

Has Science Buried God? Gerald McKibben

The title of this paper is borrowed from the subtitle of *God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God?* By noted Mathematician and Christian Apologist at the University of Oxford, John C. Lennox. I will quote from the book from time to time.

Hobgoblins? Lennox makes the point that many today view God with the same kind of thinking they would of Santa Claus or elves or hobgoblins. He quotes Richard Dawkins in Dawkins' book *The God Delusion* as a case in point. Dawkins dedicated his book to the memory of Douglas Adams (Adams described himself as a 'radical atheist'), and included this Adams quote: "Isn't it enough to see that a garden is beautiful without having to believe that there are fairies at the bottom of it?" Lennox, who, I might point out, is in my opinion intellectually superior to Dawkins, answered something to the effect that, yes you can enjoy the garden without believing in fairies, but if there's a garden then there is a Gardener, and also most likely an owner.

The Limits of science – Continuing further in the same chapter, entitled *The Scope and Limits of Science*, Lennox points out that the idea that science will eventually learn everything we need to know about the world is patently false. Yet those who adhere to this naturalistic worldview claim to believe this. In refuting this view, the Author quotes Nobel Laureate Sir Peter Medawar in his book *Advice to a Young Scientist*: *The existence of a limit to science is... made clear by its inability to answer childlike elementary questions having to do with first and last things – questions like "How did everything begin?"; "What are we here for?"; "What is the point of living?"* Other notable scientists, such as Francis Collins, Director of the Human Genome Project, also emphasize that science is powerless to answer such questions.

Answering fundamental questions – By now you probably know where all this is going; the answer to all fundamental questions of beginnings and endings has its source, not in the efforts of mankind but in a Higher Power.

Who made it? Suppose we were to transport a modern automobile to an isolated group of people are very intelligent but know nothing about modern technology. After a period of time they were able to dismantle and reassemble the automobile and learn how it works; the internal combustion engine and all the other systems. It would be a strange thing indeed if they then proclaimed: "We now know how it operates; therefore we don't believe anyone built it." (Example borrowed from Dr. John C. Lennox in *God's Undertaker*).

Why is it so organized? One of the problems of the atheistic worldview is why the universe should contain *rational intelligibility*. The mathematics and the physics, as new discoveries are made, impress scientists with the order and the beauty inherent in the universe. As mentioned in an earlier post, science cannot answer the question of why there even is a universe.

Stephen Hawking, who wrote the immensely popular *A Brief History of Time*, is not known for his theistic views on the universe. And yet he writes "The usual approach of science of constructing a mathematical model cannot answer the questions of why there should be a universe for the model to describe." He goes on to state "Or does it need a Creator, and, if so does he have any other effect on the universe?" (*A Brief History of Time* p. 174, 1988 edition).

Keep God out! But those who are determined to leave God out of everything don't like to even acknowledge the views that Hawking expressed above. In fact, in his revised edition of *A Brief History of Time*, titled *A Briefer History of Time*, he wrote "As far as we are

concerned, events before the big bang can have no consequences and so should not form a part of a scientific model of the universe. We should therefore cut them out of the model and say that the big bang was the beginning of time.” (*A Briefer History of Time*, 2005 edition, p.69.).

“For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead...” (Romans 1:20. NKJV).

Note that the invisible attributes of the Creator are *clearly* seen. Those who don't believe God's account of the creation have chosen not to do so. They don't hold their position because they have been convinced by scientific discoveries that the universe had no Creator.