

4. The Superiority of the Christian Worldview: ON ORIGINS

Grove Christian Camp

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Introduction

- A. “Pointers” to God.
- B. “Pointers” versus “Proof.”
- C. Compare the competitors.
- D. On ORIGINS: the origin of the universe and the origin of life.

I. The Origin of the Universe.

- A. Scripture (Gen. 1:1; Ps. 33:6; Isaiah 45:12; John 1:1-3; Col. 1:15-17; Heb. 11:3).
- B. “Big Bang cosmology”: The universe _____ **BEGAN** _____ (cf. Gen 1:1).
 1. Big Bang proposed.
 - a. 1920s: Edwin Hubble’s discoveries.
 - b. 1965: Background radiation discovered.
 2. Big Bang initially opposed (e.g. Fred Hoyle).
 3. Big Bang eventually accepted (1965-ff)

“What we found is evidence for the birth of the universe.... It’s like looking at God” (George Smoot, leader of the Cosmic Background Explorer project).

- C. A cosmological argument for God (see William Lane Craig and www.reasonablefaith.org).
 1. Whatever begins to exist must have a cause.
 2. The universe began to exist.
 3. Therefore, the universe had a cause.
- D. Prominent non-creationist options about our universe:
 1. It’s eternal.
 2. It caused itself.
 3. It’s just one of a possible *infinite* number of universes that keep popping into existence (multi-verse theory).
- E. Non-creationist claims.

Stephen Hawking: “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: “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).

II. The Origin of Life.

- A. The universe began JUST RIGHT for life.
1. “Fine-tuning” of the universe.
 2. 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.

Fred Hoyle (non-creationist): “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).

B. The wonders of **DNA**.

1. What does life require?
 - a. Right **materials** (20 different amino acids).
[40-27,000 amino acids are necessary for just ONE protein!]
 - b. Correct **sequencing** of materials (placed in the correct and usable order).
[e.g. E coli has about 4,300 proteins.]
 - c. **Information** (in DNA) to give instructions for the right sequencing.
2. The DNA in one human body, if stretched end-to-end, would reach over 42 billion miles!
3. One gram of DNA could store the same amount of information as 468,000 DVD’s or about 233 3TB hard drives. See <http://www.extremetech.com/extreme/134672-harvard-cracks-dna-storage-crams-700-terabytes-of-data-into-a-single-gram>.
4. DNA could store all of the world’s data in one room! See *Science Magazine* (Mar. 2, 2017): <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2017/03/dna-could-store-all-worlds-data-one-room>.

Francis Crick (atheist): “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).

III. Biblical Testimony.

Isa 45:18 “For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens, (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it and did not create it a waste place, but formed it to be inhabited)” (NASV).

Psalms 19:1-2 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.

Romans 1:20 Since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen.