

TRAINING DAY

Hot Topics. Great Questions. Biblical Answers.

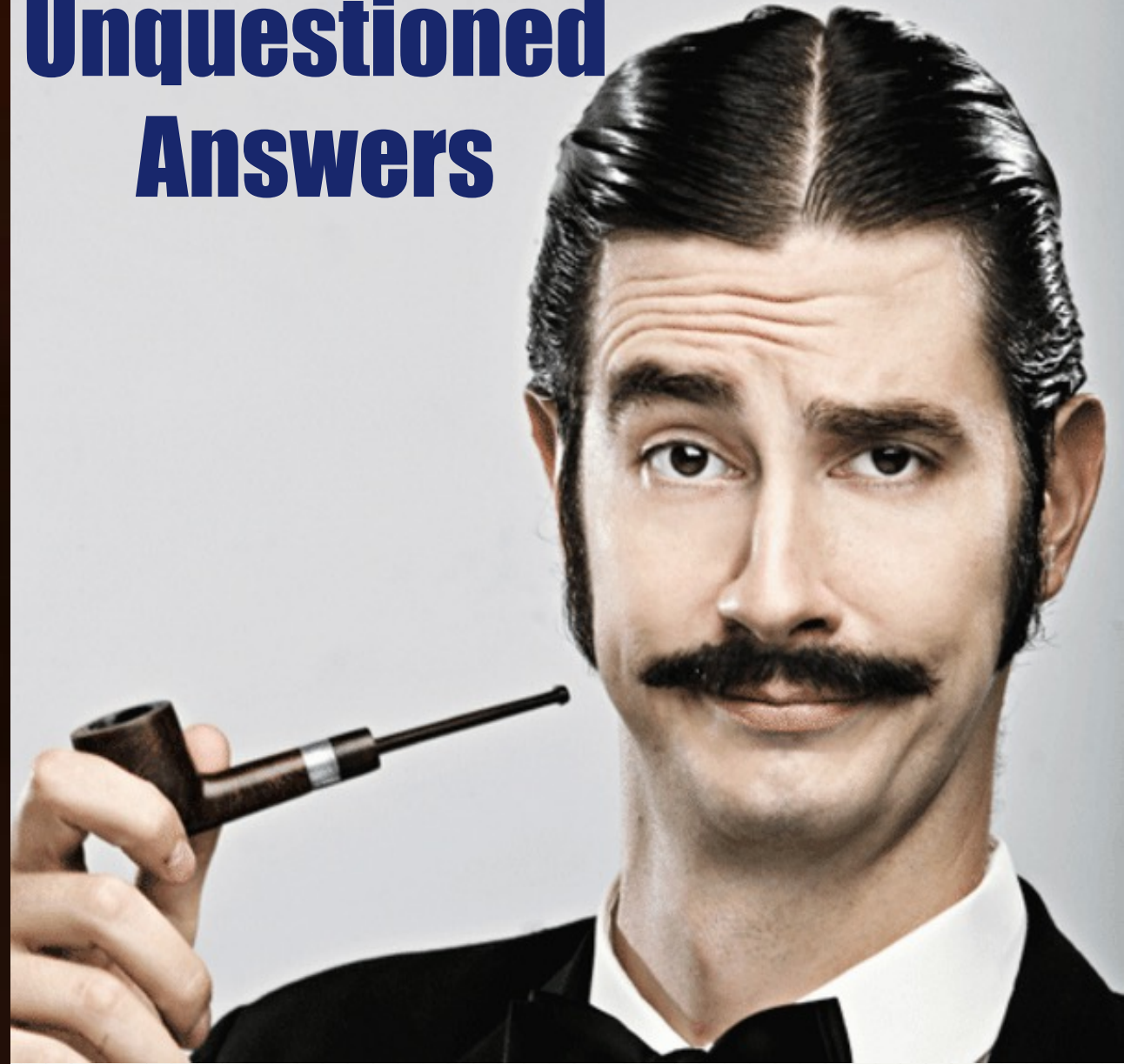
SCIENCE & FAITH



Unanswered Questions



Unquestioned Answers



Your presuppositions about
REALITY & MORALITY



WORLDVIEW





Magic Kingdom





- LEGEND**
- Restrooms
 - Guest Relations
 - Dining
 - Stroller/Wheelchair Rental
 - Smoking Areas
 - First Aid
 - Telephones
 - Lockers
 - Banking/ATM

45TH ANNIVERSARY
Six Flags
 OVER TEXAS

© 2009 Six Flags Entertainment Co. All rights reserved. Six Flags, Six Flags Over Texas, and the Six Flags logo are trademarks of Six Flags Entertainment Co. All other trademarks and service marks are the property of their respective owners.



What is the best explanation for the way things are?

- **Origin**
- **Design**
- **Life**
 - **Meaning**
 - **Morals**

NOVEMBER 13, 2006

TIME

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:
A 48-PAGE
SPECIAL SECTION

**THE BEST
INVENTIONS
OF 2006**

GOD VS. SCIENCE

A spirited debate between
atheist biologist **Richard Dawkins**
and Christian geneticist **Francis Collins**



www.time.com


TRAINING DAY

“Faith is the great cop-out, the great excuse to evade the need to think and evaluate evidence. Faith is belief in spite of, even perhaps because of, the lack of evidence.”

- Richard Dawkins



Beryl

BAPTIST CHURCH



REASON IS THE GREATEST
ENEMY THAT FAITH HAS

Sunday School 9:45 AM

Worship 11:00 AM

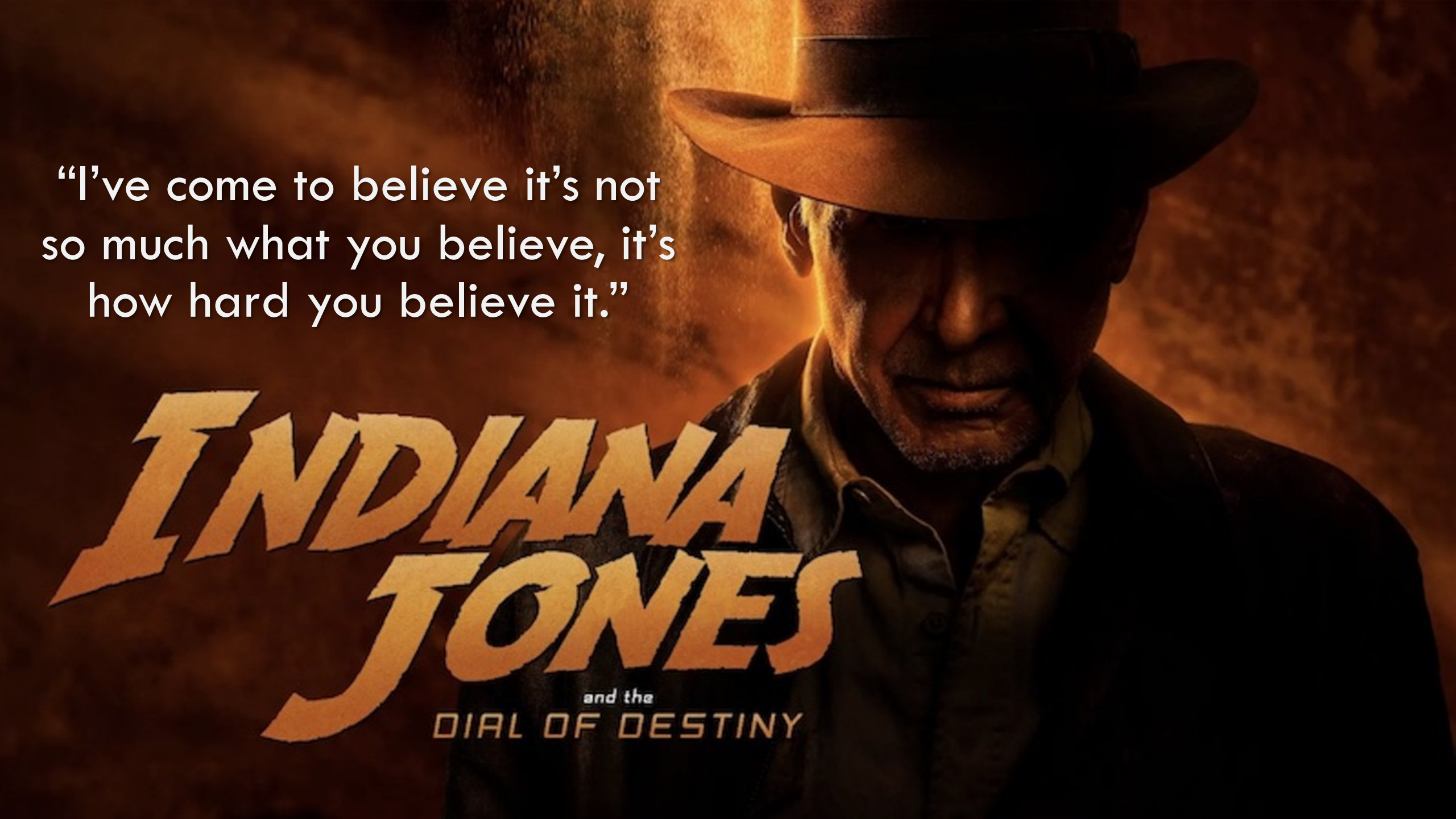
Training Classes 5:00 PM

Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday Worship 7:00 PM

Pastor

JOHN LINDSEY II

A close-up, low-angle shot of Indiana Jones wearing his signature fedora hat. The lighting is dramatic, with a strong light source from the upper left, casting deep shadows on the right side of his face and hat. The background is a textured, warm-toned wall.

“I’ve come to believe it’s not
so much what you believe, it’s
how hard you believe it.”

INDIANA JONES

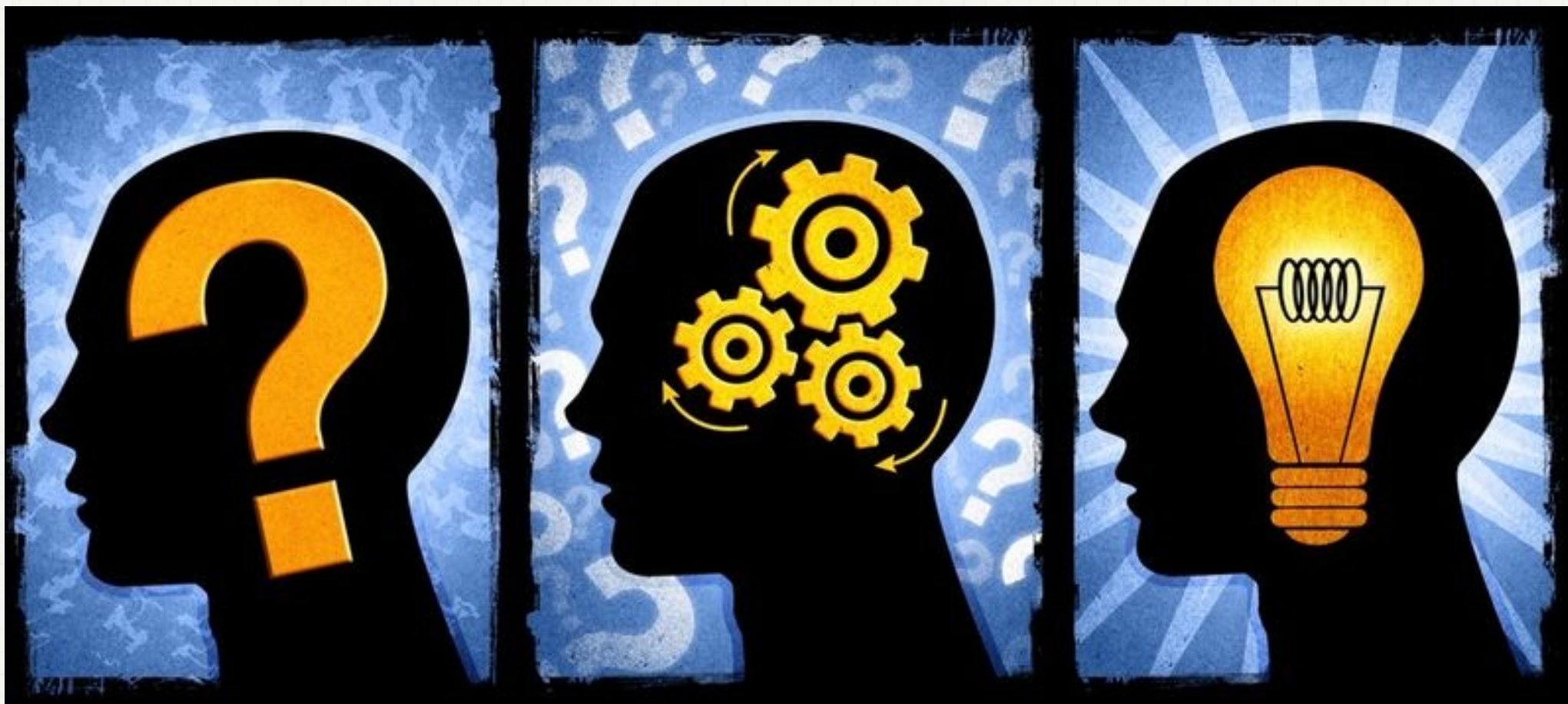
and the
DIAL OF DESTINY

THE APPARENT CONFLICT



DO YOU HAVE TO
CHOOSE BETWEEN
**SCIENCE &
RELIGION?**

How can we know something is real/true?

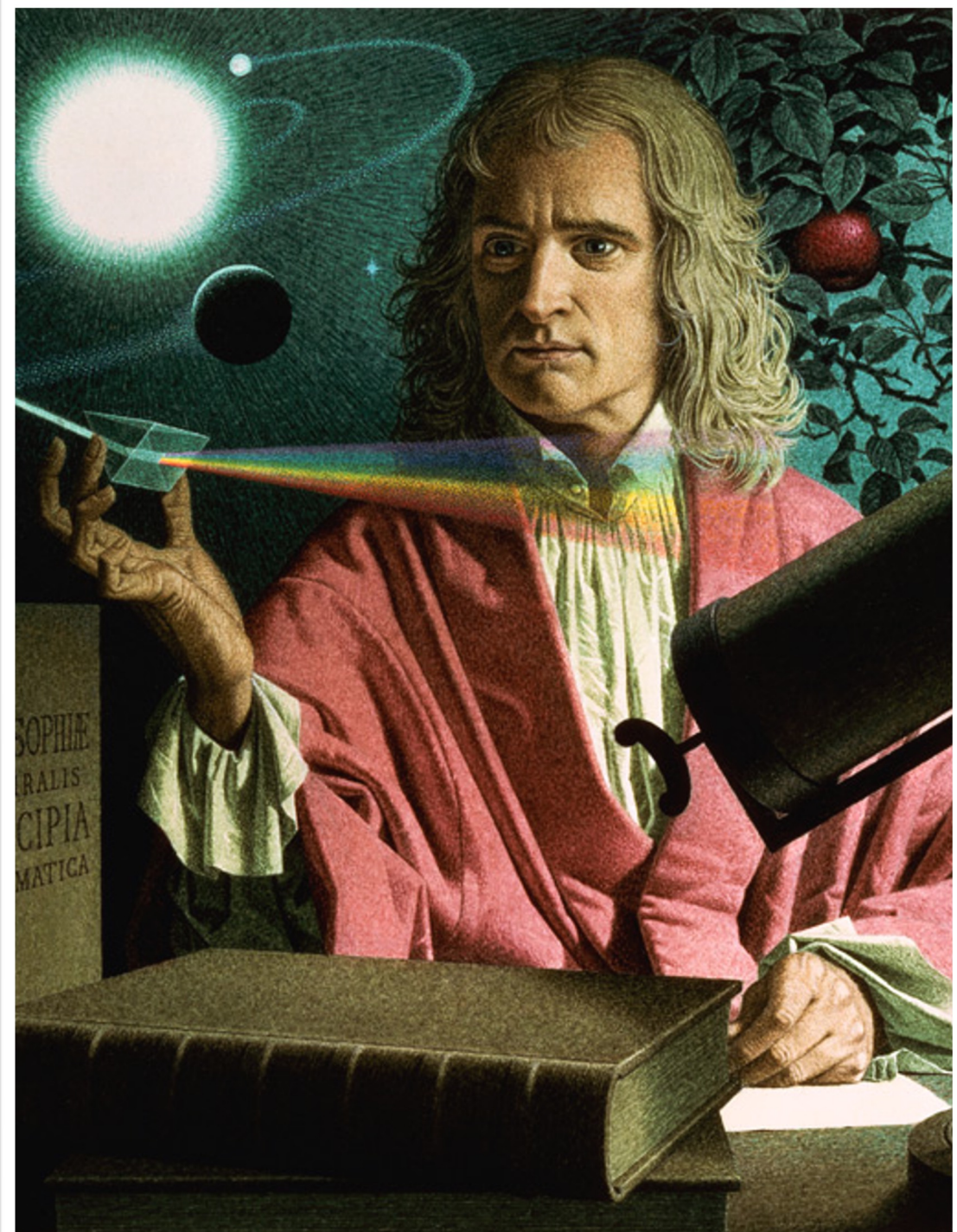


“It is not possible to be intellectually honest and believe in gods. And it is not possible to believe in gods and be a true scientist.” – Peter Atkins

“The world needs to wake up from the long nightmare of religion. Anything we scientists can do to weaken the hold of religion should be done and may in fact be our greatest contribution to civilization.” – Stephen Weinberg

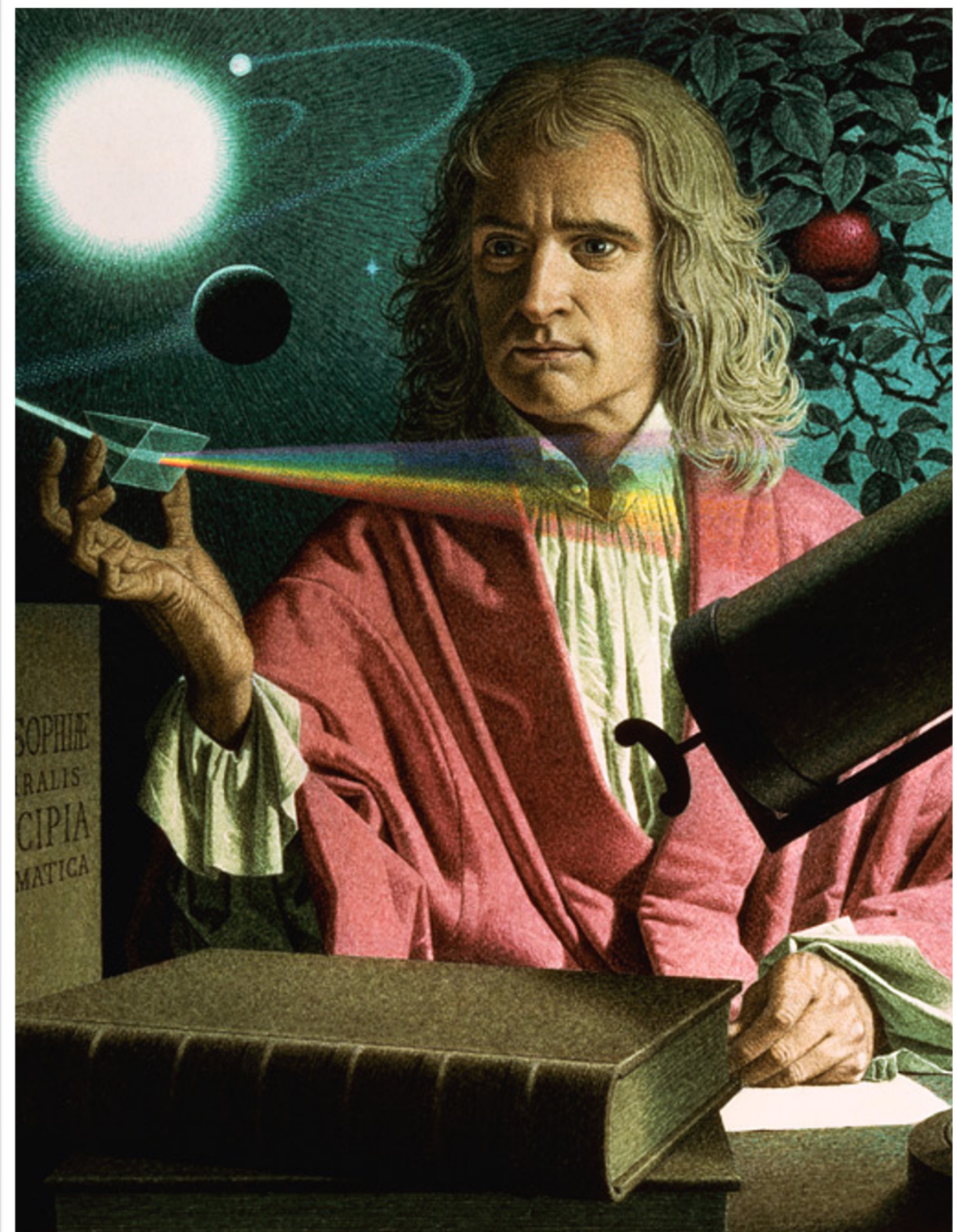
“The problem is to get people to reject irrational and supernatural explanations of the world, the demons that exist only in their imaginations, and to accept a social and intellectual apparatus, Science, as the only begetter of truth.” – Richard Lewontin

- **Nicolaus Copernicus (1473–1543)**
- **Sir Francis Bacon (1561-1626)**
- **Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)**
- **Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)**
- **Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)**
- **Robert Boyle (1627-1691)**
- **Isaac Newton (1643-1727)**
- **Gregor Mendel (1822-1884)**
- **Georges Lemaître (1894-1966)**

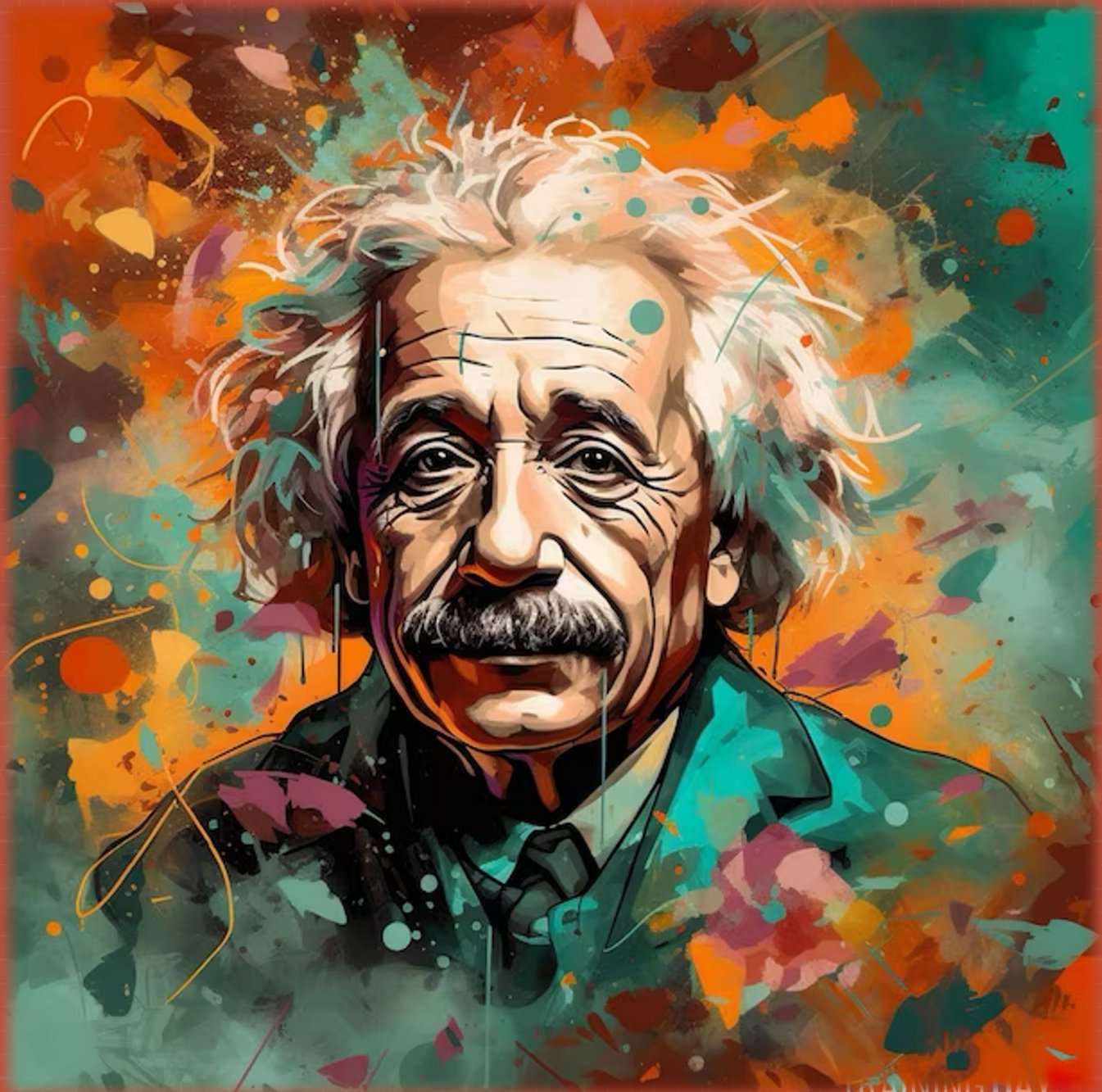


“Gravity explains the motions of the planets, but cannot explain who set the planets in motion. God governs all things, and knows all that is or can be done. This most beautiful system of the sun, planets and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent Being.”

– Sir Isaac Newton



**“A legitimate
conflict between
science and religion
cannot exist.
Science without
religion is lame,
religion without
science is blind.”
– Albert Einstein**



**“One of the greatest
tragedies of our time is this
impression that has been
created that science and
religion have to be at
war.”**

– Dr. Francis Collins



Biblical Faith

Trusting in what
you have reason
to believe is true







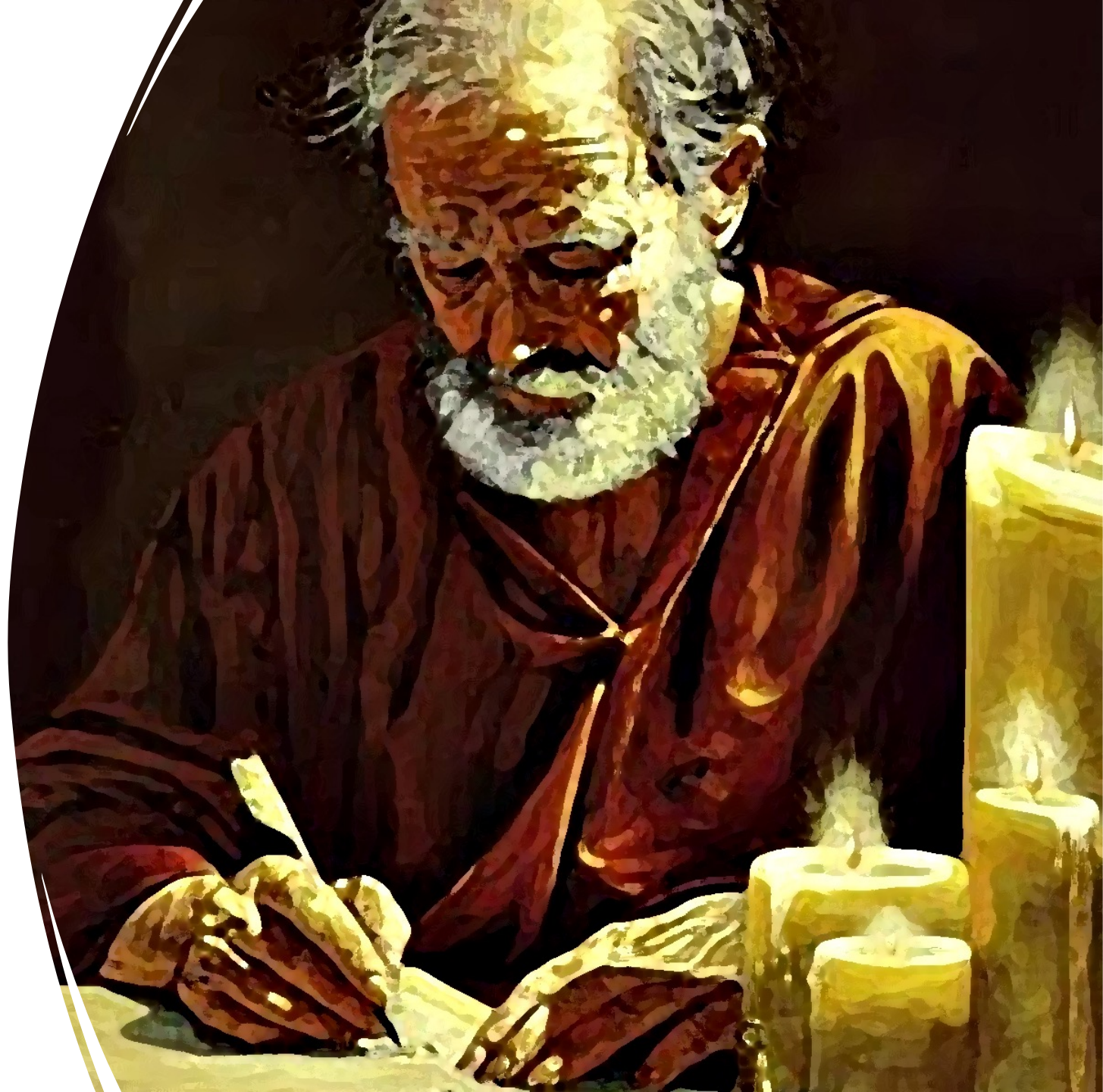
**“This Jesus God raised up,
and of that we all are
witnesses.” (Acts 2:32)**

“For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, ‘This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased,’ we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain.” (2 Peter 1:16-18)



“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us – that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ.”

- John 1:1-3



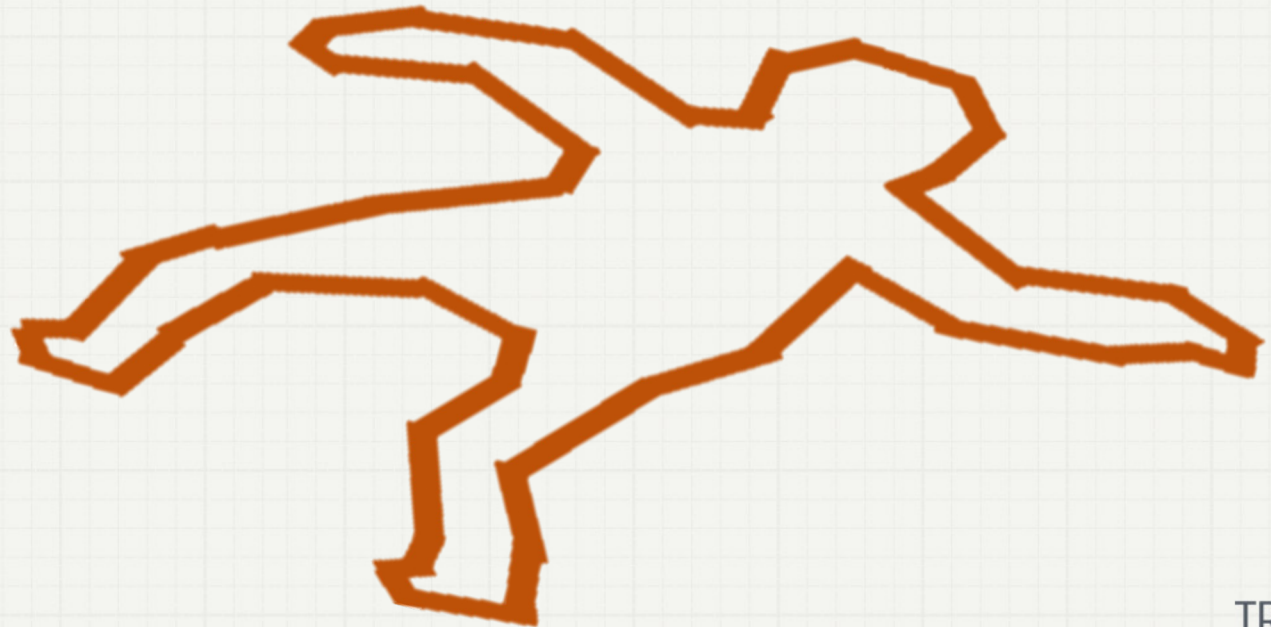
What is science?

- Latin for *knowledge* (*scientia*)
- The systematic knowledge of the physical world



What is science?

- IS vs. OUGHT
- Descriptive vs. Prescriptive



What do you mean by “science”?

Science as **METHODOLOGY**

- Goal: discovering the answers (truth) and identifying ideas worth believing

Science as **PHILOSOPHY**

- Goal: getting the right kind of answers
- *Naturalism* is a worldview that holds that nothing exists outside of the material world

“Ideally, science operates on the basis of free inquiry. Multiple hypotheses compete for validity, and the one with the best evidence is considered the most viable. However, since Darwin’s time, free inquiry has increasingly been replaced with a **presumption of naturalism**, especially among those supporting evolution... The problem we face with naturalism is not with the fact that it is one of a choice of worldviews. Rather, the difficulty is that scientists who embrace naturalism to the exclusion of all other worldviews take away the basis of free inquiry. In other words, once we limit ourselves to a specific paradigm, such as naturalism, we limit the questions we might ask or the research we might conduct.” – Ralph Muncaster

Staff Rule #1

JOHN ELMORE IS ALWAYS INNOCENT

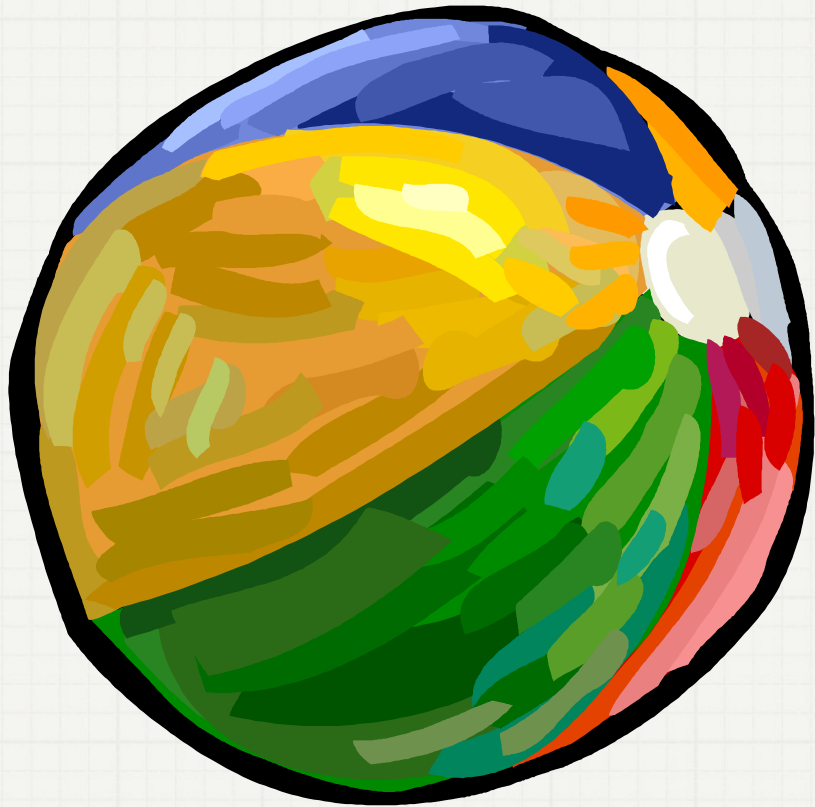
- *Someone's stealing food from the fridge.*
- Well find out who it is! Follow the evidence wherever it leads.
- *Um...all the evidence points to John Elmore.*
- That's impossible.
- *Why?*
- Because of Staff Rule #1!

- **What often happens when scientific methodology produces conclusions that don't conform with scientific philosophy?**
- **The philosophy trumps the methodology**

“We take the side of science *in spite* of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, *in spite* of its failure to fulfill many of its extravagant promises of health and life, *in spite* of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism. It is not that the methods and institutions of science somehow compel us to accept a material explanation of the phenomenal world, but, on the contrary, that we are forced by our *a priori* adherence to material causes to create an apparatus of investigation and a set of concepts that produce material explanations, no matter how counter-intuitive, no matter how mystifying to the uninitiated. Moreover, that materialism is an absolute, for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door.”

– Richard Lewontin

The Beach Ball Principle



Although God has clearly revealed Himself, man chooses to suppress the Truth to protect his own beliefs and behavior

**All reports of
miracles are false**

**What
about the
Bible?**



**How do
you know
that?**

**Because miracles
do not occur**

**Science is a helpful ally, but not
the ultimate authority**

The universe had a beginning

The Law of Cause and Effect

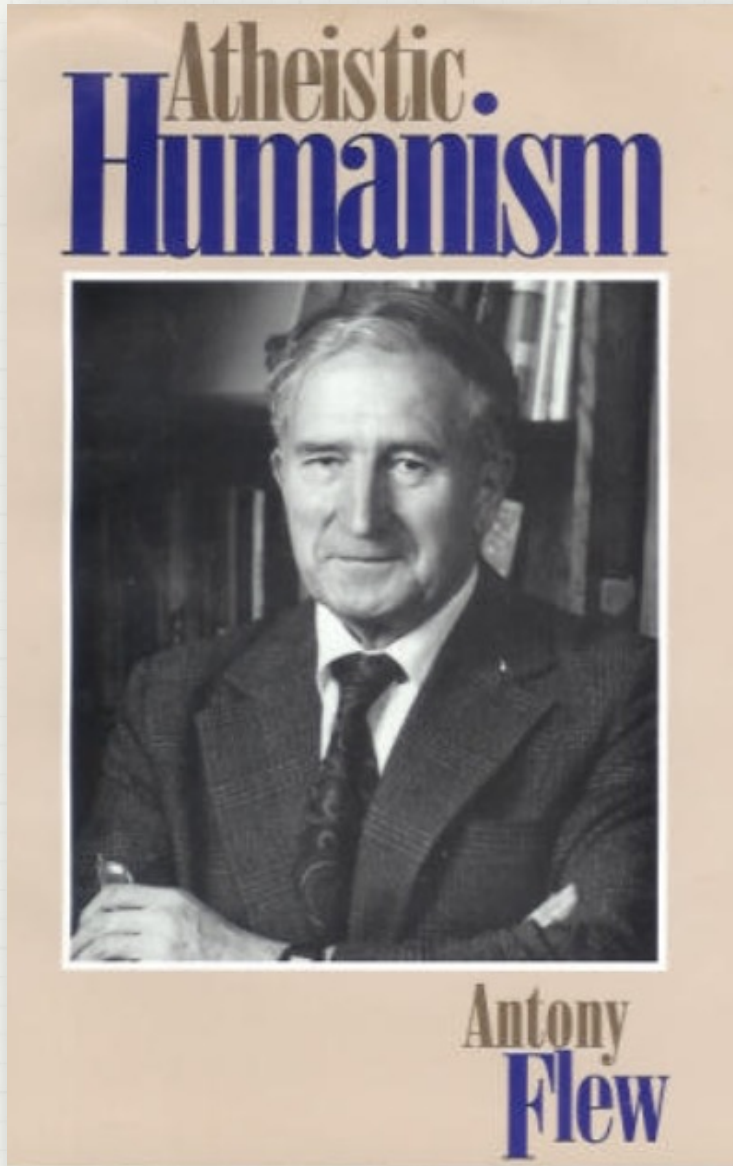
Law of Biogenesis

2nd Law of Thermodynamics

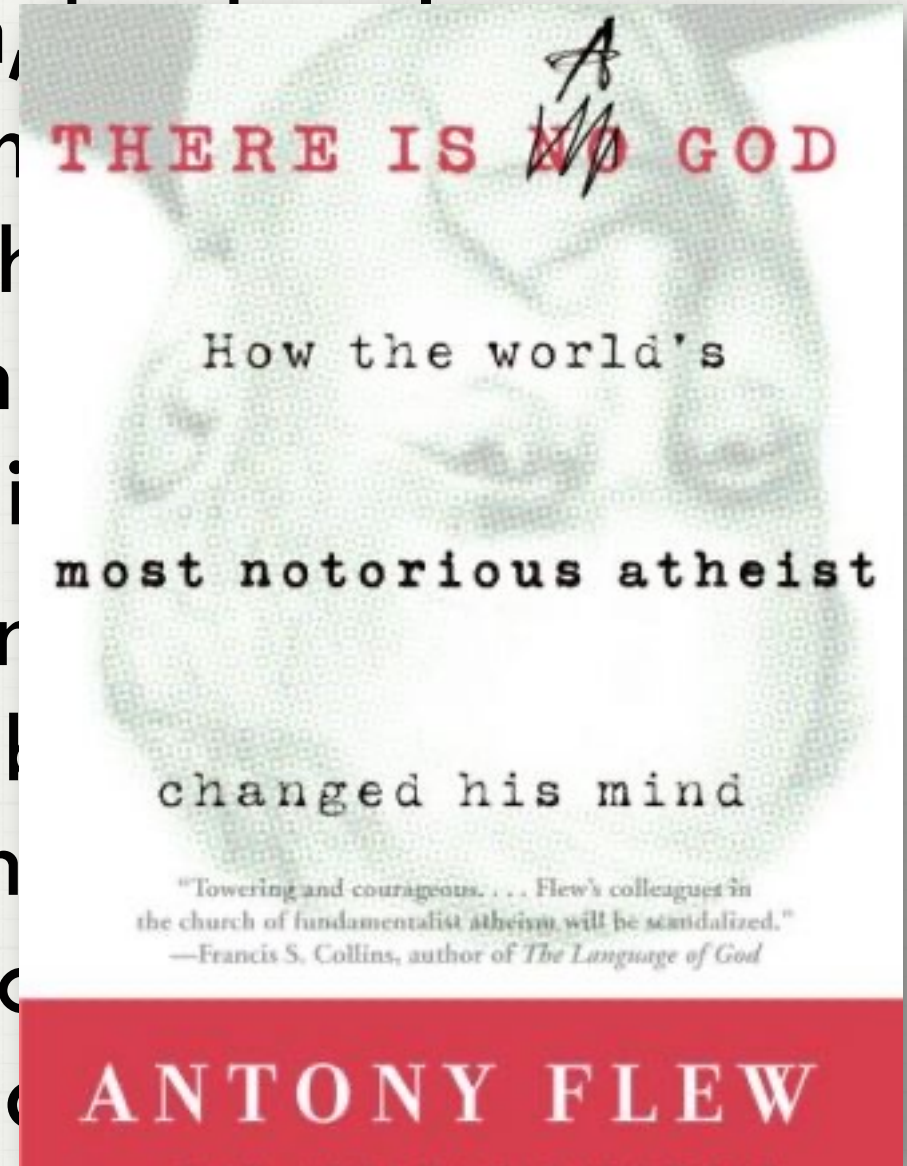
Design points to a designer

A code points to a Coder

Anthropic Principle



- DNA “has shown, unbelievable complex arrangements which produce (life), there must have been intelligent design.”
- “It has become increasingly difficult even to talk about constructing a theory of the evolution of reproducing organisms.”



“For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance, he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.”

- Robert Jastrow, *God and the Astronomers*



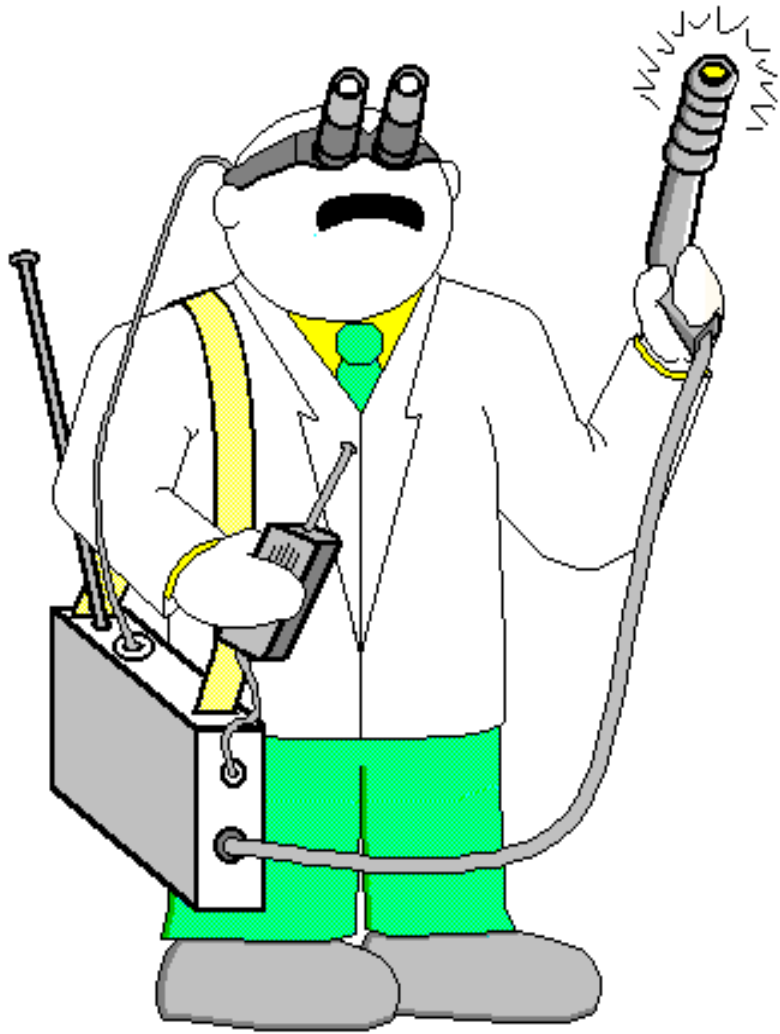
2 More Objections to God's Existence

- **Who created God?** (the *origin* of the Designer)



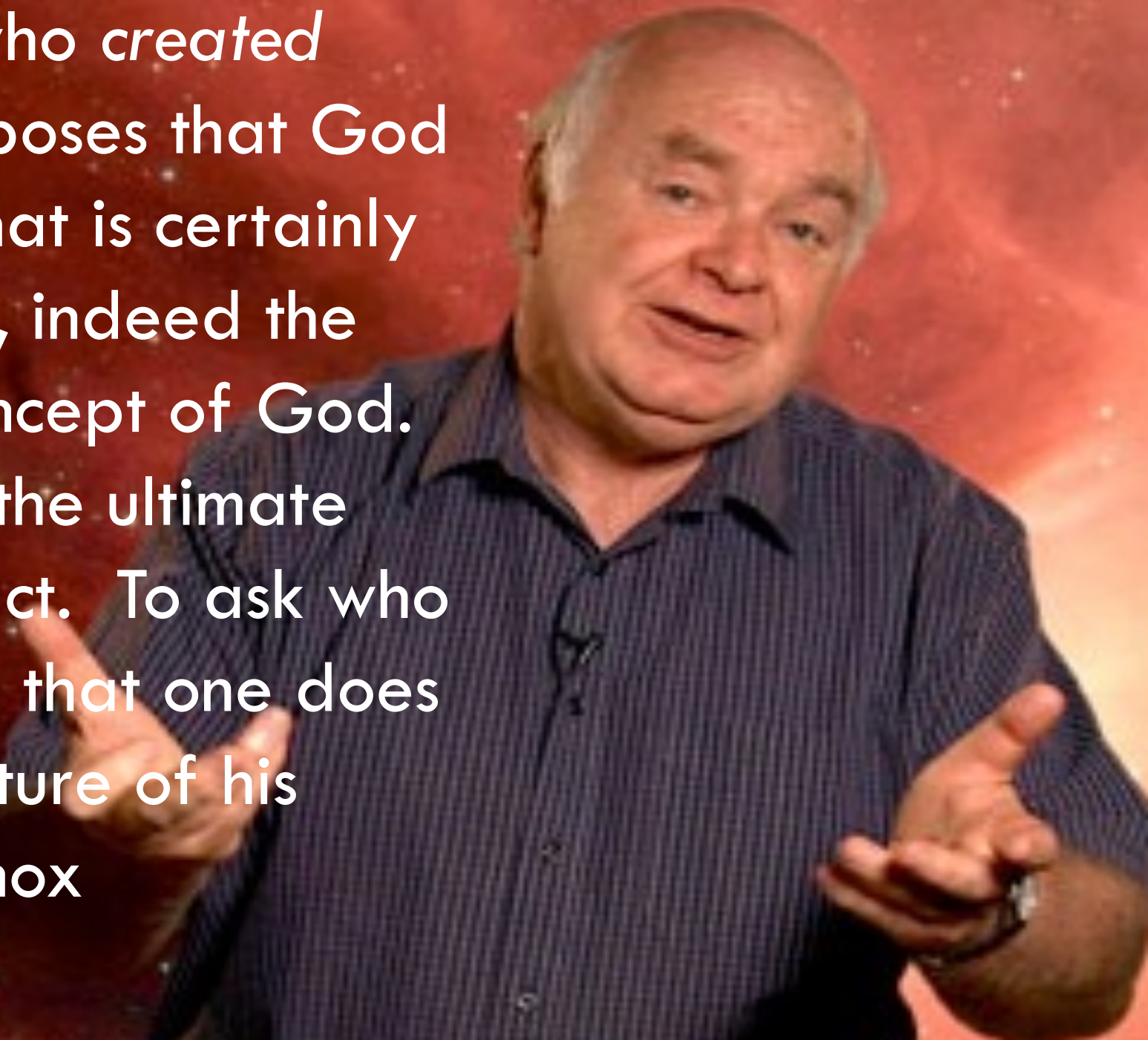
“How many of these bachelors are married?”





This mistakenly puts
the physical, finite
universe that science
says had a beginning
in the same category
as an infinite, timeless,
spaceless, nonphysical,
Being

“To ask the question who *created* God logically presupposes that God is a created entity. That is certainly not the Christian – nor, indeed the Jewish or Muslim – concept of God. God is eternal; he is the ultimate reality, the ultimate fact. To ask who created him is to show that one does not understand the nature of his being.” - John C. Lennox



2 More Objections to God's Existence

- **Who created God?** (the *origin* of the Designer)
- **But which god?** (the *nature* of the Designer)





A Balanced View of Science

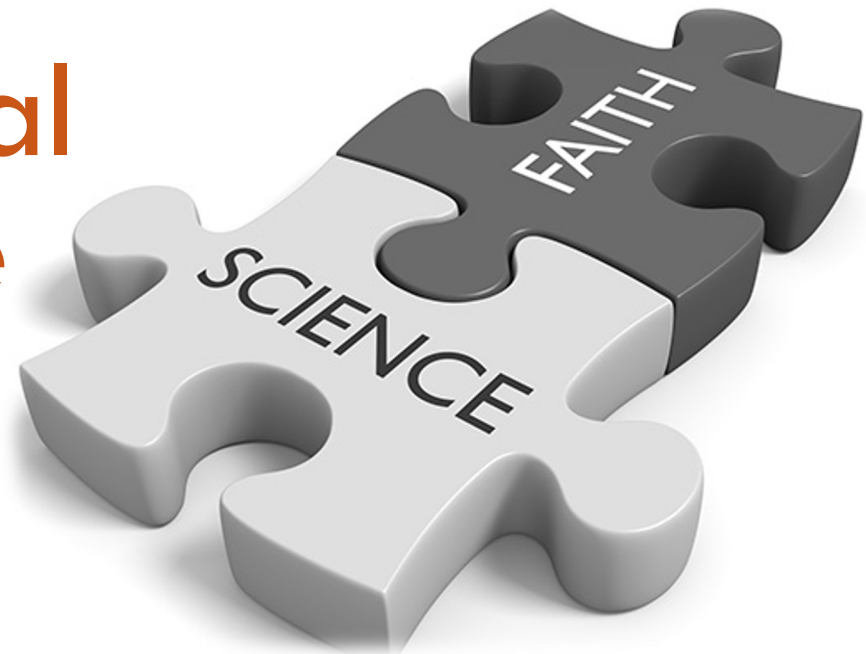
- Miracles are not opposed to science, but are merely beyond scientific explanation.
- Accepting miracles doesn't abandon science, it merely acknowledges the limits of science.



“A Christian is not so encumbered. She believes in the laws of nature, but is also open to the possibility of supernatural intervention. Both are consistent with her worldview. She can judge the evidence on its own merits, not hindered by a definition of science that automatically eliminates supernatural options before the evidence is viewed... As a result, the Christian’s bias broadens her categories making her more open-minded. She has a greater chance of discovering truth, because she can follow the evidence wherever it leads.”

– Greg Koukl

- Christianity is not in conflict with reality: the physical world is taken seriously as created by an intelligent God who established uniform patterns in the universe we call natural law.
- The object and domain of science should be the physical world, but its goal should be **truth**, not merely physical explanations.





STEPHEN C. MEYER

New York Times bestselling author of *Darwin's Doubt*

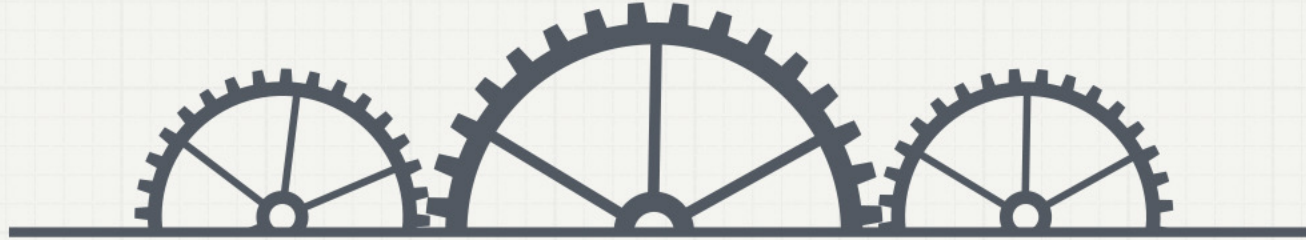
RETURN
of the
GOD
HYPOTHESIS

THREE SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERIES
THAT REVEAL THE MIND
BEHIND THE UNIVERSE



“Faith is a rational response to the evidence of God’s self-revelation in nature, human history, the Scriptures and his resurrected Son.”

– W. Bingham Hunter



TRAINING DAY

Hot Topics. Great Questions. Biblical Answers.