

# Something from Nothing

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For centuries mankind has looked up to the heavens and marveled at what can be seen, and if you've ever been in a situation where you've done that on a clear night—with light pollution it's becoming increasingly hard to do—you can't help but feel small compared to what we see out in the night sky. For millennia man has wanted to know, where did all this come from—how did this come to be? Scientists, cosmologists wonder the same thing. They investigate, they speculate, they measure, they theorize, wanting to know how all this came to be.

It's interesting that much has been learned about the universe in the last fifteen to twenty years. Knowledge has expanded greatly in that area. There have been astounding new discoveries, astounding new facts, and in part it's been made possible by the Hubble Space Telescope. It was launched in 1990, and being outside the earth's atmosphere, it could take pictures of a resolution you could not get here on the earth. In 1995 NASA launched what was called the Hubble Deep Field exploration. What they did was steer the Hubble and point it to the darkest part of the sky, from the earth's perspective, the darkest part of space where astronomers saw no stars—none. It's the blackest, emptiest part of what mankind can see. They left the camera exposure on for ten days—didn't move, same spot for ten days gathering all the light possible for that period of time. Guess what was revealed? After ten days they recorded the information coming in and in that picture there were three thousand galaxies—little wisps, little discs of light that had never been seen before.

It was only because the Hubble was outside the earth's atmosphere and kept there for ten days that allowed it to collect the light so that we could see there were three thousand galaxies in an area of space that was supposed to be empty. In 2003, after the Hubble was upgraded with better detectors and loaded onto the Space Shuttle, they launched the Hubble Ultra Deep Field exploration and pointed it to a different area of the sky but equally dark—nothing visible there at all. Because of the upgrade in the telescope itself, they left it on for eleven days aimed at this empty area of sky and they found ten thousand galaxies. Quoting one scientist, "This was the single most important image taken by humanity" because it gave us a new dimension, a new appreciation for the universe that we live in. Because of that photo and subsequent investigations in which they analyzed it more deeply, scientists are now talking about trillions of galaxies—think about that—each containing billions if not trillions of stars in each galaxy.

The Milky Way, our galaxy, has roughly 200 billion stars. You do the math—trillions of galaxies with billions of stars. One scientist said recently that there are more stars than all of the grains of sand on every beach on earth. Think about that—of every beach, lake, ocean, every grain of sand—you count them all up and there are more stars than that. It boggles the mind. As an aside, I was doing some reading the other day and the

inside of one of our eyes contains more atoms than all the stars—can you imagine? We know God created both so what does all this say about God?

We know the heavens reveal the power, the intelligence, and the wisdom of God. The point is—and this is leading into our subject—the heavens record what God has done. They're the record. The Bible records what God and Christ have said, but the heavens record what God and Christ have done. By way of introduction, let's go to Psalm 19:1. This is a psalm of David and it's interesting that this psalm says what I just said. I'm not saying this of my own, but because it's in God's word—this is what David, the Psalmist, said. I'm reading out of the King James; the wording of it is very familiar.

**Psalm 19:1** *The heavens declare the glory of God;* (KJV)

When you look up the Hebrew of the word *declare*, it means “record”. We see here that the heavens record the glory of God.

1 continued) ... *and the firmament sheweth [shows] his handiwork.* (KJV)

It's a record; it's there. We can investigate it and we can see it, and if you believe in God and understand God, it magnifies Him beyond measure. Let's go to Acts 17:24, and see that God Almighty, with Jesus Christ, has made all of this.

**Acts 17:24** *God that made the world and all things therein, [we know that God was the initiator, the architect, the mover behind it all, and we know Christ at His bidding did the construction, so to speak] seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands;* (KJV)

We see in these two verses that God is the creator of all that is and the universe is a record of it. Sometimes when I'm going through a trial or a disappointment, I pull out two big books of Hubble pictures (they publish one every five years or so) that I've got, throw them on my lap and just page through them, and all of a sudden, I feel like God can take care of any problem if He can do all this—of course He can. To God's glory, again by way of introduction, let's look at the incomprehensible size of the universe, of the known universe; more discoveries lie ahead I'm sure. It is incomprehensible to us as human beings because we are so small, so limited, but I'm going to try to paint a picture so that maybe we can at least get a fraction of a glimpse.

The nearest star to the earth is Alfa Centauri and it's 4.3 light years away. A light year is the distance light travels in one year. It's approximately six trillion miles and six trillion miles is a lot; for us, it's kind of hard to imagine such distances. For example the Saturn 5 moon rocket—the rocket that sent men to the moon in the Apollo days—is the most powerful rocket mankind has ever built. If we were to launch a Saturn 5 towards Alpha Centauri and it was going about 25,000 miles an hour, it would take 100,000 years to get to the nearest star. Those are the distances involved. Our galaxy, the Milky Way (a galaxy is a grouping of stars, disc-shaped as most galaxies are, and a spiral) is 100,000

light years across and it's 10,000 light years top to bottom in the center, and it has over two hundred billion little pinpoints of light, each one a star—over two hundred billion.

Let's try to grasp the size of the universe. Right now it's currently estimated that the size of the universe is about ninety-four billion light years. That just boggles the mind. Let's try to put it in perspective. Let's take a baseball stadium and since the Mariners play in Seattle and Seattle is on the West Coast, we can use that as a benchmark. Let's say our sun is the size of a baseball. The earth relative to the sun would be about a third of the way to the pitcher's mound. The earth would be the size of the ball in your ballpoint pen; thirty feet away and the size of the ball in the ballpoint pen, with the sun the size of a baseball.

Just within our little solar system, do you know how far away Neptune would be? It's the outermost planet (they've downgraded Pluto to a ball of rock now) but if the sun is home plate, Neptune would be at the wall behind the centerfield seats. That's just our solar system; that's not a galaxy, that's just our solar system. That nearest star we talked about—Alpha Centauri—if the sun is at home plate in Seattle, where would Alpha Centauri be? It would be in Houston—nearest star, Houston. The Milky Way, just our one galaxy, would extend, get this—sun in Seattle, home plate—beyond the moon. Our galaxy goes beyond the moon and we're a little ball of a ballpoint pen. That kind of puts mankind in perspective.

We get upset by what people say about us and we're a tiny little spec, the ball in a ballpoint pen, in a galaxy that's one of trillions of galaxies in the universe, and we complain? It puts mankind in perspective. Now let's reduce the Milky Way to the size of a twelve-inch phonograph record—old folks remember phonograph records, they're making a comeback now—a twelve-inch vinyl disc. Let's say the Milky Way is the size of a phonograph record. How far away would the nearest galaxy be? We're talking galaxies here, not planets, not suns, not stars—galaxies. The nearest galaxy would be twenty feet away. The edge of the observable universe would be one hundred miles away. A twelve-inch phonograph record and the farthest galaxy out there—that we think is there, you can only look so far—is one hundred miles away. The magnitude of the universe gives us a little hint of the majesty of God.

Let's shift gears just a little bit; how do we know all this about the universe? How have we been blessed particularly in the last one hundred years of this knowledge? As time has gone on in the one-hundred-year period (we'll get into the history of it in a little bit) scientists have been able to look deeper and deeper into space—farther and farther out from this earth. As I said, the Hubble space telescope has contributed greatly. When we do that, when we look deeper and deeper into space, we're looking back in time.

Remember that the light from all we see takes time to get here. I wake up before the sun rises every morning and like to look out and see it come up, and when you see that first little sliver of the sun come up over the horizon, I'm looking at where the sun was eight minutes ago—it's not really there, where I'm seeing it, it's actually eight minutes farther up because it takes eight minutes for the light from the sun to get to us. When

we see Alpha Centauri, 4.3 light years away, through a telescope, we're looking at it where it was over four years ago. We're looking back in time. It takes a little while to get your mind around that. The most distant objects we can see are where they were billions of years ago. Some of the stars we see today have already burned out, exhausted their fuel and they don't exist anymore, but we see them because it's taken the light that long to get to us. As we look into the heavens, simultaneously we're looking back in time. Scientists can get an idea of what happened millions and billions of years ago through observation, and that's exciting.

Mankind has been asking for millennia how all this came to be. Today, we're going to see that science has finally come to the place in the last few years where it has proved the existence of God. It is irrefutable—science has proved that God exists. Whether man admits it or not is up to man. If you take an unbiased look at the scientific evidence, man has proved the existence of God. One of those proofs is there was a time when nothing physical existed. There was there was no matter, no space, no time—that is a provable scientific fact. Then suddenly from nothing this giant explosion occurred and matter and time and everything physical came into existence. It came from nothing, that's the interesting thing. The title of the sermon is:

### Something from Nothing

This is what gives scientists who are atheists fits—absolute fits. The first point we're going to make is that

#### **1. Science has proved that the universe has not always existed.**

It's a proven scientific fact that the universe has not always existed. Let's go to Romans 1:18. I'm going to read from the New Living Translation [an online version].

**Romans 1:18** *But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who push the truth away from themselves ... (NLT)*

They actively push the truth away from themselves. In our context, these are atheistic scientists who refuse to acknowledge the plain, obvious truth that something caused this gigantic explosion. I'm going to read verse 19 out of the New International Version.

19) *... since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. (NIV)*

We're going to see that this is exactly what God is doing in these end days—making it plain that He exists, showing proof from science, so that mankind is without excuse.

Let's look briefly at the history of common scientific beliefs about the universe. Claudius Ptolemaeus (also known as Ptolemy), a Greek astronomer who lived in the second century A.D., was the first to theorize that the earth was motionless at the center of the universe—this shows you the pride of man—the sun rotated around it, and all the stars

that you could see from earth were fixed to a hollow sphere outside the earth that would move. It would make a revolution every twenty-four hours—that's how the first scientific explanation of the nature of the universe came to be, at least in the western world. This was widely accepted by scientists of his day, not long after the time of Christ, and it was also accepted by the Catholic Church. The true, New Testament Church, as we know, morphed into the Catholic Church, and at that time this was the accepted view of theologians and scientists.

Then science made some startling discoveries. Nicolaus Copernicus, a Polish churchman and astronomer, discovered in 1543 that the earth was rotating around the sun and not vice versa. He scientifically proved it but the Catholic Church would not accept it because they said it diminished God. He was anathema—on the outs and not welcome, let's say. Up to that point, all major scientists believed in God. Galileo, Sir Isaac Newton, all believed God existed—they knew God existed. The centers of higher learning were mostly the centers of religion—Catholic universities and monasteries and all of that—that's where most of the scientific minds were in those days.

Things began to change about two hundred years ago. Beginning with Darwin it didn't take long for scientists to make the transition from believing in God to accepting his evolutionary theories, and then to scoff at the existence of God and those who believed in God. They began to say to Christians, you do exactly what the pagans do. You created a god to explain what you don't know, to explain how everything began. They laughed to scorn people who believed in God and this has been increasing since the time of Darwin.

A majority of scientists do not believe in God today and either openly or covertly snicker at people like us who do. Up until the early 1900s, scientists were in general agreement that the universe was in a steady state, meaning that the universe itself, with all of its stars, was steady—it wasn't contracting, it wasn't expanding, it was fixed. Those who believed in God at the time believed He placed each star and each planet the way He wanted, eternally fixed in space. But the atheistic scientists came to believe that the universe, rather than God, was eternal. If the universe was eternal, and had always existed, it didn't need a creator—it had always been there. In essence, no creator was necessary if the universe was fixed and eternal, and that's what scientists came to believe over time. But facts unearthed in the last one hundred years have changed all of that and flipped science on its head. I believe God is behind it because He is showing scientists that, A, you don't know as much as you think you know and B, I'm going to prove by your own methods that I exist so that you won't have an excuse at the end of the day.

It all started in 1912; the scientist Vesto Slipher, operating out of the Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona, discovered that dozens of galaxies, instead of being fixed, were moving away from the earth at one hundred million miles an hour. That was shocking to the scientific community and, of course, some people scoffed at him and said he got the data wrong. Then Edwin Hubble (for whom the space telescope is named), in 1929, out of Mount Wilson Observatory near Los Angeles, California, proved scientifically that the

entire universe is expanding. Every galaxy is moving away from every other galaxy. It was likened to a cake in which the raisins are distributed throughout the dough, and when put in a heated oven, all of a sudden the cake begins to expand in all directions. As the cake expands the distance between each raisin also expands. It's a good analogy, because if you take a raisin as a galaxy, and all of a sudden this cake expands and expands, the distance between the galaxies expands and therefore everything is moving away from everything else.

Hubble found that the Hercules cluster—a cluster is a grouping of galaxies, and the Hercules contains twenty thousand of them—is receding away from us at twenty-five million miles per hour, every hour. The Hydra cluster is receding from earth at one hundred and sixty-two million miles an hour. The most remote clusters, the farthest ones out that we can see, are moving away from us at ninety-five percent of the speed of light. The whole universe is expanding and no one knew why. How do you explain that? It stunned the scientific community beginning in the early 1900s.

The universe was not steady, it was expanding and it unsettled those who thought the universe was in a steady state. It was like an atomic bomb going off among the atheists because how could one explain this? Initially, they did their best to discredit Hubble's finding. One scientist jokingly described this expansion as coming from a "big bang" but the terminology took. Over the years the evidence was so great that the scientific community had no choice but to accept it because it could not be denied. Alongside that, if everything is expanding away from everything else, and you rewind that movie and reverse the expansion, guess what happens? If you chart the velocities and the directions it all comes back to a single event, a single point in space and in time.

This tells us that the universe began with a gigantic explosion, and indeed it was. Equally important, if you rewind the movie and come back to the point when this explosion started, then the obvious question is what happened before the explosion? How did the explosion get started? What force started it or who started it? All of these questions began to be asked. As I said, it put scientists, especially atheists, in a very difficult position because they had to conclude that the universe was not eternal. How do you scientifically explain how the universe came to be? How do you scientifically explain how this explosion came to be? How do you investigate what happened before the explosion occurred?

Let me read from John C. Lennox, Ph.D., a professor of mathematics at Oxford University. He wrote a book called God and Steven Hawking, and on page 45 he says, "Even if non-believers [in God] don't like it, the Big Bang resonates powerfully with the biblical narrative of creation. That is why before the Big Bang gained currency, so many leading scientists were keen to dismiss it since it seemed to support the Bible story." We can't have that! We can't have the Bible being an authority because we're the authority—not the Bible. The atheists could not accept the fact that there was a time when nothing existed because then you have to start explaining how everything came into being. More importantly, they could not accept the fact that what exists today came from nothing, certainly nothing physical. They had to accept that but they didn't know

how to deal with it. It's an easy concept for us who believe in God as Creator to understand because it was God who created something from nothing. All God had to do was speak the word and BAM!—it occurred. Let's go to Ephesians 3:9. Notice what God says, reading out of the King James.

**Ephesians 3:9** [Paul says] *And to make all [the word "men" is in italics] men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ ... (KJV)*

This is perfectly understandable and explainable to us but not to someone who is an atheist. Let's go to Hebrews 1:1-2; these contain so much information in two verses, again out of the King James. Paul in his letter to the Jews abroad starts off:

**Hebrews 1:1** [Very first word] *God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, (KJV)*

We see that God spoke to mankind, to the Jews by the prophets.

2) *Hath in these last days [when this was being written] spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he [God] made the worlds; (KJV)*

God made the worlds by Jesus Christ. The Amplified Bible says, "He created the worlds and the reaches of space and the ages of time." God did all that.

Let me introduce you to a man named Robert Jastrow. He had a Ph.D. from Columbia University; he was the first chairman of NASA's lunar exploration committee, which established all the scientific goals for the exploration of the moon by the Apollo program. He was the chief of the theoretical division at NASA from 1958 to 1961. He was the founding director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies and a professor of geophysics at Columbia University. Jastrow was no dummy—a very smart man. He wrote an article in the New York Times in 1980 (excerpted in Reader's Digest that same year) from which I'll quote. Notice what he said about all of this, "The essence of these developments"—meaning the understanding and the proof that the Big Bang exists—"is that the universe had a sharply defined beginning and that at a certain moment in time, the essential elements of the astronomical and biblical accounts of Genesis are the same", this very brilliant man said. "The chain of events leading to man commenced suddenly and sharply at a definite moment in time in a flash of energy." This is the person who planned the exploration of the moon. Another scientist, Brian Greene, a theoretical physicist at Columbia University, featured in Newsweek ("The New Secrets of the Universe") in May of 2012, described the Big Bang theory, during the decades following its acceptance, as receiving "overwhelming observational support."

Let's look at a few of the overwhelming observational supports that show that this theory is real and that this is what happened. If the Big Bang is true, the heat from that explosion should still exist; it should still be measured somewhere, some way. In 1965

two scientists, Arno Penzias and Robert Wilson, at Bell Labs in New Jersey, developed a large antenna—a four-sided horn antenna—to investigate radio waves, and the horn had a twenty-foot opening. They could move it and point it wherever they wanted in the sky. No matter where they pointed it there was this obnoxious background hiss—they were recording radio waves. There was this low-level hiss in the background that they couldn't explain no matter where they pointed the antenna.

They concluded that the noise must be coming from either their antenna, somewhere on earth, or from space. I read this article—their account of it—and what they did was tape the seams of the antenna to prevent unwanted noise from coming in. They removed a pair of pigeons that had deposited “white dielectric material”—you couldn't describe it as “pigeon droppings” in a scientific journal—inside their horn. They sealed it up, did their due diligence of cleaning it out, made more measurements, and the hiss was still there.

Then they discovered a manuscript written previously that predicted what they were hearing. Let me read from Robert Jastrow's article in the New York Times called “The Clincher”. “The two physicists, puzzled by their discovery, did not realize that they had stumbled upon the answer to one of the cosmic mysteries. Scientists who believed in the Big Bang theory had long asserted that the universe must have resembled a white-hot fireball in the first moments after the Big Bang occurred. Gradually, as the universe expanded and cooled, the fireball would have become less brilliant but”—here's the key—“its radiation would have never disappeared entirely. It was the diffuse glow of this ancient radiation, dating back to the birth of the universe, that Penzias and Wilson apparently discovered. The clincher which has convinced almost the last doubting Thomas of the Big Bang theory is that the radiation discovered by Penzias and Wilson had exactly the pattern of wavelength expected for the light and heat produced in that great explosion.” They discovered it by accident and it's just amazing.

Then in 1989 the U.S. launched the Cosmic Background Explorer (also known as the COBE satellite) for the express purpose of verifying what Penzias and Wilson measured on earth. Then in 1995, another proof occurred, described in an article in Newsweek in their science section, “The Stuff of the Big Bang”. The findings were published on September 26, 1995, stating that the Hopkins Ultraviolet Telescope detected individual helium atoms, made less than three minutes after the Big Bang, which were spread so evenly and in such large quantities they could only have come from the Big Bang. Then in 2014, a recent proof; in the Smithsonian magazine, Brian Greene is featured in “Listening to the Big Bang”. From a telescope in the South Pole, which has the coldest, driest air on earth (great for placing a telescope), they searched for remnants of the Big Bang, and (I'm paraphrasing), calculations have shown that gravitational waves should imprint a kind of twisting pattern to this background radiation, and in March of 2014 that is exactly what they found.

John Hawley, who is a theoretical astrophysicist from the University of Virginia, says this, “There is vivid, compelling evidence that everything in creation started with a big bang”—compelling evidence that the universe is expanding and very rapidly—“all these things were theories before; now we know.” Today the Big Bang is thought to be about



90 to 95 percent accurate; some details are not known but if the theory is true, there was a time when there was physically no space and that's hard for us to get our minds around because you can't think of space as something empty; we think it's all emptiness but the fact is there was no space—it didn't exist. Space and time, matter and energy, did not physically exist prior to the Big Bang. Then the physical universe, everything we know, came into existence with a gigantic explosion.

Over the years, I realize a few Church of God ministers somehow feel threatened by the idea of the Big Bang. I personally am not because I think we need to deal with reality, and if the evidence is there, the evidence is there. It strongly, strongly indicates that the Big Bang really happened, and in future, if the facts change, we can change our understanding, but we have to deal with reality and what things are, not maybe what we want them to be. It's easy for us in God's Church to believe and understand that God and Christ made it all happen, and They made it happen in an unbelievably powerful explosion of space and matter and energy and time; what an elegant beginning to the physical creation—silence, zero, nothing physical, and BAM, in a huge explosion it all comes to be. The universe is about 13.8 billion years old, but 13.8 billion years to God is nothing—absolutely nothing. God works outside of space and time. Let's go to Jeremiah 10:12, out of the King James. Taking into account everything we've said up to this point, Jeremiah 10:12 takes on, to me, an even greater meaning.

**Jeremiah 10:12** [Talking about God] *He [God] hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion.* (KJV)

It's God and God's power and God's might. Looking up at night and seeing this, or looking at pictures through the very sophisticated telescopes we have, reminds us it's a record of what God and Christ have done. That is to Their honor and glory—we're just witnesses, we're little kids looking up and marveling at what our Dad has done.

Now let's get to the crux of the matter, point number 2.

## **2. The existence of the Big Bang requires a creator.**

This is the crux of the matter. The evidence of the Big Bang is so convincing and so overwhelming, because, again, there was a time when nothing existed. The big question of the scientific community was what happened before the Big Bang? The question has troubled many, many scientists. One scientist's answer was, "We can't answer because it's outside the laws of physics." Well, you bet—we're dealing in a spiritual realm here and that's certainly outside the laws of physics. So atheistic scientists must now attempt to explain how the universe came into being without a creator—how does that happen? Over time (you can see this on various documentaries) scientists have developed theories to attempt to explain how the universe came into being without a creator, such as string theory, multiple universe theories and all of that, and if you look into it, it is circular reasoning and to me is unexplainable; it's like the trinity—you can't grasp it. Let's go to Matthew 13:14; God

knew this was going to happen and He has an answer, and is describing it. Christ is speaking and He's talking about a prophesy of Isaiah—it was true then, it's true today.

**Matthew 13:14** [Christ says] *And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive:* (KJV)

The evidence is there, mankind refuses to accept it, and wants to deny the existence of God at every opportunity, be they scientists or anybody else. Let me quote from Brian Greene again in a Newsweek article that featured his work, in May of 2012, "The New Secrets of the Universe". It says, "Yet scientists were aware that the Big Bang theory suffered from a significant shortcoming. Of all things, it leaves out the bang. The Big Bang thus provides no insight into what might have powered the bang itself." In other words, it leaves out the cause of the bang—the creator of that gigantic explosion. Hugh Ross, Ph.D., who wrote a book called The Creator and the Cosmos, says, "By definition, time is that dimension in which cause and effect phenomena take place." We don't often think about that but it's true. He goes on, "The cause of the universe must be some entity operating in a time dimension completely independent of and preexistent to the time dimension of the cosmos." Operating totally outside the physical. "It tells us that the creator is transcendent, operating beyond the dimensional limits of the universe. It tells us that God is not the universe itself nor is God contained within the universe." God is far greater than the universe and God obviously is not physical.

Again, from Robert Jastrow, in the New York Times article quoted earlier (notice his view of the scientific community—he is part of it but notice what he says), "I think that scientists cannot bear the thought of a natural phenomenon that cannot be explained. There is a kind of religion in science. It is the religion of a person who believes that every event in the universe can be explained in a rational way as the product of some previous event. This faith is violated by the discovery that the world had a beginning under the conditions that the known laws of physics are not valid and as a product of forces we cannot discover. When that happens, the scientist has lost control." Can't explain it.

Exactly two hundred years ago to this year, the theologian and naturalist William Paley wrote a book, in 1818, called Natural Theology: or, Evidences of the Existence and Attributes of the Deity. Let me share the profound wisdom of this man. "In crossing a heath, suppose I pitched my foot against a stone, and were asked how the stone came to be there; I might possibly answer, that, for anything that I knew to the contrary, it had lain there forever: nor would it perhaps be very easy to show the absurdity of this answer. But suppose I had found a watch upon the ground, and it should be inquired how the watch happened to be in that place; I should hardly think of the answer I had before given, that for anything I knew, the watch might have always been there." You can't explain that. He said, "The watch must have had a maker. There must have existed, at some time, and at some place or other, an artificer or artificers who formed it for the purpose which we find it actually to answer; who comprehended its construction and designed its use. Every indication of contrivance, every manifestation of design

which existed in the watch, exists in the works of nature; with the difference, on the side of nature, of being greater or more, and that in a degree exceeds all computation.” He’s saying the chances of the watch bringing itself into existence are infinitesimally small. It’s impossible. This analogy has been used many times in the Church’s writings and sermons and radio broadcasts, often not attributed to Paley, but Paley was the one who framed that argument and I just wanted to give him credit. Watches don’t create themselves and Paley was saying neither do nature and the universe.

Let me read from Edward Harrison, a British astronomer and cosmologist—a brilliant man—who says, “Here is the cosmological proof of the existence of God: The design argument of Paley, updated and refurbished. The fine-tuning of the universe provides *prima facie* evidence of deistic design.” *Prima facie* means legally sufficient or apparent. He goes on, “Take your choice, blind chance that requires multitudes of universes or a design that requires only one.” Many scientists, when they admit their views, incline toward the design argument—they won’t come out and say it but they’ll say there are forces we don’t understand and there is intelligence that we can’t comprehend because look at the universe.

Arno Penzias, the scientist who taped the seams and swept the pigeon droppings out of his antenna, and eventually won (with his cohort) the Nobel prize for that discovery, said, “Astronomy leads us to a unique event, a universe which was created out of nothing, one with a very delicate balance needed to provide exactly the conditions required to permit life, and one which has an underlying, one might say, supernatural, plan.” After all these years he’s come to that conclusion. Then Robert Jastrow was quoted in Christianity Today, in August of 1982—this is really interesting—as saying, “Astronomers now find they have painted themselves into a corner”—as far as the proof of God’s existence—“because they have proven by their own methods that the world began abruptly in an act of creation to which you can trace the seeds of every star and every planet. They have found that all this happened as a product of forces they cannot hope to discover. That there are what I or anyone would call supernatural forces at work is now, I think, a scientifically proven fact.” The Big Bang does indeed prove that God exists.

Let’s get to the third point very briefly.

### **3. God reveals to us the origins of the universe.**

It’s revealed to us. Science has proven it over hundreds and thousands of years but if you read the Bible the revelation is already there. Let’s go to Psalm 97:6, reading out of the King James. Notice what we’re told.

**Psalm 97:6** *The heavens declare his [God’s] righteousness, and all the people see his glory.* (KJV)

How do they see it? In the heavens—we see God in the heavens. This didn't happen by accident and when you investigate it (and I love to do that), it shows us the majesty, the power, the might, the intelligence of God Almighty. Let's go back to Psalm 8:3. The answers are so plain and science has gone to great lengths trying to prove the opposite but they ended up proving that God exists.

**Psalm 8:3** *When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;*  
4) *What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him?* (KJV)

It puts man in his place because we have a Father and an elder Brother who have created all that we see and it is all explained by a belief in God, but in order to do that we have to be humble before God. We have to admit we are just incapable of understanding everything and we have to rely on revelation from God. Scientists have proven it; we, in reading God's word, are just humbled by the truth contained in scriptures like this and when looking at pictures that telescopes have taken, or when looking up into the night sky and saying to ourselves, who am I, God, that you even talk to me? That you even called me, that you even allow me to have your Spirit and read Your word—who are we? It's very humbling but that's what it takes to understand the truth. God's word tells mankind what he needs to know—not everything there is, but vital things we need to know—the origin of things, the important history of the world. The Bible reveals, as we've been studying about who God and Christ are and what They have done, all we need to know for salvation. God's word reveals all critical truth, and the point is, true science agrees with that. Science isn't an enemy. What science does is prove the truth of God.

Let's conclude now, let's summarize. Satan has deceived man into thinking that God does not exist. He has blinded mankind into believing that the universe always existed and there's no need for God—the universe was their god, so to speak. But facts unearthed in the last one hundred years, facts that led to the Big Bang theory, require a creator. The question is why now—why at this juncture? Why in these last days has God revealed all of this? The answer is, in the end, man is without excuse. Let's go to Romans 1:18. Paul says that God reveals things to mankind in His own time and in His own way so that man can't say, you never told me, I didn't have any evidence, I didn't know.

**Romans 1:18** *For the wrath of God is revealed [it's a revelation] from heaven [notice who is the recipient of this wrath] against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;* (KJV)

What is that unrighteousness? Part of it is people saying, you believe in God, you're naive, you're simpleminded—that's unrighteous. Verse 19; I'll read out of the NLT.

19) *They know the truth about God because He has made it obvious to them [all you have to do is look into the heavens].*

20) *For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.* (NLT)

This is the answer as to why God is doing this at the end of this age—so they have no excuse. Let me read from the book The Creator and the Cosmos, by Hugh Ross, Ph.D. (I mentioned him before.) On page 61 he says, “One question I hear often is, why has our generation been singled out to receive such an abundance of evidence for God and His word?” Why this generation? “Why have we been given so much more proof than previous generations?” His answer is profound. “The answer I see from the Bible is that God measures out evidence in direct proportion to the level of resistance to His truth.”

The more humans resist God, the more evidence He piles to the contrary. I might add this also applies to His truth about the relationship between Him and Christ, and His activities with Christ in scripture. Why such resistance? Satan hates the truth and Satan is not going to take a day off. He’s always fighting to destroy the truth—meaning the truth about God’s existence or the truth of the record of scripture.

Darrel Falk is a biology professor from Point Loma Nazarene University, and he says, “The story of the cosmos and the Big Bang of creation is not inconsistent with the message of Genesis 1 and there is much profound biblical scholarship to demonstrate this.” Then Robert Jastrow (one more quote from him) wrote a book called God and the Astronomers, a very interesting book. He wrote (underscoring the irony), “For the scientist who has lived by his faith and the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance. He is about to conquer the highest peak, and as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.” So true! Look at what God says to those who deny His existence. Let’s go back to Psalm 14:1, one final scripture. This is a psalm of David. This is the end of the matter in that regard for atheistic scientists who refuse to believe the proofs that God has presented.

**Psalm 14:1** *The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. [Then God says through David,] They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.* (KJV)

To those who say there is no God, God says you’re a fool—you think you’re smart, you think you know it all, you think you don’t need Me, you think the world came into existence by itself; He says those who think that way are fools. The whole point of this sermon, you see, is that we’ve come to the point that the scientific community, the scientific facts, the scientific evidence, all prove that God exists, so mankind is without excuse in these end days.