

with Dr. Greg Evans

What Nature Says About Origin and Purpose

- “But ask the animals and they will teach you, or the birds of the air, and they will tell you, or speak to the earth, and it will teach you, or let the fish of the sea inform you. (Job 12:7,8 – NIV)
- How did we get here? Why are we here?
- 2 main beliefs: 1. A theory or theories, or 2. the testimony of the Bible.
- An observation of nature provides weighty evidence for the 2nd option on the basis that: 1. Life produces life. 2. Like produces like. 3. Things tend to deteriorate over time, not improve.

- What is the origin of the material universe? Genesis 1: 1 – God.
- How were the heavens made? Psalm 33:6,9 – God spoke, and it was so. God’s power is in His word.
- What are the basic elements of nature presented in Genesis 1?
- “And God said.”
 - 1st – Vs.3-5: light
 - 2nd – Vs.6-8: atmosphere
 - 3rd – Vs.9-13: land, sea, and plant kingdom
 - 4th – Vs.14-19: sun, moon and stars
 - 5th – Vs.20-23: aerial and marine life
 - 6th – Vs.24,25: terrestrial animals; 26-30: Adam and Eve
- How is it possible to understand this account of our origins? Hebrews 11:3 – Faith. Faith is a belief without proof; trust; confidence (WBD); “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). In reality, everybody has faith in someone or something. An atheist has faith in his opinion that there is no God.
- What did God call the state of His creation? Genesis 1:31 – Very good.
- Why was the world created? Isaiah 45:18 – To be inhabited. That is, by us, and for us. Our creator God desires to be with us. This infers an answer to another big question of life, “Why are we here?” Answer: Relationships. This is the purpose of life – to have wholesome relationships; to love and be loved. “Love makes the world go round.” John Donne, wrote “No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main”
- Genesis describes 3 types of relationships. A relationship with:
 1. Our Creator God – Genesis 3:8,9.
 2. Each other – Genesis 1:27,28a.
 3. Nature – Genesis 1:28b.
- God created us (our origin) for loving relationships (our purpose). Unfortunately, many relationships are not wholesome or loving. The reason for this will be discussed next time.

- Think on this: If God has the power to create the world and life, He also has the power to transform your life into something much better.

- Challenge: Will you give Him the permission to transform your life?
- Next time: *What Nature Says About Conflict and Destiny*