

## Answers to *New Answers Book 2* study guide

### Introduction

1. Morality was based on the Bible, and teaching morality from Scripture was common. Prayer and Bible reading were common in public schools. As those things were removed and the church began to compromise on the authority of Scripture, morality shifted to a secular view. Absolute truth is now rejected by many, even those who claim to be Christians.
2. Showing people that the Bible relates to the real world and that the Bible offers answers for issues that people face every day is a start. The Bible provides everything we need for life and godliness. By standing firm on the truth found in the Bible and proclaiming that truth to a lost world, we can reclaim the culture.

### 1. Can Natural Processes Explain the Origin of Life?

1. Miller's experiment was designed to show how amino acids, the basic building blocks of life, could form by simulating the conditions that were believed to have existed on the early earth.
2. Oxygen is necessary to form the ozone layer which would have protected evolving life-forms; however, if oxygen were present, it would have destroyed the amino acids that needed to form. So, evolutionists must insist that there was no oxygen in the atmosphere, while also claiming that there was oxygen for the ozone layer to form—a fatal paradox.
3. Life could not have evolved in the oceans, in the presence of water, through natural processes. Water, through a process called hydrolysis, breaks the bonds between the amino acids as polypeptides (long chains) begin to form proteins. The proteins would break apart as soon as they began to form.
4. In nature, amino acids are found in two forms which are mirror images (chirality) of one another. These forms can be thought of like gloves which are left-handed and right-handed. Proteins in living things contain only left-handed amino acids in their proteins (with very few exceptions). When right-handed amino acids are inserted into the protein chains, the proteins can no longer function properly. No known natural process can explain how proteins would form naturally with only left-handed amino acids.
5. In all known systems, information must originate with an intelligent being. No known natural process can create new information.
6. Evolutionists believe that, given enough time, chance processes can create anything. However, the laws of probability show that it is absurd to believe that an event with a chance of  $10^{-50}$  will happen. The probability of an average protein forming is  $4.9 \times 10^{-191}$ . The natural formation of life from matter defies the laws of mathematics.

### 2. Are Mutations Part of the “Engine” of Evolution?

1. The structure of DNA stores a specific sequence of nucleotides. These nucleotides are represented by the letters A, C, T, and G. The sequence is read in triplets called codons. The sequence ACTTAG would be two codons. Each codon is used to represent an amino acid. A long sequence would be decoded

to form a specific protein. This works much like the dots and dashes used in Morse code to represent letters, which are then used to form words.

2. Point mutation—a single nucleotide changes (ACCGAGCAGTAG).  
Inversion mutation—a segment of the nucleotides are reversed (GAGTCACAGTAG).  
Insertion mutation—a nucleotide is inserted into the sequence (ACTTAGGAGCAGTAG).  
Deletion mutation—a segment of the nucleotides is lost (ACAGCAGTAG).  
Frameshift mutation—when an insertion or deletion causes the codons to be read out of sync (ACG,AGC,AGT,AG) or (ACT,CGA,GCA,GTA,G).
3. DNA contains the code which provides the template for assembling the amino acids into the proper sequence to form proteins.
4. In the evolutionary view, mutations are responsible for creating new genetic information which leads to new forms of life. In the biblical view, God created living things; mutations, through the loss of information, have produced much of the variety of life that we see today.

### **3. Did Humans Really Evolve from Apelike Creatures?**

1. Evolutionists assume that apelike creatures evolved into humans, so they interpret the evidence in light of that assumption. Based on the Bible, Christians understand that apelike creatures are not humans and did not evolve into humans. With that knowledge, the evidence is interpreted to support the biblical explanation.
2. Accept any analogy similar to a needle in a haystack or representing a fraction of 1%.
3. Apes have larger incisors and canine teeth than humans have.  
Apes have U-shaped jaws while human jaws are more parabolic.  
Apes have a much smaller braincase.  
Ape skulls are slanted from the forehead while human skulls are fairly flat.  
The eye sockets are not visible from the side in apes, but they are in humans.  
The leg bones and hipbones of apes are designed to walk on all fours, and the legs of humans are designed for upright walking.  
The big toes in apes point out while all of the toes are parallel in humans.
4. Examples may include Nebraska man, Java man, Lucy, Peking man, or others.
5. The three ways fossils are used to support human evolution are by combining ape and human bones, emphasizing human characteristics of apes, or emphasizing apelike qualities of human fossils.

### **4. Does the Bible Say Anything about Astronomy?**

1. Isaiah 40:22 and Job 26:10 speak of a spherical earth. Job 26:7 describes the earth suspended in space. Isaiah 40:22 describes the universe expanding as a curtain or tent. All of these have been confirmed by modern science.
2. All of these point to a universe that cannot be billions of years old. The biblical age of 6,000 years is consistent with all of these methods of dating the universe.

3. Primarily, the Bible declares that the universe was supernaturally created by God. However, there are several observations that defy the naturalistic explanations. One example is the model that describes how planets form. Planets that are being discovered around other stars do not make sense in the secular explanations.

### **5. Does the Big Bang Fit with the Bible?**

1. In the big bang explanation, all of the mass, energy, and space of the universe were contained in a singularity. This point rapidly expanded, spreading out the energy and space. The energy eventually formed matter, and then stars and galaxies eventually formed.
2. The Bible describes the earth forming before the stars and moon. The Bible describes plants and dry land being formed before the sun. The Bible describes the earth as being initially covered by water. The Bible describes the supernatural creation of the universe; it does not describe a natural process of creation. The Bible describes a creation in six days, rather than over hundreds of millions of years.
3. Answers may include the missing monopoles, the missing antimatter, the regular expansion of the universe, the addition of the complexity of an inflationary period, and missing stars from the beginning of the universe.
4. If someone truly believed that God used the big bang, he would have to insist that all of the scientists were wrong in rejecting the big bang. By placing his faith in the theories of men, rather than the Bible, the standard of “truth” has changed.

### **6. Where Did the Idea of “Millions of Years” Come From?**

1. The geologic layers that are lowest in the series were deposited first, and the layers that are higher were deposited later.
2. Prior to 1800, the geologic layers were seen as the result of Noah’s Flood. The Bible informed the scientific understanding of the day.
3. In general, the uniformitarian view teaches that erosion and deposition happen at a relatively constant rate much as we see them happening today. In other words, looking at the present, we can interpret the past. Catastrophists view the geologic record as the result of successive flood catastrophes on a regional or global scale. However, both views rely on an earth much older than the biblical age.
4. Most of the Church accepted the old-age interpretations and reinterpreted the Bible to accommodate the secular reasoning. The gap theory and various day-age theories resulted from this compromise.
5. A group known as the “scriptural geologists” resisted the old-age interpretations based on philosophical, biblical, and scientific reasoning and relied on Noah’s Flood to explain major geologic features.
6. The statement contains several false notions. First, the Bible, rather than secular reasoning, should be used as the authority. Second, a “real geologist” is not defined by his rejection of the Bible. Those who accept the Bible and interpret the rock record in light of Scripture are just as much authorities as

those who reject it. It is a logical fallacy to argue that you cannot believe the Bible and be a “real” scientist.

### **7. What’s Wrong with Progressive Creation?**

1. God used the big bang to create the universe; the days of creation were long, overlapping ages; God created new species as others went extinct; nature is as reliable as the Bible; death came before sin; hominids without souls existed before Adam and Eve; and the Genesis Flood was a local event.
2. Progressive creationists view the days in Genesis 1 as vague descriptions of long ages rather than sequential 24-hour days. The “days” were overlapping periods of millions of years during which astronomical and geologic evolution took place.
3. Several points may be made to refute this claim. Romans 8:22 tells us that the whole universe is experiencing the effects of the Curse (Genesis 3). The world we are looking at must be interpreted in light of the fallen state and the entrance of death and sin into the world. We can understand God, in part, by studying His creation, but we cannot make our interpretation of the creation equal to the special revelation of the Bible.
4. Dr. Ross uses these words to describe the Genesis Flood. At first glance, it would seem that he is referring to a flood that covered the entire surface of the earth. However, he actually means a flood that was restricted to a small area.
5. Since the radiometric dating methods are accepted as valid by progressive creationists, and because they believe that Adam and Eve were created about 40,000 years ago, any “humans” before that time must have been spiritless. This would include Australian Aborigines and Neanderthals.
6. Genesis 7:19–23 makes it clear by using inclusive language (every, all, everything, etc.) repeatedly.  
The rainbow promise in Genesis 9:8–17 also makes it clear that the Flood was global. Many regional floods have occurred since Noah’s day. If the Flood were a local event, then the rainbow covenant has been broken by God. In Matthew 24:37–39 Jesus compares the coming judgment to the events of the Flood. If the Flood were local, then it follows that the coming judgment will also be local. We know that the judgment is universal.

### **8. Is the Intelligent Design Movement Christian?**

1. Paley popularized natural theology and used the analogy of a watchmaker to describe the design in nature. The fact that a watch shows elements of design means that it must have a designer. Likewise, since there is design in nature, nature must be the product of a designer.
2.
  - a. **The human eye:** It is not necessary, it has specified complexity so it is not a product of chance, there must have been a designer.
  - b. **A telephone:** It is not necessary, it has specified complexity so it is not a product of chance, there must have been a designer.

- c. **Paintings found in a cave:** The images are not necessary, they have specified complexity and can be interpreted so they are not a product of chance, there must have been a designer.
- 3. The ID movement does not identify the designer. Individuals are free to choose whichever designer (Brahman, Allah, God, or others) they like. The creator gods of many religious traditions would fit into the ID movement.
- 4. Negative: ID is focused on science, not theology. ID promotes science above Scripture. The identity of the designer is neglected. ID only claims that “certain features” are designed and that the rest evolved. ID promotes that death and disease are natural.  
Positive: The movement has produced many valid scientific discoveries and tools. ID promotes a supernatural explanation for some parts of nature. ID can be used as a way to start conversations about the true Creator.
- 5. No. While we can understand that God must be a powerful, intelligent being, we cannot understand the details of His plan of salvation. Only through the written Word can we understand God’s plan for humanity. We should never divorce the Creator from the Redeemer.
- 6. According to their own statements, they do not follow any specific religious beliefs. Members of different faiths are involved in the ID movement and research.

### **9. Can Creationists Be “Real” Scientists?**

- 1. They teach that everything must be understood in light of evolution and billions of years of earth history.
- 2. Many scientists and medical practitioners/researchers testify that evolutionary theory played no role in their work. Applying observational science to the present does not depend on understanding the past. There is no need to understand the alleged evolutionary history of the human eye to make glasses or use surgical techniques to correct vision.
- 3. When we try to explain historical events, we are generally examining evidence that exists in the present. This means that the events themselves cannot be repeated in an experiment. This historical science is not the same as the observational science that produces technology or techniques. Lasers were developed by repeating experiments and refining our understanding of the relationship between matter and energy in the present. Making inferences about the past is not the same as conducting experiments in the present. Historical interpretations will always be influenced by the presuppositions we have.
- 4. Many scientists, including Newton, Galileo, Maxwell, and Pasteur, could be used as examples of “real” scientists who trusted the Bible. (You can find a list at [www.answersingenesis.org/go/scientists](http://www.answersingenesis.org/go/scientists).)
- 5. Statement b is false as science can never ultimately prove anything. If we attempt to prove that God exists through science, we are placing science—and human reasoning—as authoritative over God. Science is possible because God made an ordered universe for us to live in. If God had not made the universe, why would we expect it to be logical and orderly? We can expect the future to

reflect the past because we trust that God is consistent and He upholds His creation in a consistent way.

#### **10. How Should a Christian Respond to “Gay Marriage”?**

1. Genesis 5:4 says that Adam and Eve had “other sons and daughters” so Cain likely married a sister or niece.
2. On what do you base your claims of morality? Who has the right to decide what is right or wrong?
3. From Merriam-Webster Online: Pragmatism: an American movement in philosophy founded by C. S. Peirce and William James and marked by the doctrines that the meaning of conceptions is to be sought in their practical bearings, that the function of thought is to guide action, and that truth is preeminently to be tested by the practical consequences of belief. Pragmatists base truth on the experience of individuals, so truth is subject to change and interpretation. Pragmatists generally believe that if it works, it must be true.  
Examples for the last question might include insisting that abortion is wrong because it can harm women, or that gambling is wrong because it causes an increase in thefts. Ultimately, the only standard should be God’s standard revealed in the Bible.
4. Pragmatic approaches have no ultimate standard of authority. On the issue of gay marriage, if the argument is used that it spreads HIV, then the argument will fail when a cure for HIV is found.
5. There is really no limit to the types of relationships that could be made legal if society agrees that the laws should be set by majority decision.
6.
  - a. **Genesis 2:18–25**  
God created a woman, not a man, to compliment man.
  - b. **Leviticus 18:22**  
God calls homosexual relations an abomination.
  - c. **Mark 10:6**  
Jesus reaffirms that marriage is between a male and a female.
  - d. **Romans 1:26–27**  
Relations between men and men or women and women are called vile, shameful, and attract a penalty.
  - e. **1 Corinthians 6:9–10**  
Among the list of unrighteous acts is homosexuality and sodomy.
  - f. **1 Timothy 1:9–10**  
Sodomy is included in the list of things contrary to sound doctrine.
7. Many people have claimed that there is a “gay gene” that predisposes people to be gay. This has not been demonstrated by scientific research. Even if the gene is found, homosexuality is still presented as a sin and must be viewed as such. Sin is sin, regardless of what humans determine is the “cause” of the sin.
8. Unless the church and the culture return to the authority of Scripture, there is no reason to expect that the sanctity of marriage will be preserved. Ultimately, people need to hear the gospel, repent of their sins, and turn to God.

## 11. What's the Best "Proof" of Creation?

1. Facts cannot "speak," they must be interpreted. If we find a smooth, round stone along a stream, do we know that it was a result of natural erosion? No! We can interpret the evidence (smooth, round stone near a stream) in light of our understanding of geologic processes and conclude with a high degree of confidence that it was formed that way. However, there could be other interpretations that are reasonable, especially if new evidence was exposed.
2. A presupposition is something that is assumed to be true without being able to prove it. All reasoning must start from presuppositions, so all people must have presuppositions. Christian reasoning should always start from biblical presuppositions.
3. An analogy related to battling without weapons or armor would be appropriate.
4. Answers will vary by topic.

## 12. What Is a Biblical Worldview?

1. Creation: God created the "very good" earth in six, 24-hour days, approximately 6,000 years ago.  
Corruption: Adam and Eve ate of the forbidden fruit bringing sin and death into the world.  
Catastrophe: God flooded the world to judge a wicked world, but He preserved all on the Ark.  
Confusion: God judged rebellious people by confusing their language, and they scattered across the globe.  
Christ: Jesus Christ, the Creator, came to earth as a man to live a perfect life.  
Cross: Jesus died on the cross as a substitute for the penalty of man's sin. He rose again after three days, showing that He conquered death for all who repent and believe.  
Consummation: The coming time when the curse will be lifted and God will create a new heaven and earth for believers to enjoy in His presence.
2. The 7 C's provide a way to explain the bad news of sin and present the good news of the gospel. (Also see the Creation Evangelism Cube at [www.answersingenesis.org/PublicStore/product/7-Cs-Creation-Evangelism-Cube,5427,258.aspx](http://www.answersingenesis.org/PublicStore/product/7-Cs-Creation-Evangelism-Cube,5427,258.aspx).)
3. Regardless of age or spiritual maturity level, the 7 Cs provide a way to remember and apply the history found in the Bible to everyday experiences in the world we live in.
4.
  - a. **Layers of sedimentary rock in a stream bed.**  
Catastrophe—most likely the result of the Flood
  - b. **The birth of a mule.**  
Creation—God created animals to produce after their kind. Horses and donkeys must be of the same biblical kind since they can breed.
  - c. **Thistles growing along the roadside.**

Corruption—The ground was cursed as a result of Adam’s sin; thistles and thorns were part of that curse.

**d. A manger scene outside of a church.**

Creation, Christ—The manger reminds us that the Creator, Jesus Christ, came to earth as a baby to do what the First Adam didn’t do—live in complete obedience to God.

**e. An evangelistic crusade at a local arena.**

Corruption, Cross, or Consummation—The reason we must preach repentance toward God is that the first Adam sinned, and all of his descendants are born sinners and willingly disobey God. The solution to sin is the Cross and those who repent and believe the gospel will spend eternity in God’s presence.

**f. A rainbow after a storm.**

Catastrophe—After the Flood, God used the rainbow as a sign of His covenant to never flood the earth again.

**g. Walking through a shopping center and hearing several different languages being spoken.**

Confusion—The languages are a result of God confusing the languages at Babel.

**h. The beauty of a star-filled sky.**

Creation—God created each of the stars on Day Four.

**i. A nature program showing lions hunting zebra.**

Corruption—All death is a result of the fallen world brought about by the sin of man.

**j. A disobedient child.**

Corruption—All humanity has inherited a sin nature from Adam.

**13. Did People Like Adam and Noah Really Live Over 900 Years of Age?**

1. The biblical records show that life spans decreased dramatically following the Flood.
2. Answers will vary.
3. A genetic bottleneck occurs when a population becomes very small and the amount of genetic variety becomes small. The Flood left eight people to populate the earth, and the confusion at Babel created small language-based groups. Each of these instances would have limited the genetic variety within the population.
4. The cells in our bodies are constantly being replaced, so with only a few exceptions, the cells we were born with are no longer part of our bodies.
5. Answers will vary but should point to the fact that eternal life can only come from God through repentance and faith in Christ.

**14. Are Biblical Creationists Divisive?**

1. The divisive person, according to Scripture, is the one departing from the truth found in the Bible. Romans 16:17–18 and Jude 1:17–19 can be used to validate this position.



2. The teaching of millions of years brought many false teachings into the church. The acceptance of death before sin, a local Flood, and other teachings began to infiltrate the church.
3. Jesus would not want us to be divided, but the differences should be based on biblical truths, not religious ideas. In His ministry on the earth, Jesus taught things that caused the listeners to be divided—some believed the biblical position and others rejected it. Truth, by its very nature, creates division. We must stand on the truth of the Bible, even if there are those who disagree.
4. We find the principle of dealing with a divisive person twice and then dismissing them. We need to be careful that we don't lose our effectiveness as evangelists by becoming entangled in prolonged discussions with a person who is not truly interested in learning the truth.
5. Our unity should be in the essential teachings of Scripture and in the person of Jesus Christ.

### **15. Why 66?**

1. The word *canon* means a measuring rod. The Bible is the measure of all things.
2. Several factors including the exclusion of the writings from the Jewish Scriptures, the fact that they were written during a period when Israel had no prophets, and the way in which they contradict other Scripture are reasons to exclude them from the Bible.
3. The Dead Sea Scrolls confirm the validity of the Old Testament canon and lend support to the accuracy of Old Testament texts.
4. Research will vary.
5. The Pentateuch refers to the first five books of the Bible written by Moses. The Septuagint is a Greek translation of the Old Testament completed in the third century BC. The Apocrypha is a collection of 14 books that were never considered a part of the Jewish Scriptures but have been included as Scripture by some religious groups.
6. By AD 240, Origen was referring to our current set of 27 books as the New Testament.
7. Written books were not common and the letters would have been written on scrolls. A single scroll could not contain all of the text and the information had to be compiled from letters written to churches over a broad region. It simply took time for the leaders to compile the canon into a formal list and this was only necessary as heretics sought to discredit and twist Scripture.
8. The five basic criteria were having an origin with an apostle, containing authentic truth, being used from earliest times, acceptance by the churches, and consistency with the rest of Scripture and church teaching.
9. The providence of God in directing the writing, preservation, and compilation of the book we call the Bible.

### **16. What Was the Christmas Star?**

1. Physical explanations of the Christmas star include a supernova, a comet, or a conjunction of stars and/or planets that was recognized by the magi.

2. No. God could have used the natural world to mark the birth of Christ, but He could just as easily have used a supernatural marker. The Bible seems to indicate that the magi were aware of the star and Herod was not. The star also led the magi to an individual house—not possible if the star were in the heavens.
3. Since the magi came from the east, and Daniel was in Persia, they may have had access to the Jewish Scriptures which would have indicated the birth of a king in Israel.
4. Some common misconceptions are the arrival of the magi on the night of Christ's birth, a star visible to everyone, and a star high in the heavens. There are many other examples that are related to facts apart from the star.

### **17. Is Jesus God?**

1. The Old Testament names for God used by the Jews are claimed by Jesus Himself and used by other New Testament writers to refer to Him.
2. Only God should receive worship from man according to passages such as Exodus 34:14 and Matthew 4:10. There are several examples of Jesus accepting worship from men (John 20:28; Matthew 8:2, 9:18) and the angels (Hebrews 1:6). Jesus is worshipped as God because He is, indeed, God.
3. God has revealed that there is one true God, yet we see three persons identified in Scripture and identified as God. If Jesus is not God, then the doctrine of the Trinity, a fundamental doctrine of Christianity, must be rejected. (See the article at [www.answersingenesis.org/articles/2008/02/20/god-is-triune](http://www.answersingenesis.org/articles/2008/02/20/god-is-triune) for more scriptural support for the Trinity.)
4. Answers will vary.

### **18. Are There Gaps in the Genesis Genealogies?**

1. Secular histories, in general, reject the Bible as an authority even though it is the Word of God. Secular histories rely on human reasoning, rather than the Bible, as the authority.
2. Many church leaders, and the church in general, have compromised the truth of Scripture to fall in line with secular theories. This happened in the 1800s as the idea of millions of years was popularized and added to the Bible. As a result, the absolute authority of Scripture was abandoned. People have realized, in a consistent line of thinking, that if the Bible can't be trusted to give the age of the earth, then Scripture itself cannot be trusted. If the Bible cannot be trusted to teach us of earthly things, why should we trust it on moral issues?
3. Answers will vary.
4. They insist there are gaps in the lists, though they are generally unwilling to point out where those gaps are. Some also accept the secular history which is based on secular and evolutionary reasoning, and they combine that with the Bible.
5. The Hebrew word *ben* is generally translated as *son* in English. However, other information in the Bible makes it clear that these people are grandsons

or more distantly related. So, we must take care in interpreting these relationships. The other Hebrew word, *yalad*, does not intend anything other than a father/son relationship in Scripture. “X *begat* Y” always indicates an immediate relationship, but “X is the son of Y” does not necessarily mean an immediate relationship.

### **19. How Old Is the Earth?**

1. There have been about 2,000 years between us and Christ, about 2,000 years between Christ and Abraham, and the genealogies in Genesis 5 and 11 show about 2,000 years between Abraham and Adam. This puts the biblical age of the earth at about 6,000 years.
2. The dates range from about 7,500 years (ca. 5501 BC) to about 5,800 years (ca. 3836 BC) when the Bible is used. Without the Bible, dates have ranged from 7,200 years up to 4.5 billion years.
3. Many different geologists and scientists began thinking in old-age terms including Werner, Hutton, Lyell, and LaPlace.
4. The biblical age has changed little, but the secular age has increased dramatically over time.
5. No, other methods such as the amount of salt in the ocean, the decay of earth’s magnetic field, and the growth of human population indicate that the earth could not be 4.5 billion years old.

### **20. Information: Evidence for a Creator?**

1. Materialism asserts that mass and energy are all that exist in the universe and that all other supposed entities are fictional.
2.
  - a. **Water**  
Material as it is made of matter.
  - b. **Logic**  
Nonmaterial but assumed as true by materialists.
  - c. **Light**  
Material as it is a form of energy.
  - d. **Space**  
Material as it is influenced by matter and energy (i.e., it can be bent).
  - e. **Thoughts**  
Nonmaterial.
  - f. **God**  
Nonmaterial as He is not a natural phenomenon.
  - g. **Sound**  
Material as it is the transmission of energy through matter.
3. Information can be stored on different media by organizing matter in certain patterns, but it is not part of the matter itself. If you were to weigh a CD before and after storing information on it, the weight would be the same.
4. The Bible contains a coded, symbolically represented message that is intended to cause an action in the reader.

5. Any items with recorded ideas or words would contain information. Items such as staplers, ice cubes, letters on a keyboard, a stereo, etc. show organization but are missing one or more attributes of information.
6. Information is nonmaterial and can be stored on material objects, but it is not a property of the matter it is stored on. The matter can be arranged in a coded, symbolic fashion, but the information is still distinct from the matter itself.
7. Since evolution requires matter to produce new information over time, and matter is not capable of producing nonmaterial entities, evolution must be false.

### **21. Is Evolution a Religion?**

1. Historical documents and eyewitness accounts provide the best evidence for the existence of historical figures.
2. We can use observational science to test items from the past that exist in the present, but the conclusions will always be based on assumptions.
3. There is no way to test the events using repeatable experiments, so assumptions must be used to arrive at conclusions about the origin of life. Since there is no historical documentation of the evolutionary position, the assumptions are arbitrary. The Bible gives historical documentation for the origin of life, so the starting assumptions are not arbitrary, but based on God's eyewitness account.
4. There is no documentation for the evolutionary view, while the Bible is God's eyewitness description of the events of the creation of the universe.
5. Because both evolutionary ideals and atheistic ideals are pursued with zeal or conscientious devotion by many, they can be considered religious. Secular humanism, a belief system that espouses atheistic and evolutionary tenets has been classified as a religion for decades.
6. One reason may be that there is no accountability to a Creator, specifically the God of the Bible. In evolutionary thinking, there is no reason to curb any behaviors—individuals are free to act as they please.

### **22. Is the Bible Enough?**

1. Many recent books and movies have shown people “evidence” that the history of the Bible is false and that recently discovered “truths” prove that the common understanding of the Bible needs to be updated. All of these claims lie on unreliable accounts, documents, and even outright lies portrayed as fact.
2. The ideas are self-contradictory as well as contradictory toward other parts of Scripture.
3. *Extrabiblical* generally refers to any book that is not part of the Bible. The historical writings, gnostic gospels, and religious writings are not considered part of Scripture.
4. Gnostic gospels claimed to be written by Barnabas, Judas, and Mary Magdalene. These books taught a mystical view of nature, dualistic gods, acquiring secret knowledge, a low view of God, and various cult practices.
5. *The Gospel of Philip* suggests that God was not powerful enough to create the world He desired, and that truth is mystical. *The Gospel of Mary* suggests that

Mary Magdalene was Jesus's wife and that they had children. *The Gospel of Barnabas* is used by Muslims to support the claim that Judas died on the cross in Jesus' place and the Messiah was to be descended from Ishmael. *The Gospel of Judas* claims that Judas was given the honorable duty of betraying Christ.

6. Both of these cults believe the Bible is useful, but they change much of the content to fit their beliefs. Other books are elevated above the Bible.
7. Answers may include 2 Timothy 3:16–17, Proverbs 30:5–6, Psalm 19:7–11, and John 17:17.

### **23. Aren't Millions of Years Required for Geological Processes?**

1. Uniformitarianism promotes the idea that the actions we see in the present must be used to interpret the past. For example, the rate of erosion we observe today should be used to understand how erosion happened in the past (the present is the key to the past).
2. Most people assume that sedimentary rocks require long ages to form, but that is not the case. By looking at many examples of sedimentary rock forming around modern objects, and other examples, we can conclude that rock can form quite quickly.
3. Observations from Mount Saint Helens and well preserved fossil fish found in layered rock support the claim that rock layers can form rapidly.
4. Research should show that secular geologists resisted the idea that a flood caused the massive erosion, but later work demonstrated that a megaflood was responsible for the features. PBS even produced a documentary on the issue, though not from a biblical perspective.
5. Organisms must be buried rapidly to prevent them from decaying.
6. These formations are considered to have formed over long ages based on uniformitarian assumptions. However, observational science has demonstrated that the long ages are not necessary.
7. Many appear to be viewing things from a catastrophist viewpoint. Though they still reject a global Flood as described in Genesis, they recognize that the rock layers show rapid burial of organisms.

### **24. Doesn't Egyptian Chronology Prove That the Bible Is Unreliable?**

1. Many of the rulers reigned at the same time, so adding the length of each individual reign together would create an inflated chronology.
2. The histories must be consistent with the histories of other cultures. If they are not, they must be adjusted to coincide. Ultimately, the Bible should be used as the standard to compare any other history to since it is the account given by God.
3. The Flood would have to be a local flood, or it would have destroyed the pyramids. If the Flood were local, then the people living near the pyramids would not have been destroyed. This would be in direct conflict to the account in Genesis which says all of mankind was destroyed other than those aboard the Ark.

4. The revised chronology has shown the consistency of the Egyptian and Israeli histories. Correlation has also been improved between other cultures.

### **25. What about Satan and the Origin of Evil?**

1. Other names for Satan include Lucifer, Devil, the accuser, evil one, various dragon and serpent references, Abaddon, prince of the power of the air, Beelzebub, and Belial.
2. There is no specific verse that calls Satan an angel, but he is referred to with angels and as a cherub. He is generally considered a fallen angel, and at least a member of the heavenly host.
3. God created everything in the heavens and the earth (Nehemiah 9:6), so Satan was a created being. Job 38:4–7 seems to indicate that the angels watched as God created the earth, so it is logical to conclude that Satan and the other heavenly hosts were created on Day 1 and at least by Day 3. However, there is no explicit passage that states this.
4. If Satan had fallen before God announced everything “very good” on Day Six of Creation, God’s claim would be false. Since God sanctified the seventh day, it is unlikely that Satan sinned on that day. Adam and Eve were commanded to be fruitful and multiply, so we can conclude they would have attempted to fulfill that command immediately. Since firstborn Cain was obviously a sinner who inherited his sin nature from his parents, the Fall must have happened before he was conceived. Based on these premises, the fall of Satan was probably shortly after the seventh day—at least within the first few weeks before Cain was conceived.
5. The Bible makes it plain that Satan can tempt us but cannot cause us to sin. God does not tempt us to sin, but it is our own desires—our fleshly, sin nature—that lead to sin (James 1:3–15).
6. He will be punished in the lake of fire along with all those who have died in their sins. Many claim that Satan will rule over hell, but that is an unbiblical notion.
7. Those who have repented to God and put their trust in Jesus as Savior will live eternally in heaven. Those who die in their sins will face eternal punishment in hell.

### **26. Why Is the Scopes Trial Significant?**

1. John Scopes was defended by the ACLU lawyer Clarence Darrow, while the state of Tennessee was represented by William Jennings Bryan.
2. The Butler Act was a law passed in Tennessee that made it illegal to teach that man is not the result of Divine Creation, but that humans had descended from any lower order of animals.
3. Darrow intended to discredit religious fundamentalists in America. Bryan’s goals were to let local schools control what is taught and to keep evolution from being taught as a fact.
4. Darrow got Bryan to admit that God did not create in six days, discrediting the authority of the Bible in the minds of those watching.

5. If the Bible's history cannot be defended as true, then why should its morality be accepted as true? The answer is that there is no consistent reason to reject one and accept the other. If the Bible is truly the Word of God, its authority stands above everything else.

### **27. Isn't the Bible Full of Contradictions?**

1. Something cannot be yes and no, or true and false at the same time in the same situation. An apple cannot be both red and green at the same time, though parts of the apple may be red while other parts are green.
2. All of Scripture, both in detail and in its sum, is true so there cannot be contradictions in the Bible.
3. Only the original autographs would be free of errors since those were the words inspired by God. Minor errors have been introduced by copying manuscripts incorrectly, so the copies we have today can be compared to determine where those mistakes are and how to correct them.
4. Scientific reasoning is based on presuppositions of those making the arguments. The evidence is the same; the interpretations are different because of the presuppositions that inform the conclusions. Simply saying that science is better than the Bible is poor reasoning.
5. The context of a verse informs the reader of the intent of the words used. The Bible plainly states that there is no God (Psalm 14:1). However, reading the verse in context we see that the fool has said in his heart that there is no God. Paul states that all things are lawful (1 Corinthians 6:12) and John says that sin is lawlessness (1 John 3:4). If all things are lawful then nothing is sinful. However, if we read the 1 Corinthians passage in context, Paul is speaking of eating foods that were forbidden, not transgressing God's moral law.
6. Since we are looking at a translation of Hebrew, Greek, and Aramaic into English, there can never be a perfect translation of the ideas. Using multiple translations can help us correct misunderstandings. Another problem is that language changes and current translations may correct those misunderstandings found in earlier translations.
7. If we do not accept that words change in meaning, we may read a text and come to understand the complete opposite of what the author intended. Prevent used to mean to come before, while today it means to block an action. Reading Psalm 88:13 in the KJV with a modern understanding of the word prevent would likely lead us to a wrong conclusion about the verse.
8. Because we can compare manuscripts of different ages we can determine likely insertions and deletions due to copyist errors. This does not mean that the Bible contains errors and should not be trusted, but that the errors are so rare and identifiable that they are insignificant.

### **28. Was the Dispersion at Babel a Real Event?**

1. The extrabiblical reference of Peleg confirms the biblical account and also links it to the events of Babel.
2. Many civilizations have similar buildings, known as ziggurats. It is suggested that the Tower of Babel was probably a ziggurat. As people spread across the

globe, they carried this idea with them and constructed similar structures where they settled.

3. Many genealogies can be traced back to the sons and grandsons of Noah, or Noah himself. Some of the names are in derived forms but are present in many cultures. This confirms the accuracy of the accounts in the Bible.
4. Cush is still used for the Ethiopians, the Aramaic language comes from Aram, the Hebrew nation draws its name from Eber, Ashkenaz is the Hebrew name for Germany, Madai was the namesake of the Medes, and many other examples.
5. Linguists have grouped languages into about 100 language families. All of the languages within a family share common features that can be traced back through time to a distinct source. These language families are likely the result of the languages created at Babel.

### **29. When Does Life Begin?**

1. The three basic positions are at the time of fertilization (conception), at the time of implantation into the womb, or at the time of birth or when the umbilical cord is cut. However, there are many variations on these positions.
2. Fertilization occurs when the egg and the sperm unite. This single cell then begins to divide and moves to the womb where it implants in the wall as a blastocyst. The process of development continues through many more stages until the baby is born.
3. The meaning of conception has changed from the time of fertilization to the time of implantation in medical usage. If we say life begins at conception, it may be misconstrued as implantation when we mean fertilization. Defining the terms is important in discussions, especially over potentially contentious ideas.
4. Answers will vary.
5. The Bible is always a reliable source on any issue in our lives, especially those with moral implications.
6. The biblical language of those in the womb is always of a living person, never a fetus or anything else.
7. The most obvious issue is abortion, but the issue is also linked to the stem cell debate, cloning, birth control methods, and ultimately the authority of Scripture over man's reasoning.

### **30. Do Creationists Believe in “Weird” Physics like Relativity, Quantum Mechanics, and String Theory?**

1. Good science involves a systematic approach to studying a topic, generally referred to as the scientific method. This method develops hypotheses that can be tested in observable, repeatable experiments in order to affirm or refute the hypothesis leading to further study.
2. Science can prove things false under certain conditions, but it can never ultimately prove anything to be true. We can do experiments to demonstrate how objects behave under different circumstances, but we can never say with



certainty, based on past experiments, that they will always behave that way or that new evidence will lead to a better understanding.

3. The physical behaviors that Newton described worked well for objects in our everyday experience, but failed to explain how atomic and subatomic particles behave. Quantum mechanics and relativity theory were developed to explain the physics of these objects where Newton's laws failed.
4. Einstein showed that space and time are actually a fourth dimension that can be altered by mass and energy. He also showed that space can bend and flow, and that time can pass at different rates in different conditions—all ideas contrary to earlier notions and theories.
5. While quantum mechanics and relativity have been demonstrated to be valid through prediction and experimentation, string theory has no experimental basis. Scientists are still trying to test the hypotheses associated with string theory using particle accelerators and other techniques.

### **31. Doesn't the Order of Fossils in the Rock Record Favor Long Ages?**

1. Only that they were buried at the same time, not that they lived together.
2. Many evolutionists claim that the extinction of dinosaurs, and other creatures, recorded in the rock record is associated with a chemical layer that could have come from an asteroid. From a biblical perspective, the volcanic activity associated with the Flood can explain the layer as well. The Flood is the explanation for the extinction of most of the life on earth—all land creatures not aboard the Ark.
3. We see specific communities of organisms in zones on the earth today. If there were a global flood today, the animals that live in the high desert would not be buried with animals that live in coastal communities. Likewise, during the Genesis Flood, certain areas would have been flooded and buried before others. While there would be some mixing of organisms in adjacent zones, we would expect to find organisms from lower zones lower in the rock record and those from higher zones higher in the rock record.
4. Sea creatures would have been buried first as the fountains of the great deep broke open. Creatures such as worms, brachiopods, and bivalves would have no way to escape the debris stirred up and carried by currents onto the continental shelves.
5. The size, shape, and density of the organisms will determine what layer they are deposited in if they are in a flowing mass of mud. Very dense and streamlined organisms would settle to the bottom of the flow while less dense organisms would move or remain on top. This sorting action could account for much of the orientation of organisms in the rock record.
6. Vertebrates, to different degrees, are very mobile, instinctively flee danger, and struggle to survive. All of these factors combined can explain much about the order of organisms in the rock record. Fish would likely be found higher than shellfish and mammals higher than amphibians in the event of a global flood.

### **The Biggest Question of All?**

1. Understanding that the Bible presents a logical faith, not a blind one, is important. By studying Scripture we can come to a proper understanding of the creation and other issues. But the most important thing revealed in Scripture is God's plan of salvation through the gospel.
2. Answers will vary.