#### Introduction

- 1. There are some questions asked that are so universal and important that they span culture, nationality, and time
  - a. Where did we come from?
  - b. What are we doing here?
  - c. Where are we going?
- 2. We all want to know the reason for our being
  - a. This is natural and healthy thinking
  - b. These are questions which can be answered
- 3. There are two major lines of thought when it comes to answering the question of origin (beginning)
  - a. Natural or Supernatural
  - b. Non-intelligence or Intelligence
- 4. Atheistic evolution fits into the categories of "natural" and "non-intelligence" for it claims:
  - a. "...that the Universe is self-contained and that everything in the Universe has come into being through random processes over long periods of time without any outside cause." (God's Creation - Digging For Answers, *Creation Versus Evolution*, pg. 10, Apologetics Press, Inc.)
  - b. In other words, all that you see, including yourself, was brought about by blind chance and natural processes
  - c. No outside force at work
- 5. The Biblical explanation of origin fits into the categories of "supernatural" and "intelligence" as it claims:
  - a. "For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."
    (Ex. 20:11)
  - b. In other words, all that you see, including yourself, was brought about by an Intelligent and Supernatural Creator
  - c. Outside force is at work
- 6. The question of life before us is, "where did we come from?"
  - a. We will start with looking at the origin of the Universe

# **The Big Bang Theory**

- 1. A prevailing theory among atheists and evolutionists regarding the origin of the Universe (and everything in it) is the Big Bang theory
  - a. "Big bang cosmology (deals with the nature of the universe) is a widely accepted theory regarding the origin of the universe, according to which the material universe or cosmos exploded into being some 15 billion years ago. Since then the universe has been expanding and developing according to conditions set at the moment of its origin. Had

these conditions been different in the slightest degree, the world and life as we know it, including human life, would never have developed." (Geisler, N. L.; *Baker encyclopedia of Christian apologetics*, pg. 102)

- 2. This theory falls short of a true origin explanation because it does not explain how the elements which made up this "explosion" got here
  - a. Were these elements eternal i.e., always existed?
  - b. If the argument is made that they came from nothing then it is more difficult to defend for something cannot come from nothing!
    - i. Cannot be proven, nor has it ever happened
    - ii. This myth was debunked by Louis Pasteur's experiment which eventually led to Pasteurization
  - c. Explosions causes chaos, however, our Universe shows great design and arrangement
    - i. "As the Earth moves in its orbit around the Sun, on average it departs from a straight line by only one-ninth of an inch every 18 miles. If it departed by one-eighth of an inch, we would come so close to the Sun that we would be incinerated. If it departed by one-tenth of an inch, we would find ourselves so far from the Sun that we would all freeze to death." (God's Creation Digging For Answers, *Design Demands a Designer*, pg. 4, Apologetics Press, Inc.)
    - ii. "The Earth is the exactly right distance away from the Moon...If the Moon were moved closer to the Earth by just 20%, the tides would be so enormous that twice a day they would reach 35-50 feet high over most of the Earth's surface." (God's Creation Digging For Answers, *Design Demands a Designer*, pg. 4, Apologetics Press, Inc.)
- 3. The Big Bang theory concedes that the Universe had a beginning but who or what caused it?
  - a. Natural processes or was something supernatural (above nature) at work?
  - b. Non-intelligence (random chance) or intelligence (mind)?
  - c. If we can answer this question, then we have a good start on our question, "where did we come from?"
  - d. In other words, we have an effect (the Universe and everything in it) so what is the cause?
- 4. As far as science knows, natural laws have <u>no</u> exceptions
  - a. This is true of the Law of Cause and Effect, which is the most universal and certain of scientific laws

### The Law of Cause and Effect

- 1. The Law of Cause and Effect states that every material (composed of matter and energy) effect must have an adequate cause that existed before the effect
- 2. Truths of The Law of Cause and Effect
  - a. Material effects without adequate causes do not exist
  - b. Causes never occur after the effect
  - c. The effect is <u>never</u> greater than the cause

- i. To claim the Universe was created by an explosion, as the Big Bang Theory does, violates this law for the effect greatly exceeds the cause
- ii. The claim is that the Universe continues to expand which continues to make the effect greater than the cause
- iii. The Big Bang theory is closer to a supernatural event as in nature the effect does not exceed the cause
- iv. This also violates the thinking that the Universe is completely self-contained i.e., no outside or supernatural forces at work
- 3. The Universe is here for we live in it, and it surrounds us
  - a. We can see it, touch it, smell it, hear it, and taste it
    - i. It could not have created itself
  - b. We know this for a scientific fact, because matter cannot create matter as stated by the Law of Conservation of Mass
    - i. Mass in an isolated system is neither created nor destroyed by chemical reactions or physical transformations
    - ii. The mass of the products in a chemical reaction must equal the mass of the reactants
  - c. The Universe is an isolated or <u>closed</u> system so whatever caused the Universe could not have been material
- 4. There is one claim that could be made against this: that matter is eternal
  - a. This is refuted by the second law of thermodynamics
    - i. This law shows that the Universe is running down or wearing out over time
    - ii. If the Universe were eternal, it would already be completely worn out which we obviously see is not the case
    - iii. The Bible plainly states this law (Heb. 1:10-11; cf. Ps. 102:25-27; Isa. 51:6)
  - b. We have and will continue to experience the effects of this law throughout our lifetime
    - i. The human body ages and does not function like it used to
    - ii. Cars require maintenance or else they will cease to function
    - iii. Houses needs almost constant attention or the elements of nature ruins them
    - iv. Clothes wear out and eventually become unusable
  - c. The first law of thermodynamics refutes the idea that matter is eternal
    - i. This law states that the <u>actual</u> amount of matter and energy in the Universe remains <u>constant</u>
    - ii. The Bible plainly states this law (Gen. 2:1-2)
  - d. The second law of thermodynamics then states that the amount of <u>usable</u> energy in a closed system (which the whole Universe is) is decreasing
  - e. If the overall amount of energy stays the same, but we are running out of <u>usable</u> energy, then what we started with was not an infinite amount
    - i. You cannot run out of an infinite amount of anything

- f. This logically concludes with the fact that the Universe is and always has been finite
- g. That means it must have had a beginning and if it had a beginning, then it must have been caused, since every event has an adequate cause
  - i. The Big Bang Theory falls short of these scientific laws
  - ii. In essence, it attempts to use science to contradict science
  - iii. It fails to adequately explain the design and arrangement of the Universe

## The Biblical Explanation

- 1. "In the beginning..." (Gen. 1:1; Jn. 1:1-3; cf. Acts 17:24; Ex. 20:11; Rev. 4:11)
- 2. Does God serve as a valid cause for the Universe per the Law of Cause and Effect?
  - a. God is undoubtedly an adequate cause, since He is all-powerful
    - i. One of God's names is Shaddai (Almighty)
    - ii. Forty-eight times this Hebrew word is used in the Bible
    - iii. Thirty-one times in the book of Job (cf. <u>Job 5:17</u>, <u>8:5</u>, <u>13:3</u>, <u>22:25</u>, <u>32:8</u>, <u>33:4</u>, <u>34:10</u>, <u>12</u>, <u>37:23</u>, <u>40:2</u>)
  - b. Not only is God all-powerful, He is also eternal which means He came before this material world
    - i. This fulfils the criterion that the cause must come before the effect (Ps. 90:1-2; Gen. 21:33; cf. Jn. 1:1-2; Job 38-40)
  - c. God is greater than His creation which complies with the last truth of this law that the effect is never greater than the cause (Col. 1:12-17; cf. Heb. 1:1-4, 3:4; Neh. 9:5-6)
- 3. Let us review the Law of Cause of Effect and see if God fits the requirements perfectly:
  - a. Material effects without adequate causes do not exist. Check!
  - b. Causes never occur after the effect. Check!
  - c. The effect is never greater than the cause. Check!
  - d. Only God fits the criteria of an adequate cause that came before the Universe and is greater than it

#### Where Did We Come From?

- 1. The Bible answers this question definitively
  - a. God made us in His image (Gen. 1:26-27)
  - b. Man was formed from the dust of the ground and is body, spirit and soul (<u>Gen. 2:7</u>; cf. <u>1 Th.</u> 5:23)
  - c. God made woman from the man and established marriage (Gen. 2:21-25)
  - d. God gave husband and wife the charge to multiply or procreate (Gen. 1:28)
  - e. We come from this natural process set in motion by God (Gen. 5:1-5)
- 2. We are not the product of an explosion or slow, natural-only processes
- 3. We are not the product of spontaneous generation, atheistic or theistic evolution
- 4. We are the magnificent creation of God who looked over His creation after man was made and saw that "it was very good" (Gen. 1:31)