

Candidate 2 evidence

Essay 8

Origins

The Big Bang Theory states that the universe began 13.8 billion years ago when hot dense mass expanded rapidly. This rapid expansion then began to cool which began to form fundamental particles which became elements. These elements came together to form mass with gravitational pulls, forming large masses and stars, with the burning of elements. Christians believe that God created the earth in six days resting on the 7th. A symbolic Christian does not believe the story of Genesis 1 to be taken as its word, it is just a story which is simpler and easier to understand. A literal Christian is a Christian who believes that we should believe the story of Genesis to be true and fact and the word of God. One implication of a symbolic Christian viewpoint is that both Christianity and scientific viewpoints on the origins of the universe can be true and work together to better people's understanding. The scientific explanation being the how and the Genesis story being the why. Contrary to the consequences of a literal viewpoint of the Bible is that the (scientific and Christian) viewpoints on the origins of the universe are not compatible.

Another scientific view on origins is Darwin's theory of evolution. Darwin was on the Galapagos Islands when he saw that each island had their own species of finch with old skeletons being the same. They were defined as different species as they were not able to breed to produce fertile offspring. Darwin came to the conclusion that these birds have changed and evolved to become separate species over time.

A Christian viewpoint on the origins of life is that Eve was made from the rib of Adam and in Genesis 2, Adam and Eve then procreated, and their children had children. A symbolic Christian may argue that Adam and Eve represent different colonies of humans, this avoids the problem of incest as they are able to procreate with no genetic defects. A literal Christian may however not see an issue with Adam and Eve procreating as there would be no gene mutations. One implication of the symbolic viewpoint is that it allows Christian and scientific viewpoints to be compatible. A consequence of the literal viewpoint on Genesis 2 is that it does not allow for compatibility as the literal viewpoint completely dismisses genetic gene mutations and birth defects. Personally, I believe that a symbolic viewpoint is a good way to interpret the Bible as it allows for a broader range of viewpoints. I also believe that it is wrong to believe in a literal view of the Bible because people are very clearly born with genetic defects and genetic mutations.

An argument for the religious viewpoint on the creation of the universe is the Goldilocks Effect. The Goldilocks Effect says that the earth is in the Goldilocks zone in which water can exist in three forms

of matter: ice, water and steam this allows for the circulation of water around the world. The earth is also on a 23.5-degree tilt which is perfect for the seasons which happen. An implication of this argument is that these things are fundamental to human life and without them life on earth wouldn't be sustained and therefore we must have a creator. A scientific counter argument to this may be simply that if it was not like this then there would not be life on earth. It is by chance that the earth is in the exact position it is in. An implication of this is that both are somewhat compatible both Christian and scientific viewpoints agree that if the earth and universe were not the way they are now then life on earth would not exist. However, another consequence of this may be that the two are not compatible this is because one [Christian] believes we are put here on purpose and the other [scientific] believe we were put here by chance. Personally, I believe that the two although sharing a viewpoint are not compatible. I also believe that the scientific viewpoint is correct because it is likely that a specific situation will happen when given 13.8 billion years to occur.