evolution, slavery was about conquest. Skin color wasn't an issue. Slaves were spoils of war. You see, slavery didn't become racial until evolution was established, and certain groups became tools, gifts of nature to the other groups.

At some future period, not very distant as measured by centuries, the civilized races of man will almost certainly exterminate and replace the savage races throughout the world. At that time the anthropomorphous apes (human looking apes) ... will no doubt be exterminated. The break between man and his nearest allies will then be wider, for it will intervene between man in a more civilized state, as we may hope, even than the Caucasian, and some ape as low as a baboon, instead of as now between the negro or Australian and the gorilla.

(Charles Darwin, *The Descent of Man*, 178)

Biological arguments for racism may have been common before 1850, but they increased by orders of magnitude following the acceptance of evolutionary theory.

(Stephen J. Gould, *Ontogeny and Phylogeny*, 1977, 127-128)

...the pervasive racism of the white scientist; they looked into the activities of their own children for comparison with normal adult behaviors in the lower races.

[Quoting Henry Fairfield Osborn of the American Museum of Natural History]

Gould says, “The standard of intelligence of the average adult Negro is similar to that of eleven-year-old of the species homo-sapiens.”

(Stephen J. Gould, *Natural History*, 4/1980, 144)

See, *An Honest History of the Progressive Movement* by Thomas Sowell, in the references.

The Marxist religion is squarely founded on atheism and evolution. Everyone who goes along with evolution is metaphysically Marxist. Men are animals to be managed by the superior master animals or ranchers of the state. Nietzsche said war was the best way to cull the herd of the less fit and prove superiority. Over 300 million people have been killed off in the last 150 years by this murderous philosophy. The enlightenment has produced the bloodiest era in all of history.

We have all heard that the world is overpopulated. Today we have the technology to engineer a virus to aid in population control. Survival of the fittest is the chief aim of evolution. Control over the herd is a global necessity so resources can be distributed as needed. Need being the prerogative of the master animals, of course. By the way, who did the Nazis get rid of first?

Organized atheism is a toxic religion that is aggressively evangelistic with a goal to change the world, with allies among other anti-Christian, anti-West groups. Since there is no God, those who believe in a “supreme dictator” (authority higher than the state) are judged mentally unfit. If they can’t be “reeducated,” they need to be eliminated. This was the point of Soviet re-education camps, the “Gulag Archipelago.”

By the way, the root of the radical environmentalist’s problem is that if we destroy the earth, they will have no place to reincarnate (New Age version) or evolutionary life is over (atheistic version). There is tremendous regard for the collective concept of “life,” just not individual human life, which has no real, inherent value. After all, we are just advanced pond scum, some being more advanced than others.

In one of the most existentially penetrating statements ever made by a scientist, Richard Dawkins concluded that “the universe we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil and no good, nothing but blind, pitiless indifference.”

Michael Shermer quoting Richard Dawkins, *Scientific American*, February 2000

Get over your childish, self-pacifying beliefs and deal with the fact that the world is senseless.

(B.B. from Buffalo, New York, email to Answers in Genesis, *Nuclear Strength Apologetics I*, 31:30)

Romans 1:21

Because, although **they knew God**, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

c) Male and Female

I remember some TV shows in the 70s that attempted to portray a “unisex” view of reality. These were usually played out as a cultural thing on some distant planet or at some time in the future. The idea is simple: there is no real difference between males and females. Except for some minor differences in plumbing, they are virtually interchangeable. It takes years of modern education to arrive at such a conclusion. But it would not even be possible without the atheistic, evolutionary philosophical beliefs being well established first.

This is also the driving force behind such ideas as the Equal Rights Amendment and gender-neutral restrooms. The social impact has been devastating. How could it be that there are 129 genders, and counting? Many have written books of warning on the subject, but the descent continues to this very day. As we saw previously, the starting point is everything. The descent follows a well-mapped step-by-step progress. There is a definite flow of ideas.

Genesis 3:1

Now the serpent was more cunning...

With the deconstruction of only these three elements of man’s identity, who he really is, he can then be remade into whatever the ruling elites need him to be. Social engineering projects have been in progress since the enlightenment.

But it gets worse as we enter the latter stages of post-modern madness. Jean-Paul Sartre saddled man with the curse of perfect freedom (in the absence of absolute truth) and said it is up to you to figure out for yourself, all by yourself, who and what you are. Nothing is fixed, nothing is settled, until you settle it.

The only structures that exist are said to be manufactured by the powerful to control everyone else. It is time to redistribute power to a new center. An effect is to produce nihilism, living for nothing; or uncontrolled hedonism, living for pure pleasure and self-gratification. Both produce a profound emptiness and isolation on individuals that embrace this manner of life.

No wonder, so many are ready to be part of a socialist or fascist collective. They are made to feel necessary. God is not even an option in their thinking. And the Church offers little remedy. We have the greatest love story ever told – you are loved, wanted, and born to be part of something good, beyond your wildest imagination! We are invited to participate in an eternal love triangle, to be a member of the Body of Christ. Life in God is bright.

Psalm 34:8

Oh, taste and see that Yahweh is good; Blessed is the man who trusts in Him!

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

9 But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit.

Can you say, “But God!” Revealed them when? Now!

Back to the dark side:

“In the absence of absolute truth, all that remains is power” (Friedrich Nietzsche).

As part of this deconstruction, certain groups are told they have no right to even speak. Those that are part of the past power structures are excluded by saying something like this, “You only say that because you are a *fill in the blank*. Therefore, what you say is invalid.” Or dismissing someone because they are not an “expert” in the field of discussion. “I looked at his profile and I saw he has no medical degree.” Freedom of speech is fading fast.

By ascribing a deterministic explanation to an opponent, he is eliminated from any further discussion. The chief target is white, male Christians. For example, men have no say in women’s issues, like abortion. The exception is that male advocates for abortion may be allowed to offer their opinion. Interestingly, women against abortion have no right to speak either, or whites in general are silenced because of the so-called “white privilege” fantasy. Being in the majority population automatically makes you a supremacist. I wonder how such privilege plays out in Nigeria or China or Saudi Arabia? Of course, being in the majority has privileges! But now such sinners must grovel before minorities and beg their forgiveness for a condition over which they have no control. This is the next step following “toxic masculinity,” where masculinity is inherently toxic, which can only be mitigated by properly trained feminists.

Senator Mazie Hirono (D. Hawaii): “I just want to say to the men in this country: just shut up and do the right thing, for a change,” September 19, 2018. Of course, she means agree with her.

In this view, there are only victims and oppressors, as described by Karl Marx and later, Neo-Marxism. The more “victim vectors” one has, the greater the authority to speak. Only the most damaged have a right to speak. The problem is they offer no real solutions, only their victimhood. In the end, nobody wants to live in that neighborhood. It seems all the new power centers are destructive to civilization and in direct opposition to the Kingdom and the Gospel. Conversely the more “success vectors” one has the more disqualified you are. It is time for those that “turned the world upside down” to re-emerge and set things right (Acts 17:6).

In case you were wondering what any of this is has to do with Creation, I just gave you a sample of how far-reaching neglect of this “fringe theology” has taken us. Creation is not some isolated doctrine.

People play out life, and government, based on what they believe about the nature of reality, how they know what they know, and how they should live their lives. Disaster looms.

But the truth is never hidden, and the voices are as large as the Creator's creation itself and as close as a whisper from your lips.

Psalm 19:1-3

1 The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows His handiwork. 2 Day unto day utters speech and night unto night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard (Rom 10:18).

2 Corinthians 6:4, 7

4 But in all things, we commend ourselves as ministers of God: ... 7 by the **word of truth**, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left

Hebrews 5:13

For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the **word of righteousness**, for he is a **babe**.

The word "babe" here literally means a "non-speaker" (i.e., a young toddler).

Romans 10:8-10

8 But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the **word of faith** which we preach): 9 that if you **confess with your mouth** the Lord Jesus and **believe in your heart** that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Matthew 12:34-37

34 Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For **out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks**. 35 A good man out of the **good treasure** of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the **evil treasure** brings forth evil things. 36 But I say to you that for **every idle word men may speak**, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 For **by your words** you will be justified, and **by your words** you will be condemned.

2 Corinthians 10:3-5

3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. 4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but **mighty in God** for **pulling down strongholds**, 5 **casting down arguments** and **every lofty thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity** to the obedience of Christ.

Again, saying that a Christian only believes the biblical account of creation because his religion demands it is no different than saying the atheist only believes in evolution because his religion demands it. Neither is totally true, but deeper is a blatant double-standard. Coming to any faith position has multiple factors, and everyone has a "faith position" that impacts life as a whole (Tim Keller, *Making Sense of God*, chapter 2). It is amazing how some things become true through sheer repetition.

2. Which God?

People sometimes ask, "What is your definition of God?" This has always struck me as an odd question. At its root is the presupposition that God is man-made. Since man created God (in his own image, of course), man can, therefore, define God as he sees fit. And since no actual God exists, reality is

subjective and relative, therefore there could potentially be 7.5 billion definitions of God! This is another facet of the question, “Why are there so many religions?” There are a multitude of belief systems, and most stand on this foundation. It is not what my definition is, or anyone else’s. It is what God says about Himself. Why won’t people allow God to define Himself?

The skeptics like to demand some definition of God. They do this because almost any definition of God will be inadequate and, therefore, easy to shoot down. In a debate, one atheist said there are 30,000 definitions of God. Wow! Often the definition offered is weak enough that they can treat it as a straw man and burn it up with their flaming intellect. Many Christian apologists and debaters fall into this trap by not using the biblical definition, God’s own definition. So, starting from the throne we offer the biblical definition, as simply, “the God who created everything” as the only God worth talking about. This definition also explains why the severe attack on the Doctrine of Creation. Evolution exists to remove the creator God from the minds of men and, at best, replace Him with some other man-made straw-god. The existence of one Triune Creator God means there can be only one system, the one created by Him. Truth is one. The unbelievers with their multitude of gods – derived mostly from the Tower of Babel incident (Gen 11, Dt 32:7-9) and from nature, the sun, moon, water, fertility, etc. – offer a variety of conflicting systems. This is very much like the conflicting religions of today. Each one claims they have exclusive truth, even the anti-theists and they all conflict with each other. But there can be only One.

We are never to speak of some vague, deformed, generic supreme being, but always of the Eternal, Triune, Creator God. So, here are some scripture passages describing the only God worth talking about.

The God who created everything, of course

Jeremiah 10:11-12

11 Thus you shall say to them: “The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth (Ps 82) and from under these heavens.” 12 He has made the earth by His power, He has established the world by His wisdom, And has **stretched out the heavens** at His discretion.

Note: Eight times it is mentioned that God “stretched the heavens.” This accounts for the observed red-shift that became the foundation of the atheistic Big Bang theory.

Verses: Ps 104:2, Isa 40:22, 45:12, 48:13, 51:13, Jer 51:15, Zech 12:1

Psalm 96:5

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but Yahweh made the heavens.

Psalm 134:3

Yahweh, who made heaven and earth bless you.

Psalms 89:11-12

11 The heavens are Yours; the earth also is Yours; The world and all its fullness, You have founded them. 12 The north and the south, You have created them; Tabor and Hermon rejoice in Your name.

Psalm 148:3-5

3 Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you stars of light! 4 Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens! 5 Let them praise the name of Yahweh, for He commanded, and they were created.

Isaiah 40:28-31

28 Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, Yahweh, The Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. 29 He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. 30 Even the

youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, 31 but those who wait on Yahweh shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Isaiah 42:5

Thus says God Yahweh, who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it, and spirit to those who walk on it

Isaiah 45:18

For thus says Yahweh, who created the heavens, who is God, who formed the earth and made it, who has established it, who did not create it in vain, who formed it to be inhabited: “I am Yahweh, and there is no other.”

Amos 4:13

For behold, He who forms mountains, and creates the wind, who declares to man what His thought is, and makes the morning darkness, who treads the high places of the earth — Yahweh God of hosts is His name.

Mark 10:6

But from the beginning of the creation, God made them male and female.

Acts 4:24

So, when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: “Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,

Acts 17:24-25

24 God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. 25 Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.

Revelation 4:11

You are worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, and by Your will they exist and were created.

3. Jesus, the Eternal Word, is The Creator – a New Testament exclusive revelation

John 1:1-3, 14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the **Word was with God**, and the **Word was God**. 2 **He was in the beginning with God**. 3 **All things were made through Him**, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

14 And **the Word became flesh** and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the [uniquely] begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 1:15-17

15 **He is the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn over all creation. 16 **For by Him all things were created** that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him** and for Him. 17 And He is before all things, and **in Him all things consist**.

Ephesians 3:9-12

9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in **God who created all things through Jesus Christ**; 10 to the intent that **now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known** by the church to the principalities (rulers) and powers (authorities) in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.

Hebrews 1:1-3

1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, **through whom also He made the worlds**; 3 who being the brightness of His glory and **the express image of His person**, and **upholding all things by the word of His power**, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Hebrews 1:8

But **to the Son He says**:

“Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

Psalms 45:6

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever; A scepter of righteousness is the scepter of Your kingdom.

Note: The “God” referred to here is Elohim, same as Genesis 1:1: “In the beginning Elohim created...” is a direct connection to the identity of Jesus, the Son. (See also John 1:1-3.)

Hebrews 1:10

And:

“You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.

Psalms 102:25-27

25 Of old You laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands.
26 They will perish, but You will endure; Yes, they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will change them, and they will be changed. 27 But You are the same, and Your years will have no end.

Note: The “You” referred to here is LORD, Yahweh, or Jehovah. Another direct connection to the identity of Jesus.

Isaiah 9:6-7

6 For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

7 Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of Yahweh of hosts will perform this.

(See also John 18:36-37, 1 Tim 6:15, Rev 1:5, 11:15, 17:14.)

4. Let there be light

Genesis 1:3

3 Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light.

2 Corinthians 4:6

6 For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

Revelation 21:22-24

22 But I saw no temple in [the New Jerusalem], for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. 23 The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. **The Lamb is its light.** 24 And the nations of those who are saved shall walk in its light, and the kings of the earth bring their glory and honor into it.

John 1:9

That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world.

John 8:12

Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, “I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life.”

John 12:46

I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in Me should not abide in darkness.

I think that on the first day, literally “one day,” the definition of a day, all the physics that would govern the material universe was in place. From now on God would simply pull apart “what is” and re-form it to suit His plan. If you think about it, since we are made in God’s image, we do exactly the same thing. We pull apart the creation and we re-form it to suit our purposes. We take beach sand and make it into window glass or silicone computer chips. J. R. R. Tolkien said, “As sub-creators we are reflecting the image of the ultimate Creator that lies within us all.” So, there is no misunderstanding; Tolkien was not saying the Creator lives within all of us (unless you are born from above) but just that humans were made in God’s image (Gen 1:26-27) and are, therefore, creative. We can’t make something from nothing, but we can recreate or reshape what is. How much more if we are filled with His Spirit? I am regularly impressed with the creativity I see all around me, for better and for worse – another proof of God.

John 1:5

And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness could not overcome it.

As much as the darkness would like to shut down the light it just is not able. The physics of light is such that darkness is completely at the mercy of light. All that is needed to drive away darkness is simply to turn on a light! But also remember many love the darkness and hate it when you turn on the light of truth. They may fight back but will not be finally successful. The forces of darkness can only succeed by getting the real enlightened ones (Matt 5:14) to put their lights under a bushel. When they say, “Tone it down,” we should *tone it up* all the more. Just shine, all the brighter!

Symbolically, light is associated with life, truth, knowledge, and understanding while darkness is associated with death, deception, and ignorance. These things are to be done away with as the Gospel expands to fill the nations, and “His enemies become His footstool” (Ps 110:1, Matt 13:33.)

There are many Christians that associate “Let there be light” (Genesis 1:3) with the Big Bang. It is easy to do, but those that think such foolishness have obviously not thought through either statement or implications. There is frequently a desperation to find a way to fuse false atheistic science with Scripture, just like geo-centrism or flat earth of centuries gone by. The doctrine of Biblical Creation has been under increasingly organized attack since the enlightenment project began. All other doctrines stand or fall here, as does the integrity of Scripture itself. There has been an ongoing attempt to explain the supernatural

events in the Bible in terms of purely naturalistic causes, like the Reed Sea (only 6 inches deep) instead of the Red Sea crossing, Moses breathing hallucinogenic fumes from a burning bush, or the Genesis 6:1-4 sons of God as sons of Seth. Compromise is everywhere. When certain people don't like what is plainly written they try to naturalize it, or in some other way, explain it away.

5. Two Compromise Theories – and there are many others.

Just because people can quote Scriptures and string passages together, doesn't mean they know what they are talking about. Learn to recognize the difference between belief, theory and Truth. Remember there are 3000 denominations and 10,000 cults doing this. Covered in chapter 3, "How to study the Bible."

Gap Theory – Pre-Adamite Civilization

The basic idea is this – between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2 existed a gap, a long period of time, millions of years. Both Scofield and Dake incorporated this into their study Bibles and threw generations off course. Living in the gap was a pre-Adamite race of human-like people and dinosaurs.

"If this was, as it appears, an account of the destruction of the Pre-Adamite Earth, then the Pre-Adamite Earth was inhabited, and its inhabitants dwelt in cities, and God's purpose in destroying the Pre-Adamite Earth was to efface all historic monuments and evidences of the sinfulness of its occupants.

How long a period elapsed between the creation of the earth and its becoming "formless and void" we do not know; neither do we know how long it continued in that condition, but when the time came in the purpose of God to restore the earth to its habitable state, and make it fit for the abode of man, He did it in six periods of longer or shorter duration. The Hebrew word translated "day" may mean either a day of 24 hours or a longer period of time. The probability is that the time was short."

(Clarence Larkin, *Dispensational Truth*, 1918, 51)

Day-Age Theory

The general idea, and hence its name, is that a day is not a day. It is actually an unknown period of time or age. See Larkin above. If it is unknown, then it can be adjusted to whatever time is necessary to prop up the current theory du jour. A perennial favorite is the "a day is 1000 years" theory. More modern is the exponential day-age theory. Day 1 is 8 billion years, day 2 is 4 billion years, day 3 is 2 billion years, etc. And what do you know, six days adds up to 15.75 billion years, about the currently accepted atheistic age of the universe. Isn't that amazing?? Of course, the number of billions of years can be adjusted as necessary to fit the currently believed age of the universe. Ignorance is a very useful tool in such matters. To get 13.7 billion years, the first day needs to be 6.92 billion years long.

There are also those that say that a day can't be a day because there is no time measuring device until the 4th day when the sun was created. That may be true for the length of a year but has nothing to do with the length of a day. What they ignore is that the earth was rotating from day one. It is not the sun that provides the timing. They do err not knowing the Scripture. Naturalistic thinking permeates the whole discussion. The definition of day starts on the first day and the time measuring device is the earth itself, dark and light, night and day, evening and morning, and the light came from God. The day begins at sundown. The earth itself is the center of time management to this very day.

A hybrid theory says that the days *are* one rotation of the earth but are separated by millions and millions of years. The first day is problematic for those trying to naturalize the creation week. For those allowing a supernatural beginning we get the common "God got the whole thing started, then went on vacation" variation. Once the original story is denied, alternative stories are plentiful. There cannot be a right answer, just endless speculations.

These, and other, compromise theories can be used independently or strung together. The Gap Theory can provide the millions of years and the Day-Age Theory removes the literal days. Almost all of the aberrant theories allow that sin and death are in the world before man. Once again, we have theories in search of Bible justification. The very point of compromise theories is to avoid what the Scripture plainly says and invent alternatives.

It is a common thing for compromisers to focus on the word “day” (Hebrew: YOM) and completely ignore the surrounding context for the purpose of distracting their audience. See Larkin above. The issue is not how a word **can** be used but **how** it is actually used, in context.

Each “day” in Genesis 1 is also accompanied by the phrase “evening and morning.” What do normal people call the period “evening and morning?” What do normal people call one rotation of the earth? Normal people call it a day! This is so simple it takes years of special training to get it wrong or the desire to reject what the Bible plainly says.

Exodus 20:8-11

8 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is the Sabbath of Yahweh your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates. 11 For **in six days** Yahweh **made** the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore, Yahweh blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

It is possible to do mathematical calculations and show the universe is billions of years old. But these calculations are purely physical, made from within Nature’s Box and ignore the Creator completely. They are also subject to a host of assumptions, the first is that there is no supernatural activity involved.

The single largest reason young people give for leaving the faith, 60-80% within two years after high school graduation, is unanswered or poorly answered questions. The age of the earth is the single largest poorly answered question. Apparently young people can read better than most adults can twist Scripture (*Already Gone* by Ham, Beemer & Hillard). By the way, the most asked skeptical question ever, is “If God is all loving and powerful, why is there evil in the world?” The person asking this question has no clue as to their own presuppositions. If God doesn’t exist, neither does good or evil!

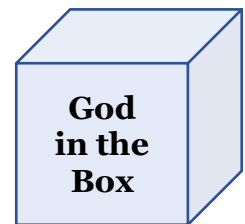
It is our job to be able to give true answers to those that ask, especially our children. Questions not properly answered never go away; they just fester.

6. The most basic doctrines of the biblical Creator

Cornelius Van Til

The current argument against the **creation doctrine** derives from [Emmanuel] Kant. It may fitly be expressed in the words of a more recent philosopher, James Ward: “If we attempt to conceive of God apart from the world, there is nothing to lead us on to creation.” *Realm of Ends*, p. 397. “That is to say, if God is to be connected to the universe at all, he must be subject to its conditions. Here is the old creation doctrine. It says that God has caused the world to come into existence.

But what do we mean by the word “cause”? In our experience, it is that which is logically correlative to the word “effect.” If you have an effect, you must have a cause and if you have a cause you must have an effect. If God caused the world, it must therefore have been because God couldn’t help producing an effect. And so, the effect may really be said to be the cause of the cause. Our experience can therefore allow for no God other than one that is dependent upon the world as much as the world is dependent upon Him.”



[Note: Can you identify the flaw in this phrase “The effect may really be said to be the cause of the cause”? His is a linear, naturalistic, cause and effect perspective. But looking at this non-linearly, from outside of time, he is not entirely wrong. Think about this: You plan to have a picnic lunch in the park. In the morning you make and pack the lunch. You are preparing for an event that has not happened yet. Everybody does this. The future is having an effect on the present.

God has a plan, and there is no plan B. The Lamb was slain from the foundation of the world (Rev 13:8). You were chosen from the foundation of the world (Eph 1:4, Rev 17:8). (See also Matt 13:5, 25:34, Heb 4:3, 1Pt 1:20.) God saw every event in history, not as a linear series of causes and effects, but from His non-linear eternal vision, and planned accordingly. This is the heart of divine providence: freedom because God is free, but with provision and solutions for all the problems we manage to create for ourselves (Rom 8:28). God is good!]

The God of Christianity cannot meet the requirements of the autonomous man. He claims to be all-sufficient. He claims to have created the world, not from necessity but from His free will. He claims not to have changed in Himself when He created the world. His existence must therefore be said to be impossible, and the creation doctrine must be said to be an absurdity.

[Note: Notice the elevation of faulty human reasoning and experience to the level of final authority. We also see the power of presuppositions.]

The **doctrine of providence** is also said to be at variance with experience. This is but natural. One who rejects creation must logically also reject providence. If all things are controlled by God's providence, we are told, there can be nothing new and history is but a puppet dance. You see then that I might present to you great numbers of facts to prove the existence of God. I might say that every effect needs a cause. I might point to the wonderful structure of the eye as evidence of God's purpose in nature. I might call in the story of mankind through the past to show that it has been directed and controlled by God. All these evidences would leave you unaffected. You would simply say that however else we may explain reality, we cannot bring in God. Cause and purpose, you keep repeating, are words that we human beings use with respect to things around us because they seem to act as we ourselves act, but that is as far as we can go. And when the evidence for Christianity proper is presented to you the procedure is the same.

[Note: If there is no God and all that exists is physics and chemistry, then there is no freedom, only blind determinism. There can, in fact, be nothing new and history is nothing but a puppet dance. Reality is completely choreographed by physics and chemical reactions. Liberty is found only in God.]

If I point out to you that the **prophecies** of Scripture have been fulfilled, you will simply reply that it quite naturally appears that way to me and to others, but that in reality it is not possible for any mind to predict the future from the past. If it were, all would again be fixed, and history would be without newness and freedom.

Then if I point to the many **miracles** [supernatural activities], the story is once more the same. To illustrate this point, I quote from the late Dr. William Adams Brown, an outstanding modernist theologian. "Take any of the miracles of the past," says Brown, "The virgin birth, the raising of Lazarus, the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Suppose that you can prove that these events happened just as they are claimed to have happened. What have you accomplished? You have shown that our previous view of the limits of the possible needs to be enlarged; that our former generalizations were too narrow and need revision; that problems cluster about the origin of life and its renewal of which we had hitherto been unaware. But the one thing which you have not shown, which indeed you cannot show, is that a miracle

has happened; for that is to confess that these problems are inherently insoluble, which cannot be determined until all possible tests have been made." *God at Work*, New York, 1933, p. 169.

You see with what confidence Brown uses this weapon of logical impossibility against the idea of a miracle. Many of the older critics of Scripture challenged the evidence for miracle at this point or at that. They made as it were a slow, piece-meal land invasion of the island of Christianity. Brown, on the other hand, settles the matter at once by a host of stukas from the sky. Any pill boxes that he cannot destroy immediately, he will mop up later. He wants to get rapid control of the whole field first. And this he does by directly applying the law of non-contradiction. Only that is possible, says Brown, in effect, which I can show to be logically related according to my laws of logic. So then if miracles want to have scientific standing, that is be recognized as genuine facts, they must sue for admittance at the port of entry to the mainland of scientific endeavor. And admission will be given as soon as they submit to the little process of generalization which deprives them of their uniqueness. Miracles must take out naturalization papers if they wish to vote in the republic of science and have any influence there.

Take now the four points I have mentioned -- **creation, providence, prophecy, and miracle**. Together they represent the whole of Christian theism. Together they include what is involved in the idea of God and what He has done round about and for us. Many times over and in many ways the evidence for all these has been presented. But you have an always available and effective answer at hand. It is impossible! It is impossible!

Basic to all the objections the average philosopher and scientist raises against the evidence for the existence of God is the assertion or the assumption that to accept such evidence would be to break the rules of logic.

(Cornelius Van Til, *Why I Believe in God*, 9-11)

When I hear skeptics say that I wonder, "Really? How?" I have heard only that "since there is no god, any belief in the supernatural is irrational." Note that we always come back to presuppositions. A thing can be impossible or break the rules of logic not because they actually do but because they violate our own presuppositions. Impossibility is a function of one's presuppositions.

7. Philosophical Origin of The Universe

There are only a few real possibilities.

- A. The Universe Has Always Existed, it has eternal being (Enlightenment belief.)
- B. The Universe Created Itself (Current popular belief.)
- C. The Universe Was Created by An Eternal Being

These last three are included to show how far some will go to exclude the Great Creator.

- D. The Universe Is an Illusion
- E. Our Universe is one of an infinite number of universes subject to natural selection
- F. Our Universe is one of many designer universes (i.e., intelligent hi-tech creator aliens)

Thank you, R.C. Sproul, "*Classical Apologetics*" for the structure of items A – D.

Thomas Aquinas saw it this way; the universe could be:

- 1. Uncaused
- 2. Self-caused
- 3. Caused by another

A. The Universe Has Always Existed.

This idea is very old and was assumed by the Enlightenment Project. The most appealing aspect of an eternal universe is that the need for a problematic explanation for a beginning is eliminated.

This idea was dashed with the acceptance of the Big Bang and general relativity which required a beginning for all space, time, matter, and energy.

The fundamental question here is this: Can matter or energy exist eternally? The short answer is *no!* Let me explain. One of the most consistent observations concerning matter is its mutability – that is, it changes with time. God is immutable (i.e., changeless). Time and eternity are incompatible economies, mutually exclusive systems. Eternity is changeless. Even the most stable objects we know about will decay eventually. Did you know your car is evaporating while you drive it?

As matter changes, it requires an energy exchange. The area of science given to examining such exchange is called “Thermodynamics.” Every exchange carries a non-refundable fee called entropy. Law 2 says the amount of usable energy is decreasing as entropy increases. Law 1 says that matter or energy cannot be created or destroyed, only change form, for a fee, of course.

So, rewinding the tape of the cosmos, a true “come into existence” moment occurred as the usable energy is at its initial maximum and entropy starts at zero. Because of the finite nature of the tape there must be a beginning. What as before this moment? The great Creator God (“In the beginning God...”)

Space, time, matter, energy and the laws that govern how they work are all God’s invention.

Cosmologist’s conclusion for the universe is called “Maximum Entropy.” The University of Wyoming used to host a yearly Max Entropy Conference, to examine the state of the science regarding the end of the universe. Max Entropy says that entropy will increase until all the useful, usable energy in the universe has been spent; every sun will expend its fuel and grow cold. Likewise, every planet. Eventually, even the atoms themselves will break down. When all the usable energy has been spent and entropy has reached its maximum, all that will remain is a universal sub-atomic particle mist that will be cold and dead – forever after. Understandably, this depressing future is not widely or often talked about.

Meeting adjourned.

Thank God, we can look forward to a “new heavens and a new earth” long before maximum entropy happens. Also, according to Romans 8:21, “the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay.” Somehow God will cancel out Law 2, the entropic fee will be repealed.

The Kalam Cosmological Argument

1. Everything that begins to exist must have a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

The origin of the Kalam argument is Islamic, circa AD 1100. It gets right to the heart of the matter. It doesn’t work backwards to a first cause but starts with the first cause itself. Now this simple argument does not say who or what the cause was but just that one is necessary. Note this argument existed centuries before Einstein, Hubble, and the enlightenment project.

John Taylor disagrees. The *kalam* cosmological argument cannot in his view be endorsed because its adherents have not shown its main premise, that *the universe began to exist* [see the Philosophical Origin of The Universe section above] to be more reasonable than its denial. (John Taylor, "Kalam: A Swift Argument from Origins to a First Cause?" *Religious Studies* 33 (1997): 167-179. Quoted by William Lane Craig, “A Swift and Simple Refutation of the *Kalam* Cosmological Argument?” <https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/scholarly-writings/the-existence-of-god/a-swift-and-simple-refutation-of-the-kalam-cosmological-argument/>)

Notice the phrase “to be more reasonable than its denial.” By what standard? It is one’s presuppositions that determine what is reasonable, and without an absolute standard we are left with subjective relativism. If reality is purely materialistic, the meaning of anything is purely personal, subjective, and some new fact from the womb of chance could change everything. Nobody (well,

maybe a few) lives like that. Non-Christian belief is inconsistent at every turn. More on the First Cause Argument later.

It boils down to only two possibilities –an eternal universe, or a temporal universe. This is astonishing to me because virtually no one believes in an eternally existent universe anymore. But here it is, just like some flat-earthers still exist.

Check off A. The universe has *not* always existed.

B. The Universe Created Itself.

Why does something exist rather than nothing at all? (G.W. Leibniz)

By the way,
Why does order exist rather than chaos?
Why does motion exist rather than stillness?
Why does sound exist rather than silence?

Because there is a law such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from nothing. Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists, why we exist. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the universe going. (Dr. Stephen Hawking, *The Grand Design*)

Nothing is what rocks dream about. (Aristotle, genuine smart guy)

Here is the short form of the answer: It is possible that X can create Y as long as X is sufficient to cause the effect Y. But when someone says something can create itself, they are saying X can create X. This means X must exist before it can create itself. This is an absurdity. Even worse, if X is nothing, then the most that can be created is nothing. This has been logical nonsense and a philosophical absurdity for thousands of years.

Okay, Hawking was a brilliant cosmologist. So, what about the science of nothing? Let's look carefully at what he said, "...create itself from nothing." He assumes that in the beginning, there was nothing, nada, zip, zero. Oh, wait, zero is a something (a number), sorry. Until the 1990s the Big Bang supposedly started from an infinitesimally small, infinitely hot singularity sometimes called "the cosmic egg." The cosmic egg contained the entire universe, which at some point exploded. This was abandoned because it violates Point B below: matter and/or energy ($E=mc^2$), cannot exist eternally, it continually deteriorates. The Big Bang theory was originally formulated (see Hubble quotes near the end of the chapter) to eliminate God and became associated with a definite beginning. Many Christians bought into this naturalistic beginning idea via "Let there be light" (Gen 1:2). What will they do when the Big Bang is finally discredited – continue to defend it or throw away their Bible? What funny creatures we are.

The "In the beginning nothing" theory needed someone like Hawking to gain steam, especially as he showed how it could be done mathematically. By the way, just because something has a mathematical reality doesn't mean it has physical reality. Since "the nothing theory" had or has many problems, some scientists monkey around with the idea of "nothing" so they can start with something. Grant one exception (miracle) and you can get a universe! This shows the serious awareness, and their desperation, of the nothing problem. The natural philosophers of the day believed in spontaneous generation until Louis Pasteur (1822-1895) proved them wrong. It is in every general biology textbook.

Terence McKenna says, "Modern science is based on the principle: Give us one free miracle and we will explain the rest. The one free miracle is the appearance of all the

mass and energy in the universe and all the laws that govern it, from nothing, in a single instant.”

A common statement is that there was a “fluctuation in the quantum field,” and the nothing exploded and 13.7 billion years later, here we are. Think with me, just a little. Is a “quantum field” a something or a nothing? A child can answer this one. It takes years of specialized training to get it wrong. Even calling “empty space” nothing fails because the Big Bang model starts with no space and no time. Can you say, “Nothing really means nothing?” From nothing, nothing can come.

Next Hawking says, “Because there is a law such as gravity.” Let me ask another question, “Is ‘a law’ a something or nothing?” Next, do physical laws describe something or cause something? Is it gravity or the law of gravity that keeps you on the ground? The law of gravity describes how different masses, like you and the earth, will interact. It is gravity that causes the interaction. A law has no causal power. Has a law against crime ever physically stopped a criminal? A physical law can only describe what will happen when physical objects interact. So, if there is nothing, and gravity depends on the existence of matter, then how can there be any gravity at all? Even worse, how can there be a law that describes how nothing can interact with itself, gravitationally speaking?

Finally, he says, “It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the universe going.” We don’t invoke God to get something started. God is the necessary precondition for the existence and maintenance of all that is. He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

If nothing ever existed, then nothing is all that can exist, in a purely materialistic universe, according to real physical science and philosophy. Why does anything exist? In the beginning God created!

Check off B. The universe did *not* create itself.

Their ideas just keep getting crazier the harder they try to suppress the knowledge of God. Every problem is answered with an even worse solution. Then it is taught to students as scientific fact! No wonder science in America is declining as the absurd increases. I am calling on Christians that want to be scientists to prepare themselves, both as professors and practitioners. It will become necessary for students that can actually think to fill the vacancies left by the foolish professors as they descend into raving madness. Everything corrupt has an end, but who will fill the vacancies they leave behind?

C. The Universe was Created by an Eternal Being.

Having resolved the first two rational points, we are left with what is called “the impossibility of the contrary.” If the universe is not self-created and has not always existed, then the only remaining possibility (and Occam’s Razor, God is the ultimate simplicity) is that it must have been created by an eternal Being. Previously, I said, “It is possible that X can create Y as long as X is sufficient to cause the effect Y.” Therefore, the cause of the universe must be greater than the universe itself. Further, (and there are many), that Cause must be outside of space and time (i.e., transcendent, omnipresent, and eternal). This also rules out the high-tech creator aliens as they would be subject to all the same natural laws they create. Very similar to the universe creating itself above. They can’t create the box from within the box, again pointing to a transcendent Creator.

Romans 1:20 says the Creator is known in, and by, His creation. We see law and order at every level of the universe. We observe the uniformity of nature, nature behaving consistently over space and time, which is at the very foundation of science. Physical laws and constants don’t vary. This makes sense in that the created order has a blueprint, an overarching structure, everything has a place and a role in the plan and purpose of God. Worldview precedes science. Contrasted to the materialist’s worldview in which there is no blueprint, order or structure, hence the “post-structuralist” philosophy, in which nothing can be known with certainty.

Interesting side note: In a physical world of constant change, how is it that physical constants and laws don't change? How does the changeless exist in a constantly changing world?

The question once asked by Greg Bahnsen, "What justifies your proceeding on the expectation that the future will be like the past?" is at the heart of induction and therefore science itself. Both depend on the uniformity of nature. Both David Hume (*The Problem of Induction*) and Bertrand Russell showed that no one can know the future, causing a tremendous disturbance in the scientific community. But the scientists continued being scientific anyway, in spite of the philosophical impossibility of their activities. But it works, pragmatically, and they were glad for the job security. Again, and again, we have people living inconsistently with their professed foundational beliefs or presuppositions. As Christians, we have such justification because God created a stable universe that behaves consistently which allows science to exist.

So, here we are at a line of thinking which concludes "reason requires the existence of God." Some may ask, "Well then, which God?" To which I ask, "Do you then concede that some god must necessarily exist?" At this point, the best "God" is the Deist's God. A Deist believes there is a supreme being, but he has no interaction with his creation.

Question: How does a Deist know God doesn't interact with His creation, especially mankind?
Also, from chapter 2, "Apologetics": "Everything that exists is proof for the existence of God."

D. The Universe Is an Illusion

René Descartes (1596-1650) is called the Father of the Enlightenment and credited with starting the "Age of Reason." We can thank him for the solution to this possibility in his famous conclusion "Cogito Ergo Sum" or "I think therefore I am." If something, anything, exists the universe cannot be an illusion. By the way, how is it we can consider the concept of illusion, anyway? The mental resources to even understand what is meant by the word "illusion" are enormous.

How does this solve the problem of the universe being an illusion? Following the Protestant Reformation, a crisis in authority emerged, both ecclesiastical and scientific (knowledge). Who actually speaks for the truth of things? René wanted to apply his mathematical rigor to questions of reality and truth.

He set out by doubting literally everything: his own perceptions, senses, thinking, existence, reality, everything! As he worked through layer after layer of doubts, he realized that he reached a place where he was doubting his doubts. Kind of crazy, but there was a pure method to the madness. When René doubted that he was doubting, and doubting the doubts, he realized a great revelation: the very act of doubting requires thought or thinking. A thought requires a thinker, a mind. Only a rational mind can think about doubts. So, he thought, "It may be everything outside my mind is an illusion but 'I think therefore I am.'" Something exists so reality itself cannot be an illusion. Therefore, the universe cannot be an illusion. It may not be clear what it is or to what extent we can know it, but it does exist.

Check off D. The universe is not an illusion.

Even further, how can we even talk about reality being an illusion in the first place? By what standard is something determined to be an illusion? Who decides? What are the mental resources necessary to consider the concepts of reality and illusion?

Now René's work led to other problems as some ran with the idea that nothing can be known outside the mind. The mind became the center of the universe, the ultimate self-centeredness. This is where the western version of "we create our own reality" came from. There is also an eastern version based on the idea all of reality *really is* an illusion, called maya. This violates the principle of the basic reliability of sense perception and the intelligibility of human experience.

Side note: when someone who believes the “we create our own reality” idea gets mad at you for being a Christian, say to them, “Wait a minute; I thought you said we create our own reality.” When they say, “We do,” say to them, “Well then, I’m your fault!” Thank you, Frank Peretti, *The Chair*.

Assuming Genesis 1:1, we can observe that the Creator God is real and that His creation is tangible.

E. Our Universe is one of an infinite number of universes subject to natural selection.

“If there is only one universe, you might have to have a fine-tuner. If you don’t want God, you’d better have a multiverse.” (Barnard Carl, cosmologist at Queen Mary University at London, *Science’s Alternative to an Intelligent Creator, the Multiverse Theory*, *Discover* December 2004)

Note the language in the title, “Science’s Alternative to...” as though science had a rational mind of its own. This is code for atheistic scientist’s alternative to reality. The multiverse theory is naturally favorable, not to mention completely unprovable, to the atheistic view of reality because it removes several obstacles. Fine-tuning is one, and the utter improbability of evolution is another. God and an absurd cosmology represent the only two options in Carl’s mind. Hostility toward God is the motivating force. Their origin of anything has no foundation. There are no miracles in a materialistic universe.

F. Our Universe is one of many designer universes (i.e., intelligent high-tech creator aliens)

See “The universe was created by an eternal being” above. Spike Psarris in “The Big Bang Never Happened” does a great job of commenting on this item and “Our universe is one of an infinite number of universes subject to natural selection.” Highly recommended viewing.

8. A Part of the Intelligent Design Argument

It should be noted that Intelligent Design was impetus for the birth of the scientific revolution. There was no dispute that “In the beginning God created...” Intelligence preceded all else. From that simple presupposition it was understood that man could “think God’s thoughts after him.” Naturally, the first scientists were called Natural Philosophers. Nature was viewed as God’s second book written in the language of mathematics with the understanding that man’s mind was not only created compatible with God’s second book, but that it was comprehensible. Isaac Newton recognized the complete necessity of God in his *Principia*. This bothered Einstein.

How can it be that mathematics, being after all, the product of human thought, independent of experience, is so admirably appropriate to the objects of reality? The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible. (*Only if you start with materialistic presuppositions.*)

Albert Einstein

If you are trying to look at events in the distant past you should rely on the cause-and-effect operations that exist today and look for a cause that is known to have the power of producing the effect under investigation. So, we ask the question, “What are the causes now in operation that are known to produce the effect being examined?”

Note the word “known.” No speculation allowed.

And who can we thank for this smart advice? James Hutton, Charles Lyell, and Charles Darwin. From this principle, the term “uniformitarianism” emerged. “The present is the key to the past.” But what they had in mind, being hostile to God, was to only allow purely natural causes. This was later expanded to include every possible cause and effect that materialistic science might investigate and is known today as “Methodological Naturalism.” Any non-natural cause, by definition, is filtered out. Also, a restriction is placed on the investigations into the origins of all things. The unobservable past must be explained in purely natural causes. Again, being hostile to God, they predetermine what kind of evidence will be

considered. So, science is no longer the search for the truth of the natural world, it is the search for a purely natural, atheistic explanation. Some have said “Science is atheistic.” This is a denial of even the possibility that some effects may have supernatural causes. This is the success of the Enlightenment Project.

In most cases there is no problem with Methodological Naturalism because most scientific investigations deal with purely natural causes and effects anyway, like the study of nature in the present and technology. But there are those effects in which the best explanation is a supernatural cause. These are sometimes attributed to the “God of the Gaps.” Things we can’t explain naturalistically are attributed, correctly or falsely, to some God. The assumption is that the only reason for God is to explain stuff and once everything is explained naturalistically, the reason for God’s existence is over. These are generally well known, and the list gets smaller. They are the mysteries of life and the universe. We could call them “Evolution of the Gaps.” Somehow nature made it work. They get a naturalistic I.O.U. because the supernatural is denied altogether and “new natural laws” must be discovered (Wistar Symposium). Like the naturalistic process for raising the dead. Even healing the sick should be easily explainable. The truth can only be denied and suppressed (Romans 1:18).

So, what are the causes, now in operation, for the production of digital information? DNA is digital information via the AT, CG pairs in very specific arrangements. It is considered, by far, the most complex digital code known. There is no close second. A phrase often used here is “specified complexity.” The DNA is highly complex, but that is not enough. It must also be highly specific in its arrangement for the code to function properly. In a similar way, the letters of this paragraph are quite specific in their arrangement in order to communicate meaningful information to the reader. More so for computer code.

In the construction of proteins, for which DNA provides the code, the four base parts A, C, G, and T are selected three at a time. This allows for more than 20 possible combinations. Each of these specific combinations code for one of 20 amino acids, with leftovers. The amino acid chain is arranged in a specific order, according to the code. The average chain of amino acids is 500 units long. Some are thousands. There are 100,000 proteins in the body.

The chains are folded into a 3-dimensional shape which are the actual, usable proteins. The DNA provides the code for the building materials. A change in the code means a change in the shape of the protein. There are many protein-folding diseases. One such example is sickle cell anemia.

Also, imagine what would happen if you were to randomly change bits (0 → 1 or 1 → 0) in a computer program? Would the program get better, or would it cease to function?

There is one, and only one, known cause capable of producing information, and that is an intelligent mind. But what kind of intelligence also has the power of constructing the DNA code in the first place? This intelligence has to know the complete design specifications for tens of thousands of the body parts of every creature that this Mind’s power creates.

I am talking about the Almighty, Triune, and Creator, God of the Bible. Yea God!

“The machine code of the genes is uncannily computer-like. It looks like something designed by a software programmer. Apart from differences in the jargon, the pages of a molecular biology journal might be interchanged with those of a computer engineering journal,”
(Richard Dawkins)

Any evolutionary computer simulation that has a target of some kind is disqualified from being Darwinian because the Darwinian synthesis has no goals, it is completely directionless.

Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see was not designed, but rather evolved.

(Francis Crick, *Natural History*, volume 97, 1988, “What Mad Pursuit,” 138).

Francis Crick was a code breaker during World War II and was the first to suggest that DNA was code-like in his *Sequence Hypothesis*.

“Wouldn’t it be a bad leg long before it is a good wing?” Yes!

9. Man: The Image of God

“We have to get the anthropology right.” Robert Sirico, Actin Foundation

Psalms 8:3-8

3 When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, 4 What is man that You are mindful of him, and the son of man that You visit him? 5 For You have made him a little lower than the [Elohim], and You have crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You have made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, 7 All sheep and oxen, even the beasts of the field, 8 The birds of the air, and the fish of the sea that pass through **the paths of the seas.**

The little phrase “the paths of the seas” was the spark that led to our understanding of currents in the oceans that were then mapped and used today. Matthew Maury (1806 – 1873) gathered nautical information and published wind and current charts for sailors. Ancient mariners used the currents but didn’t really make maps for others to follow.

Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, “**Let Us make man in Our image**, according to Our likeness; **let them have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; **male and female He created them.** 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “**Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.**”

Genesis 2:7

And Yahweh God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Notice the fusion of organized dirt and spirit is soul. The soul is the interface between the spirit and the natural world.

Man is a tripartite or three-part being.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24

23 Now may the **God of peace** Himself **sanctify you completely**; and may **your whole spirit, soul, and body** be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 **He who calls you is faithful**, who also will do it.

Hebrews 4:12

For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the **division of soul and spirit**, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Proverbs 20:27

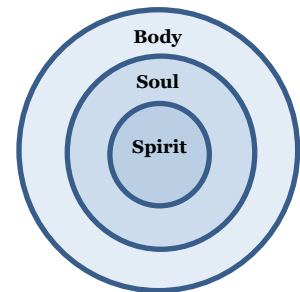
The spirit of a man is the lamp of Yahweh, searching all the inner depths of his heart.

Experience with the proof of God comes from all three realms.

From the Apologetics Chapter.

Body corresponds to an Evidential Apologetics, Empirical Epistemology

Soul corresponds to a Classical Apologetics, Rational Epistemology



Spirit corresponds to a Transcendental Apologetics, Revelational Epistemology

Genesis 9:4

But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.

Leviticus 17:11

For the life of the flesh is in the blood ...

“Whoever says that Adam was created mortal, and would, even without sin, have died by natural necessity, let him be anathema.” The Council of Carthage, 412 A.D.

This heresy was considered so great it deserved the strongest condemnation – “anathema.”

Dr. Hugh Ross of Reasons to Believe, in a debate with Kent Hovind, said Adam was created mortal and would have died anyway. Hopefully he has corrected that position.

The most fundamental element of our identity is the image of God. The second most important element is sexuality (i.e., maleness and femaleness). There has been a huge effort over time to destroy the image of God by turning man into animals through evolution, and sexuality through gender identity philosophy and politics. There are now 129 recognized genders and counting. Once the mold is broken, the possibilities are only limited by the imagination of fallen man amplified by the inspiration of demons.

As with all men, we are made in the image of God. We have been created rational, moral beings and can't help living that way. In fact, those who are not are considered pathological. The unbelievers just want to deny the source of the transcendence they live every day. In effect, they have a pathological need to “naturalize” it, due to their hostility toward God. They profess to deny God but daily use the things of God, a fundamental contradiction. The natural man “naturalizes” all evidence externally and “emotionalizes” all experience internally.

Jesus Christ, The Image of God Restored

John 14:7-9

7 “If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also; and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.” 8 Philip said to Him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us.” 9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4

3 But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of **Christ, who is the image of God**, should shine on them.

Colossians 1:15

[Jesus] is **the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn over all creation.

The world's leading anti-theists clearly recognize the appearance of created design. In their rebellion, they refuse to give any credit to the Creator God but instead ascribes creative power to impersonal, chance, random processes to bring about the world they see today. There is no escaping creative language.

“The core of humanistic philosophy is naturalism – the proposition that the natural world proceeds according to its own internal dynamics, without divine or supernatural control or guidance, and that we human beings are creations of that process.”

Edward L. Erickson, *The Humanist Magazine*, 9-10/2000, p.30

"I have faith and belief myself ... I believe that nothing beyond those natural laws is needed. I have no evidence for this. It is simply what I have faith in and what I believe."

Isaac Asimov, *Counting the Eons*, p.10

10. Meanings and Beliefs of Evolution –

1. Change over time. Observable small changes over time, sometimes called micro-evolution.
 - a. Speciation.
 - b. Small scale variation.
 - c. Distribution of populations.
 - d. Degeneration.
2. Descent with modification. Large scale changes over time sometimes called macro-evolution.
 - a. Differential Reproduction
 - b. All life is connected going back to the first simple lifeform.
 - c. Common ancestry.
 - d. Tree of life.
3. Random mutations and natural selection. Mechanism to produce new, novel body plans and parts.
 - a. A purely undirected mechanism produces the illusion of design, but not the reality of design.
 - b. Sufficient to produce all forms of life.
 - c. An unguided process capable of producing new complex physical structures.

What materialists, naturalists, physicalists have to believe:

1. An explosion produced an ordered universe.
2. Molecules self-assembled and became living things.
3. Errors in the complex genetic code produces more complexity.

The central proposition of the Darwinian synthesis is that things look designed, but they are not really designed. It is a purely undirected, natural process giving the appearance or illusion of design (Dawkins's – *The Blind Watchmaker*) but is not guided or directed in any way.

"The evidence for design is the system itself" (Michael Behe).

But even worse is what we now know.

Origination of Organismal Form, Müller, Newman, MIT Press, 2003.

Neo-Darwinism has "no theory of the generative." The *origin* of biological form is missing.

In November 2016, a meeting was called at the Royal Society in London for leading evolutionary scientists to discuss recent discoveries. Gerd B. Müller gave the opening talk entitled, "The Explanatory Deficits of the Modern Synthesis." Here are his main points which were in doubt. See the complete list in Appendix C.

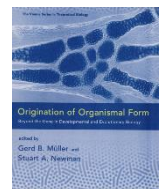
- Origin of phenotypic complexity (integrated complexity of organisms)
- Origin of anatomical novelty (new body plans and parts)
- Origin of non-gradual modes of transition (abrupt fossil appearance)
- Need for non-genetic factors of change. (DNA isn't the whole story.)
- Biases in the generation of variation. (Why do some changes work and others don't?)

(<https://royalsociety.org/science-events-and-lectures/2016/11/evolutionary-biology/>,

<https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/10.1098/rsfs.2017.0065>,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L0-hgSjnomA>)

In short, the mechanism of mutation and natural selection has **no creative power**. It can't create anything new. It can only make minor modifications to existing structures, like finch beaks, moth colors,



and dog breeds. This is monumental! We have been arguing the impossibility of evolution on this very premise for decades. Yes, small changes do happen, and Darwinism accounts for these changes, but there has never been seen **new body parts**, much less entire new body plans. Darwinism can explain the survival but not the arrival, of the fittest. Mutations only make duplicate or deformed existing parts, like a two-headed turtle or a five-legged cow. This is from scientists doing the actual scientific work, not the pop evolutionary evangelists.

So, the Darwinian synthesis is dead, and a whole new mechanism must be invented.

Also, the abrupt appearance of new body plans and parts in the fossil record is a complete mystery. As in the Cambrian Explosion, one of many explosions, new body parts and plans require an explosion of new, previously unseen DNA. Any new part requires new DNA coding information. And not just DNA, but new arrangements of lipids, carbohydrates, and amino acids to support the new body plans and parts, all by accident. Of the four, DNA is the easiest to wrap numbers around, because of its coding nature.

Where does this new information come from? All that can be offered is a faith based I.O.U. that one day an explanation will be discovered. Let's call it "evolution of the gaps."

This is spectacular! Why is this new knowledge not front-page headlines and available to every student? Because of hostility toward God. More and more what we do know is conflicting with what the materialist's religion requires. To the atheist, evolution is a fact, but they have no idea how it works. They will never admit to a supernatural Creator. The dogma of the evolutionary religion was set in the 1800's while the science of evolution has self-destructed.

Don't get me wrong, theories abound; it is just that none of them work. Some more government grants should help.

11. Moving out to the cosmos

Horgan: [Lawrence] Krauss, Stephen Hawking and Neil deGrasse Tyson have been bashing philosophy as a waste of time. Do you agree?

Ellis: If they really believe this they should stop indulging in low-grade philosophy in their own writings. You cannot do physics or cosmology without an assumed philosophical basis. You can choose not to think about that basis: it will still be there as an unexamined foundation of what you do. The fact you are unwilling to examine the philosophical foundations of what you do does not mean those foundations are not there; it just means they are unexamined.

(John Horgan and George Ellis, <https://uncommondescent.com/intelligent-design/physicist-george-ellis-on-the-importance-of-philosophy-and-free-will/>)

Fine-tuning is the idea that, no matter where we look the universe seems "tuned" for life on earth. If any of the 200+ physical constants observed today were altered even slightly, life would be impossible. The universe seems to be a vast machine for supporting life on earth.

Fine-tuning is "...a cataclysm for physicists, and the only way that we know how to make sense of it is through the reviled and despised Anthropic Principle."

(Leonard Susskind, *The Cosmic Principle*)

If there is only one universe, you might have to have a fine-tuner. If you don't want God, you'd better have a multiverse (Barnard Carl, cosmologist at Queen Mary University at London, "Science's Alternative to an Intelligent Creator, the Multiverse Theory," *Discover* December 2004)

The Anthropic Principle is related to fine tuning and says the physics of the universe are not just suited for life in general, but human (anthropos) life in particular. Even the location of the earth within the

solar system and extended, the cosmos, is optimally suited for human observers. See the book or video *The Privileged Planet*.

Question: What mental resources are required to observe and appreciate the cosmos?

Two Possibilities for the observed Red Shift

1. We appear to be at the center of an expanding universe because it would look that way from every place in the universe. The consequence is that the universe has no center and no edge. This is called homogeneity.
2. We appear to be at or near the center of an expanding universe because we are! The consequence is that the universe has a center and an edge. This is called favored position.

“The hypothesis cannot be disproved but is unwelcome and would only be accepted as a last resort... Therefore, we disregard this possibility and consider the alternative... The unwelcome supposition of a favored location must be avoided at all costs... a favored position is, of course, intolerable... Therefore, in order to restore homogeneity, and to escape the horror of a unique position, the departure from uniformity (cosmological principle) ... must be compensated... There seems to be no other escape.”

(Edwin Hubble (1889-1953), *The Observational Approach to Cosmology*)

I find Hubble’s title *The Observational Approach to Cosmology* interesting because of his presuppositions. His choice of interpretation was driven by his beliefs. Hubble had an extreme desire to keep the earth from being “favored” because of his hostility toward God. Similar to Carl Sagan’s *Pale Blue Dot*.

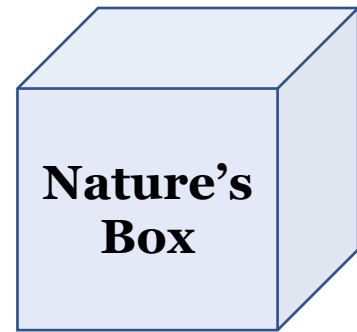
12. The Natural Man, Natural Mind – Dead Man Walking, Man in the Coffin

Survival of the fittest – The preservation of the natural, autonomous, self-centered man.

Nature's Box is my metaphor for the material, natural world.

From the outer reaches of the cosmos to our physical bodies to the subatomic particles. It is the physical universe and the laws of physics and chemistry that describe it all. But the natural man is not insulated or immune from the spirit world. The demon-haunted world is still a very real place. The supernatural occult has a dark attraction but is still completely earth based.

But to the atheist, nothing else exists. Nothing else can exist. Man, separated from God, is a prisoner in Nature's Box. He is a slave to the death and decay that permeates his reality. There is nothing outside the box. No help and no hope of rescue from his unescapable condition. This represents all his limitations, sometimes self-imposed. History, morality, standards all become man-centered, and all are relative in the absence of the Absolute. Nature, rather than God, becomes the center of gravity but spiritual drives continue. Worship shifts to the creation rather than the Creator (Romans 1:25). Over time, thinking becomes naturalized, empirical, and earth based.



Get over your childish, self-pacifying beliefs and deal with the fact that the world is senseless (B.B. from Buffalo NY, email to Answers in Genesis, *Nuclear Strength Apologetics I*, 31:30).

John 10:10

10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

Proverbs 1:7

The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

1 Corinthians 2:14

But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Ephesians 2:1-3, 4-6

1 And you **He made alive, who were dead** in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.

4 **But God**, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, 5 even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Can you say, "But God!"

Ephesians 2:12-13

12 that at that time you were **without Christ**, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world

13 **But now in Christ** Jesus you who once were **far off** have been **brought near** by the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 4:17-24

17 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the [nations] also walk, in the **futility of their mind**, 18 their **understanding darkened**, **excluded** from the life of God because of the **ignorance** that is in them, because of the **hardness** of their heart; 19 and they, having become **callous**, have given themselves over to **sensuality** for the practice of every kind of **impurity** with **greediness**. 20 But you did not learn Christ in this way, 21 if indeed **you have heard Him** and have been **taught by Him**, just as truth is in Jesus, 22 that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with deceitful lusts, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and **put on the new self**, which **in the likeness of God** has been **created in righteousness and true holiness**.

Colossians 1:21-22

21 And although you were **formerly alienated and hostile in mind**, engaged in evil deeds, 22 yet He has now reconciled you in His fleshly body through death, in order to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight.

1 Peter 4:1-6

1 Therefore, since **Christ suffered for us in the flesh**, arm yourselves also with the **same mind**, for he who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, 2 that he no longer should live the rest of his time in the flesh for the lusts of men, but for the will of God. 3 For we have spent enough of our past lifetime in doing the will of the Gentiles—when we walked in lewdness, lusts, drunkenness, revelries, drinking parties, and abominable idolatries. 4 In regard to these, they think it strange that you do not run with them in the same flood of dissipation, speaking evil of you. 5 They will give an account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. 6 For this reason the gospel was preached also to those who are dead, that they might be judged according to men in the flesh but live according to God in the spirit.

Romans 1:16-25

16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. 17 For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.” 18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, **for God has shown it to them**. 20 For since the creation of the world **His invisible attributes are clearly seen**, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, **so that they are without excuse**, 21 because, although **they knew God**, they **did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful**, but **became futile** in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, **they became fools**, 23 and changed [made different] the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. 24 **Therefore God also gave them up** to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, 25 who **exchanged [traded] the truth of God for the lie** and **worshiped and served the creation** rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. **Amen**.

Christians and unbelievers, in principle, think and reason in fundamentally different ways. It is much deeper than behavior; their very mentalities are different. Behavior generally flows from mindset. Why do some people think lying and stealing is okay, and others, such a thought would not enter their minds?

13. The Three-Fold Fall

The God of creation is the god of law and order. Anything less than God's order is chaos. As humans get further from God's order, chaos increases. As the light fades, darkness grows.

If you ask a modern Christian why the world is so messed up, they will say, "The fall in Genesis 3" and they would be mostly correct. If you asked that same question of a first century Jew or any author of the New Testament, they would say, "There are three parts: The fall in Genesis 3, the corruption and flood in Genesis 6 and the division of nations in Genesis 11." All three were the mix of a supernatural rebellion and human disobedience. Behind each fall was a spirit led rebellion, spirits beings (elohim) from God's own court. It was expected of the Messiah, that when He comes, He would fix this mess, with the help of His Ecclesia. Jesus came and began the restoration process. The Great Commission completes all three of these problems when properly understood in its context of history.

To be sure, the first fall laid the foundation for man's depravity and divisions of people.

Recommended reading: *The Unseen Realm* and *Supernatural* by Michael Heiser

I. The First Fall – Genesis 3 – Expulsion from God's House: Separation and Death

Romans 1:25

... who exchanged the truth of God for the lie and worshiped and served the creation rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, "**Let Us make man in Our image**, according to Our likeness; and **let them rule** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. 28 God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 2:16-18

16 And Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it **you shall surely die.**" 18 Then Yahweh God said, "**It is not good for the man to be alone**; I will make him a helper corresponding [a counterpart, worthy helper] to him."

a) **Iniquity and Self-determination**

Isaiah 53:6

All we like **sheep have gone astray**; we have turned, everyone, to **his own way**; and [the Father] has laid on [the Son] the iniquity of us all.

The practical definition of iniquity is "my way." We have available a different way.

John 14:6

Jesus said to him, "**I am the way**, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.

b) **The Sin of The Woman**

Genesis 3:6

6 So when the woman **saw** that the tree was **good for food**, that it was **pleasant to the eyes**, and a tree **desirable to make one wise**, she **took** of its fruit **and ate**. (See also 1Jn 2:16, Lk 4:1-13)

God told Adam not to eat of the fruit, and Adam told the woman. So, her information was second hand. She had it right. Also, it was not a problem that if they shouldn't eat the fruit, not touching it was probably a good idea. A fence probably would have come next. A hint of the legal embellishments on the law to come 3000 years later.

But the "sin of Eve" is a common sin: theft. "... she **took** of its fruit..." She took what she had no right to take. A specific form of disobedience. Thou shalt not steal (Ex 20:15).

The devil's method of attack is straightforward:

1. Question what God has said.
2. Contradict what God has said.

This method has been remarkably successful. And not only with respect to Origins but most biblical doctrines. People think that, when given a choice between "God says..." and "Experts say..." they have the right to decide what is true for themselves. They have the ability but not the right. They ignore "It is written..." The biggest problem is when God's truth is suppressed, His judgment is to hand them over to a lesser mind (Rom 1:18-21). Where do you think freethinkers come from? Ignoring God's word is a common sin.

1 Corinthians 1:20

Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the (freethinking) wisdom of this world?

When people want to go this route, they run headlong into foolishness. For instance, the Bible plainly teaches that the history of the universe is measured in thousands of years. But some mathematical calculations can show that the universe is billions of years old. God's supernatural creative power is ignored in favor of materialistic mathematical calculations. So even in some Christian circles, God's Word is judged in error while materialistic calculations are declared infallible. The fruit becomes increasingly rotten. Just look around. Don't get me wrong, this is not a "heaven or hell" issue for them, but it may be for their kids, and students. Changing the mind, rethinking, having another thought, thinking again, repentance is always on the table. If this is you, it is not too late. The battle is for the minds of men. Truth requires a mind. Test everything, hold on to what is true.

c) The Sin of the Man

Let me say here that God told **the man** the one restriction of the garden: don't eat. The man was the one responsible, not the woman. When the woman ate, nothing happened. When the man ate, the creation was cursed because he was responsible, (1Tm 2:14). Besides disobedience, I would say that the man was also guilty of receiving stolen property.

Genesis 2:15-17

15 Then Yahweh God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. 16 And Yahweh God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 17 but of the **tree of the knowledge of good and evil** you **shall not** eat, **for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.**"

There is a romanticized story about why the man ate of the tree after the woman: He was so in love with the woman that he couldn't bear the thought of her dying alone. He also ate in identification of her fate. This is then projected to Christ's identification with fallen man. This subtly, and falsely, shifts the blame to the woman (Gen 3:12), when "the first woman ate the first

man out of house and home.” To be sure, she was guilty (1Tm 2:14), but the man was the one accountable, he was not deceived. His eyes were wide open.

Genesis 3:12

12 Then the man said, “The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.”

I think the man secretly wanted to eat the fruit, but he was afraid of God’s edict. He was right there with her (Gen 3:6), and when the serpent tempted the woman, he did nothing. He wanted to see what would happen when she ate. When she didn’t fall down dead, he felt free to eat.

Genesis 3:6

... She also gave to **her husband with her**, and **he ate**.

Genesis 3:7-8

7 Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings. 8 And they heard the sound of Yahweh God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of Yahweh God among the trees of the garden.

Question: Why did the man and woman hide?

Genesis 3:8-10

8 they heard the sound of Yahweh God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, **and the man and his wife hid themselves** from the presence of Yahweh God among the trees of the garden. 9 Then Yahweh God called to the man, and said to him, “Where are you?” 10 He said, “I heard the sound of You in the garden, and **I was afraid** because **I was naked**; so, **I hid myself**.”

Why were they afraid of God? Gen 2:17 “...**for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die**.” They thought God was coming to keep His promise, and execute Divine justice, so they hid. But their disobedience carried its own punishment. The man and his wife now knew shame, fear, and hiding. This was just the beginning of “the knowledge of good and evil” (Heb 5:14). But the worst is yet to come.

Genesis 3:17-19

17 Then to Adam [God] said, “Because **you have listened to the voice of your wife** and have eaten from the tree about which I commanded you, saying, “You shall not eat from it”; **Cursed is the ground** because of you; **In toil you will eat of it** All the days of your life. 18 “Both **thorns and thistles it shall grow** for you and you will **eat the plants of the field**; 19 **by the sweat of your face** you will eat bread, **until you return to the ground**, because from it you were taken; for you are dust and to dust you shall return.”

Note that neither the man nor woman was cursed. It was the serpent and the ground that was cursed. I think that the entire cosmos was affected by Adam’s sin.

Romans 8:20-22

20 For the creation was **subjected to futility**, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope 21 that **the creation itself also will be set free from its bondage to decay** into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.

d) **A New Master**

Romans 5:14, 17

14 Nevertheless **death reigned from Adam to Moses**, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

17 For if **by the one man's offense death reigned** through the one, much more **those who receive abundance of grace** and of **the gift of righteousness will reign in life** through the One, Jesus Christ.

The immediate effects of this fall looked like this:

Genesis 3	Genesis 4
:7 Shame	:5 Anger
:8 Hiding	:8 Murder
:10 Fear	:10 Lying
:13 Blame	:13 Whining
:15 Sorrow	
:21 Death	
:23 Separation	

By Man Came Death

The man and woman lost their contingent immortality by being put out of the garden and away from the presence of God. Separation from the God of life brings death. See chapter 7, "Redemption" for God's solution to the problem.

Romans 5:12

Therefore, just as **through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin**, and thus **death spread to all men**, because all sinned.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

21 For **since by man came death**, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as **in Adam all die**, even so **in Christ all shall be made alive**.

Galatians 3:21-23

21 Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! **For if there had been a law given which could have given life**, truly righteousness would have been by the law. 22 But the **Scripture has confined all under sin**, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23 But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. (Rom 3:9)

The verses above say nothing about guilt being transferred to all human beings. This is a false doctrine. They do say death is transferred to all human beings, and as a result, all sin. The fundamental problem between God and man is death (originating from Eden), not guilt, not even sin. The sin must be removed so that death has no more power. The new birth makes the dead come alive. (Jn 10:10, Rom 6:4, 8:2, 2Cor 5:17, 19)

e) **Enmity – Hostility Between Two Seeds**

There is one more piece and it runs even deeper than presuppositions. It is rooted in the cursed creation itself (Gen 3:14-19, Rom 8:18-23). It may be summed up in the word "enmity." Enmity means hostility, but it is not just any hostility. It is a hostility between the Creator and the crown of His creation, between light and darkness, order and chaos, even life and death. In the beginning order, or in the

beginning chaos. By the way, this is the origin for the “Yin-Yang” symbol. But they falsely believe that the opposing forces are in balance. Not even close! Jesus rules!

Enmity is first found in Genesis 3.

Genesis 3:14-15

14 So, Yahweh God said to the serpent: “Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all cattle, and more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, and you shall eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall crush your head and you shall bruise His heel.”

Notice the source of the enmity; it is God Himself: “I will put enmity....” God set the opposition between His own and everything else; between what is true and what is not, and carries on to this day. This enmity, this antithesis, is first manifested in Cain and Abel. Cain killed his brother Abel because Abel’s sacrifice was accepted by God and Cain’s was rejected. The dysfunction in the first family became host to the first murder. Genesis is the book of firsts. The enmity is also described in John 3:16-21 and Rom 1:18-21, which says everyone knows about God but suppresses that knowledge, even hating God, and then begins to worship some aspect of the creation rather than the Creator. This is the root answer to the question “Why are there so many religions?”

All of history is full of good-versus-evil stories. Heroes and villains are the stuff from which legends are made. Interestingly, it depends on which side of the fence one stands as to who are the heroes and who are the villains. Are they “freedom fighters” or “gorilla terrorists?” It depends on who is telling the stories. Enmity is embedded into the human psyche and written into the fabric of human history. Bible history traces the enmity from start to finish.

Jesus addresses the offspring of the serpent. Note that the hostility to God is always manifest toward people.

Matthew 23:29-33

29 Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, 30 and say, “If we had lived in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partakers with them in the blood of the prophets.” 31 Therefore you are witnesses against yourselves that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets. 32 Fill up, then, the measure of your father’s guilt. 33 Serpents, brood of vipers! How can you escape the condemnation of hell?

f) The Promise

Genesis 3:15

And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, and between your seed and **her Seed; He shall crush your head**, and you shall bruise **His heel**.”

Galatians 3:16

Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, “And to seeds,” as of many, but as of one, “And to **your Seed,**” **who is Christ**.

The Seed, who is Christ, has been singular from the very beginning.

Genesis 3:21

Also, for Adam and his wife Yahweh God made tunics of skin and clothed them.

An animal died that day to cover Adam and his wife. They were wearing the skins of a dead animal, showing their own fallen condition, from life to death. This is a picture of the Lamb of God that would die, not just to cover sin, as in the law, but take it away and set us free from sin and its consequences. The

Lamb would take away the sin of the world (Jn 1:29). The Lamb would provide new clothes: fine, white linen, the righteousness of the saints (Rev 19:8, 14). Linen is made from flax, vegetation.

II. The Second Fall – Genesis 6 – Total Corruption, Forbidden Mixtures

Genesis 6:1-4 – The Watchers Transgression

1 Now it came to pass, when men began to multiply on the face of the earth, and daughters were born to them, 2 that the sons of God (Watchers) saw the daughters of men, that they were beautiful; and they took wives for themselves of all whom they chose. 3 And Yahweh said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, for he is indeed flesh; yet his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.” 4 There were giants (Nephilim) on the earth **in those days**, and **also afterward**, when the sons of God (Watchers) came in unto the daughters of men and they bore children to them. Those were the mighty (Gibor) men who were of old, men of renown.

I have wondered for some time what the connection was between verse 4 and verse 5. How do we go from sons of God to evil so great that God will scour the surface of the earth with a flood to cleanse the earth of evil doers? The answer is provided by Enoch in chapters 6-16. Yes, man was corrupt because of the fall but the sons of God (also called Watchers by Daniel) **taught man** secret arts that made them more effective and efficient sinners. Their evil became so pervasive it required the judgment of God. Noah was warned in advance to prepare, (Gen 6:8, 13-18, Gal 3:19, 1 Enoch 10).

1 Enoch 6-8 The Watcher’s Transgression

Chapter 6

1. And it came to pass after the children of men had increased in those days, beautiful and comely daughters were born to them. 2. And the angels, **the sons of the heavens**, saw and lusted after them, and said one to another: “Behold, we will choose for ourselves wives from among the children of men, and **will beget for ourselves children.**” 3. And Semjâzâ, who was their leader, said to them: “I fear that perhaps you will not be willing to do this deed, and **I alone will suffer for this great sin.**” 4. Then all answered him and said: “We all will swear an oath, and **bind ourselves mutually by a curse**, that we will not give up this plan, but will make this plan a deed.” 5. Then they all swore together and bound themselves mutually by a curse, and **together they were two hundred.** 6. And they descended on Ardîs, which is the summit of **Mount Hermon**; and they called it Mount Hermon because they had sworn on it and bound themselves mutually by a curse. 7. And these are the names of their leaders: Semjâzâ, who was their leader, Urâkibarâmêl, Akibêl, Tâmiêl, Râmuêl, Dânel, Ezêqêl, Sarâqujâl, Asâel, Armers, Batraal, Anânî, Zaqêbê, Samsâvêl, Sartaêl, Turêl, Jomjâel, Arâzjâl. 8. These are the leaders of the two hundred angels, and the others all were with them.

Chapter 7

1. And they took unto themselves wives, and each chose for himself one, and they began to visit them, and mixed with them, and **taught them charms and conjurations**, and made them acquainted with the **cutting of roots and of woods.** 2. And they became pregnant and **brought forth great giants** whose stature was three you and ells. 3. These devoured all the acquisitions of mankind until men were unable to sustain themselves. 4. And the giants **turned themselves against mankind** in order to devour them. 5. And they began to sin against the birds and the beasts, and against the creeping things, and the fish, and devoured

their flesh among themselves, and drank the blood thereof. 6. **Then the earth complained** of the unjust ones.

Chapter 8

1. And Azâzêl **taught** mankind to **make swords and knives and shields and coats of mail**, and **taught** them to see what was behind them, and their **works of art: bracelets and ornaments, and the use of rouge, and the beautifying of the eye-brows**, and the dearest and **choicest stones** and all **coloring substances** and the **metals of the earth**. 2. And there was great wickedness and much fornication, and they sinned, and **all their ways were corrupt**. 3. Amêzârâk **taught** all the conjurers and root-cutters, Armârôs the loosening of conjurations, Baraq'âl the astrologers, Kôkâbêl the signs, and Temêl **taught** astrology, and Asrâdêl **taught the course of the moon**. 4. And in the destruction of mankind, they cried aloud, and their voices reached heaven.

Genesis 6:5

Then Yahweh saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

The Watchers and the Nephilim were punished for their behavior but, again, it was humanity that was held responsible. The earth would be cleansed of them. From this time forward “the knowledge of good and evil” was magnified and skewed to the dark side.

III. The Third Fall – Genesis 11 – A House Divided

I will cover more on this in the next chapter, “The Nations.”

Genesis 11:1-4

1 Now the whole earth had **one language and one speech**. 2 And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. 3 Then they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.” They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. 4 And they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, **lest we be scattered abroad** over the face of the whole earth.”

Genesis 11:7-8

7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.” 8 So **Yahweh scattered them abroad** from there **over the face of all the earth...**

Genesis 10:25

To Eber were born two sons: the **name of one was Peleg**, for in his days **the earth was divided**; and his brother's name was Joktan.

Genesis 10:1-2, 5, 20, 31-32

1 Now this is the genealogy of **the sons of Noah: Shem, Ham, and Japheth**. And sons were born to them after the flood.

2 The **sons of Japheth** were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

5 From these the **coastland peoples of the Gentiles** were separated into their lands, everyone according to his language, according to their families, into their nations.

20 These were the **sons of Ham**, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands and in their nations.

31 These were the **sons of Shem**, according to their families, according to their languages, in their lands, according to their nations.

32 These were the **families of the sons of Noah**, according to their generations, in their nations; and from these the nations were divided on the earth after the flood.

Deuteronomy 32:7-9

7 Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations. Ask your father, and he will show you; Your elders, and they will tell you: 8 When the Most High **divided their inheritance** to the nations, when He separated **the sons of Adam**, He set the boundaries of the peoples according to the number of **the sons of God**. 9 For **Yahweh's portion** is His people; Jacob is the place of **His inheritance** (See also 2Sam 20:19, Ps 78:71, Is 19:25, Jer 10:16, 51:19).

Yahweh divided the nations (the families of Gen 10) to be shepherded by the sons of God but reserved the family line producing Abraham to Himself. In this third rebellion the sons of God drew men to worship themselves and corrupted the people through idolatry rather than maintaining the worship of Creator God, Yahweh. Think of all the major gods of all the false religions for the past 3000 years. Allah (moon god), Ashtaroah (fertility), Atheism (yes, there is a spirit behind organized atheism and its denominations), Baal-Zebub, Brahma, Chiun, Coetzacotl, Communism, Dagon, Diana, Katsina (Hopi earth god), Marduk, Milcom, Moloch, Odin (god of war), Ogun (god of iron), Prince of Persia, Prince of Greece, Ra, Remphan, Rimmon, Sango (god of fire), Satan (former god of this world), Tawa (Hopi sun god), Thor (trouble-making son of Odin), Zeus (the father of Hercules), and so many more. These were the original territorial spirits.

The authors of the New Testament would have known about all of this and the historical backdrop, context and meaning. They would have also understood that the Messiah would come and initiate the redemptive cycle culminating in the complete restoration of creation and the family God had in mind from the beginning. Jesus is the Messiah for all nations. There is no plan "B."

The Great Commission is key.

Matthew 28:18-20

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "**All authority has been given to Me** in heaven and on earth. 19 **Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

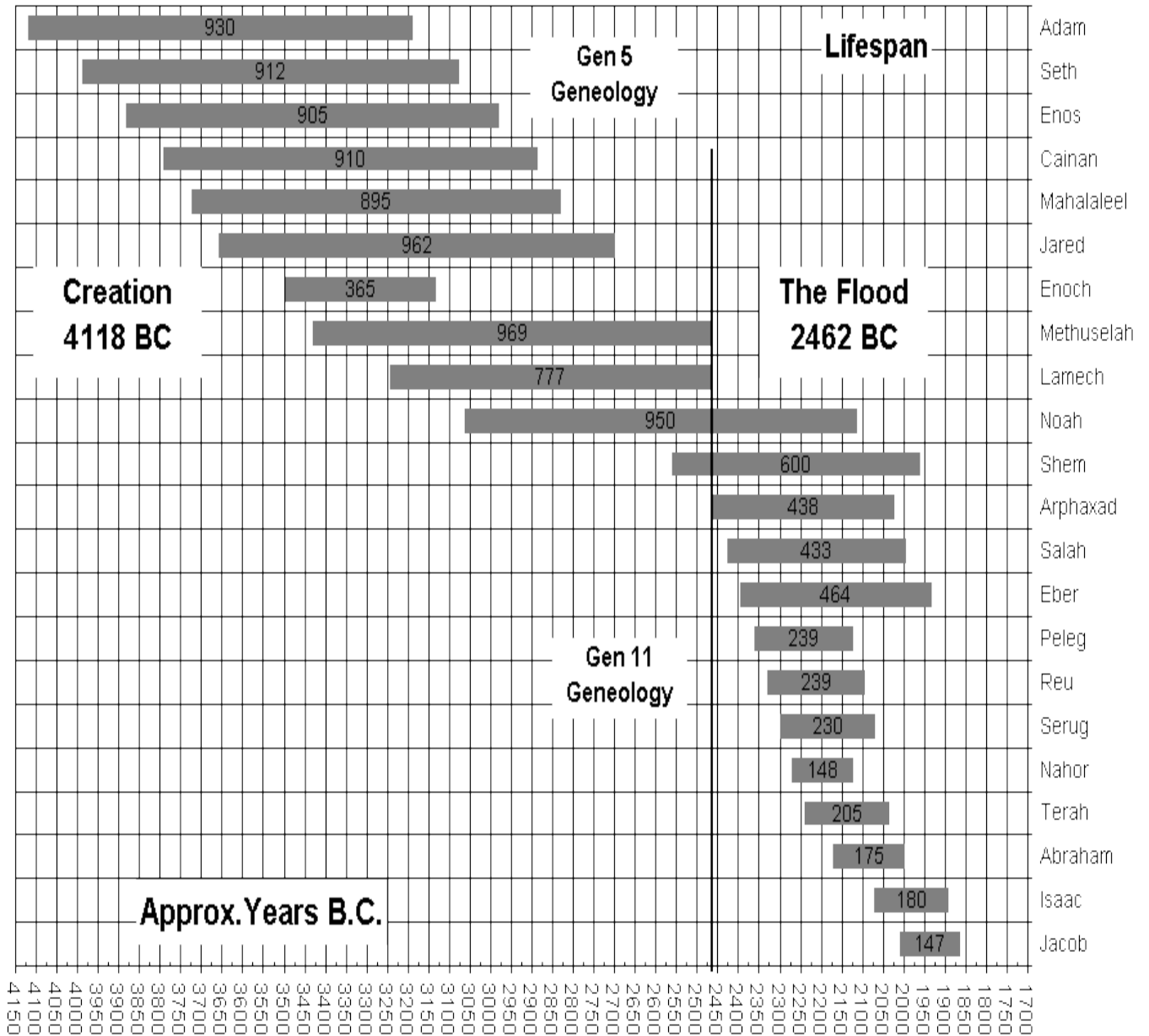
As I read the New Testament, I noticed that there is a lot of talk about the nations, Greek: ethnoi. They are often hidden behind translated words like gentile and pagan. They are talking about nations of people groups and tribes and languages (Rev 7:7, 11:9), i.e., the estranged families of man. God has always been interested in restoring the nations. They have been estranged for a long time and all are being brought back together before the great King Jesus.

Appendix A

Generations Chart – Who lived when

Biblical Lifespans and Relationships

Assumptions: Moses leads Israelites out of Egypt about 1450 BC after 430 years of captivity.



<http://www.criticalmass.pro/creation/bible/lifespans.htm>

The above chart.

<http://www.criticalmass.pro/creation/bible/generations.htm>

Chart showing age at next generation.

Bishop James Usher (1581 – 1656) is often mocked for constructing such a chart. But his was the best and most researched for his time, and he wasn't the only one doing it. Calculating a creation date was a rather fashionable thing to do. What is rarely mentioned is that he examined all available sources, compiled the data, then meticulously worked backward to arrive at his creation date. That is why his date is the most cited; it was the best. But atheism requires *much* more time, as discovered by the enlightenment project atheists. The biblical timeframe had to be destroyed. But history cannot be destroyed, only rewritten. Here are a couple of good articles:

- <https://www.bethinking.org/is-there-a-creator/conflict-myths-bishop-usher-and-the-date-of-creation>
- <https://www.irishtimes.com/news/how-an-archbishop-calculated-the-creation-1.378556>

Appendix B

Bible vs Materialism/Evolution: A Comparison

Bible	Materialism
There is a Creator	There is no Creator
There was a witness at the beginning – the Creator Himself	There was no witness to the beginning of anything
The universe was created by God	The universe created itself from nothing
Mind existed before matter	Matter existed before mind
Reality is personal	Reality is impersonal
Earth existed before light	Light started at the Big Bang
Light existed before the sun	The sun is the earth's source of light
Earth existed before sun and stars	Stars existed before sun, sun before the earth
Oceans existed before land	Land existed before oceans
Oceans existed before the sun	The sun existed before oceans
Land existed before the sun	The sun existed before land
Earth started as a tropical paradise	Earth started as a molten blob
Plants existed before the sun	The sun existed before plants
Land plants are first life	Marine organisms are first life
Flowers existed before insects	Insects existed before flowers
Birds existed before land reptiles	Land reptiles existed before birds
Life forms were created in distinct "kinds" according to the purpose of the Creator	All life arose randomly through endless, gradual transformations
Man is the crown and purpose of the entire Creation	Man is a cosmic accident and serves no purpose whatsoever

Bible vs Materialism/Evolution: A Comparison

Government/Economics Family, Church, and State are the three legs of Civilization. Only true Christianity offers the reality necessary for stability.	
The Creator is God	The State is god, all societies are theocracies
The Creator is the provider	The State is the provider
The fundamental principle is liberty	The fundamental principle is control
Man existed before the State	The State (herd) existed before man
The State is responsible to the Creator	The State is responsible to no one
Family, Church and State are equally responsible to the Creator	Family and Church serve the State, or are eliminated
Children belong to the family	Children belong to the State
Everything belongs to the Creator	Everything belongs to the State
The State is controlled, and people are free	The State is all-powerful, and people are controlled
Rights come from the Creator	Rights are granted by the State
Morality is defined by the Creator	Morality is arbitrary
Law exists to punish evil doers	Law exists to control people
Free Market Economics Moral Capitalism	State Controlled Economics Socialism and Vulture Capitalism
Wealth is created and grows	Wealth is finite and must be redistributed
Wealth is a win-win game	Wealth is a zero-sum game

Appendix C
Origination of Organismal Forms, Muller and Newman, editors,
MIT Press, 2003

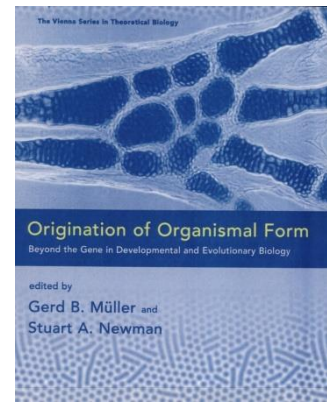


Table 1.1 p.5

Open questions concerning morphological evolution

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Burgess shale effect | Why did metazoan body plans arise in a burst? |
| 2. Homoplasy | Why do similar morphologies arise independently and repeatedly? |
| 3. Convergence | Why do distantly related lineages produce similar designs? |
| 4. Homology | Why do building elements organize as fixed body plans and organ forms? |
| 5. Novelty | How are new elements introduced into existing body plans? |
| 6. Modularity | Why are design units reused repeatedly? |
| 7. Constraint | Why are not all design options of a phenotype space realized? |
| 8. Atavisms | Why do characters long absent in a lineage reappear? |
| 9. Tempo | Why are the rates of morphological change unequal? |

Table 1.2 p.6

Open questions concerning the genotype-phenotype relationship in development and evolution

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 10. Jurassic Park scenario | Does the genetic code contain the complete information of organismal form? |
| 11. Novelty | Do new structural elements arise from mutations? |
| 12. Polyphenism | Why can identical genetic content be associated with very different morphological phenotypes? |
| 13. Redundancy and Overdetermination | Why are there multiple genetic and biochemical pathways to the realization of biological forms? |
| 14. Discordance | Why do morphological and genetic evolution proceed at different paces? |
| 15. Epigenesis | How is the genotype-phenotype relationship mediated in development? |

Table 1.3 p.7

Open questions concerning epigenesis and its role in morphological evolution

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 16. Programs | Does the developmental generation of organismal form result from deterministic programs? |
| 17. Context | How are developmental processes modulated by epigenetic context? |
| 18. Generic Properties | What is the role of the physicochemical properties of biological materials? |
| 19. Environment | What is the role of the external environment in development? |

Table 1.4 p.8

Open questions concerning the theory of morphological evolution

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 20. Origination | What generative mechanisms are responsible for the origin and innovation of phenotypic characters? |
| 21. Plasticity | Are developmental response capacities specifically evolved, or is plasticity a primitive property? |
| 22. Epigenesis | Do the rules of developmental transformation shape evolution? |
| 23. Evolvability | Is the evolutionary potential of a lineage associated with the capacity of its developmental system to respond to the environment? |
| 24. Assimilation | What is the role of genetic co-optation and assimilation in the evolution of organismal form? |

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YouTube.com – These will lead to other discoveries

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