

The Big Bang

This lesson is going to be unique in that it is a first for me. This lesson is based on a couple of articles that were written by J. Matt Barber and Eric Metaxas. I've titled it... **1** The basis of Mr. Barber's discussion is that if the Big Bang theory is true, it denies by its very elements atheism. Can you see the problem that presents. The Big Bang theory is what the atheist uses to describe how the universe came into existence. A quick explanation of what is the Big Bang theory I think is in order. Basically what it says is that there was an enormous explosion caused by particles of antimatter colliding with particles of matter. The resulting explosions created the matter of the universe, the stars, the planets, the moons, the suns, everything. As the matter was thrown outward away from the source of the explosion, the resulting gravitational attraction caused the systems of planets and suns to come together and form the solar systems and galaxies that are seen today. There are enormous problems with this theory, not the least of which is that had the different systems been created by such an explosion then those systems would be continuing to move apart and away from the epicenter. This is what is known as the expanding universe. Astronomers have already disproved that theory. The different systems of the universe are not moving away from each other, but rather seem to be in some sort of orderly orbit very similar to what we see with the various planets of our own solar system. Most atheists, when pressed for an origin explanation, will come up with something like this, coupled with some sort of theory of evolution to explain life, all to support their belief that there is no God... **2**

Ps 14:1

3

I The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God."

There are some sayings that have been around for a long time, I am not sure of their origin, but...

4

- 1) They say there are no atheists in the foxhole
- 2) Even fewer when death is certain
- 3) None once the final curtain falls

I hope the progression here is easily seen. It is hard to deny God when the bullets are flying overhead and the bombs are exploding next to you and when the shrapnel from one of those bombs buries into your body and you know the end is imminent, God begins to become more and more real. Then when death has taken you, there is no longer any doubt about the existence of God. In...

Rom 14:11

5

II For it is written, "AS I LIVE, SAYS THE LORD, EVERY KNEE SHALL BOW TO ME, AND EVERY TONGUE SHALL GIVE PRAISE TO GOD."

Man, in all his arrogance and self-centeredness, can deny God until he is blue in the face and it doesn't change a thing...

Phil 2:9-11

6

9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, **10** so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, **11** and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Every now and then there is a point made that is so monumentally important that all others seem to pale in comparison, this is one of those points. God is real, Christ is real, The Holy Spirit is real, and the Bible is absolutely true. We can choose to ignore and to deny all we want, but the time will come when we are forced to our knees in obeisance, when we will proclaim at the top of our lungs that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the Living God.

For three decades, until his death in 1953, Josef Stalin was the mass-murdering atheist dictator of Soviet Russia, and according to Psalms 14:1...

7

He was also a fool

Barber writes; “In his 1994 book, “Can Man Live Without God,” the so-called Christian apologist, Ravi Zacharias, recounts a story he heard firsthand from British journalist Malcomb Muggeridge “that stirred him then and still does even yet.”

Muggeridge had collaborated with Svetlana Stalin, Josef Stalin’s daughter, on a BBC documentary about her atheistic father. She told of his last act of defiant rebellion against the Creator:

As her father lay dying, Stalin, plagued with terrifying hallucinations, suddenly sat halfway up in bed, clenched his fist toward the heavens, fell back upon his pillow, and was dead.”

“His one last gesture,” observed Zacharias, “was a clenched fist toward God, his heart as cold and hard as steel.” He further states that “in his experience, it is something common among atheists: an inexplicable, inconsistent, and visceral hatred for the very God they have said does not exist. Think about that. Do you believe in Bigfoot? If not, do you go through your life hating the very thought of it? Doesn’t that seem odd to you? To focus so much attention and effort to something that you don’t even believe is real, is the epitome of foolishness.

To deny God is, as we saw in Psalms 14:1, foolishness, especially in light of the evidence that is so apparent.

Rom 1:20-23

8

20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse. **21** For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. **22** Professing to be wise, they became fools, **23** and exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

Do you see what Paul says? Not only is God real, but the evidence is abundantly apparent to any who will just look. There is no excuse for not seeing Him...

Yet excuses they make. Notice...

Ps 19:1-3

9

1 The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. **2** Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge. **3** There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.

How can a man not see God in all His glory and Majesty? All he has to do is look. The manifest intention and perfecting of creation reveals design of unbelievable complexity. God is of incalculable intelligence and infinite power. As Barber states; “Atheism provides a case study in willful suspension of disbelief – all to escape, as the one who denies God imagines it, an accountability before God.”

But you might ask the question...

10

“Wouldn’t the atheist “Suspend their belief?”

Let’s see if we can understand Barber’s comment here. The atheist believes in disbelief. He accepts the notion as fact that there is no God. The atheist believes in disbelief. So Barber’s point is that since the atheist does not believe there is a God, it is not belief that would be stopped, rather it is their disbelief they must suspend to rail against that which they don’t believe in. It is defined as “a willingness to suspend one’s critical faculties and believe the unbelievable; sacrifice of realism and logic for the sake of enjoyment.” When, even in the face of overwhelming evidence one is willing to set that evidence aside and accept a conclusion contrary to that evidence, that is the definition of foolishness. Now apply this thought to the atheist.

In the case of the atheist, or the “freethinker,” as they paradoxically prefer to be called, that which is unbelievable is that somehow everything came from nothing, that there is no uncaused first cause, that God does not exist nor did He actuate or cause, even as knowledge of His being is indelibly written on every human heart and proved by all He has made, this is what they choose to believe did not happen. Interestingly, regardless of where they might fall in terms of faith in God, whether theist, atheist or anti-theist, on this point nearly all scientists agree:

11

In the beginning there was nothing. There was no time, space or matter. There wasn’t even emptiness, only nothingness. Well, nothing natural anyway.

Then: bang! Everything. Nonexistence became existence. Nothing became, in less than an instant, our inconceivably vast and finely tuned universe governed by what mankind would later call, of course, after we too, popped into existence from nowhere, fully armed with conscious awareness and the ability to think, communicate and observe, the “natural law” or “physics.”

In the beginning time, space, earth, life, and, finally, human life, were not, and then they were.

Writing in the Wall Street Journal, another so-called Christian author, Eric Metaxas notes; “The fine-tuning necessary for life to exist on a planet, is nothing compared with the fine-tuning required for the universe to exist at all. For example, astrophysicists believe that the values of the four fundamental forces...

12 *Gravity, the Electromagnetic force, and the “strong” and “weak” Nuclear forces*

These were determined less than one-millionth of a second after the big bang. Alter any one value of these forces and the universe could not exist. The point he is making here is that while the accident of chance does occur, the chance of the order of the universe occurring is phenomenally great that it becomes by definition an impossibility. Here is what Hezekiah says of the impossible...

2 Kings 19:15

13

15 Hezekiah prayed before the Lord and said, “O Lord, the God of Israel, who are enthroned above the cherubim, You are the God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.

Secular materialists claim it can’t be – that such explanation is a “God of the gaps” explanation and, therefore, must be banished from the realm of scientific inquiry. They demand that anything beyond the known natural is off-limits. Atheists attribute all of existence to, well, nothing. It just kind of happened. In their version of the Bible Genesis 1:1 would read:

14

“In the beginning NOTHING created the heavens and the earth.”

Even in the material world that’s just plain silly. Nothing plus nothing equals something? Zero times zero equals everything? And so, they have “reasoned” themselves into a corner. These same materialists acknowledge that, prior to the moment of singularity – the Big Bang – there was no “natural” there was nothing. They are forced to admit that there was an unnatural time and place before natural time and space, that something, sometime, somewhere preceded the material universe. In the late 70’s there was a TV program starring Ken Howard, who died this past year, about a white former NBA player who became a coach at an inner city school working with kids that had never had many opportunities to do much, let alone travel. He takes them on their first ever plane ride to a tournament and two of them are talking about their fear of this unknown thing called flying. One of them is praying to God for a safe trip and the other says there is no God. The first responds with, “Where do you think this all came from?” The second says, “The Big Bang.” To which the first says, “Who do you think lit the fuse?”

That which was before what we know as the natural was, of a necessity and by definition, “beyond the natural” and, therefore, was, is and forever shall be “supernatural.” Metaxas then says it this way...

15

“Reader, meet God”

In short: the Big Bang Theory blows atheism sky high. Fred Hoyle is the atheist astronomer who coined the term “Big Bang.” He once confessed that his disbelief was “greatly shaken” by the undisputed science, writing that “a common-sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with the physics, as well as with chemistry and biology.” Albert Einstein, who is often dishonestly characterized as having been an atheist, agreed that God-denial is foolishness. He once said of non-believers: “The fanatical atheists are like slaves who are still feeling the weight of their chains which they have thrown off after hard struggle. They are creatures who – in their grudge against traditional religion as the ‘opium of the masses’ – cannot hear the music of the spheres.” “I’m not an atheist,” added Einstein. “The problem involved is too vast for

our limited minds. We are in the position of a little child entering a huge library filled with books in many languages. The child knows someone must have written those books. It does not know how. It does not understand the languages in which they are written. The child dimly suspects a mysterious order in the arrangement of the books but doesn't know what it is. That, it seems to me, is the attitude of even the most intelligent human being toward God. We see the universe marvelously arranged and obeying certain laws but only dimly understand these laws."

NASA scientist and self-proclaimed agnostic, Dr. Robert Jastrow (1925-2008) put it this way: "For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountain of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries." He repeats what Isaiah wrote in...

Isa 45:23

16

23 "I have sworn by Myself, The word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness And will not turn back, That to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear allegiance.

The prayer of every Christian should be that with time and chance, even those who have placed their belief in unbelief may eventually catch up to God's Word. There is a God...

Gen 2:4

17

4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the Lord God made earth and heaven.

We may not claim to be atheist or even anti-theist in our faith but that might be what is seen in our actions. Do we live our faith?

Jude 3

18

3 Beloved, while I was making every effort to write you about our common salvation, I felt the necessity to write to you appealing that you contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all handed down to the saints.

Jude writes telling us to contend, to strive, for the faith that has been given, Peter tells us what this faith will do for us...

1 Peter 1:6-9

19

6 In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, **7** so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ; **8** and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, you greatly rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **9** obtaining as the outcome of your faith the salvation of your souls.

If we choose to follow God's commandments we deny the faith of Jude and will not obtain the salvation of our souls.