

EQUIP PT 5, THE NATURE OF SCIENCE

David Berlinski

- Has anyone provided proof of God's inexistence? Not even close.
- Has quantum cosmology explained the emergence of the universe or why it is here? Not even close. Have our sciences explained why our universe seems to be fine-tuned to allow for the existence of life? Not even close.
- Are physicists and biologists willing to believe in anything so long as it is not religious thought? Close enough.
- Has rationalism and moral thought provided us with an understanding of what is good, what is right, and what is moral? Not close enough.
- Has secularism in the terrible 20th century been a force for good? Not even close, to being close.
- Is there a narrow and oppressive orthodoxy in the sciences? Close enough.
- Does anything in the sciences or their philosophy justify the claim that religious belief is irrational? Not even in the ball park.
- Is scientific atheism a frivolous exercise in intellectual contempt? Dead on.

David Berlinski, The Devil's Delusion: Atheism and Its Scientific Pretensions

1 - David Berlinski is not a Christian, but he argues the issue of origins with great passion. Take a few moments and examine a few of the statements listed above. Mr. Berlinski is absolutely convinced that humanities existence is the result of intentional design. Are you, as a Christian, as sure as he is? Why or why not? _____

The Big Bang: ...in the beginning there was nothing and nowhere.. Then, suddenly, a large amount of something appeared out of no-where turing no-where into somewhere... Then, for no reason, all of that something suddenly exploded and was tossed out into what was previously no-where creating smooch more somewhere that we now call it ... *everywhere*... Along the way it caused stars and planets, galaxies and nebulas to come into being...

- Just thinking about stars: It is believed that the universe is around 15 billion years old, but for the sake of easy math, lets say its 20 billion...There is an estimated 100 billion galaxies in our universe. Roughly 200 billion stars in each galaxy. $100 \text{ billion} \times 200 \text{ billion} \text{ Divided by } 20 \text{ billion} =$ _____
- _____
- _____

- Isaiah 40:22 *It is He who sits above the circle of the earth...*
- Job 26:7 *He stretches out the north over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing.*

2 - Did you know about these kinds of scientific observations in the Bible? Most people in the church would probably say no. Not out of ignorance, but because we don't often think of the Bible as a book of science. The truth is that we shouldn't, because it is most definitely not a science book. However, it is a book of world history. Within your group discuss this question: How accurate is the Bible's history, and how much should we trust that history? _____

2 Peter 3:1-10 ¹*This is my second letter to you, dear friends, and in both of them I have tried to stimulate your wholesome thinking and refresh your memory. ²I want you to remember what the holy prophets said long ago and what our Lord and Savior commanded through your apostles. ³Most importantly, I want to remind you that in the last days scoffers will come, mocking the truth and following their own desires. ⁴They will say, “**What happened to the promise that Jesus is coming again?** From before the times of our ancestors, everything has remained the same since the world was first created.” ⁵**They deliberately forget that God made the heavens long ago by the word of his command, and he brought the earth out from the water and surrounded it with water. ⁶Then he used the water to destroy the ancient world with a mighty flood.***

3 - Last question...:0) In the scripture above there are two specific historical points that we are told will be *willingly forgotten*. Why are those two so important? _____
