

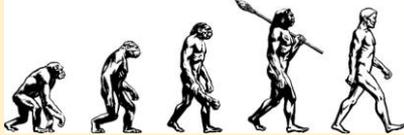
Creation and science: conflicting or complementary?

Keywords

Old Testament – the second half of the bible, divided into books and **gospels**, based after Jesus' birth.

Creation The action or process of bringing something into existence

Evolution - The changes in a species over generations based on the theory of natural selection.



Big Bang The rapid expansion of matter commonly thought to be the beginning of the universe

Cosmology The science of the origin and development of the universe

Evolution The process by which living organisms are believed to develop

Literal truth Taking words in their most basic sense

Theological truth The creation story contains religious truth about the nature of God

Cosmological Argument An argument for the existence of God saying that God is the first cause.

Teleological Argument an argument for the existence of God based on design in the world

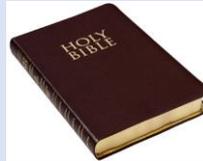
Symbolic Serving as a symbol

Key questions

- How does the concept of Creation fit into the timeline of the Bible's 'Big Story'?
- What type of text do some Christians say Genesis 1 is and what is its purpose?
- How can Genesis 1 be interpreted in different ways?
- What are the connections between Genesis 1 and Christian belief about God as Creator?
- Is the Genesis 1 creation narrative in conflict or complementary to a scientific account?

Key texts.

From the **book of genesis** in the **Old Testament** of the Bible.



Genesis 1 - In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth.



Similarities to Other Religions

- **Judaism** - Genesis is also within the Torah.
- **Islam** - The Qu'ran says that the Earth was created in 6 days.

Key knowledge:

Christians believe that God created the universe and God the Creator cares for the **creation**, including human beings.



There is much debate and some controversy around the relationship between the accounts of creation in Genesis and contemporary scientific accounts.

These debates and controversies relate to the purpose and interpretation of the texts. In other words, what genre is **Genesis 1**.

Some Christians believe that the Genesis account of creation is **literally true**. Some Christians see it as a poetic account to inspire worship and awe in God as creator.

There are many scientists, throughout history and now, who are Christians.

The discoveries of science make Christians wonder even more about the power and majesty of the Creator.

