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# Unit 1: War of World Views





Have you ever faced questions like these? "You say you believe the Bible. Well, where did dinosaurs come from? Did Noah have dinosaurs on the ark? Where did Cain get his wife? Isn't it embarrassing to believe in a six-day creation about 6,000 years old when scientists can see galaxies millions of light years away and measure the age of fossils and rocks with carbon-14 and uranium dating?"

Or, how about this? "You say you're a Christian. If God created just two people, what color were they? Where did all the races come from? If 'creation' should be taught in schools, do you believe in equal time for Muslim and Buddhist creation stories, too?"

Or, "If there's an all-powerful, all-loving God who created everything, why do we have the AIDS virus and birth defects? Why do fossils show millions of years of struggle and death, and mass extinctions? Who'd want to pray to a 'god' who wiped out 99 percent of all the species he/she/it supposedly created?"

Maybe you've wondered about some of these questions yourself. Perhaps you have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and you love the spiritual truths in the Bible and its promise of life in heaven forever. But privately, almost subconsciously, you've wondered, "Is the Christian faith any more real than other faiths? If I'd been born in a Muslim country, would I be a Muslim? Is the Bible really any different from the 'holy books' of other religions? Hasn't science really shown it's foolish to take the Bible literally?"

Or, maybe you have a solid foundation for your own faith, but you have friends, family, and people you love who just won't accept the free gift of new life in Christ, and you wonder how to reach them. Lots of religions promise a "warm, fuzzy feeling," many with far fewer demands than "dying to self and living for Christ." Is there any reason to think the Christian faith enables us to understand ourselves and our world any better than other faiths do? Are there answers for people who excuse their disbelief by saying science has disproved the Bible and the Christian faith?

If you don't need this *Creation Foundations* series to strengthen your own faith, you may need it to be a more effective witness in a world steeped in evolutionism. God, through the apostle Peter, commands us to "be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you . . ." (1 Pet. 3:15). And God through the apostle Paul warns us how evolutionary humanism and philosophic naturalism ("science falsely so-called") has been a stumbling block keeping many from coming to Christ: "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust; avoiding profane and vain babblings and oppositions of



science falsely so called: which some professing have erred concerning the faith" (1 Tim. 6:20).

I certainly needed a "creation evangelist" in my own life. From a young age through my first few years as a professor of biology, I was a naturalistic evolutionist. I believed and taught, enthusiastically, that all life — including yours and mine — was produced by time, chance, and millions of years of struggle and death, NOT by the plan and purpose of some so-called "Creator God." Indeed, I thought and taught that God was a figment of the human imagination, created in our image when we reached a stage in evolution where our minds could project dreams of an ideal future and create a god to lead us to victory (often over the corpses of other human beings who had made up images of different gods).

"Science" was my god. While philosophers and politicians struggled with less and less success over older and older questions, scientists conquered diseases and put mankind on the moon and were on the way to conquering aging and poverty and reaching onward to the stars! At age ten, I wrote a constitution for the first government of Mars, hoping I would be among the scientists leading the conquest of space. As a college freshman, I tried to found a new discipline, "experimental philosophy," convinced that science could finally determine what truly produced human happiness. In all this, I was considered a "nice guy" and actually felt sympathy for Christians who hoped for heaven and believed "love conquers all." But I wanted my students to realize that it was millions of years of struggle and death that had brought all life, including ours, into existence, and only science — *not* some god of our own imagination — could finally lead us past the



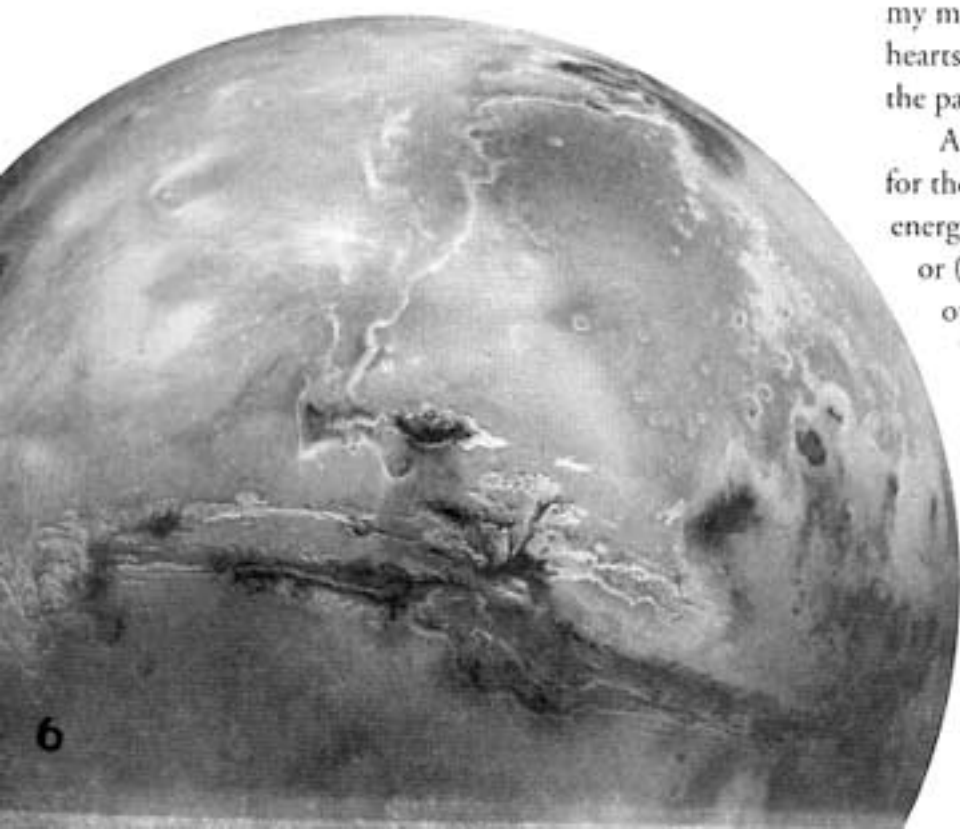
Sagan and Viking: Famous for his television series *Cosmos*, evolutionist Dr. Carl Sagan poses with a model of the Viking lander in Death Valley, California. Image Credit: NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

era of struggle and death into a new evolutionary age of universal happiness and peace.

Then a chemistry professor (Dr. Charles Signorino) at the college where I was teaching invited me to his home for a Bible study. I had no desire to study a dusty, out-moded, pre-scientific book like the Bible — but I did have a real desire for free coffee and donuts, so my wife and I began attending the Bible study. What followed was an incredible three-year "war of the world views" raging in my mind, paralleling the great debate that has raged in the hearts and minds of thinking people in the world during the past 200 years.

At bottom, there are two and only two possible views for the ultimate origin of the universe — time, matter-energy, and space. Either (1) the universe made itself, or (2) the universe was made by transcendent power outside the limits of time, matter-energy, and space.

These two are *mutually exhaustive* (i.e., they cover all possibilities), and they are *mutually exclusive* (i.e., one is true and the other is false). One view can be described by the pithy phrase attributed to Carl Sagan, "The cosmos is all there is or was, or ever will be," and the other in the often-quoted first verse of the Bible, "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth" (Gen. 1:1).



# BUILDING BLOCKS in Science



- Have you ever wondered about human fossils, “cave men,” skin color, “ape-men,” or why missing links are still missing?
- Want to discover when *T. Rex* was small enough to fit in your hand? Or how old dinosaur fossils are — and how we know the age of these bones?
- Learn how the Bible’s world view (not evolution’s) unites evidence from science and history into a solid creation foundation for understanding the origin, history, and destiny of life — including yours!
- Start reinforcing a strong foundation for learning with study questions, discussion topics, and more for home and school educators!

In this fascinating book, Gary Parker explores some of the most interesting areas of science: fossils, the errors of evolution, the evidences for creation, all about early man and human origins, dinosaurs, and even “races.”

Learn how scientists use evidence in the present, how historians use evidence of the past, and discover the biblical world view, not evolution, that puts the two together in a credible and scientifically-sound way!

Having made his own journey of discovery, this former evolutionary biologist and popular author offers a unique and powerful perspective on the science of our world — past and present. Build your world view on a faith that fits the scientific facts!



*Gary Parker, a former evolutionist, has a Ed.D. in biology, and has lectured widely for both the Institute for Creation Research and Answers in Genesis. His lively lectures incorporate his specialty, fossils. Gary and his wife, Mary, live in Florida, conducting science labs and field trips described at [CreationAdventuresMuseum.org](http://CreationAdventuresMuseum.org)*



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