Science-Related

(Rev. 05/25)

Are there really miracles?

I LOVE this question! I'm a magician; I deceive people for fun and profit! (Yep, I've been paid for performing magic shows.) Because of my training and research, I can (usually) tell you how a trick is done. At the very least, I can give you a starting point for it and, with a little time, I can usually reproduce a trick.

But miracles are another thing altogether! There are some of Jesus' miracles that I could recreate if I had enough time, money, equipment, and if I could pick where people stood. Some of the ones I could "fake" include:

- Feeding 5,000 men (Matthew 14:16-21)
- Walking on water (Mark 6:45-52)
- Catching a fish with a coin in it's mouth (Matthew 17:24-27)
- Withering a fig tree with no fruit (Matthew 21:18-22)

Just to do those four would require around \$500,000 and a semi truck filled with specialized gear...none of which Jesus had... Based on that, I would have to conclude that Jesus didn't fake these! Besides, that's not even counting the ones that I CANNOT recreate:

- Raising Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44)
- Healing a man born blind (John 9:1-41)
- Calming a storm (Luke 8:22-25)
- Rising from the dead (Matthew 28)

I can tell you which ones can be faked; I can't tell you how you could pull off the "real" ones. There is simply NO way to explain it other than by the power of God.

By the way, in closing, let me show you a verse:

Some of the Pharisees said, "This man Jesus is not from God, for he is working on the Sabbath." Others said, "But how could an ordinary sinner do such miraculous signs?" So there was a deep division of opinion among them. - John 9:16 (NLT)

Notice that the Pharisees were not arguing IF Jesus was doing miracles; they were arguing about where Jesus got the POWER to do miracles! Even those who hated Him didn't deny the fact that Jesus was doing something out of the ordinary.

By the way, why is this in the "science" section? Because if the Bible is correct in describing these events, then we need to account for how miracles could be possible. But, if God set the rules for how the universe works, then He also has the ability to bend those rules as He wills. That means that this is just as much about science as it is about faith!

Can you be a Christian and believe in evolution?

Certainly! You can believe in a lot of things and still be a Christian. The Bible – and God – give you that freedom to choose every single day. Now to do that, you have to believe that at least part of the Bible is wrong. What does that do to your faith in God? Only you can decide.

I can tell you one other thing: never believe in ANYTHING without doing the research first! That goes for Christianity as well as evolution. Read what the writers have to say, examine the evidence for yourself and go from there.

Could there have been billions of years after the creation of Adam and before the Fall? (Science dating match up with creation account.)

To answer this, I have to say...there COULD have been. But if that's the case, let's consider the Biblical Creation Account versus Big Bang Model:

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. - Romans 5:12 (NLT)

So when Adam sinned, death enters the world. If there are billions of years between creation and the Fall (Adam's sin), then you have billions of years of plants, animals, and people who don't die! (If you think the earth is overpopulated now, think about what that would have been like!) If death WAS present before Adam fell, then the Bible is lying about death entering through Adam.

In either case, adding a billion years means that you have to throw out the Bible because it's full of errors.

So if we can't change the Bible, what about changing the Big Bang Model Theory. I've mentioned these facts in *Why Is Carbon-14 Flawed?*

In other words, we have MANY examples of times that radiometric dating is wrong and that the earth isn't billions of years old.

The choice, then, is whether we believe God – whose stories have never changed; or humans – who have to keep moving the goalposts to try to get the science to work. Which you choose is up to you!

By the way, Jay Seegert of The Starting Point Project (https://www.thestartingpointproject.com/) has a lot of great resources that deal with the real age of the earth from a scientific viewpoint!

How do dinosaurs fit into the picture of the world?

This is a great question, and it needs WAY more space than I can give it here. So to start off, I want you to go check out a friend of mine's website: https://www.thestartingpointproject.com/ When you get there, click on the "Video Streaming" tab and watch someone way smarterer than I is explain this in a whole lot more detail!

To answer this, let's assume one important thing: the earth is young! Like 10,000 years-or-so young! (If the earth is billions of years old, than this is really a non-question because the dinosaurs lived, died, and then God created man.) So, if humans were around with the dinosaurs, then there would HAVE to be some mention of them in the Bible, right?

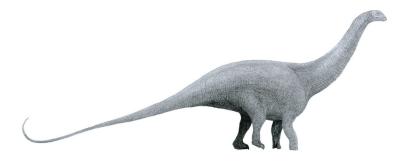
Check this out:

"Take a look at Behemoth, which I made, just as I made you. It eats grass like an ox. See its powerful loins and the muscles of its belly. Its tail is as strong as a cedar. The sinews of its thighs are knit tightly together. Its bones are tubes of bronze. Its limbs are bars of iron. It is a prime example of God's handiwork, and only its Creator can threaten it. The mountains offer it their best food, where all the wild animals play. It lies under the lotus plants, hidden by the reeds in the marsh. The lotus plants give it shade among the willows beside the stream. It is not disturbed by the raging river, not concerned when the swelling Jordan rushes around it. No one can catch it off guard or put a ring in its nose and lead it away." - Job 40:15-24 (NLT)

What do you have? You have an animal that lives in swamps, eats plants, is big enough that flooding rivers don't phase it, it's legs are huge and powerful, it has a big belly, and a tail the size of a cedar tree.

Most commentaries that I read say this is a hippo, but the description of the tail isn't even close! The reason they say that, though, is because they believe the earth is billions of years old and that dinosaurs died out long before man came around...in contradiction to what the Bible says, by the way.

However, reread that description with this image in mind:



Does that seem...familiar?

If Noah built the ark, then he could have easily taken juvenile dinosaurs on board. Furthermore, dinosaurs could have been still alive from the time of Noah to the time of Job.

By the way, fun fact: Did you know that there are petroglyphs that show dinosaurs? Did you know that many cultures have myths about "dragons" – large lizards that sometimes terrorized people? Finally, did you know that scientists have found "65 million year old dinosaurs" that had elastic tissue (collagen) and intact red blood cells?

These three facts – petroglyphs, stories of dragons, and tissue that could NOT survive 65 million years – seems to be a problem for the whole idea of dinosaurs dying out long before human ancestors arrive, right?

And speaking of dinosaurs, go check out "Leviathan" in Job 41. (It's also referenced in Isaiah 27, Psalm 74, and Psalm 104.) See if that sounds more like a whale, like I've heard some people describe it; or if it sounds like something else.

How do you explain dinosaurs and humans living in the same era when their fossils have never been found in the same geological strata?

I read this and I knew that I needed to kick this up the food chain. So, I emailed Jay Seegert and asked him for his insight. Here's his answer:

I'll give you a short bullet point responses for now...

- Lions and humans live together today, but they don't live in the same area for obvious reasons!
- We generally find things fossilized WHERE they were living at the time of the Flood, not WHEN they existed in history, since they all existed at the same time (the time of the Flood).
- 95% of the fossil record consists of marine invertebrates (sea creatures w/o skeletons). Relatively few creatures such as elephants, chimps, squirrels, rabbits, dinosaurs or people were fossilized. They were much more mobile and worked at escaping the rising flood waters, until they drowned and their bodies completely decomposed, leaving no trace whatsoever. A few were buried rapidly under sediments and those are the ones that fossilized.
- Skipping the details for now, estimates tell us that even if every single human being alive at the time of the flood was buried and preserved, we would only expect to find one person in every cubic mile of sediment!

Let me know if this helps. If you need more info, let me know!

How do you feel about Biblical cosmology?

Actually, I'm not sure what you mean by this, mostly because I've heard it used in different ways over the years. If you mean "Biblical Astronomy" – or looking through a telescope to see the evidence for God – then I'm totally in favor of it! In fact, the Psalmist puts it this way:

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. - Psalm 19:1-4b (NLT)

We can learn a lot about God by looking at the universe. (He is Spirit, eternal, omnipotent, creative, loving, intelligent, logical, etc. If you want to learn about this, come find me!)

If you mean it, as others have told me, that you're using the stars and planets to determine when the world will end, that's "astrology" and the Bible condemns it as heresy! (The only time astrology is "allowed" is when the Wise Men follow a "star".)

As far as the other portions of this question:

If the sun was created on Day 4, what was the earth spinning around?

The easiest answer is that the earth wasn't spinning around anything. When God creates the stars, He

creates everything from the solar system – and that's when we begin to orbit the Sun; as well as the galaxies – which start moving through space. The Bible never says we "orbit" anything before the creation of the Sun.

Also, just so you know, if you throw God out, you still have the same problem. How did galaxies get started without forming super-dense black holes? Where did the first gravity come from? Why, because of the initial expansion rate of the universe, did everything not fly apart?

It's not that "science has all the answers". In fact, both views come down to faith. Do we have faith in what God tells us or do we have faith that humans have figured it out...even though they keep revising their theories?

Also, the Bible states God created two great lights...but man states sun's light reflects off the moon. I actually answer this in another question: "Is the moon a distinct and its own separate light as described in Genesis 1?" later on in this document. To sum up the argument, the Bible never makes the statement, "The moon has its own light!" In Genesis, it's just talking about the fact that it's the brightest thing in the night sky.

When we do compare science and the Bible, we need to be VERY careful to make sure we know both what the Bible *does* and *does not* say.

I trust the Bible, but I also trust science. Which do I trust more?

This is actually a GREAT question! Unfortunately, I may not answer this as well as you would like. If I miss something, please let me know.

The first thing you have to know is that the conflict between the Bible and "science" is fairly new. In fact, most of the scientists in history have been Christians who were seeking to understand the mind of God. (In fact, theology – the study of God – was considered "The Queen of the Sciences".)

Do you want some examples of people who saw no conflict between the Bible and science?

- Charles Babbage
- Georges Cuvier
- Michael Faraday
- John Ambrose Fleming
- Johannes Kepler
- Joseph Lister
- Matthew Maury
- James Clerk Maxwell
- Gregor Mendel
- Isaac Newton
- Blaise Pascal
- Lord Rayleigh

If you don't know who these people are, look them up. These men – there were women, too, but this isn't meant to be a comprehensive list – believed in God...and actually FOUNDED their respective branches of science!

By the way, the Bible encourages our scientific exploration! Check out these verses from Psalm 19:

The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship. Day after day they continue to speak; night after night they make him known. They speak without a sound or word; their voice is never heard. Yet their message has gone throughout the earth, and their words to all the world. - Psalm 19:1-4a (NLT)

We can learn a lot about God by checking out His Creation!

So, where does the conflict come in? Well, in modern science, the goal is to get rid of God FIRST, and then do science second. Don't believe me? Check out this quote from Harvard geneticist and atheist, Richard Lewontin:

The problem is to get [people] to reject irrational and supernatural explanations of the world, the demons that exist only in their imaginations, and to accept a social and intellectual apparatus, Science, as the only begetter of truth. - Richard Lewontin, Review of: Carl Sagan, The Demon-Haunted World..., 1997

So Lewontin says that people who believe in God are irrational. In other words, they aren't very smart, they don't have logical thoughts, they can't reason, and they don't understand. If only those "religious people" weren't dumb, they would understand that Science – with a capital "S"! – is the only way to know the world around us!

Lewontin, even goes further in his explanation:

"Our willingness to accept scientific claims that are against common sense is the key to an understanding of the real struggle between science and the supernatural. We take the side of science in spite of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, in spite of its failure to fulfill many of its extravagant promises of health and life, in spite of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism.

In other words, get this! Lewontin says, "Don't believe in common sense! If it's clearly garbage that science is teaching you, believe it, anyhow! It's WAY better to believe in made-up stories coming from a human than to believe in God!"

Then he goes on:

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, that we are forced by our a priori adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counter-intuitive, no matter how mystifying to the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door. - Richard Lewontin, "Billions and Billions of Demons", 1997 (Emphasis Added)

In other words, we start with the assumption that there is no "god"...and we never, ever allow the evidence to point back to God! In fact, what Lewontin is saying is that if God DID show up to talk to an atheist and explain how He created...everything, the atheist would use the following "scientific" steps:

- 1. Put your fingers in your ears.
- 2. Close your eyes.

- 3. Curl into a ball.
- 4. Mutter to yourself, "I can't see You! I can't hear You! Lalalalalala!"

And this is scientific...how?

The correct way to do science is to follow the facts to where they lead; not to start with an assumption and either twist or throw out facts that don't match your assumption.

By the way, there are many excellent scientists today doing world-class research and who are Christians.

If you want to learn more science – and see God's fingerprints all over Creation – I want to encourage you to go check out The Starting Point Project by my friend Jay Seegert. You can find their videos online at:

https://www.thestartingpointproject.com/

In your opinion, could the world be flat? Biblically, would it matter?

This is a fun question. Why? Because you're asking my opinion! I have LOTS of opinions, and some of them even make sense!

So let's deal with this:

- A long time ago, I was tasked by my father to calculate the curvature of the earth based on the
 perceived height of objects at a distance. My math was terrible, but I came up with a "falling
 away" of about ten feet. The correct answer is about 16 feet over ten miles, so I was close! (I
 was also in fifth grade when he made me do the calculations. So, based on what we observe,
 the earth is round.
- Next, I went with my family up to Pike's Peak in Colorado. Standing up there, you can actually SEE the curvature of the earth. This picture doesn't do it justice, but here you go:



- If you look closely at the land, you can see the curvature. (It's MUCH more obvious if you're standing up there...and not about to pass out from lack of oxygen!)
- Finally, there were Christians on many NASA missions and they reported the earth being a sphere. Because of that, I have no reason to actually doubt them.

So, that being said, I don't have any doubts that we're living on a "big blue marble".

Does it matter Biblically, though? That's another question, and the answer is simply...nope! Why? Because the Bible doesn't specifically describe either a flat earth or a sphere.

We're told in Isaiah 40:

God sits above the circle of the earth. The people below seem like grasshoppers to him! - Isaiah 40:22 (NLT)

But all you can get out of this is the earth is a circle, not a sphere!

Other phrases that people point to for a flat earth include references to "the ends of the earth" – which is always figurative language; the "four corners" – which means the cardinal directions; etc. They are never literally referring to a flat earth! So, is the earth flat? Science says "no" and I tend to agree with them.

Would it matter Biblically? Actually, if the Bible DID say the earth was flat and we can prove it was a sphere, I would tell you to throw your entire Bible out! If the Bible gets something like that wrong, it's not worth believing in. (If God can't write a book, why would you listen to Him?)

Since God is expanding the universe, what is the universe expanding in to?

Short Answer: Nothing! Yay! I'm done! (But that's probably not enough, is it?) Before I get to the long answer, please know that there IS debate over an expanding universe. All right, so here we go:

Long Answer: When I first explained this idea to students, I drew stars and galaxies on the OUTSIDE of a balloon and then blew it up. As I did that, everything expanded and spread apart. In some ways, that example was...wrong. (I cheated because it was easier to do!)

To do it correctly, I should have drawn the pictures on the INSIDE of the balloon, not the outside! (I'm just not really talented enough to pull that off!) As the universe expands, we see all of the materials moving away from each other – which is true – but we can't see "outside" the universe like we could if we were on the outside of the balloon.

So, what is it expanding in to? Nothing! Scientists think that it's actually CREATING more space as it goes! Can't wrap your head around that? No one really can.

On the bright side, if it's true, that means the God of the Bible is infinitely more complex than we can wrap our heads around. That, to me, is a good thing! What good is a God that's the same as I am?

Were the days of creation six literal days?

Okay, I LOVE this question! Mostly because I was originally of the viewpoint that these were "Day Ages", and that it wasn't six 24-hour periods. Now, many, many years later, after a TON of research, I find myself on the other side of the debate!

So, with that, let's look at a sample verse:

God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day. - Genesis 1:5 (NLT)

The Hebrew word for day here is "via" (yom). The word "yom" is used 2,301 times in the Old Testament. In those uses, it indicates a 24-hour period of time. (Daniel 8:26 is the only exception.) Because of that, it seems reasonable to assume that "the first day" means a 24-hour period of time. (Source: https://www.gotquestions.org/Genesis-days.html)

Next, if it refers to "day ages", we run into some logical problems:

On the third day, God creates plants. Assuming that "yom" is a day age, that means there was a million years of sunlight, followed by a million years of darkness. The plants, dependent on photosynthesis, live – then die – in the million-year-darkness of the third day!

On the fourth day, God creates the Sun, moon, and stars – celestial objects we're all familiar with. The Sun burns for a million years, then is out for a million years...then it turns back on?

On the fifth day, God creates the animals which need the plants for food. But the plants died off on the third day... And, again, they would have died off on the fourth day... So, what do the animals eat? Nothing. So, they all starve to death on day five.

Any way you look at it, day-ages don't make any sense in Genesis.

Next, we have to visit Exodus 20:11:

For in six days the LORD made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy. - Exodus 20:11 (NLT)

So, what does this passage say? It says that Creation lasted six literal days. If it turns out that these were day-ages, then God – the one we're trying to follow – is lying to us! Or, maybe He's confused about how long it took Him to make everything? Either way, He's not a God worth following if He's a liar or confused!

Or, the other option is that a day is literally a "day".

Finally (for now), we're told in Romans 5 when death came into the world:

When Adam sinned, sin entered the world. Adam's sin brought death, so death spread to everyone, for everyone sinned. - Romans 5:12 (NLT)

With this verse, we have a problem:

If Genesis 1 is all "day ages", then plants, animals, and Adam and Eve were all immortal, since death doesn't enter the world until Adam sins. You had plants, animals, and even humans that lived for millions and millions of years — assuming they didn't die out in the dark and cold. None of this makes sense.

By the way, if they DID die out, then death entered BEFORE Adam and the Bible is lying.

All-in-all, Genesis 1 really only makes sense in light of a day being...a day!

What does the Bible say about evolution?

In a nutshell? Nothing. To understand that, we need to go back to the beginning:

Then God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind." So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. Then God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth." And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

Then God said, "Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals." And that is what happened. God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground." - Genesis 1:20-26 (NLT)

Notice that when God speaks, *poof!* All of the fish, sea creatures, animals and humans appear fully-formed. God doesn't say:

Let the one-celled creature appear. Good, now split into a multi-cellular organism. Continue to evolve over billions of years! Split here! Change there! And...mutate!

Could God have used evolution to create life? Yep! That's one of the perks to being God! The Bible doesn't say it that way, however; instead it says that God molds us from the earth and then breathes into us the "breath of life". When Adam starts to live, he is fully human with no intervening steps along the way.

What's the difference between Christianity and evolution?

This is an interesting question and I think it gets to the heart of some of the other questions that I've already answered. Simply put, they're more alike than most people realize! For example:

- Both evolution and Christianity try to answer the question of, "Where do we come from?" Evolution says that you're a fluke; Christianity says that you're a Creation of God.
- Both evolution and Christianity speak to purpose. Evolution says you have none except to reproduce; Christianity says that you can be God's Child!
- Both evolution and Christianity require faith. You have to accept that either the scientists have figured out how it all began, all of the steps to evolution (including how each cell in an eye formed, the steps in evolving wings, etc.), or you have to believe God when He says how the universe came to be.
- Both speak of the nature of "good" and "evil". Evolution says that you can't call anything "evil"; it's just "evil to you" and "good" is simply something that you, personally, like. Christianity says that humans choose to do evil, that there's a penalty for doing bad things and that God came to save us from our sins. Also, Christianity says that God is "good" and the source of goodness.
- Both have "sacred texts". Evolution has <u>Origin of the Species</u>; Christianity has the Bible.
- Both have "prophets", people who helped to spread the message of what to believe. Evolution has Dawkins, Huxley, Haeckel, and others. Christianity has Moses, Isaiah, and Paul.
- Both have had atrocities committed in their names. Hitler tried to create a "master race" by eliminating the people he considered genetically inferior (evolution); the Catholic Church killed thousands when they ignored the teachings of Jesus.
- Both provoke strong feelings in people. I've been cursed at as a teenager for NOT believing in God, and I've been cursed at as an adult FOR believing in God.
- Both claim to have "truth". Evolution claims that scientists (humans) are the source of truth; Christianity claims that God and His Son, Jesus, are truth.

In the end, both evolution and Christianity are "religions". On a basic level, a religion is simply a belief system about a "God" or "gods". For Christians, that God is the God of the Bible. For evolution, it is the god Nature who "selects", "chooses", "adapts" and "changes" living beings into new living beings.

Both of these groups look at the same evidence and come up with radically different interpretations. Why? Because both are seeing what they believe to be true. It's just that with evolution, it starts with the belief that there is NO God; with Christianity is starts with the belief in a personal, loving God.

Which one will you choose?

Why do you believe young earth theory?

This is a GREAT question. The first thing I would like to do is to refer you to a book: <u>Creation and Evolution</u>, by Jay Seegert. To give you a quick view of why I'm a "young earth" Creationist, let me hit some of the highlights,

On the negative side:

- The radiometric dating systems that we use have flaws. (See "Why is Carbon-14 dating flawed?")
- In the 1700s, James Hutton, a geologist, decided that you couldn't use any Biblical stories to explain the features of the earth. Therefore he decided the earth had to be a million years old.
- In the 1800s, Charles Lyell, a Scottish lawyer, decided there was no worldwide flood, so he extended the age of the earth to "multiplied millions" of years to account for what was visible.
- From these first two dates, we've finally reached an age of four billion years. But, in an article I read in 2023, they're talking about extending it and the age of the universe back another billion or more years, since they still can't make evolution work and they want more time. (Remember: If you have enough time, somehow...life happens!)

So, we can't actually date the age of the earth with radiometric dating. The idea that the earth is "ancient" came about because people rejected the Bible and then needed to find a way to account for the land forms that we see. Evolutionists have pushed the age back even more to try to find a way to make the impossible happen.

On the plus side:

- Genesis 1 talks about "days" as a 24-hour period of time. Not millions or billions of years. (See "Were the days of creation six literal days?")
- If God created us in His image, as the Bible says, there would not be any need for millions or billions of years for us to evolve. (By the way, there was a new article I read in January 2024 that says that the keynote speaker at an evolution symposium talked about the need to come up with a new evolutionary system since Darwinian evolution had failed.)
- If we take Genesis 1-2 literally, then the rest of the Bible makes sense. We have a literal Adam, a literal Eve, literal sin, literal death, etc. Otherwise, if we throw out Genesis 1-2, then Romans is wrong (it talks about a literal Adam), 1 Corinthians 15 is wrong (it talks about Adam), Jesus is wrong (Matthew 19 talks about the beginning of Creation), etc.

I would argue that it takes more faith to believe in evolution than it does to believe in Creation. It creates more confusion to believe in an "old earth" and then try to reconcile it with Christianity than it does to believe in a "young earth". Finally, I think the burden of proof is on the "old earth" crowd to come up with compelling evidence to back there views, rather than to accept the literal Biblical view.

By the way, if you want a FANTASTIC video that address the geology of the earth and how it points to a young earth, please be sure to watch, "Is Genesis History?"

Why does the Bible say the Earth was created in 7 days when it's proven it was made over like billions of years? Is it interpreted wrong?

This is one of the most common questions I get when I work with teens. To answer it, we need to look at Genesis 1:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. - Genesis 1:1 (NLT)

So the Bible tells us that God creates time (the beginning), space, (the heavens), and matter (the earth). Scientists hated the idea so much that Einstein changed his theory of relativity because it seemed to prove the Bible true.

Nowadays, nobody doubts that the universe – and time, space, and matter – had a beginning. The Bible was right all along!

Then the Bible goes on to say that God creates the universe and everything in it in six days. (He rest on the seventh.) But science has proven that wrong...hasn't it? Well, it depends on what you consider to be "proof".

The first thing I would like to do is to refer you to a book: <u>Creation and Evolution</u>, by Jay Seegert. (You can also read more from him in the question: "*Why is Carbon-14 dating flawed?*")

Then, there's the reasons they decided the earth was older:

- In the 1700s, James Hutton, a geologist, decided that you couldn't use any Biblical stories to explain the features of the earth. Therefore he decided the earth had to be a million years old.
- In the 1800s, Charles Lyell, a Scottish lawyer, decided there was no worldwide flood, so he extended the age of the earth to "multiplied millions" of years to account for what was visible.
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So, we can't actually date the age of the earth with radiometric dating. The idea that the earth is "ancient" came about because people rejected the Bible and then needed to find a way to account for the land forms that we see. Evolutionists have pushed the age back more and more to try to find a way to make the impossible happen.

Has it been "proven" that the age of the earth is billions of years old? Well, the science doesn't actually agree, no matter who claims to know it!

In the end, it comes down to a matter of faith since none of us were actually there. Do we believe what God says – when the facts of the Bible have been proven mathematically, scientifically, historically, geologically, etc. – or do we believe what humans say, especially when they have to keep changing the dates to try to make their "science" work. That's up to you!

By the way, if you want a FANTASTIC video that address the geology of the earth and how it points to a young earth, please be sure to watch, "Is Genesis History?"

Why is Carbon-14 dating flawed?

Okay, this question could take me a LONG time to answer. Why? Because the science is complicated, detailed, and, in some cases, overwhelming. Be that as it may, I'm going to try to answer this is the space I have left. (This is VERY simplistic and scientists who read this will cringe...a lot. Just keep in mind that I am trying to write it so that everyone understands.)

Carbon-14 dating is part of a broader series of dating systems called "radiometric dating". This includes Carbon-14, but also has other options like potassium-argon, uranium-lead, etc. Each one claims to be able to "date" the earth in various ways.

Carbon-14, the one being asked about, is based on a radioactive isotope of the element carbon. It's created by high energy particles from the Sun interacting with Nitrogen-14 in the atmosphere. Carbon-14 is unstable and doesn't want to stay Carbon-14, instead it wants to go back to Nitrogen-14. Unfortunately, some of the Carbon-14 is formed into a radioactive version of carbon dioxide. This is absorbed into plants and then into the animals that eat the plants. (Or the animals that eat animals that eat plants.)

Plants and animals are constantly taking in both Carbon-12, which is stable, and Carbon-14, which is not. When the plant or animal in question dies, it doesn't absorb anymore Carbon-14, all it does is "lose" Carbon-14 as it breaks down. By comparing the ratio of Carbon-14 to the stable Carbon-12, we can see how long ago the organism died.

By the way, theoretically after about 100,000 years, Carbon-14 is totally gone. (That's a whole other story!) Because of this, you CANNOT date something past that point! In other words, you cannot use this on dinosaur bones, if they truly are 65 million years old! (This also cannot be used to test rocks or other non-organic substances.)

Unfortunately, there are a LOT of assumptions. These include things like: Zero Initial Daughter Element, Closed System, Constant Decay Rate, etc. Rather than try to explain these, you just need to know that scientists assume that the way everything works now is EXACTLY the same as it did in the past...even though we have evidence that shows that systems change over time...

So, what happens if we do the science wrong? Well...

• In Russia, they tested coal that was supposedly 300 million years old. Unfortunately, Carbon-14 testing revealed it to be about 1,700 years old. So which do we believe? (By the way, all coal is supposed to be millions of years old, but there has never been a sample that didn't include some Carbon-14!)

- Carbon-14 was used to date two parts of a frozen baby mammoth. One part of the mammoth was supposedly 40,000 years old, but the other part was only 26,000 years old. So it grew it's head and then had to wait another 14,000 years to get its backside? What sense does this make?
- Scientists tested a freshly-killed seal and found out that it had apparently died 1,300 years ago. Is this an error in Carbon-14 dating or the start of the zombie-seal apocalypse?
- Some scientists won't even test some specimens because they ASSUME that it's too old. What would happen if they DID test it and found it younger than their assumptions?

By the way, just in case you think the other forms of dating are "better", well...

- One rock sample was tested using potassium-argon and was found to be 842 million years old. That SAME sample was tested using samarium-neodymium and found to be 1.379 billion years old! (That's a different of 537 million years!)
- A lava flow from 1800-01 was dated using potassium-argon and found to be around 3 billion years old! (They grow up so fast, don't they?)

Perhaps the most telling description of the accuracy of radiometric dating comes from a geological guidebook from Australia:

"Also, the relative ages [of the radiometric dating results] must always be consistent with the geological evidence... If a contradiction occurs, then the cause of the error needs to be established or the radiometric results are unacceptable." - Seegert (2014)

In other words, "If the highly-accurate dating system disagrees with what scientists believe, you are to listen to the scientists, not the highly-accurate dating system!" Um, if it's that exact, why not have the scientists change their views?

By the way, most of this is taken from Jay Seegert's book, <u>Creation and Evolution</u>, if you want to read more!

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