

## CREDO 3

### GOD MAKES — The Doctrine of Creation

As Christians we believe that God made the heavens and the earth. Tonight, we are going to examine that belief. We could spend ten nights on this subject alone — but we're going to try get our heads and hearts around it in about an hour. I want to commend all of you that have been with us through the first two installments of this series. You have been absolutely stellar! We have been dealing with tremendous truths and a tremendous volume of information.

AGAIN — I pray that tonight we will find ourselves standing in awe of the Creator of the universe — who humbled Himself and became man so He might rescue and redeem His fallen creation!

*King of all days*

*Oh, so highly exalted*

*Glorious in heaven above*

*Humbly You came to the earth You created*

*All for love's sake became poor ~ Chris Tomlin*

### QUESTION #1 — What does the Bible say about creation?

**The first thing** that we have to lay as a foundation is that the Bible is a THEOLOGICAL HISTORY rather than a SCIENTIFIC TEXT BOOK.

**QUOTE: Galileo** — *“the Holy Ghost intended to teach us how to go to heaven, not how the heavens go.”*

This does not mean that the Bible *never* speaks about scientific matters. It does — and when it does, it speaks infallibly; it speaks inerrantly; it speaks with Divine accuracy in those matters. (I want recommend to you Professor John Lennox's book: Seven Days That Divide the World).

Here is what I mean. The Bible as a whole — and especially the opening pages of Genesis in particular — are not an exhaustive scientific text book

addressing every possible scientific concern or question involving creation. Instead, the Scriptures in general — and **Genesis 1-2** in particular — are **far more concerned** with the questions of **WHO** made creation; **WHAT** did He create; **HOW** did He make them; **WHY** did He create; **than it is concerned** with the question of **WHEN** did He create them.

So simply put, the Bible, and in particular our subject matter tonight concerning **Genesis 1-2** — is a **theological narrative** written to **reveal the God of creation. The account emphasizes God more than it emphasizes creation.** So we need to get our focus THERE!

The Bible opens with the words — **“In the beginning God...”** to let us know that it’s a book about GOD and it’s about HIS WORK in the world throughout history. So, it’s great that we have laid a foundation in our first study concerning God and the Triune nature of God. One of the things we learned in that study is that each member of the Trinity was active in creation. (For more detail on the Economic Trinity in creation please reference the media available for our first CREDO study.)

## **SO HERE is the OPENING verse of your Bible**

### **<sup>1</sup>In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth**

**Genesis 1:1 is absolutely amazing** because in one verse it refutes all of man’s false speculations concerning the origin and meaning of the world. Follow me on this. Commenting on Genesis 1:1 Henry Morris said that

It refutes ***atheism*** — because it declares that the universe was created by ***God***.

It refutes ***deism*** — which says that God created and then removed Himself from all involvement in His creation

It refutes ***pantheism*** — because it says that God is ***separate*** from and ***transcendent*** to that which he created

It refutes **polytheism** — because it says that **one** God created all things.

It refutes **materialism** — because it says that matter had a **beginning** — it was not eternal

It refutes **dualism** (• the belief that the universe contains opposed powers of good and evil, seen as balanced equals. see Star Wars – the dark side and the good side) — because it says that God was **alone** when He created.

It refutes **humanism** — because God, **not man** is the ultimate reality.

It declares that God IS the ultimate reality. <sup>1</sup>

AGAIN — in our second study we learned that REVELATION stands in contrast to human SPECULATION. And there are all sorts of human speculations about the origins of all things. But in the first few words of the revelation of God to man — God answers all of them!

### In the beginning God...

**Once again** we need to stress that the Bible is **ABOUT God**. History is **ABOUT God**. Life is **ABOUT God**. I don't know if you've noticed this yet — but we are now into our THIRD study and we haven't even gotten to you and me. THAT is in total contrast to humanism. Humanism says that man is the beginning and end of everything. And certainly, before coming to know Jesus, that was the way we viewed life — It was all about ME! BUT — That is not what the Bible says.

The Bible says **first** that **GOD IS** — (refutes atheism).

### **QUOTE:** Henry Morris

*“It is remarkable that, when there have been so many anti-theistic philosophies (ancient and modern) affecting untold millions of people*

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<sup>1</sup> Morris, Henry. The Genesis Record; Creation-Life Publishers, San Diego, California

*the book of God makes no attempt to prove that God exists. The opening verse of Genesis simply takes this fact for granted, as though it were so obvious that only a fool could say “there is not God.” (Psalm 14:1)*

*“The reason for this strange silence is, most likely, the fact that the Genesis account was written before any of these other systems developed. The others were developed later for the very purpose of combating and replacing the true account in Genesis. The latter had been written originally, possibly by God Himself (“the generations of the heavens and the earth”) soon after the Creation, setting forth in simple narrative form the actual events of Creation Week. At that point in time, there was no need to argue about the reality of God and the Creation, since no one doubted it!”<sup>2</sup>*

The Bible says **first** that **GOD IS**. Then it says that **GOD MAKES**. Then it says that **GOD MAKES US**. God made us for relationship with Him — and apart from that we do not and cannot understand ourselves. Apart from that we do not and cannot understand existence itself.

The big push in society is to *know yourself — believe in yourself*. Our oldest daughter lives in Brooklyn and works in Manhattan. She says — *Dad — just about everybody has a therapist. If you DON'T have a therapist you're weird. People go to therapists because they want to understand themselves.* But we CAN'T understand ourselves; we CAN'T understand our existence apart from God — God being, God making, and especially God making us.

When I last taught this study MTV was launching a series titled “Skins.” The premise of the show is still incredibly relevant to what we’re studying tonight. Here’s how series website described the program as

*“a wild ride through the lives of a group of high school friends stumbling through the mine field of adolescence...and stepping on most of the mines as they go.”*

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<sup>2</sup> Morris, Henry. The Genesis Record; Creation-Life Publishers, San Diego, California

Continuing its description:

*"Be it sex, drugs, the breadth of friendships or the depth of heartbreaks, Skins is an emotional mosh-pit that slams through the insanity of teenage years."*

Lost man assumes that there MUST be such insanity **because there is no reference point for life apart from God**. That insanity exists because teen life is processed absent the truth of God!

SO, FIRST — we have to begin with who God is, and relationship with this God, because apart from that we can understand nothing about ourselves.  
**THE SUBJECT OF ORIGINS IS HUGE!**

**<sup>1</sup>In the beginning,**

rê'shîyth (ray-sheeth') = the *first*, in place, time, order or rank. **It is not** about a defined or specific length of time. Rather it deals with the order, or the place that period of time occupies.

That is a crucial concept — and it will help keep us on the tracks as we move forward.

So **in the beginning** — over an indefinite period of time —

**God created the heavens and the earth.**

So — God is CREATOR (refutes evolution)

**CRUCIAL:** Remember we said last week that God the Holy Spirit inspired not just ideas — but He inspired the very words of the Bible. So, these words are crucial to our understanding of origins.

**Created** = bârâ' (baw-raw') means to **create from nothing**. It is different than the Hebrew word 'âsâh (aw-saw') translated as **MAKE** in **verse 26**. The word 'âsâh means to make out of existing materials. But here were

read that God created the heavens and the earth out of nothing. Theologians call this “**ex nihilo.**” (eks ‘nē(h)əlō; ‘nī(h)əlō |) — Latin for *from nothing*. ONLY God can create out of nothing. Man can only make things out of existing materials. So —

**In the beginning** — the *first*, in place and time, the length of which is not specified

**God created** — made from nothing. “**ex nihilo**” (eks ‘nē(h)əlō; ‘nī(h)əlō |)

**the heavens and the earth.**

This is figure of speech called a MERISM. A merism expresses 'totality' by combining two contrasts or two extremes"

**EXAMPLE:** In **Psalm 139** the psalmist declares that God knows when he *sits down* and when he *stands up*. David is pointing to God's knowledge of these two extremes — sitting down and rising up — to show that God knows *everything* about him. **Since** God knows David's rising and sitting down, **God must also know** everything in between. Thus, "the concept of 'everything' is expressed by combining the two opposites 'my sitting down' and 'my rising up'"

So **God created from nothing** the heavens (that's EVERYTHING above) — and He created the earth (that's EVERYTHING below) — it's a totality. *In the beginning God created the universe from nothing*

**QUOTE: Henry Morris** — “Thus, Genesis 1:1 can legitimately and incisively be paraphrased as follows: “The transcendent, omnipotent Godhead called into existence the space-mass-time universe.”<sup>3</sup>

WOW!!!! ALL of THAT in a single verse!

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<sup>3</sup> Morris, Henry. The Genesis Record; p. 38;39 Creation-Life Publishers, San Diego, California

**<sup>2</sup>The earth was without form and void,**

Jewish interpreters around the era 300-200 B.C. rendered *tohu wabohu* not as "formless and void" but as "desolate without human beings or beasts and void of all cultivation of plants and trees."

**BIG IDEA** — At this point in creation the earth is not viable to sustain human life. God is not yet ready to create human life.

**and darkness was over the face of the deep.**

It is possible that the heavens and the earth were created before light. Some think that God created at night. (The Jews marked their day from sundown to sundown. We will see the phrase "The evening and the day")

**And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.**

Here we see God the Holy Spirit participating in creation — preparing creation for human life.

**QUOTE:** *If the universe is to be energized, there must be an Energizer. If it is to be set in motion, there must be a prime mover."*<sup>4</sup>

Here we see the Holy Spirit involved in that process.

**So the Bible tells us about the BEGINNING of Creation.**

It tells us that

God eternally exists

That He created the heavens and the earth (everything above and everything below – all that is)

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<sup>4</sup> Morris, Henry. The Genesis Record; p.52 Creation-Life Publishers, San Diego, California

That the land was not yet suitable for human existence — and so He prepares the earth to be a suitable habitat for mankind.

THAT is what the Bible says about ORIGINS. That being said — we come to our next question

## **QUESTION 2 — What are the various Christian views on Creation.**

In case you haven't heard — there are some different opinions on this! Amongst those who believe that *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth"* there are 6 basic views.

### **View #1 — Historic Creationism**

It is called "Historic Creationism" because it is not some "come-lately" view. It traces back to Augustine (354-430 AD). This view holds that the earth was created at some point in eternity past and then — over the course of 6 literal days God prepared the earth for human life — and then (as we will see in our next study titled Imago Dei) that He created the man and the woman. This view holds that the 6 days in **Genesis 1-2** are literal.

To sum it up — this view says that the **earth** is **old** and that **humanity** is **young**.

### **View #2 — Young Earth Creationism**

This view holds that God made EVERYTHING in 6 days INCLUDING the heavens and the earth. It holds that the earth did not exist for an indefinite period of time before the 6 days of creation. This view holds that the six days of creation are wrapped up in the phrase *"In the beginning."*

THEREFORE this position holds that the **earth** is **very young** and that **human life** is **very young**.

### **View #3 — The GAP Theory** (a.k.a – ruin and reconstruction theory)

This view holds that the **earth** is **very old** and that there is a GAP between **Genesis 1:1** and **Genesis 1:2**. This view states that between **verse 1** and **verse 2** there was a catastrophic event — some postulate it to be the fall of Satan from heaven — this event left the earth in a wasted condition (**Genesis 1:2**). God responded to this disaster by recreating the earth again a few thousand years ago in 6 literal days and repopulated the earth as is recorded in **Genesis 1:3–27**.

According to this view the **earth** is **very old** from the first creation and **mankind** is very **young** because of the recent re-creation.

Those who **disagree** with this view do so on the grounds that nothing in the Bible speaks of two creations.

Those who **hold to** this view do so on the basis of **Isaiah 45:18** — <sup>18</sup> **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!). Empty** is the same Hebrew word as **void** in **Genesis 1**. They argue that it is inconsistent for God to create chaos (N.T. — God is not the author of confusion) and so they conclude that the earth was without form and void in **Genesis 1:2** — but it could not have been made that way originally. So they have to find a GAP between verses 1 and 2.

#### **View #4 — The Literary Framework View**

In this view they say that the **earth** is **very old** and that **humanity** is very young.

According to this view **Genesis 1–2** are to be viewed, NOT as literal 24 hour days — but rather as a poetic — or literary framework — explaining creation in a topical order rather than not sequential, order.

The Literary Framework View is outlined as:

#### **Forming**

Day 1 - light and darkness separated  
Day 2 - sky and waters separated  
Day 3 - dry land and waters separated; plants  
and trees

### **Filling**

Day 4 - sun, moon, stars (lights in  
heaven)  
Day 5 - fish and birds  
Day 6 - animals and man

The MOST OBVIOUS PROBLEM with this view is **Exodus 20:8-11**. Where the Bible clearly states that the 6 days of Genesis are literal. Moses is the author of **both Genesis and Exodus**. IF Moses — the author of **Genesis** — wanted to convey the idea of long ages — he could have done it with much more clarity than he did. And above Moses we have the Holy Spirit. So, by way of inspiration, Moses is very consistent when making reference to literal days of creation.

**(Exo 20:11) For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.**

So, in both Exodus and Genesis Moses speaks of the creative work of God in DAYS.

### **View # 5 — Day Age View**

According to this view the **earth is very old** and **humanity is young**. In this view the days of creation are not taken as literal 24 hour days — instead they are to be understood as AGES that conform to the geological ages postulated in the theory of evolution. That's really important! They say the days of creation parallel the geological ages postulated in the theory of evolution.

Again — we reference Moses in **Exodus 20:8-11**

**THIS IS HUGE — The geological ages are predicated on the fossil record.** Fossils speak of suffering and death. Something died and over time it is

fossilized. **THUS** — the day-age theory would then accept the existence of death BEFORE sin. This contradicts the Bible which declares that death was God’s judgment upon sin (**Romans 5:12; 1 Cor 15:21**). In Chapter Four of his book “Seven Days That Divide the World” Professor Lennox has some thought provoking things to say about death prior to the Fall.

The Day-Age theory assumes that suffering and death were an important part of preparing the world for man. In other words, God used death to prepare the planet for man. That is inconsistent with the nature of God — it pictures God as cruel and sadistic rather than gracious and loving.

## **View # 6 — Theistic Evolution**

According to this view, EVOLUTION is the correct view — only it is not the result of random occurrences taking place without the existence of God. Instead this view inserts God as the **creator** of matter and **overseer** of the process of evolution. This view also believes that species evolved over a long period of time, which requires an old earth.

### **PROBLEMS with this view**

**First** — **Genesis 1** repeatedly states that **creation**, along with all of the species of life, came into existence because “**God said**” — not because of evolutionary processes. (We read “**God said,**” ten times in **Genesis 1**.)

**Genesis 1** also continually states that **after** God **commanded** creation to come into existence — that “**it was so**”. God’s commands brought about the **instantaneous response of creation** rather than a **long evolutionary process** detached from God.

**Second** — Theistic evolution teaches that **one species evolves** into **other species**. The problem is that **Genesis 1** teaches that **each species** had **offspring** “**according to its kind**” (1:21, 1:24, 1:25) — **NOT** another kind — as the theory of evolution postulates.

**Third** — The rest of Scripture tells us that God is **continually involved** in the details of creation including

Making the grass grow (Ps. 104:14; Matt. 6:30)

Feeding the birds (Matt. 6:26)

Feeding other creatures (Ps. 104:21, 25–30).

Scripture **does not** describe God as **remote** or **only indirectly** involved in creation.

### **QUESTION #3 — Which position (of these six) does Metro take?**

I am ALWAYS up for a lively discussion. Truth be told — I have been known to get heated in the midst of discussions. My wife will tell you that I hate to lose a debate.

But we MUST be clear that there is a HUGE difference between debates **WITHIN** Christian theology and debates that are not “Christian” — “Christ-like” — at all. Godly — Bible-believing — Jesus-loving people can and should graciously debate and discuss what **Genesis 1** and **2** mean **WITHOUT** viewing one another as pagans if they don’t agree with their personal view.

We’ve just seen that among Bible-believing — Jesus-loving Christians — there are **6** primary interpretations of the creation account in **Genesis 1–2**.

One guy uses this illustration that I find helpful. I will use it specifically as it relates to the subject of Creation. Here at Metro there are things that we hold in a CLOSED HAND — there are other things we hold in an OPEN HAND. We are NEVER going to let go of what we hold in the CLOSED HAND. In that closed hand are for example — the Doctrines covered in our first two studies in CREDO studies: There is One God who eternally exists as three persons; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, Each fully and equally God. That is in the CLOSED HAND — we are NEVER letting that Go. In our second CREDO study we learned that the Bible is the revelation of God to man — God breathed in its very words. That is in the CLOSED HAND — NEVER letting that Go.

Tonight, we come to a third doctrine that is in the closed hand — There is One God who CREATED the heavens and the earth. THAT is in the CLOSED HAND — NEVER letting it go

There are however — some things that do not belong in the CLOSED HAND — they belong in an OPEN HAND — because they can be relinquished **WITHOUT** compromising those things in the closed hand. In the OPEN HAND are things like “How old is the earth?” We can DISCUSS those things and DEBATE those things in the OPEN HAND —but we will not divide on account of them! That is HUGE.

One of the WORST things that can happen is for Christians, who love Jesus and believe the Bible, to take one of the six positions and make it their position — and say that if you don’t agree with their position, or have questions or doubts concerning their position, you’re not truly a Christian. That is an incredibly destructive thing to do to the blood bought church of Jesus Christ.

**I want to stress** that Jesus-loving, Bible believing Christian brothers and sisters are welcome to fellowship with us here at Metro even if you do not hold to the position(s) on creation that are held by the leadership.

**We request** that you have a baseline — *In the beginning, the One True and living God created* — not letting go of that. **Then we request** that we not become divisive over this matter or seek to make your view the litmus test for Christian orthodoxy. **REMEMBER** — Paul says, we now see only in part and one day in Jesus’ presence we will know in full and be in complete agreement on this and all other matters.

**Having said that — The answer to the question — Which view does Metro hold? I can tell you it’s NOT 4-5-6.** I can safely say that the men in leadership here at Metro hold to 1-3 with a heavy leaning towards 1-2.

#### **QUESTION #4 — What Does Creation reveal about God?**

This overlaps beautifully with what we learned in our last study concerning General Revelation. We have looked at the various views of what the Bible says — But here is the most important thing — *IN THE BEGINNING GOD...*

**Psalm 19** — states that *the heavens declare the glory of God* and that ALL that God has made is like a nonstop sermon that day and night, pours forth speech about the character of God. There is nowhere on the earth that man isn't hearing that.

**Romans 1** — Paul says that the physical universe declares truth about the invisible nature and attributes of God (General Revelation).

So CREATION reveals to us that

**1.)** God is eternally UNCAUSED and PRE-EXISTS Creation.

It is so awesome to know that the uncaused, pre-existent God stoops to meet me in my need — holds me in my moments of weakness and guides me in my darkest moments!

**2.)** God is LIVING and LIFE comes from God.

**3.)** God is INDEPENDENT while creation is DEPENDENT upon Him. (Here we see the Self-sufficiency of God)

**4.)** God is TRANSCENDANT from his creation

**5.)** God is IMMINENT and INVOLVED in His creation.

He didn't just wind it up and walk away

**6.)** God is PERSONAL and as He has made us (which is the subject of our next study) we have PERSONHOOD. We are not THINGS — We are people.

**7.)** God is POWERFUL and made EVERYTHING from NOTHING by Himself.

**8.)** God is BEAUTIFUL and creation reflects the beauty of God.

**9.)** God is ORDERLY and His creation reflects His order UNTIL (we will

look at this in 2 weeks) sin enters in and mars everything that He made in an orderly fashion.

**10.)** God is GOOD — Everything that He made, He declares as good. HE is not good **AND** evil — He is purely and perfectly good.

**11.)** (Again overlapping last week's study) God speaks (10 x in Genesis 1 "God said") — God preaches His creation into existence by the sheer force of His Word!

**12.)** God is GRACIOUS — He BLESSES His creation.

ALL of this is revealed in the creation account

### **QUESTION #5 — Are the 6 days of Creation literal 24 hour days?**

We've been pecking away at this one.

As we read the creation account (**Genesis 1:1-2:3**) we do NOT see God CREATING on EACH of the 6 successive days. But we do see him WORKING in ALL of them to PREPARE and ORDER life for human life on the earth.

#### **Day 1 — v.3-5**

God **SEPARATED** light from darkness and night. I deliberately emphasized the word separated because we're going to see at the end of our study that God made **DISTINCTIONS**

*"Let there be light"* — by the power of His Word He set electromagnetic forces into operation and completed the energizing of the physical universe. WOW! That's our God!

#### **Day 2 — v.6-8**

God **separated** the existing water by creating an expanse — creating the atmosphere between earth and outer space — *Waters above the atmosphere and the waters below the atmosphere*. God's prepares the earth for habitation by man by a **carefully designed atmosphere** and a

## carefully designed *hydrosphere*

### Day 3 — v.9-13

The waters under the firmament still constituted a shore less ocean. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> day God prepared the land for human habitation by **separating** the waters on the earth (divisions of rivers/lakes/oceans)

God then organized certain of the chemical elements of the earth into tremendously complex systems (plant life) — each plant containing an incredibly complex informational structure — we call it DNA — by which each plant would be capable of replicating itself exactly after its own kind.

### Day 4 — v.14-19

God creates the celestial sphere of stars planets and moons — serving the same purpose as the light of Day 1 — to divide day from night —**with the added function** of denoting time — seasons, days and years.

### Day 5 — v.20-23

The first introduction of animal life — animal life in the hydrosphere and animal life for the lower atmosphere

### Day 6 — v.24-31

God **separated** between wild and domesticated animals. **FINALLY** —Having fully prepared the earth for habitation of man God creates man.

**Day 7** — God rested and man was with God on Day 7. THAT is the high point of the creation account! THAT is the point of the creation account. THAT is the point and trajectory of the story of redemption.

**THE question is** — were these literal days — 24 hour periods?

**There are those who would say *NO*** —*that it is poetry and as such can not be taken literally.* Well — There is poetry that is LITERAL and there is poetry

that is figurative. People write poetic things about very real stuff.

**There are those who say NO** — because they say that Hebrew word translated as “day” (YOM) — does not refer to a definite period of time. Which is true.

**I do believe** that they are literal days because it says — On the first day — On the Second day — on the Third day. THAT sounds like days to me.

It also says that there was Evening and Morning — That describes the cycle of a day! AGAIN — in **Exodus 20:11**

<sup>11</sup>For in six **days** (not ages or protracted periods of time) **the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.**

The ten commandments declare that God created in six days.

ALL of that argues BIBLICALLY that these are literal 24 hour days.

Guys — we should never start with an opinion or a premise — we need to start with the Scriptures.

## **QUESTION #6 — How old is the earth?**

**There are those** who immediately say — “I know — 4 ½ billion years.”  
REALITY — The earth did not come with a “born on” date! There are those who hold to an OLD earth — and those who hold to a YOUNG earth. YOUNG — About 6,000 years. OLD — About 4.5 billion years — HUGE difference!

**Those who hold to a YOUNG EARTH** say they are trying to be true to the Bible. They follow the original work of a guy named James Ussher (1581–1656) Anglican Archbishop of all Ireland between 1625–1656. He noticed the genealogies in **Genesis 5; 10; and 11** — each giving how long the people lived. So by way of genealogies he arrived at an age of the earth of about 6,000 years.

INTERESTING — Christians weren't too interested in the age of the earth until the 17<sup>th</sup> century — which is about the same time scientists started trying to ascertain the age of the earth

**There are those who hold to a young earth view** because they disagree with the science of “Old Earth”. There are some brilliant guys who take this position. Examples — Dr. Henry Morris (Genesis Record); Dr. Gish (Evolution: The Fossils Say Know); Dr. A.E. Wilder-Smith (Natural Sciences Know Nothing of Evolution). **By the way — there is a big Bibliography at the end of your notes. USE it!**

They say that the flood Genesis has so compressed the topography of the earth that it LOOKS very old. They also say that God made the earth MATURE. They look at Adam and say that God made man fully mature. God didn't make man as a zygote — He made man fully mature. On the first day he was made you would have looked at Adam and asked — How old are you? One day! You would say, WOW! You're big for one day old.

**Those who hold to an OLD EARTH view** say that Christians look funny when we say, “we don't believe the science.” I'm sure that a bunch of you feel a bit sheepish when you say that you don't believe those 4.5 billion years.

There are others who say that the Genealogies of the Bible were **incomplete**. Benjamin Warfield (who was a Bible believing Christian scholar at Princeton) said that he believed the genealogies were incomplete. He held that they were lists of PRIMARY people through PARTICULAR generations — so man is much older than Ussher gives.

Also — Those who hold to an OLD earth would say that in **Genesis 1:1** — where it says that *In the beginning God created* — that *beginning* is an indefinite period of time. They would say that it does not tell us the AGE of the earth and that the Bible is not concerned with the age of the earth. It is concerned with God the Creator — and what He did to CREATE and then PREPARE the earth as a habitation for us. And they are correct on that.

**HUGE** — Whether you think the earth is OLD or the earth is young is NOT the PRIMARY issue — The real key issue is how old is human life on the

earth!

I believe that the 6 days of **Genesis 1:3-2:3** are literal and that mankind is YOUNG.

BY THE WAY — And I don't say this to acquiesce, or gain intellectual integrity with, the atheistic evolutionists — But even atheistic evolutionists see man as YOUNG in an OLD earth. In fact, within the “scientific” community there has been a rapidly-descending “estimated age of the human race.” In the mid 1950s they said that man was 10 million years old. In the mid 1990s the age of the human race decreased to 43,000 years. **(Which, by the way, says something about the fluid state of scientific “fact”!)**

Whether or not the earth is young or old — I'm not sure. I am excited that I'm LEARNING! Before I first taught this study I didn't know there was such a thing as Historic Creationism. I'm so excited to be learning with you! I can say this — I'm sitting between Historic Creationism and Young Earth Creationsim. But you can hold to either and still be Biblical.

As for the 6 days of Genesis — I believe that they are LITERAL — And as we look in our next study at the creation of Adam and Eve I believe that that happened 6-7K years ago. We will see that human life comes from God.

### **QUESTION #7 — Where did creation come from?**

I briefly alluded to this at the front end of tonight.

**Theologians use the term Ex Nihilo — Latin = From Nothing.**

When my son Nathan was little he was the kid of a million questions. He didn't know how to speak a sentence with a period at the end of it. He asked — *When God made the world where did He get all the stuff?*

We start with the Bible! The Biblical answer is: *Barah* — *He made it from nothing. In the beginning God created* — Barah — He made something from nothing.

We ask — HOW can you DO THAT? Well — you have to be God to do it? ONLY God can make something from nothing. We can *Asah*. We can make something FROM something (take wood and build furniture). We don't SPEAK it into existence. An incredibly gifted brother named Darren made the top to my podium. But as talented as Darren is, he could only make from existing materials

But this is exactly what is declared in [Hebrews 11:3](#) *By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.*

### **QUESTION #8 — What are the problems with atheistic evolution?**

You can see how we are talking a HUGE amount of information in a 60+ minute period of time. But let's try work through it.

**FIRST** — By EVOLUTION we do not mean MICRO-evolution — evolution within a species. This is the ability of a SPECIES to genetically adapt itself to a particular environment. It produces after its own kind, but with the necessary genetic adaptations for survival in a specific environment. We **do accept** MICRO-evolution.

What we **reject** is MACRO-evolution — which says that one species evolves into an all together different species — that the reptile will evolve into a bird This is what schools teach based upon the writings of Charles Darwin in his book "The Origin of the Species."

**Did you know the FULL title of his book?** The full title of Darwin's book (1859) is — *The Origin of Species by means of Natural Selection; or, the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*. The underlying argument was that whites had out-evolved blacks and were superior. The granddad of evolution essentially agreed with Hitler.

In our next study we will see that we all descend from Adam and that all races descend from the same father — thus there should be no racism.

**THIS IS SO IMPORTANT** — As Christians we do not reject science — but we do reject Naturalism. Naturalism claims that there is NO God. Naturalism claims that Nature is all that there is. Naturalism claims that the world is closed system. Naturalism claims that everything is explained without God — can be explained in terms of nature.

We reject Naturalism, not science.

Apart from a Christian worldview you don't even have the ability to do science BECAUSE without a Creator you cannot have an orderly universe enabling man to use empirical science. The scientific method PRESUMES design.

**So let's look at the PROBLEMS associated with atheistic evolution.**

**PROBLEM #1 — Atheistic Evolution postulates that NOTHING made EVERYTHING.**

THAT is the assumption of atheistic evolution. We understand that to be absolutely untrue in EVERYTHING we see. Everything in your house — the car you drive — the stores you shop in; they ALL carry the assumption that they were made by someone. And the MORE COMPLICATED the thing is — the MORE INTELLIGENT we assume the designer to be! You see a Lego building and you assume a child put it together. You see a skyscraper and you assume an architect — in fact a FIRM of architects — designed it.

**PROBLEM #2 — Atheistic Evolution postulates that Order came from Chaos**

Explosions do not create order — they create chaos.

Randomness does not produce information.

You need to know this name: A.E. Wilder-Smith. He wrote one particular book titled “The Natural Sciences Know Nothing of Evolution.” In it he undoes the theory of evolution on the molecular level by looking at DNA. DNA is code. He says that chance NEVER produces code. The evolutionist talks about having the inorganic building blocks for DNA. But merely having an alphabet NEVER gives you a novel. Print thousands of copies of the alphabet — take them up in an airplane and then drop them from the plane. They will NEVER produce a book. Letters in an alphabet don’t produce a language. Randomness NEVER produces complex information. (Also Behe’s “Darwin’s Black Box)

**PROBLEM #3 — Atheistic Evolution postulates that there is NO designer behind things whose existence DEMANDS DESIGN.**

**FINE TUNING** — The **FINE TUNING** argument is used by renowned physicist Hugh Ross and biochemist Michael Behe. They argue that life on the earth —and the conditions for life on the earth are very finely tuned — that our bodies are finely tuned in an environment suitable for human life — and that if any of the variables for life were changed in the smallest of degrees — human life would be impossible. TO assume that such a finely tuned universe has no designer is antithetical to ALL logic and reason.

**QUOTE: William Lane Craig** — *“In the various fields of physics and astrophysics, classical cosmology, quantum mechanics, and biochemistry, discoveries have repeatedly disclosed that the existence of life depends on a delicate balance of physical constants and quantities. If these were to be slightly altered, the balance would be destroyed and life would not exist. Indeed, in many cases, not even stars and planets, not even chemistry, not even atomic matter itself, would exist, much less biological life. In fact, the universe appears to have been incomprehensibly fine-tuned from the moment of its inception to permit the existence of intelligent life.”*<sup>5</sup>

At the end of your notes there’s a bunch of pages of these *Fine Tuning* elements.

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<sup>5</sup> Who Made God p.58-59

Let me add this last point concerning intelligent design and fine tuning before we move on — It is not just quantities that must be fine-tuned — but their ratios in relationship to other constants in the universe must be fine tuned. It's not like saying that all the roulette wheels in Monte Carlo have to turn up with the same numbers; it is more like saying that all the roulette wheels in Monte Carlo need to turn up a certain set of numbers — and those certain sets of numbers have to stand in certain ratios to other roulette wheels. For example, the number on one roulette wheel must be seven times the number on another wheel and one-third the number on another wheel. Apart from THAT kind of Fine Tuning it is overwhelmingly improbable that a life-permitting universe should exist.

**PROBLEM #4 — Atheistic Evolution postulates that IMPERSONAL matter created PERSONAL humanity.**

Our existence is MORE than just a brain (a biological organ). We have a MIND. We can THINK and REASON. How does that which is unconscious create consciousness.

**PROBLEM #5 — Atheistic Evolution postulates that the UNINTELLIGENT created that which is INTELLIGENT.**

How can MATTER — which does not think — create life that does? More on that in our next study.

**PROBLEM #6 — The ABSENCE of TRANSITIONAL fossils**

The atheistic evolutionist explains the evolution of complicated, intelligent, personal life, from inorganic matter, by way of HUGE periods of time.

But if the process of evolution from GOO to YOU took billions and billions of years — the fossil record would contain an inexhaustible record of TRANSITIONAL FOSSILS — fossils of long dead species that would show with unquestionable clarity what the transitional form between 2 species looked like. The fossil record is so VOID of such fossil forms that one guy (Goldschmidt) came up with the “Hopeful Monster” theory: A reptile laid an egg and out came a bird!

**PROBLEM #7 — No one has ever OBSERVED MACRO-evolution**

**PROBLEM #8 — They assume the eternity of matter**

2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics says that the earth and the Universe are winding down to a conclusion.

**SEE — *Who Made God* p. 25-26**

**PROBLEM #9 — The inescapable hopelessness and despair of Evolution**

The atheistic evolutionist says we **come from** no One and **exist for** no cause (randomness never produces meaning) and **when we die** we go nowhere — and from that we are to find a meaningful and purposeful life! THAT is problematic!

If you **came from** nowhere and you are **going** nowhere and you are here for **no reason** — and life is SHORT and NASTY — WHERE is the hope? What is the POINT?

**QUOTE: Richard Dawkins** — When Richard Dawkins was asked if his reductionist view of reality made him depressed, Dawkins replied, "*I don't feel depressed about it. But if somebody does, that's their problem. Maybe the logic is deeply pessimistic, the universe is bleak, cold and empty. But so what?*"

He has to say that because he doesn't have any options. He has to settle for that because He has no God.

**PROBLEM #10 — They FORCE science to fit a philosophical bias.**

**QUOTE: Dr. George Wald** Professor of Biology @ Harvard University (Nobel Prize in field of Biology 1971) — One would think this is an objective man dealing with objective scientific facts.

*Scientific American, August, 1954 — "When it comes to the origin of life, we have only two possibilities as to how life arose. One is spontaneous generation arising to evolution; the other is a supernatural creative act of God. There is no third possibility...Spontaneous generation was scientifically disproved one hundred years ago by Louis Pasteur, Spellanzani, Reddy and others. That leads us **scientifically** to only one possible conclusion -- that life arose as a supernatural creative act of God... (he keeps going — should have stopped there) I will not accept that philosophically (notice he said "philosophically — he didn't say scientifically) because I do not want to believe in God. Therefore, I choose to believe in that which I know is scientifically impossible, spontaneous generation arising to evolution."*

He didn't say — *There is no God* — He just said — *I don't want to believe in Him*. THAT kind of thinking is not conducive to drawing objective conclusions from indisputable facts — which should be the business of science!

**For those of you un high school of college** — When you say, *I KNOW that God created the heavens and the earth* — you know what your science teacher is going to say — he/she will say *you are basing your position on religious bias*. REALITY — You are agreeing with the same scientific conclusion as a Nobel Scientist — Only you are doing what Dr. Wald WOULD not do — YOU are submitting to objective fact and truth.

I am so excited as I think of guys with pens, notes and Bibles, digging in because THIS is where it all comes together in a way that you will say — *OH... That's why the world around me looks the way it does*.

**LAST QUESTION — What is my alternative if I do not believe in Creation**

Some might ask — WHY does any of this really matter.

**ANSWER** — The question of ORIGINS is HUGE because **where you come from** determines **where you are going** and **why you are here!**

**Turn with me to Romans 1**— There Paul says there are only TWO alternatives

## **Romans 1:18-31**

<sup>18</sup>For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

WHAT is this “suppression of the truth?” We just saw that in Dr. Wald. *“I know what the truth is, but I don’t like it”*

<sup>19</sup>For what can be known about God is plain to them,

**How** was it made plain to them? God has shown it to them.

<sup>20</sup>For his 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.

When we see the creation, we can learn something about the creator (REMEMBER — General Revelation)

<sup>21</sup>For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup>Claiming to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup>and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles. <sup>24</sup>Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, <sup>25</sup>**because**

Here is where we come to the ALTERNATIVES

they exchanged **THE** truth about God

What is **THE** truth — He is creator

for a lie

In the Greek it's **THE lie** — *they exchanged THE truth for THE lie*. There is ONE truth and ONE lie.

and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

WHAT HAPPENS when you do not worship CREATOR God, and instead worship CREATION as god? You begin to worship created things — Animals / the environment. Ultimately you worship the human body because it is the apex of His creation!

WE WERE CREATED to be WORSHIPPERS. The question is NEVER “*WILL we worship?*” The question is always — “*WHAT will we worship?*” To *WHOM will we pour ourselves out — give ourselves?*

I want to encourage you to process life around you by this. When you walk out the door tomorrow you will see the world around you worshipping.

If we do not worship Creator God — We WILL worship our minds, our bodies, our emotions, our experiences, our possessions.

**Paul goes on to say that** sexual perversion is the result of rejecting the creator of the body!

<sup>26</sup>For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; <sup>27</sup>and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error. <sup>28</sup>And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. <sup>29</sup>They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup>slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup>foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup>Though they know God's

decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

**THE ALTERNATIVE TO CREATIONISM is NOT the absence of spirituality**  
— **THE ALTERNATIVE TO CREATIONISM is PAGANISM!**

There is THE truth and there is THE lie!

**QUOTE: Peter Jones — coined these terms.** ONE-ism and TWO-ism

**ONE-ism is THE lie.** One-ism says that ALL reality exists in one big circle — there is no distinction between creator and creation. This is the root of pantheism and panentheism.

**The GOAL of One-ism is to do away with all distinctions!** There is no God — just everything. THAT is why in **Genesis 1-2** there are **distinctions** throughout. The Creator Himself remains separate and distinct from His creation. He **distinguishes** light from darkness – day from night. He **divides** the waters above from those below. He **separates** the sea from the land. He draws **specific habitats**. He engineers life to reproduce after its kind. God even creates humanity with distinction - male and female.

**ONE-ism works to have no distinction** between mankind as the image bearers of God and the rest of creation (ONE-ism energizes radical environmentalists — In their minds a tree has as much a right to live as a family — so they will burn down homes — insist that scientific research on animals or plants aimed at saving human life are immoral) .

**They work to have no distinction** between right or wrong. **For them** — there is no God outside of the circle who says, *“That is wrong.”* ONE-ism is what drives post-modernism. There is no truth and error. There is no darkness and light. There is no truth and lies. It is all about perspective and ideology and culture.

**BY THE WAY — Charles Manson — “If all is one, what is bad?”**

**They work to have no distinction** between genders. Hence gender fluidity

— hence the **gay-lesbian-transgender-bisexual** agenda.

**They work to have no distinction** between religions. So they have to do away with Jesus because He keeps saying that He is God! They are happy to let Jesus be a nice guy/ good teacher — but NOT Jesus Who is God, the Savior. We need ONE religion.

**They work to have no distinction** between God and angels and Satan and demons. There is just spirituality!

**They work to have no distinction** in regard to Divinity. We don't have to look outside of ourselves for the divine. We look within to find the spark of the divine. In One-ism my hope is not in God — My hope is in ME because I AM god!

You hear this stuff ALL the time from EVERY direction (music/movies/books). Now you have a name for it! Now you know why it exists and where it comes from. It is the alternative to God the Creator.

**QUOTE: Dali Lama** — *“The world used to believe there are two. **We now know there is one.**”*

The end of One-ism is this: There is **nothing outside** us! **No** Creator — **No** Redeemer — **No** Savior — **No** Judge.

No one is coming in to save us — because there is no outside of us **to** save us. No one is coming to fix us because there is no one outside of us to fix us.

## **THE ALTERNATIVE to One-ism is Two-ism**

THIS is the FOUNDATION for Biblical living. THIS is how we process reality! If you miss this — you will not THINK as a Christian; you will think as a PAGAN. You will still be spiritual. You might still be religious. You might even try to be moral. But you will NOT know the God of the Bible.

**TWO-ism is the distinction between God and His creation.**

THAT is the PRIMARY and ULTIMATE distinction!

How does the Bible begin? *In the beginning God created.*

We see as the FIRST declaration of the Bible is that there are TWO things.

There is God — and what He created. God is eternal — creation has a beginning. God is INDEPENDENT — Creation is DEPENDENT upon God. There are TWO — not one.

**I SO PRAY THAT YOU KNOW** that God made YOU! You are NOT the result of an atheistic random process. I hope you know that you are made by a personal God.

**DO you know** that THAT God has a NAME — Jesus?

**DO you know** that THAT God saw that you and I sinned — that our first parents bought THE lie. Yet He LOVED us and CAME for us.

We sang about that tonight — *Humbly You came to the world you created.* In a demonstration of INFINITE humility — He laid aside the expression of His divine glory and took upon Himself our HUMANITY. Yet as a man he lived a sinless life. He NEVER EXCHANGED THE truth for THE lie. He went to the Cross where He suffered and died to PAY for your sins and my sins.

ONE-ism says there is no one outside of creation who cares — ONE-ism says there is no one outside of creation to save us!

**Apart from THE TWO — We are all on our own!** One guy said this:

*That makes every humanitarian cause a big joke! They are essentially a form of self-medication in the face of a belief system that says we've come from nothing and we are going to nowhere!*

**ONE-ism is NOT reality.** We come from the loving Trinitarian God of the Bible. In our next study we are going to see that we are made in His image and likeness. There is not only a distinction between Creator God and

creation — there is a distinction between plant life and animal life and the image bearer of God.

**HERE IS THE GOSPEL** — God the Creator entered into HISTORY because He KNOWS we have exchanged THE truth for THE lie.

Yet He loved us and He came to DIE in OUR place — We want you to KNOW Him.

**Revelation 4:11** “Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”

We were CREATED to worship Him. Jesus died on the Cross in order to REDEEMED us back to Himself — make a way for us to Worship Him.

**CHRISTIANS** — Please use this study and please use the reference materials you will find attached to this study to lovingly —and humbly and prayerfully share with those who do not believe the Bible — do not know Jesus.

**NEXT WEEK: Imago Dei — Created in the Image of God**

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## MORE INFO

## FOSSILS and EVOLUTION

Evolution occurred via Mutations. We understand that mutations are as a rule NOT favorable. Therefore the time required to have enough favorable mutations to transition from one species to another is begging the existence of countless failed mutations and countless successful ones. There are NONE.

**QUOTE:** Evolution: The Fossils Say No pg. 135 and 185

## Who Made God?

**QUOTE:** Who Made God p.23; 25

## EX NIHILO

**SINGULARITY — QUOTE:** Who Made God p. 54-55

*“Then in 1929 an alarming thing happened. A scientist named Edwin Hubble discovered that the light from distant galaxies appears to be redder than it should be. The startling conclusion to which Hubble was led is that the light is redder because the universe is growing apart---it is expanding! Therefore, the light from the galaxies is affected, since they are moving away from us. This is the interesting part: Hubble not only showed that the universe is expanding but that it is expanding the same in all directions. To get a picture of this, imagine a balloon with buttons glued on it. As you blow up the balloon, the buttons get farther and farther apart, even though they are stuck in place. These buttons are just like the galaxies in space. As space itself expands, all the galaxies in the universe grow farther and farther apart.” The staggering implication is that, as we go back in time, everything was closer and closer together. Ultimately, at some point in the finite past, the entire known universe was contracted down to a mathematical point, which scientists call the “singularity,” from which it has been expanding ever since. The farther back one goes in the past, the denser the universe becomes, so that one finally reaches a point of infinite density from which the universe began to expand. This initial event has come to be known as*

*the “Big Bang.” This event that makes the beginning of the universe becomes all the more amazing when one reflects on the fact that nothing existed before it. Nothing existed prior to the singularity, for it is the edge of physical space and time. It therefore represents the origin, not only of all matter and energy, but also of physical space and time themselves. Physicists John Barrow and Frank Tipler observe, “At this singularity, space and time came into existence; literally nothing existed before the singularity, so, if the Universe originated at such a singularity, we would truly have a creation out of nothing.” Such a conclusion is profoundly disturbing for anyone who ponders it.*

## **FINE TUNING**

### **Fine Tuning Parameters for the Universe**

**strong nuclear force constant** — *if larger*: no hydrogen would form; atomic nuclei for most life-essential elements would be unstable; thus, no life chemistry — *if smaller*: no elements heavier than hydrogen would form: again, no life chemistry

**weak nuclear force constant** — *if larger*: too much hydrogen would convert to helium in big bang; hence, stars would convert too much matter into heavy elements making life chemistry impossible — *if smaller*: too little helium would be produced from big bang; hence, stars would convert too little matter into heavy elements making life chemistry impossible

**gravitational force constant** — *if larger*: stars would be too hot and would burn too rapidly and too unevenly for life chemistry — *if smaller*: stars would be too cool to ignite nuclear fusion; thus, many of the elements needed for life chemistry would never form

**electromagnetic force constant** — *if greater*: chemical bonding would be disrupted; elements more massive than boron would be unstable to fission — *if lesser*: chemical bonding would be insufficient for life chemistry

**ratio of electromagnetic force constant to gravitational force constant** — *if larger*: all stars would be at least 40% more massive than the sun; hence, stellar burning would be too brief and too uneven for life support — *if smaller*: all

stars would be at least 20% less massive than the sun, thus incapable of producing heavy elements

**ratio of electron to proton mass** — *if larger*: chemical bonding would be insufficient for life chemistry — *if smaller*: same as above

**ratio of number of protons to number of electrons** — *if larger*: electromagnetism would dominate gravity, preventing galaxy, star, and planet formation — *if smaller*: same as above

**expansion rate of the universe** — *if larger*: no galaxies would form — *if smaller*: universe would collapse, even before stars formed

**entropy level of the universe** — *if larger*: stars would not form within proto-galaxies — *if smaller*: no proto-galaxies would form

**mass density of the universe** — *if larger*: overabundance of deuterium from big bang would cause stars to burn rapidly, too rapidly for life to form — *if smaller*: insufficient helium from big bang would result in a shortage of heavy elements

**velocity of light** — *if faster*: stars would be too luminous for life support — *if slower*: stars would be insufficiently luminous for life support

**age of the universe** — *if older*: no solar-type stars in a stable burning phase would exist in the right (for life) part of the galaxy — *if younger*: solar-type stars in a stable burning phase would not yet have formed

**initial uniformity of radiation** — *if more uniform*: stars, star clusters, and galaxies would not have formed — *if less uniform*: universe by now would be mostly black holes and empty space

**average distance between galaxies** — *if larger*: star formation late enough in the history of the universe would be hampered by lack of material — *if smaller*: gravitational tug-of-wars would destabilize the sun's orbit

**density of galaxy cluster** — *if denser*: galaxy collisions and mergers would disrupt the sun's orbit — *if less dense*: star formation late enough in the history of the universe would be hampered by lack of material

**average distance between stars** — *if larger*: heavy element density would be too sparse for rocky planets to form *if smaller*: planetary orbits would be too unstable for life

**fine structure constant** (describing the fine-structure splitting of spectral lines) *if larger*: all stars would be at least 30% less massive than the sun *if larger than 0.06*: matter would be unstable in large magnetic fields *if smaller*: all stars would be at least 80% more massive than the sun

**decay rate of protons** — *if greater*: life would be exterminated by the release of radiation *if smaller*: universe would contain insufficient matter for life

**$^{12}\text{C}$  to  $^{16}\text{O}$  nuclear energy level ratio** — *if larger*: universe would contain insufficient oxygen for life *if smaller*: universe would contain insufficient carbon for life

**ground state energy level for  $^4\text{He}$**  — *if larger*: universe would contain insufficient carbon and oxygen for life *if smaller*: same as above

**decay rate of  $^8\text{Be}$**  — *if slower*: heavy element fusion would generate catastrophic explosions in all the stars *if faster*: no element heavier than beryllium would form; thus, no life chemistry

**ratio of neutron mass to proton mass** — *if higher*: neutron decay would yield too few neutrons for the formation of many life-essential elements *if lower*: neutron decay would produce so many neutrons as to collapse all stars into neutron stars or black holes

**initial excess of nucleons over anti-nucleons** — *if greater*: radiation would prohibit planet formation *if lesser*: matter would be insufficient for galaxy or star formation

**polarity of the water molecule** — *if greater*: heat of fusion and vaporization would be too high for life *if smaller*: heat of fusion and vaporization would be too low for life; liquid water would not work as a solvent for life chemistry; ice would not float, and a runaway freeze-up would result

**supernovae eruptions** — *if too close, too frequent, or too late*: radiation

would exterminate life on the planet ***if too distant, too infrequent, or too soon***: heavy elements would be too sparse for rocky planets to form

**white dwarf binaries** - ***if too few***: insufficient fluorine would exist for life chemistry ***if too many***: planetary orbits would be too unstable for life ***if formed too soon***: insufficient fluorine production ***if formed too late***: fluorine would arrive too late for life chemistry

**ratio of exotic matter mass to ordinary matter mass**— ***if larger***: universe would collapse before solar-type stars could form ***if smaller***: no galaxies would form

**number of effective dimensions in the early universe** — ***if larger***: quantum mechanics, gravity, and relativity could not coexist; thus, life would be impossible ***if smaller***: same result

**number of effective dimensions in the present universe** — ***if smaller***: electron, planet, and star orbits would become unstable ***if larger***: same result

**mass of the neutrino** — ***if smaller***: galaxy clusters, galaxies, and stars would not form ***if larger***: galaxy clusters and galaxies would be too dense

**big bang ripples** — ***if smaller***: galaxies would not form; universe would expand too rapidly ***if larger***: galaxies/galaxy clusters would be too dense for life; black holes would dominate; universe would collapse before life-site could form

**size of the relativistic dilation factor** — ***if smaller***: certain life-essential chemical reactions will not function properly ***if larger***: same result

**uncertainty magnitude in the Heisenberg uncertainty principle** — ***if smaller***: oxygen transport to body cells would be too small and certain life-essential elements would be unstable ***if larger***: oxygen transport to body cells would be too great and certain life-essential elements would be unstable

## FOR FURTHER STUDY

For those wanting to study the issue of creation further, the following lengthy list of resources is intended to help guide your studies. By listing

these resources, I am not endorsing every single one but rather offering them as a breadth of perspectives.

### **Detailed Studies of Genesis 1–2**

Blocher, Henri. [In the Beginning: The Opening Chapters of Genesis](#). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1984. Sailhamer, John. [Genesis Unbound: A Proactive New Look at the Creation Account](#). Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah, 1996.

### **Commentaries on Genesis**

Waltke, Bruce K. [Genesis](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Sailhamer, John H. [“Genesis.”](#) In *Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers*. Vol. 2 of *The Expositor’s Bible Commentary*, edited by Frank E. Gaebelin. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1990.

Kass, Leon R. [The Beginning of Wisdom: Reading Genesis](#). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.

Brueggemann, Walter. [Genesis](#). Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1982.

Ross, Allen P. [Creation and Blessing: A Guide to the Study and Exposition of Genesis](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1997.

Calvin, John. [Genesis](#). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2001.

Moyers, Bill. [Genesis: A Living Conversation](#). New York: Broadway Books, 2002.

### **Books Debating Views of Creation**

Hagopian, David G., ed. [The Genesis Debate: Three Views on the Days of Creation](#). Mission Viejo, CA: Crux Press, 2001.

Moreland, J. P., and John Mark Reynolds, eds. [Three Views on Creation and](#)

[Evolution](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1999.

## **Books on Creation and Intelligent Design**

Strobel, Lee. [The Case for a Creator: A Journalist Investigates Scientific Evidence That Points Toward God](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2005.

Dembski, William A. [Intelligent Design: The Bridge Between Science and Theology](#). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1999.

Dembski, William A. [The Design Revolution: Answering the Toughest Questions about Intelligent Design](#). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2004.

Woodward, Thomas. [Doubts About Darwin: A History of Intelligent Design](#). Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2007.

Witham, Larry A. [By Design: Science and the Search for God](#). San Francisco, CA: Encounter Books, 2004.

Morris, Henry M. [Scientific Creationism](#). Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 2000.

## **Books Critiquing Evolution**

Witham, Larry A. [Where Darwin Meets the Bible: Creationists and Evolutionists in America](#). New York: Oxford University Press, 2002.

Batten, Don, ed. [The Answers Book: The Twenty Most-Asked Questions About Creation, Evolution, and the Book of Genesis Answered](#). Green Forest, AR: New Leaf Press, 1990. Johnson, Phillip E. [Darwin on Trial](#). Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1993. Ham, Ken. [The Lie: Evolution](#). Green Forest, AR: Master Books, 1987. Denton, Michael. [Evolution: A Theory in Crisis](#). Chevy Chase, MD: Adler & Adler, 1986. Wells, Jonathan. [Icons of Evolution: Science or Myth? Why Much of What We Teach About Evolution Is Wrong](#). Washington, DC: Regnery Publishing, 2000. Johnson, Phillip E. [Defeating Darwinism by Opening Minds](#). Downers Grove, IL:

InterVarsity Press, 1997. Behe, Michael J. [Darwin's Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution](#). New York: Free Press, 2006.

## **Books on Particular Issues Related to Genesis**

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<http://www.origins.org/> <http://www.reasons.org/index.shtml>

### **Videos on Intelligent Design**

[Icons of Evolution: The Growing Scientific Controversy Over Darwin](#)

[Unlocking the Mystery of Life: The Scientific Case for Intelligent Design](#)

[The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery](#)