Harmony Of Scriptures & Science Parts 1-2

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday April 22nd & April 29th, 2018

Text: Ps. 19:1; Is 40:8; Rom. 1:20

# **Intro (Part 1)**

1. Creation alone declares God’s majesty and glory – Psalm 19:1
2. If the Scriptures are the word of God, one would expect it to be accurate – Is. 40:8
3. God created the universe and the world, as we know it, and has left proofs for those who doubt.
   1. Rom. 1:20: Creation alone leaves man without excuse!
4. Wall Street Journal article 12/25/14, *Science Increasingly Makes the Case for God* by Eric Mataxas, declares that scientists are increasingly having to change their previous thoughts!
   1. In 1966 Time Magazine infamously ran a cover story titled, “Is God Dead?”
   2. That cover story not only sparked A.W. Dicus to pen the hymn, “Our God Is Alive”, but also that same year, the astronomer Carl Sagan announced that there were two important criteria for a planet to support life: The right kind of star, and a planet the right distance from that star.
   3. That fueled a furor to find life in other planets, even the creation of a government funded research group called “Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence” (SETI).
   4. Over the years since the 1960’s our knowledge of the universe increased and it became clear that there were far more factors necessary for life than Sagan supposed!
   5. Congress defunded SETI in 1993, but the search continues with private funds.
   6. Sagan’s two parameters grew to 10 and then 20 and then 50, and so the number of potentially life-supporting planets decreased accordingly. The number dropped to a few thousand planets and kept on plummeting!
   7. As factors continued to be discovered, the number of possible planets hit zero, and kept going. In other words, the odds turned against any planet in the universe supporting life, including this one. ***Probability said that even we shouldn’t be here!***
   8. Today there are more than 200 known parameters necessary for a planet to support life—every single one of which must be perfectly met, or the whole thing falls apart.
   9. Fred Hoyle, the astronomer who coined the term “big bang,” said that his atheism was “greatly shaken” at these developments. He later wrote that “a common-sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with the physics, as well as with chemistry and biology . . . . The numbers one calculates from the facts seem to me so overwhelming as to put this conclusion almost beyond question.”
   10. Theoretical physicist Paul Davies has said that “the appearance of design is overwhelming”
   11. Oxford professor Dr. John Lennox has said “the more we get to know about our universe, the more ***the hypothesis that there is a Creator . . . gains in credibility as the best explanation of why we are here.”***
5. Over time science has become a god to itself, where the choice seems to be God or science!
6. If the Bible is a revelation from God, we should expect it to be accurate where it touches upon scientific matters.
   1. The Bible is not a science textbook, but is accurate when it mentions scientific facts!
   2. Though it comes into conflict with scientific *theories*, it is in harmony with every known *fact* of science.
   3. Throughout time, Science had to “catch up” with God’s word!
7. We can choose God and enjoy science knowing God is in science and has told man these truths in His word from the beginning!
8. We can see God in science as He has provided the Creator’s Handbook to Science in His word!

# **Harmony of Scripture & Science *(Not Exhaustive List!)***

* 1. **5 Terms of the Universe – Gen. 1:1-2 (written approx. 3,000 years ago):** “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth . . . And the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.”
     1. Science expresses the universe in five terms: time, space, matter, power, and motion.
     2. “In the beginning [time] God created [power] the heavens [space] and the earth [matter] . . . And the Spirit of God was moving [motion] over the surface of the waters.”
     3. The first thing God tells man is that He controls all aspects of the universe!
  2. **1st Law of Thermodynamics – Gen. 2:1 (after creation):** “Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts.”
     1. The original Hebrew *(H3615 kâlâh)* uses the past definite tense for the verb “completed” (NKJ: “finished”), indicating an action completed in the past, never again to occur. The creation was “finished”—once and for all.
     2. That is what the First Law of Thermodynamics (1800’s, took approx. 50 years to develop – first full statements of the law came in 1850 from Rudolf Clausius and from William Rankine) states: “that neither matter nor energy can be either created or destroyed.” There is no “creation” ongoing today.
     3. It is “finished” exactly as the Bible declares!
  3. **Female “Seed of Life” – Gen. 3:15 (after man’s fall from grace):** “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.”
     1. This verse reveals that a female possesses the “seed of life.”
     2. This was not common knowledge until late 1800’s. It was widely believed that only the male possessed the “seed of life” and that the woman was nothing more than a glorified incubator!
     3. The X chromosome (gender distinction) was discovered to be special in 1890 by Hermann Henking (1858-1942), and that women possess two X chromosomes in the ovum later in the 1900’s. (Men have one X & one Y chromosome)
  4. **Life in the Blood – Gen. 9:4 (After the Flood):** “Only you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood.”
     1. **Lev. 17:11 (written 3,500 years ago):** “For the **life of the flesh is in the blood**.”
     2. The great biological truth concerning the importance of blood in our body’s mechanism has been fully comprehended only in recent years.
     3. Up until 120 years ago, sick people were “bled” through “bloodletting” and many died because of the practice (George Washington, 1732-1799).
     4. In many cases, leeches were used: “The withdrawal of so much blood as to induce fainting was considered beneficial, and many sessions would only end when the patient began to swoon.” *(Bloodletting on* [*www.wikipedia.com*](http://www.wikipedia.com)*)*
     5. “Leeches became especially popular in the early nineteenth century. In the 1830s, the French imported about forty million leeches a year for medical purposes, and in the next decade, England imported six million leeches a year from France alone. Through the early decades of the century, hundreds of millions of leeches were used by physicians throughout Europe *(Childbed Fever: A Scientific Biography of Ignaz Semmelweis,* by Codell K. & Barbara R. Carter, 2005)
     6. 1830’s: Pierre-Charles-Alexandre Louis (1787–1872), a French physician began raising concerns about bloodletting; by the end of the 1800’s, the practice ended.
     7. *Red & White Barber poles indicated a barber who could perform bloodletting!*
     8. We now know that blood is essential to life. If you lose too much blood, you will lose your life! *“Life is in the blood!”*
  5. **Circumcision on 8th Day – Gen. 17:12:** “And every male among you who is eight days old shall be circumcised throughout your generations. . .”
     1. The Bible consistently says that male infants must be circumcised on the eighth day.
     2. We now know this is because this is the day that the coagulating factor in the blood, called prothrombin (Vitamin K), is the highest.
     3. Medical science has discovered that this is when the human body’s immune system is at its peak (By Henrik Dam, 1939, who named it “Vitamin K”).
     4. On the eighth day, the amount of prothrombin present actually is elevated above one-hundred percent of normal—and is the only day in the male’s life in which this will be the case under normal conditions. If surgery is to be performed, day eight is the perfect day to do it. Vitamin K and prothrombin levels are at their peak. (*None of These Diseases* by S.I. McMillen, M.D., p. 93, 1984)
  6. **Hand-washing in Running Water – Lev. 15:13 (written 3,500 years ago):** “Now when the man with the discharge becomes cleansed from his discharge, then he shall count off for himself seven days for his cleansing; he shall then wash his clothes and bathe his body in running water and will become clean.”
     1. God said that when dealing with disease, Jews should wash under running water.
     2. Because the presence of microscopic diseases was unknown, up until the 1860’s doctors washed their hands in a basin of still water, spreading diseases and resulting in the death of multitudes.
     3. In 1845, a young doctor in Vienna named Dr. Ignaz Semmelweis (1818-1865) insisted that doctors wash their hands before examinations, and the death rate of women giving birth dropped from 30% to 2%.
     4. Louis Pasteur (1822–1895) is regarded as the father of germ theory (1862)!
     5. We now know that hands should be washed under running water!
  7. **Suspension of the Earth in Space – Job 26:7** **(Written around 2000 BC):** “He hangs the earth on nothing.”
  8. Ptolemy 90-168 AD: Ptolemaic System: Planets & Sun revolve around Earth.
  9. Copernicus 1473-1543 AD: Copernican System: Planets revolve around Sun
  10. 1610 AD: Proven through telescope by Galileo (1564-1642).

1. **Air Has Weight – Job 28:25:** “When He imparted weight to the wind And meted out the waters by measure”
   * + 1. Air was thought to have no weight for thousands of years!
       2. In 1643 Italian physicist Evangelista Torricelli (1608–1647) discovered atmospheric pressure and created the barometer!
       3. Atmospheric Pressure (the pressure caused by the envelope of gasses or air surrounding the earth) weighs 14.7 lb/sq. in. (or 6.7 kg/sq. in.).
       4. Job 28:25: Approx. 2000 B.C.
       5. Torricelli: 1643 A.D.
       6. God not only said through Job that air had weight but that God (the Creator) set the weight!

**Conclusion (Part 1)**

1. The Scriptures were proven right, often hundreds or more years after it was written, and have been used to discover or prove certain facts throughout time!
2. There are many more examples but not enough time! *(Like radio waves! – In Part 2)*
3. God’s word does not conflict or contradict science, but coincides in harmony with it. (Defines it!)
   1. If it was a book written by man, where it touches upon scientific matters it would reflect the science of the day! *The Scriptures do not!*
4. Let us strengthen our faith and be the examples of the truth to the dark world around us!
5. If not a Christian, need to be. Obey the gospel today! (Repent and be baptized)
6. If a Christian failing in your walk with God, remember the warning of *II Pet. 3:11*: knowing these things will happen, what sort of people ought you to be? Holy and godly. Repent and be renewed!
7. Whatever your requests, come forward and let them be known ***NOW*** as we stand & sing!

# **Intro (Part 2)**

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5. Over time science has become a god to itself, where the choice seems to be God or science!
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6. We can see God in science as He has provided the Creator’s Handbook to Science in His word!
7. **Harmony of Scripture & Science *(Not Exhaustive List!)***
8. **The Water Cycle—rivers run into sea, evaporation, clouds, rain, etc. – Job 36:27-28:** “For He draws up drops of water, Which distill as rain from the mist, which the clouds drop down And pour abundantly on man.”
9. The Scriptures inform us, “All the rivers run into the sea, Yet the sea is not full; To the place from which the rivers come, There they return again” (Eccl. 1:7: approx. 950 BC).
10. Eccl. 11:3: “If the clouds are full of rain, They empty themselves upon the earth;” Ps. 135:7: God “causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth.”
11. Amos 9:6: “He . . . calls for the waters of the sea, And pours them out on the face of the earth—the Lord is His name.”
12. The idea of a complete water cycle was not fully understood until the 17th century, but 2,400 years earlier the Scriptures clearly spoke of a water cycle!
13. 1882 AD: Raoult’s Law of Evaporation (law of thermodynamics established by French physicist François-Marie Raoult [1830-1901] in 1882) proved God’s word. ***Still taught in Physics classes today!***
14. **Earth’s Axis – Job 38:12, 14:** “Have you ever in your life commanded the morning, *And* caused the dawn to know its place,. . .? It [the earth – Vs. 13] is changed like clay *under* the seal; And they stand forth like a garment.”
    * + - 1. Modern science has come to understand that the earth’s rotation on its axis is responsible for the sun’s “rising and setting.”
          2. The picture here is of a clay vessel being turned or rotated on the potter’s wheel—an accurate analogy of the earth’s rotation.
          3. The contributions of Kepler, Galileo and Newton gathered support for the theory of the rotation of the Earth.
          4. The most celebrated test of Earth's rotation is the Foucault *(Foo-koh)* Pendulum first built by physicist Léon Foucault in 1851 (Can be seen today in the Science Museum of Virginia)
15. **Paths of the Seas – Ps. 8:6-8 (Written around 1000 BC):** “the fish of the sea That pass through the paths of the seas (NKJ).”
    1. 1840-1860 AD: Discovered by Cmdr. (USN, CSN) Matthew Fontaine Maury (1806-1873), nicknamed, “Pathfinder of the Seas.” Also invented torpedoes during the Civil War *(Can be viewed at Tredegar Iron Works, Richmond, VA).*
    2. From Ps. 8 Maury said, “If God said there are paths in the sea, I am going to find them.” Still considered the “Father of Oceanography” and taught in Universities!
    3. Statue of him can be viewed today on Monument Ave in Richmond, VA.
16. **Sun’s Ecliptic Path – Ps. 19:4-6:** “In them He has placed a tent for the sun, Which is as a bridegroom coming out of his chamber. . . Its rising is from one end of the heavens, And its circuit to the other end of them; And there is nothing hidden from its heat.”
    * + - 1. Bible critics have scoffed at these verses, claiming they teach that the sun revolves around the earth. Scientists once thought the sun was stationary.
          2. Then it was discovered in recent years that the sun is in fact moving through space at approximately 600,000 miles per hour. It is traveling through the heavens and has a “circuit” just as the Bible says. Its circuit is so large that it would take an estimated 200 million years to complete one orbit.
          3. The ecliptic is the apparent path of the Sun on the celestial sphere, and is the basis for the Ecliptic Coordinate System (not recognized till the 1800’s).
17. **Earth is a Circle – Is. 40:22 (Written around 700 BC):** “It is He who sits above the circle of the earth…”
18. 1519-1522 AD: Magellan (1480-1521) sailed around the world, proving the earth was not flat!
19. Magellan did not complete the entire voyage, as he was killed during the Battle of Mactan in the Philippines (April 27, 1521). His crew pushed on without him.
20. Out of 5 ships that began the voyage, only *Victoria,* the smallest ship commanded by Juan Sebastián Elcano, arrived in Spain Sept. 6th, 1522 (nearly 17 months after Magellan’s death and almost exactly three years after the fleet of five ships had departed). 18 European survivors out of the original 237 men were on board!
21. **Universe Expansion – Is. 40:22:** “It is He who sits above the circle of the earth...Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in.”
    * + 1. Scientists now know that the universe is expanding, or stretching out.
        2. The 2006 Shaw Prize in Astronomy and the 2011 Nobel Prize in Physics were both awarded to Saul Perlmutter, Brian P. Schmidt, and Adam G. Riess, who in 1998 as leaders of the Supernova Cosmology Project (Perlmutter) and the High-Z Supernova Search Team (Schmidt and Riess) discovered the accelerating expansion of the Universe through observations of distant (“High-Z”) supernovae. *(Nobel physics prize honors accelerating Universe find; BBC News; October 4, 2011)*
        3. At least 9 times in Scripture we are clearly told that God stretches out the heavens *(Job 26:7; Is. 40:22; 42:5; 44:24; 48:13; 51:13; Jer. 10:12; 51:15; Zec. 12:1)*
22. **Underwater Mountains – Jonah 2:6 (Written between 793-753 BC – II Kings 14:25):** “I descended to the roots of the mountains. . .
    * + 1. When Jonah was in the depths of the ocean, he spoke of going down to the bottoms of the mountains.
        2. Only in recent years (1950’s) has man discovered that there are mountains on the ocean floor. *(Called: “Mid-Ocean Ridge”)*
        3. The greatest ocean depth has been measured in the Mariana Trench, at around 36,000 feet below sea level. By contrast, Mount Everest is only about 29,000 feet high (above sea-level)!
23. **2nd Law of Thermodynamics – Heb. 1:10-11 (written 1st c. AD):** “You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment (NKJ).”
    * + 1. God’s word says that the earth is wearing out. *(Ps. 102:25-27; Is. 34:4; 51:6)*
        2. This is what the Second Law of Thermodynamics (the law of increasing entropy) states: “that in all physical processes, every ordered system over time tends to become more disordered.” (First formulation is credited to the French scientist Sadi Carnot in 1824 AD)
        3. Everything is running down and wearing out as energy is becoming less and less available for use. That means the universe will eventually “wear out.”
        4. This wasn’t discovered by man until fairly recently, but the Bible states it in clear, succinct terms.
24. The Scriptures were proven right, often hundreds or more years after it was written, and have been used to discover or prove certain facts throughout time!

# **Conclusion (Part 2)**

1. There are many more examples but not enough time!
2. God’s word does not conflict or contradict science, but coincides in harmony with it. (Defines it!)
   1. If it was a book written by man, where it touches upon scientific matters it would reflect the science of the day! *The Scriptures do not!*
3. There is no other book in any of the world’s religions (Bhagavad Gita, Vedas, Quran, Book of Mormon, etc.) that contain perfectly accurate prophetic and scientific truth. In fact, they contain statements that are clearly erroneous and unscientific!
4. Js. 1:22-25: We must not just be hearers of the word, but doers of the word!
5. The truth is before us, let us not be blinded to it but proclaim it!
6. Let us strengthen our faith and be the examples of the truth to the dark world around us!
7. If not a Christian, need to be. Obey the gospel today! (Repent and be baptized)
8. If a Christian failing in your walk with God, remember the warning of *II Pet. 3:11*: knowing these things will happen, what sort of people ought you to be? Holy and godly. Repent and be renewed.
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**Extra Fun Fact:**

**Radio Waves – Job 38:35: “Can you send out lightnings, that they may go, and say to you, ‘Here we are!’?”**

* This appears to be a scientifically ludicrous statement—that light can be sent, and then manifest itself in speech. But it was discovered that radio waves move at the speed of light! (1867 by Scottish mathematical physicist James Clerk Maxwell)
* This is why you can have instantaneous wireless communication with someone on the other side of the earth.
* Not “discovered” till 1864 when “Brittish (Scottish but “British citizen”) scientist James Clerk Maxwell suggested that electricity and light waves were two forms of the same thing” (Modern Century Illustrated Encyclopedia, Vol. 12).
* It was discovered that stars emit radio waves, which are received on earth as a high pitch. God said this in Job 38:7: “When the morning stars sang together...”!

**Sources:**

* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Clerk_Maxwell>
* *Modern Century Illustrated Encyclopedia*, *Vol. 12*

**Resources:**

*Science Increasingly Makes the Case for God,* Wall Street Journal Article by Eric Mataxas, 12/25/14: <http://www.wsj.com/articles/eric-metaxas-science-increasingly-makes-the-case-for-god-1419544568>

<http://www.evidencebible.com/witnessingtool/scientificfactsintheBible.shtml>

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* **1st Law of Thermodynamics:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1st_law_of_thermodynamics>
* **Female “Seed of Life”:** <http://www.custance.org/Library/SOTW/Part_II/chapter15.html>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermann_Henking>
* **Life is in the Blood/Bloodletting:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pierre_Charles_Alexandre_Louis>; <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/redgold/basics/bloodlettinghistory.html>; *Childbed Fever: A scientific biography of Ignaz Semmelweis*, by Codell K. & Barbara R. Carter, 2005
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* **Earth’s Axis:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foucault_Pendulum>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L%C3%A9on_Foucault>
* **Paths of the Seas:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Matthew_Fontaine_Maury>
* **Sun’s Ecliptic Path:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecliptic>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecliptic_coordinate_system>; <http://earthsky.org/space/what-is-the-ecliptic>
* **Earth is a Circle:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_Magellan> ; <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Juan_Sebasti%C3%A1n_Elcano>
* **Universe Expansion:** <http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-15165371>; *Nobel physics prize honors accelerating Universe find; BBC News; October 4, 2011;* <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accelerating_universe>; Image at: <http://www.universetoday.com/89449/accelerating-expansion-of-universe-discovery-wins-2011-noble-prize-in-physics/>
* **Underwater Mountains:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Underwater_mountain_range>; <http://www.marianatrench.com/>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mariana_Trench>
* **2nd Law of Thermodynamics:** <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_law_of_thermodynamics>; <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicolas_L%C3%A9onard_Sadi_Carnot>

*For further study, or if questions, please Call: 804-277-1983 or Visit: www.courthousechurchofcrist.com*

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