

# Bible Study Lesson 1

Is there a God?

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## Why look at this while studying the Bible?

Just as God started with presenting the correct worldview and history of the universe while there were many false views, we must also deal with this issue. We are inundated with many different worldviews and information claiming to prove other worldviews. If you already are confident that God exists and that He has created the universe and all that is in it in six literal days as described in Genesis, then this lesson can be skipped or referenced later if needed.

## Is it possible that there is no God?

In our society we are usually told that science proves that God does not exist. What we actually see is the outworking of what the Apostle Paul wrote about.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. <u>For since</u> <u>the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature,</u> <u>have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made,</u> so that they 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 speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, (Rom. 1:18-22)

So, let's look at the possibility that God does not exist from a logical and scientific point of view.

The definition of science according to the Concise Oxford Dictionary is

- 1 the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behaviour of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.
- 2 a systematically organized body of knowledge on any subject.<sup>1</sup>

According to the first definition, science is limited to the physical and natural world and requires observation and experimentation. The observation aspect is something that we are able to do with anything in the present. When we experiment, we can set forth a hypothesis and then test it and verify the results. Anything that we cannot observe in the present and experiment with would require interpretation of the data that we observe. A good example of this would be the Grand Canyon. Here we have a lot of observable data, but we were not there to observe its formation, nor can we repeat the formation of the canyon. We must therefore interpret the data that is there. Interpretation requires assumptions and is usually based on personal biases and beliefs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Catherine Soanes and Angus Stevenson, eds., <u>Concise Oxford English Dictionary</u> (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2004).

Science can never actually "prove" anything since we never know if we have all the relevant data, nor do we know if the processes in the past were the same as present day processes and we do not know if there are undiscovered processes and if future processes will act the same as present day processes. If this universe just acted in a random way as the evolutionary theory would really require, then we could not even be able to engage in scientific studies. Science depends on there being order, not random operations. What science does in repeatable experiments is to provide a high degree of certainty in predicting what will happen in a situation given a set of circumstances. For example, anything that is heavier than air will fall down because of gravity. Anything lighter than water will float and so on. These are based on repeatable and testable experiments.

Science can not actually eliminate any possibilities. For example, how can you prove that "miracles" cannot happen? How can you prove that God does not exist? By definition, science can only deal with the physical, natural world, it cannot deal with the spiritual and supernatural world.

According to definition two, the study of the Bible and God would also be considered science.

## The universe from nothing?

Is the formation of all the energy and material something that can scientifically and logically come from nothing? The law of "The conservation of matter and energy" states that energy and matter cannot be created or destroyed, they can only be changed from one form to another and the total amount will always remain the same. Based on this scientific law, it would be impossible for all the matter and energy in the universe to have come from nothing.

### An eternal universe?

Since the universe cannot have come from nothing, can it have existed for all eternity? The second law of thermodynamics answers this question. The universe over time will achieve a state of thermal equilibrium at which point no usable energy would be left and the universe would essentially be dead. So, if the universe was eternal, we would have a dead universe by now since it would be in a state of thermal equilibrium. Based on this, the universe cannot have existed eternally.

### Multiverse

Evolutionists have had to essentially concede that the universe could not have come from nothing, could not have been eternal and is so finely tuned that it just could not have happened just by pure chance and luck. They have now proposed that an infinite number of universes in different dimensions just keep popping up from other universes, so with an infinite number of universes with pretty much all possible combinations, it produced a universe where everything just happened to be right for life on earth. This is an unscientific theory since it is neither observable or testable. It also exasperates the problem, because now you have even more material and energy that you have to produce from nothing and you have to be able to explain the processes involved, so this is not an option either.

#### **Big Bang**

While we have just established that the material and energy could not have come from nothing or have existed eternally, we move on to the next item. According to the "Big Bang" theory, about 13.8 billion years or so ago, there was an explosion from the initial amount of energy and matter, but what would cause this process to happen? It "inflated" very quickly at first, much faster than the speed of light and then stopped inflating at that rate and went to a more "normal" rate of expansion. What was the cause or process for it to stop expanding so fast? What we really have here is speculation that does not have valid causes and is not observable or testable.

## Life from non-life

Another impossibility is the accidental formation of life. This has not even been achieved in a lab with intelligent intervention. There was an experiment conducted by Miller and Urey in 1952 trying to create the building blocks of life. They were able to produce some amino acids in the lab, but they were an equal amount of left and right-handed ones, whereas life always has only left-handed ones. The law of biogenesis states that life always comes from life. In their experiments they also eliminated oxygen in order to get these amino acids. The best information that we have is that if anything there was more oxygen on the earth at the beginning. The real problem is that you cannot have oxygen to get these amino acids, but you need oxygen to have life. A substantial analysis on this subject is <u>AiG article on abiogenesis</u>

### Law of information

Dr. Werner Gitt wrote a book called "In the beginning was information". The basic concept is that information always comes from information and that information is not a property of matter. Even if you could make the required matter, it would still not operate or function just like a computer without an operating system programmed into it will not operate. If you let a computer sit for millions of years, it will still not somehow self generate an operating system. Information can be changed or lost, but new information does not come into being without information. This means that life cannot exist without someone creating and installing the information (operating system).

### Knowledge

If the universe just operated in a random fashion and all of our mental processes were just a result of these random chemical processes then knowledge would not be possible. Logic and reasoning are not possible in a worldview that has randomness at its core. Logic is not material, it is abstract, so in effect, Logic is not possible in an evolutionary model. You could never have a coherent discussion regarding anything if everything is just random since it would always be

changing. Truth is the record or explanation of reality. In an evolutionary worldview, we would never know if what we see, hear or think are just random processes or if there is order. How would we ever know and be confident that we do know something if everything is just random. Different people would have different processes so there would be different views which would be contradictory and thus violate the law of non-contradiction. There would be no right or wrong since everything would just be the result of random chemical processes. You could never say that killing millions of people is wrong because the person has no control over their actions and therefore there would be no culpability for their actions. All this is only possible when there is a God that has made us with the ability to think, reason and act. Right and wrong is also only possible when there is a God who has established it. Right and wrong must always be based on an external reference point since people always have different opinions on what is right and wrong and these also change over time and vary from place to place. Any person that claims to know right and wrong without a God who has established it, makes themselves out to be God.

## Single cell division to bi-sexual reproduction

This is another impossible situation to explain in an evolutionary model. Just think of the processes required, and remember that for changes to occur, the organism has to live, reproduce and die. So, in order for bi-sexual reproduction to occur, there must be two strains of organisms that independently are, by random chance, producing extra organs that currently have no function. One strain must produce only the male reproductive system and the other must produce the female reproductive system over hundreds of thousands or millions of years while still reproducing by itself. These must then come together in order to start reproducing at the same time in the same place. They must then delete the ability to reproduce by themselves. Where does the information come from to make all of this?

### Conclusion

It is quite obvious from even this short list that God has to exist and that He has to be eternal. The universe could not have come from nothing, life could not have come from non-life, information could not have come without information from somewhere. Bi-sexual reproduction could not have "evolved". While there are many other confirmations of the Bible being true and the "Big Bang" and evolution being false, this provides the basis for refuting it and not needing to look at every issue that someone may bring up. If the foundation is faulty, the everything that is put on it will also crumble.

Some good websites for more detailed information regarding this topic:

Answers in Genesis

Associates for Biblical Research

Is Genesis History