



# Creation

In the beginning God created the  
heavens and the earth.

# Creation

- What does the Bible say?
- What does the evidence say?
- What does science say?
- What do scientists say?
- What does the Bible say about man?
- What do you say?

# What does the Bible say?

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Psalm 19:1*

*For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities— his eternal power and divine nature— have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. Romans 1:20*



# What does the evidence say?

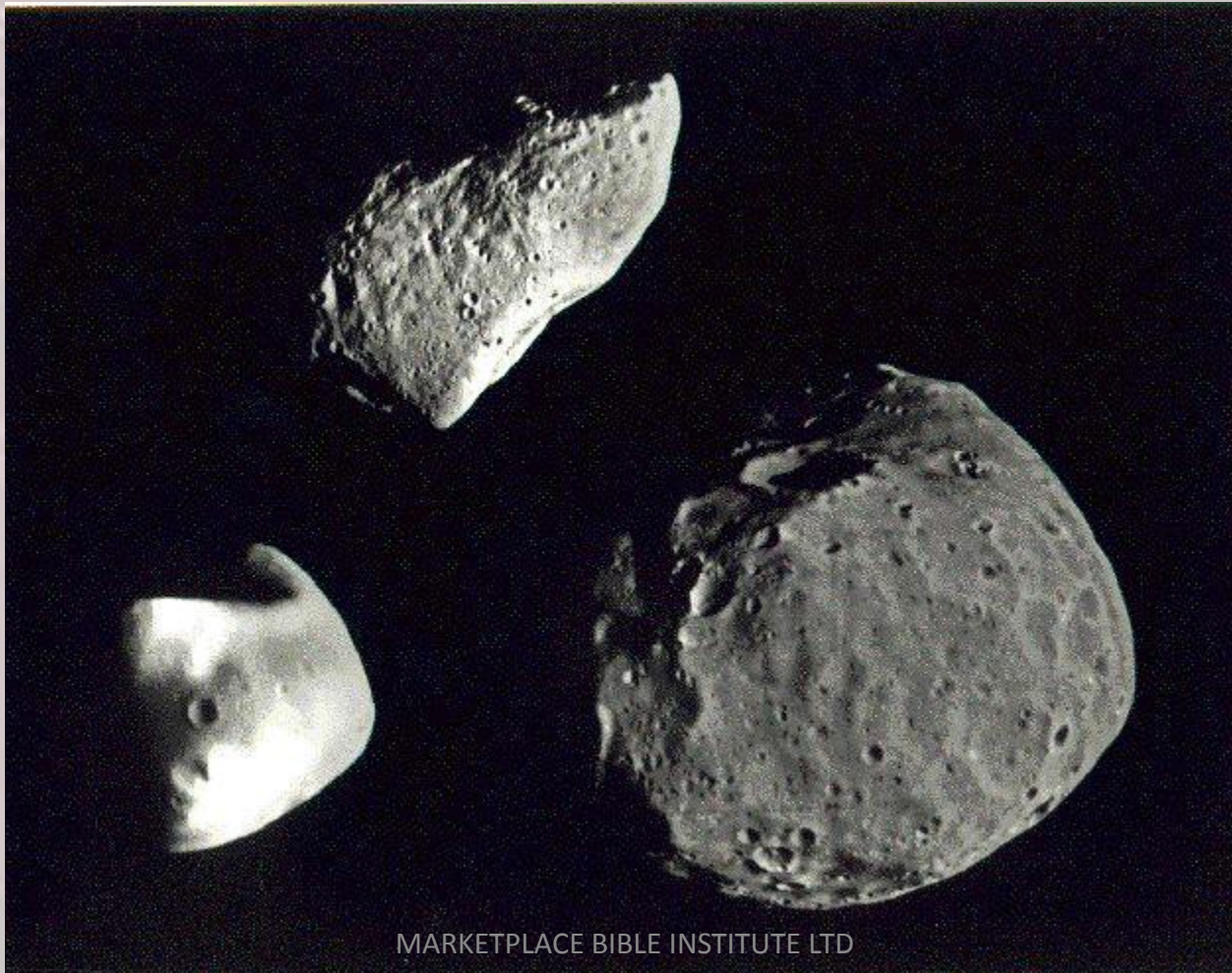


Almost all the universe (99.9%), except the empty space, consists of flaming gases (hydrogen and helium).





The other 0.1% of the universe consists of frozen solids drifting in space (planets, asteroids, comets, meteoroids, dust).



The liquid state in the universe is very, very rare.

We don't currently know of anywhere in the universe where there is liquid water,

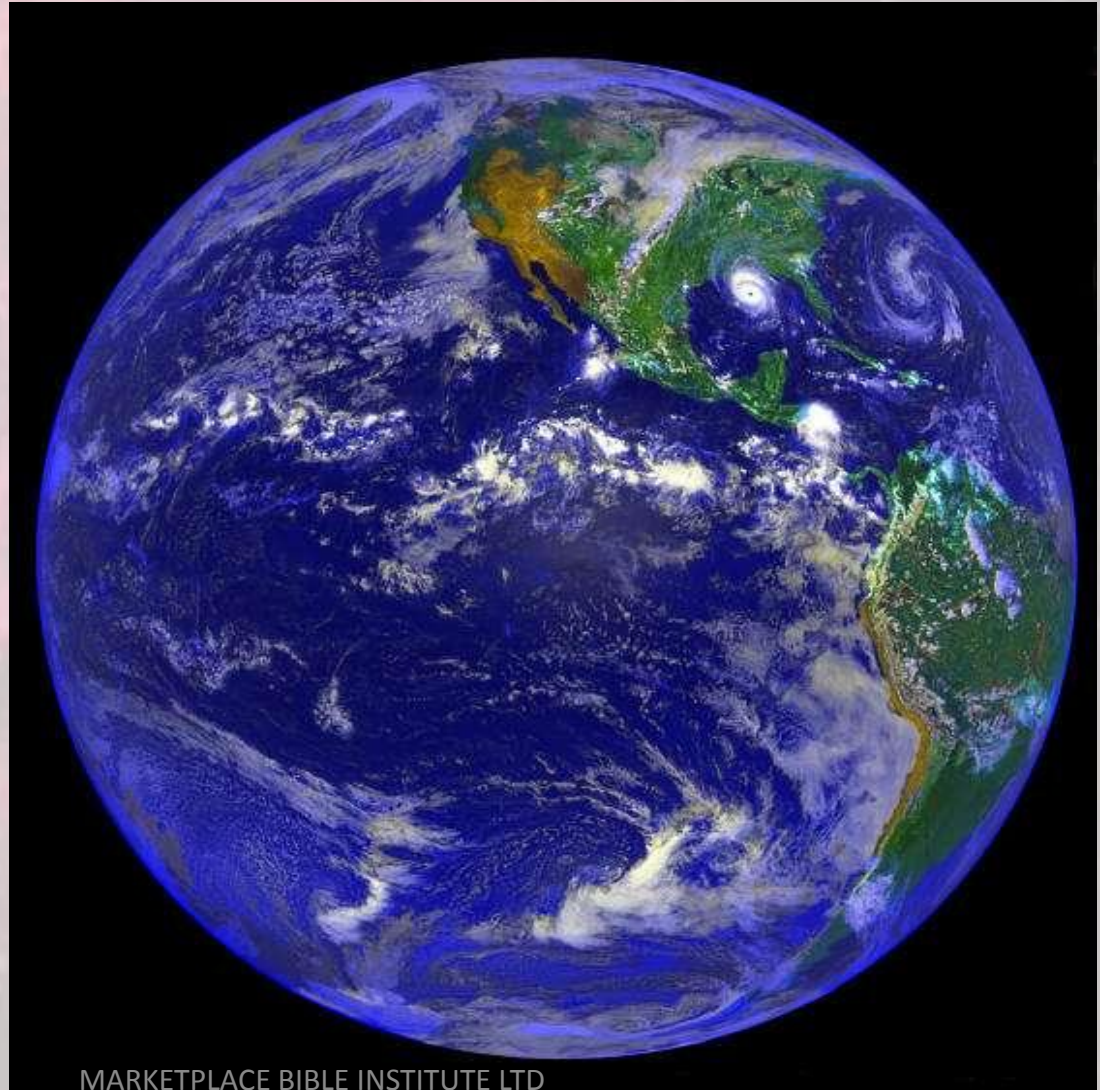


except:



# Earth

Liquid water  
– vital for life





The distance from the earth to the sun must be just right. A difference of only 2% and life would not be possible on earth.

Too close  
to the sun!

All water is  
gas.



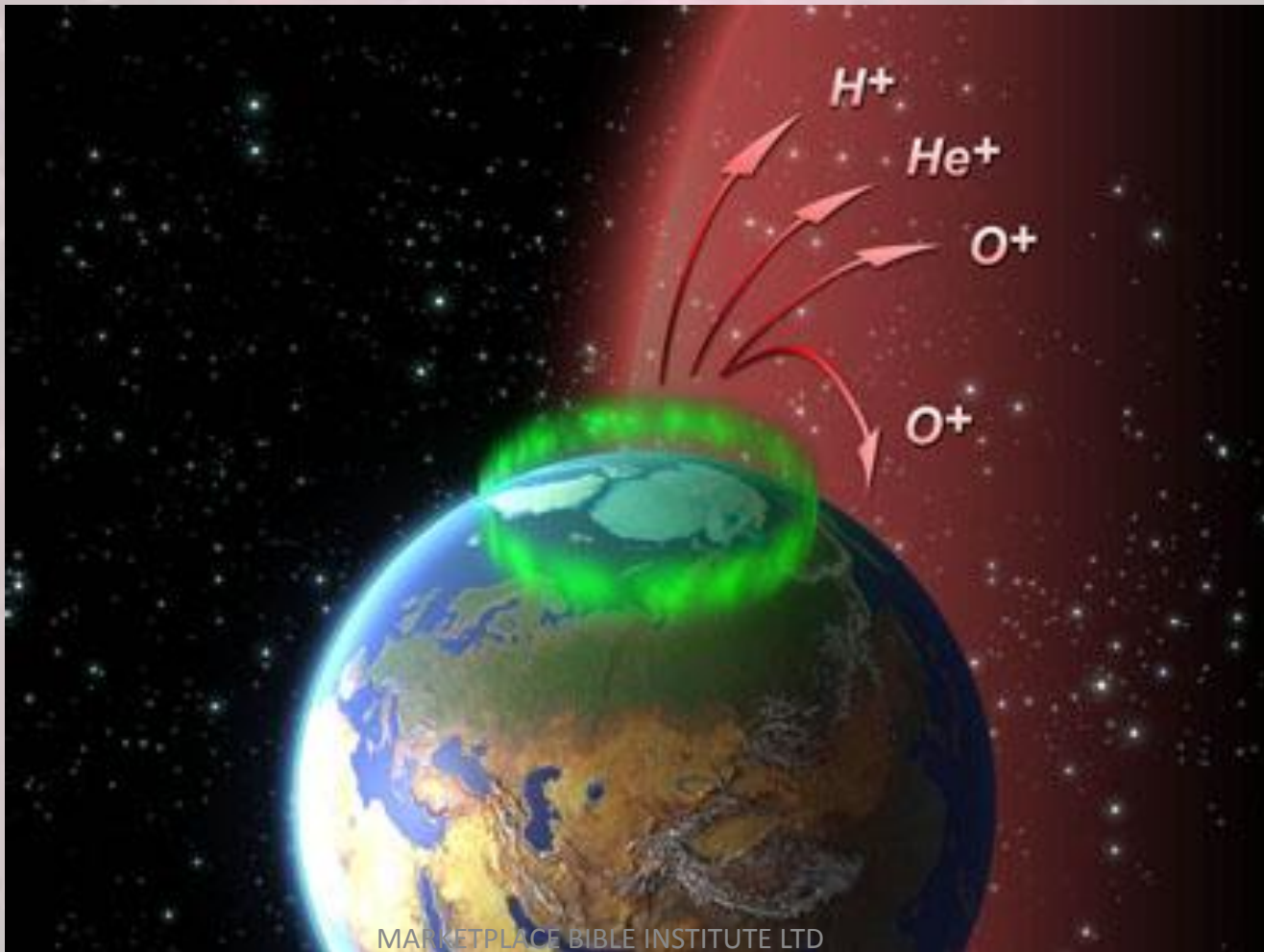
# Too far from the sun!

All water  
is solid





Surface gravity and temperature are also critical to within a few percent for the earth to have a life sustaining atmosphere.



The planet must rotate at the right speed: too slow and temperature differences between day and night would be too extreme, too fast and wind speeds would be disastrous.

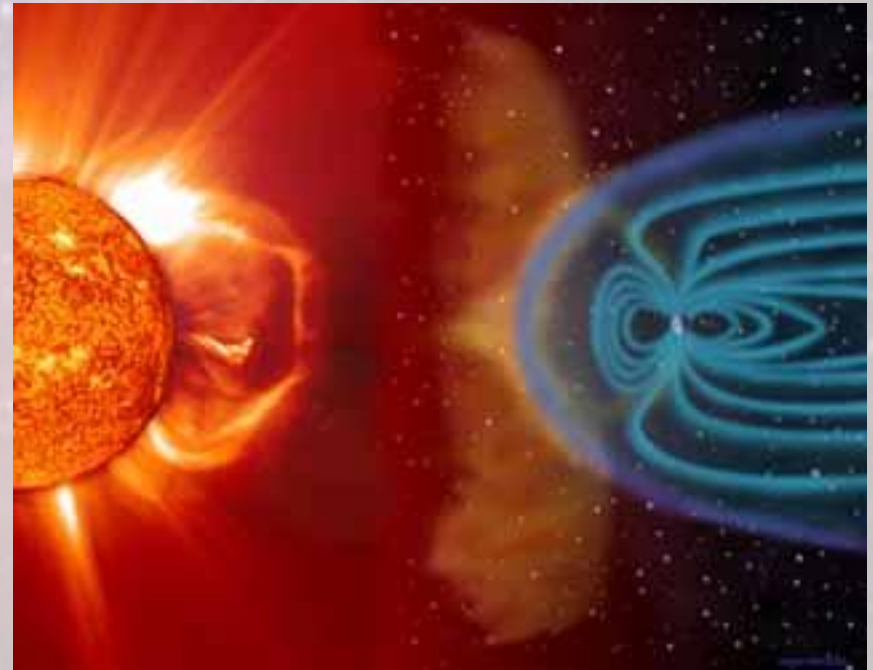
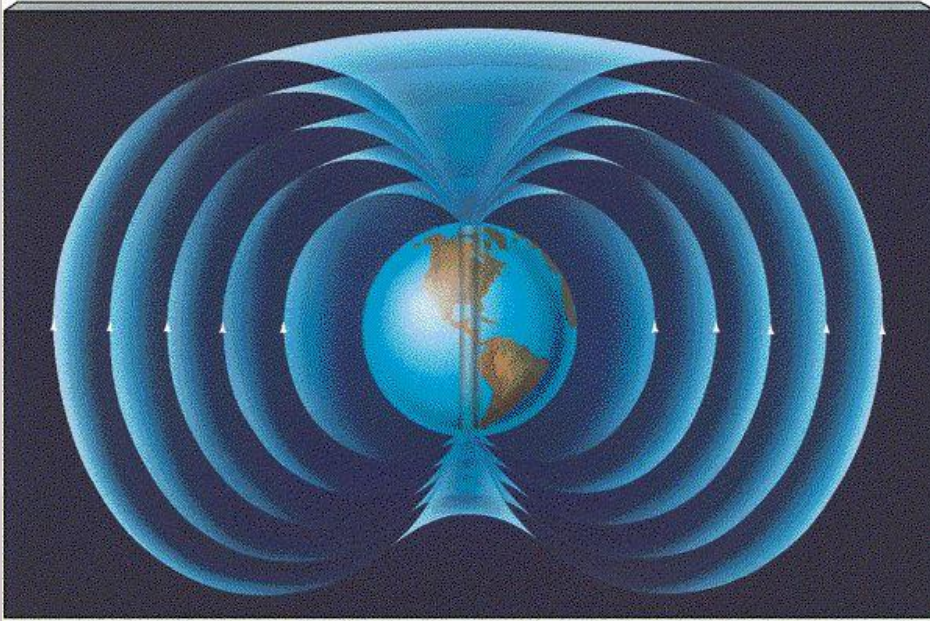




The moon is, from our perspective, the same size as the sun.



The earth's magnetic field protects the earth's atmosphere from solar winds





Our solar system is between two arms of the spiral milky way, so we are not 'drowned out' by starlight, so we have dark nights.



# What does science say?

Something more technical:

The first two laws of thermodynamics are foundations of science and give indirect witness to the fact of creation.



# 1<sup>st</sup> law of thermodynamics

The amount of energy in the universe has always been and always will be the same.

Energy can be changed from one sort to another, but it can't ever be created or destroyed.

So, where did all this energy come from?

# Two answers

1. God made it (in the beginning)
2. Nothing made it (in the Big Bang)

By faith we understand ...



# 2<sup>nd</sup> law of thermodynamics

The amount of useable energy in the universe is decreasing. Eventually there will be no useable energy and the universe will suffer heat death.

This shows that the universe had a beginning because the amount of energy in the universe has always been the same (1<sup>st</sup> law) and it is not infinite.

How did the universe start in such a way that it had a lot of useable energy?





# Two answers

1. God made it (in the beginning)
2. Nothing made it (in the Big Bang)

By faith we understand ...

# What do scientists say?

Fact: From our point of view, the universe looks the same in all directions; as if we are at the centre of the universe.

Stephen Hawking

*Now, at first sight all this evidence that the universe looks the same whichever direction we look in, might seem to suggest that there is something special about our place in the universe. In particular, it might seem that, if we observe all other galaxies to be moving away from us, then we must be at the centre of the universe. There is, however, an alternative explanation. The universe might look the same in any direction as seen from any other galaxy too. This, as we have seen, was Friedman's second assumption. We have no scientific evidence for or against this assumption. We believe it only on grounds of modesty. It would be most remarkable if the universe looked the same in every direction around us, but not around other points in the universe.*

P47, A Brief History of Time



*Gonzalez & Richards:*

*'And yet as we stand gazing at the heavens beyond our little oasis, we gaze not into a meaningless abyss but into a wondrous arena commensurate with our capacity for discovery. Perhaps we have been staring past a cosmic signal far more significant than any mere sequence of numbers, a signal revealing a universe so skilfully crafted for life and discovery that it seems to whisper of an extra-terrestrial intelligence immeasurably more vast, more ancient, and more magnificent than anything we've been willing to expect or imagine.'*

*The Privileged Planet, Gonzalez and Richards*

# Britain's most famous atheist

*We live on a planet where we are surrounded by perhaps ten million species, each one of which independently displays a powerful illusion of design.*

Dawkins p167, The God Delusion

*Who, before Darwin, could have guessed that something so apparently designed as a dragonfly's wing or an eagle's eye was really the end product of a long sequence of non-random but purely natural causes?*

Dawkins p141, The God Delusion

# David Attenborough

*My response is that when Creationists talk about God creating every individual species as a separate act, they always instance hummingbirds, or orchids, sunflowers and beautiful things. But I tend to think instead of a parasitic worm that is boring through the eye of a boy sitting on the bank of a river in West Africa, [a worm] that's going to make him blind. And [I ask them], 'Are you telling me that the God you believe in, who you also say is an all-merciful God, who cares for each one of us individually, are you saying that God created this worm that can live in no other way than in an innocent child's eyeball? Because that doesn't seem to me to coincide with a God who's full of mercy'.*



# The Bible's answer

The world we live in today is not the one God made. That world was perfect; God said it was 'very good.' It was without sin, suffering and death.

Sin, suffering and death entered because the 1<sup>st</sup> man disobeyed God ...

# What does the Bible say about man?

*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

Human beings are special; they are different to all the other creatures. They are like God.

# Humans

- Can understand
- Have language
- Have emotions
- Have a will
- Have personality
- Are able to form close relationships
  - With each other
  - With God



# What do you say?



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