

# appnotes

## DAY 1 READ PSALM 139:13-18

1

Ever wonder if God exists? Take a look at your hand. No, really! Your hand is made up of bone, tendon, muscle, nerve, blood vessels, and skin, all working in harmony with strength and dexterity. Modern engineers struggle to design and manufacture machines that begin to compare. Or, consider your eye. Light causes a physical reaction in a molecule in our eyes which begins a chemical reaction that sends an electrical signal through your optic nerve to your brain. What a wonderful and amazing design! How likely do you think it is that random chance would bring all of these reactions together to form the basic function of your eye? Consider the complexity of putting the whole functioning system and structure of your eye together. The closer we examine ourselves and our world, the more evidence we see of a Creator!

## DAY 2 READ GENESIS 1:1-31

2

Do smart people believe in the biblical creation account? Many world-renowned scientists and advocates for evolutionary theories have expressed doubts that credentialed scientists (e.g., Ph.D.) would believe in the literal six-days of biblical creation. In 2001, John F. Ashton, Ph.D., assembled and edited the responses of 50 highly educated and experienced scientists when asked “Why do you believe in a literal six-day biblical creation as the origin of life on earth?” The book “In Six Days: Why Fifty Scientists Choose to Believe in Creation” provides opinions and writings from the points of view of engineers, chemists, biologists, mathematicians, physicists, geologists and many other disciplines describing their reasons for accepting God’s creation account and rejecting man’s theories of origins. The common theme in these accounts is that a deeper understanding of the sciences supports biblical creation and casts doubts upon naturalistic theories. Alan Sandage put it this way, “Many scientists are now driven to faith by their very work.”

## DAY 3 READ PSALM 33:1-22

3

Have you ever looked up at a sky full of stars and wondered how it all got there? Evolution ascribes to the Big Bang theory. The idea is that matter, energy and space spontaneously erupted from a single point into all that is. This theory contradicts science. Take the first law of thermodynamics as an example. The first law of thermodynamics states that energy can be changed from one form to another, but it cannot be created or destroyed. The total amount of energy and matter in the Universe remains constant, merely changing from one form to another. But the classic Big Bang model has energy coming from nothing. Today’s reading explains that God created everything out of nothing. Verse nine says, “For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.”

## DAY READ 1 PETER 3:13-17

4

With 7.3 billion people on the planet, is it surprising that there are different opinions about life's core questions? When people disagree they often resort to ridicule, arguing, mockery, dismissal, personal attacks, arrogance and worse. But today's passage makes it clear: Christians are called to a higher standard. Those who follow Jesus are to give solid answers with sincere love. Our restraint comes from a deep humility. We had it all wrong before Jesus changed our lives. Plus, it just makes sense. As Ward Edwards points out, we are biased with the Semmelweis Reflex; which is "the tendency to reject new evidence that contradicts a paradigm." We naturally resist a different perspective. So gather your evidence, understand the arguments, and have the conversation. Just do it with gentleness and respect.

## DAY READ PSALM 8:1-9

5

Perhaps the strongest scientific argument for the existence of God is found in the combination of factors that allow for human life. Patrick Glynn said, "all the seemingly arbitrary and unrelated constants in physics have one strange thing in common—these are precisely the values you need if you want to have a universe capable of producing life." Scientists refer to this phenomenon as the "fine tuning of the universe". The improbable conditions of the universe are too perfectly attuned to sustain human life to be arbitrary. If it is easy to burn cookies by setting the wrong temperature or by leaving them in the oven too long, how unlikely is it that the universe is coincidentally "set" to sustain life without wiping it out? The facts logically beg the question: if not the result of random chance, then how?

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