

# Big Bang or the voice of God?

Scientists generally believe that the universe started with a Big Bang around 13,800 million years ago. Strong evidence for this includes the apparent expansion of the universe, the age of old white stars and radioactive dating. This suggests that all the matter in the universe started at one point and then there was a gigantic explosion. The background radiation in the universe is sometimes called the “echo” of the Big Bang!

Science interprets and explains how the universe operates but there are some questions it does not answer - for example:

- Where did everything come from?
- Why is the universe here and what is its purpose and significance?
- Is there anything else which science cannot measure - such as God and the supernatural?

The Bible account suggests that the universe was created about 6000 years ago and in seven days!

You will find that Christians vary in their views of the age of the universe and exactly how it has developed since it was created. Some believe that it was made in seven days, others believe that it evolved much more slowly.

The following, however, are important in Christian belief:

- God has existed for ever and will continue to exist for ever.
- God exists independently from the universe.
- God created everything.
- God made the universe out of nothing by his word of command.
- God keeps the universe going by his power.

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.*

*Then the LORD answered... “Where were you when I laid the earth’s foundation? Tell me, if you understand. Who marked off its dimensions? Surely you know! Who stretched a measuring line across it? On what were its footings set, or who laid its cornerstone?*

*Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.” So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

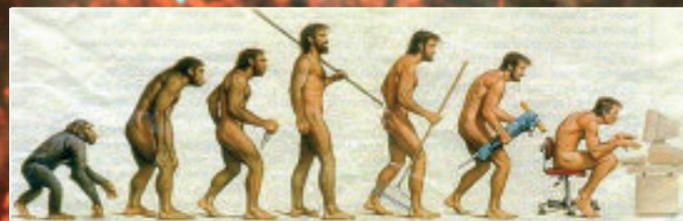
Most Scientists assume that life began spontaneously from the chemicals on this planet. Human beings evolved from simpler organisms by a process of “natural selection” involving mutation and survival of the fittest.

The Bible describes the creation of life by God and the special creation of human beings in his image. The experiences of Adam and Eve explain human nature and our need of help from God.

Christians may believe different things about how human beings came into existence, but they are generally agreed on the following:

- Human beings are made in the image of God unlike the rest of creation.
- Human beings originally had a good relationship with God.
- Our relationship with God was spoiled by our wrong doings.
- Jesus Christ came to earth to restore our relationship with God.
- God would like us to be with him for ever after this life.

Biologically we resemble animals and plants but we also have a spiritual dimension which is similar to God. We are made in the image of God.



# Evolution or the hand of God?