

I Believe

“Do You Believe That God Created Everything?” Hebrews 11:3 – April 24, 2022

I BELIEVE			
Exploring What You Believe from the Bible's Hall of Faith			
Date	Message Title	Hebrews	Faith Hero
April 17	Do You Believe in the Resurrection?	11:1-2	Jesus
April 24	Do You Believe That God Created Everything?	11:3	You
May 1	Do You Believe in the Rapture?	11:4-6	Enoch
May 8	Do You Believe in Noah and the Flood?	11:7	Noah
May 15	Do You Believe in Miracles?	11:8-16	Sarah
May 22	Do You Believe in Surrendering to God?	11:17-19	Abraham
May 29	Do You Believe God Holds Your Future?	11:20-22	Joseph
June 5	Do You Believe God is More Important Than Money?	11:23-27	Moses
June 12	Do You Believe in Divine Intervention?	11:28-29	Moses
June 19	Do You Believe God Can Use Sinful People?	11:30-31	Rahab
June 26	Do You Believe That You Have Enough Faith?	11:32-40	Daniel
More GF messages can be found at WhatIsGrace.org/Watch			

The Impact of the Teaching of Evolution

- In a survey of one thousand 20–29-year-olds who have left the church, Britt Beemer (book “Already Gone”) discovered that 45% of them said the teaching of evolution in high school is what most influenced them to doubt the Bible.

3 Major Viewpoints About How Things Came Into Being

CATEGORY	THEISM	PANTHEISM	MATERIALISM
Source of Creation	Creator beyond nature	Creator within nature	No Creator
Method of Creation	Creation by God out of nothing	Creation out of god	Creation out of matter
Relation of Creator and creation	Creator and creation are distinct	No real creation. Creation is illusion. Only spirit exists. All is god	No real Creator
Duration of creation	Temporary	Non-existent, but spirit is eternal	Matter is eternal
God's control	Unlimited	Limited	Non-existent
Major Religions	Christianity, Judaism, Islam	Hinduism	Atheism
Proponent of	Billy Graham	Shirley MacLaine	Richard Dawkins

Reflection Question for Christ-followers – Am I living like a materialist while professing to be theist? What steps do I need to take to live the worldview I say I believe?

Where Do You Look to Find Truth?

- Three possibilities: (1) Yourself; (2) Others [science]; (3) God [Jesus and the Bible].
- Reflection Question for Theists: Does my view of creation agree with the Bible? Is it consistent with Scripture?

Hebrews 11:1-3 on Creation

- Verse 1**
 - Definition of faith – Faith is the title deed of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.
 - Important note: It takes faith to believe any theory of how things came into being: Creationism or Evolution
- Verse 2**
 - Verse 2 is introducing all the elders mentioned in Chap 11 who lived lives of faith. Verse 2 is introducing all the college courses on faith. Verse 3 will introduce the first course.
 - Faith 101 = believing that God is Creator
- Verse 3**
 - Source of creation = God (*Theos* = God)
 - Content of creation = everything (*aion* = worlds, universe, ages).

Days of Forming		Days of Filling	
Day 1	Light	Day 4	Sun, moon, stars
Day 2	Sky and waters	Day 5	Birds and fish
Day 3	Land (and plants)	Day 6	Animals and humans

- Method of creation = God spoke (*rhema*) and created out of nothing (*ex nihilo*); method = God's Word (John 1:1-5; Col. 1:16-17; Genesis 1)
- Reflection Question: As one created in the image of God, what am I “creating” with my words? Am I building up or tearing down with my words? (Eph. 4:29; Proverbs 12:18; 15:4; 16:24; 18:4,21)

Eight Reasons Why An Intelligent, Personal Designer is the Most Scientifically Plausible Explanation of the Universe, Life, and Humans

- The Kalam Cosmological Argument:** Whatever begins to exist has a cause. The universe had a beginning. Therefore, the universe has a _____.
 - The Second Law of Thermodynamics points to a beginning of the universe: The amount of usable energy in the universe is decreasing. Whatever is petering out must have had a beginning, because it does not take forever to run out of a limited amount of energy.
 - Scientific evidence that the universe is expanding points to a point where there is no space, no time, and no matter – thus creation out of nothing (*ex nihilo*).

- Scientific evidence of radiation echo points to a “big bang” explosion and thus a beginning point in time of creation.
2. **The Fine Tuning of the Universe:** The evidence of astronomy, physics, and the anthropic principle. The enormous complexity of conditions for _____ to exist point heavily toward an intelligent Designer.
 3. **Genetic Evidence** shows that the complexity of human _____ points most logically and statistically to an intelligent Designer.
 4. **Biochemical Evidence** and the phenomenon of irreducible complexity shatters the notion of progressive evolution. Numerous examples of things that had to be _____ in order to function.
 - Charles Darwin: “If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, my theory would absolutely break down.”
 5. **Evidence of Consciousness** in humans points to a Designer of greater consciousness.
 6. **Linguistic Evidence** of human speech being so unique from all other animals points to a rational Creator.
 7. **Anthropological and Geological Evidence** shows no necessary _____ between humans and primates or any other animals.
 8. **Biblical Evidence** points to a _____ who has revealed Himself to us.
 - **Genesis 1:1** - *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*
 - **Psalms 102:25** - *In the beginning You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.*
 - **Psalms 90:2** - *Before the mountains were born or You brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God.*
 - **Colossians 1:16** - *For by Him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him.*
 - **Isaiah 43:7** - *Whom I created for My glory, whom I formed and made.*
 - **Revelation 4:11** - *You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for You created all things, and by Your will they were created and have their being.*
 - **Hebrews 11:3**
 9. **Jesus and N.T. Authors refer to Adam and Noah as real people and events.**
 - Jesus – Matt. 19:4-6 Mark 10:6-9
 - Paul – Romans 5; 1 Cor. 15
 - Jude 14
 - Luke 3

Two Additional Questions

1. **What is the age of the earth?** Two biblical camps on this issue:
 - ❑ Young Earth View
 - This view says “yom” = 24-hour day in Genesis 1-2
 - Proponent = Henry Morris (www.icr.org)
 - ❑ Old Earth View
 - This view says “yom” = age; long period of time
 - Proponent = Hugh Ross (www.reasons.org)
2. **What about dinosaurs?**
 - Scientists don’t know nearly as much about dinosaurs as our books and movies portray. Everything is based on fossils puzzle-pieced together.
 - The Bible appears to mention dinosaurs in Job 40:15-19 (behemoth) and Job 41 (leviathan).
 - Dinosaurs could have gone extinct during the flood of Genesis 6-9.
 - Dinosaurs could have been created and gone extinct all within the age called “Day 6” (old earth view).

Recommended Resources

- ❑ Lee Strobel’s The Case for a Creator (also a student and kids version)
- ❑ Dr. Jobe Martin’s Incredible Creatures That Defy Evolution (YouTube)
- ❑ Lots of resources available on [icr.org](http://www.icr.org) and [reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org)
- ❑ www.isgenesishistory.com

Personal Application Questions

1. What will my ultimate authority be – myself, others (science), or the Bible (God)?
2. Does my view of how things came to be agreed with Scripture?
3. As one created in the image of God, what am I creating with my words? Am I building others up or tearing others down with my words?
4. Am I living like a materialist while professing to be theist? What steps do I need to take to live the worldview I say I believe?
5. If God is Creator, then He deserves all of my worship and allegiance and trust and obedience? Will I give Him these things? How will I give Him these things today? This week?
6. Believing in God as Creator appears to be the first step of faith. What does the next step of Hebrews 11:1 faith look like for me?