

Examining the Cosmos

Session 2

The Creation of the Universe

Recommended Reading

C. John Collins, Science & Faith (chapters 1-3), (Crossway Books, 2003)
Hugh Ross, A Matter of Days (pages 63-69), (NAV PRESS, 2004)

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR TESTING CREATION

Foundation Principles

1. All Scripture is inerrant
 - a. The original writings were written without errors.
 - b. Even the copies that have come down to today are remarkable error free
 - c. God has preserved His Word so that we may know the truth and know God.
2. Scripture should be interpreted literally unless the context indicates otherwise.
3. No part of scripture contradicts another part-truth does not contradict truth.

Example- Scriptures on Answered Prayer

John 16:24 Ask and you will receive

Matt.21:22 If you believe, you will receive

James 4:3 you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives

John 5:14 if we ask anything according to His will

Psalms 68:18 If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.

4. Therefore, all interpretations of scripture must form a consistent whole. An interpretation of one scripture must not contradict the interpretation of another scripture. If an interpretation of one scripture appears to contradict an interpretation of another scripture, then one must reexamine both interpretations to determine how they fit together.

5. All of God's revelations must be consistent with the rest of His revelations.

a. The revelation in the New Testament will not contradict the revelation in the Old Testament.

b. The truth God reveals in His Word will not contradict the truth He reveals in His creation.

SUMMARY OF FOUNDATIONAL PRICIPLES

1. All scripture is inerrant.
2. Scripture should be interpreted literally unless the context indicates otherwise.
3. No part of scripture contradicts another part of scripture-truth does not contradict truth.
4. All interpretations of scripture must for a consistent whole.
5. All of God's revelations are consistent with one another-New Testament with Old Testament, GODS WORD AND GODS CREATION.

God is Truth and He is always truthful, Psalm 119:160 All your words are true:

John14:6 I am the way and the truth

Proverbs 12:22 The Lord detests lying lips, but He delights in men who are truthful

Proverbs 14:5 A truthful witness does not deceive,

God teaches us the truth about Himself in His Word and in His Creation

God designed nature to teach us the truth,

Psalm 74:15-16 "You established the sun and moon. It was You who set all the boundaries of the Earth. You made both summer and winter."

Romans 1:19-20 Since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible -----have been clearly seen. GOD INTENDS CREATION TO BE KNOWN.

PSALM 19:1-4 The heavens declare the glory of God: the skies proclaim the work of His hands. KNOWLEDGE IS PLAIN, EVEN THE HEAVENS TELL US

All of these verses are written after Adam's Fall. All of these things are proclaimed about the earth and the universe as we see them today.

SO WHAT DO WE KNOW?

1. We know God has a passion for truth.
2. We know God has provided truthful testimony about Himself-in His Word and in His creation.

How do we determine the truth?

By testing everything: 1Thes 6:21 test everything,

There are two important tests.

1. TRUTH that which conforms to reality
2. CONSISTENCY that which is not contradictory within the system

An interpretation may appear to be true but if it is not consistent, then it is not true.

Why isn't truth alone sufficient? TRUTH HAS PARAMETERS

Biblical Truth---answered prayer has conditions

Ask in the name of Jesus

Believe

Don't ask with wrong motives

Ask according to God's will

Scientific truth also has parameters.

Newtonian physics does not always apply: It's used to calculate orbits and trajectories when sending objects to the planets or into space. It's not used with velocities near the speed of light. It's not used with entities smaller than an atom

A Testable Creation Model

We need a testable creation model because we want to know God, and we get to know Him by knowing the truth about Him and about what He has created.

How do we determine what is true about His creation?

There are many claims made about the creation:

1. It evolved
2. it was created recently
3. it was created a very long time ago

How do we determine which of these claims is true?

WE TEST THEM.

What conforms to reality is true, and what is consistent.

For example, the bible says in Gen1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

For years science has theorized there was a big bang, each new discovery has confirmed that theory.

There are 3 major elements to this idea of a big bang universe

1. The universe had a beginning.
2. The universe is expanding.
3. The universe was hotter in the past than it is now.

What does scripture say?

- The universe had a beginning: (Gen1:1 In the beginning God Created)
- The universe is expanding: (Isa.45:12, It is I who made the earth and created mankind upon it. My own hands stretched out the heavens) (Jer.10:12 But God

made the earth by His power, He founded the world by His wisdom and stretched out the heavens)

- The universe was hotter in the past than it is now; (Gen1:16 God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night.) As stars burn up their fuel, they die. Therefore, even our sun will eventually die, burn out. The universe is running down.

SCRIPTURE AND SCIENCE CONCUR ON THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF THE BIG BANG.

1. The universe had a beginning
2. The universe is expanding
3. The universe is running down, is was hotter in the past than it is now.