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# Introduction

## **I Hope You Are Skeptical**

“Suppose I believed that I was God and that I thought the whole universe revolved around me?” The confident youth waited for my reaction to his question. I simply answered, “I think that you would be a *normal* human being.” He was a little taken aback that I wasn’t impressed by his “outrageous” statement, and asked, “What do you mean?” I explained by asking him where he thought “here” was. He told me that it was where *he* stood.

Every human being thinks that same way. We define “here” as being where *we* are. Everything and everyone else is “there.” Each of us thinks that we are the center of the universe. Semantics? Let’s take it a little further. Define “now” for me. Tell me *when* it is. You can’t. The split second that you try to pinpoint “now,” it becomes “then.” I often find myself explaining the nature of “now” after I ask people if they have ever stolen something. This is their typical answer to the question: “Yes, I have. But that was in the past.” I explain to them that *everything* is in the “past.” You are even forced to define the reading of this sentence as something you did *in the past*.

These thoughts are a little strange, and you may be thinking that there are some things that we *can*

still be sure of—the sun still rises, the sky is still blue, and “up” is still “up.” Not true. The sun never rises. The earth turns, giving us the illusion that the sun is rising, although it remains still (it *seems* to be still, but it is actually moving through the universe). The sky *isn't* blue. Ask any astronaut. It has no color. Neither is “up” up. Remember that the earth is round. What is up to someone at the North Pole is not up to someone at the South Pole. In fact, if everyone on the earth pointed to where we thought was “up,” we would all point in different directions.

So many things that we think are absolutes are not. History has shown us that even what science defines as truth today may be laughed at in one hundred years.

What then can we be sure of? Is there such a thing as “absolute,” unchanging truth? We will look at this subject later in this publication.

In April 2001, through a series of strange circumstances, I found myself speaking at the American Atheists, Inc., National Convention in Orlando, Florida. The audience of 250 were reasonably polite . . . until I made the statement that the Bible was filled with scientific and medical facts, written thousands of years before man discovered them. The reaction was one of immediate and unified mockery.

Their response was understandable. If I was speaking the truth, then the Bible is supernatural in origin—not a pleasant thought for a professing atheist. This, however, is not altogether bad news for the unbeliever. If the Bible *proves* itself to be the Word of the One who created all things, it would make sense

to search its pages. After all, time will take each of us to the grave, and if there was one chance in a million that the Bible's promise of immortality and threat of damnation is true, we owe it to our good sense just to look into it.

The Bible doesn't attempt to defend its inspiration. Genesis simply opens with the words "God said." It repeats these words nine times in the first chapter. The phrase "The LORD spoke" is used 560 times in the first five books of the Bible and at least 3,800 times in the whole of the Old Testament. Isaiah claims at least 40 times that his message came directly from God; Ezekiel, 60 times; and Jeremiah, 100 times.

There are about 3,856 verses directly or indirectly concerned with prophecy in Scripture. Mormons, Buddhists, and Muslims have what they consider their own sacred writings, but the element of proven prophecy is absent in them. Neither do any other books in any of the world's religions (Vedas, Bhagavad-Gita, Koran, etc.) contain scientific truth. In fact, they contain statements that are clearly unscientific.

Most people are not aware that the Bible was written over a period of 1,600 years, by more than 40 authors, who wrote on three different continents in three different languages. They spoke on hundreds of controversial subjects, and yet they penned their words with agreement and harmony.

These facts make the information given in this publication even more incredible.

Before we look at these "scientific facts" in the Bible, I must preface them with some very important

information. To do this, I will have to quote the Bible. This is not using what is commonly called “circular reasoning.” I simply want to make a point that is relevant to what I am going to present.

Many years ago, I ran a children’s club. At the end of the club I told about one hundred kids to line up for some candy. There was an immediate rush, and the line sorted itself into what I saw as being a line of greed. The bigger, selfish kids were at the front, and the small and timid ones were at the back. I then did something that gave me great satisfaction. I told the kids to turn about face. Everyone did. Then I told them to stay where they were, and I took great delight in going to the other end of the line and giving the candy to the smaller, timid kids first.

In a world where the rich and powerful often take advantage of the poor and meek, we are informed that God has gone to the other end of the line with the message of everlasting life (I know that you may not believe in the existence of God, but please bear with me). Here is what we are told:

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing... For it is written: “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.” ... But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which

are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence. (1 Corinthians 1:18,19,27–29)

How has God gone to the other end of the line? Simply by choosing that which is foolish, weak, base, and despised. Let me illustrate what He has done.

Do you believe that the following biblical accounts actually happened?

- Adam and Eve
- Noah's ark
- Jonah and the whale
- Joshua and the walls of Jericho
- Samson and his long hair
- Daniel and the lion's den
- Moses and the Red Sea

If you're an atheist, of course you don't. To you, believing such fantastic stories would mean that you would have to surrender your intellectual dignity. Who in their right mind would ever do that? The answer is simply *those who understand that God has chosen foolish, weak, base, and despised things of the world to confound those who think they are wise.*

Consider the intellectual offense in the tone of this letter I received, prior to a debate I had on the subject "Does God exist?":

How sad for you to have so completely surrendered your intellect to an ignorant, pre-scientific book. I know about your upcoming debate... I

won't be there, but I'm sure that the audience will get some good belly laughs from your presentation. Biblical literalists may not be very bright, but they are extremely funny.

I hope you have opened this book with a good deal of skepticism. You should. The world is full of simple folk who will make a shrine to a knot in a tree because it supposedly has the features of a dead "saint." You are wise to consider the evidence before deciding whether something is true.

### **Where's the Evidence?**

Imagine that you are viewing a luxury liner moving through calm waters. To your amazement, about a dozen people jump off the ship and cling to a lifeboat. You watch as the rest of the passengers stand on the ship and laugh at them. You can understand their reaction. What those few people did was foolish. *It made no sense.*

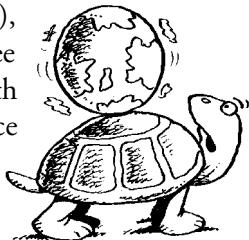
Suddenly, the ship hits an unseen iceberg and sinks, taking with it all who stayed on board. Now you see that those who seemed like fools were wise, but those who stayed on the ship and seemed to be wise were fools.

We have in the Bible a command to jump off the luxury liner of this world. Before you laugh at stupid Christians, ask yourself if there is any proof that its claims are true. The following pages give compelling evidence that the Bible is no ordinary book.

# Science and the Bible

## **The Bible and Earth's Free-float in Space**

At a time when some believed that the earth sat on a large animal or a giant (1500 BC), the Bible spoke of the earth's free float in space: "He hangs the earth on nothing" (Job 26:7). Science didn't discover that the earth hangs on nothing until 1650.



## **The Scriptures Speak of an Invisible Structure**

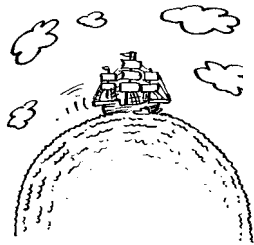
Only in recent years has science discovered that everything we see is composed of things that we cannot see—invisible atoms. In Hebrews 11:3, written 2,000 years ago, Scripture tells us that the "things which are seen were not made of things which are visible."

## **The Bible Reveals that the Earth is Round**

The Scriptures tell us that the earth is round: "It is He who sits above the circle of the earth" (Isaiah 40:22).



The word translated “circle” here is the Hebrew word *chuwg*, which is also translated “circuit” or “compass” (depending on the context). That is, it indicates something spherical, rounded, or arched—not something that is flat. The book of Isaiah was written sometime



between 740 and 680 BC. This is at least 300 years before Aristotle suggested, in his book *On the Heavens*, that the earth might be a sphere. It was another 2,000 years later (at a time when science believed that the earth was flat)

that the Scriptures inspired Christopher Columbus to sail around the world.

### **The Bible and the Science of Oceanography**

Matthew Maury (1806–1873) is considered the father of oceanography. He noticed the expression “paths of the sea” in Psalm 8:8 (written 2,800 years ago) and said, “If God said there are paths in the sea, I am going to find them.” Maury then took God at His word and went looking for these paths, and we are indebted to his discovery of the warm and cold continental currents. His vital book on oceanography is still in print today.

### **The Bible and Radio Waves**

God asked Job a very strange question in 1500 BC. He asked, “Can you send out lightnings, that they may go, and say to you, ‘Here we are!’?” (Job 38:35).

This appears to be a scientifically ludicrous statement—that light can be *sent*, and then manifest itself in speech. But did you know that all electromagnetic radiation—from radio waves to X-rays—travels at the speed of light? This is why you can have *instantaneous* wireless communication with someone on the other side of the earth. The fact that light could be sent and then manifest itself in speech wasn't discovered by science until 1864 (3,300 years later), when “British scientist James Clerk Maxwell suggested that electricity and light waves were two forms of the same thing” (*Modern Century Illustrated Encyclopedia*).

### **The Bible and Entropy**

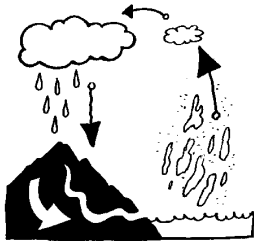
Three different places in the Bible (Isaiah 51:6; Psalm 102:25,26; and Hebrews 1:11) indicate that the earth is wearing out like a garment. This is what the Second Law of Thermodynamics (the Law of Increasing Entropy) states: that in all physical processes, every ordered system over time tends to become more disordered. Everything is running down and wearing out as energy is becoming less and less available for use. That means the universe will eventually “wear out” to the extent that (theoretically speaking) there will be a “heat death” and therefore no more energy available for use. This wasn't discovered by science until recently, but the Bible states it in concise terms.

### **The Bible and the Water Cycle**

The Scriptures inform us, “All the rivers run into the sea, yet the sea is not full; to the place from which the

rivers come, there they return again” (Ecclesiastes 1:7). This statement alone may not seem profound. But, when considered with other biblical passages, it becomes all the more remarkable. For example, the Mississippi River dumps approximately 518 billion gallons of water every 24 hours into the Gulf of Mexico. Where does all that water go? And that’s just one of thousands of rivers. The answer lies in the hydrologic cycle, so well brought out in the Bible.

Psalm 135:7 tells us, “He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; He makes lightning for the rain.” Ecclesiastes 11:3 states that “if the



clouds are full of rain, they empty themselves upon the earth.” Look at the Bible’s concise words in Amos 9:6: “He . . . calls for the waters of the sea, and pours them out on the face of the earth.” The idea of a complete water cycle

was not fully understood by science until the seventeenth century. However, more than two thousand years prior to the discoveries of Pierre Perrault, Edme Mariotte, Edmund Halley, and others, the Scriptures clearly spoke of a water cycle.

## **The Bible and the First Law of Thermodynamics**

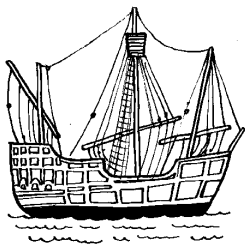
The Scriptures say, “Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished” (Genesis 2:1). The original Hebrew uses the past definite tense

for the verb “finished,” indicating an action completed in the past, never again to occur. The creation was “finished”—once and for all. That is exactly what the First Law of Thermodynamics says. This law (often referred to as the Law of the Conservation of Energy and/or Mass) states that neither matter nor energy can be either created or destroyed.

It was because of this Law that Sir Fred Hoyle’s “Steady-State” (or “Continuous Creation”) Theory was discarded. Hoyle believed that at points in the universe called “irtrons,” matter (or energy) was constantly being created. But, the First Law states just the opposite. Indeed, there is no “creation” ongoing today. It is “finished” exactly as the Bible states.

### **The Bible and Ship Dimensions**

In Genesis 6, God gave Noah the dimensions of the 1.5 million cubic foot ark he was to build. In 1609 at Hoorn in Holland, a ship was built after that same pattern (30:5:3), revolutionizing ship-building. By 1900 every large ship on the high seas was inclined toward the proportions of the ark (verified by “Lloyd’s Register of Shipping” in the *World Almanac*).



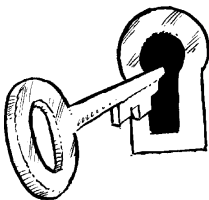
### **The Bible and Meteorological Laws**

The Scriptures describe a “cycle” of air currents two thousand years before scientists discovered them: “The wind goes toward the south, and turns around to the

north; the wind whirls about continually, and comes again on its circuit” (Ecclesiastes 1:6). We now know that air around the earth turns in huge circles, clockwise in one hemisphere and counterclockwise in the other.

### **The Bible and Science**

“In antiquity and in what is called the Dark Ages, men did not know what they now know about humanity and the cosmos. They did not know the lock



but they possessed they key, which is God. Now many have excellent descriptions of the lock, but they have lost the key. The proper solution is union between religion and science. We should be owners

of the lock *and* the key. The fact is that as science advances, it discovers what was said thousands of years ago in the Bible.” —Richard Wurmbrand, *Proofs of God's Existence*