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Discovery

Scripture & Science for Kids



Creation MAKES SENSE

ERIC LYONS

The most basic question that you could ever ask is: "Where did the Universe and everything in it (including yourself) come from?" It is fitting that the only God-inspired book in the world—the Bible—answers this very question in its opening statement: "In the beginning **God created the heavens and the earth**" (Genesis 1:1). In the next few verses we are informed that not only did God create **the heavens and the earth**, but He made everything **in** the heavens and **on** the Earth (Genesis 1:2-31; Exodus 20:11). According to the Bible, everything that exists in the physical Universe ultimately came from an eternal, all-powerful Creator.

The theory of origins that atheists have taught for many years is known as the Big Bang. This theory states that all of the matter in the Universe was once concentrated into a tiny ball about the size of a period. Supposedly, this ball of matter exploded (for reasons no one knows). The result of this explosion, we are told, was the formation of the Universe and everything in it.

So which is it? Did everything in the physical Universe come into existence by way of the supernatural (God) or the natural? Was it caused by just a Big Bang or by an all-powerful Mighty God? How did Earth get here? And what about the Milky Way and

the other billions of galaxies in the Universe? Though atheistic scientists often mock Genesis 1:1, the fact is, the Bible's explanation for the origin of the Universe and everything in it is both **reasonable and scientific**.

First, a study of the Universe reveals that all physical effects must have adequate causes that are greater than or equal to the effects (known as the Law of Cause and Effect).

Everyone knows that one drop of rain does not flood an entire city, nor can a fire extinguisher cool the Sun. But what about the effect of the Universe itself? Was it caused by an explosion of a tiny ball of matter or by an all-powerful Creator? Just as easily as one can know that a fire extinguisher cannot cool the Sun, he can know that naturalistic causes like the Big Bang are not good explanations for the Universe. But, God is.

Second, from what we observe **in nature**, matter and energy are neither created nor destroyed. Scientists refer to this fact as the 1st Law of Thermodynamics. Evolutionists believe the Universe began with the explosion of a ball of matter several billion years ago, yet they never have provided a reasonable explana-



tion for the cause of the "original" ball of matter. The fact is, a logical, physical explanation for the "original" ball of matter does not exist. The ball of matter could not have popped into existence or created itself, so long as the 1st Law of Thermodynamics is true.

Third, since the Universe exists, and it could not have created itself, then (1) the Universe is either eternal or (2) something/someone outside of the Universe must have created it. Few scientists suggest that the Universe is eternal. In fact, there would be no point in attempting to explain the "beginning" of the Universe if atheists believed that it always existed. Also, the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics says that matter and energy become less usable over time. This law has led most scientists to conclude that the Universe has not always existed (else we would be out of usable energy). But, if matter is not eternal, and it cannot create itself, then the only good conclusion is that something/someone **outside** of nature created the Universe. Christians call this Someone, "the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 40:28).

Finally, not only do the scientific Laws of Thermodynamics and the Law of Cause and Effect support the truth of Genesis 1:1, so does the fact that design demands a designer.

Just as sure as a painting demands a painter and a law a law-giver, the beautiful, orderly heavens and Earth demand an intelligent Designer. As the psalmist wrote: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork" (19:1). The heavens and the Earth testify day after day and night after night that "He who built all things is God" (Hebrews 3:4; Psalm 19:2-4).

If people will only open their eyes and ears, they will discover what both Heaven and Earth reveal—that "the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible" (Hebrews 11:3). Rather, "God created the heavens and the earth." Indeed, Genesis 1:1 makes perfect sense.



Creation's Perfect Order

DAVE MILLER

Those who teach the theory of evolution teach that the Universe just popped into existence ("Big Bang!"). They say that life began to develop on Earth gradually from nonliving materials. All of this took millions of years. Beginning with a single-celled organism, lower forms of life slowly developed into animals that eventually developed into humans. Truthfully, this scheme is far-fetched and hard to believe.

DAY 1

Heavens, Light, and Watery Earth

But the Bible gives a completely different explanation that makes sense. In the first chapter of Genesis, God presents a logical picture of the beginning of the Universe and the Earth. God spoke the entire physical Universe into existence. The Earth was "without form, and void" (Genesis 1:2). It was dark! So God made light. He made a distinction between light and darkness—resulting in the first day. This makes sense, since light is absolutely necessary for life. (Most plants must have it to survive.)

But nothing could live, grow, and survive on the Earth unless an atmosphere was created for plants and animals to breathe. So God separated the

DAY 2

Atmosphere

waters and made sure that the moisture above the land surface would allow for air. That was the second day of God's creative work.

DAY 3

Land, Grass, Trees, and other Plants

Next, the waters on the surface of the Earth needed to be confined to specific areas to allow plants, animals, and humans to live. God gathered the waters together to form seas and made the dry land appear. This action

made it possible for vegetation to grow on the land—trees, grass, and other plants. So God spoke them into existence next. This all makes sense. Plants are necessary for the conversion of carbon dioxide into oxygen so that animals and humans can breathe. Most animals depend upon plants to stay alive. That was the third day of God's creative actions.

Then God made specific projectors of light—the Sun, Moon, and stars. They were made to mark time while also affecting the seasons of the year—spring, winter, summer, and fall. Now the plants could produce seeds at the right time. Flowers would bloom properly. They would all be ready for the arrival of the insects. Many plants and insects need each other to survive. That was the fourth day.

DAY 4

Sun, Moon, and Stars

DAY 5

Birds and Sea Creatures

On the fifth day, God made fish in the waters and birds in the air. Birds depend on fish and insects for their food. Both depend on plants. On the sixth day, God made the rest of the animals and the first two people. Now, everyone and everything was well supplied with the necessary elements to carry on the wonders of life. God did it just right! His creative actions could not have been done any better. No wonder at the end of the sixth day, God saw that everything was **very good** (Genesis 1:31)!

DAY 6

Land Animals, Man and Woman

There is NO GAP IN CREATION

KYLE BUTT

Evolution never happened. Animals did not evolve from bacteria, and humans did not evolve from lower mammals. The book of Genesis explains to us exactly how humans, animals, and the entire Universe were created. In six, 24-hour days God created everything. Some people, however, want to believe in both creation and evolution. They want to say that God created the Universe, but He used evolution, and it took billions of years. Since they know that the days of Creation could not be millions or billions of years long, then they must fit the time somewhere else. So where do they fit billions of years in the Bible?

Supposedly, according to these people, there is a huge gap of time between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2. This idea is called the Gap Theory. According to this theory, God made the Universe out of nothing in Genesis 1:1, but Satan rebelled against God and was thrown down to Earth. This theory says that Satan started a huge war and destroyed the Earth—causing the deaths of dinosaurs and other fossilized creatures. Supposedly, God then remade the Earth beginning in Genesis 1:2 after millions of years of destruction.

The problem with this theory is that it is wrong. The Bible never says anything about a huge war caused by Satan that destroyed the "first" Earth. Furthermore, if you read Genesis 1:1-2, there is no reason to see any "gap" in the text. The only reason people would insert such a gap is if they first believed in evolution and were trying to force such an idea into the Bible.

The main argument that people who believe in the Gap Theory use is about the definitions of the words "created" and "made." They claim that the

word "create" means, "to make out of nothing," but the word "made" means, "to reshape or recycle out of something already made." This simply is not true in regard to God's creation. In Genesis 1:26-27, God said: "Let Us **make** man in our image, according to Our likeness.... So God **created** man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them." Notice that the words "make" and "created" were both used to describe the forming of Adam and Eve. The word "created" can't mean, "to make out of nothing," because Adam was formed from the dust of the ground.

There is no gap of millions of years of time between Genesis 1:1 and 1:2. God created and made everything in the entire Universe in six, 24-hour days just like Genesis says. Evolution is not scientifically accurate, and there is no room for it in the Bible.

ACTIVITY PAGES

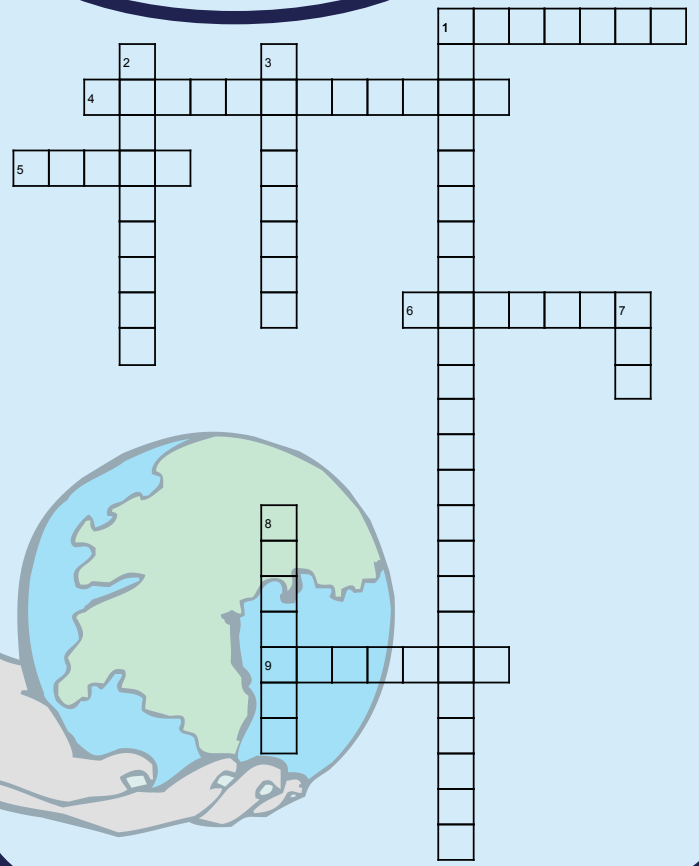


ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

1. Explain why the *Genesis* account of Creation makes sense.
2. Write two reasons why it is not biblical to believe in the Day-Age Theory. Can you think of others? If so, write them down as well.



CROSSWORD CHALLENGE



Across:

1. These were made on day three.
4. False theory that says the days of Creation were actually long periods of time.
5. God made land-living creatures on this day.
6. In the Creation week, each day had an evening and a _____.
9. This theory states that all of the matter in the Universe was once concentrated into a tiny ball about the size of a period and then exploded for some unknown reason.

Down:

1. In nature, matter and energy are neither created nor destroyed.
2. False theory that says there was a huge gap of time between *Genesis* 1:1 and *Genesis* 1:2.
3. Design demands a _____.
7. He created the Universe in six days (*Exodus* 20:11).
8. "The things which are seen were not made of things which are _____" (*Hebrews* 11:3).

MATCHING THE CREATION WITH THE DAYS OF CREATION

(ANSWERS MAY BE USED MORE THAN ONCE)

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. _____ Land Animals | 6. _____ Firmament | 11. _____ Sun |
| 2. _____ Light | 7. _____ Fish | 12. _____ Moon |
| 3. _____ Earth | 8. _____ Heavens | 13. _____ Nothing |
| 4. _____ Trees | 9. _____ Water | 14. _____ Flowers |
| 5. _____ Humans | 10. _____ Birds | 15. _____ Dinosaurs |
-
- | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|
| A. Day 1 | D. Day 4 | G. Day 7 |
| B. Day 2 | E. Day 5 | |
| C. Day 3 | F. Day 6 | |



Dear Digger Doug,
 Before we go up to heaven, will we be in the ground for a long time?
 —Aaron

Dear Aaron,
 That is a great question. What happens to us when we die? Will our body be in the ground for a long time? Well, that depends on which body we are talking about. Our natural body (the body we see in the mirror) will, if we are buried, remain in the ground until Jesus returns. However, the natural body is not all there is to a person. Every person also has a soul. When our body dies, our soul is still alive. When righteous people die, their souls leave their bodies and go to Paradise. When Jesus was talking with the thief on the cross, he said, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise" (*Luke* 23:43). We read another example of this in *Luke* 16:22. As soon as Lazarus died, angels carried him to be comforted by Abraham. So when we die, yes, our natural bodies will be in the ground until Jesus comes back. No one knows when Jesus will come back, not even the angels in heaven (*Matthew* 24:36). However, our souls will be carried away to Paradise.



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The Day-Age Theory

JOE DEWEESE

In Exodus 20:11, God told the Israelites that He created everything in six days, and rested on the seventh. That is exactly what we see when we read Genesis 1:1 through 2:3. On the other hand, the theory of evolution teaches that the Universe and everything in it evolved (without God) over a 14-billion-year period. Clearly, God's work in Genesis and the theory of evolution are very different and conflicting.

Some people, who believe in God and the Bible, also believe in some of the things that evolutionists teach. Even though they believe God created the Earth, this group believes that God must have done it over a long period of time. In order to "drag" creation out over millions or billions of years (rather than six days), these people teach that the "days" in Genesis 1 were longer than the 24-hour days that we have today. In other words, these people teach that when we read of God creating things on "day 1" and "day 2," these days were actually long periods of time (hundreds of thousands of years, or even millions of years, in order to fit in with evolutionary theory).

How do we know these days could not have been long periods of time? Well, as we read in Exodus 20:11, God compared the days of Creation with a regular workweek, and both of them were six days plus one day of rest. These were normal days.



*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **Six days** you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God.... **For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day.** Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it (Exodus 20:8-11).*

Also, think about how, after describing each day of Creation, the Bible says "and there was evening and there was morning." In other words, each of these days not only had daytime, but also nighttime. If plants were alive during this time, how could they survive long periods of darkness? In general, plants are capable of surviving without sunlight for short periods, but not for thousands or millions of years. Some plants require more sunlight than shade, while others grow best in darker climates, but all plants that undergo photosynthesis require some form of light. These periods of darkness and light could not have been long periods because plants could not have survived a long time "in the dark." This is because they would not have enough light to convert into energy (through photosynthesis) in order to survive. Therefore, the days of Creation must have been 24-hour days.

The truth is, these days really were days—just like Moses recorded in Genesis 1 and Exodus 20.

ANSWERS

CROSSWORD CHALLENGE: Across: 1. Flowers; 4. Day-Age Theory; 5. Sixth; 6. Morning; 9. Big Bang; Down: 1. First Law of Thermodynamics; 2. Gap Theory; 3. Designer; 7. God; 8. visible; MATCHING: 1. F (Day 6); 2. A (Day 6); 3. A (Day 1); 4. C (Day 3); 5. F (Day 6); 6. B (Day 2); 7. E (Day 5); 8. A (Day 1); 9. A (Day 1); 10. E (Day 5); 11. D (Day 4); 12. D (Day 4); 13. G (Day 7); 14. C (Day 3); 15. F (Day 6).

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