

***Has Science Has Disproved
Christianity?***

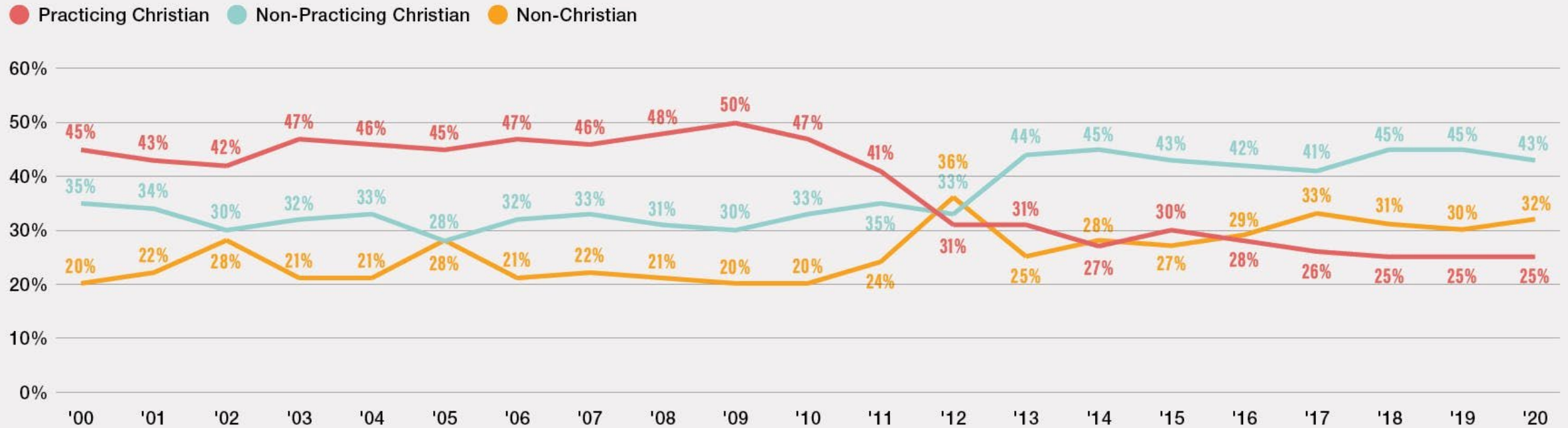
**Belief In An Age of
Skepticism**

Seven Reasons Why People Give Up Faith – Viola - 2022

- 2) The canned superficial answers they had been given to complicated questions.
 - Example: An eighteen-year-old is brought up in a Christian home. She is taught that God created the earth and that the earth is young. The eighteen-year-old enters college and she hears this idea ripped to shreds.
 - She is confused and finally concludes, “If that’s wrong, then I have to throw out everything I’ve been taught in the Bible. Maybe it’s all myth.”

Barna Research Group - 2020

HOW AMERICANS RELATE TO CHRISTIANITY IS CHANGING: 2000-2020



n = 96,171 U.S. adults | 2000-2020

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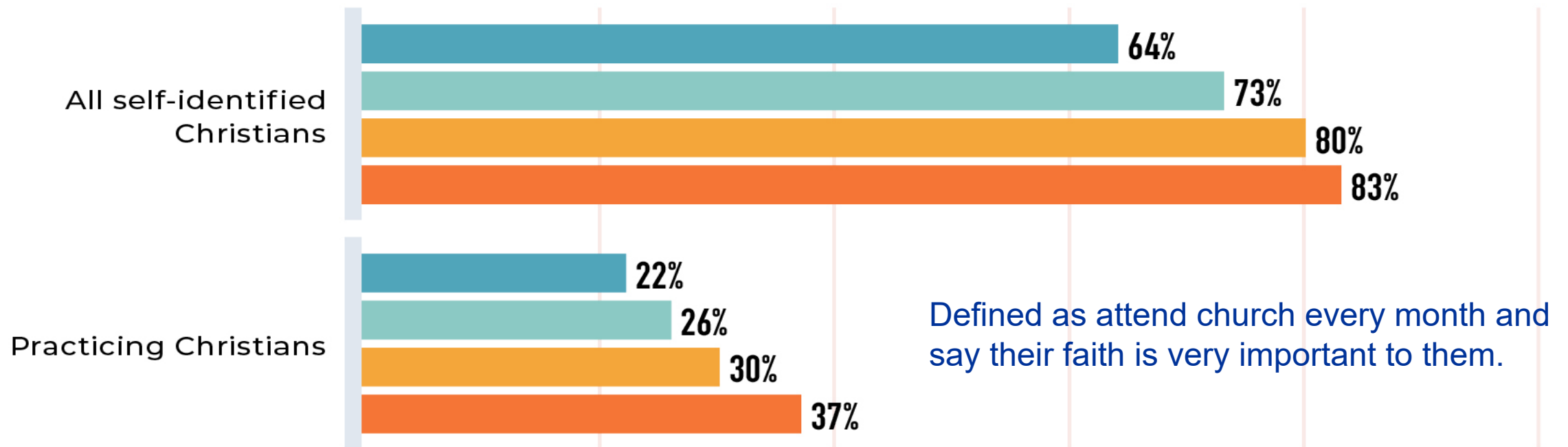
Barna Research Group - 2019

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 **Barna** FaithView

FAITH IDENTITY, BY GENERATION

◆ Millennials ◆ Gen X ◆ Boomers ◆ Elders



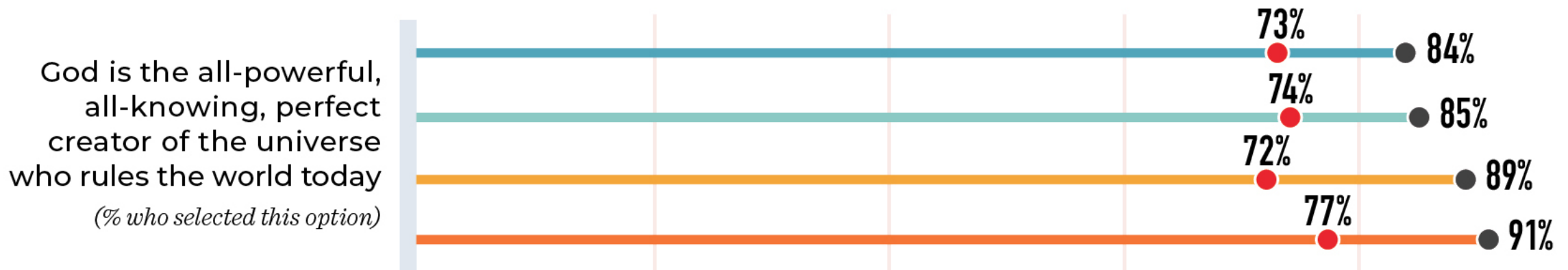
Barna Research Group - 2019

BELIEFS, BY GENERATION

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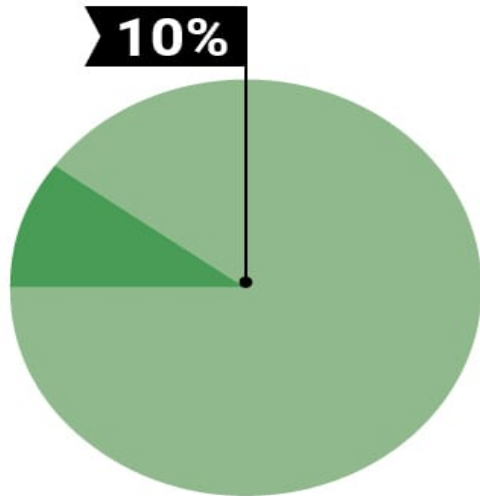
 **Barna FaithView**

- ◆ Millennials ◆ Gen X ◆ Boomers ◆ Elders
- All self-identified Christians ● Practicing Christians



Barna Research Group - 2017

A belief has to be proven by science to know it is true



♂: 14% UNDER 45: 25%
♀: 7% 45+ OVER: 3%



CITY

22%



SUBURB

5%



RURAL

3%

What Is Science?

■ Science ≡ The effort to discover and increase human understanding of how physical reality works.

■ Scientific Method (Inductive)

Observation (Observe Phenomenon)

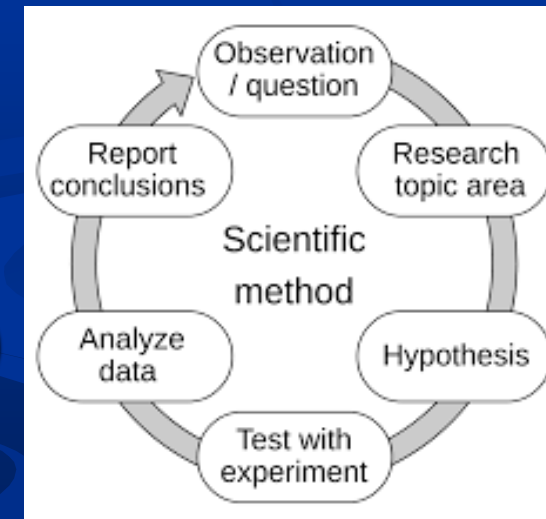
→ **Hypothesis** (Model to Explain Phenomenon)

→ **Experiment** (Test Prediction of Hypothesis)

→ **Theory** (If survives initial testing)

→ **Further Testing** (by many over time)

→ **Law** (If survives testing over time)



What Is Science?

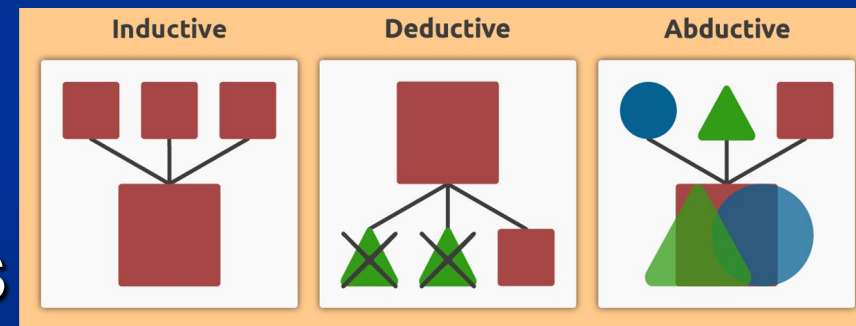
- An objective, rational, and systematic search for and understand of how nature work – which it assumes to be rational and ordered.
- True science has no forbidden hypotheses and makes no absolute claims.
- Science deals exclusively with phenomena that can either be observed (sight, touch, hearing) or logically extrapolated from sensory observation.
- Science has limitations.



What is Science?
Concept of Science & Knowledge

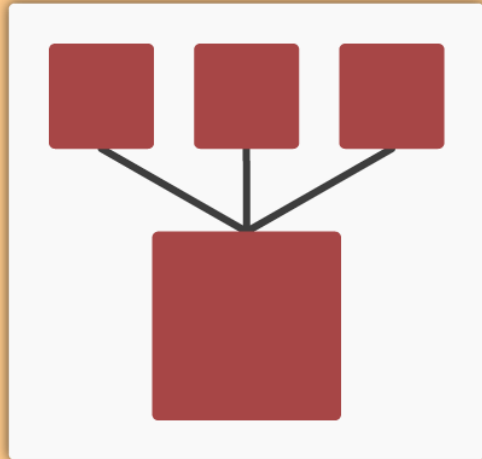
Scientific Methods

- Pure science is the performing of experiments and experimental validation of theories – is an inductive logical process, which does not provide absolute proof, but shows what is probable.
- The theorizing of origins deal with events of the past that cannot be reproduced for study.
- Therefore, scientific theories of origins are reduced to abductive reasoning which cannot be validated by experiment.
- This involves making hypotheses as to how the phenomenon may have occurred. This is sometimes called “Historical Science”



Scientific Logic

Inductive

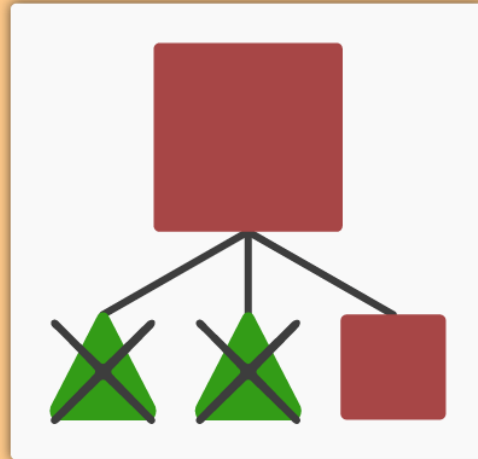


Specific
observation



General
conclusion
(may be true)

Deductive

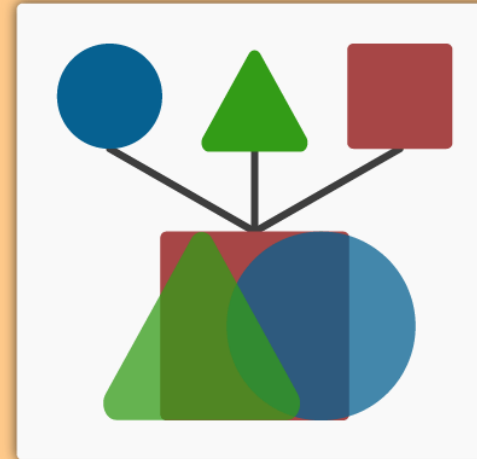


General
rule



Specific
conclusion
(always true)

Abductive



Incomplete
observation



Best
prediction
(may be true)

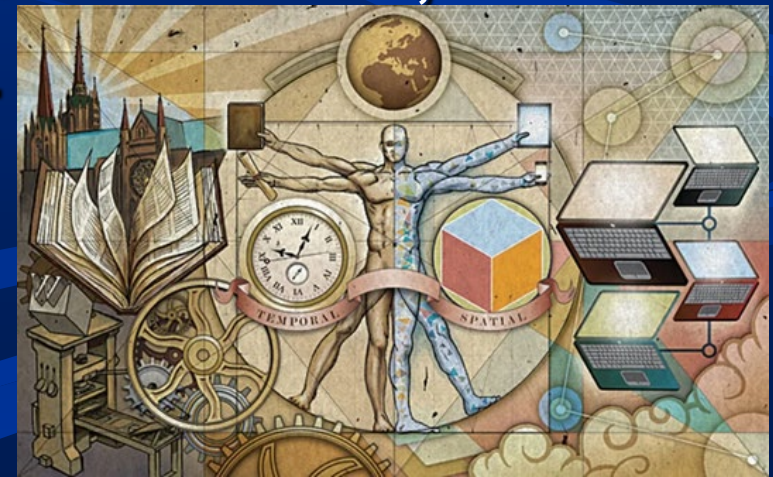
Can Science Prove or Disprove?

- Science cannot claim absolute knowledge of nature or the behavior of the subject or of the field which **precludes** the discovery or establishment of **absolute truth**.
- Scientific theory is **empirical**, and is always open to **falsification**, if new evidence is presented.
- Isaac Newton's **law of gravitation** is a famous example of an established law that was later found not to be universal.

The Foundation of Science

■ “Science is driven by an assumption that the world is intelligible. That assumption is behind every pursuit of knowledge. In the natural sciences as they have developed since the seventeenth century, the assumption of intelligibility has led to extraordinary discoveries, confirmed by prediction and experiment. Without the assumption of an intelligible underlying order, which long antedates the scientific revolution, those discoveries could not have been made.

■ *Mind and Cosmos – Thomas Nagel*



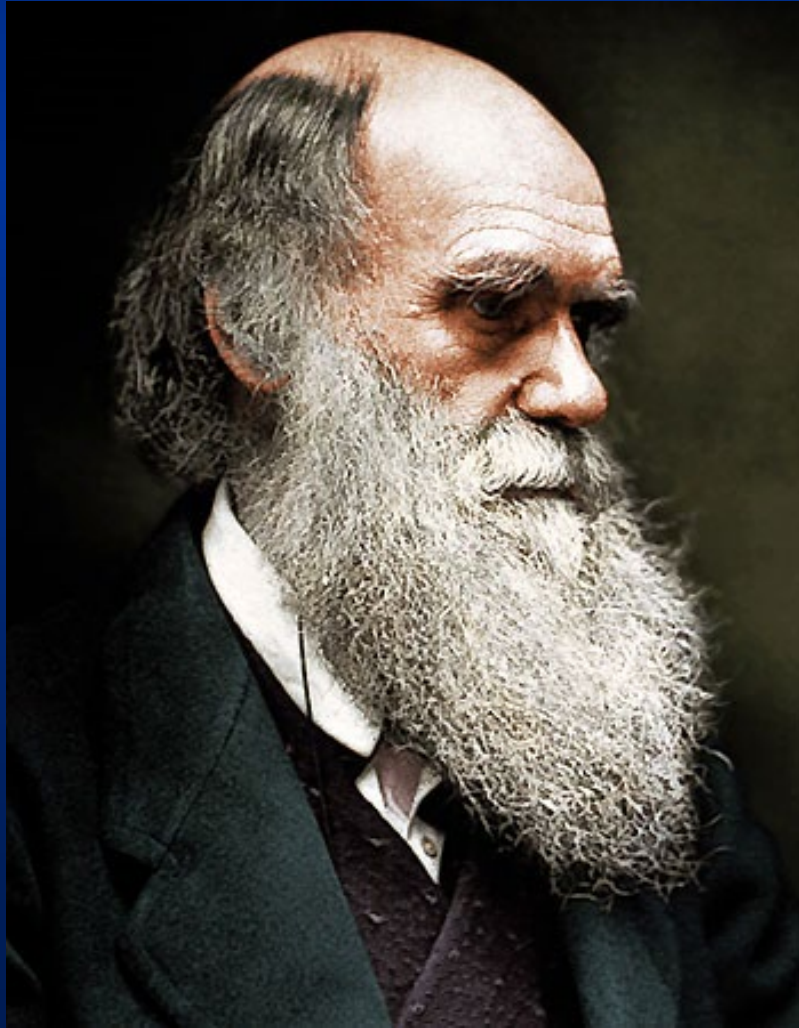
Conclusions about Science

1. Science is not a world view, but a tool with which to study and appreciate the world.
2. True science is not the enemy of faith.
3. Just as theology is the study of God's verbal revelation, true science is the study of God's creation – His revelation through nature (Ps 19:1), Rom. 1:20)
4. We are made in God's image; surely part of this image is our intellect – our ability to reason, to perceive, and to be awed by His creation.



Does Science Conflict with the Bible?

- Evolution versus Genesis – Origin of the Universe and Life



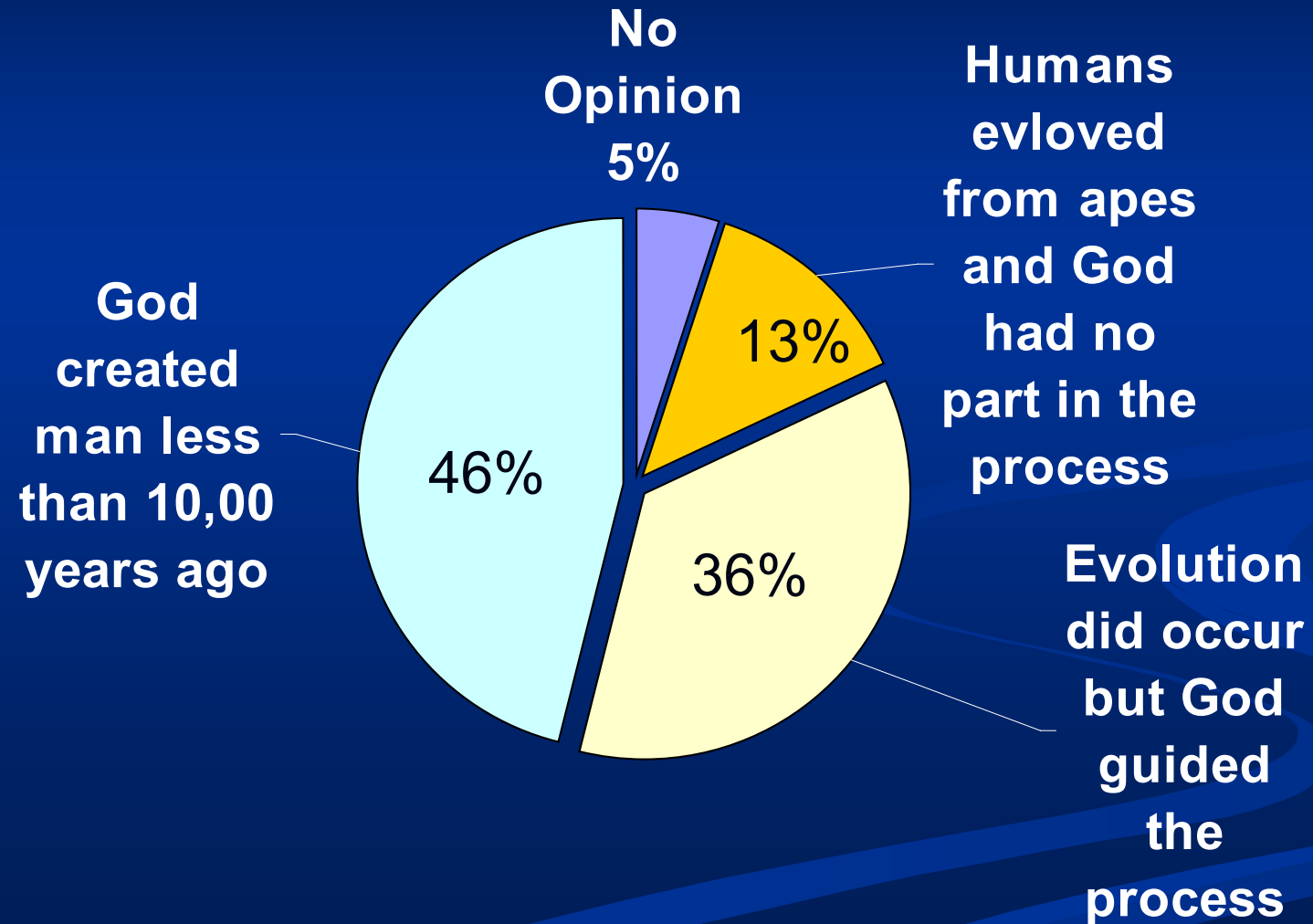
Does Science Conflict with the Bible?

- Evolution versus Genesis – Origin of the Universe and Life.
 - The Evolution model asserts that the origin and development of the universe and all its systems can be explained solely on the basis of time, chance (accident), and continuing natural processes innate in the structure of matter and energy. (General Theory of Evolution)
 - The Bible asserts that God created the universe, matter, life, and man. Gen 1:1, 2:4,7; John 1:1-3; Col 1:15-17; Heb 1:10; Acts 17:24; Heb 11:3; Isa 42:5; Isa 45:18; Rev 4:11

Choices

- Accept Evolution and Reject the Bible
 - Philosophical Naturalism – Everything has a natural cause and that organic life came from inorganic matter and developed into complex beings by random forces guided by no one. (Natural Selection)
- Accept the Genesis 1 account as literal and reject the macro-evolution model (allowing for micro-evolution)
- Try to combine the two (theistic evolution, directed evolution, mitigated evolution)

2006 Gallup Poll



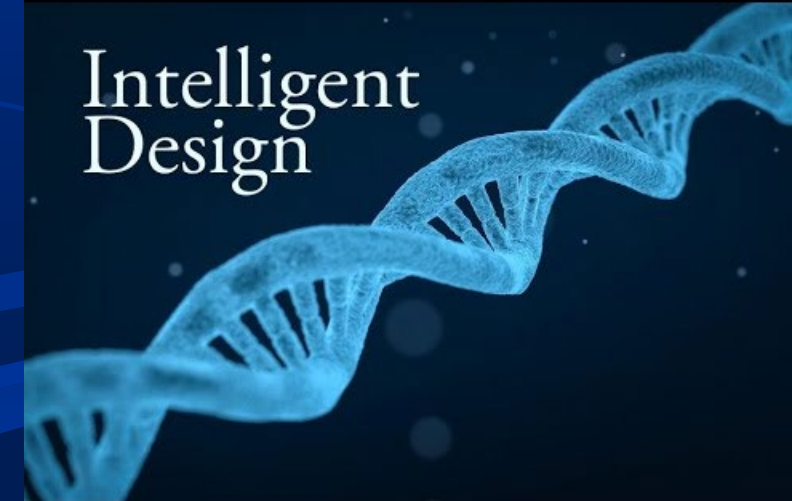
Problems with Philosophical Naturalism

- Cannot be supported by testing (Scientific Method), only by observation
- Missing Links – (False Claims?)
- Violates 1st Law of Thermodynamics
 - Energy/Matter can neither be created or destroyed.
- Violates 2nd Law of Thermodynamics
 - The amount of disorder of a system will increase over time.
- Violates Laws of Probability, Genetics, Biogenics, and Cause and Effect



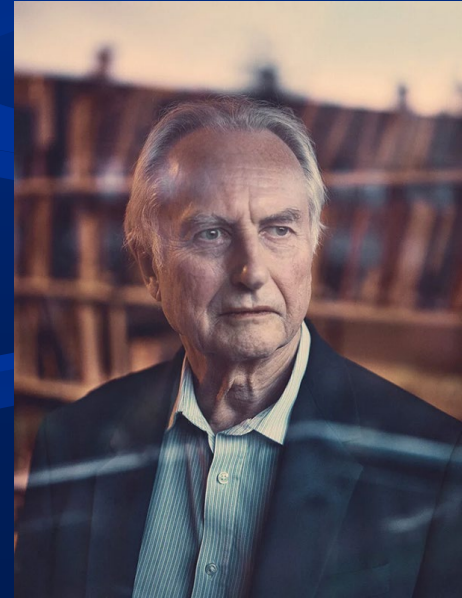
Observation of Creation as a Basis of Faith

- Intelligent Design
 - Psalms 19:1-3; Rom 1:18-20
- Also cannot be tested, only observed
- Still requires Faith (based on the evidence)
- Evolutionists as Blind Guides
 - I Corth 1:20-21, 25; 2:14-15



Does being intelligent, rational, and scientifically minded stifle belief in God?

- Richard Dawkins in his best selling book, *The God Delusion*, argues that you cannot be an intelligent scientific thinker and still hold religious beliefs.
 - Points to a 1998 study that showed only 7% of members in the National Academy of Sciences believe in a **personal** God.
 - Indicated that the more intelligent, rational, and scientifically minded you are, the less you will be able to believe in God.



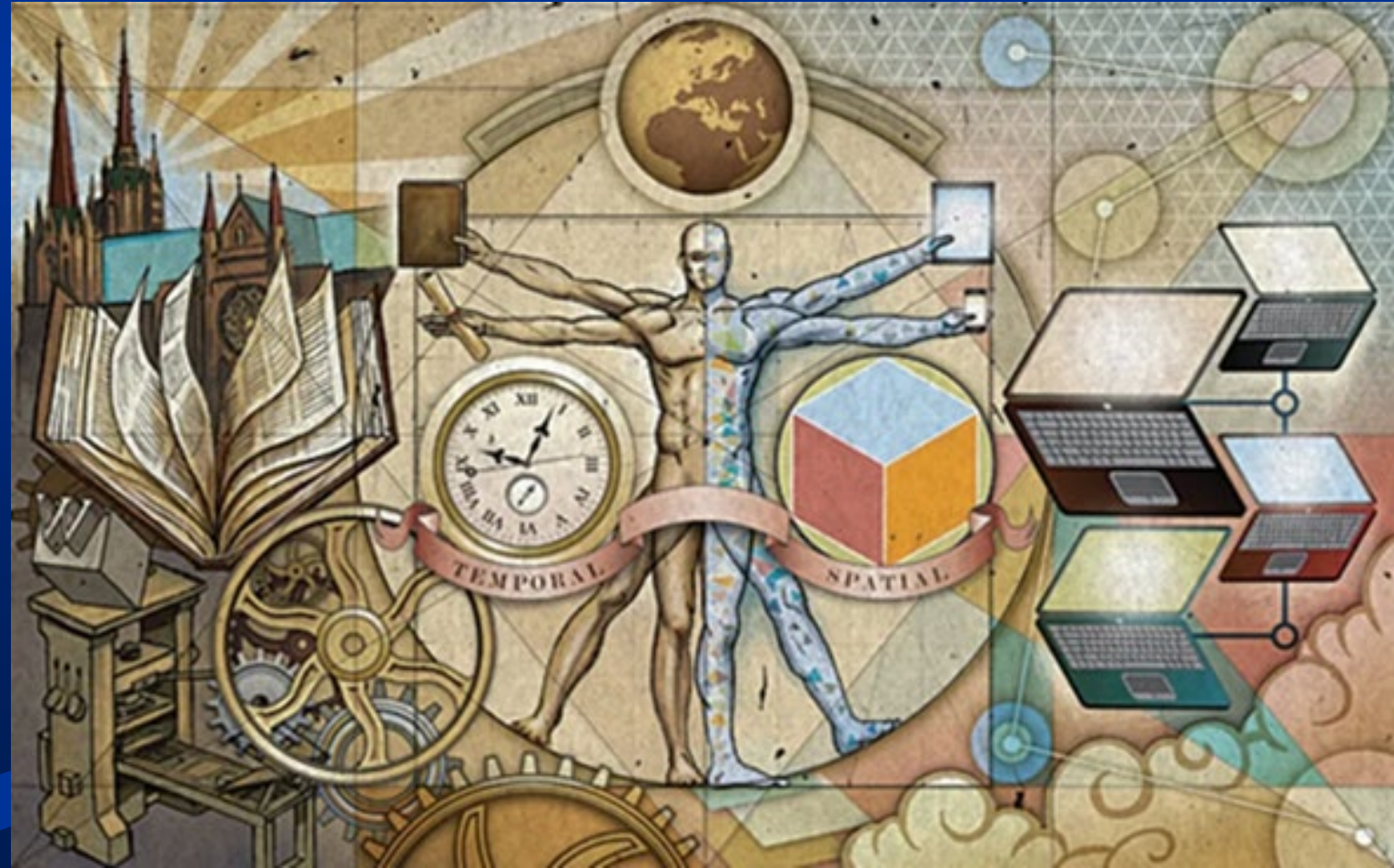
Questions

- If Christian faith is so detrimental to science, how is it that most of the greatest names in the scientific revolution were Christians with a fervent faith?
- Why did this explosion of academic progress in understanding nature not occur in far older and more advanced cultures in the East; e.g., China?
- Why did the Revolution occur only in Christian Europe?
- C.S Lewis states:
 - “Men became scientific because they expected law in nature; and they expected law in nature because they believed in a lawgiver.

Answers from the Scientific Revolution

■ Most of the leader of the scientific revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries were, in fact, strong adherents to the Christian faith. The include:

- Galileo Galilei
- Sir Isaac Newton
- Nicolas Copernicus
- Francis Bacon
- Johannes Kepler
- Robert Boil
- Many others



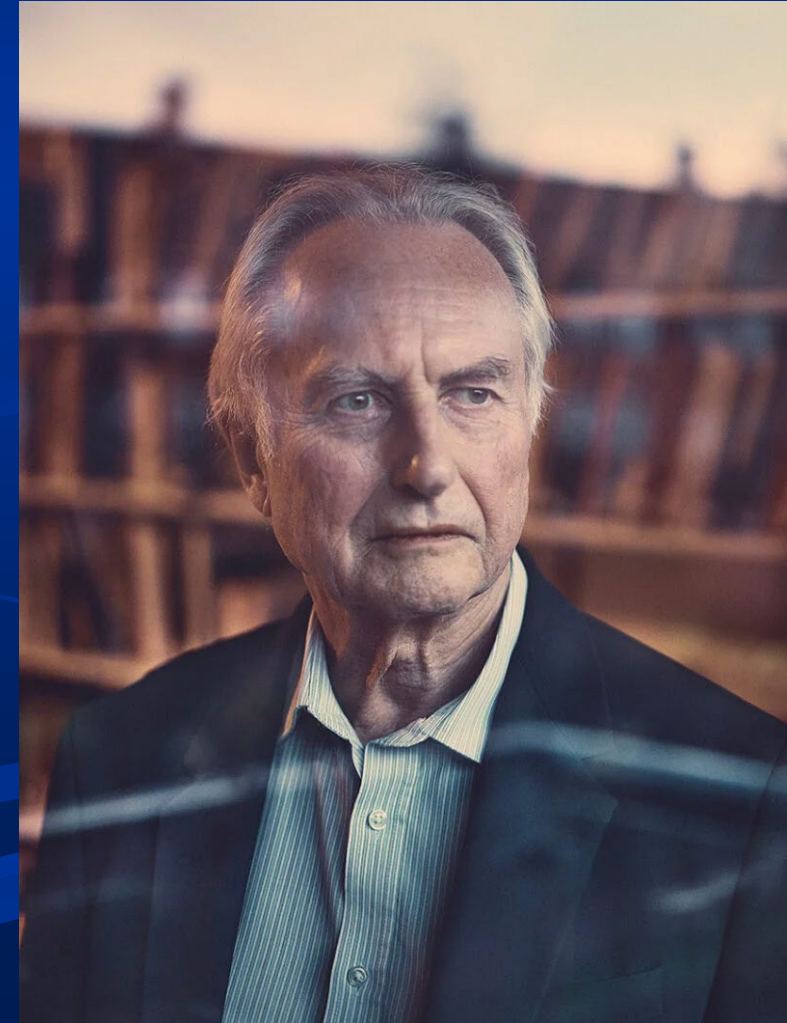
Does being intelligent, rational, and scientifically minded stifle belief in God?

- 1916 and 1997 Poll of **Scientists** – Belief in a God who actively communicates with humanity
 - 40% Yes
 - 40% No
 - 20% Not Sure
- Does not include belief in a transcendent God
- Belief/Disbelief is not necessarily based on science.
 - Assumptions brought to science rather than basing on science. (Same is true for belief)

Quotes from Evolutionists

■ Richard Dawkins – renowned evolutionist
– in *The Blind Watchmaker*

“The complexity of living organisms is matched by the elegant efficiency of their apparent design. If anyone doesn’t agree that this amount of complex design cries out for an explanation, I give up!”



Quotes from Evolutionists

- Stephen Hawking– renowned evolutionist
– in *A Brief History of Time*

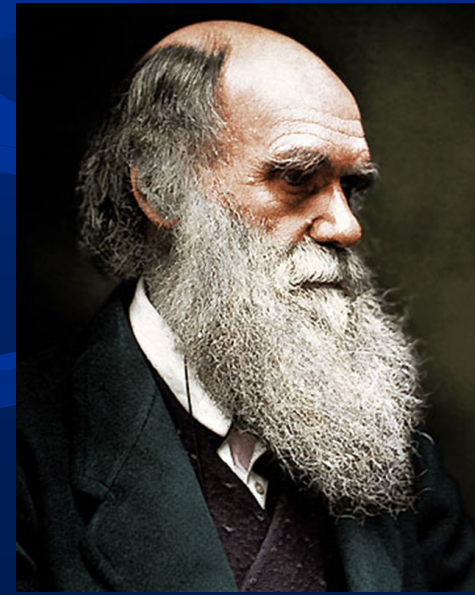
“The odds against a universe like ours emerging out of something like the Big Bang are enormous...”



Quotes from Evolutionists

■ Charles Darwin – Founder of the Theory of Evolution

“Another source of conviction in the existence of God, connected with the reason and not with the feelings, impresses me as having much more weight. This follows from the extreme difficulty or rather impossibility of conceiving this immense and wonderful universe, including man with his capacity of looking far backwards and far into futurity, as the result of blind chance or necessity. When thus reflecting, I feel compelled to look to a First Cause having an intelligent mind in some degree analogous to that of man; and I deserve to be Called a Theist.”



Quotes from Evolutionists

■ Science Channel

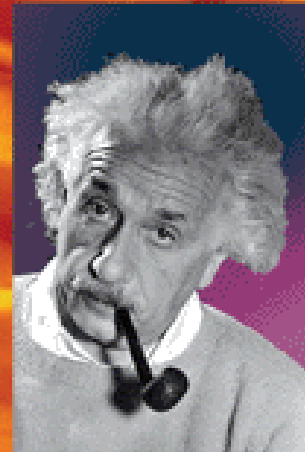
“It is astounding to think that the complexity of design we see in nature came from the random processes of evolution. But it is the only rational explanation we have.”



Quotes from Leading Scientists

50 NOBEL LAUREATES AND OTHER GREAT SCIENTISTS WHO BELIEVE IN GOD

Albert EINSTEIN
Isaac NEWTON
Louis PASTEUR
Max PLANCK
Galileo GALILEI
Nicolaus COPERNICUS
Erwin SCHRÖDINGER
Werner HEISENBERG
James Clerk MAXWELL
Michael FARADAY
Johannes KEPLER
René DESCARTES
Lord KELVIN
Blaise PASCAL
Immanuel KANT
Robert MILLIKAN
Charles TOWNES
Jean-Paul SARTRE
Charles DARWIN



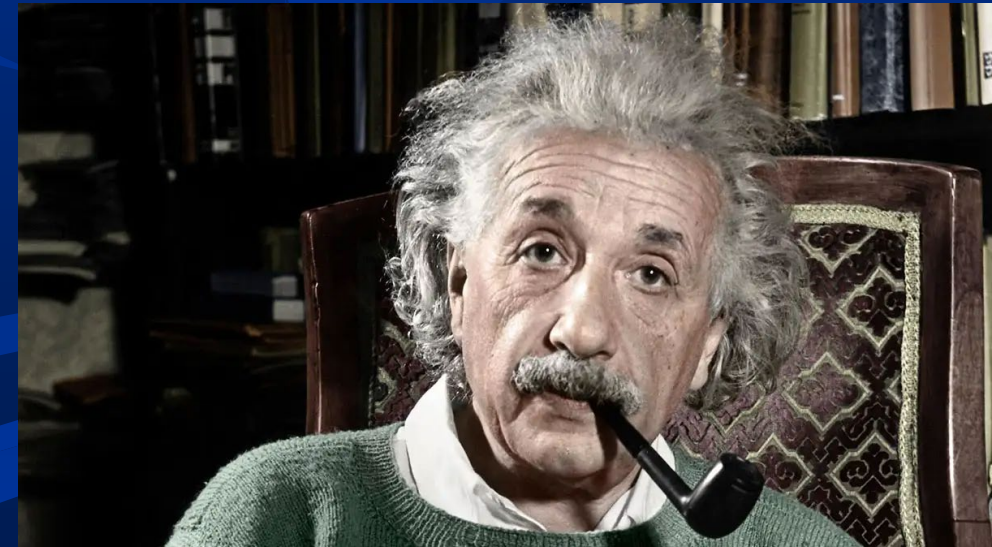
Nobelists.net

ALBERT EINSTEIN

1921 NOBEL LAUREATE IN PHYSICS

Theoretical Physics, Discovery Of The Law Of The Photoelectric Effect

- “Everyone who is seriously involved in the pursuit of science becomes convinced that a Spirit is manifest in the laws of the universe – a Spirit vastly superior to that of man, and one in the face of which we with our modest powers must feel humble. In this way the pursuit of science leads to a religious feeling of a special sort, which is indeed quite different from the religiosity of someone more naïve.”
- “The more I study science the more I believe in God.”
- “Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind.”



MAX PLANCK

1918 NOBEL LAUREATE IN PHYSICS

Theory Of Elementary Quanta –Father of Modern Physics

- “There can never be any real opposition between religion and science; for the one is the complement of the other... And indeed it was not by accident that the greatest thinkers of all ages were deeply religious souls.”
- “The one does not exclude the other; rather they are complementary and mutually interacting. Man needs science as a tool of perception; he needs religion as a guide to action.”

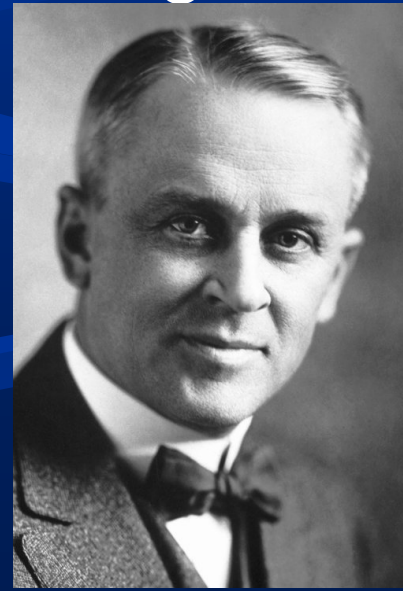


ROBERT MILLIKAN

1923 NOBEL LAUREATE IN PHYSICS

Electrical Charge & The Photoelectric Effect

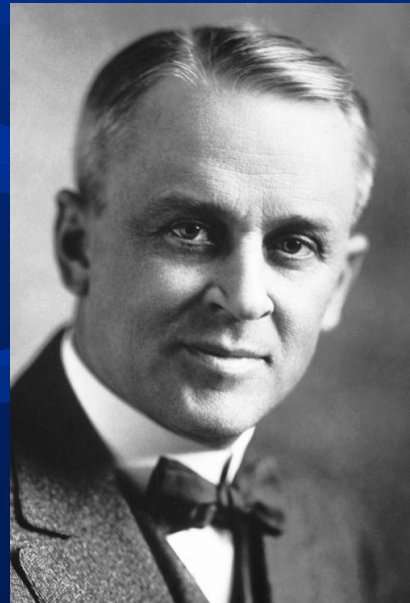
- “This much I can say with definiteness - namely, that there is no scientific basis for the denial of religion - nor is there in my judgment any excuse for a conflict between science and religion, for their fields are entirely different. Men who know very little of science and men who know very little of religion do indeed get to quarreling, and the onlookers imagine that there is a conflict between science and religion, whereas the conflict is only between two different species of ignorance.
- “To me it is unthinkable that a real atheist could be a scientist.”



ROBERT MILLIKAN

1923 NOBEL LAUREATE IN PHYSICS

- “Thousands of years ago Job saw the futility of finite man’s attempting to define God when he cried, ‘Can man with searching find out God?’. Similarly, wise men ever since have always looked in amazement at the wonderful orderliness of nature and then recognized their own ignorance and finiteness and have been content to stand in silence and in reverence before the Being who is immanent in Nature, repeating with the psalmist, ‘The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God.’ ”



CHARLES TOWNES

1964 NOBEL LAUREATE IN PHYSICS

Quantum Electronics, Founder of Laser Science

- “I strongly believe in the existence of God, based on intuition, observations, logic, and also scientific knowledge.”
- “Science, with its experiments and logic, tries to understand the order or structure of the universe. Religion, with its theological inspiration and reflection, tries to understand the purpose or meaning of the universe. These two are cross-related. Purpose implies structure, and structure ought somehow to be interpretable in terms of purpose.”



ERNST CHAIN

1945 NOBEL LAUREATE IN MEDICINE AND PHYSIOLOGY

Discovery Of Penicillin

- “I would rather believe in fairies than in such wild speculation (as the Materialistic theory of evolution). I have said for years that speculations about the origin of life lead to no useful purpose as even the simplest living system is far too complex to be understood in terms of the extremely primitive chemistry scientists have used in their attempts to explain the unexplainable that happened billions of years ago. God cannot be explained away by such naive thoughts.”



SIR DEREK BARTON

1969 NOBEL LAUREATE IN CHEMISTRY

Conformational Analysis

- “God is Truth. There is no incompatibility between science and religion. Both are seeking the same truth. Science shows that God exists.”
- “The observations and experiments of science are so wonderful that the truth that they establish can surely be accepted as another manifestation of God. God shows himself by allowing man to establish truth.”



CHRISTIAN ANFINSEN

1972 NOBEL LAUREATE IN CHEMISTRY

Ribonuclease, Amino Acid Sequence And The
Biologically Active Conformation.”

- “I think only an idiot can be an atheist. We must admit that there exists an incomprehensible power or force with limitless foresight and knowledge that started the whole universe going in the first place.”
- “Clearly, an all-powerful, all-knowing entity must exist to explain our existence.”

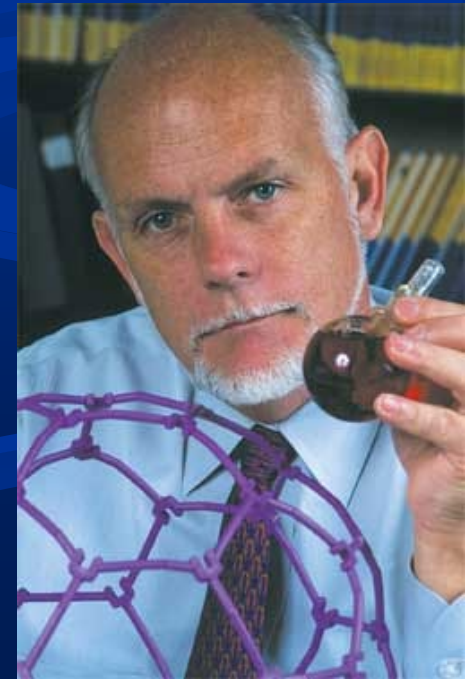


RICHARD SMALLEY

1996 NOBEL LAUREATE IN CHEMISTRY

Discovery Of Fullerenes, Father of Nanotechnology

- “Evolution has just been dealt its death blow. After reading ‘Origins of Life’, with my background in chemistry and physics, it is clear evolution could not have occurred. The new book, ‘Who Was Adam?’, is the silver bullet that puts the evolutionary model to death.”
 - *Origins of Life’ and ‘Who Was Adam?’ are authored by Dr. Hugh Ross (astrophysicist) and Dr. Fazale Rana (biochemist).*



SIR FRED HOYLE

Astrophysicist, Cambridge

Theory of Stellar Nucleosynthesis

- “A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology..”



WERNER VON BRAUN

Lead US Space Program Rocket Developer
and Champion of Space Exploration

- “Speaking for myself, I can only say that the grandeur of the cosmos serves only to confirm my belief in the certainty of a Creator...”
- “The universe revealed through scientific inquiry is the living witness that God has indeed been at work.”



Biblical Faith

- Hebrews 11:1 - Now faith is the **substance** of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not seen.
- 1 Peter 3:15 - But in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a **logical defense** to anyone who asks you for a **reason** for the hope that is in you..
- Faith begins with a **rational** evaluation of God-given **evidence** that enables **belief** which then matures into a relationship of implicit **trust** and **commitment** to God that is based on **love**.
- Unlike the claims of Richard Dawkins, Christian faith is not a mindless exercise in futility. It is solidly based on our God-given ability to **evaluate the evidence** he has given us.

References and Resources

- Nobelist.net
- *The Reason for God*, Timothy Keller
- *The Scientific Case for Creation*, Dr. Bert Thompson, Apologetics Press
- *Darwin's Birthday Poll*, Fox News, February 12, 2009
- *The Grand Experiment*, Dr. Carl Werner (Recommended by John Clayton)