

# THE ORIGIN OF THE UNIVERSE

from  
 **FAITH MAKES SENSE**

The origin of the universe is one of the places the fields of science, philosophy, and religion intersect. Because of this, it can be a powerful way to provide evidence for God. However, the origin the Bible offers and the story evolution describes are not compatible. Here is a basic introduction to the creation vs evolution debate.

## KEY TERMS

**Micro Evolution:** changes in living creatures over time

**Macro Evolution:** the origin of all living creatures from a single common ancestor

**Cosmic Evolution:** the origin and evolution of the entire universe

**Creation:** God created the universe, planet earth, and the variance of life we observe in six 24 hour days.

**Big Bang:** All the matter and energy in the universe expanded at the speed of light for less than a second from the “cosmic egg” or “singularity” before slowing down to its current rate of expansion. All elements, stars, planets, and life itself evolved on its own over the past 13.8 billion years.

## WHY IT MATTERS

If the creation account found in the first three chapters of Genesis are just mythology and not actual history:

- a: Human beings are not image-bearers of God.
- b: Sin is not a part of reality.
- c: A Savior is not needed because sin is not real.
- d: The gospel is false because sin is not real.
- e: Christianity is false because Jesus isn't a Savior.

## ARE SCIENCE AND FAITH OPPOSITES?

When properly defined, there is no conflict between science and faith:

Science is learning by observing the natural world.

Faith is trusting in what we can't see based on the evidence we can.

Many who “do science” use **methodological naturalism** to do their work. This is the intentional limiting of scientific explanation to only natural phenomena. This automatically excludes any supernatural or divine conclusions BEFORE any investigation is made. Learning by observation of the natural world is not anti-faith; constraining the answers before the investigation is.

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The story of creation presented in the Bible is not compatible with the story evolution offers to explain the origin of the universe and life. These two explanations differ at several points making them completely irreconcilable. Here is a quick review of the some of the basic points at which these two origin stories differ.

## EVOLUTION

### **Beginning of the Universe:**

The universe is the product of spontaneous self-generation.

### **Origin of Life:**

Life spontaneously self-generated from non-living matter.

### **Variance in Life Forms:**

All living things are descended from a single common ancestor.

### **Human Beings:**

Human beings are the evolved descendants of the same common ancestor as all other living things.

### **Age of the Universe:**

The universe is 13.8 billion years old.

## CREATION

### **Beginning of the Universe:**

The universe was created by the supernatural creator, God.

### **Origin of Life:**

Life was created by a supernatural life giver, God.

### **Variance in Life Forms:**

Life was created as original "kinds" by God and adapts over time.

### **Human Beings:**

Human beings are a special creation made in the image of God.

### **Age of the Universe:**

Creation was made in six days and is between 6,000 to 10,00 years old.

## THE ORIGIN PROBLEM

The universe is either: (a) eternal, (b) self-caused, (c) requires a cause outside itself.

a: the evidence shows this false.

b: self-causation is irrational.

c: the universe requires an external cause.

## HOW DOES THE UNIVERSE REVEAL GOD?

In the beginning, all space, time, matter, and energy were created. This means the cause of the universe must be spaceless, timeless, immaterial, and immensely powerful to create the universe. The cause must also be an agent because things don't choose or act.

This is exactly how the Bible describes God!

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