

Science, Christianity, and Creation

Part 3: Science and the Wonders of God's Creation

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Series Webpage: www.richknopp.com/lcc-creation/

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I. Introduction

- A. Three sessions in this series:
 - 1. The unique content of Genesis 1.
 - 2. Interpreting creation passages in Scripture.
 - 3. Science and the wonders of God's creation.
- B. Biblical creation provides the _____ for science.
- C. Biblical creation explains why we can _____ science.
- D. Many "wonders" of our universe, our galaxy, our planet, and all kinds of life.

II. Science and Scripture: The Origin of the Universe

- A. Scripture points to a beginning (Gen. 1:1; Ps. 33:6; Isaiah 45:12; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 11:3).
- B. Science and the "Big Bang."
 - 1. 19th century: The universe is *eternal*.
 - 2. A "Big Bang" is *suggested* (Edwin Hubble in the 1920s).
 - 3. A "Big Bang" is *suppressed* (Arthur Eddington, Fred Hoyle).
 - 4. A "Big Bang" *succeeds* (1960s: The Cosmic Background Explorer [COBE] satellite).

"What we found is evidence for the birth of the universe.... If you're religious, it's like looking at God" (George Smoot, leader of the COBE project).

- C. Science and Christianity agree: The universe _____.
 - 1. A simple argument for God (see William Lane Craig and www.reasonablefaith.org).
 - a. Whatever begins to exist must have a cause.
 - b. The universe *began to exist*.
 - c. Therefore, the universe had a cause (God).
 - 2. Non-creationist options:
 - a. It is eternal.
 - b. It caused itself.
 - c. It is just one of an *infinite* number of universes that pop into existence (multiverse theory).

Stephen Hawking (atheist): "Bodies such as stars or black holes cannot just appear out of nothing. But a whole universe can.... Because there is a law like gravity, *the universe can and will create itself from nothing*" (*The Grand Design*, 180; emphasis added).

Alex Rosenberg (atheist): "Why is there a universe at all? No reason at all. Why is there a multiverse in which universes pop into existence for no reason at all? No reason at all! (Alex Rosenberg, *The Atheist's Guide to Reality: Enjoying Life without Illusions*, Kindle, pp. 38-39).

- D. The wonders of the universe: Its size and and beauty!

III. Science and Scripture: The Origin of Life.

- A. Darwinism: All living species arose through a *natural* process of mutation and natural selection.
 - 1. Evolution is _____.! The big question is: How _____?
 - 2. Problems: with the evidence; with the mechanism; with available time (Cambrian Explosion).
 - 3. Darwinism is _____ until life already exists.

- B. The universe began JUST _____ for life (“fine-tuning” of the universe).
- I. Precise physical constants (dozens of them). (cf. The “Goldilocks Principle”).
 - a. e.g. Expansion rate of the universe.
 - b. e.g. Strength of gravity.
 - c. e.g. Number of electrons to protons (e.g. illustration of dimes).

Fred Hoyle (atheist): Chance of life starting on earth? 10 to the 40,000th power!

“A common-sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a **superintellect has monkeyed with physics**, as well as with chemistry and biology, and there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature” (emphasis added).

- C. The wonders of DNA.
1. Life requires (a) the right materials, (b) the correct sequencing of amino acids, and (c) information to instruct the correct sequencing.
 2. DNA contains the information, but how did it get its vast information?
 3. The DNA in one human body, if stretched end-to-end, would reach over 34 billion miles!
 4. One gram of DNA could store the same amount of information as 8,600,00 Blu-ray movies.
 5. DNA could store all of the world’s data in one room!

Bill Gates: “DNA is like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software ever created” (*The Road Ahead*, 228).

Francis Crick (atheist and co-discoverer of DNA): “An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense . . . [the origin of life] is ‘almost a miracle.’ . . . Every time I write a paper on the origin of life, I swear I will never write another one, because there is too much speculation running after too few facts” (*Life Itself: Its Origin and Nature*, 88, 153).

Antony Flew (at age of 81 converted from atheism to theism): “I think the most impressive arguments for God’s existence are those that are supported by recent scientific discoveries.... I now believe that the universe was brought into existence by an infinite Intelligence. I believe that this universe’s intricate laws manifest what scientists have called the Mind of God” (*There is a God: How the World’s Most Notorious Atheist Changed His Mind*, p. 88).

IV. Biblical Connections and Reflections

- A. Science and Scripture agree!
- B. **Isaiah 45:18** “For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (he is God!), who formed the earth and made it (he established it; he did not create it empty, he formed it to be inhabited!). I am the Lord, and there is no other.”
- C. **Psalms 19:1-2** “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.”
- D. **Romans 1:19-23** “For his [God’s] invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.”

Recommended Resources

- A. Richard A. Knopp. “Science and Christianity Video Collection” of 13 videos (<https://roomfordoubt.com/science-christianity>).
- B. Room For Doubt Animation: “Why Do You Still Believe?” (<https://vimeo.com/327406232>)
- C. Richard A. Knopp. *Truth About God: What Can We Know and How Can We Know It?* Six short videos are available (<https://roomfordoubt.com/truth-about-god>).
- D. www.RoomForDoubt.com/recommened-resources/science-and-the-christian-faith.