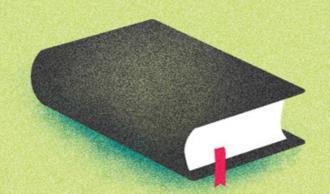
OUESIIONS ANDANSWERS



"Is it Reasonable to Believe in God?"

Question and Answer Session

"How do we know when the copies of manuscripts were written?"

DATING THE MANUSCRIPTS

- ** Clues to the age of a manuscript:
 - * Style of writing (uncial, for example)
 - ** Type of material (papyrus, vellum, parchment, etc.)
 - * Concurrent manuscript discoveries (other items in the find)

"Do you believe God has (or may have) miraculously worked to ensure that the canon of Scripture has remained pure and without error over the years?"

HAS GOD MIRACULOUSLY PRESERVED THE CANON OF SCRIPTURE?

- * Scripture indicates the time of miracles ceased around the close of the first century AD.
- * At times, man has failed in his recognition of God's canon (Shepherd of Hermas, for example).
- ** Note how God ensured the preservation of the canon:
 - **** Colossians 4.16**

"You made a reference to math earlier in the lectureship – how does math speak to the existence of God?"

MATH AND THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- * Nothing can exist on a mathematical foundation if mathematical principles did not pre-exist the thing under consideration.
- * The finely-tuned nature of the universe demands such a foundation.
- * Math is not created math is grounded in the nature of God.

"What would an atheist say about the creation of California redwoods, the Grand Canyon, Angel Falls, and the Himalayas?"

"Will you make some comments about carbon dating?"

"If there was a flood, where is the ark?"

"Is the Big Bang inconsistent with the Creation narrative in Scripture?"

BIG BANG AND SCRIPTURE

- * What does the evidence show?
 - * Expanding, slowing universe
 - * Trace back to a singular point of origin
- * It's not inconsistent to say God used the mechanism of the Big Bang to bring the world into existence.
- ** Note that the Big Bang is <u>not</u> synonymous with evolution.

THE BIG BANG IS NOT THE FRIEND OF THE ATHEIST

- ** Remember the laws of thermodynamics:
 - * 1st law matter or energy neither created nor destroyed <u>in a closed system</u>
- * Remember the laws of motion:
 - * 1st law objects at rest stay at rest unless acted upon by an outside force; objects in motion stay in motion unless acted upon by an outside force

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Where did the ball of matter come from?

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The possibility of life on other planets in no way diminishes the glory of God!

"How do you respond to a well-educated person who was a believer and then chooses not to believe?"

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What changed?

"Does personal suffering argue against the existence of the God of the Bible?"

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- the child's parents are on drugs
- the child is deformed
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