

# Kingdom Report

Week of 29 March 2020

## My Response to the Recent Attacks on Creationists

Recently a professor from Stellenbosch University did a full page article attack on "creationists" in our Afrikaans Sunday Paper Rapport. This is part of an ongoing debate in the media about what schools should teach. Here some thoughts....

I am not getting into names or personalities involved in this debate in the media but want to just make some initial comments for your consideration. This is an old debate but what makes me want to enter this on the side without getting into a full scale attack is the attitude of this article encapsulated right in its title and intro. It is in Afrikaans but I will give rough translation for my international readers...

**"Die Gerief Van Net Glo: Kreasioniste is nie net vies en verward nie maar ook oneerlik"** meaning "The Comfort of Just Believing: Creationists are not just angry and confused but also untruthful".

Now normally I would not even enter this sort of debate as we have different world views and I respect what the scientific community have done for the upliftment of mankind and every person is due their own interpretation of how they see the world. It does not call for name calling and casting aspersions on peoples beliefs. And for those of us who believe that "All things were made by him (Jesus Christ) and without him was not anything made that was made" or "that he upholds all things by the word of his power". Basically our view is that this world was made by someone....who we happened to believe is our Lord Jesus Christ. The materialist believes it all happened by chance by naturally occurring material forces....no miracles required, no divine origin or intervention required.

Fine those are two viewpoints about the nature of reality as we see it. But why call us "angry, confused and untruthful"? That is uncalled for. Especially when the materialists themselves are so confused and very untruthful about their insurmountable obstacles to their world view the more science probes deeper into the material world reality.

Cosmologists will tell you they know how the universe came into being...The Big Bang! Ok sounds great. We Christians can go with that. But the real honest cosmologist will tell you he can make his theory work but he needs just one big miracle to make it work....a miraculous starting point where something came out of nothing. Oh the comfort of just believing that something can come out of nothing! You see we Christians don't believe that something can come out of nothing...it just takes too much faith. And then of course what really "confused" the cosmologists in the last decade was the stunning finding that not only was the universe expanding but the expansion was speeding up and then what really stunned them was to realize from the redshift patterns of the stars that it wasn't the stars and galaxies expanding but space/time itself was expanding: the implication? The Big Bang was not expanding

into an empty space....empty space was expanding....into what? So professor who is confused and untruthful here?

Will astro-physicists confess their confusion as to what actually makes the sun shine? Thermonuclear explosions? Then where are the missing neutrino's or why is the surface of the sun measured in thousands of degrees but the corona in millions of degrees? Or why has physics been in a dead end for 100 years over the contradictions between quantum mechanics and general relativity and why is it that those scientists who want to reconcile the two physics are now looking at possible "hidden variables" outside our space-time continuum? (i.e. Bohm, Wolfram, Bell et al) Or in fact does anyone have an explanation for magnetism or the problems with the photon or the impossibility of the strong nuclear force in the atom or "action at a distance" and "quantum superposition" or even a logical answer for the famous "two split" experiment that requires consciousness to collapse the probability wave. Feynman himself couldn't figure it out.

And yet it is claimed we Christians are confused and untruthful?

But there is more. How about at the very core of evolution you need the same miracle that cosmologists need at the start of the Big Bang. They need the miracle of something from nothing....the evolutionist needs DNA. Darwin didn't know about DNA. Mendel didn't know about DNA. But life needs DNA and DNA needs life. Real chicken and egg problem here. For the materialist the problem here is mathematics and probability theory.

The information contained in a single gene must be at least as great as the enzyme that it controls. However just one average protein contains over 300 amino acids. In order to create the protein it would take a gene of DNA that would have to contain 1000 nucleotides in its chain. Every DNA chain contains four sorts of nucleotide. The mathematics of this means there are a possible  $4 \times 10$  to the power of 1000 possible forms. That is 4 followed by 1000 zeros. This is a value beyond comprehension. The best estimates of scientists are that there are only  $10 \times 10$  to the power of 80 particles in the universe. For DNA to be accidentally assembled in the primordial soup is just beyond probability to impossibility.

For a minimum living cell there are at least 60,000 proteins of 150 configurations. Joseph Mastropaolo an expert who has tackled this problem estimates the evolution of the first cell would be on the order of 1 out of  $10 \times 10$  to the power of 4,478,296. Peter T Mora of Macromolecular Biology Section, Immunology Program, National Cancer Institute Maryland wrote "The presence of a living unit is exactly opposite to what we would expect on the basis of pure statistical and probability considerations". Some scientists are willing to confess when confronted with mathematical impossibility.

I can give many more quotes but you get the point. The people who are confused are those whose pet theories are being systematically demolished as more and more science is coming to light of how the world is actually functioning. The ones being "untruthful" are not we Christians, its those scientists who as more information comes in must increasingly rely on miracles of chance and improbability and won't admit to the mathematical impossibility of their foundations.

Another example of a pure impossibility staring each person in the face is the moon! Ask mainstream scientists "So where does the moon come from?" If I tell you what the mainstream scientific explanation is for the existence of the moon even you and I without any great science background will say "But this is absolutely crazy!" So here goes....

I won't bother with the early 19th and 20th century theories...Darwin's "fission" theory" or the later "coaccretion" theory as they were soon disproved as physics developed. That left the capture theory...the moon was passing by from outer space and was captured by the gravitation of the earth. This was soon disproved after the first moon walks, the analysis of moon soil samples and the development of sophisticated computer analysis of the gravitation of the earth and mass of the moon and all these factors quashed the last remaining theory of the origin of the moon. The moon is just too large and the earth gravitation too small to capture the moon as it passes by.

The acclaimed science writer William Hartmann senior scientist at the Planetary Science Institute Tucson Arizona said in his book "Origin of the Moon"....  
*"Neither the Apollo astronauts, the Luna vehicles, nor all the king's horses and all the king's men could assemble enough data to explain the circumstances of the moon's birth."*

In 1983 a special international conference was called at Kona Hawaii to decide on a theory of the origin of the moon. What came out of these deliberations was the development of a theory proposed by Dr. Hartmann and Dr. Robin Canup of the Department of Space Studies in Colorado....a theory called "The Big Whack" theory or more seriously "The Giant Impact Hypothesis". What it basically says is that billions of years ago a big planet size object came wandering from space and passed close to the earth and grazed a portion of the earth flinging debris into space, this debris then came together to form the moon. That was the first Whack. However a second big Whack was needed to stop the earth from spinning so fast after the first big whack, so another large big planet came from the other direction of space and grazed by close the earth and hit it again from the other direction and slowed its spin down to what it is today. I kind you not....this double whack theory is the prevailing theory of the origin of the moon! What are the chances of all that? Once again....probability in the infinity range!

All of this is so impossible that Irwin Shapiro from the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics said "The best explanation for the Moon is observational error...the moon does not exist"! No there is an honest scientist.

The idea that a bunch of space debris would collect itself into a perfectly round ball is farfetched. Or some other strange facts about the earth moon sun relationship:

400 - the ratio of the size of the moon to the sun

1/400th - the number of times the moon is closer to the earth than the sun.

400 - the number of kilometers the moon turns on its axis per day.

40,000 - the number of kilometers the earth turns on its axis per day.

109.28 - the ratio of the size of the earth to the sun

109.25 - the number of earth diameters across the diameter of the sun.

109.26 - the number of solar diameters across the earth's orbit at aphelion.

109.2 X 100 kilometers, the circumference of the moon.

27.322 the sidereal days in a 1 lunar orbit.

27.322% the percentage size of the earth and moon.

Our Christian perspective on the origin of the moon? It is a specially made object and placed in its orbit by its maker for all the many benefits for which the moon confers for life on earth...too many to mention here.

The scientific materialist perspective...it all happened by chance collisions in the vastness of space even though the chances once again are in the impossibility range of probability maths.

Let me tell you my problem with both materialist explanations for origin of the cosmos and life on earth. I just don't have the faith for it. It needs too many miracles and belief in impossible probabilities.

There are two more issues that the good professor has with we Christians and our approach as creationists which I will briefly comment on. They being the issue of imperfections in the world and the time issue.

His point about imperfections is that there are so many redundant issues about how we are made, how nature is made that the idea of good and perfect god making "mistakes" is unacceptable.

Now here I have sympathy with his argument and I wish to assure the professor that all we Christians also have a lot of complaints to God along the lines of "so Lord why did you allow this or why sickness and why death and why.....etc" you get the idea. I still see no need for flies, mosquitoes, viruses, weeds....and the list goes on.. What I do know is that my neighbor Pam is a potter who makes the most beautiful individually designed pieces of pottery. They all have what you might call "imperfections" when compared to perfectly formed factory manufactured machine formed tableware from China. I also know I am very happy to pay a lot more for her individually shaped unique pieces than factory stuff from China. So I don't know....I suspect God thinks the way He made the world is just fine and fit for purpose....my job is to find it's purpose, enjoy it and stop moaning about how if I were god I would do this or that.

His other big problem with us Christians is about time. Meaning the whole big thing about "6 day creation". Not enough time Christians! You need more time to account for life on earth etc. Well let me confess here that I personally like the idea of a 14 billion year time line for the earth. I love the idea of the absolute extravagance of God when it comes to time, space, energy, resources. When you have eternity and endless power and infinite creative intelligence why not just have fun making all sorts of spaces and planets and life and creatures? I don't need a 6 day creation. I am surprised he didn't just do it all in one second. You can take whatever message you think speaks to you from Genesis 1. There is truth there! There are lessons about work, order, purpose and creativity which the Lord wants me to emulate. I don't however believe that the Lord needed to rest on the seventh day....in fact in Isaiah it

says "the Lord never slumbers nor sleeps" so I know the message is for me about how I should work....not how He worked.

But hey professor you accuse us of not enough time in 6 day creation. Here is news from the science of genetics and chemistry and mathematics and probability maths theory.....your need for DNA to form a living cell to form life from which you then do your evolutionary theory....well an earth of 13-14 billion years is not enough time! You know it, other evolutionary theorists know it, that is why they need to come up with more miracle fixes like magical "evolutionary leaps" from cosmic bombardment or some other fanciful external miracle intervention. Anything else except God of course. "O die gerief van net glo...." Oh the comfort of just simple faith in chance and probability even when there is no mathematical chance that it is probable or possible!

I remember a quote from a prominent astro-physicist whose name escapes me. He said "The more we study the universe, the more pointless the whole thing gets." Yeah, a trillion galaxies and trillions of planets....what's the point? Another honest scientist perplexed at the whole idea of a sudden appearance of an expanding universe emerging out of nothing asked plaintively "Why is there something and not nothing?".

There are facts and then there are meaning to facts. We Christians found meaning in Christ and His creation and that gave us an understanding of why there is something and not nothing. That makes all the difference in the world.

So no professor we Christians are neither angry, or confused or untruthful. But I do know of many materialists who are angry at a pointless life in a pointless universe and are confused at the stream of deeper scientific discoveries that are more and more pointing to an 'Anthropic Universe" a universe specially made for man and man for this universe. And we are not "untruthful" or in denial, but I do know materialists who are very untruthful clinging on to old discredited ideas of chance and miracle probability as a supposed "scientific" explanation for life and the cosmos when it is so obvious there is a Creator of both.

And His Name is Jesus...."***Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers, all things were created by him and for him and he is before all things and by him all things consist.***" (Col. 1:15-17)