
SERMON NOTES April 28, 2024

Today's notes also available at CCPL.life/Connect

Genesis 1:1-19
The Heavens and the Earth
Pastor Mike

1. Science, _____, and _____

Everyone has _____, and everyone has _____ for their faith

Some _____ are more reasonable than others

2. The _____ of the universe

a. Did the universe _____?

b. The _____ theory

c. The law of _____

3. _____ or _____ in the Cosmos

a. The _____ of the universe

b. A _____ interpretation

4. The _____ of earth

a. Are we an _____ and _____ speck

b. The _____ of our planet

5. _____ in God's great universe

We are part of _____, created for _____

Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. Pastor Mike began his message by sharing an illustration about finding a cookie sheet filled with freshly baked cookies. No one would ever wonder how the cookies came into existence, and anyone who suggested that it could have happened by undirected natural causes would be seen as crazy.
 - a. Why do we innately know that a tray of cookies came into being through the efforts of a 'creator' or a baker, but many people think that the best explanation for the origin and order of our universe is chance and natural causes?
 - b. In your opinion, is this a fair comparison? If not, why not? Why might someone who believes in the big bang theory reject this argument?
2. In his message this morning, Pastor Mike shared a lot of science about the origin of the universe, the fine tuning of the universe, and the amazing design of earth. What stood out to you the most, and what was significant and meaningful about that truth?
3. How important is the question of our ultimate origin - and the debate between creation and evolution? If it is important, in practical terms, why is it important? What difference does it make?
4. Where did everything in the universe come from? What does the evolutionist say? What does the creationist say?
 - a. While we cannot go back in time and recreate the beginning of the universe, what story does the knowable evidence of science support?
 - b. Evolutionists always insisted that matter and the universe were eternal. Why was it a crisis for them when science proved that the universe had a beginning? How have they tried to deal with the problems that arose from that discovery?
5. In a speech Bill Nye said, *"I am insignificant. I am just another speck of sand. And the Earth really in the cosmic scheme of things is another speck. And the sun an unremarkable star... The sun is another speck. And the galaxy is a speck. I'm a speck on a speck orbiting a speck among other specks among still other specks in the middle of specklessness."*
 - a. Does the evidence of science agree with this position, or does it suggest that the earth is in some way special? What evidence supports your opinion?
 - b. Why is this an important question? What difference does it make if the earth is just a "speck among specks in the middle of specklessness," or if it is unique and special?
 - c. Bill Nye concluded that if the earth is just a "speck among specks in the middle of specklessness," then "I am insignificant." Is this a necessary conclusion? Does materialism lead to the conclusion that we are insignificant as people? Why or why not?
 - d. What does the Bible teach about our significance as people, and how is our worth and significance linked to a belief in creation?