

Science of Origins

Part 1—Principles

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Scientific Method. In previous centuries, physicists applied the Scientific Method to learn the nature of the world, understand natural processes, and discover some things about the origin, age, and nature of the cosmos. Whatever forces and structures that existed in observable matter were assumed to apply to objects ranging in size from the smallest atom to the largest galaxy of stars. Most physicists believed an orderly universe existed that is governed by inviolable laws of causality, reality, and unity. Taken together, these worldview principles convinced both philosophers and physicists that knowledge gained by observation of the visible in earthly laboratories would apply uniformly to the invisible world of the small atom and the distant world of the heavens.

Sources of Knowledge. Three sources of knowledge about the physical universe dominate approaches to the search for reality. Each of the three schools has strengths and weaknesses. Each approach to finding truth in physics has its own prominent proponents and scholars, and each approach has waxed and waned in influence over periods of centuries.

Revelation is that source of knowledge from God that was passed down by prophets in written records, notably the Bible. Knowledge as to the origin of the universe passed to us by revelation has the credibility that is associated with the testimony of an eyewitness. The weaknesses of revelation are the limited nature of the record with respect to many details of great interest, and questions that are raised as to the reliability or authenticity of the record's witness.

Rationalism is a philosophy that the only source of knowledge about the present world and its origin is what is conceived in the human mind and validated by logical criteria. Preference for this philosophy of acquiring knowledge lies in its self-centric appeal to the practitioner, who is very satisfied with the world of his own ideas and conclusions, or those constructed by someone he admires or respects. One shortcoming of this subjective and humanistic approach is its limited opportunity to produce actual knowledge of the truth, due primarily to the corrupted nature of the human mind as evidenced by the failure of fellow-rationalists to reach any widespread consensus—except, of course, the consensus of rejecting the idea that a Creator God exists.

Empiricism is a philosophy that the only source of knowledge about the present world and its origin is what can be observed about the material world and natural processes via careful experimentation and observation of the physical world. When

guided by the Scientific Method, empiricism has produced a considerable body of theory and new technologies with huge benefits to mankind. An obvious weakness of empiricism, with respect to origins of the universe, earth, and life, is that origins cannot be, and never have been, directly observed or repeated in a laboratory. Conjectures such as the Big Bang Theory and formation of the material universe, or the origin of the first living cell, cannot be validated empirically and are therefore, in reality, belief systems based on faith. For many secular physicists the only acceptable data are from experiments performed personally or by colleagues who deny the existence of a supernatural God. When the principle of atheism is added to empiricism, the operational philosophy is called *naturalism* or *Epicureanism*.

Integration of All Sources of Knowledge. Common Sense Science’s working philosophy fully implements the Scientific Method by integrating knowledge revealed by God, knowledge from careful observation and experimentation, and knowledge from logical relationships (*e.g.*, complete consistency of data and theories) in order to (1) describe the original events that formed the universe, (2) model the physical structure of matter, and (3) predict the natural processes occurring today. This approach has been used to elucidate the following five Doctrines of Creation.

1. God is Eternal. Almost everyone will agree that the physical universe *exists*, but its existence raises some questions: Did the universe always exist? If not, what existed prior to the universe that explains how the universe came into being?

The first Doctrine of Creation is the *eternal existence of God*. By revelation we learn that “In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth” [1], declaring that God brought the universe into being. By logic we know that if the universe was created, then a Creator must have existed *before* the event of creation.

Moreover, Moses declared that no part of the universe existed before Day One of Creation Week. Prior to Day One, nothing existed except the Creator. The universe, including the earth, did not exist and was literally “void, without form, and dark” [2]. At this time, there were no stars, no mountains, no atmosphere, no matter, nor light. All was “void” (empty of matter), all was “without form” (there was nothing that had a form or shape), and there was complete “darkness” (no energy of light or heat).

Not only did God exist *prior* to the universe—He has *always* existed. Moses also wrote that God is eternal: “Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou formed the earth and the world even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God” [3].

The first Doctrine of Creation considers the question *what was first?* and answers *God was first and always has been*. Atheists do not admit the existence of God, and about 50 BC Lucretius argued that atoms existed from eternity-past since “nothing was ever by miracle made from nothing”[4]. *Atomism* (or *Epicureanism*) is the name of the philosophy that atoms are eternal and have the power of creation.

A few decades ago, atomists asserted that a chance-event of nature created the entire universe out of nothing, starting with a huge explosion called The Big Bang that produced matter, space and time. Like the ancient atomists who “used the atomic philosophy mainly to combat religion” [5], many modern atomists declare that “There is no God.”

Atheists and agnostic philosophers and scientists try to account for the existence of the universe and life itself by *natural processes alone* through an imagined power and intelligence of nature. Two conflicting assertions are made, both of which are absurd and completely without evidence: (1) eternal atoms with inherent power and intelligence account for all matter, life, and intelligent existence, or (2) by chance, the universe suddenly appeared out of nothing through the laws and power of nature, which did not then exist.

Creationists understand that “from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God” [3]. “The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth his handiwork [6]. “In Him, we live and move and have our being” [7].

2. God is Omnipotent. We live in a universe filled with energy. Our homes are heated with energy produced from coal, natural gas and electricity as long as we pay our *power* bills. Indeed, our modern lifestyle greatly depends upon technologies that harness the latent energy residing in all material substances.

Where did all the energy residing in heaven and earth come from? The Bible declares that before creation, neither the universe nor energy existed: The universe was void, without form and dark [2]. Then God said “Let there be light.” On the first day of creation week, the Father of Lights supplied the raw energy that today is embodied throughout the physical universe.

Whatever Almighty God *speaks* happens according to his will:

So now the Word of God speaks in Genesis 1:3. The result is light, the energizing of the vast cosmos through the marvelous electro-magnetic force system which maintains all structures and processes in matter. These varied energies include not only visible light, but also all the short-wave radiations (ultra-violet, x-rays, etc.) and the long-wave radiations (infra-red, radio waves, etc.) as well as heat, sound, electricity, magnetism, molecular inter-actions, etc. “Light,” the most basic form of energy, is mentioned specifically, but its existence necessarily implies the activation of all forms of electro-magnetic energies [8].

Obviously, creation of the world could not have occurred without the *power* of God. Indeed, “He hath made the earth by his power” [9]. “Because that which may be known of God is manifest... For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his *eternal power* and Godhead; so that they are without excuse” [10].

Today we can observe for ourselves the *eternal power* established by God when he made the world. Stars continue to shine, rocks and mountains are durable, and engineers are busy harnessing sources of energy. Isaiah urges us to behold the might

and power of the Creator: “Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth” [11].

In consideration of the awesome power that he used so well in creation, God is worthy of great respect: “Thou art worthy, O Lord to receive glory and honour and *power*; for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” [12].

3. God is Creator. By revelation we learn that “In the beginning, God *created* the heaven and the earth” [1]. When my three year old son asked “Who is God?” I answered simply “He is the One who made everything.” Later he will learn that *God is a Spirit* and much more, but first he can learn that *God is Creator*.

Creation is God’s primal act of bringing the world into existence. Chapter one of Genesis adds details to the introduction and overview (verses one and two) by describing particular events that occurred over a period of six days whereby God first *energized* the entire universe on Day One, and next “formed” and “framed” and “made” all things, and then brought plants, animals, and man to life.

The Bible declares that God created heaven and earth *out of nothing*. He alone is the *cause* that made the world exist. According to the well-known *law of cause and effect* the universe could not naturally evolve or create itself, and present-day belief systems that propose a self-creating universe are merely engaged in unfounded wishful thinking. Several words are used to describe how God made the world:

- “create” emphasizes that the material universe sprang into existence *ex Nihilo* (out of Nothing)
- “formed” and “framed” and “made” indicate that structures were formed and serve a functional purpose. As God told Job “I laid the foundations of the earth” [13]. And He said “Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: when I call unto them, they stand up together” [14].

Before God created the universe, all was “void” and no building materials existed. Then on Day One God miraculously *created*, out of nothing, all the energy fields and substances he would use in *forming* the worlds that he “spread” throughout the universe [15]. What God created first was some visible light, some invisible light, and a substance that physicists and engineers call ‘electric charge.’ (All elementary particles – electrons and protons – appear to be composed of ‘electric charge.’)

Using the material substance created on Day One, God proceeded to construct the universe. “Through faith, we understand that the worlds were *framed* by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” [16]. On Days 2-6, God *formed the light* into complex and mature functional forms including elementary particles, atoms, molecules, cells, planets, stars, galaxies, plants, animals, man, and energy fields such as starlight and gravity fields. God explained: “I form the light, and create darkness” [17]. In forming the light, God

also formed regions of darkness by removing light from some places and establishing it in other places.

By using words such as *framed*, *formed*, and *made*, God tells us that the created objects have a physical form and structure. The actual, real world is composed of material substance in specific forms, sizes, and shapes including invisible objects such as atoms and molecules that have form and structure. Even invisible energy fields such as gravity and magnetic fields have form and structure.

God formed the earth on Day Two of Creation Week. The initial framework of this structure was a great sea of water covering the entire surface of the earth with an atmospheric expanse above the surface water. On the same day God divided the surface water, placing some of the water above (and within?) the atmosphere [18]. On the Third Day, God gathered the surface waters together so that the dry land appeared [19].

The Bible reveals the original creation, on Days Three, Five, and Six, of common ancestors for all the different “kinds” of living organisms—*not* the natural emergence of life beginning with a single, common ancestor for all living organisms including mankind as asserted by evolutionists [20].

Post-modern philosophers who reject the Biblical description of physical reality propose that reality consists of ideas created in the human mind (Plato and Kant), or ‘quantum objects’ such as wave-like electrons that transform themselves into point-particles (Bohr and Heisenberg), or even mathematical equations (Einstein and Feynman).

The actual, *physical* world we live in, planet earth, shows unmistakable and irresistible evidence of being designed and constructed as a good place to live. God himself attests to His purpose and involvement in creation: “For thus saith the Lord that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited” [21].

4. God is Sustainer. By a series of miraculous events during the first six days of the world, God first *energized* and then *made* everything in heaven and earth. The world that He *supernaturally* created in just six days was fully functional and designed to sustain life by *natural* processes of growing, healing, and reproduction. For example, plants created on Day Three thrived in water, soil and light prepared by God on previous days. Each plant was created as fully grown with “seed in itself” and ready to reproduce [22].

Each plant and animal with “seed in itself” produced offspring “after its own kind” according to the genetic code that was designed by God and placed in its “seed” [23]. Thus, the natural process of reproduction preserves the original design and ensures that God “created it not in vain” [21]. Scripture refutes the modern principles that claim life evolved by chance and chaos, and no empirical data exist that are inconsistent with Scripture’s claims. Part 2 will present empirical evidence that

favors creationism and casts doubt on evolutionism.

At the end of the sixth day of Creation Week, God stopped all creation activity and “the heavens and the earth were finished” [24]. All of God’s creating and making activity was completed.

“And on the seventh day God *ended his work* which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made” [25]. Day Seven marks the beginning of the present age when God maintains the natural order in the universe. In a former time “all things were created by him” [26], but at this time “by him all things *consist*” [27] as he holds everything together.

The Greek word translated “consist” is *sunistano*, from which we get “sustain.” The things created by Christ are now being sustained, or conserved or held together by Him. He is “upholding all things by the word of His power” [28]. “In Him we live, and move, and have our being” [7]. The most basic of all scientific principles is implied in these two verses [26, 27]: the principle of conservation of mass-energy,* or “all-things.” According to this principle, nothing is now being either created or annihilated—only conserved as far as quantity is concerned. One state of matter can be changed to another (liquid to solid); one type of energy can be converted to another (electrical energy to light energy); and under some conditions, matter and energy can be interchanged (nuclear fission); but the total quantity of mass-energy is always conserved....* This law is the best-proved law of science, but science cannot tell us why it is true. The reason nothing is now being created is because Christ created all things in the past. The reason nothing is now being annihilated is because all things are now being sustained by Him. If it were not so, the binding energy of the atom, which holds its structure together, would collapse, and the whole universe would disintegrate into chaos [28].

Now (post-Creation Week) God sustains all creation and controls all physical processes in the heavens and earth. God uses electromagnetic means to exert his control over nature and accomplish his will. He providentially upholds all objects and energy fields, and He pervasively sustains all physical, electrical, chemical, and biological processes [27]. The universe displays the power, handiwork, and wisdom of God [30, 31].

In light of this abundant evidence from and about the creation, men ought always to remember and worship their Creator. “Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” [12].

5. God is Omniscient. God knows instantly what happens everywhere in the universe. He doesn’t have to wait even a microsecond to learn that a burst of light is coming from a distant exploding star. No, God is all-knowing and *omniscient*

* Inertial mass has been explained in terms of a more fundamental quantity known as ‘equivalent electromagnetic energy,’ so conversion of matter to energy is not taking place in nuclear fission, and the conservation law is actually ‘conservation of energy.’

because he has pre-planned and is in total control of every atom of the universe. Since he knows all actual and possible things, He can “declar[e] the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done” [32].

An atheist, who denies the existence of the omniscient God, asserts that knowledge of a far-away event must wait until nature brings news of the event, and a light ray is the speediest messenger. So, nature is not omniscient, as creationists readily affirm but which humanists and atheists only reluctantly admit.

Of course, the wait-time for learning the news would be short if one is close to the event location. Thus if God is *omnipresent* (present everywhere), and He is, then logically He would instantly know all things that happen. By this example, we perceive how God sees space and time, and we understand the interaction of God’s omniscience with His omnipresence. On the basis of His omnipresence, Christ promised that “lo, I am with you always” [33].

Just as God is present everywhere and dwells in all locations, so also he dwells in the instant of time called ‘now,’ or the present time. When He said to Moses “I AM THAT I AM” [34], God used the present tense form of the verb for *being* to declare that He is the self-existent one. God exists in the *present*, and his creation therefore exists at the same moment of time, which he is re-generating out of his omniscience mind every following moment.

Since God is omniscient and he instantly knows everything, a simultaneous instant of ‘now’ proceeds throughout the created, physical universe. Thus, time flows at the same rate throughout the universe without dilation (which falsely asserts that time slows down for moving objects).

Some conclusions about God and time follow:

1. God Himself dwells in the present. Since creation reflects the same time as God’s time, the present exists simultaneously throughout creation.
2. All locations in the universe exist *simultaneously* in the present, and there is no such thing as ‘time dilation.’
3. No aether nor any other entity, real or imagined, can advance or delay the present instant of time that exists in reality as seen by God.
4. Neither can any theory, such as Einstein’s Relativity Theory, advance or delay the present instant of time that exists in reality as seen by God.
5. Neither can any mathematics or equation, such as Schrödinger’s Equation, advance or delay the instant of time that exists in reality as regenerated and seen by God.
6. Consequently, all motions of objects should reflect the same time reference as in the Galilean Transformation used by engineers.

God is Lord over all creation. “For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is” [35].

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