

- **\*Read Genesis 5:1-5/Prayer\*** "In the beginning was matter, which begat the amoeba, which begat the worm, which begat the fish, which begat the amphibian, which begat the reptile, which begat the lower mammal, which begat the lemur which begat the monkey, which begat man, who imagined God. This is the genealogy of man." (Charles Smith in the Third Annual Report of the American Association for the advancement of Atheism, 1928) Now, you might be thinking to yourself..."that sounds quite a bit different from what we read just a few minutes ago from **Genesis 1:1**." If that is your thought then you are quite correct. In fact, this is the complete other side of the spectrum from our strongly held belief that In the beginning **\*GOD\*** created the heavens and the earth. This quote is the simplest of explanations from the atheist concerning the beginning of all things, but the explanation goes much deeper than that.
- The atheist would go on further to say that around 13.82 billion years ago there was nothing, but then matter appeared out of nowhere and this thing called a singularity took place. We know this singularity more aptly as the Big Bang. From this explosion the universe and everything in it came into being. Then billions of years after that, on this planet, we find ourselves on right now at the bottom of the ocean nonliving chemicals fused with some sort of energy and that amoeba mentioned early was formed. Then from that amoeba live as we know it eventually came into being.
- You might be sitting here thinking "that this is a bunch of nonsense!" and that "no one could ever believe that!"...but how wrong you would be. The truth is that atheism/naturalism (belief of no supernatural God) and agnosticism (the uncertainty of any supernatural God) make up about 7% of the American population. This doesn't seem like a big number does it? Well when we compare it with the 330 million people in America then 23 million sounds a whole lot more serious. The worse part about this issue is that this small percentage of individuals often find themselves in positions of extreme influence in many areas of life, especially in the areas of academia. Our young people are under extreme pressure from these unbelievers to deny their belief in God and accept the naturalists' worldview. They are often bombarded with atheistic "facts" and "evidence" that is supposed to show them that a belief in God is unreasonable.
- As we continue another lesson in our series on making A Case For God, I want us to consider this issue of creation vs evolution. I had this idea in my mind some months back, but thankfully a few weeks back I was able to sit and listen to a man named Kyle Butt who is a part of an organization called Apologetics Press. This organization and their website ([apologeticspress.org](http://apologeticspress.org)) is an invaluable resource to the Christian in nearly every matter of faith, but particularly they excel in the area of evidences and apologetics. I learned so much that day that I had not fully understood before and I left feeling as if the foundation of my faith and belief in God was truly strengthened by the things that I heard. Much of the material that will be presented this morning is from that lecture, and I hope that you will leave here feeling a little more confident in our God and better equipped to tackle those conversations on the existence of God from an origins standpoint.
- When discussing this issue with an unbeliever, it is often fruitless to go straight to the Bible in order to give proof for our position because they put no stock in the Bible to begin with. Instead, it might be a better approach to look at it from their point of view. One of the strongest scientific laws is the law of cause and effect. "Every material effect must have an adequate cause that existed before the effect." Everyone recognizes that this is something that is an absolute truth, and that is what makes it a law. So from this standpoint, which origin of life is more reasonable? Is it more reasonable that God created all things per **Genesis 1:1**? Or is it more reasonable that things happened according to the theories of the atheist? Let's take our remaining time considering this.

### **I. Something cannot come from nothing.**

- A. According to the atheist, the matter that was the beginning of all things suddenly appeared from no where.
  1. Stephen Hawking, known by many as the most intelligent man in the world and one of the leading theoretical physicists, simply says that the matter that began the universe just appeared out of nowhere.
  2. He came to this conclusion after he wrote something differently earlier on in his life. In his book "A Brief History of Time", Hawking, trying to be consistent with the science that he puts so much faith and trust in, left open the possibility of there being an all powerful supernatural creator based upon the necessity of their needing to be something to bring about the original matter.
  3. Obviously, this didn't sit too well with his atheistic contemporaries and they told him that he need to clarify and fix the problem he had created by leaving open that possibility. So in his next book "The Grand Design", he goes on to address this question about the original matter by simply stating that it just came from nothing. Actually, he took it a bit farther by saying that our entire universe just popped spontaneously out of nothing from nothing in order to create something. I must ask...is this a responsible and accurate scientific conclusion?
- B. is Hawking's conclusion more reasonable? Or is it more reasonable to believe there was something that created the something we see around us.

1. Hawking's position and the position of so many is completely unscientific and does not conform with the laws of this natural world. They are so concerned with things fitting into their naturalists worldview that they can't process the supernatural.
2. However, their own conclusions contradict their own laws on the natural. If our worldview allows for the supernatural, then we have zero issues understanding that **Genesis 1:1** can be accurate and is logical. In the beginning there was nothing but God. He was then able to create all things. Everything that is a part of this natural world comes from God.
3. "Before the mountains were born or You gave birth to the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God." (**Psalm 90:2**)
4. Which of these is more reasonable? The suggestion that breaks its own rules or the one that is logical and fits into its own world view? If in the beginning there was nothing then we would still have nothing today. However, if in the beginning there was God...then we are able to have what we have today.

## II. The expanse of the universe demands something greater for its creation.

- A. We are literally a speck of dust in respect what is contained within the known natural universe, yet we are expected to believe that it all came from something less than even that speck of dust.
  1. Within recent years, it has been believed that the Milky Way galaxy contained 100 billion stars. Our sun is only one of 100 billion stars. Now add onto this that our sun is 1,000,000 times larger than earth. Then also consider that our sun isn't even among the largest of stars. In fact, there are some that around 450 times larger than our sun. That's crazy! But then even more recently it was discovered that there are actually 3 to 4 times more stars than we thought. This universe is massive!
  2. It's not just massive considering the number of stars, but literally its is massive in regards to its size, 93 billion light years across are the latest estimations. It would take 100,000 years for you to travel from one end of our galaxy to the other side. Now that's not driving 70 mph like you do on the interstate. That is traveling at the speed of light. Again, this galaxy is massively expansive...yet we are told to believe that it all came from a single speck of matter.
  3. Hawking himself even admits that the original matter didn't conform to the laws of nature...meaning that it did not act naturally...but that it acted supernaturally. This is the only logical conclusion to his thought on how that original matter behaved.
- B. Again considering the law of cause and effect, doesn't the sheer size of the our single galaxy demand that something far greater than it must have been in order to cause its creation?
  1. **Psalm 19:1-3** and **Romans 1:20** both seem to argue for the fact that creation itself screams or declares that there is something out there that is so much greater than what is able to be seen by the human eye.
  2. If the law of cause and effect is indeed a natural law, then there must be something equally great or greater than what we see as the cause for the effect of this present universe. Atheists will try to persuade us that the beginning of all of this is nothing grand, but it is logically inconsistent. Instead, we can point to a supernatural Creator who does not need to operate within natural law in order to bring about the existence of all things.

## III. Explosions do not produce order.

- A. The big bang means just that...there was a big explosion and from that explosion came order.
  1. There was nothing. Then there was a tiny something. And then that tiny something met energy and from that energy came this grandly designed universe that we live in today.
  2. So how is it that random explosion just happened to "create" this world and planet that is so fine tuned for life? Atheists will try to explain this away by this thing called the "Goldilocks" theory. We all know the story of Goldilocks and how she just happened to find the porridge, chair, and bed that fit just right for her in the bear's house. The universe, according to the atheist, is much the same way.
  3. We just happen to live in a world where everything works out to our benefit of life. We live in a "Goldilocks Zone." Lucky chance is all it comes down to because the truth is that our life on earth is sustained on a knife's edge. The atmosphere, temperature, pressure, presence of water, etc are all perfectly measured so that life can survive. If any of these things were to change by even the smallest degrees...if the earth's orbit around the sun changed by even a fraction of an inch...then life would be impossible. This all comes about, according to the atheists, from an explosion.
- B. We might sit here and think that we are just the luckiest people ever because this explosion worked out so good for us, but scientifically, random explosions don't bring about this type of good consequence.
  1. Scientifically speaking, explosions do not create order, but they create chaos. They destroy and do not create. They especially do not create things that can last as the earth has lasted and continue on in such a fine tuned manner that could go off the rails at any moment, but for whatever reason does not.

2. The only logical explanation for the order and fine tuning of this universe must be that there is someone who not only created it, but continues to sustain everything that is around us. Think about how many useful explosion today is done at the hands of someone who controls it. The explosions that happened in everyones's cars this morning...did they happen by chance? Of course not! They were designed to happen so that our cars would start up and we could make it here right now. In just the same way, our God created this world and it continues on today as it does. **(Rev. 4:11)** This is the logical conclusion that points us towards an Intelligent Designer.

#### **IV. Design demands a designer.**

- A. The complexity of everything around us demands that something intelligent was behind it.
  1. Years ago, in a debate between a believe or God and a man named Dr. Antony Flew...the believer presented Dr. Flew with a case concerning a prosthetic arm. The doctors had developed this arm that could interact with the brain of the amputee in such a way that it seemed almost as if it was her actual arm. However, the doctors were still not satisfied with it and wanted to make more adjustments. Even the most sophisticated of man's mind cannot compare with the human body.
  2. The man asked Dr. Flew, "If man's creation still can't compare with the human hand...then what must that say about the one who created the human hand in the beginning." The Dr. had no answer but to say at the moment that it was just a result of natural occurrences.
  3. Later down the road, the good Dr. wrote a book that said at the top, "There is No God." This would sound about right considering this man's life long stance. However, this book wasn't exactly what we might imagine it to be because the "No" was crossed out and an "A" was written above it. This man came to the conclusion that the evidence for God far outweighed the evidence against Him and for anything else. He said, "how could I live my life claiming to simply follow the evidence to my conclusions, but ignore the most pressing evidence of the world around me" (paraphrase)
  4. Dr. Flew was intellectually honest enough to let the evidence speak for itself. He recognized that the design of this universe must point towards the existence of a Grand Designer.
- B. One of these arguments is more reasonable, and that is the argument for the power of God being behind the creation of the world.
  1. Sadly, through our somewhat mind scratching tradition of sacrificing the 3rd verse of 4 verse songs, we often miss what I believe to be one of the most powerful verses of any song that we sing. In song #9, "Our God, He Is Alive" the 3rd verse says, "Secure is life from mortal mind, God hold the germ within His hand, tho men may search they cannot find, for God alone does understand."
  2. Man may try as they might to explain away God and give credit to our lives to something else, but the fact of the matter is that God alone can create life. Nothing else can do that. No man can create life as God did those many years ago. No other argument can reasonably explain why we are here today, and it is up to us to let these truths speak to us and motivate us to live the way we ought to, according to His Word.

Time and time again, man will become arrogant within his mind and think that he has all the answers. Man will make the case for the most foolish of things in order to ignore God and give His credit to something else. However, time and time again they will be proven as fools. There is a God, He is alive, and His glory is seen all around us. May He help us to stand strong against the wicked one and his schemes to poison the minds of man. May we recognize God for who He is and may we give Him all the honor and glory each and every day for every good thing we enjoy in this life.