

## Intro

- Look At Genesis 1:1
- Use John 1:1-3 as a companion passage to confirm
  - Scripture does not contradict scripture
- 5 facts to learn
  - 1.) There was a beginning
  - 2.) God was there
  - 3.) God did something
  - 4.) God has the rights of creator
  - 5.) Miracles are possible

## 1.) There was a beginning

### There was a beginning

- In the beginning ...
- The universe had a beginning
  - The universe was not eternal in the past
- John 1:1-3- companion passage
  - 2 times (1:1,3) - "In the beginning"

## 2.) God was there

### Eternal God

- In the beginning God ...
- John 1:1-3- companion passage
  - 1:1 - In the beginning ... was God
  - 1:2 - ... in the beginning with God.
- Skeptics typically respond "if the universe was created then who created God?"
  - The God of the Bible is not a created god.
  - Just because the universe had a beginning does not mean that God had a beginning.
- God is eternal. God exists outside of the universe, and outside of time.

### Doctrine of Trinity

- ... God ... - The word rendered God here is the plural version Hebrew word "Elohim"
- John 1:1-3- companion passage
  - 1:1 - In the beginning was the Word (Logos)

- ... the Word was with God
- ... the Word was God
- 1:2 - the same (Logos) was in the beginning with God

### **3.) God did something**

#### **Sovereign God**

- ... God created ...
- John 1:1-3- companion passage
  - 1:3 - All things were made by him
  - God made all things. He made a choice to do something.
- God did something
- God is sovereign, which means he does what he pleases.
- God made a conscious decision, purposefully choosing to create the universe and everything in it.

#### **Why is there something rather than nothing?**

- Why is there something rather than nothing
  - 1.) Nothing created everything for no reason at all
  - 2.) God created everything because he choose to
  - If nothing is capable of spontaneously creating things for no reason at all, how come we do not see more spontaneous things created out of nothing
- Modern scientific evidence
  - Naturalistic atheists believe in a very similar origin for the universe. They believe unguided naturalistic processes created everything from nothing. Theists believe that God created everything from nothing.
  - The evidence seems to suggest that either nothing created the universe or something outside of the universe created the universe

### **4.) God has the rights of creator**

#### **Creator God**

- ... God created ...
- John 1:1-3- companion passage
  - 1:3 ... without him was not any thing made that was made.
- Illustration of the Creator / creation relationship
  - If a chef bakes a pizza, then they own that pizza
  - They determine the composition of the pizza: round or square, the doe to sauce

- ratio, the amount of cheese, the toppings, even the type of crust.
- They determine the purpose of the pizza: they can sell it, save it for another day, take pictures of it, or eat it.
- Imagine a pizza that chose to replace the toppings the chef gave it with its own toppings while in the oven. The chef pulls out the pizza expecting to see a pepperoni pizza, but instead finds the pepperoni has been replaced with anchovies
- If the pizza does not meet the chef's expectations then the chef can take action: Dispose of the bad pizza, change the pizza's purpose, change the pizza's composition to make it meet expectations
- This illustrates the creator / creation relationship
- how the created thing does not own itself but is owned by the creator
- God determines how we ought to be, and has given us a moral standard by which we are to live. Many reject the idea of God because they don't want to be held to a standard

## 5.) Miracles are possible

### Miracles are possible

- ... God created ...
- John 1:1-3- companion passage
  - 1:3 ... without him was not any thing made that was made.
- A test in the first verse
- Creatio ex nihilo - doctrine of creation out of nothing
  - Nothing is what rocks dream about - Aristotle
  - Time and space are linked together, so the phrase in the beginning means that there was no time nor space before this moment
- .... God created the heavens and the Earth
  - at this moment the universe was formed from nothing
  - God's First Act was a miracle
- Miracles are possible
  - If we believe that God created the heavens and the Earth from nothing then God's ability to raise people from the dead change water the wine or even control the weather is mere Child's Play

### Core belief of Christian faith is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead

- 1 Corinthians 15:16-17
  - For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins.
- If we accept miracles in Genesis 1:1 then we can easily accept the resurrection from the dead.
  - Faith in Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection is central to the Christian faith.
  - Jesus' victory over death is how we can know we too will have victory

## **Closing**

- We looked at Genesis 1:1
- We used John 1:1-3 as a companion passage to help us confirm
  - Scripture does not contradict scripture
- 5 facts
  - 1.) There was a beginning
  - 2.) God was there
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## **Refutes other beliefs**

- Atheism - God must exist if he was in the beginning, and created all things
- Polytheism - There was only one God in the beginning
- Pantheism and Panentheism- God created all things, so he is separate from all things (God is not all things) (God is not in all things)
- Panspermia - The earth and everything in it was created by God, not seeded by aliens.