

Quotes – 10/19/24

“I dare affirm in knowledge of nature, that a little natural philosophy (science), and the first entrance into it, doth dispose the opinion to atheism; but on the other side, much natural philosophy and wading deep into it, will bring about men’s minds to religion; wherefore atheism every way seems to be combined with folly and ignorance, seeing nothing can be more justly allotted to the saying of fools than this: “There is no God.”

The Works of Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626), Volume 1.djvu/199, 1884
https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/The_Works_of_Francis_Bacon



“No evidence would be sufficient to create a change in the mind; that it is not a commitment to evidence, but a commitment to naturalism...Because there are no alternatives, we would have to accept natural selection as the explanation of life on this planet even if there were no evidence for it.”

Steven Pinker, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, *How the Mind Works*, 162

"A new scientific truth is usually not propagated in such a way that opponents become convinced and discard their previous views. No, adversaries eventually die off, and the upcoming generation is familiarized anew with the truth." Max Planck *Vorträge und Erinnerungen* S. Hirzel-Verlag, Stuttgart 1949, p13

Dutch Synod of Dort (Nov 1618): Dead man theory, “Total Depravity”, Since the fall, man is incapable of doing any ultimate good in the eyes of God, including believing the Gospel. He still has a free will but cannot choose contrary to his fallen nature. Calvinism Video, 1:10:00, Challenge of Arminius

“Whoever says that Adam was created mortal, and would, even without sin, have died by natural necessity, let him be anathema.” The Council of Carthage, 412 A.D.

French Revolution, 10 million dead
Dates: May 5, 1789 – Nov 9, 1799
Slogan: Liberty, Equality, Fraternity

The Scientific Moral Vacuum

You can speak of the ethical foundations of science, but you cannot speak of the scientific foundations of ethics.

Albert Einstein

A cell is “a microscopic lump of jelly-like substance, or protoplasm ... entirely destitute of texture, and consequently destitute of organs.”

George Henry Lewis, *Problems of Life*, 1887, p.38

It is so very easy to see that science (natural sciences) are limited in that they cannot answer the simple questions of a child: where do I come from, where am I going to, and what is the meaning of life?

Sir Peter Medawar, Oxford, Nobel prize winner

Science takes things apart, to understand how they work. Religion puts them together to see what they mean.

Lord Sachs, Chief Rabbi of Britton

Science is dead. Scientists now hold the torch of truth.

Stephen Hawking

Trusting the science is fine if it's kept to the things at which science is competent. But unfortunately, over the past few years, there has developed a trust in science that we now call scientism, where science is regarded, essentially, as the only way to truth, the only option for a rational thinking person. Everything else is fairy stories. I take great exception to that because it's plainly false. It's false logically, because the very statement "science is the only way to truth" is not a statement of science. So, if it is true, it's false. It's logically incoherent to start with.
John Lennex, interview on johnanderson.net.au

"Then came Feuerbach's Essence of Christianity. With one blow it pulverized the contradiction, in that without circumlocutions it placed materialism on the throne again. ... The spell was broken; the 'system' was exploded and cast aside, and the contradiction, shown to exist only in our imagination, was dissolved. One must oneself have experienced the liberating effect of this book to get an idea of it. Enthusiasm was general; we all became at once Feuerbachians. How enthusiastically Marx greeted the new conception and how much — in spite of all critical reservations — he was influenced by it..." Engels, ~1841.
<https://www.marxists.org/archive/marx/works/1886/ludwig-feuerbach/ch01.htm#013>

"There are no weaknesses in the theory of evolution."
Eugenie Scott, NCSE, Dallas Morning News, 2009

https://www.c4israel.org/_teachings/jesus-will-sit-on-the-throne-of-his-father-david/
Jesus will sit on the throne of His father David
Rev. Willem J.J. Glashouwer.. - 15 December 2011
The Angel Gabriel made two promises to Mary. First – she would be the mother of a Holy Child. Second – this child would sit on the throne of His father David. The first promise has been fulfilled. The second remains to be fulfilled. It will be fulfilled soon, because the God of Israel by His only-begotten Son Jesus has started to bring His First-born son Israel back to the Promised Land of Israel. The people of Israel, the land of Israel, the nation of Israel and the city of Jerusalem are being prepared for the Coming of the Lord.

"What we're witnessing tonight is the loss of a right. The loss of a constitutional right," Lawrence O'Donnell said on MSNBC. Minutes earlier, O'Donnell's colleague Rachel Maddow said the opinion, if issued, "would fundamentally change us as a country. It would fundamentally change the relationship between women and the government. It would fundamentally change the future for... all our daughters and granddaughters, and women that come after us." (Unless they are aborted. Murder is not a right. ~MPH)
<https://www.cnn.com/2022/05/03/media/supreme-court-leak-reliable-sources/index.html>

Science in its modern form arose in Western civilization alone, among all the cultures of the world," because only the Christian West possessed the necessary "intellectual presuppositions. (Ian Barbour, Historian of Science)

Qur'an 10:94

But if you are in doubt as to what We have revealed to you, ask those who read the Book before you.

Question: Muslims say the Bible was corrupted. Why would Allah send you to ask people about their corrupt book (the Bible), as verification of the revelations to Mohammed?

Denying the existence of Jesus doesn't make Him go away, it merely proves that no amount of evidence will convince you.

Lee Strobel, *The Case for Christ*.

Jesus did exist, whether we like it or not.
Bart Ehrman, Agnostic NT Scholar and historian

One of the most certain facts of history is that Jesus was crucified on orders of the Roman prefect of Judea, Pontius Pilate.

Bart Ehrman, Agnostic NT Scholar and historian, *The New Testament: A Historical Introduction to Early Christian Writings*, 261-262.

[There is not the] slightest doubt about the fact of Jesus's crucifixion under Pontius Pilate.
John Dominic Crossan of the Jesus Seminar, *The Historical Jesus: The Life of a Mediterranean Jewish Peasant*, 375

Jesus's death as a consequence of crucifixion is indisputable.
Gerd Lüdemann, Atheist NT scholar, *The Resurrection of Christ: A Historical Inquiry*, 50

"I believe in evolution...antibiotic-resistant bacteria is evidence that evolution is going on as we speak."
Hilary Clinton, New York Times, 10/5/07

"It may be time to rethink our thoughts about the mechanisms for antibiotic-resistance patterns... Bacteria, from the bowels of three members of an 1845 Arctic expedition, have survived 140 years and are showing resistance patterns to modern antibiotics." Book, *Frozen In Time*
Medical Tribune, 12/29/88, p23

"Our results show that resistance to antibiotics is widespread in at least some wild populations, even though these have never to our knowledge been exposed to antibiotics."
Nature, 9/16/99

"The [peppered moth] experiments beautifully demonstrate natural selection or survival of the fittest – in action, but they do not show evolution in progress, for however the population may alter...all the moths remain from beginning to end, *Biston Betularia*."

L. Harrison Matthews, Introduction To Centennial Edition, *On The Origin of Species*, 1971, p.x

"...[peppered moth is] the most striking evolutionary change ever witnessed by man."
International Wildlife Encyclopedia, p.2706

"...I have been watching it slowly unravel as a universal description of evolution...I have been reluctant to admit it, since beguiling is often forever, but...that theory, as a general proposition, is effectively dead, despite its persistence as textbook orthodoxy."

Stephen J. Gould of Harvard, *Paleobiology*, Vol.6, 1980, p.120

Micro evolution does not lead to macro evolution. Little changes cannot add up to big changes. There is a limit or barrier which they cannot cross. Don Patton, *What Is Creation Science – Part 2*, 20:00-42:00

"It seems to me that the right course for anyone who cannot accept the mere voice of authority but feels the imperative obligation to face the arguments and to think freely is to begin at the beginning and to see how far he can reconstruct his religious beliefs, stage by stage, on a secure foundation as far as possible without any preliminary assumptions." i.e. without presuppositions

Charles Gore

“An appeal to authority here cannot be allowed to be final and over-riding, for what is in question precisely is the status and authority of all religious authorities. It is inherently impossible for either faith or authority to serve as themselves the ultimate credentials of revelation.”

Antoni Flew, Atheist turned deist

It is the nature of the case that all ultimate authorities authorize themselves. God authorizes His own word just like the rationalist uses logic to authorize his rationalism. Scripture is our ultimate authority.

“I believe firmly that the scientific method, although slow and never claiming to lead to complete truth, is the only method, which in the long run will give satisfactory foundations for beliefs.”

“We quite assuredly, at present, know nothing beyond this world and natural experience.”

Julian Huxley, “Religion Without Revelation”

Creation and evolution, between them, exhaust the possible explanations for the origin of living things. Organisms either appeared on the earth fully developed or they did not. If they did not, they must have developed from preexisting species by some process of modification. If they did appear in a fully developed state, they must indeed have been created by some omnipotent intelligence for no natural process could possibly form inanimate molecules into an elephant or a redwood tree in one step.

Futuyma, Douglas J. 1983. Science on Trial: The case for evolution. New York: Pantheon Books. P. 197.

“Ezekiel is God’s war correspondent for today’s newspapers. We have gone through his inspired prophecy in Ezekiel 38-39, with our Bibles in one hand and today’s newspaper in the other.”

Mark Hitchcock, The Coming Islamic Invasion of Israel

“Is there any relationship between the events which we read, hear and see in the daily news and Biblical prophecy? Yes! Just as when we are traveling and see signs beside the highway telling us what to expect on the road ahead, so also does the Bible provide signs of the times that point to specific events in the future.”

Tommy Ice, Tim LaHaye Prophecy Study Bible

“It is not so much that I believe in God because I see Him. It is through Him I see everything else properly.”

C.S. Lewis, Eph 5:11-13

Psalms 36:9 For with You is the fountain of life; In Your light we see light.

“What science cannot tell us, mankind cannot know.” Bertrand Russell, Atheist Philosopher

How can it be that mathematics, being after all, the product of human thought, independent of experience, is so admirably appropriate to the objects of reality? The most incomprehensible thing about the universe is that it is comprehensible.”

Albert Einstein

“Because there is a law such as gravity, the universe can and will create itself from nothing. Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the universe exists, why we exist.” Stephen Hawking
Enlightenment - Spontaneous generation, countered by Louis Pasteur, 1822 – 1895

“The total amount of suffering per year in the natural world is beyond all decent contemplation. During the minute that it takes me to compose this sentence, thousands of animals are being eaten alive, many others are running for their lives, whimpering with fear, others are slowly being devoured from within by rasping parasites, thousands of all kinds are dying of starvation, thirst, and disease. It must be so. If there ever is a time of plenty, this very fact will automatically lead to an increase in the population until the natural state of starvation and misery is restored. In a universe of electrons and selfish genes, blind physical forces and genetic replication, some people are going to get hurt, other people are going to get lucky, and you won't find any rhyme or reason in it, nor any justice. The universe that we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil, no good, nothing but pitiless indifference.”



Richard Dawkins

“Darwin made it possible to be an intellectually fulfilled atheist.”

Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, 2015, p.10

“The geologic record is constantly lying to us. It pretends to tell us the whole truth, when it is only telling us a very small part of it. ...Nowhere in the world is the record, or even a part of it complete.” p.xvi

“...we cannot escape the conclusion that sedimentation was at times very rapid indeed and that at other times there were long breaks in the sedimentation, though it looks uniform and continuous. It may seem paradoxical, but to me the gaps probably cover most of earth history. ... It was during the breaks that most events probably occurred. ...It is the gaps that really matter.” p.49

Derek Ager, Past President of the British Geological Association, *The New Catastrophism*, 1993

“Evolution is promoted by its practitioners as more than mere science. Evolution is promulgated as an ideology, a secular religion – a full-fledged alternative to Christianity, with its meaning and morality... Evolution is a religion”

Michael Ruse, Florida State University, National Post, 5/13/2000, p.B-3

I have faith and belief myself... I believe that nothing beyond those natural laws is needed. I have no evidence for this. It is simply what I have faith in and what I believe.”

Isaac Asimov, *Counting The Eons*, p.10

“The core of humanistic philosophy is naturalism – the proposition that the natural world proceeds according to its internal dynamics, without divine or supernatural control or guidance, and that we human beings are creations of that process.”

Edward L. Erickson, *The Humanist Magazine*, 9-10/2000, p.30

“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, we are forced by our a priori adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and set of concepts that produces material explanations, no matter how counterintuitive, 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*, 1/9/1997

“The concept is anachronistic in that it is originated at a time when the Almighty was thought to have established the laws of nature and to have decreed that nature must obey them. ...It is a great pity for the Philosophy of Science that the word ‘law’ was ever introduced.”

James H. Shea, Ed., *Journal of Geological Education*, *Geology*, v.10, p.458

“Classical thermodynamics... [is the] only physical theory of universal content concerning which I am convinced that within the framework of applicability of its basic concepts, it will never be overthrown.”

Albert Einstein, *Science*, Vol.157, p.509

“This law is considered the most powerful and most fundamental generalization about the universe that scientists have ever been able to make. No one knows why energy is conserved...”

All that anyone can say is that in over a century and a quarter of careful measurement scientists have never been able to point to a definite violation of energy conservation, either in the familiar everyday surroundings about us, or the heavens above or in the atoms within.”

Isaac Asimov, *Smithsonian Institution Journal*, June 1970, p.6

“Another way of stating the second law of then is ‘The universe is constantly getting more disorderly!’ Viewed that way we can see the second law all around us.

We have to work hard to straighten a room but left to itself it becomes a mess again very quickly and very easily. Even if we never enter it, it becomes dusty and musty. How difficult to maintain houses, and machinery, and our

own bodies in perfect working order: how easy to let them deteriorate. In fact, all we have to do is nothing, and everything deteriorates, collapses, breaks down, wears out, all by itself - ...”
Isaac Asimov, Smithsonian Institution Journal, June 1970, p.6

“Perhaps in an infinite sea of nothingness, globs of positive and negative energy in equal-sized pairs are constantly forming, and after passing through evolutionary changes, combining once more and vanishing. We are in one of these blobs in the period of time between nothing and nothing and wondering about it.
Isaac Asimov, Science Digest, Vol.69, p.69

“The information content of a simple cell has been estimated at around 10^{12} bits, comparable to about a hundred million pages of the Encyclopedia Britannica.”
Carl Sagan, Encyclopedia Britannica, Life, v.10, p.894

“The core of humanistic philosophy is naturalism – the proposition that the natural world proceeds according to its own internal dynamics, without divine or supernatural control or guidance, and that we human beings are creations of that process.”
Edward L. Erickson, The Humanist Magazine, 9-10/2000, p.30

“No evidence would be sufficient to create a change in the mind; that it is not a commitment to evidence, but a commitment to naturalism. ...Because there are no alternatives, we would have to accept natural selection as the explanation of life on this planet even if there were no evidence for it.”
Steven Pinker, MIT, How The Mind Works, p.162

“Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of having been designed for a purpose.”
Richard Dawkins, The Blind Watchmaker, p.1

“Biologists must constantly keep in mind that what they see was not designed, but rather evolved.”
Francis Crick, Natural History, v.97, 1988, “What Mad Pursuit”, p.138

“There is no heaven or afterlife for broken-down computers; that is a fairy story for people afraid of the dark.”
Stephen Hawking, Guardian Newspaper, May 2011 (unbelievably superficial)

“In one of the most existentially penetrating statements ever made by a scientist, Richard Dawkins concluded that ‘the universe we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil and no good, nothing but blind, pitiless indifference.’”
Michael Shermer quoting Richard Dawkins, Scientific American, February 2002

“Though these bodies may indeed continue in their orbits by the mere laws of gravity, yet they could by no means have at first derived the regular position of the orbits themselves from those laws. Thus, this most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets, could only proceed from the council and dominion of an intelligent and powerful Being.”
Sir Isaac Newton, General Scholium to the Principia

“Can you imagine anything more boring? The boredom attached to ID is supreme. It is so boring that I can’t even bother to think about it much anymore. It’s just utterly boring.” 17:00
“No God, no life after death, no ultimate foundation for ethics, no ultimate meaning in life and no human free will are all deeply connected to an evolutionary perspective. You are here today and you are gone tomorrow, and that is all there is to it.” 59:00
“Oh, I was a Christian, but I never heard anything about evolution because it was illegal to teach it in Tennessee. [My first biology professor] started talking about evolution as though it had no design whatsoever. I came up to him and said ‘you left out the most important part.’ And he said ‘if you feel the same way at the end of one quarter, I want you to stand up in front of the students of this class and tell them this deep lack in evolution.’ And I read that

book so carefully; I could find no sign of there being any design whatsoever in evolution. I immediately began to doubt the existence of a deity.”

“It starts by giving up an active deity. Then it gives up the hope that there is any life after death. When you give those two up the rest of it follows fairly easily. You give up the hope that there is an imminent morality. And finally there is no human free will. If you believe in evolution you can’t hope there is any free will. There is no hope whatsoever of there being any deep meaning in life. We live, we die and we’re gone absolutely gone when we die.”
61:00

Expelled, Dr. William Provine, interviewed by Ben Stein.

“Evolution is a slippery word. I would say minor changes within species happen. But Darwin didn’t write a book on how existing species change over time. He wrote a book called “The Origin Of Species”. He purported to show how this same process leads to new species, in fact, every species. And the evidence for that grand claim, in my opinion, is almost totally lacking.” Expelled, Dr. Jonathan Wells, interviewed by Ben Stein.

Francis Bacon, 1561-1626, the father of the scientific method, "a little philosophy inclineth man's mind to atheism, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to religion.”

Locke, like Hobbes before him, found the Aristotelian philosophy he was taught at Oxford of little use. There was, however, more at Oxford than Aristotle. The new experimental philosophy had arrived. John Wilkins, Cromwell's brother in law, had become Warden of Wadham College. The group around Wilkins was the nucleus of what was to become the English Royal Society. The Society grew out of informal meetings and discussion groups and moved to London after the Restoration and became a formal institution in the 1660s with charters from Charles II. The Society saw its aims in contrast with the Scholastic/Aristotelian traditions that dominated the universities. The program was to study nature rather than books.^[1] Many of Wilkins associates were people interested in pursuing medicine by observation rather than the reading of classic texts. Bacon's interest in careful experimentation and the systematic collection of facts from which generalizations could be made was characteristic of this group. One of Locke's friends from Westminster school, Richard Lower, introduced Locke to medicine and the experimental philosophy being pursued by the virtuosi at Wadham.
<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/locke/>

Pew Research, Spirit and Power – A 10-Country Survey of Pentecostals
<http://www.pewforum.org/2006/10/05/spirit-and-power/>

Philosopher Daniel Dennett calls for religion -- all religion -- to be taught in schools, so we can understand its nature as a natural phenomenon. Then he takes on The Purpose-Driven Life, disputing its claim that, to be moral, one must deny evolution.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTepA-WV_oE Dan Dennett: Responding to Pastor Rick Warren

“a priori one should expect a chaotic world which cannot be grasped by the mind in any way... [T]he kind of order created by Newton’s theory of gravitation...is wholly different. Even if the axioms of the theory are proposed by man, the success of such a project presupposes a high degree of ordering of the objective world... That is the “miracle” (unexplainable mystery) which is being constantly reinforced as our knowledge expands.”
Albert Einstein, Letters to Solovine, NY: Philosophical Library 1987, 131. 25:20

Stephen Hicks: Explaining Postmodernism 2018

“The deepest strata of Western culture have been exposed and are once more stirring under our feet.”, Michel Foucault, “The Order Of Things”, 5:50

The postmodern task is to figure out what to do – “now that both the Age of Faith and the Age Enlightenment seem beyond recovery.”, Richard Rorty, “Consequences Of Pragmatism”, 7:20

“We live today amid the dim ruins of the Enlightenment project, which was the ruling project of the modern period.”, John Gray, “Enlightenment’s Wake”, 8:20

The Enlightenment Vision slide, 9:00
Modern slide 33:00 age of reason
Premodern slide 36:00 age of faith

“It is meaningless to speak in the name of – or against – Reason, Truth, or Knowledge.”, Michel Foucault, 38:10
Very deep skepticism, even cynicism, that we can know anything. No such thing as knowledge.

“The difficulty faced by a philosopher who, like myself, is sympathetic to this suggestion [e.g., Foucault’s] –one who thinks of himself as auxiliary to the poet rather than to the physicist – is to avoid hinting that this suggestion gets something right, that my sort of philosophy corresponds to the way things really are...”, Richard Rorty, “Contingency, Irony & Solidarity”,
complete disconnect from how things are, subjectivity over objectivity, 40:10 feeling over reason

Deconstruction “relieves me of the obligation to be right ... and demands only that I be interesting.”, Stanley Fish, “Is There a Text in this Class”, 43:55

Postmodernism “seeks not to find the foundation and the conditions of truth but to exercise power for the purpose of social change. “One task as a professor is to help students “spot, confront, and work against the political horrors of one’s time.”, Frank Lentricchia, “Criticism & Social Change”, postmodern agenda, truth is out, power is in, Nietzsche, 45:05

“In the absence of truth, all that remains is power.” Friedrich Nietzsche
“The **normal** [sex act] by a **normal** man is taken to be an act of invasion and ownership undertaken in a mode of predation...”, Andrea Dworkin, “Intercourse”, 48:45, all sex is rape, power
“Saddam Hussein is a product of Western departments of state and big companies, just as Hitler, Mussolini, and Franco were born of the ‘peace’ imposed on their countries by the victors. The Iraqi dictatorship proceeds, as do the others, from the transfer of aporias [problems] in the capitalist system to vanquished, less developed, or simply less resistant countries.”, Jean-Francois Lyotard, “Postmodern Fables”, 49:50

“Deconstruction never had meaning or interest, at least in my eyes, than as a radicalization, that is to say, also within the tradition of a certain Marxism, in a certain spirit of Marxism.”, Jacques Derrida, “Moscou alier-retour”, 52:20

Defining Postmodernism slide, 52:50

Immanuel Kant slide, 57:00

Philosopher History slide, 1:03:10

Language & Logic slide, 1:06:00

Metaphysics & Ethics slide, 1:07:30

1950s bio data, Ph.Ds slide 1:08:55

Political leanings, 1:17:35

“Everything is ‘in the last analysis’ political.”, Fredric Jameson, Marxist Theorist, “The Political Unconscious”, evidence vs political commitment, 1:39:50

From Stephen Hicks, Explaining Postmodernism

The Latest Hagee Heresy: “In Defense of Israel”

by Wayne Jackson

<https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1391-latest-hagee-heresy-in-defense-of-israel-the>

John Hagee, the Pentecostal “pastor” of the 18,000-member Cornerstone Church in San Antonio, Texas, has just issued a book titled, **In Defense of Israel**. Doubtless it will turn out to be the most sensational volume produced by the controversial preacher whose pro-state-of-Israel political agenda is fairly well known. A video promotion of the radical book, via the internet, has Hagee making the following statements:

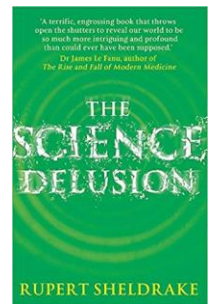
This book will expose the sins of the fathers and the vicious abuse of the Jewish people. In Defense of Israel will shake Christian theology. It scripturally proves that the Jewish people as a whole did not reject Jesus as Messiah. It will also prove that **Jesus did not come to earth to be the Messiah**. It will prove that there was a Calvary conspiracy between Rome, the high priest, and Herod to execute Jesus as an insurrectionist too dangerous to live. Since **Jesus refused by word and deed to claim to be the Messiah**, how can the Jews be blamed for rejecting what was never offered? Read this shocking expose, In Defense of Israel (emphasis added).

If this volume lives up to the promotion, namely that Jesus did not claim to be, and was not, the promised Messiah of Old Testament literature, it is heresy at its worst. If the promo is some sort of theological subterfuge designed to accelerate sales, it is duplicity in its vilest manifestation.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – “But sexuality is not a core doctrinal issue.”

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/clintschnekloth/2018/08/exposing-dan-skogen-in-the-nicest-way-possible/>

“The Science Delusion is the belief that science already understands the nature of reality in principle, leaving only the details to be filled in. This is a very widespread belief in our society. It is the kind of belief system of people who say ‘I don’t believe in God, I believe in science.’ It’s a belief system that has now been spread to the entire world. But there is a conflict in the heart of science, between science as a method of inquiry based on reason, evidence, hypothesis and collective investigation and science as a belief system or a worldview. Unfortunately, the worldview aspect of science has come to inhibit and constrict the free enquiry which is the very life blood of the scientific endeavor. Science is a wholly owned subsidiary of the materialist worldview. A lot of the philosophy of mind over the last 100 years is trying to prove that we are not conscious at all.” Rupert Sheldrake, *The Science Delusion*, TEDx Whitechapel, 12 Jan 2013



Ten core beliefs that scientists take for granted, the default worldview of most educated people:

1. Nature/universe in mechanical or machine-like, people and animals are just complex machines
2. matter is unconscious; human consciousness an illusion
3. the laws of nature are fixed; nature is purposeless
4. total amount of matter and energy is always the same, total quantity is always the same
5. nature is purposeless, directionless
6. biological heredity is material - DNA
7. memories are stored inside your brain as material traces
8. your mind is inside your head, mind = brain
9. psychic phenomena is impossible, (as is any supernatural activity)
10. mechanistic medicine is the only kind that really works

Most scientists think the abundant discrepancies will eventually be figured out, with sufficient time and government grants, and issue scientific IOUs by faith. They reason, “Since there is no god, matter is all there is. Therefore everything we experience has a materialistic, naturalistic explanation.” ~MPH

Terence McKenna says, “Modern science is based on the principle: Give us one free miracle and we will explain the rest. The one free miracle is the appearance of all the mass and energy in the universe and all the laws that govern it, from nothing, in a single instant” “In the beginning God...” is more reasonable since materialists and miracles don’t get along. ~MPH

“Dogma is simply the word we use for settled questions we no longer want to reopen. Ideology is the first draft of dogma.”

“When I was flying over the North Slope of Alaska with a bush pilot nearly 20 years ago, the pilot told me how he once discovered a field of dead moose, almost entirely intact, save for the fact that they had their bellies ripped open. He explained that a grizzly bear or bears had killed all the females just to eat the unborn calves out of their bellies — because that was the tastiest part. Rather than eat just one whole moose, the bear was simply guided by

the turnip-like dogma of its instincts. The history of humanity is full of stories where people, likewise, lived with such undogmatic cruelty. Of course, it's unfair to describe the bears as cruel, because they have no concept of cruelty. They think it is good to eat your face, because that is their nature. We do have a concept of cruelty, and we have dogma to thank for it. So when I hear people say that they don't like dogma, what I hear is that they don't like the dogma of people who disagree with them." Jonah Goldberg

"When [man] drops one doctrine after another in a refined skepticism, when he declines to tie himself to a system, when he says that he has outgrown definitions, when he says that he disbelieves in finality, when, in his own imagination, he sits as God, holding no form of creed but contemplating all, then he is by that very process sinking slowly backwards into the vagueness of the vagrant animals and the unconsciousness of the grass. Trees have no dogmas. Turnips are singularly broad-minded." G. K. Chesterton

Quoted in "In Defense of Dogma" By Jonah Goldberg, June 29, 2018 5:53 PM

<https://www.nationalreview.com/g-file/dogma-abortion-advocacy-political-differences/>

"How can you honestly deny science and be so ignorant to the obvious truth about our beginnings? I pray that you'll have an epiphany and stop misleading people to believe in nonsense and lies. You're ultimately going to turn people off to God. If anyone has half a brain they're going to look to science for truth, not 4000 year oil stories written by goat herders."

R.S. from San Francisco, CA, (email to AiG), Nuclear Strength Apologetics I, 29:40

"Get over your childish, self-pacifying beliefs and deal with the fact that the world is senseless."

"If perchance there is a god and a reason behind this madness, they certainly will not be found in a book as flawed and disgusting as the bible (unless you promote slavery, misogyny and the condemnation of billions of people to eternal torment). The claim that T. Rex [sic] was a vegetarian prior to the fall is so absurd that it scarcely deserves commentary."

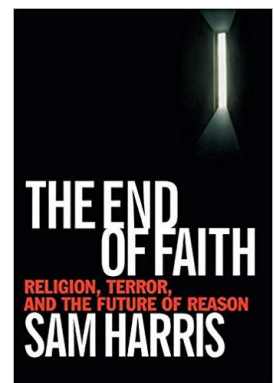
B.B. from Buffalo, NY, (email to AiG), Nuclear Strength Apologetics I, 31:30

Here is an impassioned plea for reason in a world divided by faith. This important and timely work delivers a startling analysis of the clash of faith and reason in today's world. Harris offers a vivid historical tour of mankind's willingness to suspend reason in favor of religious beliefs, even when those beliefs are used to justify harmful behavior and sometimes heinous crimes. He asserts that in the shadow of weapons of mass destruction, the world can no longer tolerate views that pit one true god against another. Most controversially, he argues that we cannot afford moderate lip service to religion - an accommodation that only blinds us to the real perils of fundamentalism.

While warning against the encroachment of organized religion into world politics, Harris also draws on new evidence from neuroscience and insights from philosophy to explore spirituality as a biological, brain-based need. He calls on us to invoke that need in taking a secular humanistic approach to solving the problems of this world.

Description of Sam Harris' book "The End of Faith"

https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B0015YSYNK?ref=em_1p_0_ti&ref_=pe_398170_293765510



"Thus, from the war of nature, from famine and death, the most exalted object which we are capable of conceiving, namely, the production of the higher animals, directly follows.", Charles Darwin, Origin of Species

I must make an apology to you at this point. We who believe in God have not always made this position plain. Often enough we have talked with you about facts and sound reasons as though we agreed with you on what these really are. In our arguments for the existence of God we have frequently assumed that you and we together have an area of knowledge on which we agree. But we really do not grant that you see any fact in any dimension of life truly. We really think you have colored glasses on your nose when you talk about chickens and cows, as well as when you talk about the life hereafter. We should have told you this more plainly than we did. But we were really a

little ashamed of what would appear to you as a very odd or extreme position. We were so anxious not to offend you that we offended our own God. But we dare no longer present our God to you as smaller or less exacting than He really is. He wants to be presented as the All-Conditioner, as the emplacement on which even those who deny Him must stand.'

CVT Why... Pg 9

Now before I drill into the nerve of the matter, I must again make apologies. The fact that so many people are placed before a full exposition of the evidence for God's existence and yet do not believe in Him has greatly discouraged us. We have therefore adopted measures of despair. Anxious to win your good will, we have again compromised our God. Noting the fact that men do not see, we have conceded that what they ought to see is hard to see. In our great concern to win men we have allowed that the evidence for God's existence is only probably compelling. And from that fatal confession we have gone one step further down to the point where we have admitted or virtually admitted that it is not really compelling at all. And so we fall back upon testimony instead of argument. After all, we say, God is not found at the end of an argument; He is found in our hearts. So we simply testify to men that once we were dead, and now we are alive, that once we were blind and that now we see, and give up all intellectual argument.

CVT Why... Pg 11

"The Cosmos is all there is, all there ever has been, or all there ever will be." Carl Sagan, 1980

"In the opinion of many thinkers, human freedom is closely connected with human rationality. If we were deterministic beings what would validate the claim that our utterances constituted rational discourse. Would not the sounds issuing from mouths or the marks we make on paper be simply the actions of automatons? All proponents of deterministic theories whether social and economic - Marx, or sexual - Freud, or genetic - Dawkins and E.O Wilson, (now physics - Hawking), they need a covert disclaimer on their own behalf excepting their own contribution from reductive dismissal." John Charlton Polkinghorne, Theoretical Physicist and Anglican Priest.

What is the role that presuppositions play? It is important to acknowledge them and how they direct your arguments.

"A Christian, of course, has a whole different worldview from a non-Christian. We believe that the world is not just something that happened by chance. The world was created by God. We believe the human mind was created by God. We believe that, therefore, the personal is more fundamental than the impersonal. That the impersonal things of the universe like rocks, trees, law of gravity and so on, that these things are not the most fundamental realities that there are but that these things are tools in the hand of God.

We see differently on just about everything. Christianity is a comprehensive worldview. Our view of reason, therefore, the view of argument is different from that of the non-Christians. So when we want to conduct an argument apologetically we want to base that argument upon a Christian worldview, not on a worldview based on chance, not on a worldview that assumes that man can reason autonomously, because those presuppositions would be going completely contrary to what we want to argue as we argue for the Christian faith."

John Frame, What is Presuppositional Apologetics, 13:00

When you demand proof according to the materialist method, you demand an argument based on what you can see, an argument based on what you can think of. That demand rules out the Christian worldview from the outset. The Christian faith says that those assumptions are simply wrong. We have to go back before all of that. Naturalism says that everything is fundamentally impersonal. Impersonal things such as the law of gravity, preceded the personal. So to reason about anything the naturalist must come up with impersonal explanations. Christianity says that personal preceded impersonal. We start with personal explanations. There is something the Naturalist can't see. If you start out with the naturalist's presuppositions how can you get ethical norms out of a naturalistic universe? You can't get ethical values out of materialistic facts. So, naturalism can't account for ethics, logic and reason, the human mind, physical laws.

It is not that Christians and non-Christians differ on specific conclusions, it is that they differ on the whole big picture, they differ on worldviews, they differ on their basic concepts of reality and reasoning.

“One of the most persuasive and frequent contemporary objections to the orthodox view of Biblical authority goes like this: The Bible cannot be the word of God because no human language can be the word of God. On this view not only the Bible but human language in general is an unfit vehicle, unfit to infallibly convey a message from God to man.”

John Frame, *A History of Western Philosophy and Theology*, Pg 617

The argument is that God, if He exists, is such a transcendent being, “wholly other”, that we couldn’t possibly know Him truly. Our minds are so small that we can’t know who God is. God can’t possibly speak to us because our minds are so inferior and different from His.

The Biblical worldview says otherwise. God not only exists but He speaks and created a world that is not only receptive but responsive to language. Part of that creation, man, is created in His image, including his mind. God expresses His mind in language, to our minds and holds us accountable for believing and obeying.

“So, it’s in the natural world, it’s in the world of science, and the world of innovation and discovery and doubt. We wouldn’t have discovered any of these things if we had taken the religious story for granted to begin with. We would have said, “We already know enough. We know. God made this. God wants it this way. What’s the need for inquiry? We already have all the information we need.” The big difference between this side of the house, mine, and the other, is this: I am absolutely certain that I do not know, but that it might be possible to find out, and that doubt and skepticism and innovation and inquiry are the only means by which wonder and beauty and awe and symmetry will be discovered and beyond those peaks we can yet see new more wonderful peaks will arise; whereas, on the Wilson side of the house, it is said. “We already have the certainty, we know that God created us and we even claim to know His mind and what He wants from us.” I just invite you to open your minds to the possibility that the skeptical and the inquiring and the doubtful will be better than anything that calls itself faith. Because anything that calls itself faith, calls itself certainty, and for certainty I think there is no place in an institute of intellectual meditation and higher education.” 38:00, Christopher Hitchens vs Douglas Wilson Debate.

When you demand proof according to the materialist method, you demand an argument based on what you can see, an argument based on what you can think of. That demand rules out the Christian worldview from the outset. The Christian faith says that those assumptions are simply wrong. We have to go back before all of that. Naturalism says that everything is fundamentally impersonal. Impersonal things such as the law of gravity, preceded the personal. So to reason about anything the naturalist must come up with impersonal explanations. Christianity says that personal preceded impersonal. We start with personal explanations. There is something the Naturalist can’t see. If you start out with the naturalist’s presuppositions how can you get ethical norms out of a naturalistic universe. You can’t get ethical values out of materialistic facts. So, naturalism can’t account for ethics, logic and reason, the human mind, physical laws.

It is not that Christians and non-Christians differ on specific conclusions, it is that they differ on the whole big picture, they differ on worldviews, they differ on their basic concepts of reality and reasoning.

What is true of the whole must be true of the parts. If the universe is meaningless, nothing more than chemical reactions or ‘matter in motion’, then any subset of the universe is also meaningless. If the universe is nothing more than chemical reactions then our thoughts are nothing more than chemical reactions. If our thoughts are nothing more than chemical reactions we have no reason to believe our thoughts are true. Therefore we have no reason for believing our thoughts are chemical reactions. The whole line of thinking self- destructs. If, at its root, the universe is nothing more than random chaos, then what of logic and morality? How can anything be objectively true or good or beautiful?

Objection: Whatever is true of the whole must be true of the parts. The informal, non-structural ‘fallacy of division’ is called upon. Sometimes true, sometimes not.

For example: The Pacific Ocean is made up of salt water and is heavy. It would follow that this spoon full of water from the Pacific must be salty but not heavy. Saltiness is an inherent property of the water, heaviness is contingent on other factors. The truth of the fallacy depends on which property is being discussed. Meaningfulness, like saltiness, permeates the whole therefore the parts. Doug Wilson, C. Hitchens Debate

The preconditions of intelligibility require the God of the Bible for plan, purpose and goals. Meaninglessness means no plan, no purpose, no goals, no God. It is this very notion of meaningfulness that separates worldviews and even deeper, presuppositions.

On the Origin of Everything

'A Universe From Nothing,' by Lawrence M. Krauss

By DAVID ALBERT, MARCH 23, 2012

The fundamental physical laws that Krauss is talking about in “A Universe From Nothing” — the laws of relativistic quantum field theories — are no exception to this. The particular, eternally persisting, elementary physical stuff of the world, according to the standard presentations of relativistic quantum field theories, consists (unsurprisingly) of relativistic quantum fields. And the fundamental laws of this theory take the form of rules concerning which arrangements of those fields are physically possible and which aren't, and rules connecting the arrangements of those fields at later times to their arrangements at earlier times, and so on — and they have nothing whatsoever to say on the subject of where those fields came from, or of why the world should have consisted of the particular kinds of fields it does, or of why it should have consisted of fields at all, or of why there should have been a world in the first place. Period. Case closed. End of story.

What on earth, then, can Krauss have been thinking? Well, there is, as it happens, an interesting difference between relativistic quantum field theories and every previous serious candidate for a fundamental physical theory of the world. Every previous such theory counted material particles among the concrete, fundamental, eternally persisting elementary physical stuff of the world — and relativistic quantum field theories, interestingly and emphatically and unprecedentedly, do not. According to relativistic quantum field theories, particles are to be understood, rather, as specific arrangements of the fields. Certain arrangements of the fields, for instance, correspond to there being 14 particles in the universe, and certain other arrangements correspond to there being 276 particles, and certain other arrangements correspond to there being an infinite number of particles, and certain other arrangements correspond to there being *no particles at all*. And those last arrangements are referred to, in the jargon of quantum field theories, for obvious reasons, as “vacuum” states. Krauss seems to be thinking that these vacuum states amount to the relativistic-quantum-field-theoretical version of there *not being any physical stuff at all*. And he has an argument — or thinks he does — that the laws of relativistic quantum field theories entail that vacuum states are unstable. And that, in a nutshell, is the account he proposes of why there should be something rather than nothing. A century ago, it seems to him, nobody would have made so much as a peep about referring to a stretch of space without any material particles in it as “nothing.” And now that he and his colleagues think they have a way of showing how everything there is could imaginably have emerged from a stretch of space like that, the nut cases are moving the goal posts. He complains that “some philosophers and many theologians define and redefine ‘nothing’ as not being any of the versions of nothing that scientists currently describe,” and that “now, I am told by religious critics that I cannot refer to empty space as ‘nothing,’ but rather as a ‘quantum vacuum,’ to distinguish it from the philosopher’s or theologian’s idealized ‘nothing,’ ” and he does a good deal of railing about “the intellectual bankruptcy of much of theology and some of modern philosophy.” But all there is to say about this, as far as I can see, is that Krauss is dead wrong and his religious and philosophical critics are absolutely right.

And I guess it ought to be mentioned, quite apart from the question of whether anything Krauss says turns out to be true or false, that the whole business of approaching the struggle with religion as if it were a card game, or a horse race, or some kind of battle of wits, just feels all wrong — or it does, at any rate, to me. When I was growing up, where I was growing up, there was a critique of religion according to which religion was cruel, and a lie, and a mechanism of enslavement, and something full of loathing and contempt for everything essentially human. Maybe that was true and maybe it wasn't, but it had to do with important things — it had to do, that is, with history, and with suffering, and with the hope of a better world — and it seems like a pity, and more than a pity, and worse than a pity, with all that in the back of one's head, to think that all that gets offered to us now, by guys like these, in books like this, is the pale, small, silly, nerdy accusation that religion is, I don't know, *dumb*.

David Albert is a professor of philosophy at Columbia and the author of “Quantum Mechanics and Experience.”

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/03/25/books/review/a-universe-from-nothing-by-lawrence-m-krauss.html>

A Universe from Nothing? by Jake Hebert, Ph.D.

Have the “new atheists” found a genuinely convincing way to explain our universe's existence apart from God?

Not really. The argument hinges on the claim that the total energy of the universe is exactly zero, and this claim is based squarely on Big Bang assumptions. Stephen Hawking writes:

The idea of inflation could also explain why there is so much matter in the universe....The answer is that, in quantum theory, particles can be created out of energy in the form of particle/antiparticle pairs. But that just raises the question of where the energy came from. The answer is that the total energy of the universe is exactly zero.² Despite Hawking's blithe assertion, no human being can possibly know the precise energy content of the entire universe. In order to verify the claim that the total energy content of the universe is exactly zero, one would have to account for *all* the forms of energy in the universe (gravitational potential energy, the relativistic energies of all particles, etc.), add them together, and then verify that the sum really *is* exactly zero. Despite Hawking's intelligence and credentials, he is hardly omniscient.

Moreover, the general claim that the laws of physics could have created our universe suffers from a number of serious logical difficulties. Our understanding of the laws of physics is based on observation. For instance, our knowledge of the laws of conservation of momentum and energy come from observations made from literally thousands of experiments. No one has ever observed a universe "popping" into existence. This means that any laws of physics that would allow (even in principle) a universe to pop into existence are completely outside our experience. The laws of physics, as we know them, simply are not applicable here. Rather, the spontaneous creation of a universe would require higher "meta" or "hyper" laws of physics that might or might not be anything like the laws of physics that we know.

But this raises another problem. Since such hypothetical meta or hyper laws of physics are completely outside our experience, why do atheistic physicists naively assume that rules like the HUP would even apply when describing the universe's creation? They freely speculate about other (unobservable) universes in an alleged "multiverse" that can have laws of physics radically different from our own. Since the HUP is known to be valid only *within* or *inside* our universe, it is not at all clear why they would assume that the HUP would even apply when discussing our universe's creation. Perhaps the HUP is indeed part of these hyper laws of physics, but one could just as easily argue that it is not. One can engage in all kinds of speculation here, but such speculation is not *science*.

Moreover, even if these supposed higher laws of physics actually existed, in order for them to create the universe, they must have an existence *apart* from the universe. But this presents a dilemma for the atheist who says that the cosmos is all that exists. Before his death, Carl Sagan acknowledged in correspondence with ICR scientist Larry Vardiman that he recognized this problem for his worldview: His view of origins required the laws of physics to *create* the cosmos, but because he did not acknowledge his Creator, he could not explain the origin of the laws themselves. The existence of physical laws external to the cosmos itself was an obvious violation of his well-known axiom "The Cosmos is all that is or ever was or ever will be."

<https://www.icr.org/article/6901>, A Universe from Nothing? by Jake Hebert, Ph.D.

"We are just an advanced breed of monkeys on a minor planet of a very average star. But we can understand the Universe. That makes us something very special."

Stephen Hawking

The Seven Social Sins are:

Wealth without work

Pleasure without conscience

Knowledge without character

Commerce without morality

Science without humanity

Worship without sacrifice

Politics without principle

From a sermon given by Frederick Lewis Donaldson in Westminster Abbey, London, on March 20, 1925

Arthur C. Clarke — "Magic's just science that we don't understand yet."

Aristotle

“It is the mark of an educated mind to rest satisfied with the degree of precision which the nature of the subject admits and not to seek exactness where only an approximation is possible.”

“It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it.”

“To say of what is that it is not, or of what is not that it is, is false, while to say of what is that it is, and of what is not that it is not, is true”.

There are arguably three versions of the principle of non-contradiction to be found in Aristotle:

an ontological, “It is impossible for the same thing to belong and not to belong at the same time to the same thing and in the same respect”

a doxastic, “It is impossible to hold (suppose) the same thing to be and not to be”

a semantic, “opposite assertions cannot be true at the same time”

The first version concerns things that exist in the world, the second is about what we can believe, and the third relates to assertion and truth.

<https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/aristotle-noncontradiction/>

The traditional source of the law of non-contradiction is Aristotle's *Metaphysics* where he gives three different versions.

1. ontological: "It is impossible that the same thing belong and not belong to the same thing at the same time and in the same respect." (1005b19-20)
2. psychological: "No one can believe that the same thing can (at the same time) be and not be." (1005b23-24)[15]
3. logical: "The most certain of all basic principles is that contradictory propositions are not true simultaneously." (1011b13-14)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Law_of_noncontradiction

"The real question gets into, then, high-technology medicine.

"We have a million and a half heart attacks a year. Every year in the United States we have a million and a half heart attacks. Six hundred thousand of them die. How many Barney Clarks can we afford? How many heart transplants can we afford?

"You know, we at least ought to be talking about that. I think we're rapidly approaching the day where medical science can keep people alive in hospitals, hooked up to tubes and things, far beyond when any kind of quality of life is left at all. But yet medical science can keep us alive. ...

"It seems to me that it's at least a question society ought to be talking about. What are the ethical implications.

"A terrific article I've read, one of the philosophers of our time, I think, is a guy named Leon Kass -- has anybody seen his stuff, he's just terrific? In the *American Scholar* last year, he wrote an article called 'The Case for Morality,' where essentially he said we have a duty to die. It's like if leaves fall off a tree forming the humus for the other plants to grow out. We've got a duty to die and get out of the way with all of our machines and artificial hearts and everything else like that and let the other society, our kids, build a reasonable life."

Former Gov. Richard Lamm, 1984

“Who can tell us of the inhabitants of this little planet that shines on an evening, called the moon? When we view its face we may see what is termed ‘the man in the moon,’ and what some philosophers declare are the shadows of mountains. But these sayings are very vague, and amount to nothing; and when you inquire about the inhabitants of that sphere you find that the most learned are as ignorant in regard to them as the most ignorant of their fellows. So it is with regard to the inhabitants of the sun. Do you think it is inhabited? I rather think it is. Do you think there is any life there? No question of it; it was not made in vain.”

Brigham Young (1801-1877) - Mormon prophet, *Journal of Discourses* 13:271



“Do you think there is any life there? No question of it; it was not made in vain.”

What is the assumption here?

