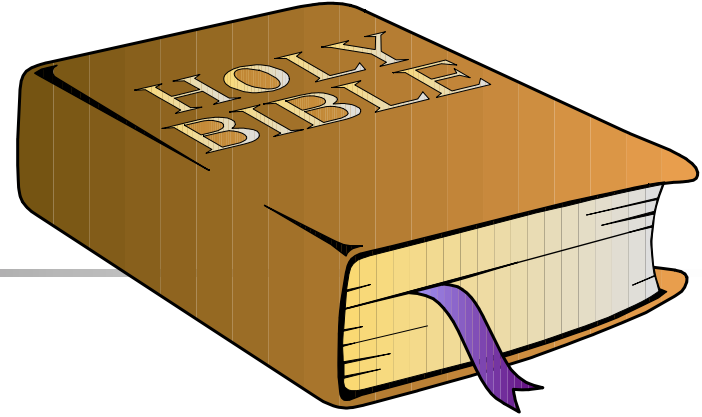


# Creation, Science & the Bible

Dr. Robert C. Newman



# The Bible's Opening Words



In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. (Genesis 1:1-3)



# The Problem Stated

---

- Don't the teachings of science contradict these words from the Bible?
- Isn't it impossible for a person to be a scientist and believe in God?
- No, I believe there is no **real** contradiction.
  - I am a scientist who believes in God.
  - I believe there is good evidence for the existence of the God revealed in the Bible.
  - I believe there is a reasonable harmonization between nature and Scripture.

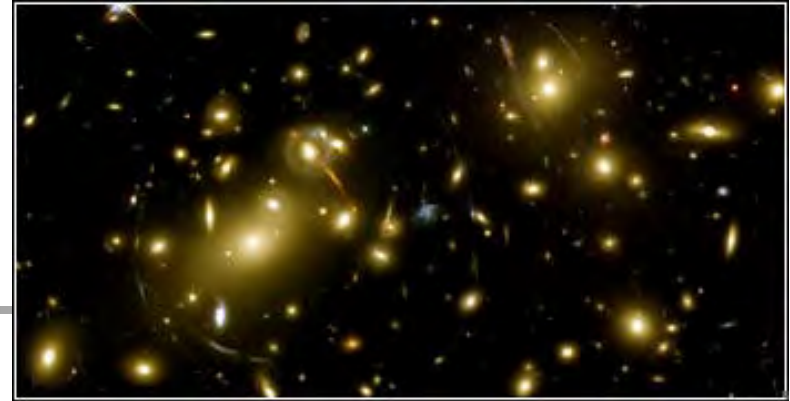


# The Problem Stated

---

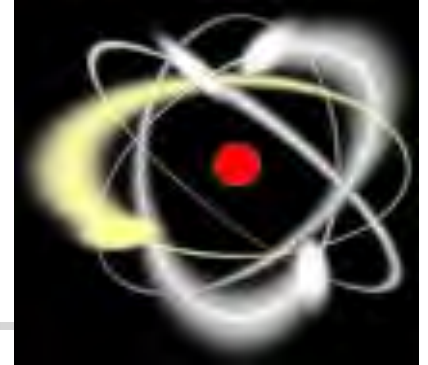
- It is true that many scientists have interpreted nature so as to contradict the Bible.
- Likewise many Bible believers have interpreted the Bible to contradict nature.
- To see if there is any real contradiction, we must see what the Bible and nature actually say.
- That's what we want to do here.

# Cosmology



- The Bible says there was a beginning, when God created heaven & earth.
- Until recently, many scientists have claimed the universe always existed.
- Evidence now indicates that the universe began (from nothing) at a finite time in the past.
- Nature says there was a beginning.

# Fine-Tuning



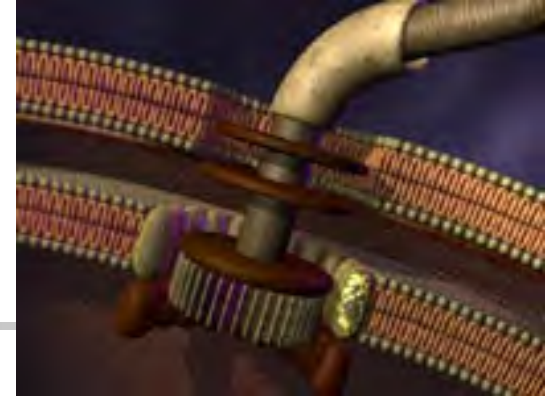
- The Bible pictures God as having made the universe by His wisdom.
- Scientists who are atheists claim the universe is the way it is by chance.
- It now appears that the universe is marvelously adjusted to allow life to exist.
- Nature says the universe is designed.

# Origin of the Earth



- Bible believers often claim the earth was made instantly in its finished form just a few thousand years ago.
- Nature seems to teach the earth had a long history before it reached its present form.
- The Biblical account of creation in Genesis One is consistent with this evidence from astronomy and geology.

# Origin of Life



- The Bible says that God created life.
- Some scientists claim that life arose from non-life by purely natural processes.
- The complex functionality of living things seems clearly to surpass what could happen by chance in our universe.
- Nature points to something beyond itself in containing the phenomenon we call 'life.'

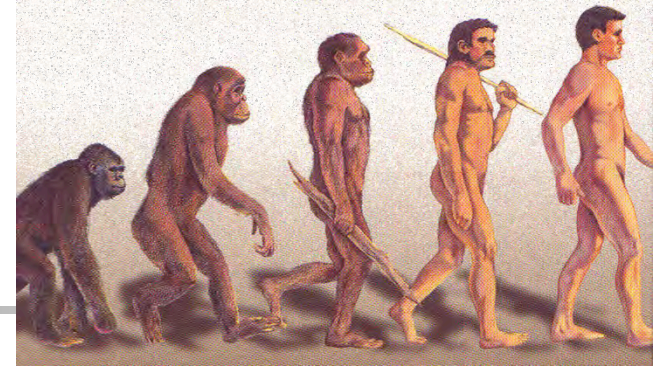


# The Diversity of Life



- The Bible says God made the diverse living things, but does not give us much information about how He did so.
- Many scientists claim that all the variety of life evolved from the simplest living things by purely mindless, random processes.
- Detailed studies of the fossil record and of current life point to some sort of intelligent guidance or intervention.

# The Origin of Humans

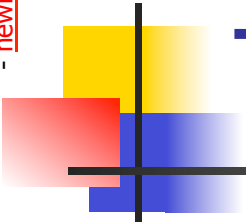


- The Bible says God made humans in His own image.
- Many scientists claim humans developed naturally from the apes.
- Though humans are quite similar physically to the apes, there is a great chasm between them in regard to intellect, initiative and spirituality.
- This does not look like something that happened by chance.

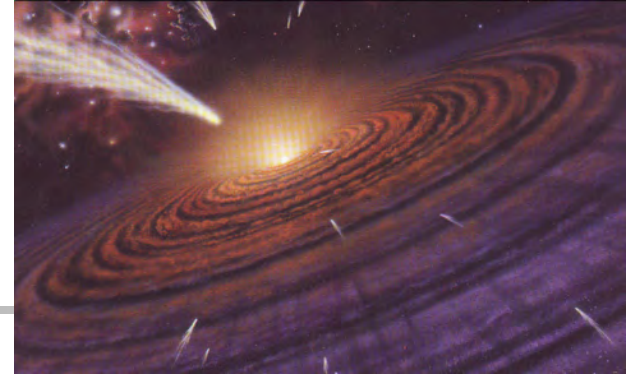
# A Tour of Genesis One, Comparing Nature & Scripture

---

- In the beginning, God created heaven & earth.
  - A beginning, perhaps the 'big bang'
- The earth was formless & empty.
  - Earth (& Sun) formed from cloud of gas & dust
- Darkness over the surface of the deep.
  - Gas cloud becomes dark within as it contracts

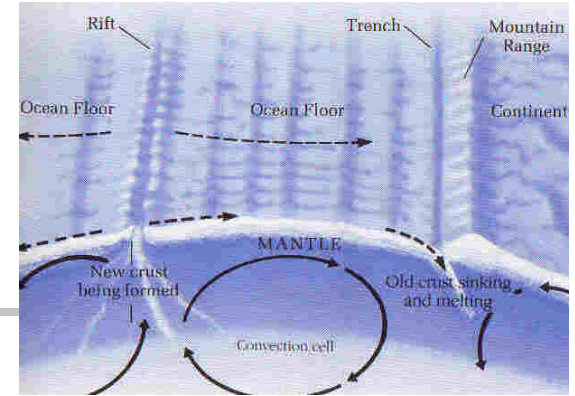


# Tour of Genesis



- God says, 'Let there be light.'
  - With further contraction, cloud begins to glow
- God separates light from darkness.
  - Material to form planets pushed outside central bulge
- God calls light 'day' & darkness 'night.'
  - Planets form; their rotation gives night & day

# Tour of Genesis



- Let the waters be gathered, land appear.
  - Motion of plates produces continents, basins
- Let the land produce vegetation.
  - Plant life appears on land
- Let sun, moon and stars appear in the sky.
  - Plants oxygenate atmosphere, clearing sky so sun, moon, stars visible; provide air for animals

# Tour of Genesis



- Let waters & air fill with animals.
  - Marine and air animals appear
- Let the land produce various animals.
  - Land animals appear
- Let us make mankind in our image.
  - Humans appear last in the fossil record.



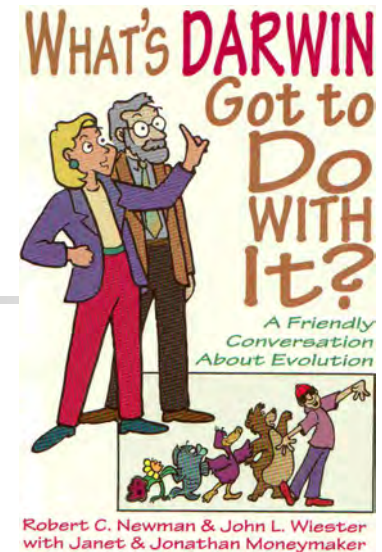
# Conclusions

---

- A striking correlation between nature and Scripture!
- Both picture:
  - A universe with a beginning
  - A designed universe
  - An origin of life that surpasses chance
  - A diversity of life that suggests intervention
- The details of Genesis 1 match our best scientific model for the early earth.

# For Further Reading

- Websites [www.ibri.org](http://www.ibri.org) and [www.reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org)
- Hugh Ross, *Creator & Cosmos*
- Newman, *Genesis 1 & Origin Earth*
- Michael Denton, *Nature's Destiny*
- Michael Behe, *Darwin's Black Box*
- Newman & Wiester, *What's Darwin Got to Do With It?*







# The End

May you continue to study both  
nature and Scripture!