I. Introduction

A. This Week in Clear Living

- 1. Creation ex-nihilo (Genesis 1:1-31)
- 2. The Maker of Heaven and Earth (Psalm 121:1-8)
- 3. "I AM THAT I AM" (Exodus 3:14)
- 4. "Before Abraham, I AM" (John 8:48-59)
- 5. "The Creator of the World (John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:16)

Question: Who created the world? How do scientists say that the world was created?

- B. The Bible says that God through Jesus created the world and everything that is in it.
 - 1. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth."
 - 2. <u>John 1:1-3 says</u>, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. *The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made."*
 - 3. Ephesians 3:9 says, "And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, *who created all things by Jesus Christ*:"
- C. The Bible identifies God as the Creator. What are some logical arguments that support a beneficent Creator?
 - 1. <u>The Cosmological Argument</u> everything that exists was created by something. *The Thing that was not created is God*.
 - 2. The Moral Argument a human being's awareness of right and wrong is an indication that God put that awareness into us.
 - 3. The Ontological Argument the fact that people are born with an intuitive belief in God is an indication that God put that feeling into us.
 - 4. <u>The Teleological Argument</u> the world is too complicated and precise to have been created out of chaos.
- D. NOTE: These arguments support the existence of God, but they do not prove that the God of the Bible is that God. We examine Scriptures to show that God the Creator is the God of the Bible.
- E. Scientists have gone to great lengths to show a different type of creation.
 - 1. The Big Bang Theory this "unproven" theory that the whole world was once compacted into an area about the size of a pencil tip.
 - a. This theory was conceived in 1929 when Dr. Edwin Hubble observed that stars are moving away from the earth.
 - b. The tiny mass exploded outwardly with so much force that it is still expanding today.

- c. <u>The Inflationary Model of the Big Bang Theory</u> At 10^{-34} seconds, the expanse of the explosion "suddenly" expanded outwardly in each direction by about 1 centimeter (<u>Wrinkles in Time</u>, by Dr. George Smoot, pages 178-181). *The rationale for such a belief is computer modeling*.
- d. The Big Collapse Many scientists believe that the universe is expanding but will someday collapse back on itself like a giant rubber band.
- 2. The Theory of Evolution the "unproven" theory that all life formed from lower forms of life. Charles Darwin popularized this theory in the late nineteenth century.
 - a. <u>Macroevolution</u> the belief that evolution occurs across species, such as from a monkey to a human being.
 - b. <u>Microevolution</u> the belief that evolution occurs within species, such as people being taller now than they were one hundred years ago.
 - c. Macroevolution and microevolution are not part of Darwin's original theory.

Question: In your opinion, is the Big Bang theory true? In your opinion, can scientists show that the Big Bang theory is credible? What is dark matter and why is it important to their hypothesis? What is the mission of the Hubble Spacecraft? How do scientists use computer models to approximate the Big Bang theory?

- II. The Validity or Invalidity of the Big Bang theory.
 - A. *The Big Bang theory has never been proved.* If it were proven, it would be called a theorem.
 - B. Steps of the scientific method as proposed by Francis Bacon (<u>The History of Life</u>, Lesson 1)
 - 1. State a problem.
 - 2. Form a hypothesis.
 - 3. Observe and collect data.
 - 4. Interpret data.
 - 5. Draw conclusions.
 - C. The key scientists have tried to force this theory to be true.
 - 1. When the observed data did not match the expected data, they used a computer model to rework their theory rather than accept that their theory may be wrong. *An example of this is the Inflationary Model.*
 - 2. Dr. Brent Tully (<u>The Big Bang Never Happened</u>, by Eric Lerner, pages 18-25) identified super clusters of stars in the sky that were inconsistent with an equal force big bang explosion.
 - a. Scientists responded by claiming that huge amounts of dark matter exist in space that block many stars from our view.
 - b. The Hubble Spacecraft's mission was to find dark matter.

- c. To date, no amounts of dark matter have been found that can explain the super cluster phenomenon.
- 3. One of the predictions of this theory is that an abundance of hydrogen would have been produced. This is why scientists are always looking for evidence of water on the moon and planets because that would hint of other life and also add credence to this overall theory.
- D. Despite everything, scientists have not shown the Big Bang theory to be true. But they keep trying and continue to assume that they are correct.
 - 1. <u>Dark Matter in the Universe</u> (Scientific American) by Vera Rubin "As much as 90 percent of the matter in the universe is invisible. Detecting this dark matter will help astronomers better comprehend the universe's destiny."
 - 2. <u>Bang! A Big Theory May Be Shot</u> (SCIENCE Magazine) by Dr. Michael D. Lemonick "Studies indicate this material surrounds the Milky Way galaxy in a roughly spherical halo. In regions of the universe where galaxies are clustered, *dark matter pervade the space within the clusters*. Calculations suggest there is about 10 times as much as visible matter. That means that the gravitational pull of dark matter is 10 times as strong. Thus, it must have played an important role in the formation of the universe."
 - 3. Astrophysics: Orbiting Observatories Tally Dark Matter (SCIENCE Magazine) by Charles Seife "WASHINGTON, D.C.--As galaxy clusters belch x-rays in all directions, they reveal the hidden mass in the universe. At a meeting here celebrating 2 years of observations with the Chandra Xray Observatory, astronomers claimed that Chandra observations, along with pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope, enabled them to calculate the amount of dark matter in the cosmos-- and seriously damage one theory about its nature."
 - 4. Piecing Together the Biggest Puzzle of All (SCIENCE Magazine) by Martin J. Rees "Alan Guth spelled out this concept of inflation in 1981, building on work by others. It invokes extreme, untested physics and so still has unsure foundations. But it isn't just metaphysics. Its one generic prediction--that the universe would be stretched flat--seems to be borne out by observation. Moreover, observations can in principle firm it up. For instance, the slight ripples that are the seeds of galaxies and clusters could have been quantum fluctuations, imprinted when the entire universe was of microscopic size and stretched by inflationary expansion. The nonuniformities in the present universe depend, in a calculable way, on the physics of inflation, so observations will be able to probe this extreme physics and perhaps help us understand what caused inflation."
- E. *The Big Bang theory has never been proved.* If it were proven, it would be called a theorem.

Question: In your opinion, is the Theory of Evolution true or false? In your opinion, can scientists show that the Theory of Evolution is credible? Why do they always suggest a very old earth? What is the probability of macroevolution on earth? How have scientists tried to tip the scales in their favor?

III. The Validity or Invalidity of the Theory of Evolution

- A. *The Theory of Evolution has never been proved.* If it were proven, it would be called a theorem.
 - 1. Charles Darwin did not prove his theory.
 - 2. He wrote in <u>Descent of Man</u>, "On the Affinities and Genealogy of Man": "But no one can at present say by what line of descent the three higher and related classes, namely mammals, birds, and reptiles, were derived from the two lower vertebrate classes, namely amphibians and fishes."
- B. Charles Darwin thought that later generations would be able to prove his theory. But so far, no one has.
- C. Scientists have long tried to find evidence for this theory as well.
 - 1. However, Dr. Chandra Wickramasinghe and Sir Thomas Hoyle determined that evolution on earth had a 1 in 10⁴⁰⁰⁰⁰ chance of occurring. *That's pretty much impossible*.
 - a. They concluded that the evolution gene pool (prebiotic soup) could never have existed on earth.
 - b. Not to be outdone, they decided that evolution occurred in space and was brought to earth by a meteor or something like that.
 - 2. Occasionally, scientists will dig up some bones and try to use those bones to represent the so-called "*missing link*". So far, all of their efforts have been overturned by later analysis.
 - 3. Chemistry cannot support evolution "The kinds of amino acids composing living things are ALWAYS one hundred percent L-forms. The human body composes protein from twenty different amino acids, and they are ALL one hundred percent L-form. When synthesized in the laboratory through natural processes, protein are composed of fifty percent each. Natural processes cannot create one hundred percent L-forms in the laboratory, so it probably would not do it in the prebiotic soup. Conclusion: There is not any known natural process that can produce one hundred percent L-form amino acids. Chemists cannot explain this phenomenon."
 - 4. Geology cannot support evolution.
 - a. Scientists often point to the age of the earth based on the levels of geographic strata that they find.
 - b. Those strata are in a certain order with the oldest at the bottom and the latest at the top.
 - 1. Geologists discovered that the Mount Saint Helens volcanic eruption had the same effect.

- 2. Dr. Steve Austin, an evolutionist, studied Spirit Lake and found that six of the strata periods were formed in about six hours by the eruption, itself. In one day, a miniature Grand Canyon was created that was 140 feet deep. One of the strata was 25 feet deep, and the formations took only hours, not millions of years.
- 3. Creation scientists believe that the Great Flood of Noah's time could have had similar effects.
- 5. The shortcomings of the Theory of Evolution go on and on.

Question: Why do scientists try to undermine God's role in Creation?

- IV. Our Origins Cannot Be Proved
 - A. The Big Bang theory cannot be proved.
 - B. The Theory of Evolution cannot be proved.
 - C. Creationism cannot be proved.
 - D. The theories play havoc with our minds for several reasons.
 - 1. The devil and people, in general, want to be their own god.
 - a. <u>Isaiah 14:13-14 says</u>, "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, *I will exalt my throne above the stars of God*: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; *I will be like the most High*."
 - b. <u>Genesis 3:5 says</u>, "For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and *ye shall be as gods*, knowing good and evil."
 - 2. The devil cannot undo Calvary, so he tries to discredit the Lord.
 - a. The Book of Genesis is the most challenged book of the Bible.
 - b. Deuteronomy 18:20-22 says, "But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him."
 - c. <u>Matthew 5:21 says</u>, "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:" (Exodus 20:13)
 - 3. Jesus regarded Moses as a prophet and frequently quoted his writings.
 - 4. <u>If Moses is wrong in Genesis, chapters 1 and 2, then he is NOT a prophet.</u> <u>If that is true, then Jesus was either wrong or a liar to claim that he was. If both of those are true, which they are not, then Jesus is not God.</u>

Next week's lesson: "The Bible Is Still Current and Still Relevant" (Genesis 1:1-31)

Five Day Recommended Reading:

Monday: Genesis 1:1-31 Tuesday: Genesis 12:1-3 Wednesday: Matthew 24:1-51 Thursday: John 1:1-14

Friday: Colossians 1:15-16

Study questions:

- 1. What happened on each day of Creation?
- 2. Why were Jews commanded to do no work on the Sabbath? Why does the universal church gather on Sunday?
- 3. Where was Abraham from? How old was he when God called him from his land, and what specific promises did God make to Abraham that are still relevant today?
- 4. How do John 1:1-3 and Colossians 1:15-16 prove Christ's deity?
- 5. How did the Apostle John say that Jesus would be received by His own people? Who were the first two disciples? Who were the next two disciples?
- 6. How did Jesus describe the end times to His disciples? What was the question they asked that He could not answer? Why was He unable to answer their question? What is the kenosis?