

## Creation Seminar – Session 2

### The Origin of the Universe and the Age of the Earth

God created everything in six days (Ex 20:11). “The heavens declare the glory of God.” (Psalm 19:1)

Biblical truths about astronomy

- The earth is round - Isa 40:22
- The Universe is expanding (“He stretches out the heavens”) - Isa 40:22, 42:5
- The earth is suspended in space - Job 26:7
- 1<sup>st</sup> Law of Thermodynamics – Gen 2:1, Ex 20:11
- Innumerable Stars; God knows them all - Gen 22:17, Psalm 147:4

The universe had a beginning – 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics (Entropy)

- Increasing Entropy means usable energy always decreases
- “...the earth and the heavens ... shall grow old like a garment” (Heb 1:10,11)

Secular worldview: Big Bang Cosmology. It started from nothing 13.8 billion years ago

- The universe had to have a cause (God) – Law of Cause and Effect

Problems:

- o Matter can’t create itself – 1<sup>st</sup> Law of Thermo (Conservation of matter and energy)
- o Existence of many blue stars
- o Winding up dilemma – persistence of spiral galaxies
- o Nebular disk theory (bizarre mysteries)
- o Decay of comets
- o Faint young sun paradox
- o Other: lack of anti-matter, only mature galaxies, moon’s recession

Earth’s Age – Why 6000 Years?

- Bible chronologies (Genesis 5, 11)
  - o Creation to flood (1656 yrs), flood to Abraham (352 yrs), Abraham to today (~4000 yrs)
- Lyell and Hutton introduce old earth uniformitarianism – “The present is key to the past”
- Three dating assumption: Known initial conditions, Isolated system, Known constant rate
- Radioisotope dating – old age dates are inconsistent and outright in error
  - o Decay rates apparently not constant – RATE project findings
- Helium diffusion indicates young earth (i.e., 6000 years)
- Radiocarbon dating – only on (formerly) living organisms
  - o Depends on ratio of Carbon-14 (radioactive) to Carbon-12 (stable) at death
  - o Apparent ages too old by as much as 10 times:
    - Greater carbon biomass (C-12) before the flood
    - Stronger earth magnetic field, less cosmic rays (less C-14)
    - Equilibrium of C-14 has not been reached, still rising
    - Decay rate may not have been constant
  - o C-14 (radiocarbon) found in fossils, coal, diamonds
- Ice cores – rings can be more often than annual
  - o Example of WW2 fighter buried at 75 meters after only 50 years.
- Very little seafloor sediment – 1/250 amount expected from 3-billion-year-old ocean
- Oil and gas pressure can’t be maintained for millions of years
- Human population growth consistent with biblical timeframe, not 200,000-year-old mankind.
- Mitochondrial DNA mutations consistent with biblical timeframe.