



Why the Universe Is the Way It Is

Hugh Ross

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Why the Universe Is the Way It Is

Hugh Ross

Why the Universe Is the Way It Is Hugh Ross

"Why?" may be the most common and emotionally charged question in human experience.

With the Bible in one hand and the latest scientific findings in the other, astronomer Hugh Ross tackles many of our most pressing cosmic "why" questions. If God made the universe,

- why would he make it so vast?
- why would he wait to bring humans onto the scene?
- why would he allow decay and death to be part of it?
- why would he let one man and one woman ruin it for everyone?
- why should I believe my life has any real meaning?
- why is the future of the cosmos so bleak?

Within these pages you will find compelling answers to these questions--answers that give you reasons to believe that our finely tuned universe "shouts loudly that life is more than a cosmic accident."

"This book will expand your mind with the universe it describes. It is a challenging, fascinating, and mind-stretching discussion of the nature and purpose of our amazing universe in the light of Scripture by one of America's foremost evangelical astronomers."--Norman L. Geisler, cofounder and former dean of Southern Evangelical Seminary

"Absolutely delightful! Ross's ability to take science and show the biblical correlation in prophecy and application is unparalleled; it makes God's wisdom and the biblical text seem so much more magnificent."--James M. Tour, Chao Professor of Chemistry, professor of computer science, professor of mechanical engineering and materials science, Rice University, Smalley Institute for Nanoscale Science and Technology

"A groundbreaking look at the enduring questions that confront every person regarding our existence. Utilizing today's cutting-edge scientific research from a Christian worldview, Ross offers the most developed answers to date on key concerns regarding creation, God, and humanity. This book is a must-read for anyone who craves scientific information that interacts with tough biblical issues."--John Ankerberg, bestselling author and host of the *John Ankerberg Show*

"Ross simultaneously challenges skeptics and Christians alike with his fresh take on scientific discoveries that point to the existence of God."--Ben Young, Second Baptist Church, Houston; author of *Why Mike's Not a Christian*

Why the Universe Is the Way It Is Details

Date : Published June 1st 2010 by Baker Books (first published October 1st 2008)

ISBN :

Author : Hugh Ross

Format : Kindle Edition 241 pages

Genre : Science, Nonfiction, Christian, Philosophy, Religion, History

 [Download Why the Universe Is the Way It Is ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Why the Universe Is the Way It Is ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Why the Universe Is the Way It Is Hugh Ross

From Reader Review Why the Universe Is the Way It Is for online ebook

Keith says

Excellent book that brings the science of the universe together with the Christian faith. I thought the first third of the book was a little too repetitive. There was a constant reference back to how the universe finely tuned for the existence of human life. I understand the importance of establishing this point as the basis of the argument for design by a Creator. It just began to feel like being beat over the head. What I found impressive and inspiring were the references to biblical scripture that seem to address questions about Earth and the universe. I found myself wondering how I missed these passages in my readings of the Bible!! Overall, I enjoyed this book very much. It is reaffirming, uplifting and inspiring in its way of bridging science and faith while still leaving the reader full of hope.

James Lundeen says

The first half of Hugh Ross's book demonstrates the evidence of incredible fine-tuning of our universe for advanced life. The second half discusses how the Bible reflects an unheard-of understanding of cosmology for the time it was written, then discusses possible physics for the biblically-promised new creation. Basically, Dr. Ross makes a case for a creator from the cosmological evidence, and then makes a case for that creator being the God of the Bible.

The first half was incredibly interesting to me, and the arguments are convincing. The fine-tuning argument is not hard to support, with more and more evidence having been discovered in recent years. In the book's favor, you don't have to have a back-ground in physics and math to understand Dr. Ross's arguments, though it does help to have a passing familiarity with cosmology.

As I understand it, the main argument against fine-tuning being the work of a creator is the possibility of a multi-verse, wherein our universe is a winner by lottery. Given an infinite number of chances, even the most unlikely event will occur; this would be my main point of skepticism. While not conclusive proof, I believe Dr. Ross gives good reasons to believe ours is the only universe, and thus the odds against it being hospitable for life are too great to ignore.

Relatedly, he strives to show that the universe is not only fine-tuned for advanced life, but extraordinarily fine-tuned for that life to view the universe and understand it, which is evidence that the creator wants us to see that evidence. I hadn't thought of this before, and I'm impressed by the thought.

The second-half of the book is, on the other hand, completely unimpressive. Dr. Ross cherry-picks Bible verses that seem to support his view and leaves other contrary ones unaddressed. He admits that the Bible is not a science textbook and should leave it there. He apparently has a background in theology, but I'm not impressed with his application of it.

One of his examples in particular comes to mind. That is, many verses state that, in creation, God "spread" or "stretched" out the heavens. Dr. Ross's claim is that these verses refer to the continual expansion of the universe. First of all, these verses are in the past tense and would not support a continuing expansion. And secondly, to see the heavens as a stretched out canopy over the earth is the kind of earth-centric view that

does not reflect modern cosmological understanding. Actually, it's poetic license and doesn't provide evidence either way. Furthermore, Dr. Ross claims there is a biblically-predicted rate of expansion, which, when graphed, coincides with what physicists have shown. This is pretty far-fetched.

In any case, the concept of this fine-tuning is a big debate, and there are people on both sides who think those on the other side are short-sighted and stupid. Big surprise, as people love to polarize and judge each other. If you don't want to believe in God, this book is not going to prove him to you. However, if you are checking out the arguments honestly, and find that - as I believe - that the evidence is there, (or even probably there!) you owe it to yourself to do some spiritual searching as well. Aren't the potential rewards or consequences for your eternal destiny worth looking past your resistance to the idea of God?

Rod says

It was okay. It really left me wanting alot more information. Especially dealing with how the book of Genesis lines up with the authors views. But I think he might have some other books that deal with that topic more closely.

Mazola1 says

In *Why The Universe Is the Way It Is*, Christian astronomer and apologist Hugh Ross attempts to show that there is scientific proof of the existence of god, that a scientific examination of the universe shows it was created specifically to allow for life on earth, and earth only, and that the Bible and science are not contradictory. Although it's an interesting effort, what he proves most of all is that the Bible is not a science text book.

Ross starts off with a pretty standard treatment of the anthropic principle illustrated with his own set of examples. Using such parameters as the size of the moon in relationship to the earth, and the amount of matter versus dark matter, Ross argues that the universe is "fine tuned" for life on earth. But not just any life -- high tech human life capable of exploring and understanding the universe. Ross claims that there are 824 characteristics of the universe which are fine tuned for such human life, and from this, he argues that the odds of all this happening are 10 to the 1050th power, and that this is far too high to be mere chance or coincidence, inevitably and scientifically meaning that the universe was created by a super powerful and super intelligent Being.

Having accomplished the task (at least in his own head) of proving that God created the universe, Ross moves on to his next task -- to prove that the identity of this God is The Christian God. Ross attempts to do this by showing that the Bible is scientifically accurate. He's on pretty thin ground here. First, he argues that the Bible (and only the Bible among all the world's holy books and creation stories) says that the universe had a beginning, and this is consistent with the Big Bang theory of the beginning of the universe. Next, he points to Bible verses which he says predict the expanding universe, i.e., that the universe is expanding and has continuously expanded from its beginning. Example: Psalm 104:2 describes the continuous expansion of the universe by saying that God "stretch[ed:] out the starry curtain of the heavens." And Romans describes the Second Law of Thermodynamics by saying that "all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time." Ross argues that this amazing congruence of the Bible and science proves that the Bible must have been divinely inspired, and is the Word of God. His reasoning seems more than a little

forced. On balance, I think he would have been better off saying as the Dali Lama does, that if modern science and religion conflict, we should regard science as true.

The rest of the book reads like a sermon on the second coming of Christ, and how wonderful the next life will be. If you were a believer to start with, Ross probably gives you some further arguments to support your belief. But regardless of whether you are a believer or not, it's hard to escape the conclusion that Ross began at the end, and reasoned backward to reach the conclusion he wanted to reach all along.

Neil Gilbert says

This is the most inspiring scientifically driven case for a theological reason for existence I have read. If you are coming from an atheistic perspective, you may react bitterly to some assumptions made but if you currently subscribe to a world-view that includes the possibility of a God, I hope this book inspires you and fills you with hope. That was my reaction.

Tracy says

The scientist in me loved this book. There is a faction of Evangelicals that consider Hugh Ross a heretic for his old earth view. I have already looked at the next book I want to read of his

David says

I sort of always wondered about so much about why the universe is so dark, so few stars, so far apart, galaxies in weird shapes, was the universe really as old as 14 billion years ?

Well lots of those curiosities have been satisfied with this book. The universe is so mind numbingly big that you cannot grasp hold of it without concluding it was made by someone for us to enjoy and marvel at. Wow there is lots to marvel at.

Marvel that we can marvel at all !

Julia says

From the back cover of the book:

"Reasons to Believe scholars proclaim the powerful message that logic and science support, rather than erode, trust in the transcendent God of the Bible. The harmony becomes clear as they present testable truth."

I put that here because that was exactly what this book set out to do (and in my opinion accomplished) in the specific area of cosmology. Since I'm already a believer in the Bible and Christianity what was most exciting to me was learning about astrophysics and the 13.73 billion year history of our universe as scientists have discovered it so far. (Please note, like some Christians, I do not hold a "young earth creationist" worldview and neither does the author.) For instance, did you know that in Ontario is our planet's richest nickel deposit

and that it is the result of an asteroid collision during an uninhabitable time in our planetary development (p. 50)? Facts like this and many others about mass, gravity, the second law of thermodynamics had me both fascinated and educated about what has been going on since the big bang and what we can expect to happen as this universe continues to age. Soaking up words like "galactic habitable zone," "solar twin" and "dark energy" had me feeling like a Trekkie throughout much of the book - I felt I could almost talk authoritatively on the subject! (But then one of the appendices went just a bit less "layman-y" and I was bored to tears - so I probably won't quit my day job for astronomy just yet!)

Ross did an excellent job handling the scientific evidence of the universe and, true to the Reasons to Believe model, he intertwined it with theological/philosophical discussion as well - referencing relevant Biblical verses at many points. While there was nothing really "wrong" with his theology I did find his theological language a bit overly superlative and flowery at times - an unfortunate common practice in religious discussions. Personally, I much prefer the blunt, to-the-point style of scientific discussion and think it carries through nicely to philosophical discussions as well, especially in a book like this. However, I wouldn't say his language reduced the force of his conclusions in any way, but only caused a minor personal irritation in the handling of the "testable truth."

Perhaps the most exciting thing about this book for me was having a few new insights into both the physical world I live in and how it relates to the Biblical account. Let's just say that this book gave my worldview an updated framework... the following passage may better explain my meaning. In discussing the fall of man (Adam and Eve leaving Eden), Ross writes:

=====

God did not curse the world directly. There's no evidence to suggest alterations occurred in the physics of the universe or Earth. Few cosmic features could be more important for revealing their Maker than the constancy of the physical laws. If the force of gravity or the velocity of light changed occasionally, the result would be chaos and confusion (not to mention extermination). The universe would be indecipherable, at best, if each star and planet formed by different principles and processes.

The biblical prophet Jeremiah declared that the laws that govern the heavens and Earth are as "fixed," or secure, as God's promises to Israel (see Jer. 33:25-26). The apostle Paul said the entire universe (which would include all its space-time realm) is subject to the law of decay (see Rom. 8:18-23). ...

Rather than the laws being changed, the ground became cursed as Adam and his descendants altered the manner of their work. Instead of wisely administering resources for the benefit of the plants, animals, and all life as God commanded (see Gen. 1:28-30), Adam and Eve and their descendants allowed greed, laziness, and selfishness to ruin their environment. ... When humans practice evil, they experience additional pain and work. Extra work that serves no purpose but to partially reverse the effects of sin becomes "painful toil." (pp. 168-169)

=====

What is so ground-breaking about this to me personally is that like so many other personal learnings, this about our vast, mysterious, almost-incomprehensible universe has only reinforced once-mysterious biblical accounts. The Garden of Eden wasn't heaven! It was part of the same Earth we all inhabit today and subject to the same laws. Adam and Eve weren't super heroes with special abilities! They were human beings subject to the same physical laws we all abide by today.

Thinking about this led me to consider that superstition (acting as though some parts of your physical life on Earth doesn't abide by physical scientific laws) has no place in a functional worldview - an accurate worldview will honestly deal with the facts of the world around us, not conveniently "magic" them away.

At the end of the book Ross discusses the end of the universe and what we might expect of life in a realm not restricted by space-time. (Think stick figures trying to comprehend life outside their piece of paper.) This is a pretty exciting section and shines a light of hope on an otherwise bleak inevitability to life in a permanently decaying universe.

With this book Ross has helped me simultaneously understand more about our physical universe and further develop my worldview in an intellectually honest way. I look forward to reading and learning more like this from the Reasons to Believe scholars.

Charles says

The book starts off interestingly with a discussion of how the universe appears to be "fine-tuned" for the development and existence of life as we on Earth know it. This concept is often labelled the Anthropic Principle, and the fine-tuning actually does exist. Ross uses this fine-tuning to make a case for a creator God, and that is certainly a possibility. However, Ross far overstates the case for fine tuning and then begins to insist that all of modern physics is represented specifically in passages in the Bible. In some cases, his attempts to shoehorn the laws of physics into biblical passages are just simply ludicrous when you read the actual passages.

Ross then goes on to throw out the standard lie about evolution being "undirected," although he at least has the sense to avoid calling it random as so many creationists do. He also engages in the usual misleading language, as when he suggests that the Cambrian explosion of lifeforms occurred in a "geological instant," when that "instant" is known to be millions of years. Up until that point I was giving him credit for being relatively balanced in his presentation. After that the balance was gone, and he ends the book in full evangelical mode.

Dave Jones says

This book responds to the question "Couldn't God have done a better job in creating the universe?" Astrophysicist Dr. Hugh Ross tackles questions such as: Why is the Universe so old? Why is it so big? Why a decaying Universe? Ross does an admirable job of answering these (and other) queries from his perspective (while dumbing it down for us non-rocket-scientists), at times my head was ready to explode. I had a difficult time following the dynamics of dark matter and other *uber space physics nerdy* fare.

However where Ross really shines is the last part of the book in which he discusses why we should believe the Bible and in which he describes the universe to come. Really, the last couple of chapters describing the New Earth is very reminiscent of Randy Alcorn's Heaven book.

Hugh Ross and the *Reasons to Believe* ministry is unique in the presentation of content from the Bible coupled with the "second book" of the natural world that we inhabit. His references are always impressive (typically, the bibliography takes up about a fifth-ish of his works) and draws from a number of disciplines. It's really mind-expanding – even if you aren't convinced of the theology, you will learn more about the universe. It's really a great read! (You may even *enjoy* the astrophysical examination of dark matter, cosmic dust, black holes, etc.)

This is one of the best formatted Kindle books I've ever read! The references to other parts of the book are properly linked. The end-notes (I read every one!), illustrations, tables, and index all are linked. This is the way Kindle content should be formatted.

NASIR says

COSMOLOGY & ASTRONOMY:

1. The earth in space, affected only by gravity. While other sources declared the earth sat on the back of an elephant or turtle, or was held up by Atlas, the Bible alone states what we now know to be true.

Job 26:7: He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and Suspending the earth upon nothing.

2. The earth is an orb or sphere. At a time when many thought the earth was flat, the Bible told us that the earth is spherical.

Isaiah 40:22: It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.

Webster's 1828 Dictionary's definition of CIRCLE. "In popular use, the line that comprehends the figure, the plane or surface comprehended, and the whole body or solid matter of a round substance, are denominated a circle; a ring; an orb; the earth."

3. Scripture assumes a revolving (spherical) earth. Jesus said that at His return some would be asleep at night while others would be working at day time activities in the field. This is a clear indication of a revolving earth, with day and night occurring simultaneously.

Luke 17:34-36: I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

4. Black holes and dark matter anticipated. Cosmologists now speculate that over 98% of the known universe is comprised of dark matter, with dark energy and black holes. A black hole's gravitational field is so strong that nothing, not even light, escapes. Beyond the expanding universe there is no measured radiation and therefore only outer darkness exists. These theories paint a seemingly accurate description of what the Bible calls "outer darkness" or "the blackness of darkness forever."

Matthew 25:30: And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Jude 13: Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

5. Incalculable number of stars. At a time when less than 5,000 stars were visible to the human eye, God stated that the stars of heaven were innumerable. Not until the 17th century did Galileo glimpse the

immensity of our universe with his new telescope. Today, astronomers estimate that there are ten thousand billion trillion stars - a 1 followed by 25 zeros! Yet, as the Bible states, scientists admit this number may be woefully inadequate.

Jeremiah 33:22: As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

6. The number of stars, though vast, are finite. Although man is unable to calculate the exact number of stars, we now know their number is finite. Of course God knew this all along.

Isaiah 40:26: Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

7. The Bible compares the number of stars with the number of grains of sand on the seashore. Amazingly, gross estimates of the number of sand grains are comparable to the estimated number of stars in the universe.

Genesis 22:17: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.

8. The universe is expanding. Repeatedly God declares that He stretches out the heavens. During the early 20th century, most scientists (including Einstein) believed the universe was static. Others believed it should have collapsed due to gravity. Then in 1929, astronomer Edwin Hubble showed that distant galaxies were receding from the earth, and the further away they were, the faster they were moving. This discovery revolutionized the field of astronomy. Einstein admitted his mistake, and today most astronomers agree with what the Creator told us millennia ago - the universe is expanding!

Isaiah 42:5: Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein.

Jeremiah 51:15: He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding.

Zechariah 12:1: The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

9. Each star is unique. Centuries before the advent of the telescope, the Bible declared what only God and the angels knew: each star varies in size and intensity!

1 Corinthians 15:41: There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.

10. The sun goes in a circuit. Some scientists scoffed at this verse thinking that it taught geocentricity - the theory that the sun revolves around the earth. They insisted the sun was stationary. However, we now know that the sun is traveling through space at approximately 600,000 miles per hour. It is literally moving through space in a huge circuit - just as the Bible stated 3,000 years ago!

Psalm 19:6: [The sun's] going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and

there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

PHYSICS:

1. Creation is made of atoms and particles, indiscernible to our eyes. Not until the 19th century was it discovered that all visible matter consists of invisible elements.

Hebrews 11:3: Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

2. Light can be divided. Sir Isaac Newton studied light and discovered that white light is made of seven colors, which can be "parted" and then recombined. Science confirmed this four centuries ago - God declared it four millennia ago!

Job 38:24: By what way is the light parted, which scattereth the east wind upon the earth?

3. Light travels in a path. Light is said to have a "way" [Hebrew: derek, literally a traveled path or road]. Until the 17th century it was believed that light was transmitted instantaneously. We now know that light is a form of energy that travels at 186,000 miles per second in a straight line. Indeed, there is a "way" of light.

Job 38:19: Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for darkness, where is the place thereof.

4. The Bible says that light can be sent, and then manifest itself in speech. We now know that radio waves and light waves are two forms of the same thing: electromagnetic waves. Therefore, radio waves are a form of light. Today, using radio transmitters, we can send "lightnings" which indeed speak when they arrive.

Job 38:35: Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are?

5. The First Law of Thermodynamics established. The First Law states that the total quantity of energy and matter in the universe is a constant. One form of energy or matter may be converted into another, but the total quantity always remains the same. Therefore the creation is finished, exactly as God said way back in Genesis.

Genesis 2:1-2: Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

6. The Second Law of Thermodynamics (Entropy). This law states that everything in the universe is running down, deteriorating, and constantly becoming less and less orderly. Entropy (disorder) entered when mankind rebelled against God - resulting in the curse (Genesis 3:17-19; Romans 8:20-22). Historically most people believed the universe was unchangeable. Yet modern science verifies that the universe is growing "old as doth a garment" (Hebrews 1:11). Evolution directly contradicts this, the most tested of all scientific laws.

Psalms 102:25-26: Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed.

Romans 8:20-22: For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

BIOLOGY:

1. Law of Biogenesis explained. Scientists observe that life only comes from existing life. This law has never been violated under observation or experimentation (as evolution requires). Therefore, life, God's life, created all life.

Genesis 1:11, 20, 24: And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. ... And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. ... And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

Genesis 2:7: And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

2. The earth was designed for biological life. Scientists have discovered that the most fundamental characteristics of our earth and cosmos are so finely tuned that if just one of them were even slightly different, life as we know it couldn't exist. This is called the Anthropic Principle and it agrees with the Bible which states that God formed the earth to be inhabited.

Isaiah 45:18: For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

3. God has given us just the right amount of water to sustain life. We now recognize that if there was significantly more or less water, the earth would not support life as we know it.

Isaiah 40:12: Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

4. Our bodies are made from the dust of the ground. Scientists have discovered that the human body is comprised of some 28 base and trace elements - all of which are found in the earth.

Genesis 2:7: And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 3:19: In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

5. Life begins at fertilization. God declares that He knew us before we were born. The Biblical penalty for murdering an unborn child was death (Exodus 21:22-23). Today, it is an irrefutable biological fact that the fertilized egg is truly an entire human being. Nothing will be added to the first cell except nutrition and

oxygen.

Psalm 139:15: "My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth."

Jeremiah 1:5: Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

6. God fashions and knits us together in the womb. Science was ignorant concerning embryonic development until recently. Yet thousands of years ago, the Bible accurately described God making us an intricate unity' in the womb.

Job 10:8-12: "Thine hands have made me and fashioned me together round about; yet thou dost destroy me. Remember, I beseech thee, that thou hast made me as the clay; and wilt thou bring me into dust again? Hast thou not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like cheese? Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast fenced me with bones and sinews. Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit."

7. The seed of a plant contains its life. As stated in the Book of Genesis, we now recognize that inside the humble seed is life itself. Within the seed is a tiny factory of amazing complexity. No scientist can build a synthetic seed and no seed is simple!

Genesis 1:11-12: "And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good."

8. A seed must die to produce new life. In John 12:24 is remarkable confirmation of two of the fundamental concepts in biology: 1) Cells arise only from existing cells. 2) A grain must die to produce more grain. The fallen seed is surrounded by supporting cells from the old body. These supporting cells "give their lives" to provide nourishment to the inner kernel. Once planted, this inner kernel germinates resulting in much grain.

John 12:24: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."

1 Corinthians 15:36-38: "Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body."

www.jw.org

Charlie says

The author has a good goal of showing how the parameters of the equations governing the structure of the universe couldn't be changed much without eliminating the possibility of human development. We humans are made of heavy elements made only in the hearts of supernovae so the universe has to age some before those are produced. Another example is that the solar system is far from the radiation storm at the center of the galaxy. There are lots of examples of such requirements, but the author seems to go overboard trying to

make so many things fit his theory that God designed this all for our benefit. Lots of food for thought, but overdone.

J.J. Richardson says

One of the most mind blowing books I've ever read.

Darian says

His live presentation of the same material is 10 times better but this is one of the fundamentally insightful books at the intersection of astrophysics and the Bible.

Amos says

COSMOLOGY & ASTRONOMY:

1. The earth free-floats in space, affected only by gravity. While other sources declared the earth sat on the back of an elephant or turtle, or was held up by Atlas, the Bible alone states what we now know to be true.

Job 26:7: He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

2. The earth is an orb or sphere. At a time when many thought the earth was flat, the Bible told us that the earth is spherical.

Isaiah 40:22: It is He that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants thereof are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.

Webster's 1828 Dictionary's definition of CIRCLE. "In popular use, the line that comprehends the figure, the plane or surface comprehended, and the whole body or solid matter of a round substance, are denominated a circle; a ring; an orb; the earth."

3. Scripture assumes a revolving (spherical) earth. Jesus said that at His return some would be asleep at night while others would be working at day time activities in the field. This is a clear indication of a revolving earth, with day and night occurring simultaneously.

Luke 17:34-36: I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two women shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

4. Black holes and dark matter anticipated. Cosmologists now speculate that over 98% of the known universe is comprised of dark matter, with dark energy and black holes. A black hole's gravitational field is so strong that nothing, not even light, escapes. Beyond the expanding universe there is no measured radiation and therefore only outer darkness exists. These theories paint a seemingly accurate description of what the Bible

calls "outer darkness" or "the blackness of darkness forever."

Matthew 25:30: And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Jude 13: Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; wandering stars, to whom is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever.

5. Incalculable number of stars. At a time when less than 5,000 stars were visible to the human eye, God stated that the stars of heaven were innumerable. Not until the 17th century did Galileo glimpse the immensity of our universe with his new telescope. Today, astronomers estimate that there are ten thousand billion trillion stars - a 1 followed by 25 zeros! Yet, as the Bible states, scientists admit this number may be woefully inadequate.

Jeremiah 33:22: As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.

6. The number of stars, though vast, are finite. Although man is unable to calculate the exact number of stars, we now know their number is finite. Of course God knew this all along.

Isaiah 40:26: Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number: he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power; not one faileth.

7. The Bible compares the number of stars with the number of grains of sand on the seashore. Amazingly, gross estimates of the number of sand grains are comparable to the estimated number of stars in the universe.

Genesis 22:17: That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies.

8. The universe is expanding. Repeatedly God declares that He stretches out the heavens. During the early 20th century, most scientists (including Einstein) believed the universe was static. Others believed it should have collapsed due to gravity. Then in 1929, astronomer Edwin Hubble showed that distant galaxies were receding from the earth, and the further away they were, the faster they were moving. This discovery revolutionized the field of astronomy. Einstein admitted his mistake, and today most astronomers agree with what the Creator told us millennia ago - the universe is expanding!

Isaiah 42:5: Thus saith God the LORD, he that created the heavens, and stretched them out; he that spread forth the earth, and that which cometh out of it; he that giveth breath unto the people upon it, and spirit to them that walk therein.

Jeremiah 51:15: He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding.

Zechariah 12:1: The burden of the word of the LORD for Israel, saith the LORD, which stretcheth forth the heavens, and layeth the foundation of the earth, and formeth the spirit of man within him.

9. Each star is unique. Centuries before the advent of the telescope, the Bible declared what only God and the angels knew: each star varies in size and intensity!

1 Corinthians 15:41: There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars: for one star differeth from another star in glory.

10. The sun goes in a circuit. Some scientists scoffed at this verse thinking that it taught geocentricity - the theory that the sun revolves around the earth. They insisted the sun was stationary. However, we now know that the sun is traveling through space at approximately 600,000 miles per hour. It is literally moving through space in a huge circuit - just as the Bible stated 3,000 years ago!

Psalms 19:6: [The sun's] going forth is from the end of the heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it: and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

PHYSICS:

1. Creation is made of atoms and particles, indiscernible to our eyes. Not until the 19th century was it discovered that all visible matter consists of invisible elements.

Hebrews 11:3: Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

2. Light can be divided. Sir Isaac Newton studied light and discovered that white light is made of seven colors, which can be "parted" and then recombined. Science confirmed this four centuries ago - God declared it four millennia ago!

Job 38:24: By what way is the light parted, which scattereth the east wind upon the earth?

3. Light travels in a path. Light is said to have a "way" [Hebrew: derek, literally a traveled path or road]. Until the 17th century it was believed that light was transmitted instantaneously. We now know that light is a form of energy that travels at 186,000 miles per second in a straight line. Indeed, there is a "way" of light.

Job 38:19: Where is the way where light dwelleth? and as for darkness, where is the place thereof.

4. The Bible says that light can be sent, and then manifest itself in speech. We now know that radio waves and light waves are two forms of the same thing: electromagnetic waves. Therefore, radio waves are a form of light. Today, using radio transmitters, we can send "lightnings" which indeed speak when they arrive.

Job 38:35: Canst thou send lightnings, that they may go, and say unto thee, Here we are?

5. The First Law of Thermodynamics established. The First Law states that the total quantity of energy and matter in the universe is a constant. One form of energy or matter may be converted into another, but the total quantity always remains the same. Therefore the creation is finished, exactly as God said way back in Genesis.

Genesis 2:1-2: Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made.

6. The Second Law of Thermodynamics (Entropy). This law states that everything in the universe is running down, deteriorating, and constantly becoming less and less orderly. Entropy (disorder) entered when

mankind rebelled against God - resulting in the curse (Genesis 3:17-19; Romans 8:20-22). Historically most people believed the universe was unchangeable. Yet modern science verifies that the universe is growing "old as doth a garment" (Hebrews 1:11). Evolution directly contradicts this, the most tested of all scientific laws.

Psalm 102:25-26: Of old hast thou laid the foundation of the earth: and the heavens are the work of thy hands. They shall perish, but thou shalt endure: yea, all of them shall wax old like a garment; as a vesture shalt thou change them, and they shall be changed.

Romans 8:20-22: For the creature was made subject to vanity, not willingly, but by reason of him who hath subjected the same in hope, Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now.

BIOLOGY:

1. Law of Biogenesis explained. Scientists observe that life only comes from existing life. This law has never been violated under observation or experimentation (as evolution requires). Therefore, life, God's life, created all life.

Genesis 1:11, 20, 24: And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. ... And God said, Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. ... And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, cattle, and creeping thing, and beast of the earth after his kind: and it was so.

Genesis 2:7: And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

2. The earth was designed for biological life. Scientists have discovered that the most fundamental characteristics of our earth and cosmos are so finely tuned that if just one of them were even slightly different, life as we know it couldn't exist. This is called the Anthropic Principle and it agrees with the Bible which states that God formed the earth to be inhabited.

Isaiah 45:18: For thus saith the LORD that created the heavens; God himself that formed the earth and made it; he hath established it, he created it not in vain, he formed it to be inhabited: I am the LORD; and there is none else.

3. God has given us just the right amount of water to sustain life. We now recognize that if there was significantly more or less water, the earth would not support life as we know it.

Isaiah 40:12: Who hath measured the waters in the hollow of his hand, and meted out heaven with the span, and comprehended the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance?

4. Our bodies are made from the dust of the ground. Scientists have discovered that the human body is comprised of some 28 base and trace elements - all of which are found in the earth.

Genesis 2:7: And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

Genesis 3:19: In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.

5. Life begins at fertilization. God declares that He knew us before we were born. The Biblical penalty for murdering an unborn child was death (Exodus 21:22-23). Today, it is an irrefutable biological fact that the fertilized egg is truly an entire human being. Nothing will be added to the first cell except nutrition and oxygen.

Psalms 139:15: "My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth."

Jeremiah 1:5: Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.

6. God fashions and knits us together in the womb. Science was ignorant concerning embryonic development until recently. Yet thousands of years ago, the Bible accurately described God making us an intricate unity' in the womb.

Job 10:8-12: "Thine hands have made me and fashioned me together round about; yet thou dost destroy me. Remember, I beseech thee, that thou hast made me as the clay; and wilt thou bring me into dust again? Hast thou not poured me out as milk, and curdled me like cheese? Thou hast clothed me with skin and flesh, and hast fenced me with bones and sinews. Thou hast granted me life and favour, and thy visitation hath preserved my spirit."

7. The seed of a plant contains its life. As stated in the Book of Genesis, we now recognize that inside the humble seed is life itself. Within the seed is a tiny factory of amazing complexity. No scientist can build a synthetic seed and no seed is simple!

Genesis 1:11-12: "And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so. And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good."

8. A seed must die to produce new life. In John 12:24 is remarkable confirmation of two of the fundamental concepts in biology: 1) Cells arise only from existing cells. 2) A grain must die to produce more grain. The fallen seed is surrounded by supporting cells from the old body. These supporting cells "give their lives" to provide nourishment to the inner kernel. Once planted, this inner kernel germinates resulting in much grain.

John 12:24: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."

1 Corinthians 15:36-38: "Thou fool, that which thou sowest is not quickened, except it die: And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain: But God giveth it a body as it hath pleased him, and to every seed his own body."

www.jw.org
