

Science in the Bible

The Difference Between Stars

Although some scientists disagree with the Bible, the Bible agrees with *true* science (observable science, not man-made theories). An example of this is in the variation between stars. In **1 Corinthians 15:41** – written about 55 AD – the New Testament says “...for one star differs from another star in *glory*.” Considering the Bible was written before telescopes, this is a remarkable fact of scientific accuracy. Now with our observatories and space telescopes we can see just how true this statement is.



Did you know that stars are not all equally bright? As one book of astronomy explains: “Stars actually have two different magnitudes [brightness]. The first is their magnitude as they appear to us in the sky. This is called *apparent magnitude*...However, stars are not all the same distance away from Earth and those which are near appear brighter than those which are further away. The second type of magnitude is a measure of a star’s true brilliance and is called *absolute magnitude*. This compares stars with each other. Astronomers calculate a star’s absolute magnitude by working out how bright it would appear in our sky if it were 32.6 light years away.” Did you know that stars also vary in colour, from red to blue? Strangely, the coolest stars are red, ranging to the hottest which are blue. So, the Bible is scientifically accurate: “one star differs from another star in glory.” And surely the star which announced Christ’s birth was the most glorious of all (Matthew 2:1-2)!

Genesis Issues

“What about the Big Bang?”

On Christmas Eve 1968 the crew of Apollo 8 became the first people to orbit the moon and in their seasonal greetings back to earth they quoted the opening verse of the Bible: “*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*” (**Genesis 1:1**). This verse tells us how everything got here: very simply, *God made it*. But as soon as you say that many people reply: “But what about the Big Bang?”- the belief that all of the energy and matter in the universe was crammed together and then exploded, ultimately resulting in everything we see today.



Well, there are only a few things we can say about that in such a short space. But let’s begin simply: explosions don’t create things (especially things like our universe with its amazing designs and order), they destroy them. So, that’s problem number one. Then consider, that if all the planets originated from the same material, they should have the same properties, but they don’t. Look how different even the moon and earth are. And then lastly, you can’t have everything being created from nothing (where did the energy and matter come from *before* the Big Bang?). As one science journal said: “*You cannot fudge this by appealing to quantum mechanics. Either there is nothing to begin with, in which there is no quantum vacuum, no pre-geometric dust, no time in which anything can happen, no physical laws that can effect a change from nothingness into somethingness; or there is something, in which case that needs explaining.*” New Scientist, 14/9/96, p.49. The big God of Genesis explains it all!