

# Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”

## Thesis:

**What is more reasonable?**

**Compare the different assumptions.**

**Theology from the text.**

# Is it rational to believe in God?

- Faith and Reason are not opposites.
- Belief in God is far more rational than atheism!
- Logic can show that there is a God.
- Common sense and an open mind.

**Hebrews 3:4 "For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things *is* God."**

# Consider basic facts:

Rom 1:20 “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible **qualities-His eternal power and Divine nature**—have been **clearly seen**, being understood from what has been made, so that men are **without excuse.**”

**The Universe shows signs of Design and Purpose.**

Which is *more* rational?

- **Blind chance, random accidents?**
- **Divine planning?**

# Is it rational to believe in God?

Rom 1:20 “For since the creation of the world God’s invisible **qualities-His eternal power and Divine nature**—have been **clearly seen**, being understood from what has been made, so that men are **without excuse.**”

Which is *more* rational?

- **Something came from nothing – no reason?**
- **Something came from an outside eternal intelligent force?**



# Consider Basic Facts:

**Man possesses a unique nature.**

- **Conscience, will, imagination.**
- **Capacity to reason and believe.**

**Which is *more* rational?**

- **General theory of evolution?**
- **Divine creation?**
  - **Gen 1:27**
  - ***"Stamped His own image deep inside our hearts."***

# What are the building blocks of the universe?

Aristotle (384-322 BC)



**Water**  
**Matter**  
**Fire**  
**Air**

# What are the building blocks of the universe from Gen 1:1?

Beginning



TIME

God



FORCE

Created



ACTION

The Heavens



SPACE

The Earth



MATTER

# Is it rational to believe in God?



Thomas  
Aquinas -  
13<sup>th</sup> Century  
theologian

“There must be an ‘unmoved Mover’ to begin all the motion in the universe. A first domino to start the chain moving, since mere matter never moves itself.”

Everything that begins must have a cause. *Nothing can come from nothing.* See Heb 3:4!



# Is it rational to believe in God?



Peter Kreeft,  
professor of  
philosophy at  
Boston  
college.

Add to this a very logical second premise – the principal of causality that nothing begins without an adequate cause.

Does the “Big Bang” not require a “Big Banger?”

It takes *blind faith* to believe in everything coming from nothing.

It takes *only reason* to believe in everything coming from a Divine Creator. See Rm 1:20

# Creation vs. Evolution

God



Matter



Life



Mind



ONE ASSUMPTION

Concept of God



Mind



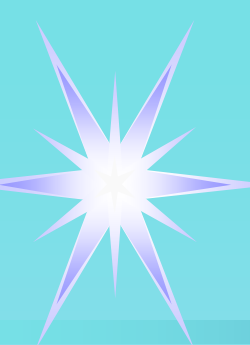
Life



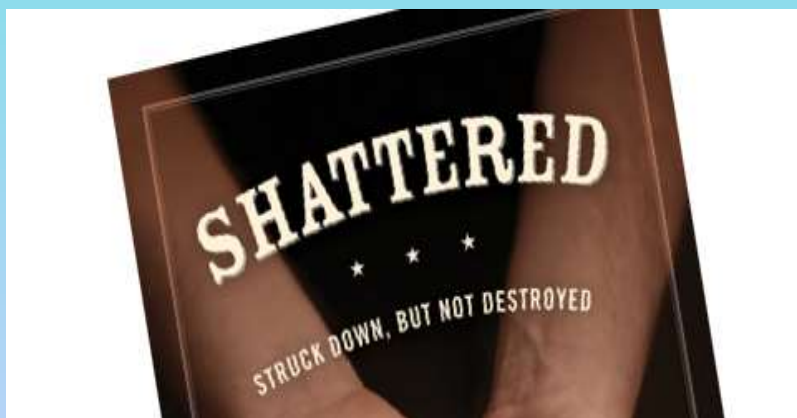
Matter



EVERY STEP =  
ASSUMPTION



# Frank Pastore



Atheist turned Theist

# Assumptions of Evolution



#4

Psychological/Spiritual

Complex Life Forms



#3

Anthropological

*Abiogenesis*



#2

Biological



#1

Matter & Energy

Cosmological

**EVERY STEP = Huge “Cosmic Flip” or separate “Big Bang.”**





# Frank Pastore



Atheist turned Theist

It's either faith in these four big bangs of “somethings from nothings” to account for what we see all around us, or faith in a Creator behind it all.

Next time someone says, “Hey, what about the Big Bang?” make sure you ask them “Which one?” -- the **cosmological, biological, anthropological, or psychological?**

# Genesis 1:1

## WHY AM I BEING TOLD THIS?

- Why is it important to know who our Creator is?
  - Sets in proper perspective the *relationship between God and man.*
  - It establishes that He has **authority** over us!

# Isaiah 64:8, Jeremiah 18-19:13



We are the clay  
You are the potter  
We are all the work of Your hands

Isaiah 64:8

# Genesis 1:1-3

## WHY AM I BEING TOLD THIS?

- The Bible starts with **God** – not man!
  - 32 times in Chapter 1.
  - 59 times in Chapters 1-3.
  - What is the point?
- *Who* is this **God** exactly?
  - Is it **God the Father** only?



# Genesis 1:1

- **WHO IS GOD?**
  - **Colossians 1:16** “For by **Him** all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him and for Him.**”
  - **Who is the “Him” here?**
  - **Jesus Himself! He was deity.** (See Jn 1:1,14)

# Genesis 1

- *Who else was involved?*
  - “Let **us** make man in our image” (Gen 1:26).
  - Gen 1:2 “The **Spirit of God** moved upon the face of the waters.

# Genesis 1:1

## WHY AM I BEING TOLD THIS?

- **Parallels with Creation** (first birth) and **Redemption** (new birth).
- In Both take on similar roles:
  - The Father – **Architect (The Planner)**
  - The Son – **Executer**
  - The HS – **Finisher/Communicator**

# Genesis 1:1

## WHAT IS THE WORD FOR GOD?

- Hebrew: “Elohim” – *plural* of majesties.
- *Impersonal Force or Power!*
- Think: “In the beginning Deity, or the Godhead, a royal majestic Almighty force.... Created.”



# Genesis 1:1

WHAT is the word for CREATED?

- Hebrew: “To Make Something from nothing.”
- FIAT Creation (Ps 33:9)!
  - Only God can do this!
  - Man can *make something*, but it is only a *rearrangement* of God’s creation.

# Genesis 1:1

WHAT is the word for CREATED?

- Hebrew: “To Make Something from nothing.”
- “In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth” (Ex 20:11).
- “God rested from all the work that He hath created and made” (Gen 2:3). ???

# Genesis 1:1

## How does this all fit together?

- Genesis 1:1 is a **summary statement of creation.**
- The rest is what God did with the building blocks He created in Gen 1:1.
- **TRUE OR FALSE.** On the first day God created the heavens and the earth. **T or F?**

# Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning, **God**  
**created** the heavens and  
the earth.”

# Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”



# WHAT does the phrase “In the beginning” refer to?

- Beginning of the “time and space dimension.”
- The Jewish 1st and 2nd “heaven.”
- The **same Word** that brought it into existence out of nothing will by that same Word cause it all to cease to exist (2 Peter 3: 10 -12)!

## 2 Peter 3: 10-13

- But the day of the Lord will come like a thief; when it comes, the heavens will disappear with a horrific noise, and the celestial bodies will melt away in a blaze, and the earth and every deed done on it will be laid bare. Since all these things are to melt away in this manner, what sort of people must we be, conducting our lives in holiness and godliness?
- New English Standard Bible (NESB).