

# AGE OF THE EARTH

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.** But do this with gentleness and respect, 1 Peter 3:15 (NIV)

# Topic: Age of the Earth

## Discuss and Summarize the Secular Worldview:

Sample Summary: The Big Bang happened 13.8 billion years ago forming the universe, the Earth forms 4.5 billion years ago, the first life forms 3.8 billion years ago, the end of the dinosaur age is 65 million years ago, man first appears 200,000 years ago, the last ice age was 20,000 years ago, first civilization began 8,000-10,000 years ago. What caused the Big Bang or what happened prior is under debate.

## Discuss and Summarize the Christian Worldview:

Sample Summary: God spoke the heavens and Earth into existence in six-24 hour days, a little over 6,000 years ago. Creation is evidence of a Creator. Adam was the first man and using the genealogies listed throughout the Bible, we can get an approximate calculation of the number of years since Creation Week.

## Why This is Important:

How we got here and why are fundamental to all of life's questions, how we view ourselves, and our purpose. If Genesis is myth, biblical authority is gone and calls into question our salvation in Christ.

## Scripture Says:

Genesis 1-2, Genesis 5, Exodus 20:1-3, Exodus 20:11, Exodus 31:17, Deuteronomy 9:10, 1 Chronicles 1-9, Psalm 19:1-6, Psalm 115:15-16, Isaiah 45:18, Matthew 1:1-17, Matthew 24:38-39, Mark 10:6, Mark 13:19, Luke 3:23-38, Luke 11:50-51, John 1:1-5, John 5:45-47, John 3:14, Romans 1:20, Colossians 1:16-17, Hebrews 11:3, 2 Peter 3:3-7

## Worth Considering:

- The secular age for Earth has changed significantly over time.
- The only eyewitness account of creation is by God the Father, Son, and Spirit, as recorded by Moses in Genesis 1-2.
- God created time at Creation on Day 1. He exists outside of time.
- Using the Biblical genealogies (including rounding), other Bible clues, and some world history, the Earth is roughly 6,000 years old. Creation at 4004 BC, the Flood 2348 BC, Babel 2246 BC, Abraham 1996 BC, Joseph 1745 BC, Moses and Exodus 1491

BC, David 1085 BC, Monarchy Divides 975 BC, Assyrian Destruction of Israel 722 BC, Babylonian Captivity of Judah, 586 BC, Jesus born, 4 BC, Jesus crucified and risen, 33 AD, temple destroyed 70 AD.

- The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics, or Entropy, states that systems move from order to disorder. The universe is orderly and beautiful.
- While it is not specifically recorded that Jesus said heaven and Earth were made in six days, Jesus clearly believed accounts of Old Testament events were literal history and authoritative. He often said "have you not read?" or "have you not heard?"
- Per Answers in Genesis, the 10 best physical evidences for a young Earth are:
  - 1) Very little sediment on the sea floor
  - 2) Smooth bends in rock layers throughout the world, i.e. a lack of cracking in Grand Canyon walls
  - 3) Soft tissue found in dinosaur bones
  - 4) The faint sun paradox
  - 5) The rapidly decaying magnetic field
  - 6) Helium in radioactive rocks
  - 7) Carbon-14 present in fossils, coal, and diamonds
  - 8) Short-lived comets
  - 9) Very little salt in the sea
  - 10) DNA in "ancient" bacteria

## Questions to Consider:

- Some Christians believe that God used the Big Bang and evolution over long periods of time to create. Is this plausible?
- Are naturalistic processes able to make orderliness or beauty?
- Do you think a naturalistic creation is possible mathematically?
- If evolution is true, then nothing matters when we die. Why do evolutionists spend so much effort attacking creationism?
- Is God able to create the heavens and the Earth in six-24 hour days? His Word says He did. Why do so few Christians believe it?
- If Genesis 1-2 is myth, when does the Bible become truthful?
- While not a salvation issue, does belief in the Big Bang or billions of years negatively impact a Christian's faith?
- What compromises are acceptable regarding biblical authority?
- Has today's discussion made you reconsider any of your views?

## For Further Investigation on This Topic:

<https://answersingenesis.org/evidence-for-creation/10-best-evidences-young-earth/>