

**Beginnings – ORIGIN** *(Where did we come from?)*

- **Only Two Choices**
- **Realize the Significance**
- **Is it Faith or Science?**
  - LAB - Lookable, Accessible, Breakable
- **Guess at the Evidence**
- **Inspect the Evidence**
  - Universe = "Decay"
  - Age of the Earth = "Can't Say"
  - Origin of Life by Chance = "No Way"
  - Evolution of Species and Man = "Lacks Genes and Tweens"
- **No Compromise**

DON'T - Death, Orders of Creation, Names in genealogies, Ten Commandments refer to seven-day week

**Intent of Life – LIFE** *(Why are we here?)*

- **Love - GOD and MAN**
- **Increase - GROW**
- **Faithfulness - Time, Talent, Treasure**
- **Eternity – Past, Present, Future**

**Authority – POWER** *(Who's in charge?)* A God Who is:

- **Personal and Loving**
- **Omnipotent**
- **Wise and All-Knowing**
- **Everywhere and Eternal**
- **Righteous and Reliable**

**Standards – RULES** *(What are the rules?)* God's rules are:

- **Revealed supernaturally, not derived by reason**
- **Universal and apply to everyone, everywhere, all the time**
- **Loving**
- **Enforced**
- **Steadfast**

# I - Inspect the Evidence

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To approach this systematically we'll look individually at five major areas of evidence about our origins.

1. Origin and Age of the Universe
2. Age of the Earth
3. Life from non-living matter
4. Complex animals from simple life
5. Man from animals

## Nature of the Universe

Before we get into the evidence found on earth we'll first examine the evidence found outside of the earth. Since the earth is part of the universe, the origin of the universe should help us understand the origin of the earth. Here are the expectations:

Creationist Expectation	Evolutionist Expectation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>The universe had a beginning.</b> Time, space, and matter were spoken into being at the same instant.</li><li>2. <b>The creation process is finished.</b> Creation consisted of processes that are no longer in effect.</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>The universe has always been in existence</b> or had a natural origin.</li><li>2. <b>The processes that we currently observe should explain the origin of the universe.</b></li></ol>

## The Evidence

Probably the two most accepted "laws" of how the universe works are the 1st and 2nd Laws of Thermodynamics. These are really just generalizations that agree with all scientific data and observation we currently have, and they haven't been "proven" in a strict sense. However, the tremendous amount of supporting evidence makes these two of the primary examples of scientific laws.

- a. The first law states that energy can be transferred to another place or transformed to another form, **but energy can be neither created nor destroyed**. The law does not state **why** this is so or **how** the original energy was created, but the law itself is always observed.
- b. The second law states that **the universe is constantly getting more disorderly**. Everything is deteriorating, and useful energy is being turned into non-useful energy. Again, there is no scientific explanation of why.

## *What Does the Evidence Indicate?*

We can sum up this evidence with the word **“DECAY”**. The universe is in a state of decay.

### **Creationist Interpretation**

The first law of thermodynamics seems to fit the Creation model very well. On the sixth day God finished Creation. He had set the laws of the cosmos in motion. God created the initial energy, and when He finished Creation no more energy was created and none was destroyed.

The second law also fits with Creation. Because in "nature" things go from orderly to disorderly there must initially have been an "Orderliness" as a starting point. Complex systems could only be created by systems with a higher complexity. Complex man could only have been created by a more complex God.

The second law also implies that the universe is disintegrating or dying. Unless there was a Creation at a point in time the universe should already be dead (it would not cease to exist, but all the useful energy would be depleted). If it were infinitely old it would already be dead. And the decay is consistent with the Bible's teaching that all of creation was affected by sin and won't be "liberated from its bondage of decay" (Romans 8:21) until God restores it in the future.

### **Evolutionist Interpretation**

It appears that evolutionists ignore the implications of the first law. According to their presupposition the universe has always existed (saying there was a "big bang" simply skirts the issue of the ultimate beginning), and the first law indicates that the universe has always had the same amount of energy. Evolution ignores the question of where this energy came from.

The second law is directly opposed to evolution. Evolution says that systems build themselves up into more complex and orderly forms; this is the direct opposite of what the law states.

The eternal existence of the universe is also denied by this law:

- The first law says that the universe is a "closed" system which cannot rejuvenate itself
- Evolution denies the existence of a Rejuvenator who could change the universe
- The second law states that an eternally old universe would have already disintegrated

Evolutionists try to deal with these problems by coming up with theories on how the "laws" do not apply all the time:

- The Steady State theory proposed that somewhere in unobservable space there is matter and energy being created out of nothing to balance out the observable decay of the universe. Since unobservable space has nothing to do with science, this theory has been abandoned.

- The currently popular Big Bang theory proposes that at an unobservable point in time all matter and energy were exploded into existence and into complex organization. *Then* the laws of thermodynamics took effect. There are several problems with this theory, but the most obvious is the second law - explosions produce disorder, not order.

Ingenious evolutionists have tried to address this problem by proposing that the "cosmic egg" of the Big Bang was highly complex, complex enough to create an orderly universe even after the explosion. Again, there is no plausible explanation of how this egg came into being.

Some have proposed that the universe is in a continual cycle of "banging", contracting into a universe egg, and exploding again. Even if one can somehow picture how the collapse of the universe can produce order, there is not enough mass in the universe for gravity to pull it together.

In spite of these problems leading "scientists" still stand by the Big Bang theory. Isaac Asimov acknowledged that the facts are against the theory, but stated that he had a "hunch" that we'll find new evidence to support it (Morris, Biblical Basis of Modern Science pg. 152). ***It's hard not to get the impression that some men will accept any idea as long as it is an alternative to believing in God.***