

Objection 3- The Supposed Conflict Between
Science and the Bible
Isaiah 40:8

It is firmly my belief that there is no conflict with science that would cause me to doubt the Bible. For many people, even some Christians, I do not think they have researched some of the claims of the Bible in specific areas in order to address this issue.

1. The Earth Hangs on Nothing in Space

He stretches out the north over empty space; He hangs the earth on nothing. (Job 26:7)

This was written app. 3500 yrs ago. There were several popular theories in ancient times about the earth. Some thought it was on the back of an animal.

2. The Earth is Round

***It is He who sits above the circle of the earth,
And its inhabitants are like grasshoppers,
Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain,
And spreads them out like a tent to dwell in. (Isaiah 40:22)***

This was written around 740 BC (see 6:1). From our school studies, we all know that the Earth was commonly thought to be flat. While others thought they would sail off the edge of a flat world, according to Christopher Columbus' diary, the scriptures inspired him to sail around the world. In reference to his discovery of the New World, he said it was *marvelous illumination from the Holy Scriptures* that comforted him to make his journey.

3. The Earth's Hydrological Cycle (Waters journey on earth)

***He ... Who calls for the waters of the sea,
And pours them out on the face of the earth—
The LORD is His name. (Amos 5:8 & 9:6)***

See also Ecclesiastes 1:6-7 for wind currents and the hydrological cycle

Describe rain, evaporation... Aristotle spoke of this around 350 BC. And Barnard Palissy is credited as the discoverer of the modern theory of the water cycle around 1580 AD. His theory was not scientifically tested until 1674 AD. But Amos wrote about it app. 2800 yrs ago.

4. The Earth's Oceanography

And the fish of the sea

That pass through the paths of the seas. (Psalm 8:8)

Does the sea have paths? It was discovered to have paths we call currents in the 1850's. Look at the map of the currents of the world. The one we hear about most is the Gulf Stream. It affects our weather and climate.

Science continues to catch up to the truths of God's Word.

Here is the problem. Ray Comfort, who has written more than 80 books and his videos are viewed by people around the world, was scheduled to speak in a debate on the existence of God and he received a letter that said, *How sad for you to have so completely surrendered your intellect to an ignorant, prescientific book. I know about your upcoming debate... I won't be there...* That's the problem. People close their minds to scripture and put their faith in man. This person refuses to hear the debate so they only know one side. **I feel certain they have heard the criticisms of the Bible but not the facts of the Bible.** The writer is completely wrong on the claim that the Bible is ignorant.

From an interview with William Lane Craig by Lee Strobel on the subject of whether miracles contradict science. (The Case for Faith, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, 2000)

If God did not exist, then miracles would be absurd. But if we believe in God, we understand miracles are possible.

Atheist philosopher Michael Ruse said, *Creationist believe the world started miraculously. But miracles lie outside of science...*

[End quote] William Lane Craig agreed stating, *The goal of science is to seek natural explanations, and therefore miracles lie outside of the scientific realm.*

Science examines what happens under idealized conditions with no other factors interfering. This is why they have sanitized labs with controlled environments.

EX: Gravity- I throw a ball into the air. It will come back down b/c of the law of Gravity... unless something interferes or inserts itself into the path of the ball. This does not conflict with science. It is something inserted into the natural law.

In a miracle from God, He simply inserts His power into the situation for His purposes and glory.

Craig mentions a theistic form of science where people like mathematician William Dembski and biochemist Michael Behe *infer by principled means that there is an Intelligent Designer of the universe and the biological world*. They conclude this from evidence.

The miracles of the Bible, especially during Jesus time, were signs of the in-breaking of the kingdom of God into human history.

a super condensed version of William Lane Craig's reasons for believing in God:

Reason #1: God Makes Sense of the Universe's Origin

(philosophically and scientifically)

Something coming from nothing doesn't make sense.

Reason #2: God Makes Sense of the Universe's Complexity

From the beginning, the universe had to be fine-tuned to an incomprehensible precision for the existence of life like ourselves. Craig quotes Hawkings writings, *He has calculated that if the rate of the universe's expansion one second after the Big Bang had been smaller by even one part in a hundred thousand million million, the universe would have collapsed into a fireball.* (George Johnson, *Science and Religion: Bridging the Great Divide*, The New York Times, June 30, 1998)

Reason #3: God Makes Sense of Objective Moral Values

If God does not exist, then objective moral values do not exist. If there is no God, morality is a matter of personal preference.

Reason #4: God Makes Sense of the Resurrection

Reason #5: God Can Immediately Be Experienced

This is what its all about. Not just knowing about God but coming to know Him as our Lord and Savior.

If one takes the time to peer into the telescope and microscope of scientists, to examine the systems of the laws of the universe, and to consider the complexity of everything that exists; evidence would demand at least an option of the existence of a God Who transcends everything and maybe the evidence would offer a loving, all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present God Who invites us to be part of His eternal family through faith in His Son Jesus Christ.