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Highlights of the ***END TIMES***

This Issue:

Compelling Scientific Evidence Confirms A Creator

What is the Bible?

The Bible may be compared to a magnificent edifice that took seventeen centuries to build:

- Its architect and builder is God
- Like this beautiful world, it bears everywhere the impress of a Divine hand
- This majestic temple contains 66 chambers of unequal size; 66 books of the Old and New Testaments
- Each of the 31,173 verses is a stone, a panel of the building which is a Temple more glorious by far than that of Solomon or Zerubbabel

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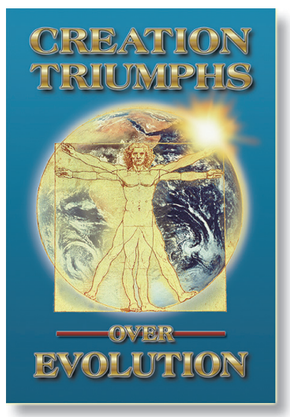

FREE BOOKLET

"Creation Triumphs Over Evolution"

The battle between creationists and evolutionists has been portrayed as one of logic on the side of evolution and blind faith on the side of creation. But now, science is delving deeper into the microcosm of the cell and DNA, and the validity of evolution is being called into question. Perhaps faith is not as blind as science once presumed!
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Highlights of the
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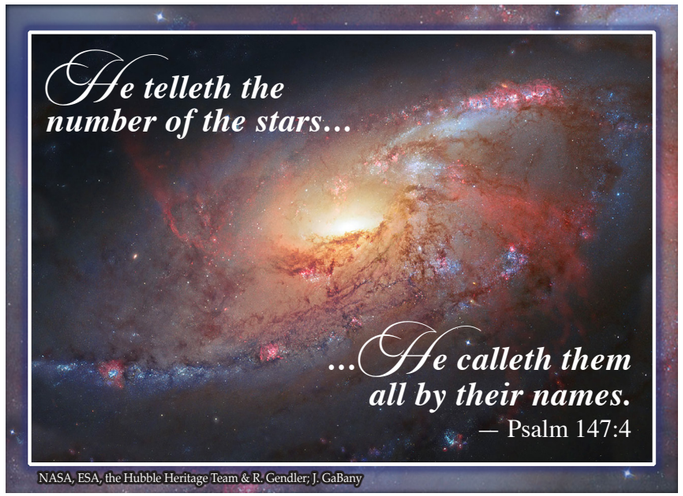
Compelling Scientific Evidence Confirms a Creator

There is something very unique about humanity in contrast to all other life on earth. Not only do we humans have superior intelligence, but we also possess a curiosity and appreciation of the infinite as well as the finite. This fact alone is powerful evidence that humans are designed by an intelligent and benevolent Creator. And, what is even more compelling are the many scientific discoveries which corroborate hidden gems of Bible truth written three millennia ago!



During most of the 20th century many traveled the road of science, which led to atheism. Now many of these same atheists are traveling the road of science and are becoming *theists* — believers in God due to greater scientific evidence. Astronomer George Greenstein wrote in his book, The Symbolic Universe: *"As we survey all the evidence, the thought insistently arises that some supernatural agency—or, rather, Agency—must be involved. Is it possible that suddenly, without intending to, we have stumbled upon scientific proof of the existence of a Supreme Being? Was it God who stepped in and so providentially crafted the cosmos for our benefit?"* We would answer, Yes!

The Latest Scientific Discovery—God!

Very little progress had been made in the science of astronomy until the numerous improvements of the telescope. Thirty years ago the Hubble Telescope made an astounding discovery. It was pointed at a very small area in the sky which appeared black and empty. The telescope remained pointed at the exact spot night after night, totaling 100 hours, with its lens wide open to collect enough light to register the deepest expanse of the universe. Then, in a small point represented by a grain of sand held at arms length, a myriad of galaxies were discovered. Each of these galaxies contained an estimated 100 billion suns. From this and other astounding data collected from the recent James Webb Telescope, astronomers estimate that throughout the universe there are *over* 100 billion galaxies containing *over* 100 billion suns each.

It is not surprising that the more scientists learn about the immensity of the universe, the more they question, *"Where did such a vast amount of energy and matter originate?"* Many theories have been expostulated by scientists — none of which completely satisfy as an answer, for none of these *theories* are provable. To believers in the Judeo-Christian Bible, however, the answer is clear, *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."* (Genesis 1:1) Indeed, the more one searches the Scriptures, the more one discovers that God has provided ample evidence of His creative power, which, *if studied without prejudice,* will convince even the skeptic that there is an Almighty Creator of this vast universe.

From the Infinite to the Infinitesimal — The World of DNA

This vast cosmos is just one aspect of our Creator's grand design. As scientists explore the microcosm of the human cell, they are discovering amazing revelations in a world called DNA — deoxyribonucleic acid. It has been determined that the amount of information in human DNA is roughly equivalent to twelve sets of The Encyclopedia Britannica — equal to 384 volumes of information. The actual size of a DNA strand is only two millionths of a millimeter thick. (Evolution: A Theory in Crisis, '96, p. 334) Viewed through the primitive microscopes of Darwin's day, life was an uncomplicated cell of protoplasm—a virtual blob of jelly. But, now, end-time discoveries have shown this amazing universe of complexity and activity within the living cell. Scientists who were so sure of the evolutionary theory are now beginning to accept the concept of what they term *intelligent design.* King David knew this well before! *"I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works... my soul knoweth right well."* (Psalm 139:14) Yes, science is discovering a new reality — creation!

The prophet Daniel, when speaking of events in the *"time of the end"* foresaw in our day that *"knowledge would be increased."* The discovery of DNA mapping is responsible for many remarkable and wonderful developments in science — the fulfillment of Daniel's

prophecy. DNA evidence is responsible for solving murders and other crimes long ago considered *"cold cases."* Science is now capable of peering into the creative genius of Jehovah and bringing Divine Justice for whom there had been no justice. Truly, our Creator is a master of design in the smallest and the most vast of the *now* visible universe!

Upon examination of the evidence brought forth by both telescopic and microscopic instrumentation, it seems more credible to believe in an Almighty Creator than to believe in the admitted flaws of scientific hypothesis. *"By faith we understand that the universe was prepared by the Word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are invisible."* Hebrews 11:1, 3 (ISV)

Astronomical Facts Revealed to Job

The prophet Job was extremely wealthy and enjoyed a wonderful family. Then tragedy struck. He lost his wealth, his children were killed and his wife turned against him. Then Job lay in excruciating pain, covered with sores from head to toe. He cried out to God for reassurance, and God replied with a reminder of His almighty wisdom, justice, love, and power. God conveyed to Job His dynamic logic in three questions: *"Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? ...canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?"* Job 38:31-32

NASA, ESA, and the Hubble SM4 ERO Team

The Pleiades: *"Canst thou bind the sweet influence of the Pleiades?"* Modern science has revealed that the seven stars of the Pleiades are in reality a cluster of over 1000 blazing suns all traveling together in one common direction. Isabel Lewis of the United States Naval Observatory exclaimed that these stars are *"all sharing in a common motion and drifting through space in the same direction... journeying onward together through the immensity of space."*

From Lick Observatory came this statement from Dr. Robert J. Trumpler: *"Over 25,000 individual measures of the Pleiades stars are now available, and their study led to the important discovery that the whole cluster is moving in a southeasterly direction. The Pleiades stars may thus be compared to a swarm of birds, flying together to a distant goal. ...the Pleiades are not a temporary or accidental agglomeration of stars, but a system in which the stars are bound together by a close kinship."* Without any reference whatsoever to the Book of Job, Trumpler announced to the world exactly what God announced to Job thousands of years ago: *"Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades?"* — Job, can you keep them bound together so that they remain as a family of suns?

Orion: *"Canst thou . . . loose the bands of Orion?"* The noted astronomer Garrett P. Serviss wrote about the bands of Orion in his book Curiosities of the Sky (1909): *"At the present time this band consists of an almost perfect straight line, a row of second-magnitude stars about equally spaced and of the most striking beauty. In the course of time, however, the two right-hand stars, Mintaka and Alnilam, will approach each other and form a naked-eye double; but the third, Alnitak, will drift away eastward so that the band will no longer exist."* In other words, every star in Orion is traveling its own course, independent of all the others. Thus, these stars that we see forming one of the bands of Orion are like three ships out on the high seas that happen to be in line at the present moment, but are bound for different ports, and all are on a journey to different corners of the universe, so that the bands are being dissolved — *loosed!*

Arcturus: *"Can you... guide the Bear* [Arcturus] *with her cubs across the heavens?"* (NLV) Garrett P. Serviss: *"Arcturus, one of the greatest suns in the universe* [thousands of times the mass of our sun], *is a runaway whose speed of flight is 257 miles per second* [270,000 mph]*."* In 1971, Olin J. Eggen discovered that Arcturus was not a single star, but a group of 53 stars traveling together. Note the fact that the Arcturus group needs to be *guided* through the universe — how could these facts have been shown to Job thousands of years ago except it be by Divine Inspiration?

Charles Burckhalter, of Chabot Observatory, added an interesting note regarding this great sun: *"Newton gives the velocity of a star under control as not more than 25 miles a second, and Arcturus is going 257 miles a second. Therefore, combined attraction of all the stars we know cannot stop him or even turn him in his path."* When Mr. Burckhalter had his attention called to this text in the book of Job, he studied it in the light of modern discovery and made a statement that has attracted worldwide attention: *"The study of the Book of Job and its comparison with the latest scientific discoveries has brought me to the matured conviction that the Bible is an inspired book and was written by the One who made the stars."*

The wonders of God's universe as witnessed in Scripture are truly amazing! If Arcturus and *his sons* are individual, runaway *suns* traveling together at such incredible speeds, why don't they crash with other suns or planets? Indeed they will not crash. Why? Because God told Job that He is *guiding* them.

Was God trying to teach Job lessons in astronomy? No, God wanted to teach <u>us</u>, in this age of skepticism, the verity and authorship of His Word. Indeed, the account of Job cannot be dismissed as simple folklore. Scientists only discovered these startling facts in the Twentieth Century, yet they were recorded in the book of Job nearly 3000 years ago. He who meditates upon these things will scarcely be "*the fool"* who says in his heart, *"There is no God;"* for all nature testifies to the Creator's glory and power. Psalm 14:1

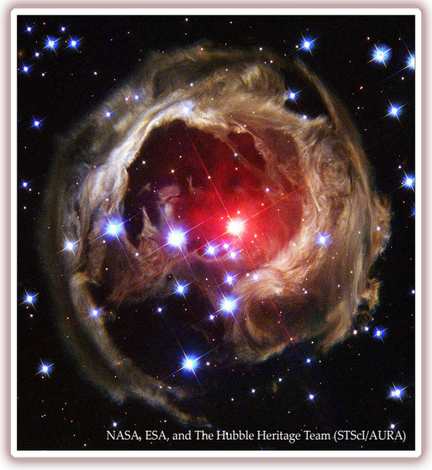
Science Verifies Many Other Biblical Testimonies

The Judeo-Christian Bible, written by men who were inspired by their Creator, contains many other scientific facts that pre-date scientific discovery by several thousand years. Following are examples of remarkable Bible passages now verified by science.

What Holds the Earth Up? Three thousand years ago Hindu priests imagined that the earth was resting on the backs of huge elephants, which in turn were resting on the back of a giant sea turtle. Greek mythology claimed that the god Atlas was holding the earth on his shoulders. But thousands of years ago, Job said, "[God] *hangeth the earth on nothing."* (Job 26:7) What a remarkable, yet simple statement of fact. The earth is suspended in space — held up by nothing. This seems common knowledge to us today, but how did Job know this scientific fact? Because the Old Testament prophets wrote as they were moved by the spirit of God. 2 Peter 1:21

Flat Versus Round Earth: For thousands of years people believed the earth was flat — if one went too far, he would fall over the edge. This was taught in both Hindu and Buddhist holy books. And even in our century, Muslims have spoken of infidels being pushed over the edge into space. In the 1500s, the first ship sailed around the world, thus proving the earth was round. But the knowledge that the earth was round was recorded in the Judeo-Christian Bible about 3000 years before this. The prophet Isaiah (40:22) spoke of the *"circle of the earth."* Solomon wrote, that God "*set a compass* [circle] *upon the face of the deep."* (Proverbs 8:27) Indeed, these statements, so common to us now, were declared by inspiration of God.

Sun, Moon and Stars: Ancient people were afraid of the sun, moon and stars. They thought they were animals or gods. Eclipses are an example of what people feared. A solar eclipse happens when the moon blocks the sun's light from earth's view. The Chinese believed that an eclipse was caused by a demon or huge animal that would eat the sun and moon and then would give them up again. But Jehovah told Jeremiah (10:2): *"Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them."* God then reassured Jeremiah that the planetary bodies were not gods, demons or animals, and that He alone was in control of His universe. Thousands of years before scientists discovered that the planetary bodies were inanimate, the Bible contained this scientific fact.


NASA, ESA, and The Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

Be it also noted that the moon is positioned so precisely that during a solar eclipse, it covers the sun entirely — revealing only the sun's corona. Coincidense? Those of faith would say by design! What's more — God positioned the earth at just the right distance from the sun for perfect temperatures to sustain life. Mercury's temperatures vary from minus 300°F to plus 800°F. In addition, our oxygen supply on earth is produced by photosynthesis in green plants generated by the sun — our food supply is dependent upon the sun. These facts indicate a benevolent Creator who has provided the potential for a perfect Garden of Eden setting when His plan is fully accomplished for man.

The Bottom of the Ocean: Until modern times people thought the ocean floor was saucer shaped, flat and sandy. But, over 3,000 years ago the Bible spoke of the valleys and mountains of the sea. In Psalm 18:15 (NIV) King David wrote of God being the Creator of *"the valleys of the sea."* God asked Job (38:16 NIV): *"Have you walked in the recesses* [valleys] *of the sea?"* The prophet Jonah was thrown off a ship and spoke of falling to the bottom of the *mountains in the sea.* (Jonah 2:6) The Atlantic Ocean contains an undersea range of mountains 10,000 miles long. The Marianas Trench in the Pacific is so deep that if Mt. Everest (29,000 feet high) were dropped into it, the peak would still be a mile below the water's surface. Thus, Jehovah spoke of the valleys and mountains of the sea thousands of years before scientists discovered them.

The Paths of the Sea: In the 1800s, Matthew Maury, an officer in the United States Navy, was amazed that Psalm 8:8 spoke of fish swimming in *"paths of the sea." Paths of the sea?*— he was determined to find them. Maury discovered that the oceans have many paths or currents, which are like rivers flowing through the sea. Maury wrote the first book on oceanography and became known as *"the pathfinder of the seas"*— *"the father of modern navigation."* Maury received his idea about ocean currents from reading the words of King David written about 3,000 years ago and thus, clearly, the Bible led the way to scientific discovery.

Lightning, Thunder and Rain: In ancient times, most religions taught that lightning bolts were spears thrown in anger by their gods. In China, Taoists regarded the rainbow as a deadly rain dragon. Confucius stated that the goddess of lightning, Tien Mu, flashed light on intended victims to enable Lei Kung, the god of thunder, to launch his deadly bolts accurately. In addition, since rain is so essential to life, ancient people pondered what caused it. Some tried to stab holes in the clouds with spears. The Vedas (Hindu holy book) advised tying a frog with its mouth open to a particular tree and incanting certain words to cause rain to fall.

The Judeo-Christian Bible talks about rain and lightning, but it contains none of these superstitious ideas found in other religious beliefs. Thousands of years ago Job 28:26 stated: *"God made decrees* [rules] *for the rain. And He set a way* [path] *for the lightning of the thunder..."* (Job 28:26) Centuries later, scientists began to discern the *rules for the rain*, calling it the *water cycle.* The sun evaporates water from the ocean, which then rises to become clouds, then falls back to earth as rain and collects in streams and rivers, finally making its way back to the ocean. The prophet Amos (9:6) wrote that God *"calls for the water of the sea. He pours them out on the land."* Amos could only know this by inspiration! Actually, scientists are just beginning to fully understand God's *decrees* or *rules for the rain.* It wasn't until about 300 years ago that Galileo discovered this cycle, but God made it known thousands of years ago!

Humbled Before the Great Creator

"What is man that thou art mindful of him?" It is difficult to wrap our minds around the concept of the vastness of space and one Supreme Being who created all things. Well has the Psalmist said when considering the immensity and the minutiae of God's creative works — *"Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: it is high, I cannot attain unto it."* (Psalm 139:6) No, we cannot — but what a thrilling reverence, love and adoration fills the heart when thus we catch a glimpse of the creative genius, glory and majesty of our God!

Men have always sought to understand the mysteries of the universe, but most have never looked beyond their own pride or superstition. Indeed, the *"wisdom of the world is foolishness with God."* (1 Corinthians 3:19) When humanity is finally humbled before their God, when they see their own littleness, only then will they begin to realize that their benevolent Creator has prepared the Heavens and the Earth <u>for them</u>, and that He has also planned for mankind's ultimate blessing throughout eternity. In God's *due time,* the mysteries of His vast universe will be open to explore and understand. *"The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament sheweth His handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge... Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world."* Psalms 19:1-4