

Christ The Rock Church

September 17, 2023



GENESIS

Origins



Genesis Introduction

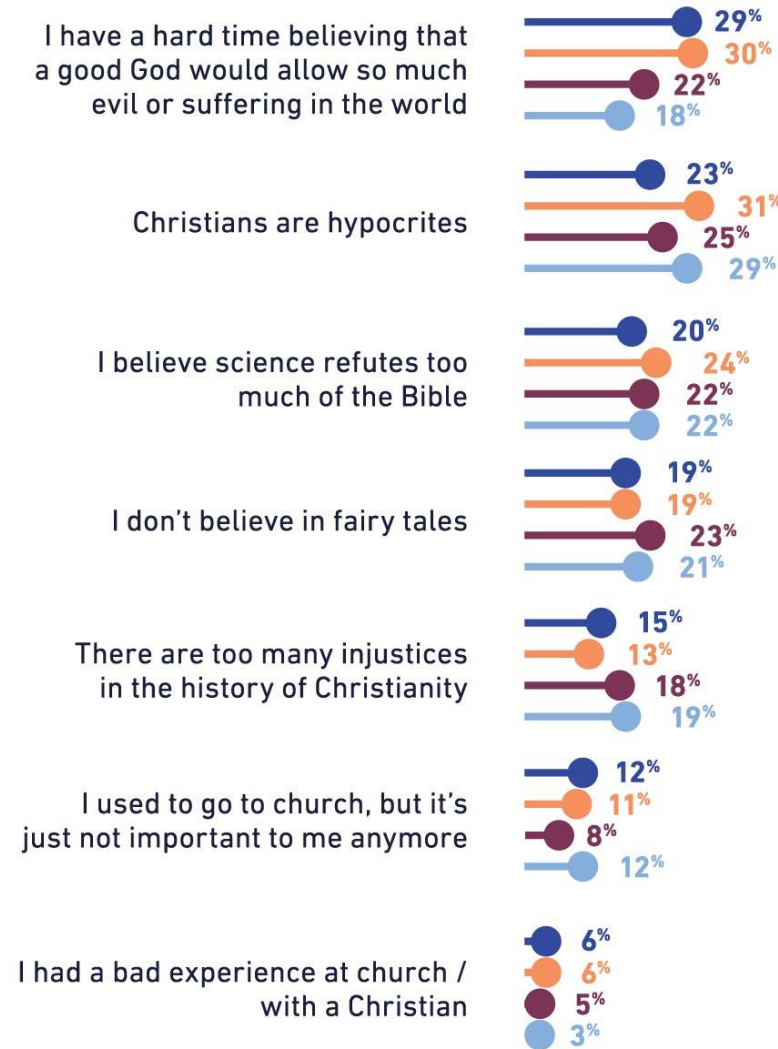
Genesis 1:1-2

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 And the earth was a formless and desolate emptiness, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

Genesis 1:1-2

The transcendent, omnipotent Godhead called into existence the space-mass-time universe including compound matter.

Non-Christians' Barriers to Faith



Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

16 Now while Paul was waiting for them (Silas & Timothy) in **Athens**, his spirit was being **provoked within him** as he observed that the city was full of **idols**. **17** So he was reasoning in the **synagogue** with the Jews and the God-fearing Gentiles, and in the **marketplace every day** with those who **happened** to be present.

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

18 And some of the **Epicurean and Stoic philosophers** as well were conversing with him. Some were saying, “What could this scavenger of tidbits want to say?” Others, “He seems to be a proclaimer of **strange deities**,”—because he was preaching **Jesus and the resurrection**.

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

19 And they took him and brought him to the **Areopagus**, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is which you are proclaiming? **20** For you are bringing some strange things to our ears; so we want to know what these things mean.” **21** (Now all the Athenians and the strangers visiting there used to **spend their time in nothing** other than telling or hearing something new.)

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

22 So Paul **stood** in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in all respects. **23** For while I was passing through and **examining** the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, ‘**TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.**’ Therefore, what you worship in **ignorance**, this I proclaim to you.

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

24 The God who **made the world and everything that is in it**, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made by hands; **25** nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people **life and breath and all things**; **26** and He made from **one man every nation of mankind** to

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, 27 that they would seek God, if perhaps they might feel around for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; 28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His descendants.’

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

29 Therefore, since we are the descendants of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and thought. **30** So having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now proclaiming to mankind that all people everywhere are to repent,

Acts 17:16-31 (NASB)

31 because He has set a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all people by raising Him from the dead.”

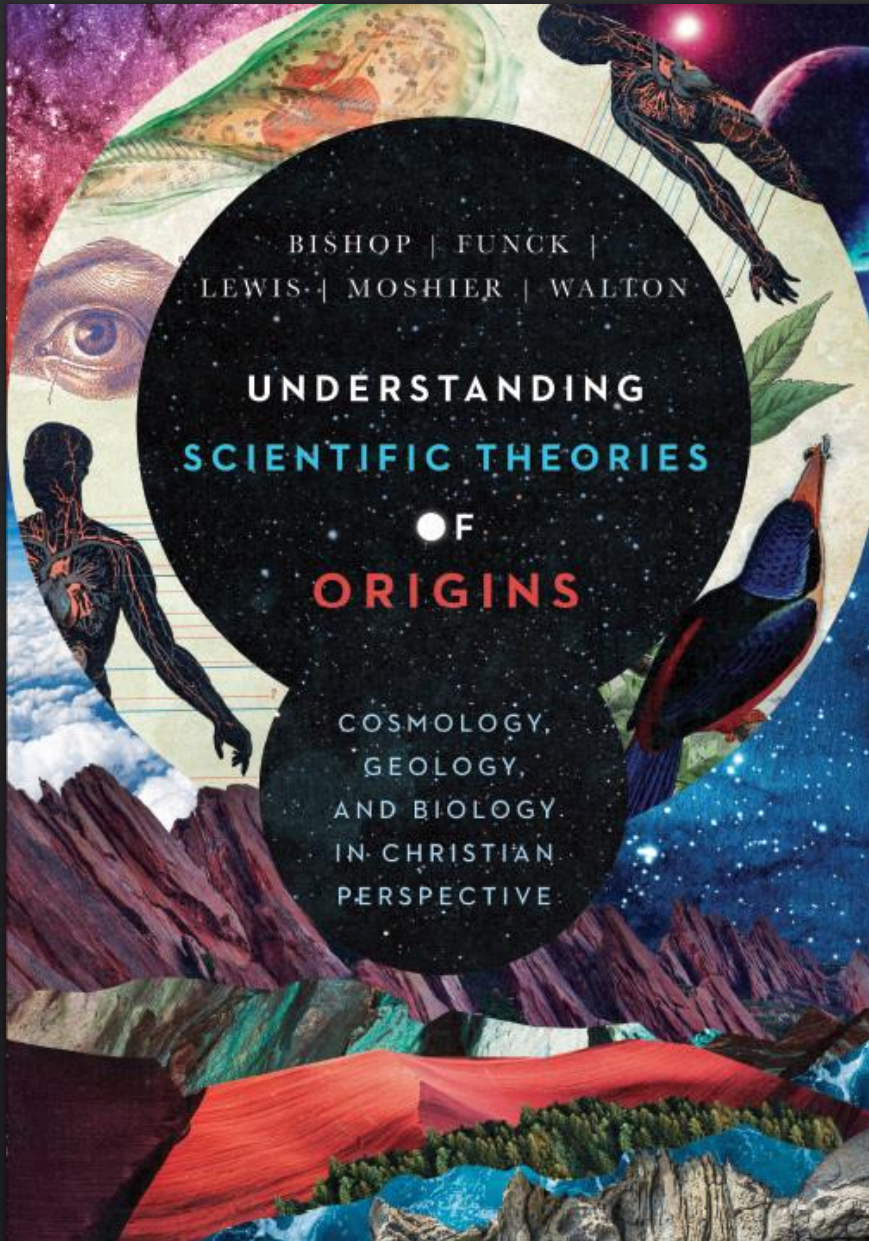
Revelation 14:7

and he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give Him glory, because the **hour of His judgment** has come; worship Him who made the **heaven** and the **earth**, and **sea** and **springs of waters.**”

◆ Satan hates the beginning of Genesis and the end of Revelation (Satan's exposure & demise)

◆ He tries to get you to believe Gen. 1-3 are myth – Revelation a mystery (unknowable)

John Walton – Prof. O.T. History – Wheaton



- ◇ Formerly Moody for 20 years
- ◇ *The Lost World of Genesis One*, 2009
- ◇ Genesis not intended to be an account of origins. It has no account of origins. Therefore, we can look to science for the narrative. Doesn't believe in global flood either.
- ◇ *This textbook funded by BioLogos*
- ◇ Founder: Francis Collins, NIH Director
- ◇ President: Deborah Haarsma, Astrophysicist, M.I.T., Bethel Seminary, St, Paul, MN.

They Believe

- ◇ Climate Change
- ◇ Millions of Years
- ◇ mRNA Vaccines

Why pursue apologetics (defense of the faith)

1 Peter 3:15 – but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to *make a defense* to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, but with gentleness and respect; [Acts 22:1; Phil. 1:7, Phil. 1:16]

The Big Question

- ◆ Is there a “God?”
- ◆ Is this all evolutionary chance?

Politics

Karl Marx: anyone believing in God must have a mental disorder that causes invalid thinking.

Psychology

Sigmund Freud: a person who believed in a Creator God was delusional and only held those beliefs due to a “wish-fulfillment”.

Philosophy

Friedrich Nietzsche:

Faith equates to *not* wanting to know what is true.

The Atheist

Psalm 14:1 – The fool hath said in his heart there is

no God.

Atheist's say our position is unsound. They say, "you can't prove God". Right back at ya – you can't disprove the existence of God.

(Negative existential proposition)

So what . . .

Since you can't prove a negative
existential proposition
(there is no God),
the consequences of your choice
could be catastrophic

Romans 1:18-21

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who **suppress the truth** in unrighteousness, because that which is *known about God is **evident within them***; for **God made it evident to them**. For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes, that is*, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, **being understood by what has been made**, so that they

Romans 1:18-21

are *without excuse*. For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became *futile in their reasonings*, and their senseless hearts were darkened.

- ◆ Science: can't tell us how creation began nor why
- ◆ Philosophy: can't tell us where evil came from

Created in God's Image

No atheist can explain how an impersonal, purposeless, meaningless, and **amoral** universe accidentally created beings (us) who are full of personality and obsessed with purpose, meaning, and morals. Such a thing, from a causation standpoint, completely refutes the idea of a **natural** universe birthing everything that exists.

The Believers 'Logic Train

1. Something exists.
2. You do not get something from nothing.
3. Therefore a necessary and eternal “something” exists.
4. The only two options are an eternal universe or an eternal Creator.
5. Science and philosophy disprove the concept of an eternal universe.

The Believers 'Logic Train

6. Therefore, an eternal Creator exists.

So Prove It!

The Bible Never Seeks to ‘prove’ the existence of God – it assumes it.

Instead, the Bible explains/proves everything else.

The Other Big Question

Can You Trust the Bible

Decide . . .

Is the Bible just another book of myth or legend or is it the divinely inspired record of the Creator God?

If you DO believe it – can you defend/explain it to those who don't?

The Bible has Answers

Genesis describes how all things came into being through a Creator God, how God's very own creation turned from Him, and how that same creator God enacted a plan to buy back (redeem) His creation and care for it (rule).

Abortion
Pornography
Euthanasia
Transgenderism
Pedophilia
LGBTQ
Homosexual Behavior
Gender Identity
Gay Marriage Racism
Lawlessness
Gender Bathrooms/School Sports
Critical Race Theory
Etc.

What's Your Question

The Word of God
Answers all these
Issues

Questions We Will Address

Who created God?

Where did Cain get his wife?

Doesn't Evolution disprove the Bible?

Couldn't God have used evolution?

What does it mean to be created in the image of God?

Doesn't carbon-dating disprove a young Earth?

There was no human writing at the time of Moses –
how could he have written Genesis?

Questions We Will Address

Doesn't the fossil record disprove the global flood?

Doesn't science disprove the Bible?

Are there holes in Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution?

How did all the animals fit on Noah's Ark

What happened to the dinosaurs

What is 'science': observational versus theoretical

How can I use this information to be a
better witness for Christ

Genesis: 'Origins'

Origin of the Universe

Origin of life

Origin of man

Origin of marriage

Origin of sin

Origin of language

Origin of government

Origin of culture

Genesis: 'Origins'

Origin of nations

Origin of religion

Origin of the Chosen People

Origin of the Gospel

Origin of order & complexity:

(vs. Randomness) the proof of a creator

A 'Randomness' Thought

Science only works because of an orderly universe. To say it is random chance works against them. Water doesn't boil at 212 degrees today but freeze at that temp tomorrow. Why observe the laws of physics if the universe is random.

In the Creation God brought order out of chaos

Theories of Creation

Gap Theory

Day/Age Theory

Theistic Evolution

Framework Hypothesis

Young Earth Creationism

The History of Mankind

2 Chronicles 36:15-16 -- The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent word to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; 16 but they continually mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

We Are We to Do

Repent: daily

Believe: the truth of God's Word

Share: this truth with the world

Trust: maintain your hope, joy and peace