

**For more details about the material contained in this presentation, see Chapters 3-6 in *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*.**

Foreword by David Limbaugh

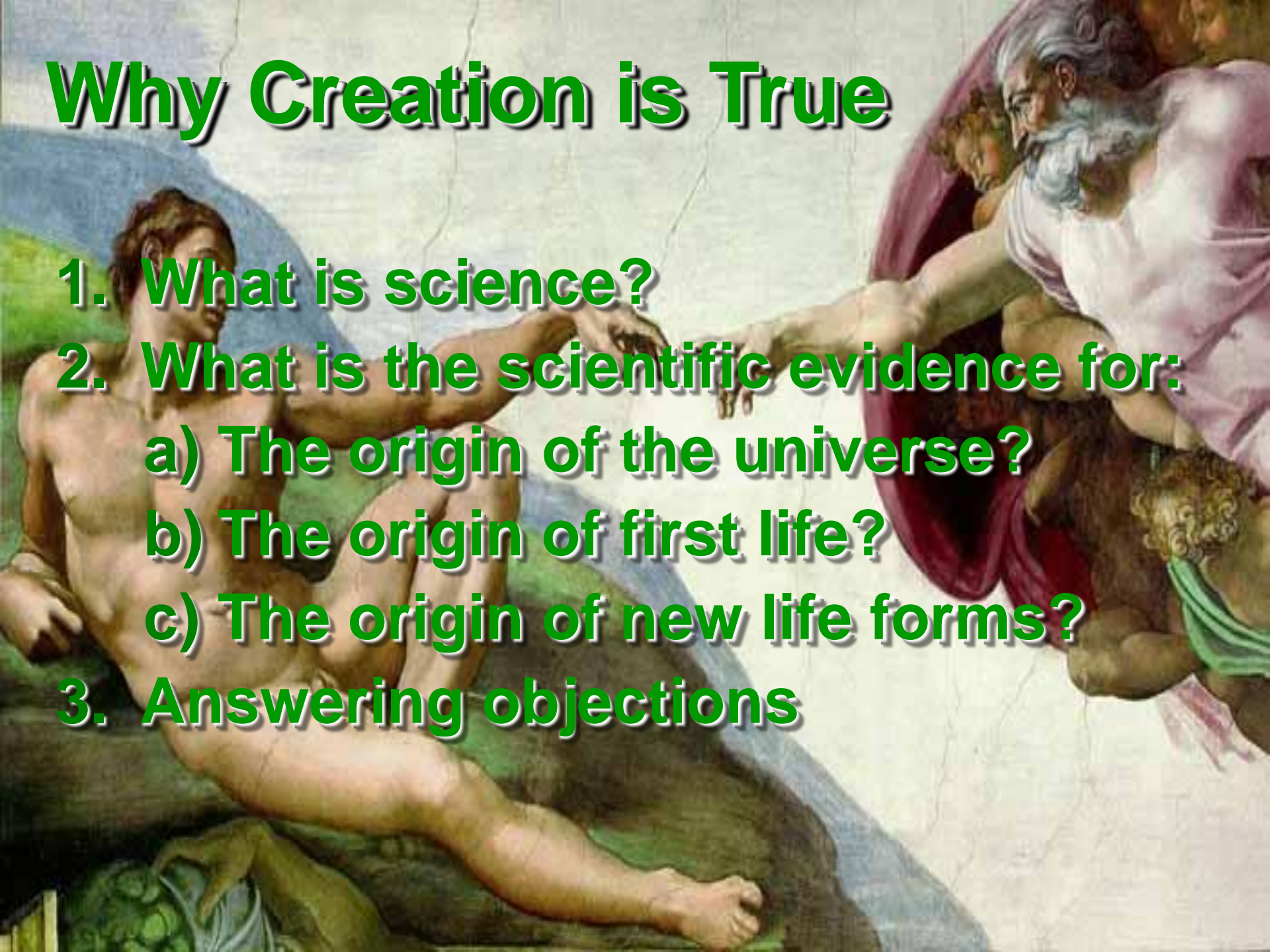
*I Don't Have Enough*  
**FAITH**  
*to Be an*  
**ATHEIST**



**Norman L. Geisler**  
**Frank Turek**

# Why Creation is True

1. What is science?
2. What is the scientific evidence for:
  - a) The origin of the universe?
  - b) The origin of first life?
  - c) The origin of new life forms?
3. Answering objections



# What is Science?



**Science is a search for causes!**

**There are two types of causes:**

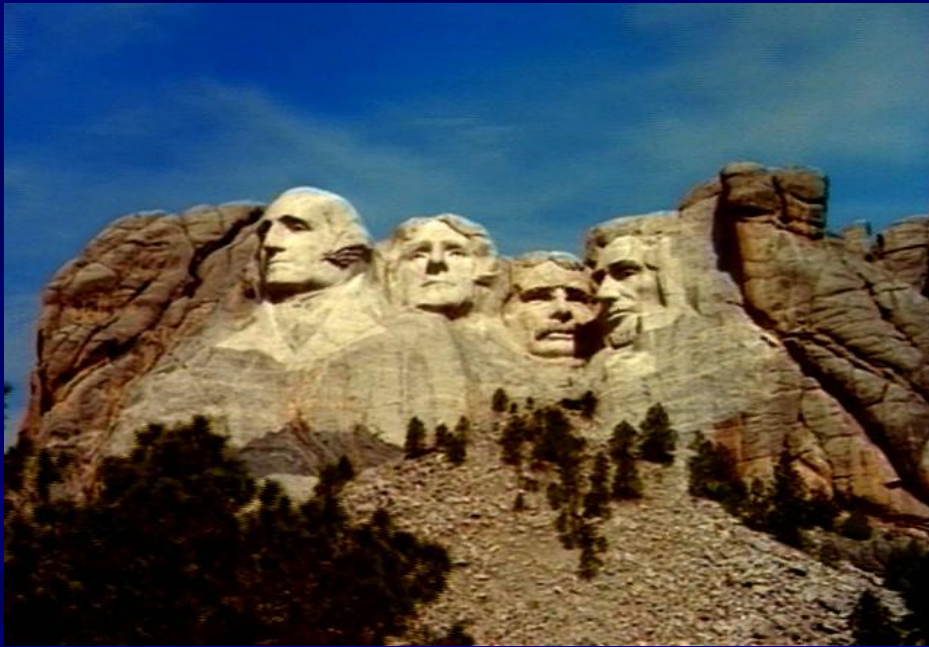
- 1. Non-intelligent (natural)**
- 2. Intelligent**



## TWO TYPES OF CAUSES

INTELLIGENT

NATURAL



*Mount Rushmore*



*Grand Canyon*



# Two Types of Science

Empirical (Operation)

Chemistry

Physics



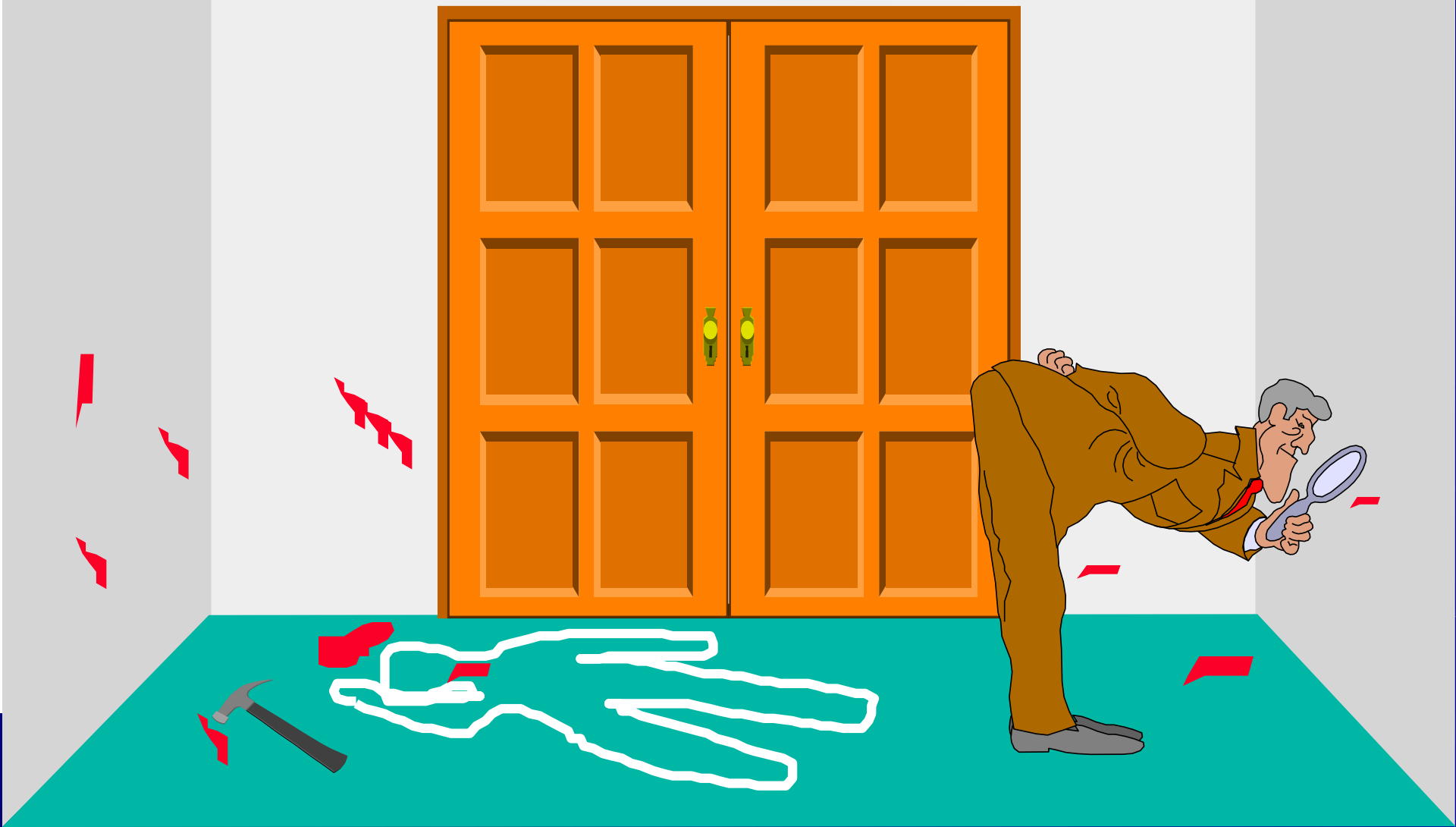
Forensic (Origin)

Archaeology

Criminal Investigations

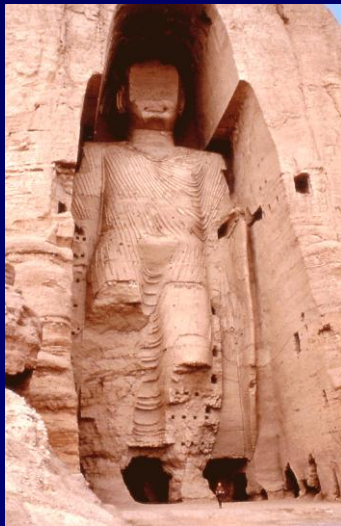


**Since we cannot repeat actual past events, origin questions require that we look for clues to discover the cause of those past events.**



# What Caused an Unseen Past Event?

**Past:** Intelligent  
Designer



**Today:** Intelligent  
Designer



1000 BC

1 AD

1000

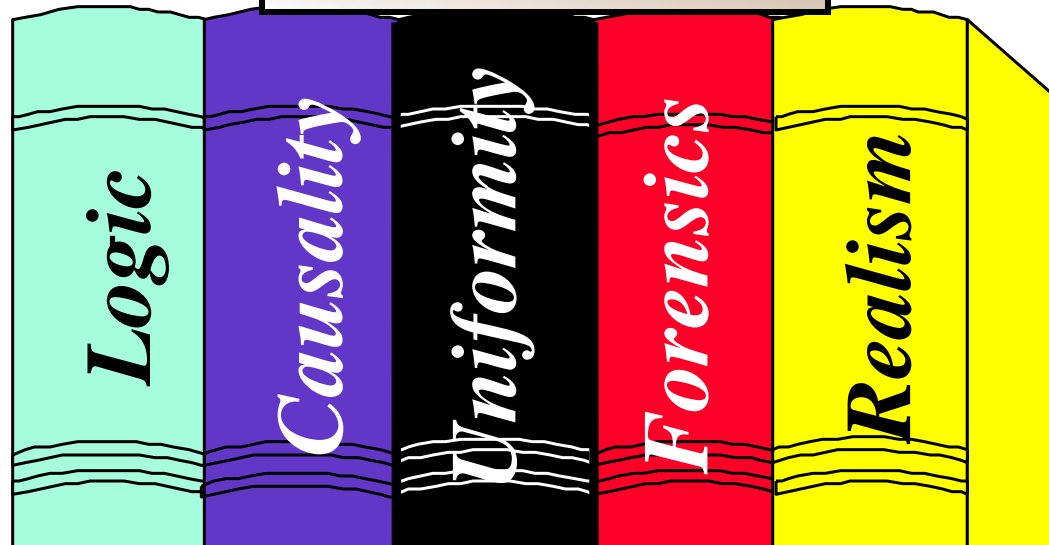
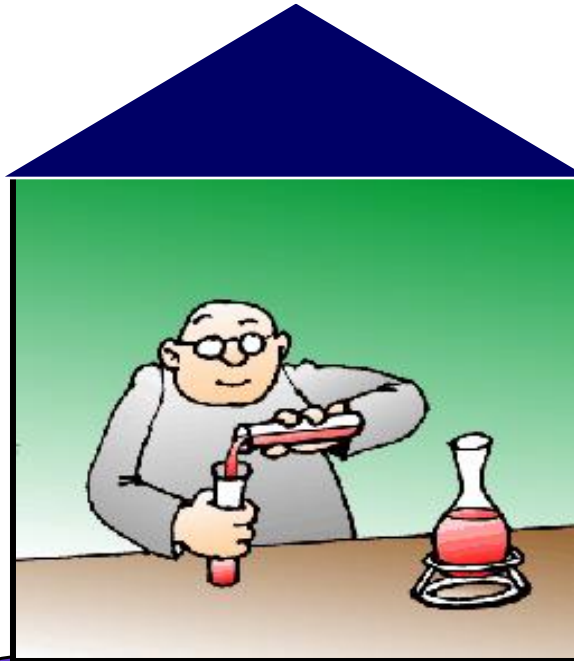
2000

**Principle of Uniformity**

**Causes in the past were  
like those in the present**



# Science is Built On Philosophy

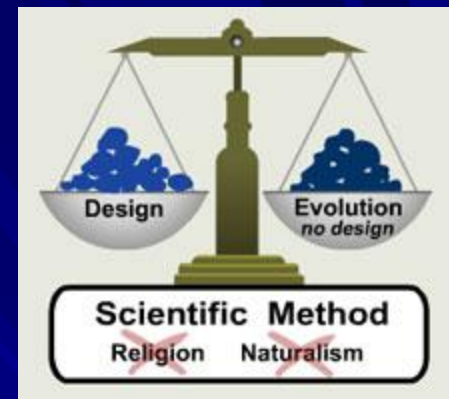


# **The Heart of the Debate**

**The debate over origins is not a debate between the Bible and science. *It is a debate between good science and bad science!***

**Darwinists are practicing the bad science by ruling out intelligent causes before they look at the evidence. Like the opponents of Galileo, they ignore observation.**

# What is Intelligent Design?

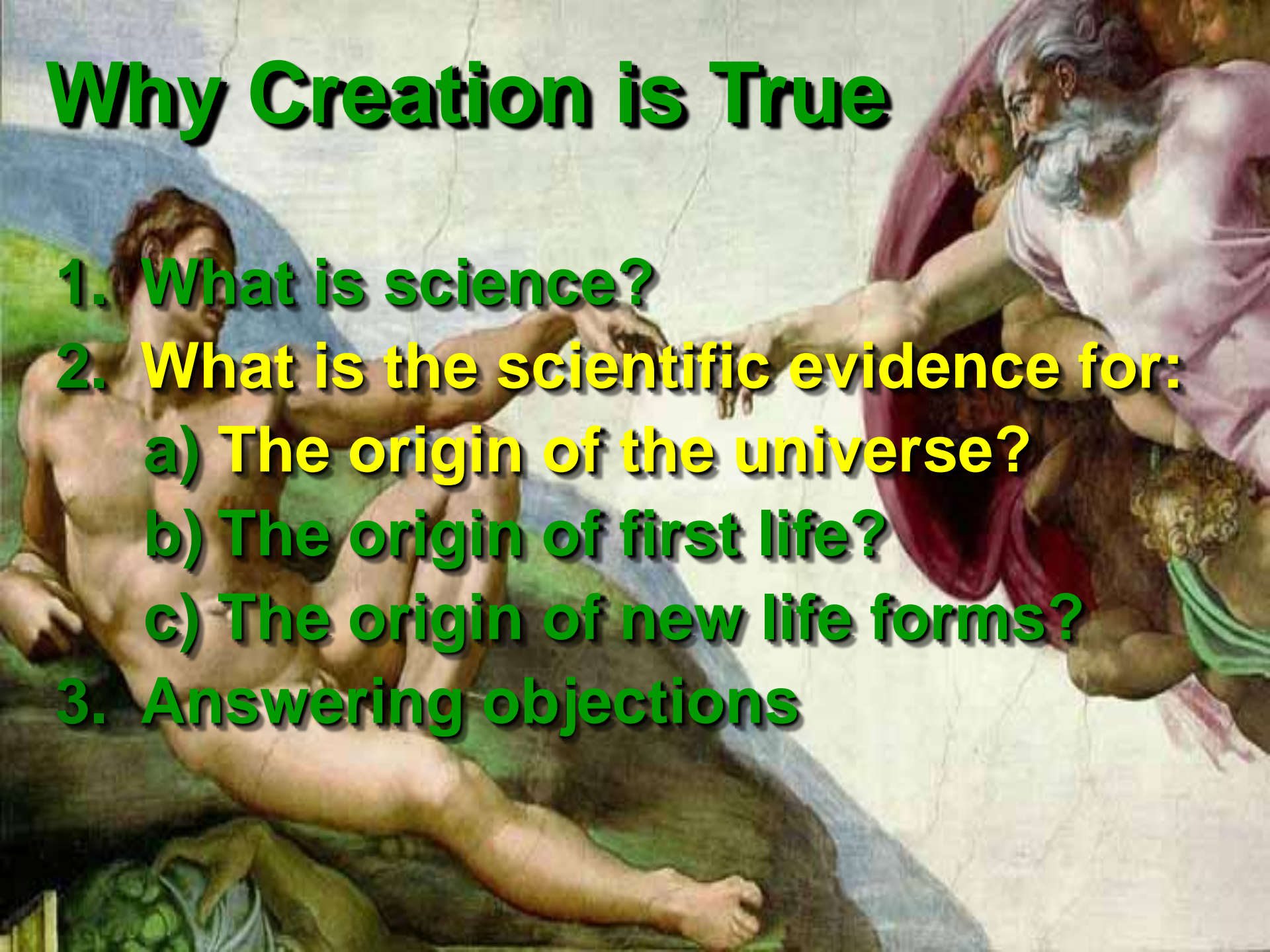


**“The theory of intelligent design (ID) holds that certain features of the universe and of living things are best explained by an intelligent cause rather than an undirected process such as natural selection. . . . Design detection is used in a number of scientific fields, including anthropology, forensic sciences . . . and the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI). An inference that certain biological information may be the product of an intelligent cause can be tested or evaluated in the same manner as scientists daily test for design in other sciences.”**



# **Why Creation is True**

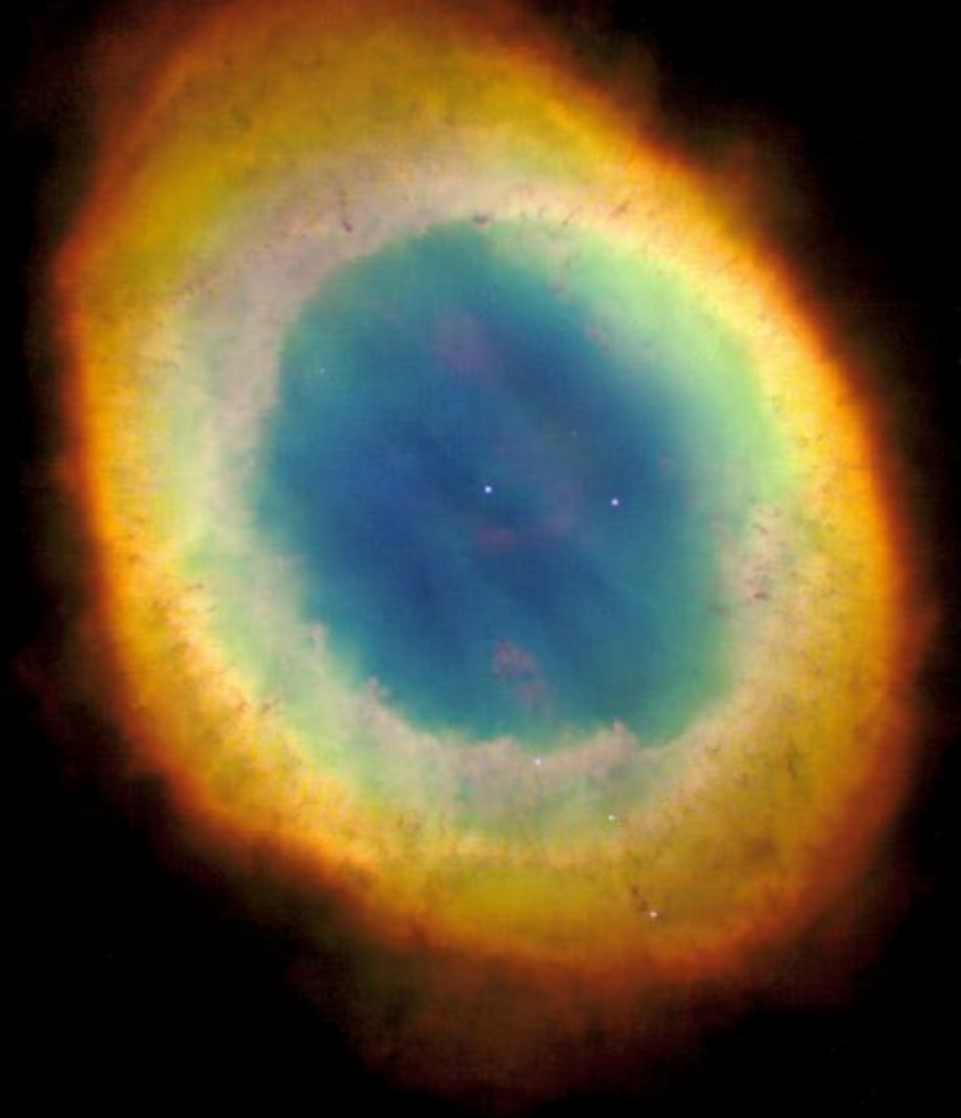
- 1. What is science?**
- 2. What is the scientific evidence for:**
  - a) The origin of the universe?**
  - b) The origin of first life?**
  - c) The origin of new life forms?**
- 3. Answering objections**



# Three Great Arguments for the Existence of God

- 1. Beginning: Cosmological Argument**
- 2. Design: Teleological Argument**
- 3. Morality: Moral Argument**

# Was the Universe caused?





# Evidence that the Universe Had a Beginning

SECOND LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS

UNIVERSE IS EXPANDING

RADIATION AFTERGLOW

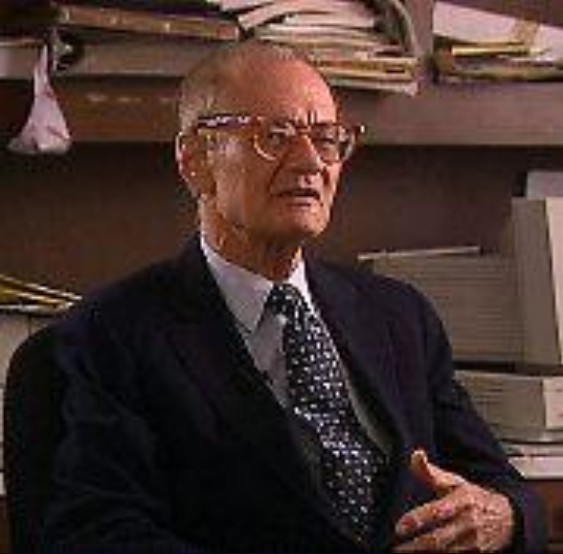
GREAT GALAXY SEEDS

ENSTEIN'S GENERAL RELATIVITY

*Philosophical Reason: Time cannot be infinite*



*Kalam Cosmological Argument*



**The bottom line from Dr. Robert Jastrow, agnostic astronomer and founder of Goddard Institute for space studies:**

**“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 mountains 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.”**

**(Jastrow, *God and the Astronomers*, 116)**

# Three Great Arguments for the Existence of God

1. Cosmological Argument

2. Teleological Argument

A. Every design had a designer

B. The universe and life have highly  
complex design

C. Therefore, the universe and life  
had a Designer

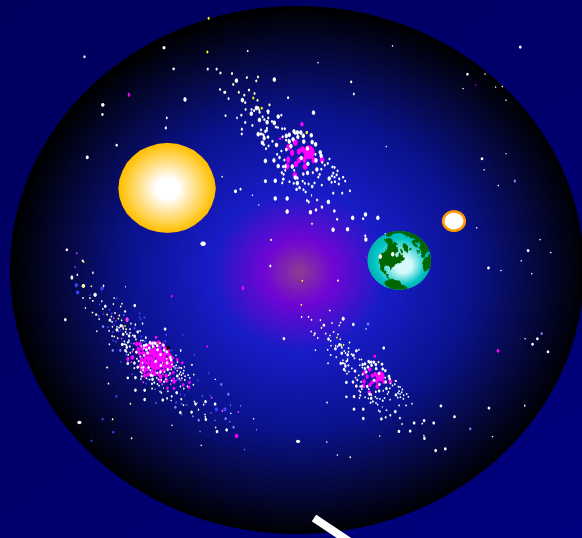


**If you found this  
watch in the  
woods, would you  
think it was made  
by natural law?**

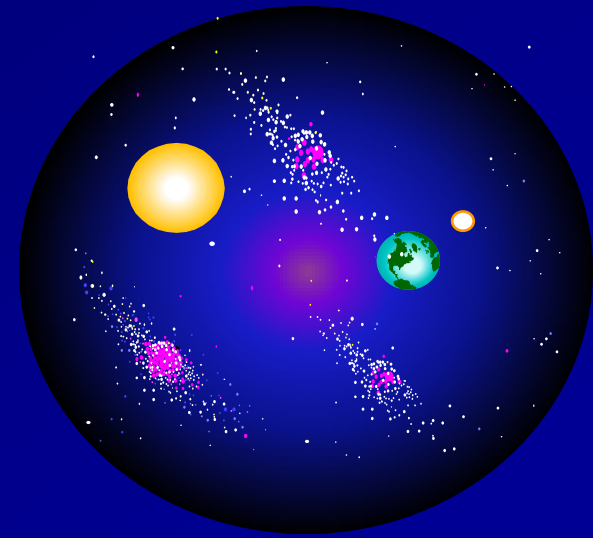


# What Caused the Universe?

Same type of cause



Intelligent Design  
or Natural Law?



Creation

4000 BC

2000 BC

1 AD

2000

**Principle of Uniformity**

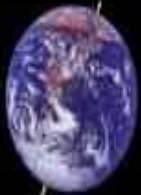
**Causes in the past were  
like those in the present**



■ **our sun** is the perfect  
age,  
mass,  
brightness,  
& generation  
for life

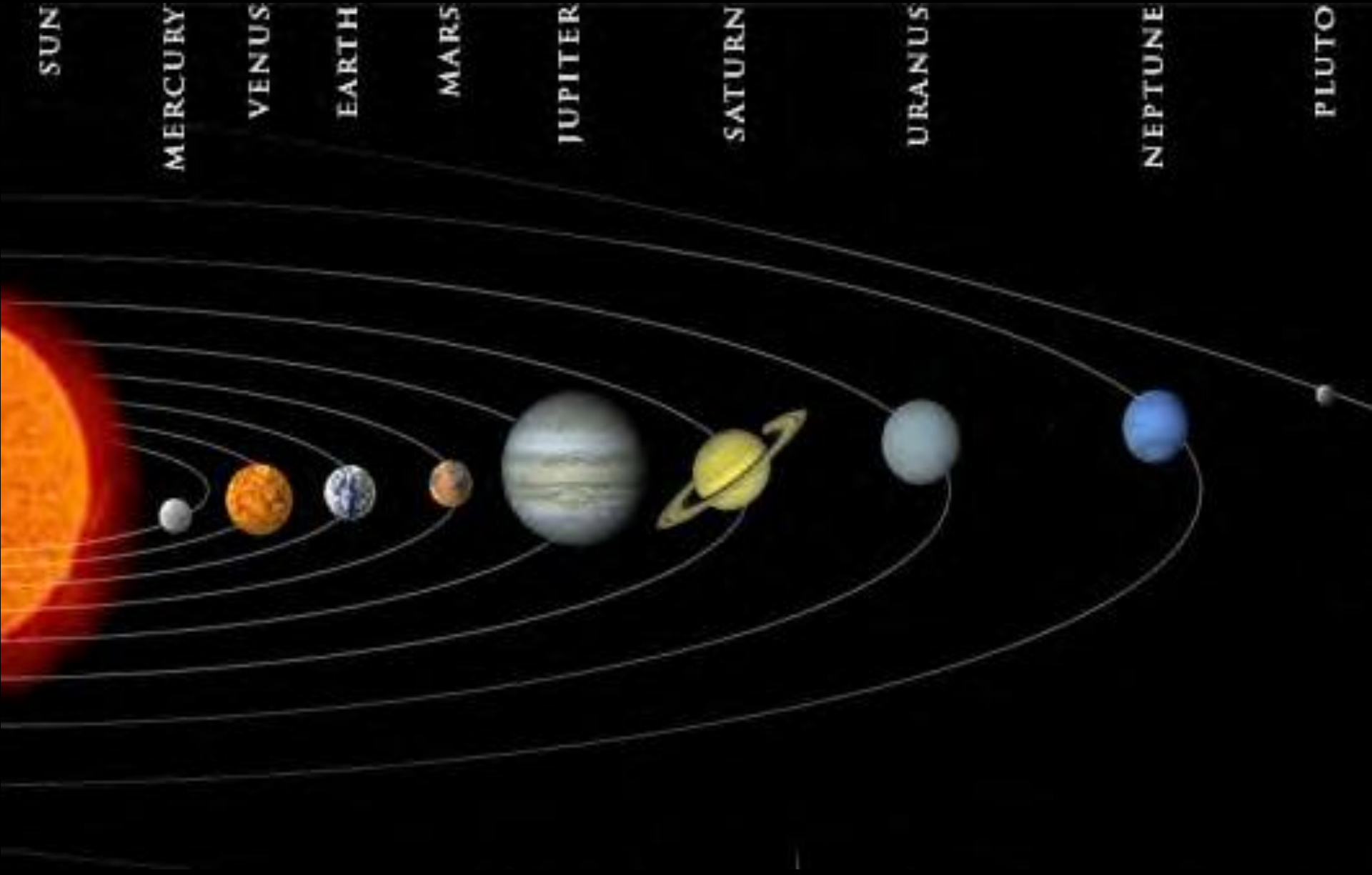
■ **anything else, *we're not here***

# The Anthropic Principle



If the gravitational force were altered by 1 part in  $10^{40}$ , the sun would not exist, and the moon would crash into the earth or sheer off into space.





SUN

MERCURY

VENUS

EARTH

MARS

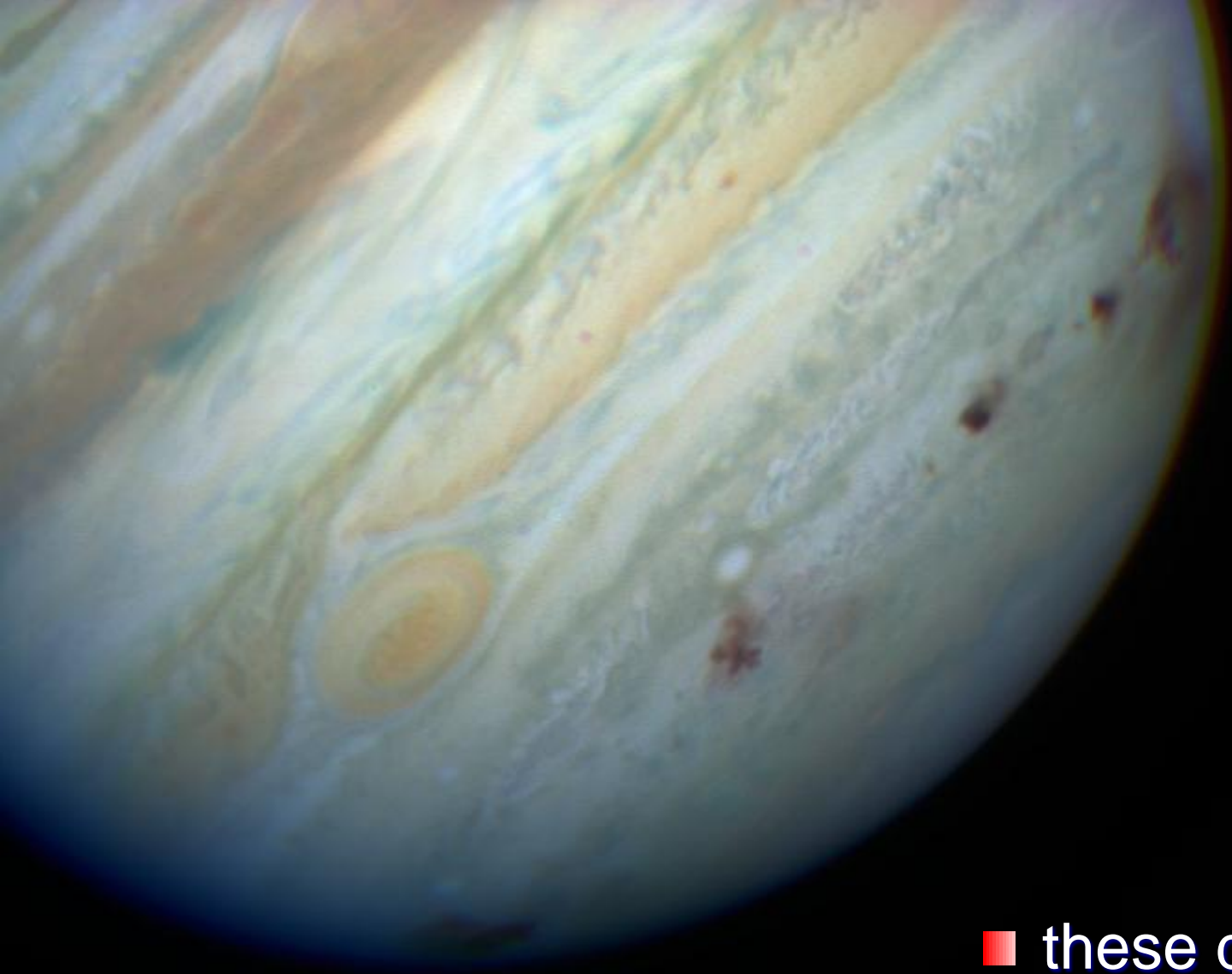
JUPITER

SATURN

URANUS

NEPTUNE

PLUTO



■ these dark plumes  
where the comet fragments struck  
are bigger than the Earth!

Eminent Astronomer  
Fred Hoyle



Nobel Laureate

**“A commonsense interpretation of the facts suggests that *a super intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature.*”**

# Supernatural Plan?

Arno Penzias



Nobel Laureate

“Astronomy leads us to a unique event, a universe that was created out of nothing and delicately balanced to provide exactly the conditions required to support life....The observations of modern science seem to suggest an underlying one might say, supernatural plan.” (Nobel Laureate *Arno Penzias, signs of intelligence, 168*)



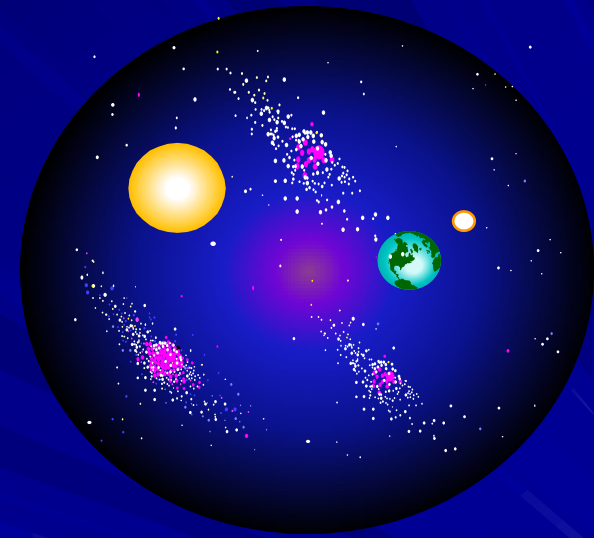
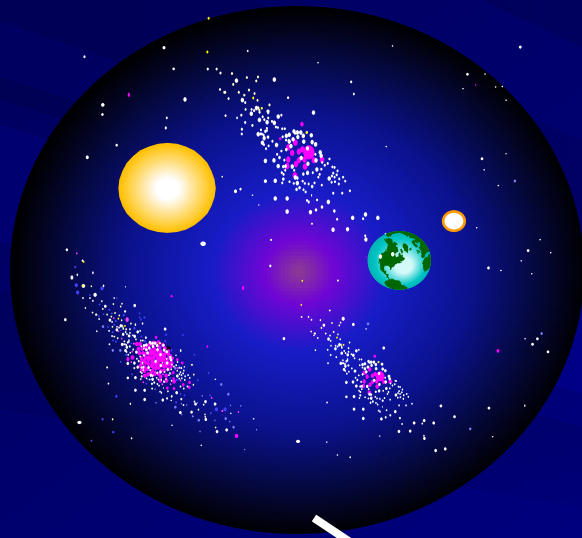
# Conclusion

**In light of the  
Anthropic Principle,  
I don't have enough  
faith to be an atheist!**

# What Caused the Universe?

Intelligent Designer

Designed



Creation

4000 BC

2000 BC

1 AD

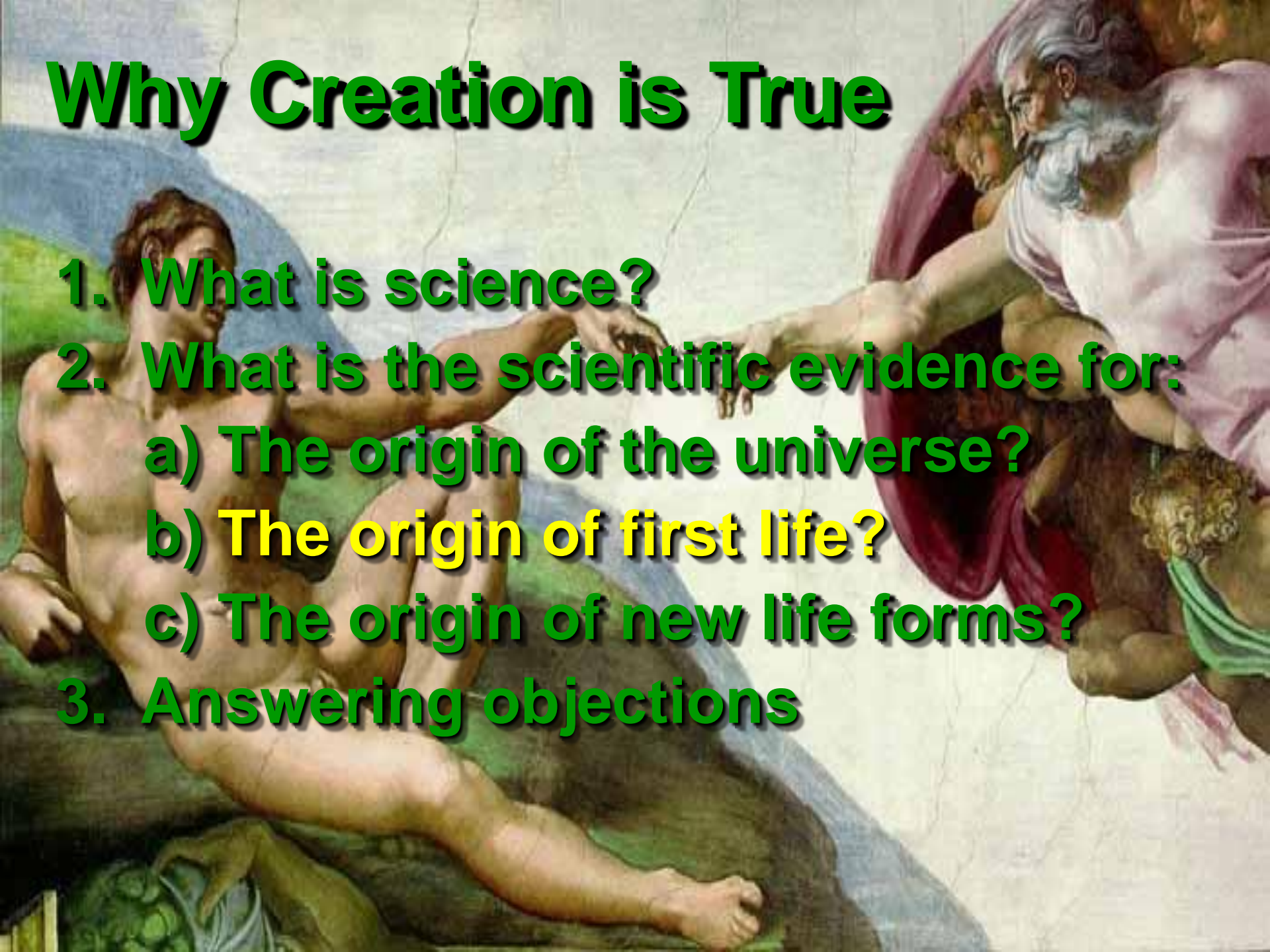
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**Principle of Uniformity**

**Causes in the past were  
like those in the present**

# Why Creation is True

1. What is science?
2. What is the scientific evidence for:
  - a) The origin of the universe?
  - b) The origin of first life?
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3. Answering objections



# Conclusion So Far

- Since the finite universe (time, space and matter) came into existence, then there must be something infinite (*outside* of time, space and matter) that brought it into existence. That Being must be powerful, eternal, and immaterial.
- In light of the Anthropic Principle, that Being must also be intelligent.
- Those are exactly the attributes the Bible applies to God.

***Context: Before we look at the origin of life, we know that this is a theistic Universe!***





**One-celled amoeba**



## Origin of First Life (Only two possibilities)

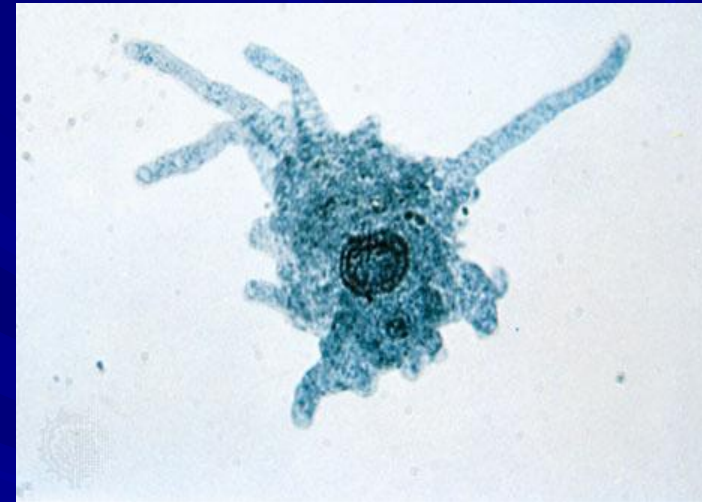
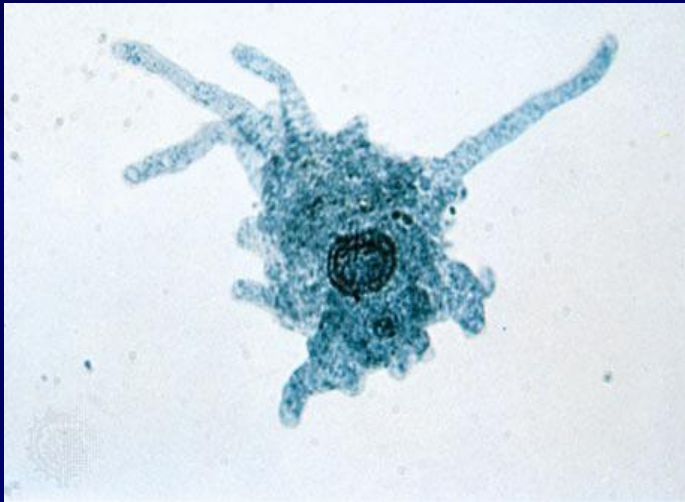
**Intelligent Intervention**  
(Intelligent Design)

**No Intelligent Intervention**  
(Naturalistic Spontaneous Generation)

# What Caused First Life?

Same type of cause

Intelligent Design or  
Natural Law?



Distant Past

Today

**Principle of Uniformity**

**Causes in the past were like  
those we observe today**

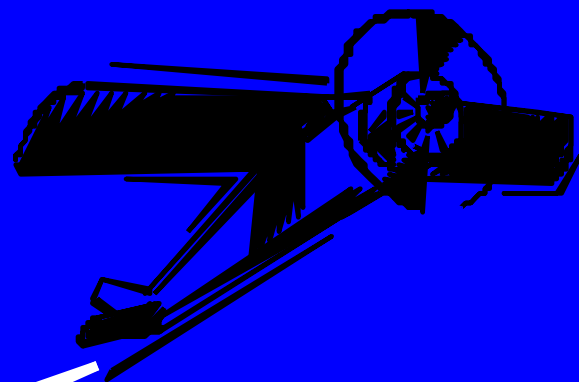
# Intelligent Design from an Intelligent Being (Mom)

T A K E O U T  
T H E G A R B A G E  
- M O M

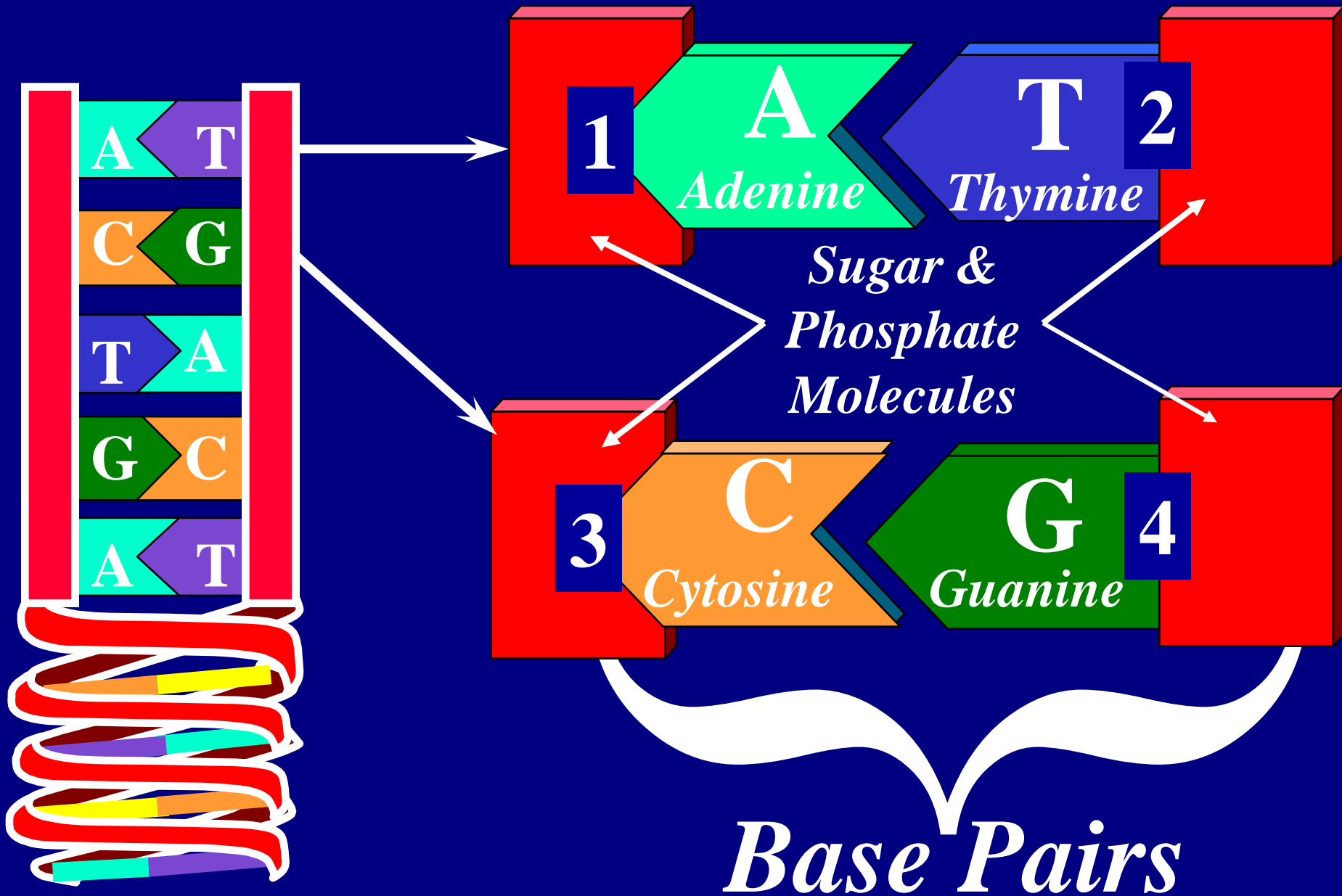


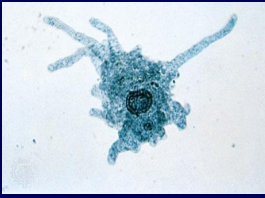


Drink  
Coke

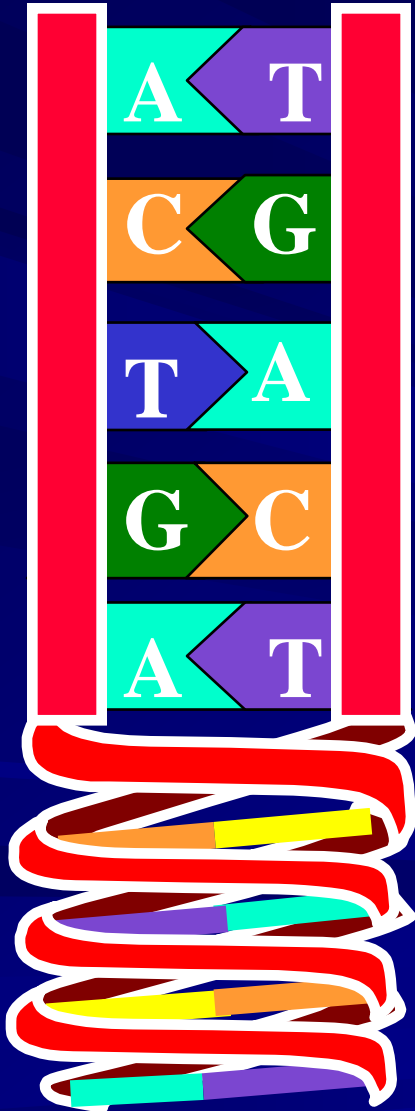


# *DNA's Four Letter Genetic Alphabet*



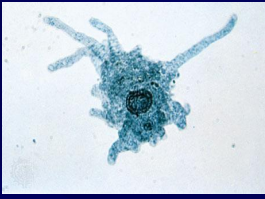


# *Amoeba's DNA = Message*

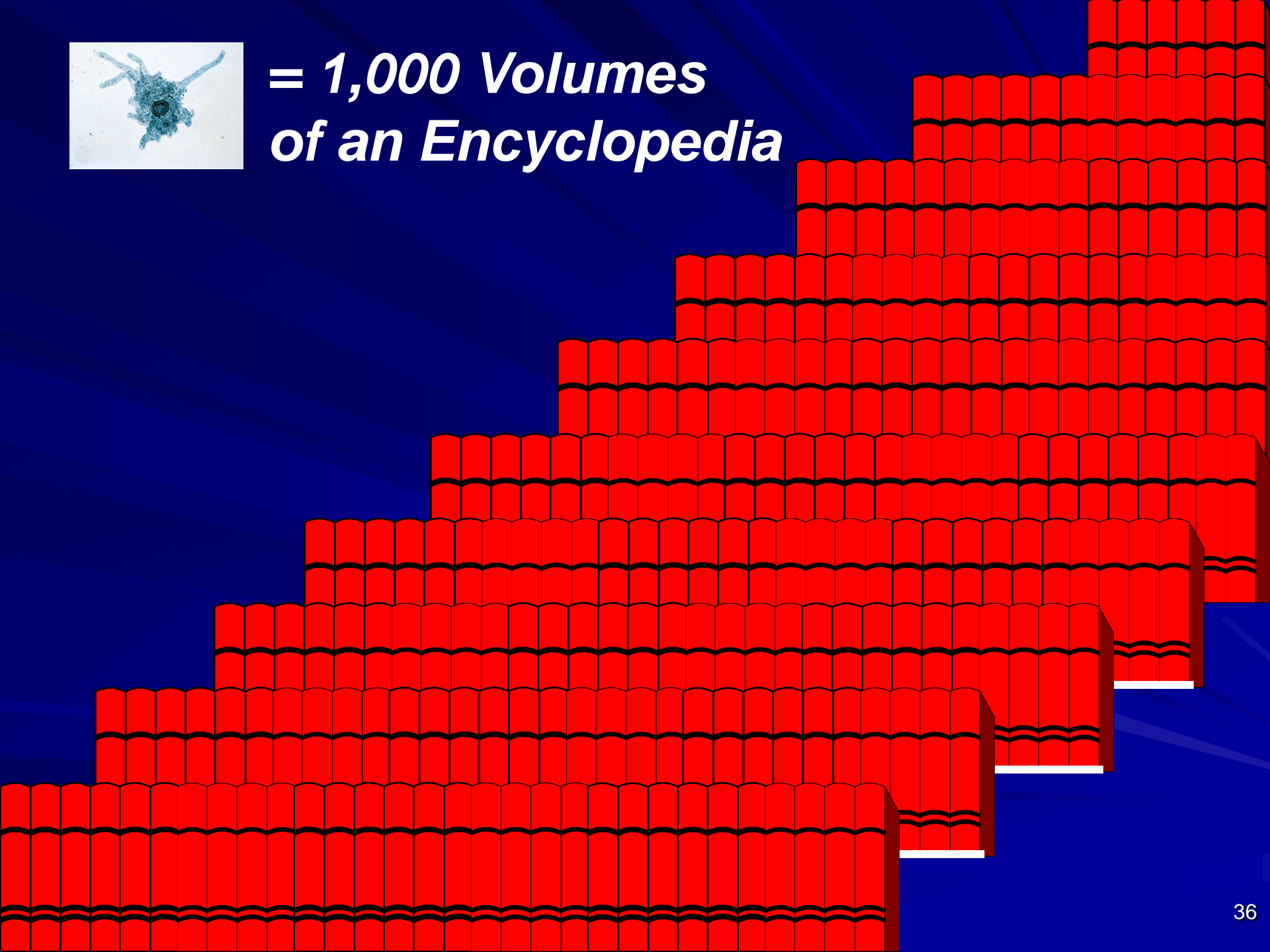


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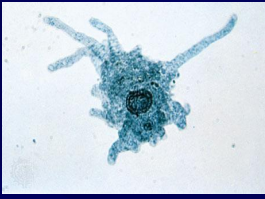
T A K E   O U T  
T H E   G A R B A G E  
- M O M



**= 1,000 Volumes  
of an Encyclopedia**







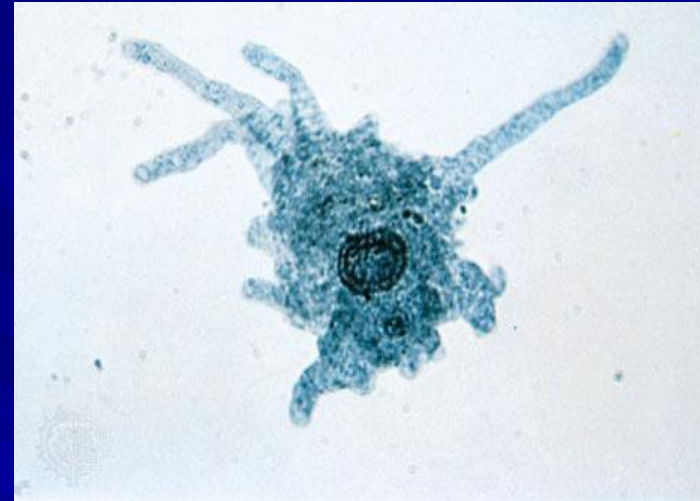
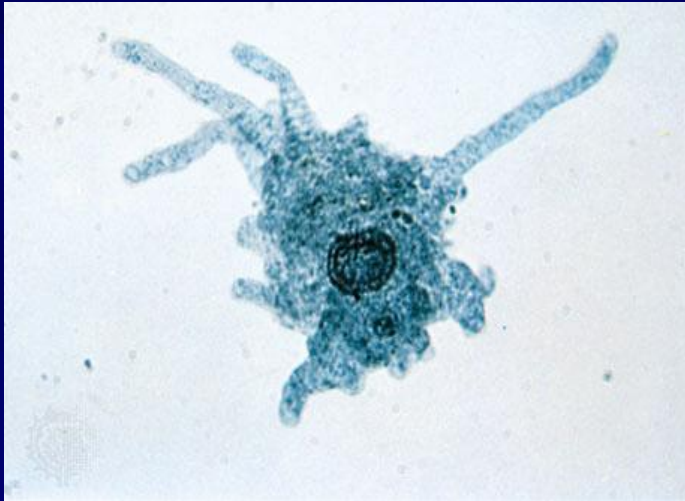
**= 1,000 Volumes  
of an Encyclopedia**

***The First Life Requires  
an Intelligent Cause!***

# What Caused First Life?

**Past:** Our School Curriculum  
says *Natural Law*

**Today:** Intelligent  
Designer



Distant Past

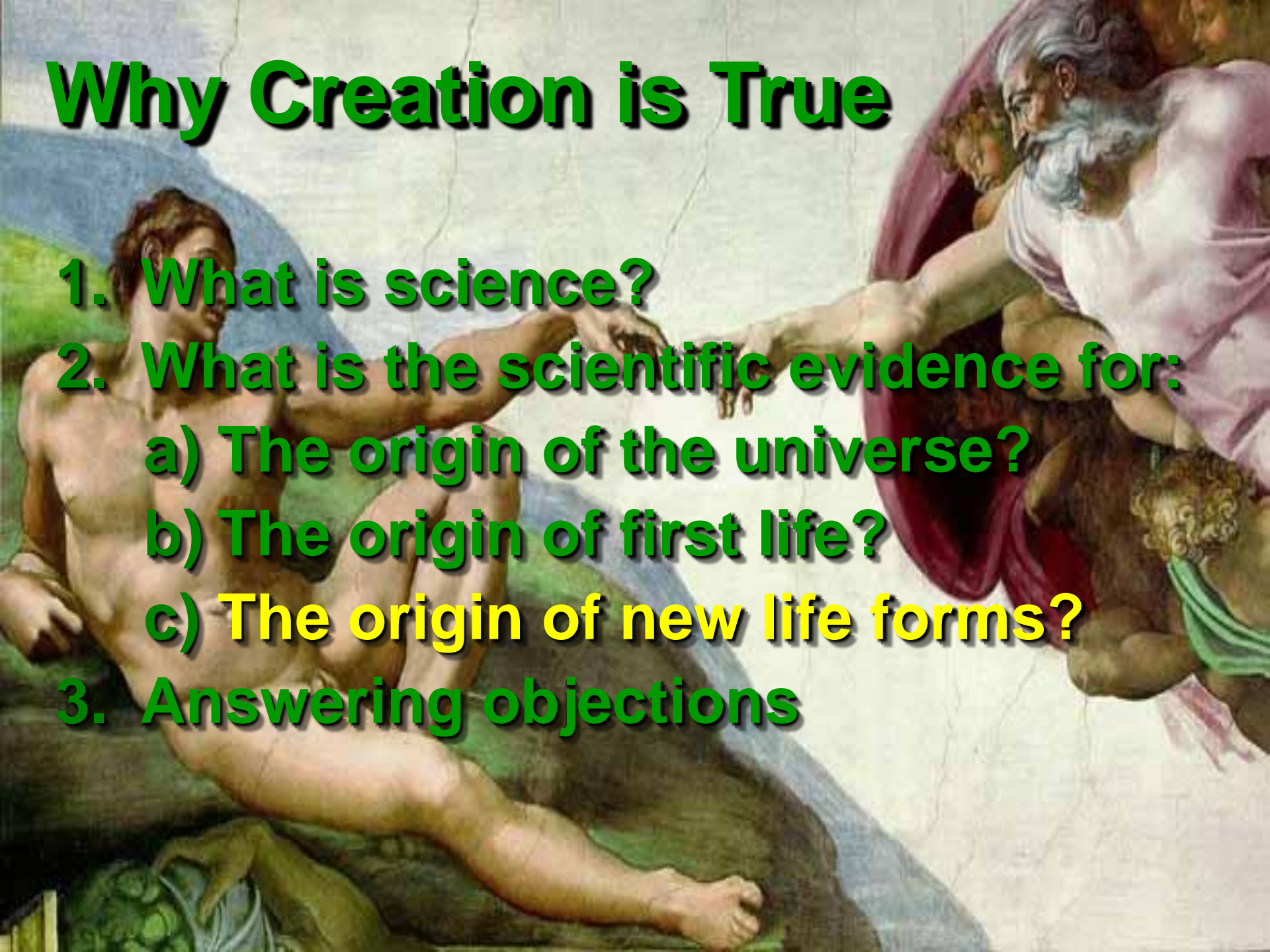
Today

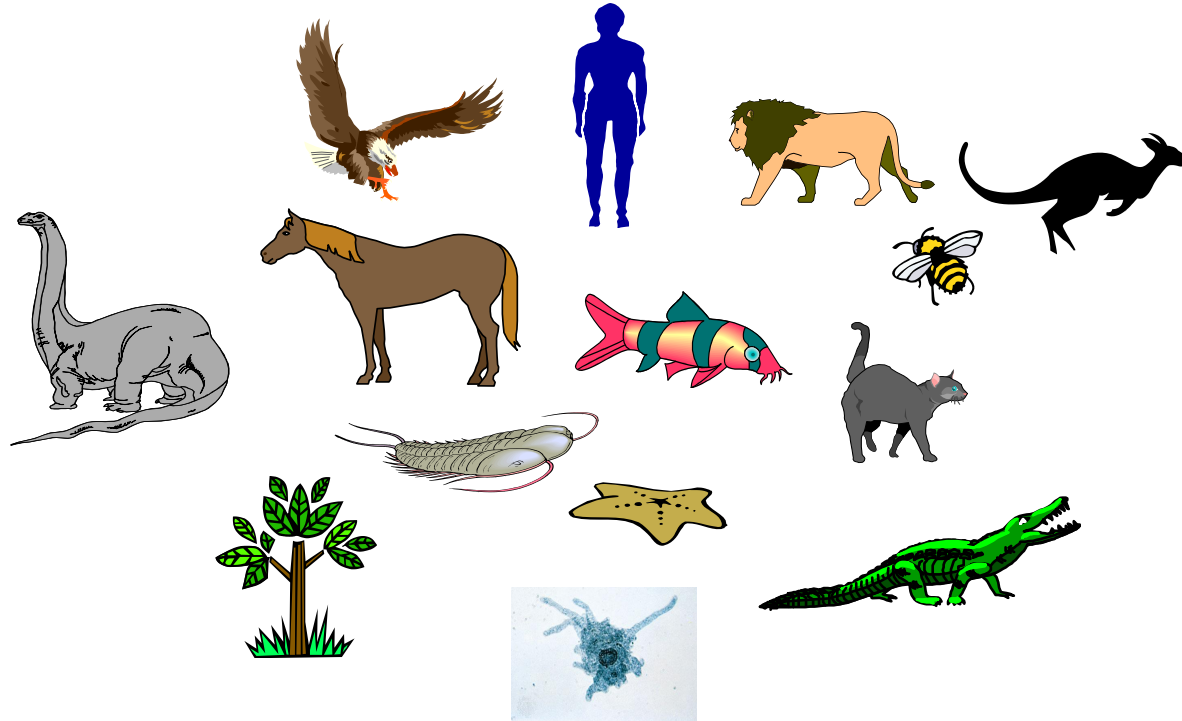
**Principle of Uniformity**

**Causes in the past were like  
those we observe today**

# Why Creation is True

1. What is science?
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3. Answering objections





**Origin of New Life Forms  
(Only two possibilities)**

**Intelligent Intervention  
(Intelligent Design)**

**No Intelligent Intervention  
(Naturalistic Macro Evolution)**



# **What is Natural Selection?**

**“The process in nature by which, according to Darwin's theory of evolution, only the organisms best adapted to their environment tend to survive and transmit their genetic characteristics in increasing numbers to succeeding generations while those less adapted tend to be eliminated.”**

**American Heritage Dictionary**

# Problems with Natural Selection:

- Natural Selection is a misnomer– It's blind (without intelligence or direction), so there is no “selection” going on.
- “Survival of the Fittest” is a tautology– it is circular. Since it merely defines survivors as the fittest, it doesn't prove anything.
- The mechanism of mutation, random variation, and time cannot explain the origin, complexity, or variety of life.
- Natural Selection may help explain the survival of a species but not the *arrival* of a species.

# Where is the Evidence?

William Dembski, Ph.D.



Baylor University

“Strict Darwinism asserts that Darwin’s mechanism of random variation and natural selection is able to account for all the complexity and diversity we see in living forms. The evidence simply does not support this claim.”

*(World, July/August 2002, p 46)*

# Natural Selection Can't Explain New Life forms as evidenced by:

1. Genetic limits
2. Change is cyclical not directional
3. Irreducible complexity
4. Transitional forms would be non-viable
5. Molecular isolation– no ancestral relationships
6. Fossil record

Natural Selection may help explain *survival* of the species but not *arrival* of the species

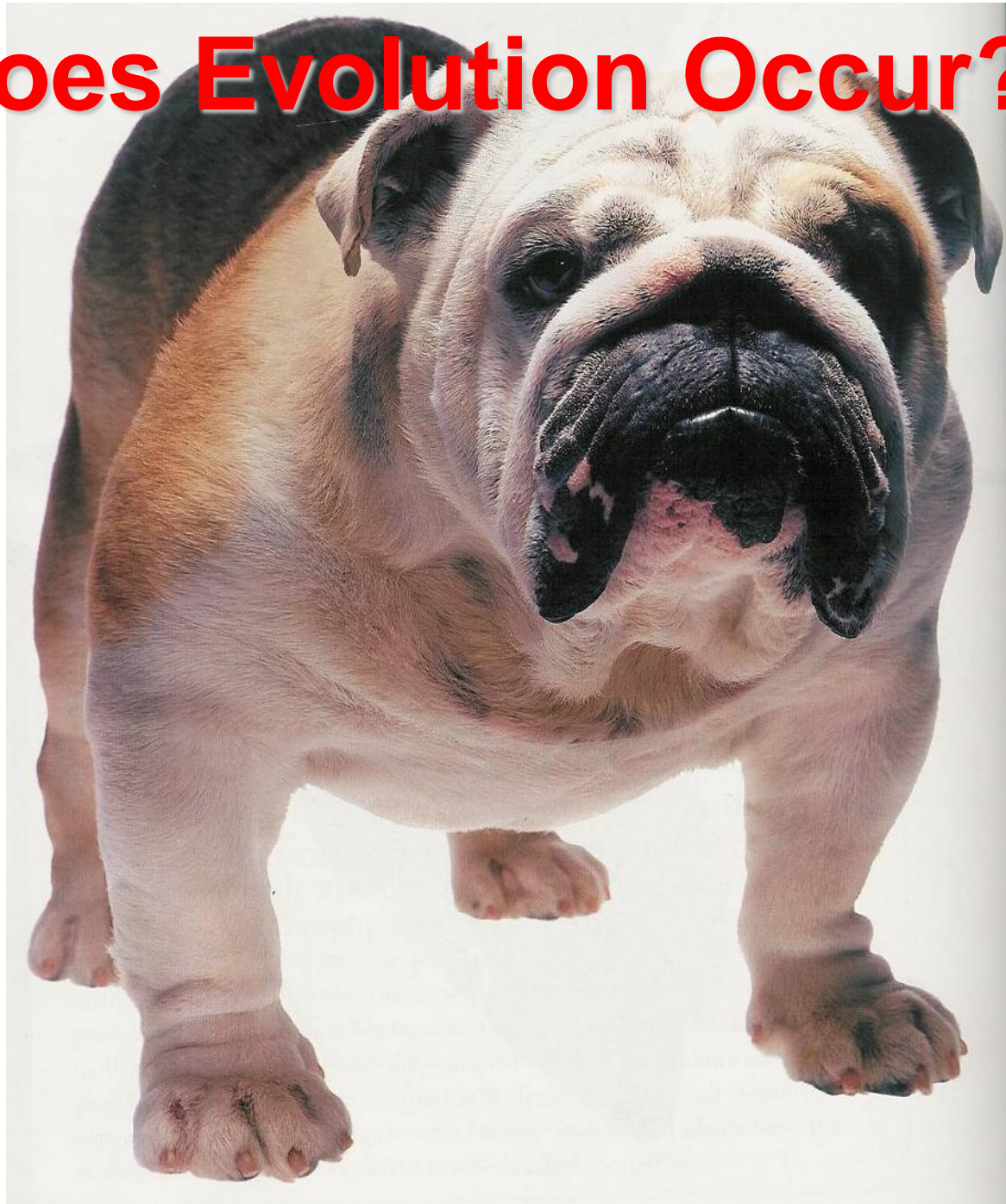


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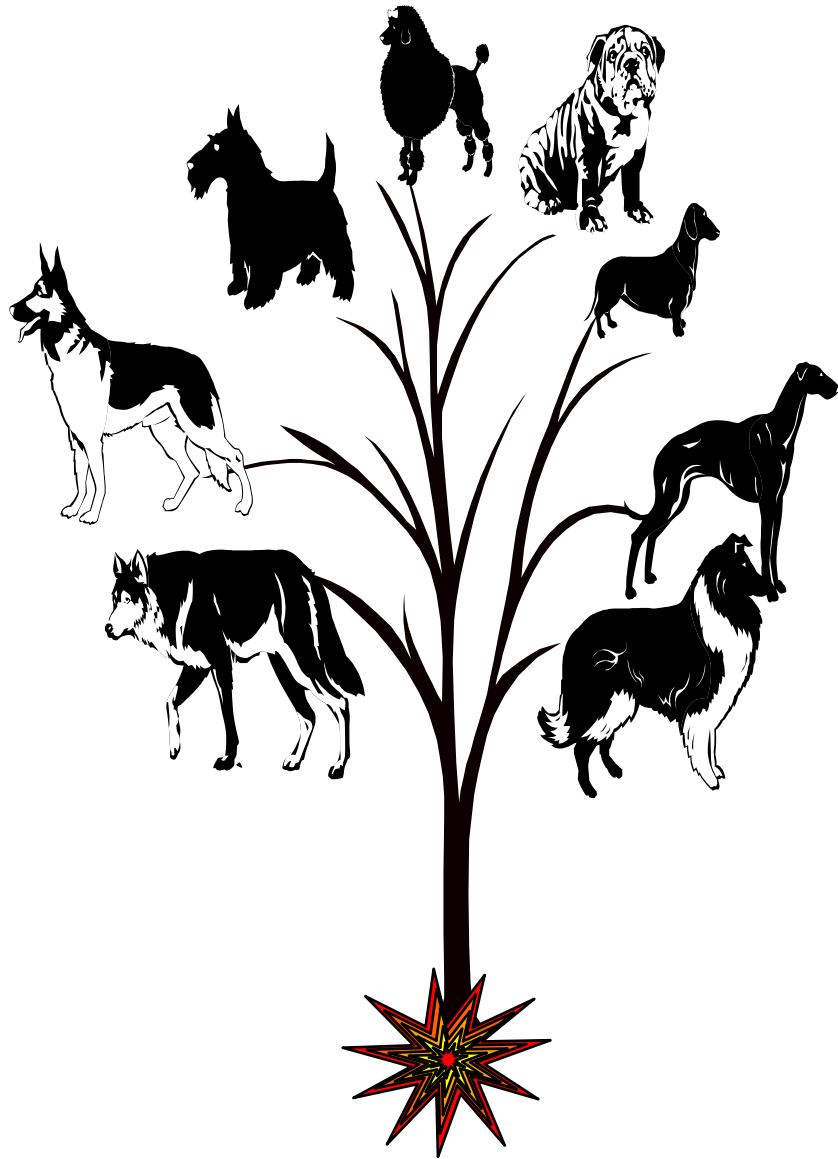
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# Does Evolution Occur?

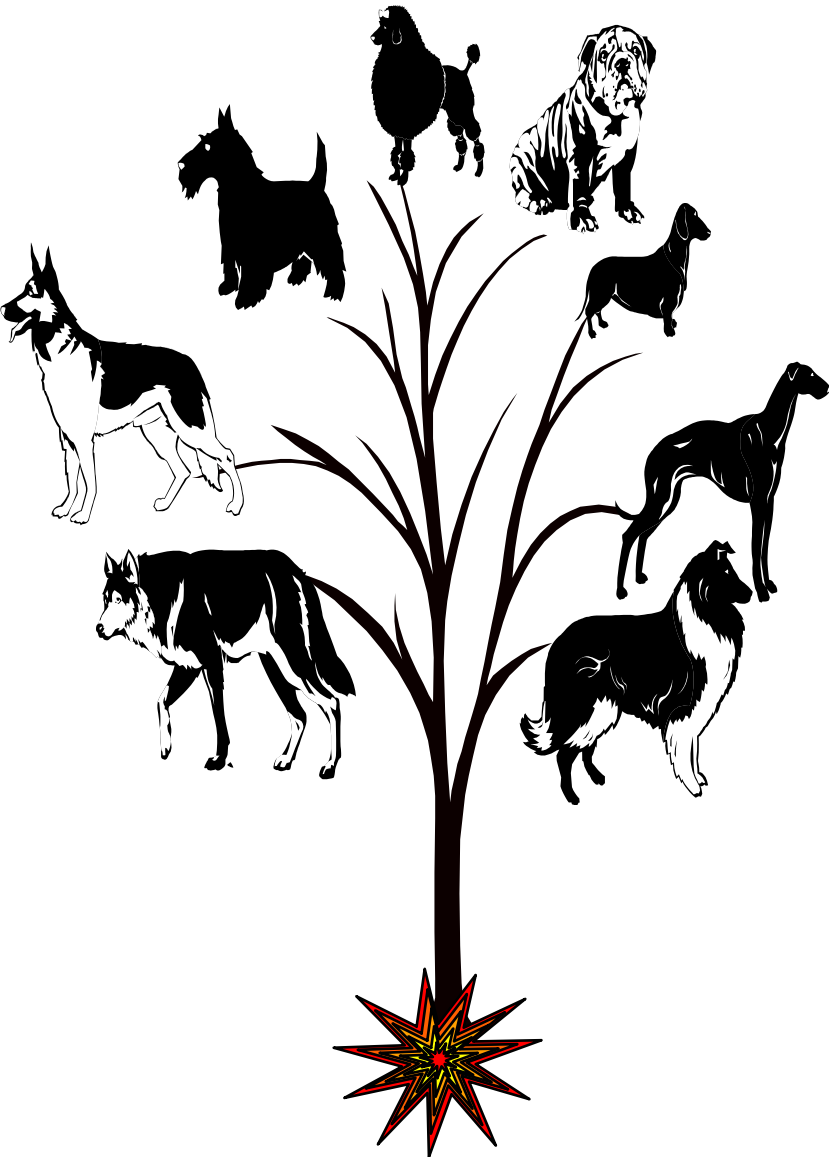


# Does Evolution Occur?

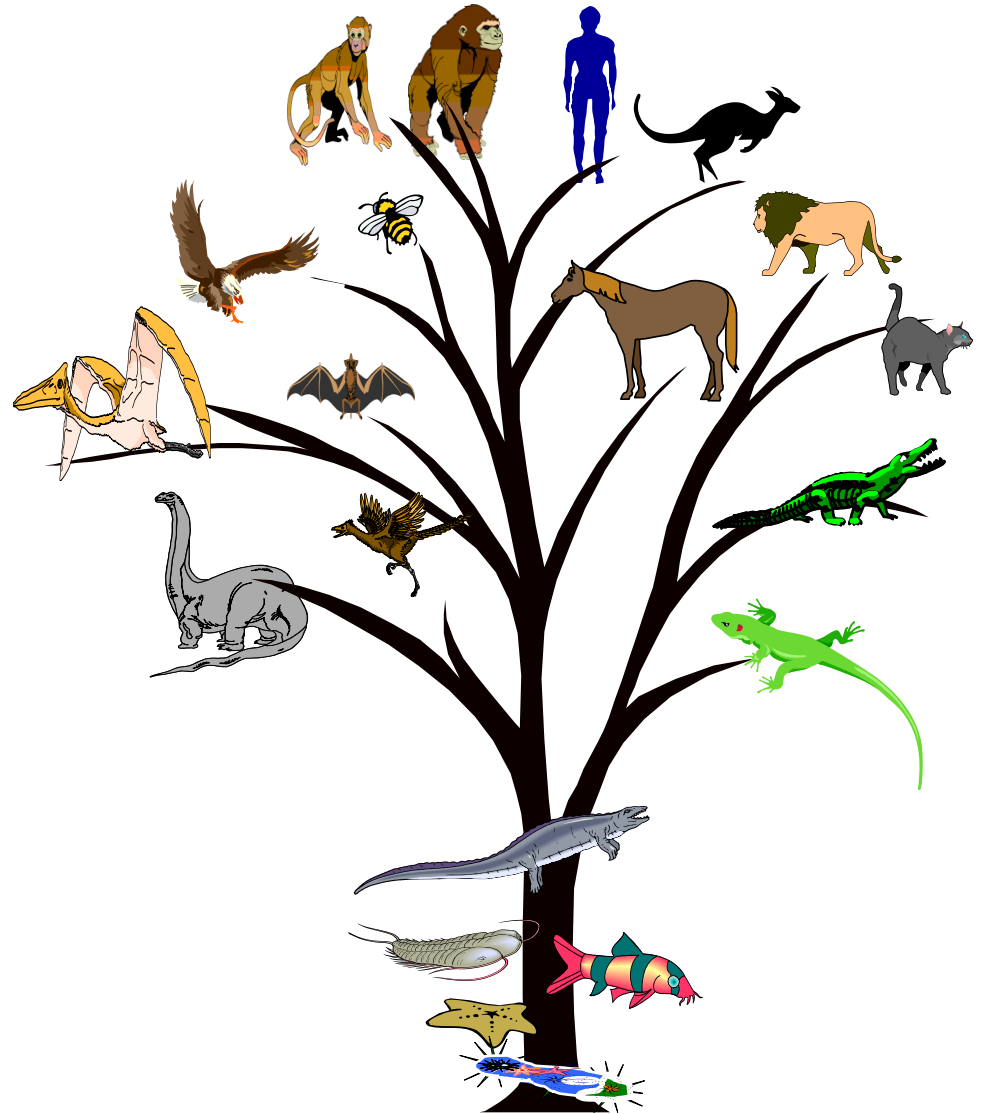


**Dog Breeding: An  
example of “Evolution”**

## Breeding in short time



## Macroevolution over long time

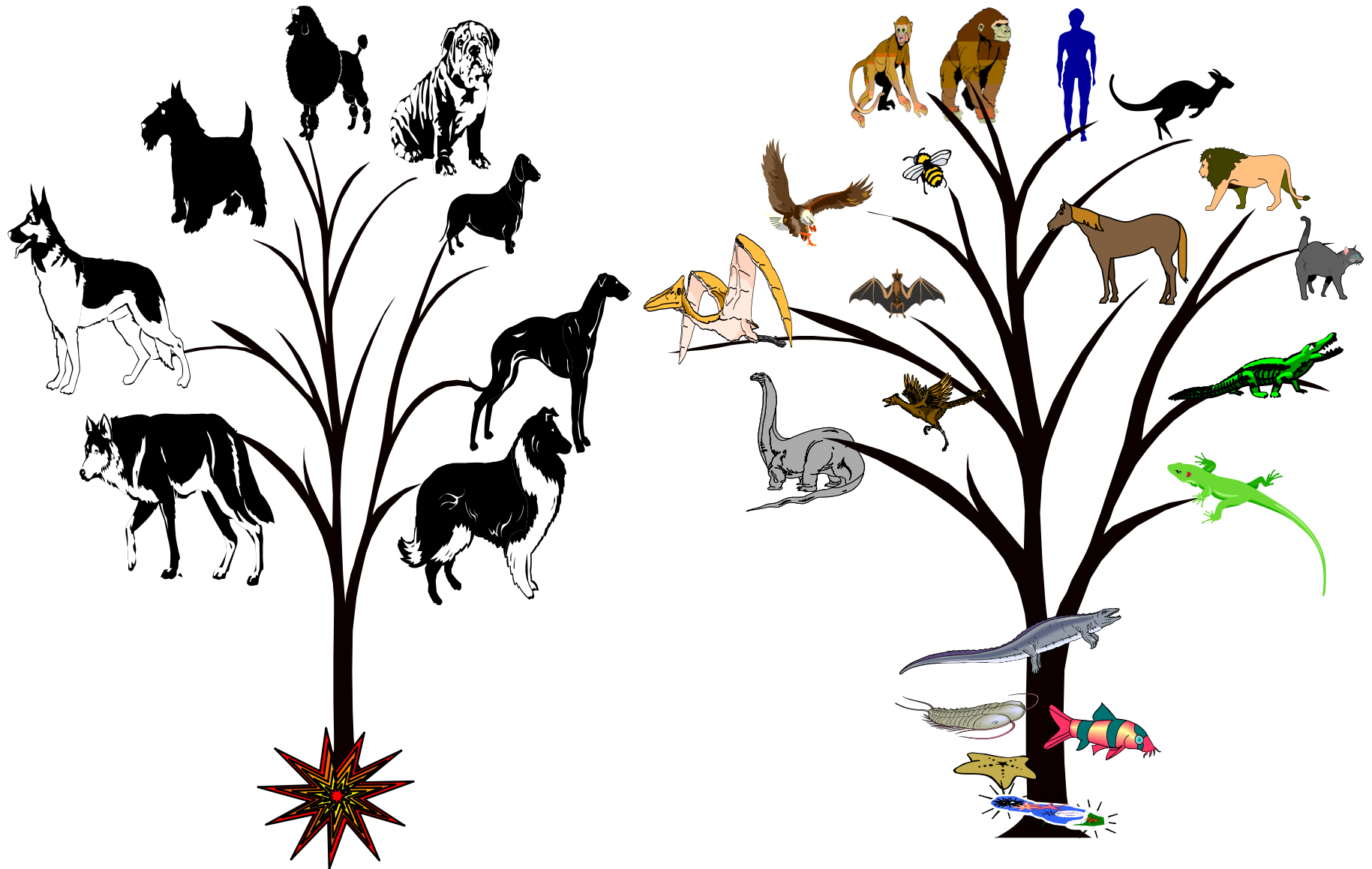


**But . . .**



If intelligent breeding  
meets genetic limits . . .

how can *non-intelligence*  
exceed them?



# The Crucial Differences

---

## *Artificial selection*

---

## *Natural selection*

---

<i>Goal</i>	Aim (end ) in view	No aim (end) in view
<i>Process</i>	Intelligently guided process	Blind process
<i>Choices</i>	Intelligent choice of breeds	No intelligent choice of breeds
<i>Protection</i>	Breeds guarded from destructive forces	Breeds not guarded from destructive forces
<i>Freaks</i>	Preserves desired freaks	Eliminates most freaks
<i>Interruptions</i>	Continued interruption to reach desired goal	No continued interruptions to reach any goal
<i>Survival</i>	Preferential survival	Nonpreferential survival

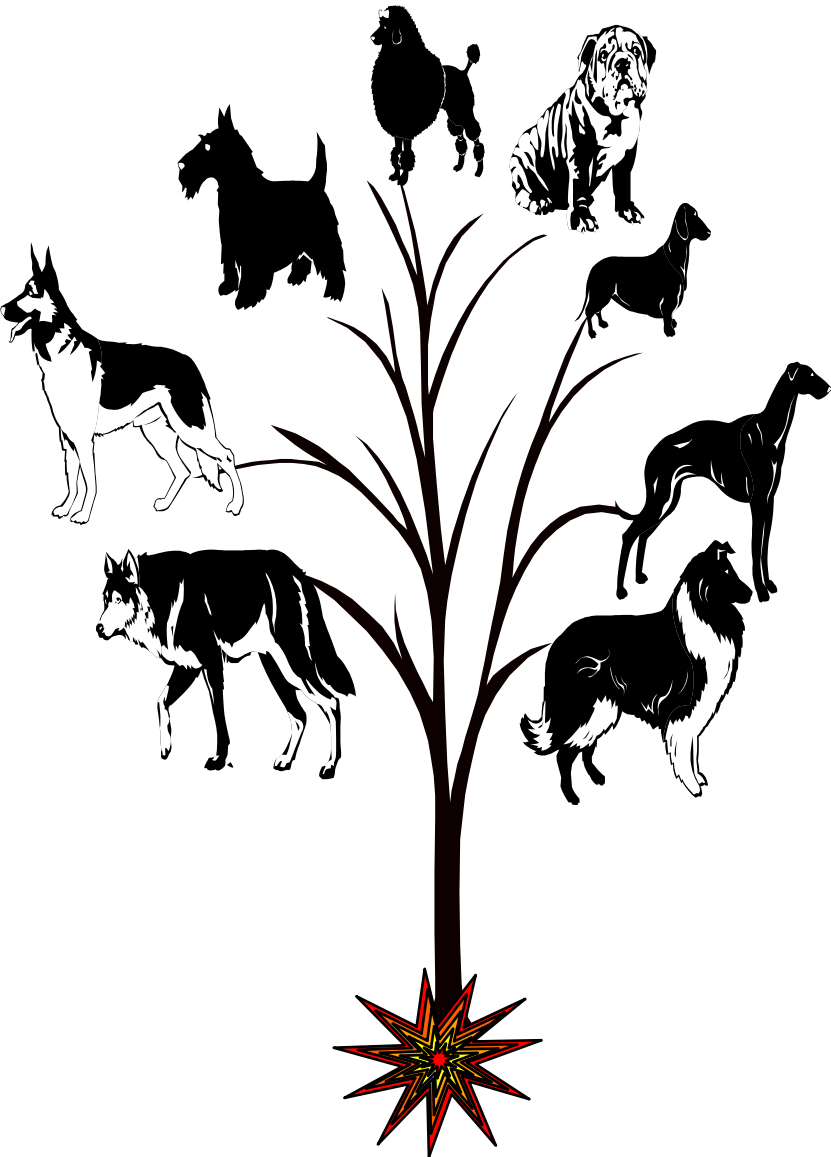
# Critical Distinction: Micro vs. Macro

*Microevolution* (adaptation *within* a type) is an observed process where life forms experience *limited* genetic variations that allows them to adapt to and survive the stress caused by environmental changes.

*Macroevolution* (adaptation *into* a new type) is an extrapolation from microevolution that has never been observed. It is the ultimate “just so” story of the Darwinists.

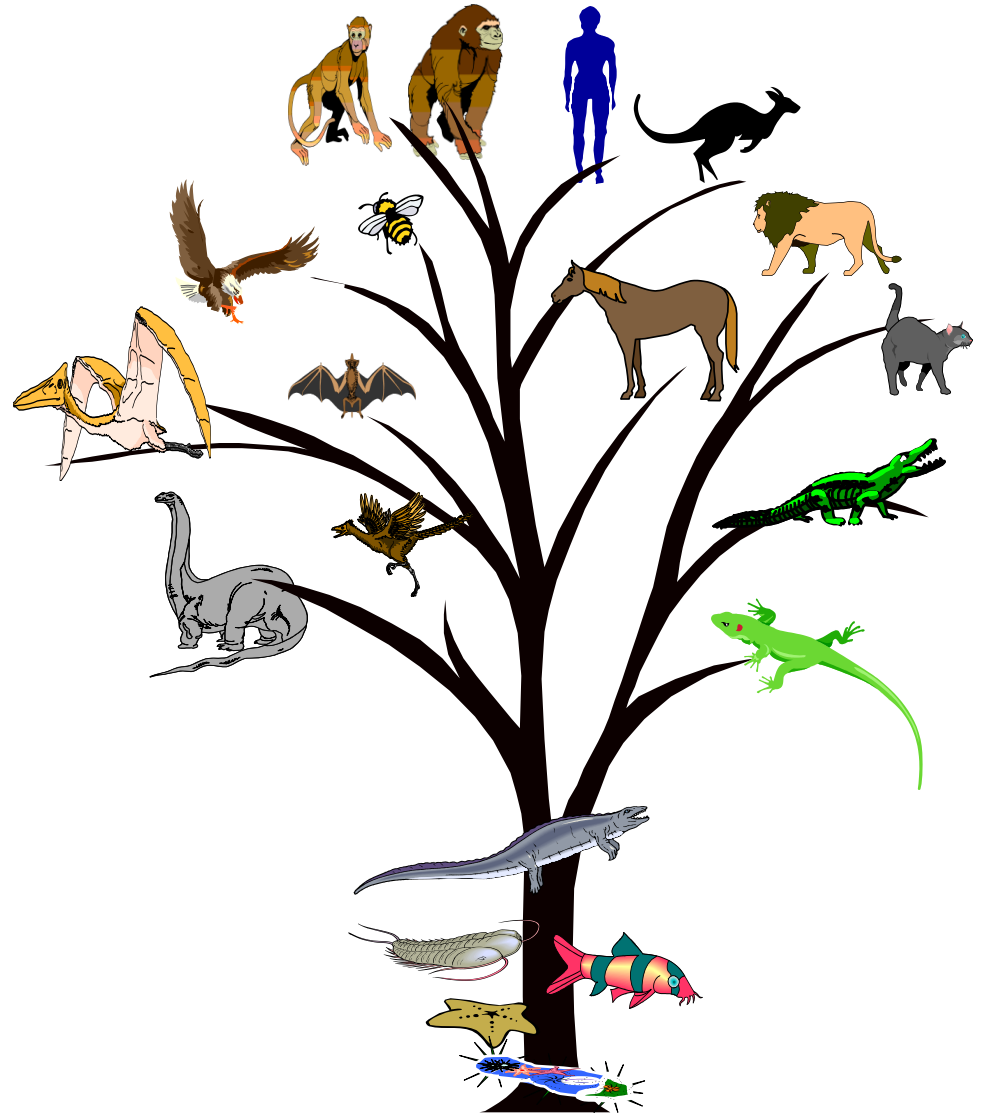
# Microevolution

within type: **YES**



# Macroevolution

across types: **NO**



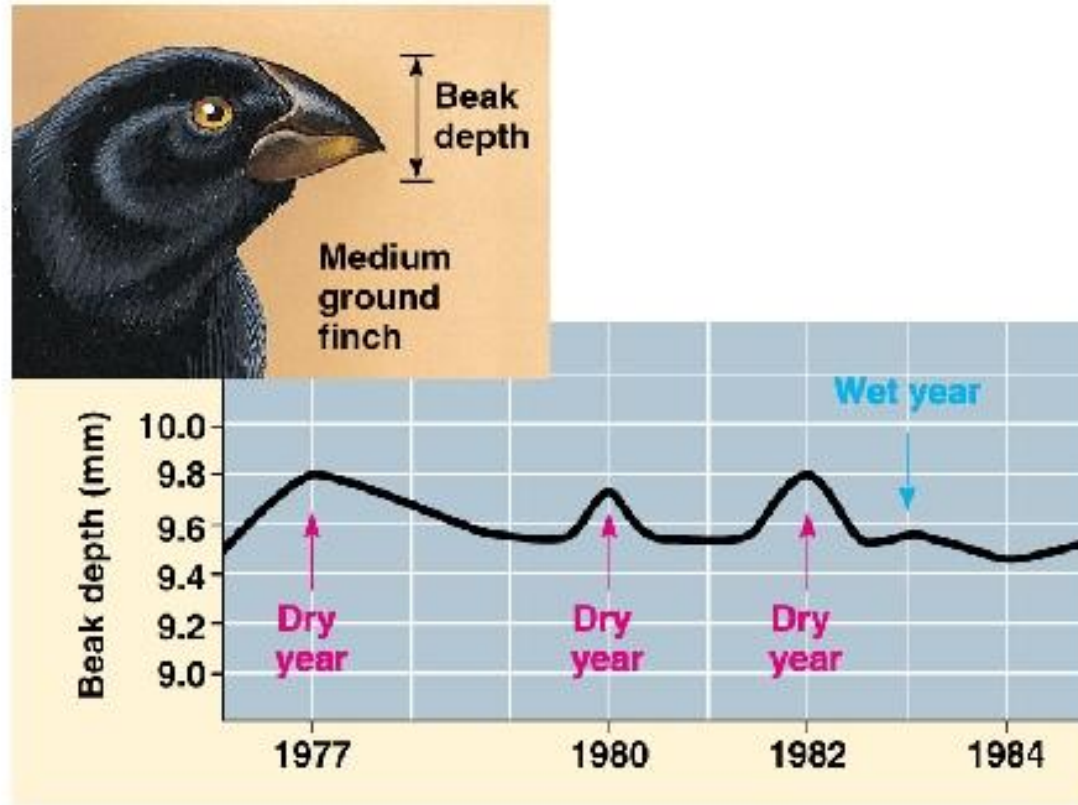
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Natural Selection may help explain *survival* of the species but not *arrival* of the species



# Change attributed to Natural Selection is Cyclical not Directional



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***Still can't explain the origin of finches! (Survival not arrival)***

# Natural Selection Can't Explain New Life forms as evidenced by:

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# Darwinism is Dead



***“If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed, which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight changes, my theory would absolutely break down.”***

***Charles Darwin***

# Darwin's Black Box

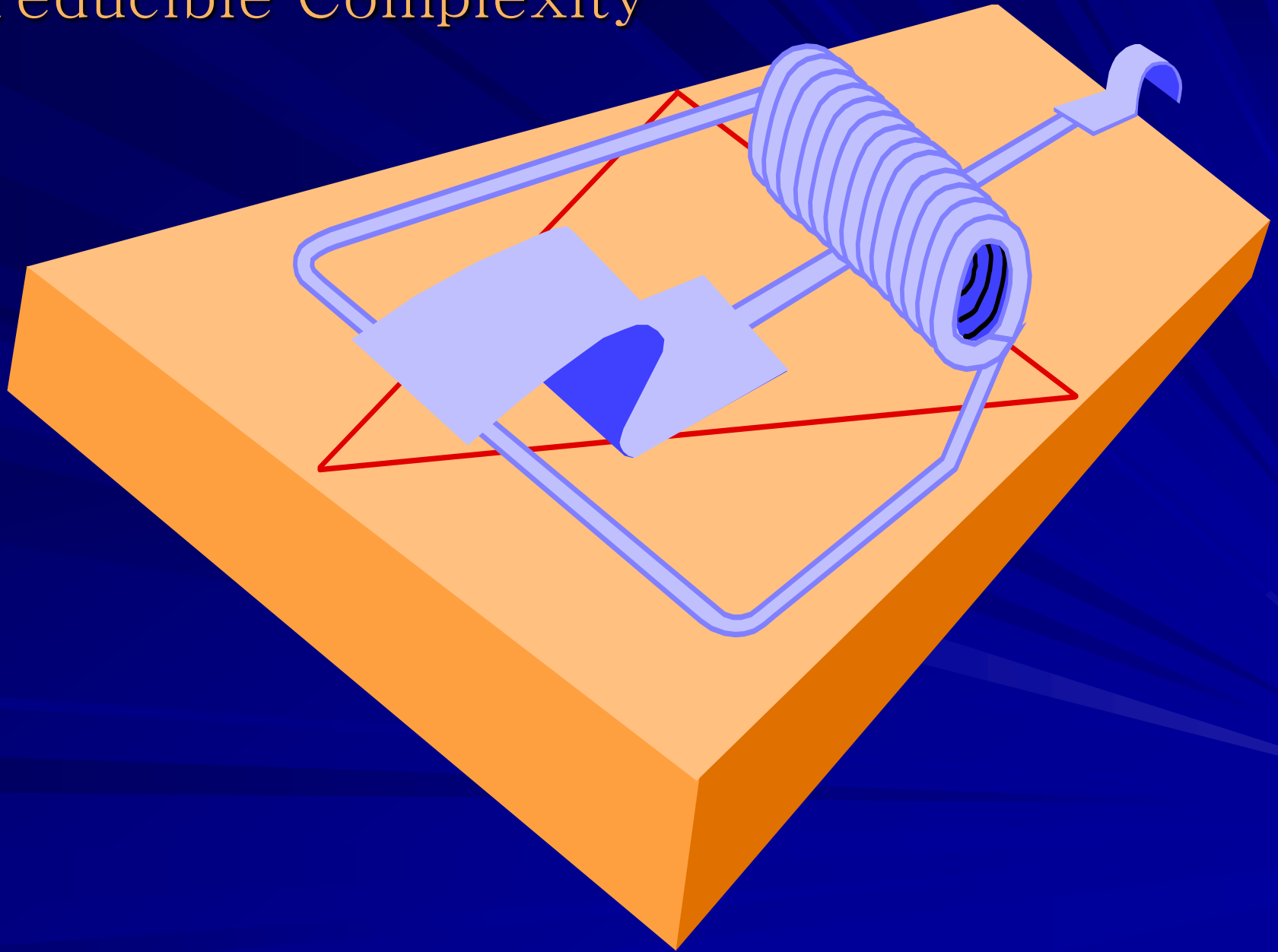


THE  
BIOCHEMICAL CHALLENGE  
TO EVOLUTION

MICHAEL J. BEHE



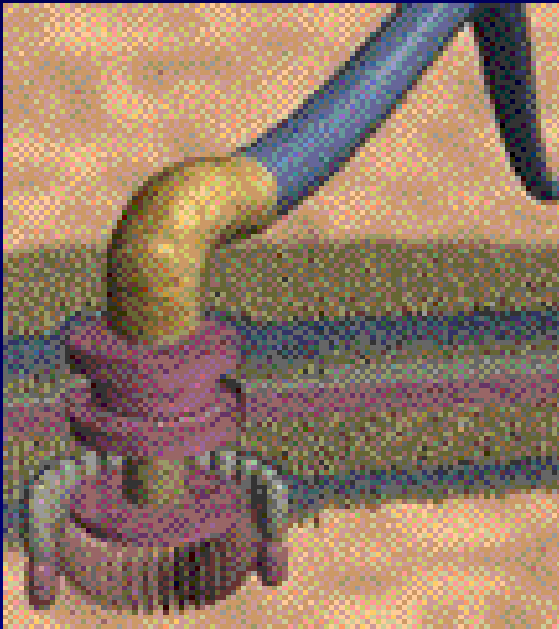
# Irreducible Complexity



# Your Car is Irreducibly Complex



# Irreducible Complexity

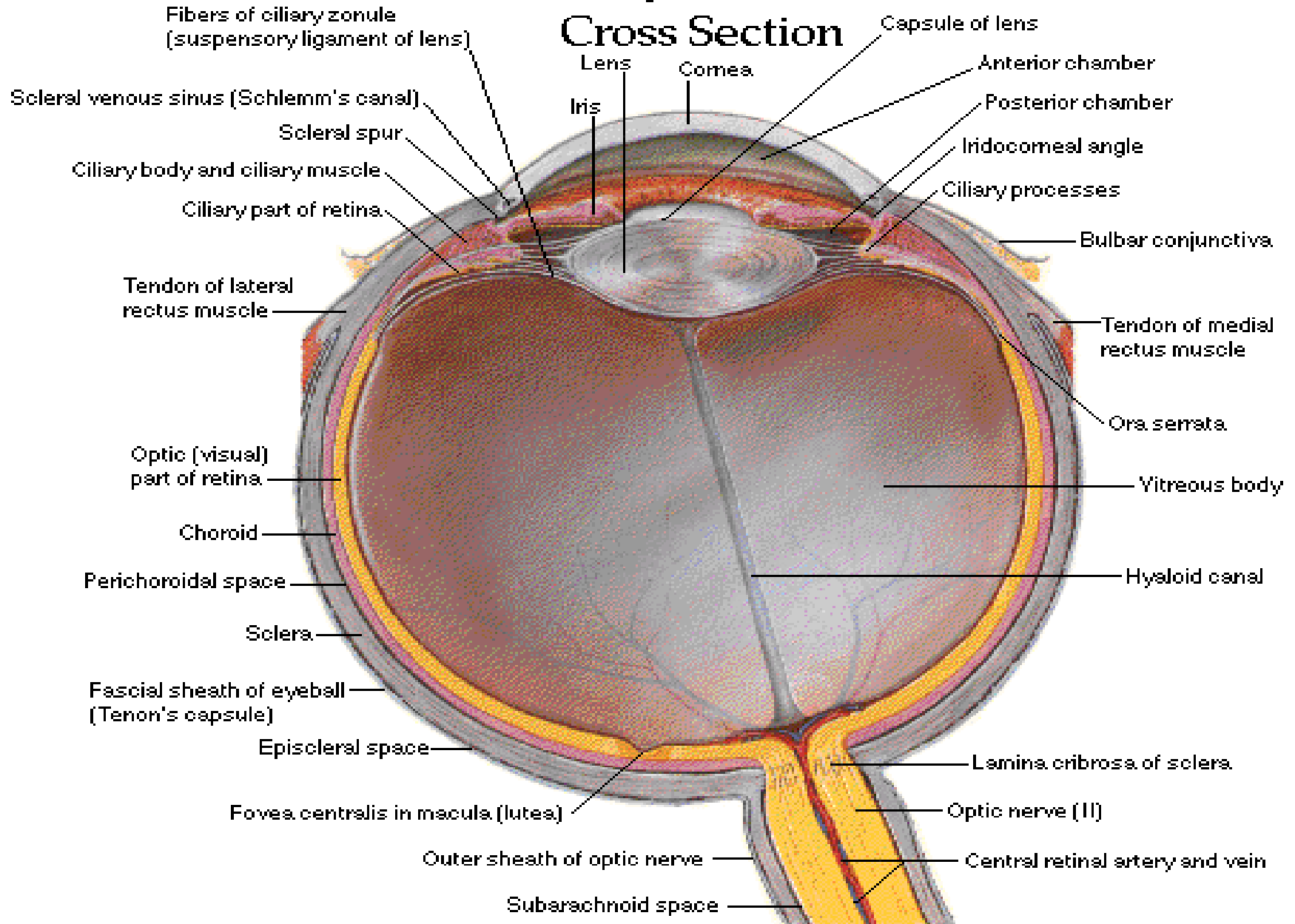


The Bacterial Flagellum

- **Microscopic outboard motor**
- **240 Distinct Proteins**
- **Runs at an incredible 100,000 rpm**
- **Stops on a microscopic dime. It takes only a quarter turn for them to stop, shift directions and start spinning 100,000 rpm in the opposite direction!**
- **Irreducibly Complex— must have been created all at once**

# **Eyeball**

## **Cross Section**



## **Horizontal section**

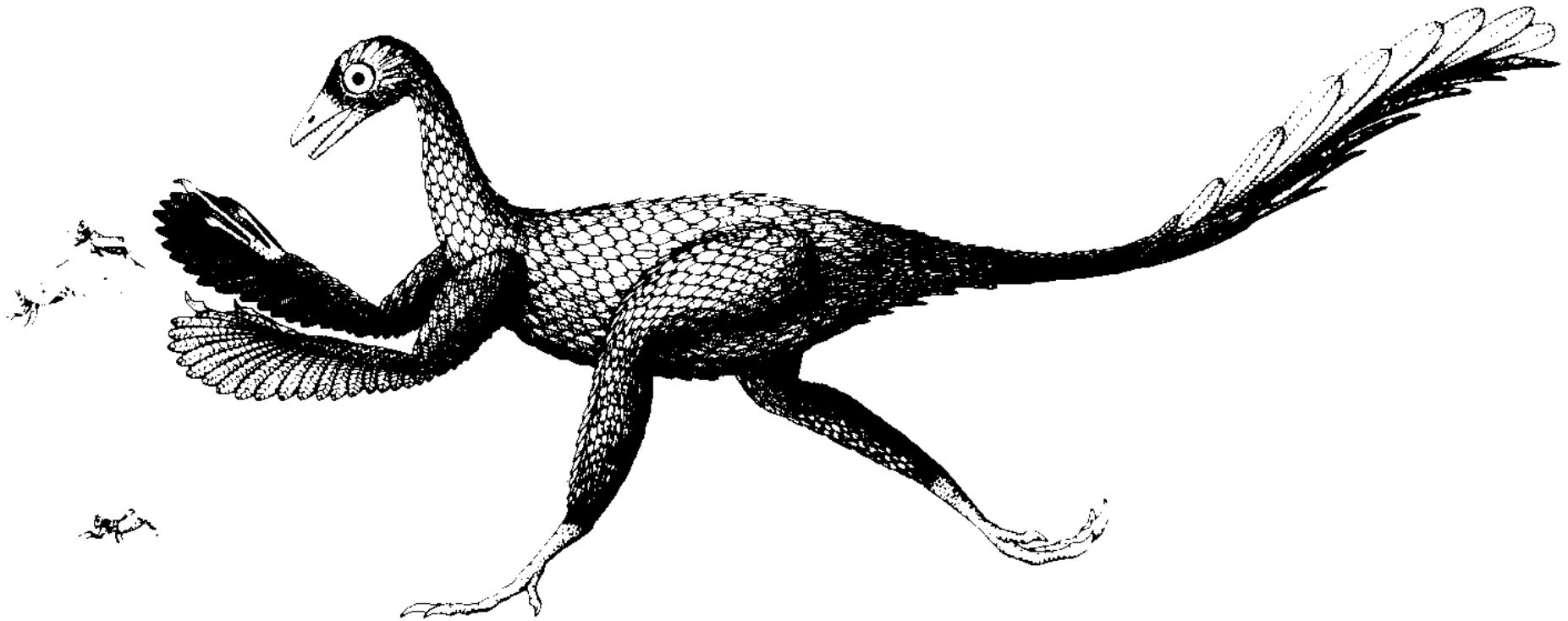
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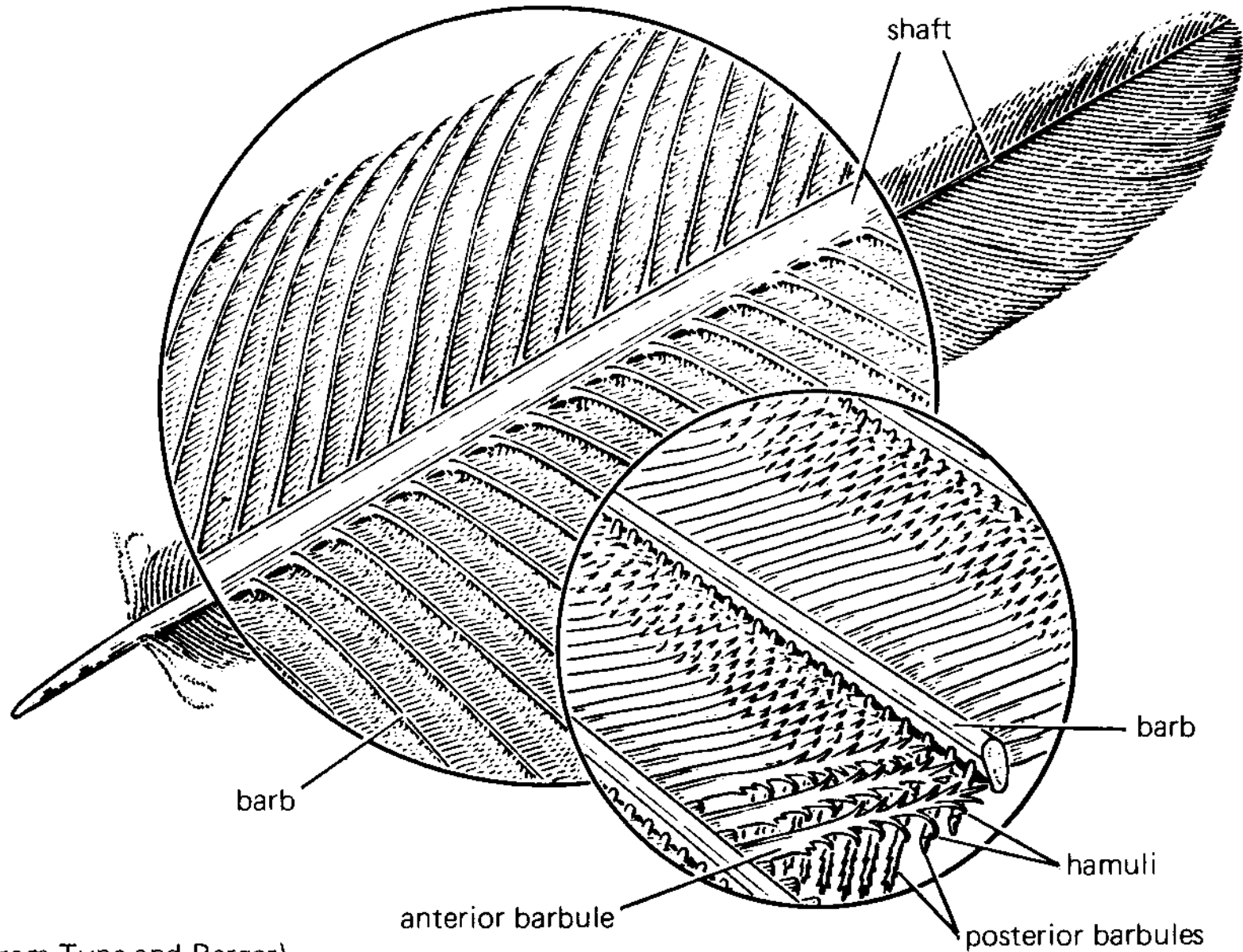
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# Transitional form from reptile to bird: How would it survive?



*Feathers are irreducibly complex*



(from Tyne and Berger)

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# No Ancestral Relationship

“At a molecular level [comparing protein sequences] there is no trace of the evolutionary transition from fish → amphibian → reptile → mammal. So amphibia, always traditionally considered intermediate between fish and the other terrestrial vertebrates, are in molecular terms as far from fish as any group of reptiles or mammals! To those well acquainted with the traditional picture of vertebrate evolution the result is truly astonishing.”

Michael Denton, *Evolution: A Theory in Crisis*, 285.



# What about DNA Similarity?

■ Charles Darwin was a scientific god.

■ Charles Darwin was a scientific dog.

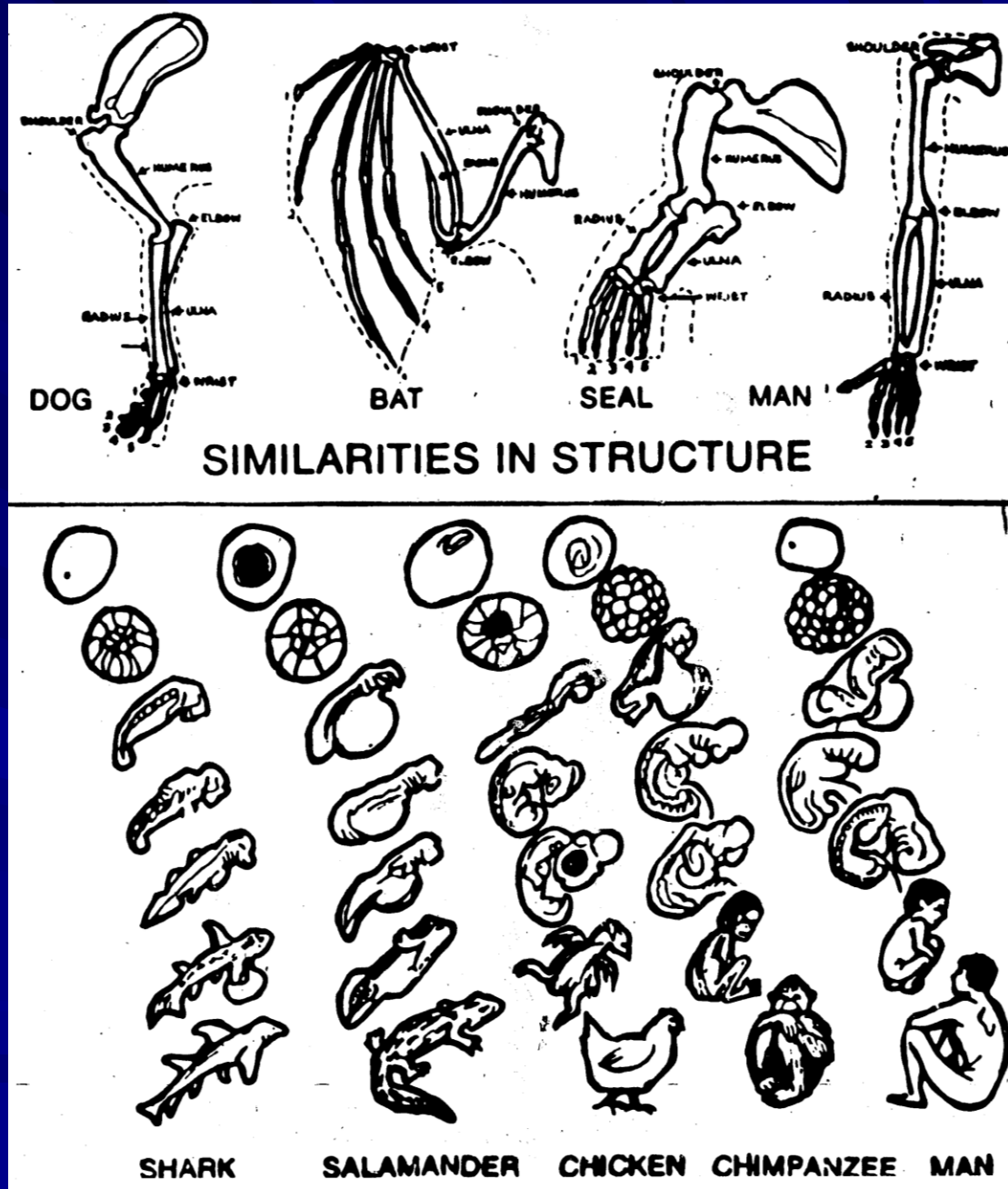
While the letters in the two sentences are identical and the order is virtually the same (greater than 90 percent), the slight difference in order yields opposite meanings. In the same way, only a slight difference in the order of the letters (A, T, C, and G) in living things may yield creatures that are far apart on the hypothetical evolutionary tree. . .



# What about DNA Similarity?

- *DNA similarity is about 90% between apes and man but also between mice and man!*
- DNA similarity could be evidence of a common creator rather than a common ancestor!
- Could a food chain exist without a common genetic code?
- Darwinists must explain the vast **dissimilarity** between living things (e.g. the bee, the octopus, the venus fly trap, mildew, the peacock, the porcupine, the human brain, etc.)

Does  
similarity  
of  
structure  
prove a  
common  
ancestor or  
a common  
designer?

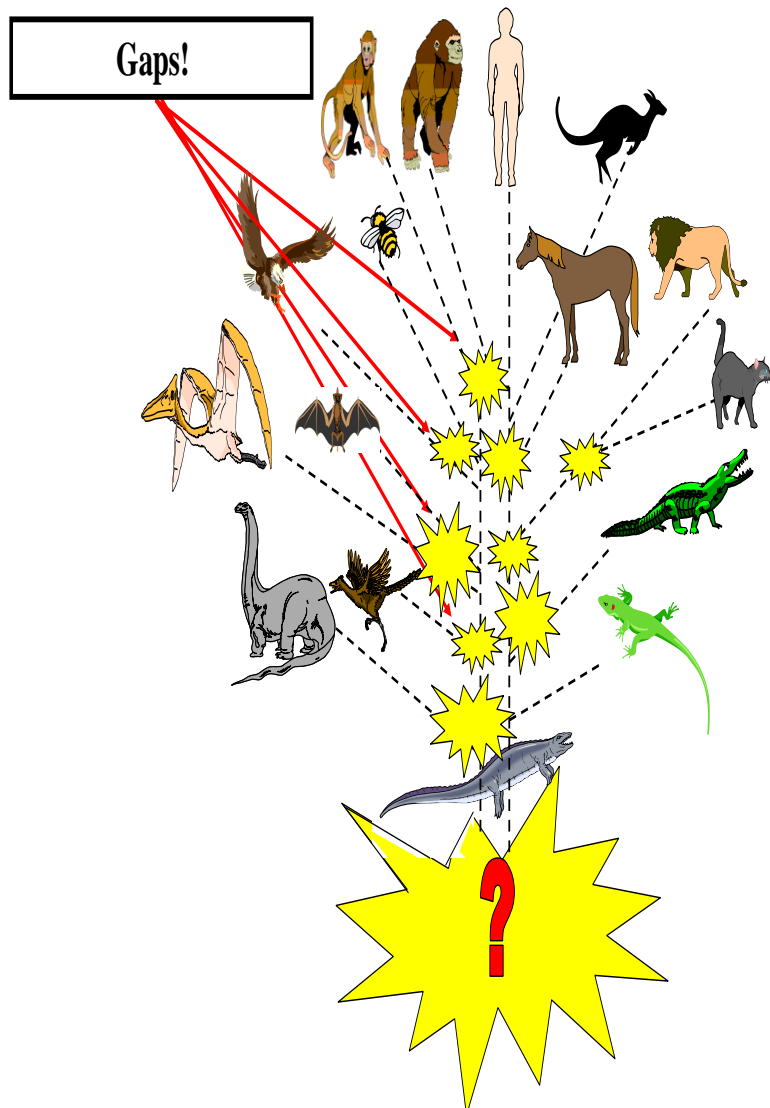


Note: Haeckel's drawings have been exposed as frauds. 70

Does  
similarity of  
design prove  
that the pot  
evolved from  
the tea  
spoon?

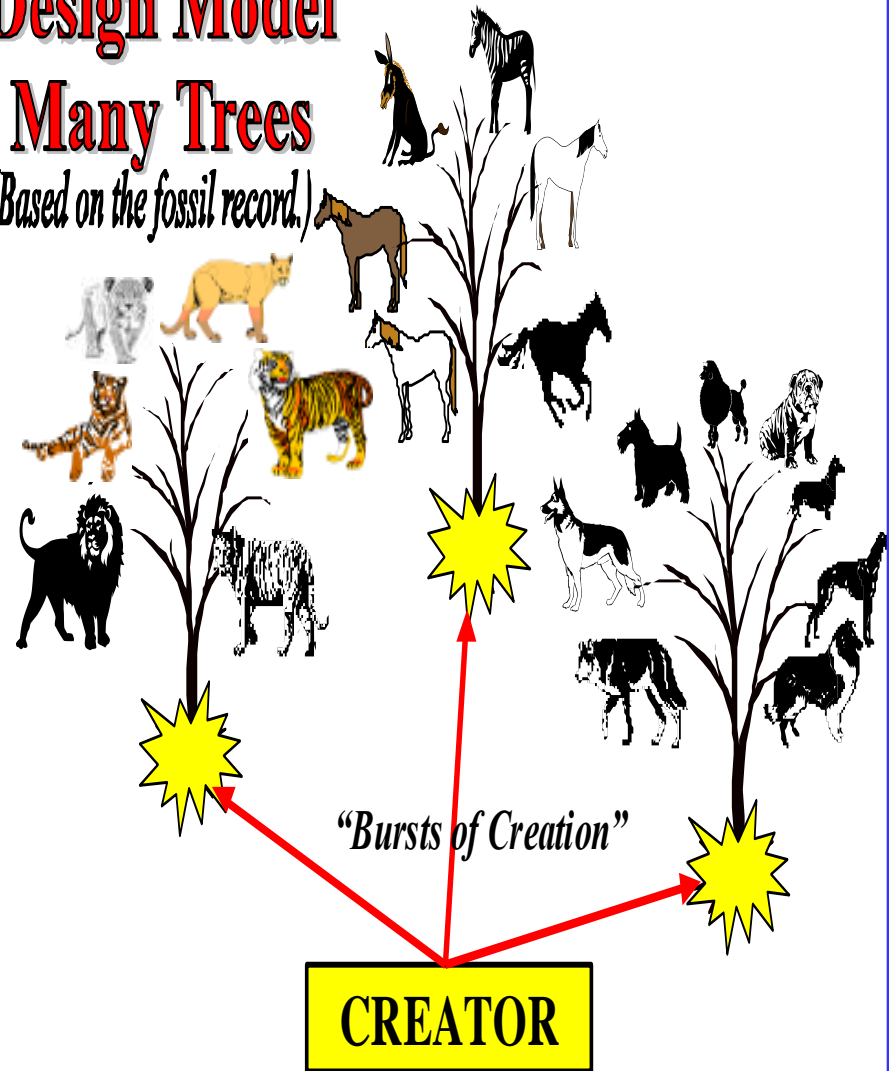


# COMMON ANCESTOR



# COMMON CREATOR

Design Model  
Many Trees  
(Based on the fossil record.)



# Natural Selection Can't Explain New Life forms as evidenced by:

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Natural Selection may help explain *survival* of the species but not *arrival* of the species



# Trade Secret

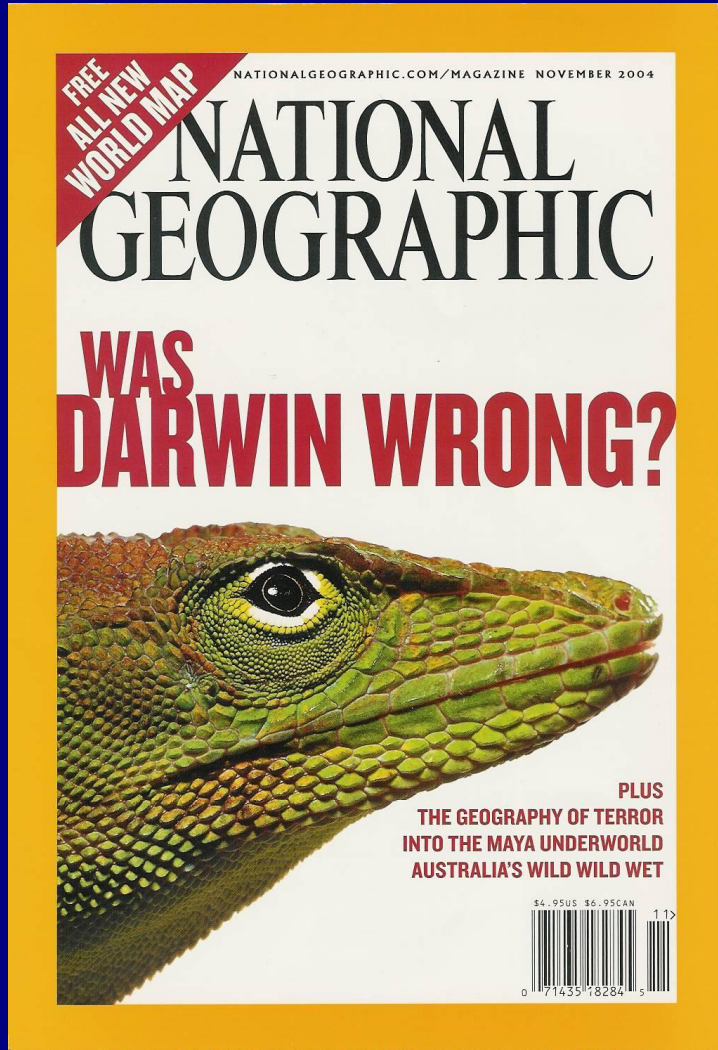
Stephen J. Gould



“The extreme rarity of transitional forms in the fossil record persists as the trade secret of paleontology. The evolutionary trees that adorn our textbooks have data only at the tips and nodes of their branches; the rest is inference, however reasonable not the evidence of fossils.” (*Harvard Paleontologist, Stephen J. Gould, Unshakable Foundations, 161*)

Harvard University

# **“Spotty”-- How about non existent?**



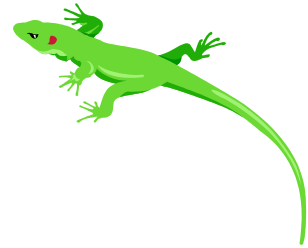
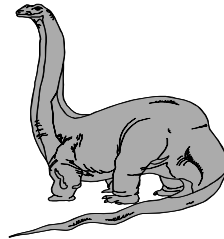
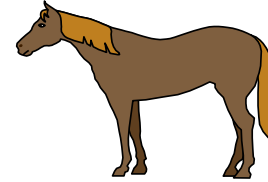
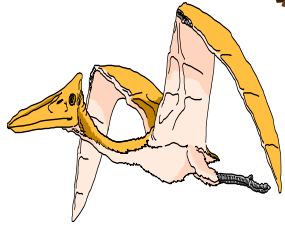
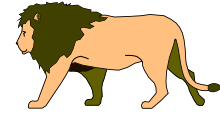
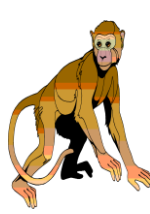
“Illuminating but spotty, the fossil record is like a film of evolution from which 999 of every 1,000 frames have been lost on the cutting-room floor.” (*National Geographic*, November 2004, 25.)

***What would the fossil record look like if creation were true?***

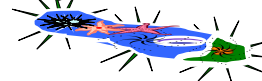
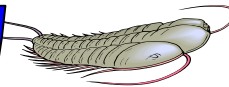
# *MacroEvolution* *Theory*



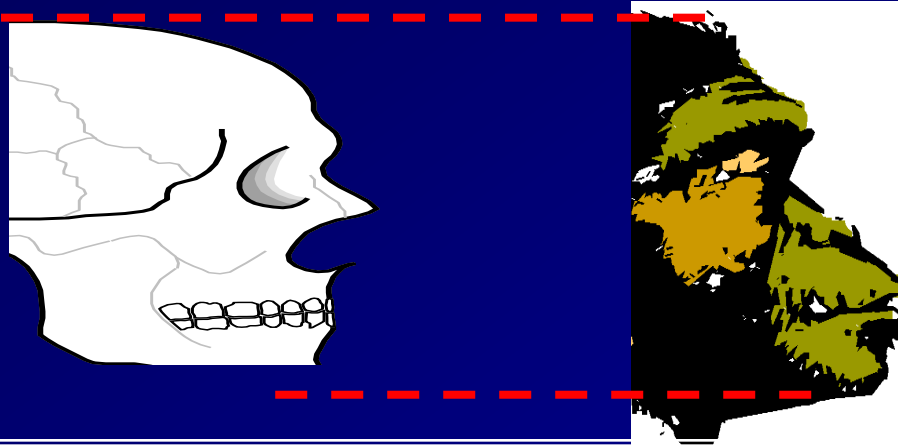
# ***The True Picture***



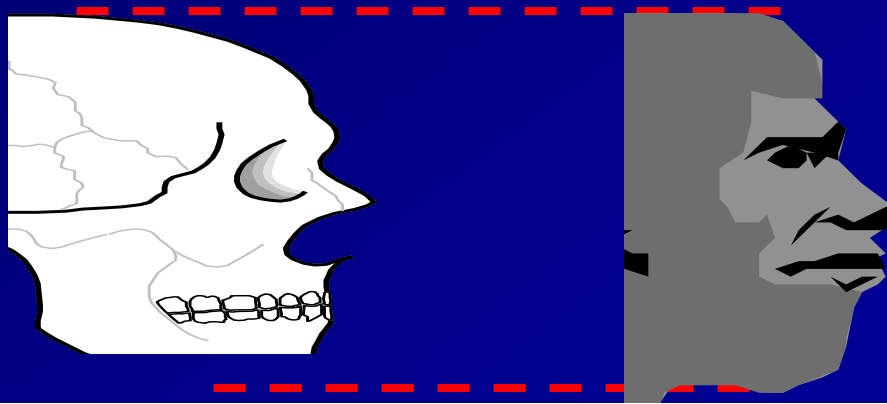
***There aren't Missing Links;  
there's a missing CHAIN!***



# *Artists Conception of Same Fossilized Skull Fragment*



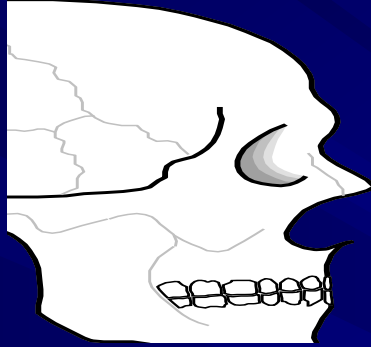
*Macroevolutionary Artist*



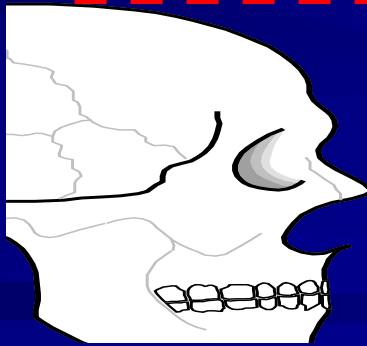
*Design Model Artist*



*99% of Info is in Soft Biological Tissue,  
NOT Fossil Remains!*



*Macroevolutionary Artist*



*Design Model Artist*

# Natural Selection Can't Explain New Life forms as evidenced by:

1. Genetic limits
2. Change is cyclical not directional
3. Irreducible complexity
4. Transitional forms would be non-viable
5. Molecular isolation– no ancestral relationships
6. Fossil record

Natural Selection may help explain *survival* of the species but not *arrival* of the species

# **A Few Minor Problems with Darwinism:**

## **Darwinism Cannot Explain:**

- 1. How something came from nothing (the origin of the universe)**
- 2. How order arose from chaos (the design of the universe)**
- 3. How life arose from non-life**
- 4. How personality arose from non-personality**
- 5. How intelligence arose from non-intelligence**
- 6. How irreducibly complex biological systems could evolve gradually**
- 7. The source of objective morality**





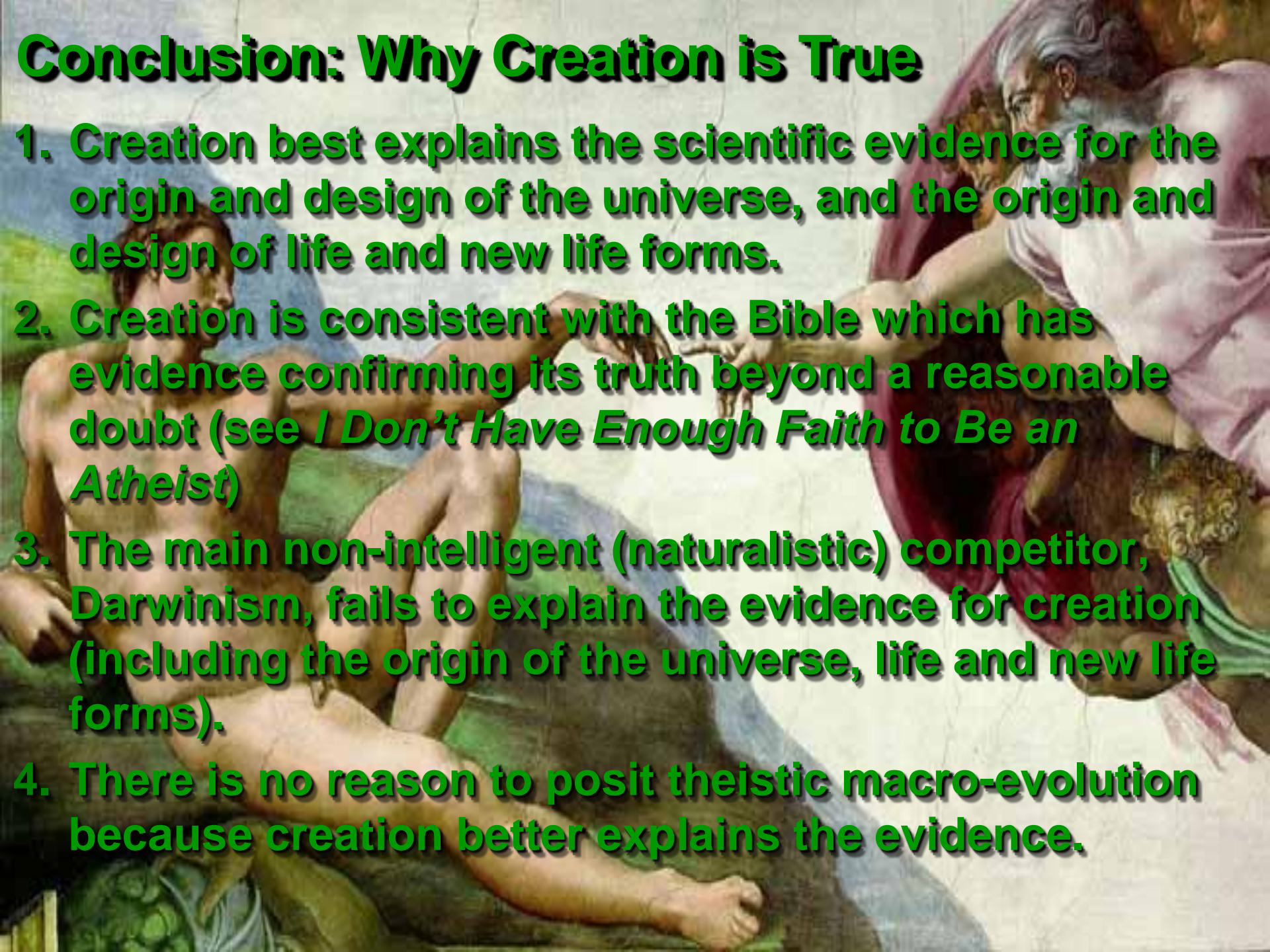
# Evidence for Creation. We See:

1. A universe that has exploded into being out of nothing
2. A universe with over 100 fine-tuned, life-enabling constants for this tiny, remote planet called Earth
3. Life that:
  - has been observed to arise only from existing life (it has never been observed to arise spontaneously);
  - consists of thousands and even millions of volumes of empirically detectable specified complexity (and is, therefore, more than just the nonliving chemicals it contains);
  - changes cyclically and only within a limited range;
  - cannot be built or modified gradually (i.e., is irreducibly complex);
  - is molecularly isolated between basic types (there's no ancestral progression at the molecular level);
  - leaves a fossil record of fully formed creatures that appear suddenly, do not change, and then disappear



# Conclusion: Why Creation is True

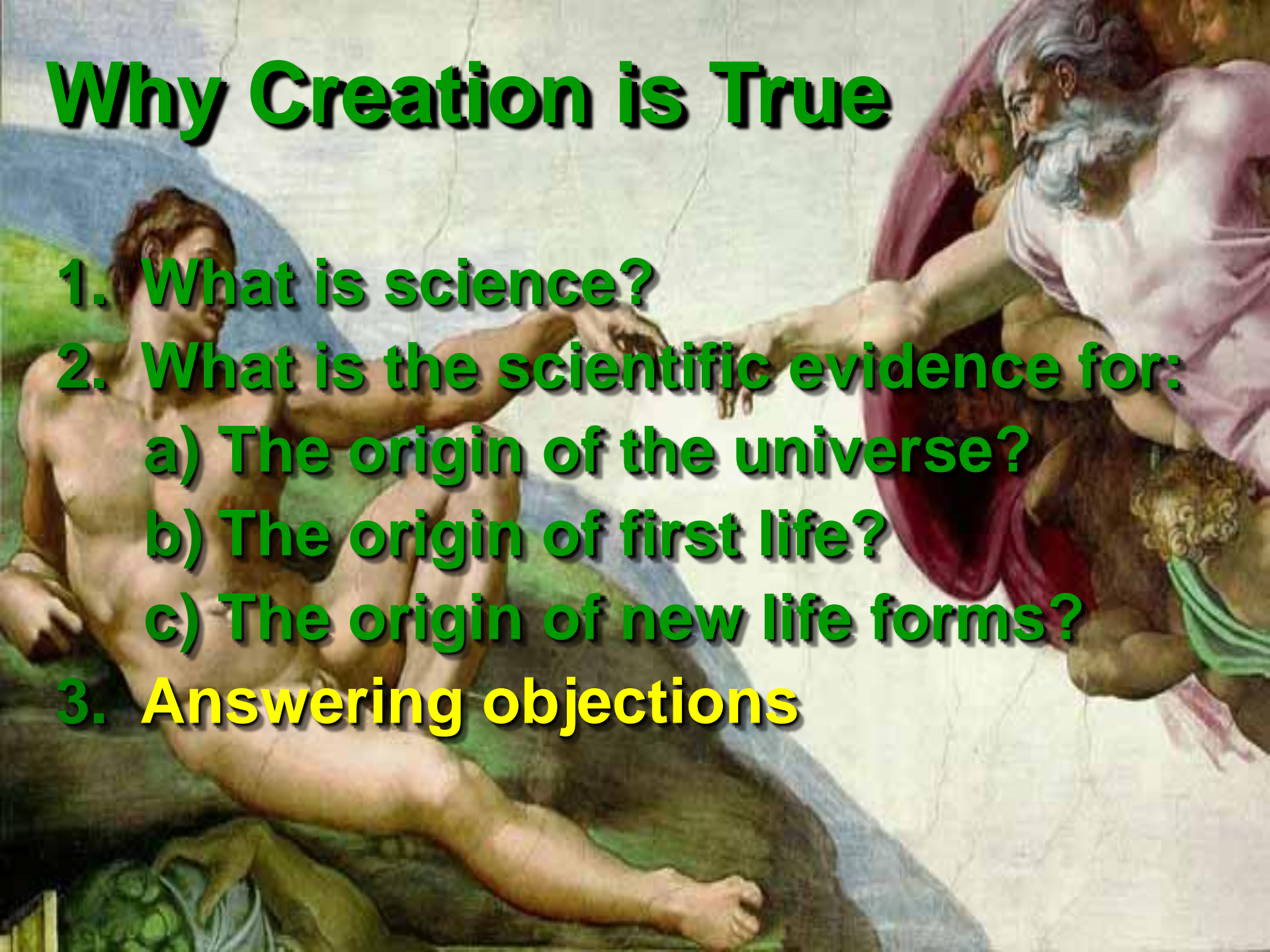
1. Creation best explains the scientific evidence for the origin and design of the universe, and the origin and design of life and new life forms.
2. Creation is consistent with the Bible which has evidence confirming its truth beyond a reasonable doubt (see *I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist*)
3. The main non-intelligent (naturalistic) competitor, Darwinism, fails to explain the evidence for creation (including the origin of the universe, life and new life forms).
4. There is no reason to posit theistic macro-evolution because creation better explains the evidence.





# **Why Creation is True**

- 1. What is science?**
- 2. What is the scientific evidence for:**
  - a) The origin of the universe?**
  - b) The origin of first life?**
  - c) The origin of new life forms?**
- 3. Answering objections**

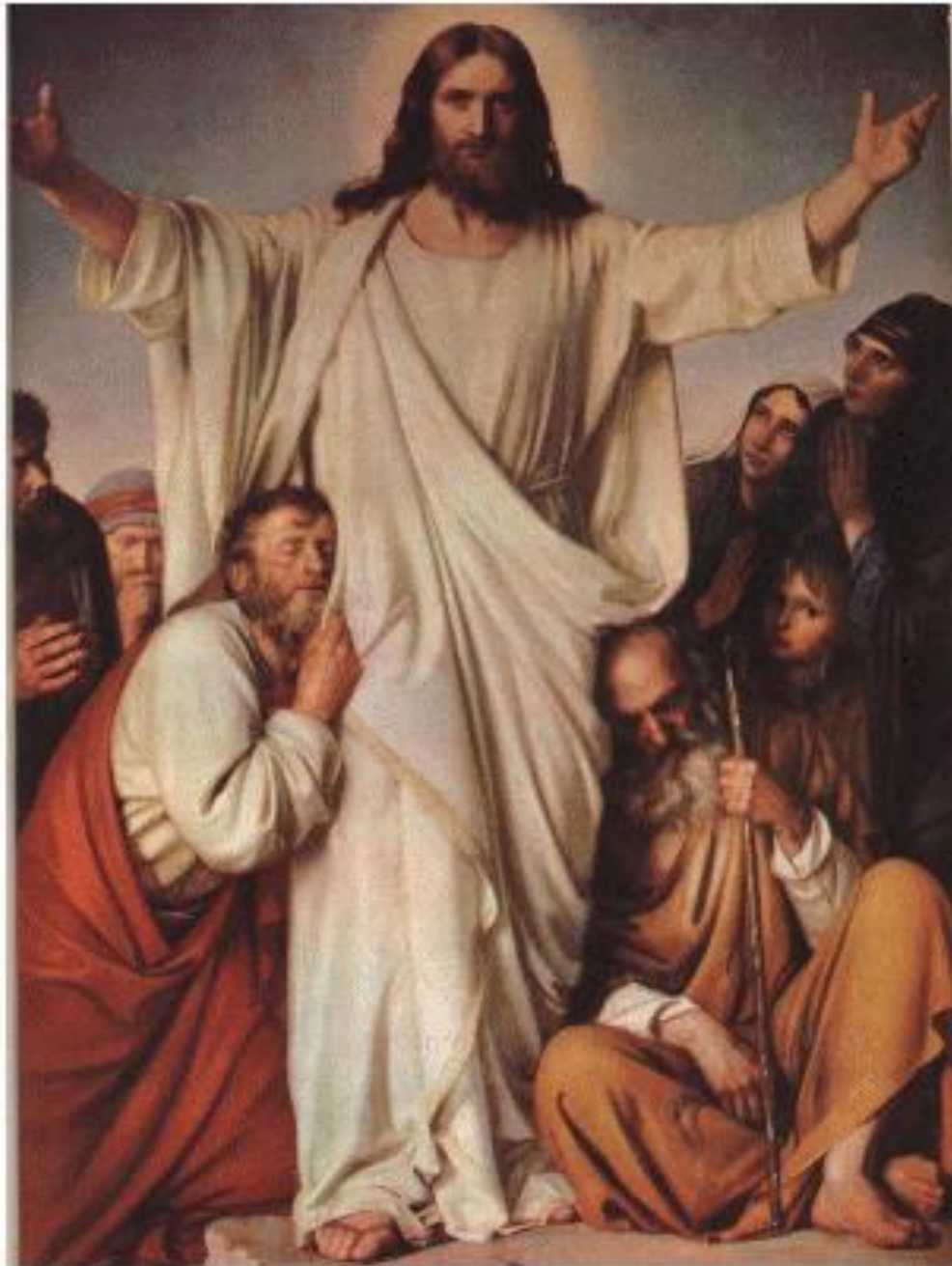


# Objections to Biblical Creation

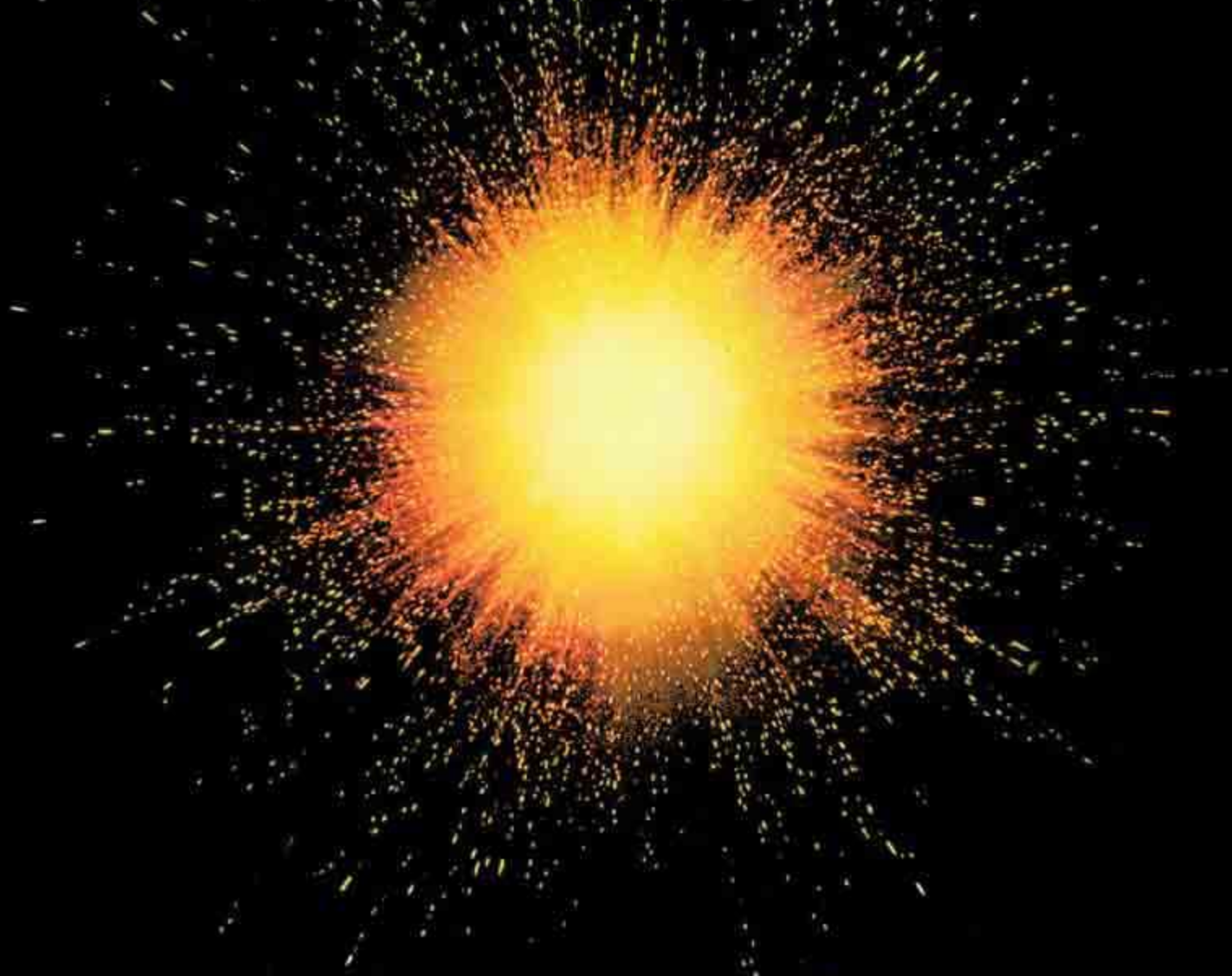
1. **Miracles are not possible**
2. **The universe is old**
3. **Time and chance make anything possible**



**Some believe miracles are impossible**

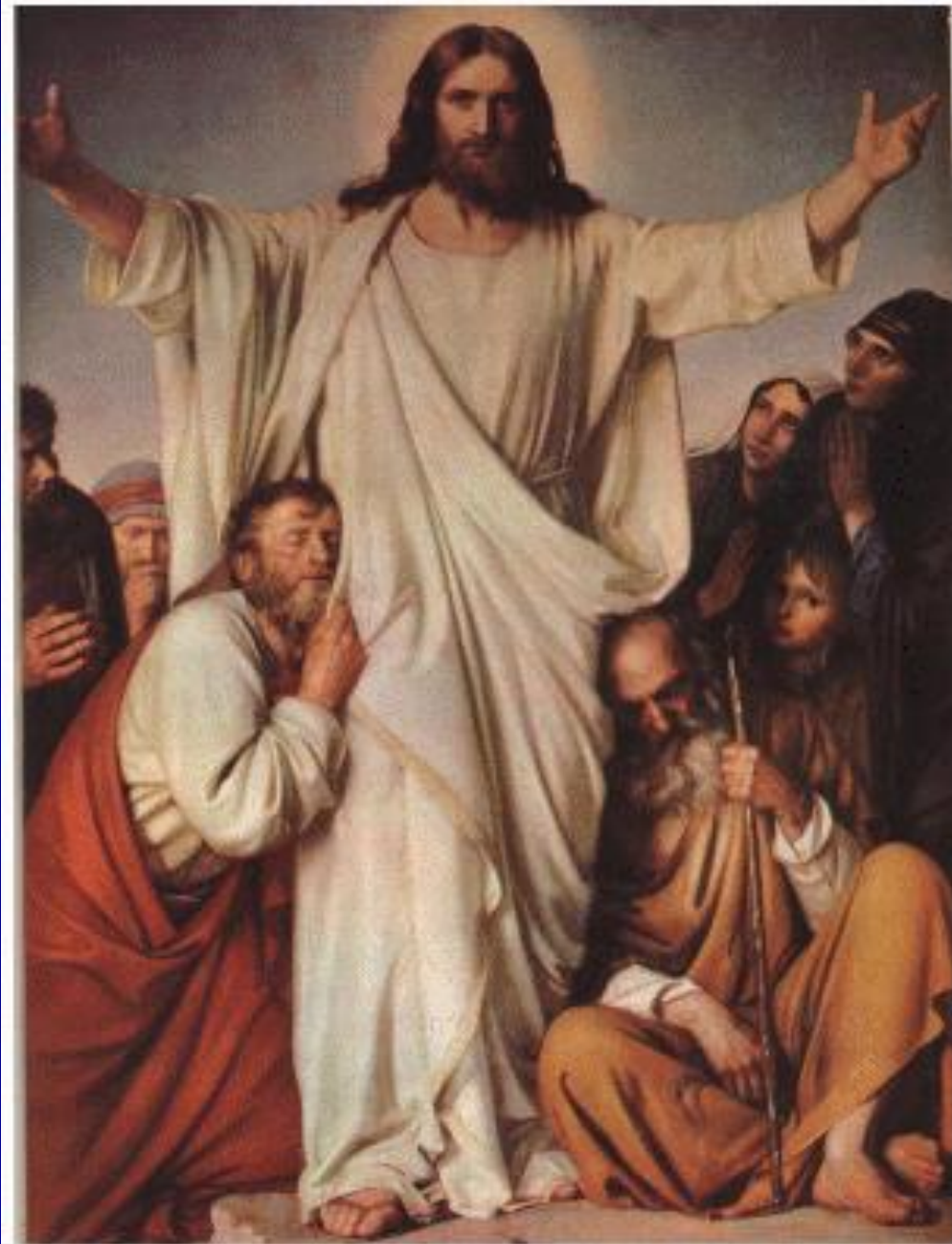


*But, since the greatest miracle  
(creation) has already occurred. . .*





***...every other miracle is believable!***





# If God then Miracles



**“But if we admit God,  
must we admit  
miracles? Indeed,  
indeed, you have no  
security against it.  
That is the bargain.”**

**C.S. Lewis**  
***Miracles, 109***

# Naturalistic Worldview Rules Out Miracles Before Looking at the Evidence!



Richard  
Lewontin

“It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation of the phenomenal world, but, on the contrary, that **we are forced by our *a priori* adherence to material causes** to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counter-intuitive, no matter how mystifying to the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for **we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door.**” (Richard Lewontin, *New York Review of Books*, January 9, 1997).

# *YOUR WORLDVIEW CAN COLOR YOUR CONCLUSION*

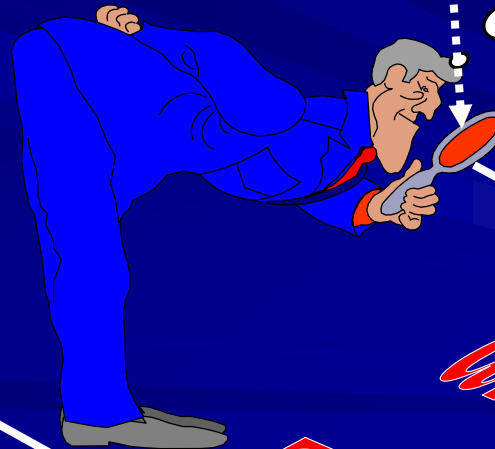
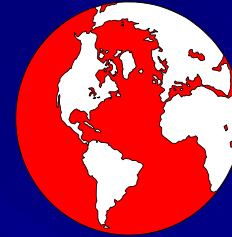
## *Theism*

*Miracles  
Are  
Possible*



## *Atheism, Pantheism*

*Miracles  
Are Not  
Possible*



*History  
and  
Truth*



# Did David Hume Prove Miracles are Not Credible?

David Hume's Objection:

1. Natural Law is by definition a description of a regular occurrence.
2. A miracle is by definition a rare occurrence.
3. The evidence for the regular is always greater than that for the rare.
4. A wise man always bases his belief on the greater evidence.
5. Therefore, a wise man should never believe in miracles.



# The Answer to Hume's Objection

***The evidence for regular events is not always greater than that for the rare.***

Examples from Hume's own world view:

1. The Big Bang Theory is not based on regular events.
2. The origin of life on earth does not occur regularly.
3. Macro evolution cannot be repeated. (If it happened at all, it only happened once.)
4. The entire history of the earth cannot be repeated.





## Other Errors of Hume

1. Even if Hume's objection were valid, it wouldn't disprove the *possibility* of miracles, only their *believability*. So even if a miracle actually occurred, Hume would say don't believe it.
2. Hume begs the question. He confuses the *probability* of an event with the *possibility* of an event. He *adds* evidence for all past regular events rather than *weighs* evidence for the rare event in question.

# Objections to Biblical Creation

1. Miracles are not possible
2. The universe is old
3. Time and chance make anything possible

# The “Old Universe” Objection

1. The objection assumes:
  - a. The Bible unequivocally teaches that the universe is young (thousands of years);
  - b. The scientific data unequivocally demonstrates that the universe is old (billions of years).
2. Both assumptions can be challenged.

# Six-24 Hour Days?

1. The word for day (yom) in Genesis 1 could mean longer periods of time (cf. Gen. 2:4, Hosea 6:1-2, 2 Pet. 3:10)
2. The 3<sup>rd</sup> day seems to require longer than 24 hours (growth of vegetation including fruit bearing plants)
3. The 6<sup>th</sup> day also seems to require longer than 24 hours (naming of animals)
4. The 7<sup>th</sup> day is longer because it hasn't ended—God is still at rest since creation (Heb. 4:3-5)
5. For more, see Dr. Norman Geisler's Systematic Theology Vol. 2, Appendix 4.



# **Old Universe?**

## **Assumptions in Science:**

- 1. Light from the stars? Speed of light is assumed to be unchanged.**
- 2. Radioactive dating? Decay rate is assumed to be unchanged. In uranium dating, beginning amount of lead is assumed to be zero.**
- 3. Salt in Ocean? The deposition rate is assumed to be unchanged. The beginning amount of salt and minerals is assumed to be zero.**

# **“Old Universe” Objection: Conclusion**

- 1. There is no conflict between science and the Bible. There is only conflict between some *interpretations* of the scientific and Biblical *data*.**
- 2. The Universe may be old or it may be young. Science and the Bible are not definitive.**
- 3. The only scientific and Biblical data that is definitive is that which points to a beginning—a creation. In other words, *that* creation occurred is more certain Biblically and scientifically than *when* it occurred. Creation out of nothing has strong Biblical and scientific support.**

# Objections to Biblical Creation

1. **Miracles are not possible**
2. **The universe is old**
3. **Time and chance make anything possible**

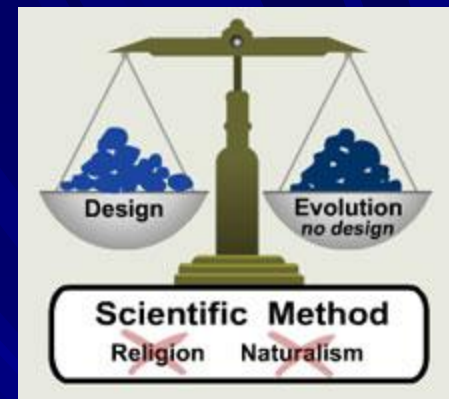


# What about Time and Chance?

1. Since time (as well as space and matter) had a beginning, there was a creation.
2. Time doesn't help evolution because more time results in more randomization (natural laws randomize things— the 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics is the law of disorder).
3. “Chance” is not a cause— it is a *word* to describe mathematical possibilities. It has no causal power of its own. We can't use “chance” to cover our ignorance about what caused the universe or life.



# What is Intelligent Design?



**“The theory of intelligent design (ID) holds that certain features of the universe and of living things are best explained by an intelligent cause rather than an undirected process such as natural selection. . . . Design detection is used in a number of scientific fields, including anthropology, forensic sciences . . . and the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI). An inference that certain biological information may be the product of an intelligent cause can be tested or evaluated in the same manner as scientists daily test for design in other sciences.”**



# Objections to Intelligent Design

1. **ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy**
2. **ID is not science**
3. **ID is Philosophy**
4. **ID is religiously motivated**
5. **Non-optimal design disproves omnibenevolent, omnipotent Designer**

# **Objection:**

## **ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy**

**Answer:**

- 1. ID is not simply the *lack* of a natural explanation; it is positive, empirically detectable evidence *for* an intelligent cause.**
- 2. ID makes the scientific observation that known natural laws cannot produce Specified Complexity (SC).**

# Intelligent Design from an Intelligent Being (Mom)

T A K E O U T  
T H E G A R B A G E  
- M O M



**This message is an example of specified complexity.**

# **Objection:**

## **ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy**

**Answer:**

- 1. ID is not simply the *lack* of a natural explanation; it is positive, empirically detectable evidence *for* an intelligent cause.**
- 2. ID makes the scientific observation that known natural laws cannot produce Specified Complexity (SC).**
- 3. ID does not prevent the continued search for natural laws that can produce SC.**
- 4. ID is falsifiable (i.e. if natural laws are observed creating SC).**



# **Objection:**

## **ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy**

- 5. By contrast, macro-evolution is *not* open to falsification because most macro-evolutionists have a prior philosophical commitment to naturalism (“Evolution is a fact”).**
- 6. Many macro-evolutionists are actually committing the God-of-the-Gaps fallacy with their “Deity” natural selection (i.e. “natural selection” automatically becomes the cause whenever there’s a gap in their knowledge).**

# “We Cannot allow a Divine Foot in the Door”



Richard  
Lewontin

“It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation of the phenomenal world, but, on the contrary, that **we are forced by our *a priori* adherence to material causes** to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counter-intuitive, no matter how mystifying to the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for **we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door.**” (Richard Lewontin, *New York Review of Books*, January 9, 1997).

# Objections to Intelligent Design

1. ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy
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3. ID is Philosophy
4. ID is religiously motivated
5. Non-optimal design disproves omnibenevolent, omnipotent Designer

# **Objection: ID is not Science**

## **Answer:**

- 1. Science is a search for causes usually based on observation & repetition**
- 2. Through observation & repetition we see:**
  - Life only arising from existing life (it never arises spontaneously or without intelligence)**
  - Life consisting of specified complexity (SC)**
  - Only intelligence creating SC**
- 3. Therefore, life seems to be the product of intelligence (ID)**



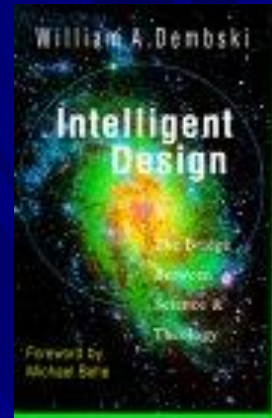
# **Intelligent Design is . . .**

- 1. Empirically Detectable**
- 2. Falsifiable**
- 3. Also used in Archaeology, Forensic Science, Cryptology, SETI, etc.**
- 4. Backed by Significant Scientific Research**

**William Dembski**

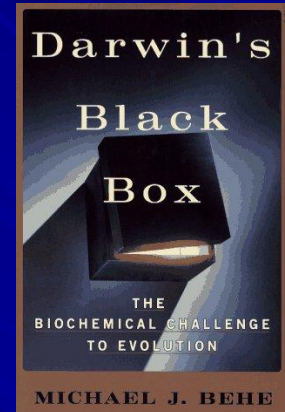
**Ph.D, Mathematics,**

**Ph.D, Philosophy**



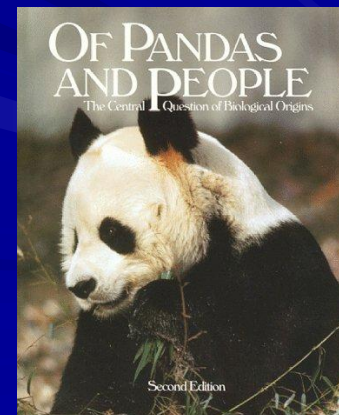
**Michael Behe**

**Professor of Biochemistry, Lehigh University**



**Dean Kenyon**

**Professor of Biology, San Francisco State**



# Objections to Intelligent Design

1. ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy
2. ID is not science
3. ID is Philosophy
4. ID is religiously motivated
5. Non-optimal design disproves omnibenevolent, omnipotent Designer

# **Objection: ID is Philosophy**

## **Answer:**

- 1. Science cannot be conducted without philosophical assumptions such as:**
  - A. A world exists that can be known.**
  - B. Logic applies to the world.**
  - C. Science is a search for causes in the world.**
  - D. The scientific method— including the principles of causality and uniformity— helps us discover real causes of effects.**
- 2. Macro-evolution and ID use such assumptions**
- 3. A prior commitment to naturalism is philosophy and it results in bad science because it rules out too much.**

# Objections to Intelligent Design

1. ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy
2. ID is not science
3. ID is Philosophy
4. ID is religiously motivated
5. Non-optimal design disproves omnibenevolent, omnipotent Designer



# **Objection:**

## **ID is Religiously Motivated**

### **Answer:**

- 1. Some IDer's may be, but that doesn't mean ID is false.**
- 2. Some macro-evolutionists may be, but that doesn't mean macro-evolution is false.**
- 3. The objection is irrelevant: motivation isn't the issue, truth is.**

# **Objection:**

## **ID is Religiously Motivated**

- 4. ID is theologically minimal. It doesn't:**
  - a. Rely on religious books for its data (SC is detected empirically)**
  - b. Make claims regarding the origin, age or geologic history of the earth**
  - c. Make claims about the nature of the Designer (other than intelligence)**
  - d. Demand a religious commitment to the Designer (Implication for public schools: it's not an establishment of religion to postulate that a Designer exists)**

# Objections to Intelligent Design

1. ID commits God-of-the-Gaps Fallacy
2. ID is not science
3. ID is Philosophy
4. ID is religiously motivated
5. Non-optimal design disproves omnibenevolent, omnipotent Designer

# **“Panda’s Thumb” Objection**



- 1. All design involves tradeoffs (e.g. laptop: portability vs. performance; car: comfort vs. fuel efficiency)**
- 2. A design is sub-optimal only if it fails to achieve the intentions of the designer. How do Darwinists know the Panda’s thumb is not exactly what the designer intended (Panda strips bamboo very well with thumb)?**
- 3. Sub-optimal design is not *no* design. Your car may not be designed perfectly, but it still requires a designer.**
- 4. Sub-optimal design does not disprove an omnibenevolent, omnipotent designer. Christians admit and give reasons for this fallen world.**
- 5. This objection by Darwinists tacitly admits what ID proponents claim: design can be detected in nature.**

# Good Science vs. Bad Science

The debate over origins is not a debate between the Bible and science. *It is a debate between good science and bad science!*

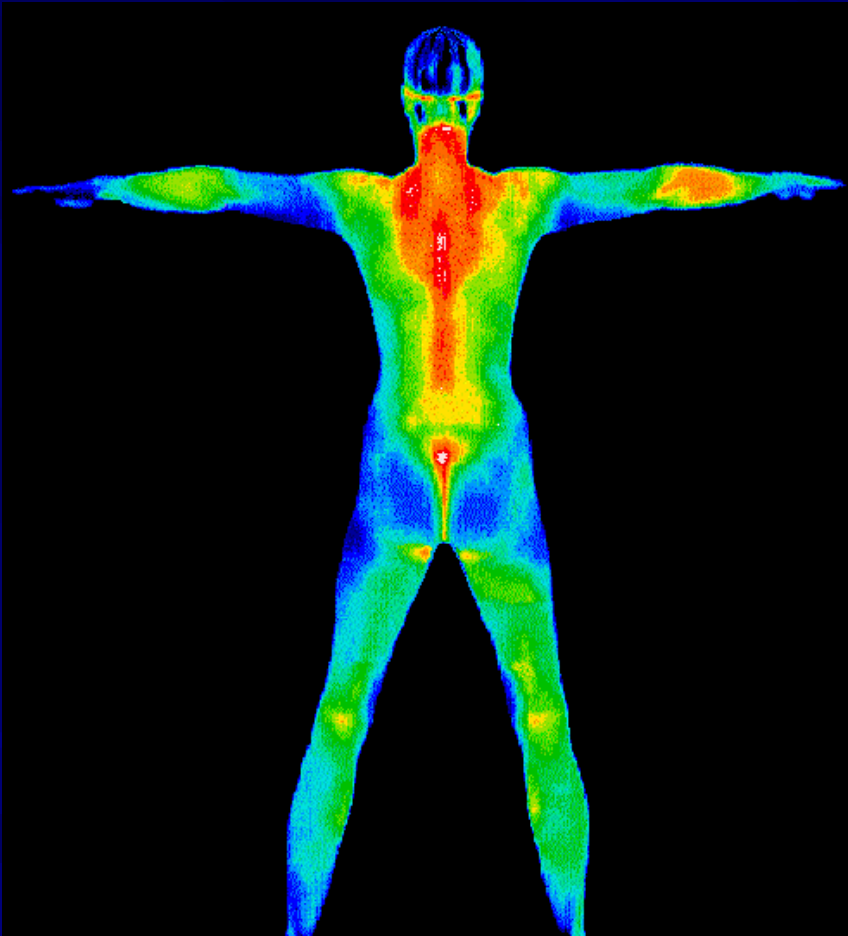
Darwinists are practicing the bad science by ruling out intelligent causes before they look at the evidence. Like the opponents of Galileo, they ignore observation.



# **Darwinists Cannot Explain**

- 1. How something came from nothing (the origin of the universe)**
- 2. How order arose from chaos (the design of the universe)**
- 3. How life arose from non-life**
- 4. How personality arose from non-personality**
- 5. How intelligence arose from non-intelligence**
- 6. How irreducibly complex biological systems could evolve gradually**
- 7. The source of objective morality**

# Life's Complexity



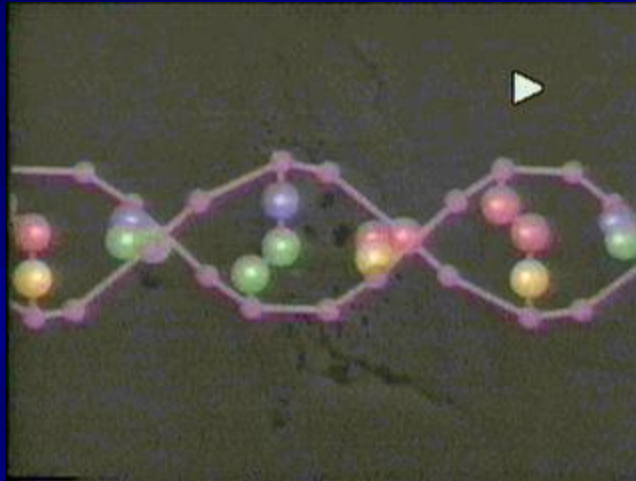
The human body contains 75 *trillion* cells.

If all DNA in a human were placed end-to-end it would reach the sun and back 400 times.

The cell contains ultra-sophisticated molecular machines.

# *DNA's Four Letter Genetic Alphabet*

# *DNA's Four Letter Genetic Alphabet*



DNA of **one** human cell = 5 million pages of information  
(that's 25,000 two hundred page books)

You have about 75 *TRILLION* cells!

# The Attributes of God from Science

From the Cosmological Argument we know that God is:

1. Self-existent, timeless, non-spatial, immaterial (since he created time, space, and matter, he must be outside of time, space, and matter). In other words, he is without limits-- he is infinite.
2. Unimaginably powerful, since he created the entire universe out of nothing.
3. Personal, since he chose to convert a state of nothingness into the time-space-material universe (an impersonal force has no ability to make choices).

From the Teleological Argument we know that God is:

1. Supremely intelligent, since he designed life and the universe with such incredible complexity and precision.
2. Purposeful, since he designed the many forms of life to live in this specific and ordered environment.



**“A commonsense interpretation of the facts suggests that *a super intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature.*”**

**World-renowned Astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle**

Once I was a tadpole when I did  
begin:

Then I was a frog with my tail  
tucked in:

Then I was a monkey swinging  
in a tree:

Now I'm a professor with a  
PhD.

