

God & Science: Friends or Enemies?

Does science confirm or contradict the Biblical declaration that “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Gen 1:1)? Can the universe and all in it be explained without a Creator by random, purposeless evolution?

What Did the Founders of Modern Science Think?

The following list is a sample of the founders of scientific fields who believed the Bible’s account of creation and rejected atheistic, Darwinian evolution:

Discipline	Scientist
Antiseptic surgery	Joseph Lister
Bacteriology	Louis Pasteur
Calculus & Dynamics	Isaac Newton
Celestial Mechanics	Johann Kepler
Chemistry & Gas Dynamics	Robert Boyle
Comparative Anatomy	Georges Cuvier
Computer Science	Charles Babbage
Dimensional Analysis	Lord Rayleigh
Electronics	John Ambrose Fleming
Electrodynamics	James Clerk Maxwell
Electromagnetics & Field Theory	Michael Faraday
Energetics & Thermodynamics	Lord Kelvin
Entomology of Living Insects	Henri Fabre
Fluid Mechanics	George Stokes
Galactic Astronomy	William Herschel
Genetics	Gregor Mendel
Glacial Geology & Ichthyology	Louis Agassiz
Gynecology	James Simpson
Hydrography & Oceanography	Matthew Maury
Hydrostatics	Blaise Pascal
Gynecology	James Simpson
Isotopic Chemistry	William Ramsay
Natural History	John Ray
Non-Euclidean Geometry	Bernhard Riemann
Paleontology	John Woodward
Pathology	Rudolph Virchow
Reversible Thermodynamics	James Joule
Statistical Thermodynamics	James Clerk Maxwell
Stratigraphy	Nicholas Steno
Systematic Biology	Carolus Linnaeus
Thermokinetics	Humphrey Davy
Vertebrate Paleontology	Georges Cuvier

These creation scientists made statements such as: “This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being. ... This did not happen by chance. ... Atheism is so senseless” (Isaac Newton). “The Christian religion is a revelation, and that revelation is the Word of God” (Michael Faraday). Indeed, the founder of the scientific method itself, the creationist Francis Bacon, declared: “[D]ePTH in philosophy bringeth men’s minds about to religion ... when it beholdeth the chain ... of second causes ... confederate, and linked together, it must needs fly to Providence and Deity.” (See faithsaves.net/science/ for the sources of the quotations in this pamphlet and for more information.)

What Do Huge Numbers of Leading Scientists Think Today?

Dr. Jerry Bergman has compiled a list of around 3,000 scientists, including a double-digit number of Nobel Prize winners, who are publicly skeptical of Darwinism; his list is “but a small percentage of the estimated 113,000 Darwin Skeptic scientists and academics in the United States alone, accordingly to a Harvard researcher.” Leading scientists such as Dr. Richard Damadian, the inventor of the Magnetic Resonance Scanner or MRI, have made statements such as: “If you take the trouble to examine the evidence supporting the Bible ... the evidence is overwhelmingly in support of the Biblical record and vacates alternative thoughts such as evolution. The evidence for evolution is non-existent ... evolution is science fiction. ... [I]t contradicts the first law of thermodynamics. It contradicts the second law of thermodynamics. ... Evolution ducks the question ... ‘Where does matter come from[?]’ The only way you can start is that you have to make something out of nothing. You have to start with nothing and end up with matter. When you go from nothing to something you are violating every one of the laws of physics that we know about. ... Genesis is the only characterization of origins that is consistent with all of the scientific evidence that we have. ... The source of wisdom and understanding of all of that we experience and all that we know comes from the Bible.”

Why Do Many Scientists Believe in God and the Bible?

Some of the many reasons scientists give for believing in God and the Bible are:
1.) *The universe exists: there is something rather than nothing.* While atheists traditionally have sought to argue that the universe is eternal, the scientific fact that the universe is expanding (something predicted in the Bible, Ps 104:2; Is 42:5; 44:24; 45:12; Jer 51:15; Zec 12:1) and had an origin is now indisputable. Since everything that has a beginning has a cause, and the universe has a beginning, the universe has a Cause. The Cause of the space-time universe is necessarily self-existent, timeless, nonspatial, and immaterial, since He created time, space, and matter. He is unimaginably powerful, because He created the entire universe out of nothing; supremely intelligent, for He designed the universe with incredible precision; and personal, for He chose to convert a state of nothingness into the time-space-material universe—an impersonal force has no ability to make choices.

These characteristics are exactly those of the God of the Bible, and they are necessary consequences of the fact that the space-time universe had a beginning.

2.) *The universe is fine-tuned for life.* Scientists have validated that were the strong nuclear force any stronger or weaker, gravity any stronger or weaker, the sun's radiation any stronger or weaker, and over 120 constants essential for life any different life would be impossible. The likelihood that all of these 120+ constants are fine-tuned for life by chance is one in 10^{138} —one chance in one with 138 zeros after it! There are less than 10^{80} elementary particles in the entire universe. In effect, there is zero chance that any planet in the universe would have the life-supporting conditions we have, unless there is an intelligent Designer behind it all.

3.) *Life cannot come from non-life.* The scientific law of biogenesis, which has been confirmed countless times, indicates that spontaneous generation of life does not happen. While in Darwin's time cells were thought to be simple blobs, today we know that the "simplest" living cell is more complicated than a modern city. A living body with organs, it has blueprints, decoders, error checkers, quality control systems, power plants, power storage units, manufacturing plants, chemical plants, assembly lines, disposal units, trash compactors, a complex communication system, recycling centers, detoxification plants, transportation highways and tracks and tunnels, transportation vehicles, living walls with many types of one-way and two-way guarded, gated portals to the outside world, an external matrix to connect with other cells, and a host of other things. The "simplest" minimum genome size for independent life is around 1,500 gene products, the minimum number of different proteins that must come together all at once to originate life from non-life. The likelihood of such a spontaneous formation is approximately one in $10^{112,500}$. If all the matter in the observable universe were somehow converted to life's building blocks and were then brought to bear upon the random formation of life, being allowed to attempt combination a million times per second for the entire duration of the universe's maximum possible existence, the odds of life arising spontaneously would be approximately one chance in $10^{112,416}$. It is impossible. It is far, far less likely than your buying one typical lottery ticket each week and winning the jackpot every week of your life.

Such scientific facts led Dr. Anthony Flew, the 20th century's most prominent atheist, to change his mind. In his book *There is ~~No~~ A God: How the world's most notorious atheist changed his mind*, Dr. Flew wrote: "[T]he almost unbelievable complexity of the arrangements which are needed to produce [life indicates] that intelligence must have been involved." The Bible declares: "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom 1:20).

4.) *Countless living creatures and systems are irreducibly complex.* Many living systems, such as blood clotting or the bacterial flagellum, are irreducibly complex—they cannot have formed through gradual and imperceptible evolutionary natural selection and mutation. Many elements of living creatures are likewise irreducibly complex. Consider, for example, butterfly metamorphosis. When a caterpillar enters the chrysalis stage, its body and organs dissolve into a

soup that reorganizes itself into a butterfly, a completely different sort of creature. The caterpillar has a chewing mouth, a stomach to digest vegetative matter, and no ability to reproduce, while the butterfly has a sucking mouth, a drinking tube, a stomach to digest nectar, and complex reproductive ability. Undirected evolutionary steps simply cannot account for such a process.

5.) *The Bible contains many scientific facts unknown or contrary to common human beliefs at the time of its composition.* For example, the Bible indicates the earth is a sphere (Is 40:22); the ocean has currents (Ps 8:8); there are innumerable stars, not just the ones visible to the eye (Jer 33:22); blood is the source of life and health (Lev 17:11); light moves (Job 38:19-20); the ocean contains springs (Job 38:16); air has weight (Job 28:25); the hydrological cycle exists (Ecc 1:7); one should wash under running water after exposure to disease (Lev 15:13); and the earth is suspended in empty space (Job 26:7).

Do I Have to Want the Truth?

There is fantastic evidence, not only for the existence of God, but for the Bible being the infallible revelation of that one God. Furthermore, many scholars have said that the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, which is attested by many independent lines of evidence, including the witness of over five hundred people who saw Him at one time (1 Cor 15:1-8), is “one of the best attested events in history.” Christ promised: “If any man will do His will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself” (Jn 7:17). Someone who is willing to seek for and follow the truth, no matter what the cost, will come to recognize and submit to the God of the Bible. On the other hand, the president of the largest atheist organization in the USA has said: “Even if Jesus ... rose from the dead [and] there’s a God [and] I don’t deny any of that ... does NOT mean that He is my Lord. ... I will go happily to hell. It would be worse of a hell for me to bow down before a Lord ... regardless of the ... historicity issue. ... Even if I agreed 100%, I would still reject that Being ... to live and enjoy ... life unshackled from the demands ... [of a] Lord. ... I cannot accept Jesus as Lord. ... I think that’s more important than all this historicity stuff, [in] which ... I might be wrong.” If continuing to sin is more important to you than knowing the truth, God will give you what you want—you will grow ever harder and blinder to His revelation, and reap the eternal consequences of your choice. On the other hand, if you have the attitude of the man who cried out “with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief” (Mr 9:24), God will graciously lead you into His truth as you seek it, and you will discover with joy that “God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (Jn 3:16).

Discover Evidence for Creation, God, and the Bible: faithsaves.net/science/; faithsaves.net/Gods-Word/; faithsaves.net/apologetics/

Discover Crucial Bible Truths & How You can Know the True God: faithsaves.net/Bible-studies/; faithsaves.net/salvation/; faithsaves.net/testimonies/

Discover a Place for Families and People of all Ages to Learn of and Serve God: Mukwonago Baptist Church, 1610 Honeywell Road, Mukwonago, WI 53149 (262) 363-4197 Sunday 9:30/10:30 AM & 6:00 PM, Wednesday 7:00 PM & Set Free Bible Study, University of Wisconsin at Whitewater, Mondays 7pm, [UC261, mukwonagobaptist.org](http://UC261.mukwonagobaptist.org).