

Now comes a big stumbling block for many. **The Bible** says the *sun, stars, and Moon* were created next... or does it? (Cue the dramatic music!) One legitimate way to translate the original Hebrew is to say the sun, moon, and stars were "allowed to appear" then, not that they were created from nothing. Why, it's as if they were *there* the whole time (since verse 1), but now got to be *seen*. Then Genesis gives the purpose of their creation (as a sign of the seasons, etc.) **The Record of Nature** says that the skies up till now had been permanently overcast with a thick cloud layer. Then, slowly, the atmosphere clears up, and the sun, moon, & stars, which were there the whole time, appear. (Why? Could it be that most animals - the next in line to be made - rely heavily on these heavenly bodies to navigate, breed, migrate... why, to *live!*? Hmm, it's like there's purpose to... to... TO EVERYTHING!)

The Bible then tells us that *sea mammals, birds*, then certain *land mammals* were created. But it does *not* mention all animals. No dinosaurs, no insects - only animals with a direct effect on man (e.g. beasts of burden & wild ones that could be tamed). And sure enough! **The Record of Nature** tells us that sea mammals and birds and those certain mammals were latecomers to the planet.

The Bible then dwells on the *creation of man*, a

new and utterly unique being - a spiritual being! And then *God rests* from creating new stuff. Big surprise alert! **The Record of Nature** tells us that there has been evidence dating back for just tens of thousand of years for the sudden appearance of a new species, homo sapiens. A being who can create art & music & complex language, who has an awareness of God and things spiritual, who expects an afterlife, who has a moral code - *who can ask "WHY?"* And since man has arrived here, there has been nothing new under the sun.

Genesis One, written thousands of years ago, says the universe had a beginning, then correctly orders all the major man-affecting events - the appearances of light, water, land, plants, sun, moon, stars, animals, each other.

Lookie here. Genesis is not a science book and was not intended to be. Its telling of The Beginning is short, to the point, and moves full throttle to the *real* important stuff, like how we mess it all up and how He fixes that! But for what it does mention about the history of this planet before the Fall, it hits squarely on the head. Again, no other Holy Book comes even a close second.

Ba-da-bing!

(Note: There are several interpretations for Genesis 1: young earth creationism, progressive creationism, the Framework interpretation, etc. Read about them and decide for yourself which is most reasonable.)

