

**Did God Create the Universe?
10 Reasons to Say "Yes"**
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How Did We Get to This Point?

➤ **TWO BIG NAMES**

Immanuel Kant...Removed the Need for God Theologically.

- Naturalism – no universals exist.
- God does not seem needed for morals.
- After Kant: science was given philosophical prestige (due to an empirical method), whereas ethics & religion are left with being "up to us."

Charles Darwin...Removed the Need for God Scientifically.

- Charles Darwin...removed God scientifically
- Evolution removed the need for creation... Now, even humans' origins can be explained without need for God.

➤ **FACT/OPINION DIVIDE**

FACTS	OPINIONS
<p>Naturalistic Science</p> <p>Gives us knowledge of truths, facts</p>	<p>Ethics, Morality & Religion</p> <p>Gives us preferences, Opinions & values</p>

Why Do We Believe in Creation?

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.
Psalm 19:1 NIV*

Reason #1....The Universe Had a Beginning

For the longest time, scientists & philosophers believed that the universe had always existed.

- ✓ Aristotle believed in an eternal universe.
- ✓ The great scientist Isaac Newton believed in the uniform distribution of matter throughout.
- ✓ The brilliant Einstein believed in an eternal universe until he admitted that he made the biggest mistake of his remarkable career.

On April 24, 1992, newspapers around the world heralded a breakthrough by an American research team. It made the front-page headlines of the London Times for five consecutive days. Ted Koppel on ABC's "Nightline" began his interview of an astronomer and a physicist by quoting the first two verses of Genesis....what was the news?

A team of astrophysicists had reported the latest findings from the COBE satellite (otherwise known as the Cosmic Background Explorer). This team had indisputable proof that the universe came into existence from a distinct point in time. The universe literally sprang into existence as a result of an incredibly hot explosion. This was stunning confirmation of the big bang creation event

*“The community of scientists were prepared to consider the idea that God created the universe
“a more respectable hypothesis today than at any time in the last hundred years.”*
Science historian Frederic Burnham

“unbelievably important...they have found the Holy Grail of the cosmos”
Michael Turner, astrophysicist with the University of Chicago

“What we have found is evidence for the birth of the universe...It’s like looking at God”
George Smoot, University of California at Berkeley astronomer
& project leader for the COBE satellite

Reason #2....The Universe is **Expanding**

With the design of the Hubble Telescope (Edwin Hubble-1929) discovered that distant galaxies are moving away from us! This expansion is now decelerating from a powerful, initial urge. The consensus is not simply that the universe is expanding—it is exploding! This further supported the notion of a “creation event”!

The Balloon...

The Oven...

Reason #3....The Universe has a **Design**

People just seem to assume that if you just looked hard enough you would find hundreds of similar places like earth...that we are just one of many...nothing unique, nothing special...no unique conditions that allowed the possibility of human life! If it’s hard, then it’s not crazy to consider it a miracle...especially when many factors look like they involved genuine contingency. Astronomers now identify 40 different characteristics that must be fine tuned for life to exist. The chances of all of these different values occurring are 1×10^{-42}

“There is for me powerful evidence that there is something going on behind it all...It seems as though somebody has fine-tuned nature’s numbers to make the Universe....The impression of design is overwhelming”
Paul Davies, The Cosmic Blueprint

“One would have to conclude either that the features of the universe are only coincidences or that the universe was indeed tailor-made for life. I will leave it to the theologians to ascertain the identity of the tailor”
Cosmologist Bernard Carr, Journal Nature

Reason #4....The Luminosity of the **Sun**

“Luminosity of the sun measures the brightness & amount of energy that a sun produces”.

➤ **If the sun were larger:**

It would burn its hydrogen up quicker, before planets were stable.
It would give off more deadly ultraviolet light.

➤ **If the sun were smaller:**

Light would be more red with less energy for photosynthesis. More turbulent surface, convection causing x-ray bursts.

Reason #5.... A “Just Right” Sized **Earth**

“Mass and density determine strength of surface gravity”

➤ **If stronger:** The atmosphere would retain light gases like methane & ammonia.

➤ **If weaker:** Water, oxygen and nitrogen would not be retained. You would have Mars!

Reason #6.... Our Distance From the Sun

“A nearly circular orbit is required for temperature stability...the Habitable Zone!”

- **If closer:** too warm for liquid water.
- **If further:** too cool for liquid water. Life is impossible without liquid water.

Reason #7....Rotation Rate of the Earth

- If faster: wind velocities would be too great...the trade winds...constant hurricanes!
- If slower: too much day / night temperature variation. The rotisserie effect!

Reason #8....The Right Size of the Moon

- If less: Earth's orbit and tilt would be less stable. The stabilizer bar for the tightrope walker
- If greater: Tides too large, earth rotation slowed.

Reason #9.... Need Protection by Large Outer Planet (Jupiter)

- Must have at least one giant outer planet to deflect or absorb incoming space debris.

Note: Description of Revelation...quite accurately portrayed in this...scientists tell us that it is a reasonable description of what would happen.

Reason #10....Must be Part of the Right-kind of Solar System

- Of all the galaxies only 5% are spiral like our Milky Way
- Elliptical galaxies don't produce enough heavy elements to allow a planet like earth to form.

Conclusion:

*For this is what the Lord says—he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited—
Isaiah 45:18 NIV*

Astronomy shows us that the universe has a lot of waste places but not this planet!

- The Universe is Big, but NOT infinite.
- 100 billion (1 E11) galaxies, each with ~1 E11 stars. About 6×10^{22} (6 E 22) possible solar systems.
- But... how many stars *really* have planets?
- Of these, how many are in a safe, sparse region?
- Of these, how many have one in the habitable zone?
- Of these, how many are the right size, spin, tilt, core, moon?
- Hugh Ross (The Creator & the Cosmos): 40-odd parameters, odds get down to: 1×10^{-42}

“On Earth, a long sequence of improbable events transpired in just the right way to bring forth our existence, as if we had won a million-dollar lottery a million times in a row. Contrary to the prevailing belief, maybe we are special...it seems prudent to conclude that we are alone in a vast cosmic ocean.”

Robert Naeye, Astronomy, July 1996

or

“A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature.”

Fred Hoyle, self-proclaimed atheist