To explain the source of membranes, and eardrums and a mind; it makes more sense to go to an Intelligent Creator and work <u>down</u>, than to a pile of dirt and work <u>up</u>."

Creation reveals His **mystery**. When our minds turn towards God, logic comes to a dead end. How can anything (including God) not be created? I could say more, but that is above my pay grade.

Creation tells us, God is **wise** and **powerfu**l. He has the power to hurl trillions of flaming suns into space. He had the wisdom to surround our planet with an ozone layer to protect us from the sun's radiation; and put our sun just the right distance from earth, for us to sustain life.

Creation tells us, God is a **person.** He is not a power like electricity or some kind of cosmic force. Gasses and electricity cannot produce the smile of a baby or the courage of a soldier.

The Bible does not waste one drop of ink trying to prove God. It knows, we know it and just says, "In the beginning God.." (Genesis 1:1). It just puts Him here and tells us to deal with it.

CONSCIENCE (John 1:3-5)

Growing up, I loved to hunt with dogs. When you open the truck door, you are both excited. When you come up on your prey, his hair bristles on the back of his neck, poised and ready to go. Your hair bristles on the back of your neck, shotgun in hand, ready to say, "go".

Later, when you sit down to rest, he lays down to rest because he is tired and you are tired. When you take two ham sandwiches out of a sack, your mouth waters and his mouth waters. When you close your eyes, bow your head and thank God, you **have left that dog behind.**

Created in His image (Genesis 1-2), we have His **"life"** in us. Part of that image is the **"light"** of conscience - **"His laws written on our hearts"** (Romans 12). We instinctively know that some things are right and some are wrong. We may differ on what is right and wrong, but we still feel there are some lines we should not cross.

If a dog kills its puppy that is **sad**; but if a man beats a puppy to death for the fun of it, that is **bad** and we instinctively feel he should be punished. No animal feels bad about the food it steals and brings it back. It can be trained to, but never feels it *"ought"* to do it.

The TV documentary, "48 Hours" told of a man who came to the police and confessed to the crime of rape and murder. Another man was a few days away from being executed for that crime. He said, "I am a Marine who served in Vietnam. I read this week that the man to be executed, was a Marine who served in Vietnam. I just couldn't let a fellow Marine die, for something I did." In a vile human being like that, there was a conscience, the inner voice of God.

One thing the universe does **not** tell us is, that God **loves us**. We think we see God's love and goodness in things like a spring rain that brings out the beautiful flowers. Then we learn that same rain swept a school bus full of children, off a road to their deaths. We find His love revealed in the Bible that tells us, He came to earth in Jesus.

Jesus' holy fingers formed the bough, Where grew the thorns that crowned His brow. The nails that pierced His hands were mined,

In secret places He designed.

He made the forests whence there sprung,

The tree on which His body hung. He died upon a cross of wood,

Yet, made the hill on which it stood. The sun which hid from Him, its face,

By His decree, was poised in space. The sky which darkened o'er His head, By Him, above the earth was spread.

The spear that spilt His precious blood, Was tempered in the fires of God.

The grave in which His form was laid, Was hewn in rocks, His hands had made.

- Author Unknown