

Enlightening the nations - (a) Creator of the universe

The immortal rulers in Christ's millennial kingdom will have their work cut out for them in their role as teachers. This is because Jesus will have returned to a world ignorant of God's purpose with his creation. Men have preferred their own fictions to the facts they first received - **Romans 1:20**. This wrong-headedness has badly affected mankind's behaviour - **Romans 1:29**.

Repairing man's ills will involve a process of education - getting men's minds back to the fact that God made all things and had his own objectives when he placed man on this earth. A component of education can be the expunging of false notions to make room for the facts. One large area of fiction is found in popular ideas about two kinds of evolution. One of them is the evolution of the universe, taught by cosmologists. Their big bang was mentioned recently in media reports, citing evidence claimed to support the idea that the beginning occurred more than 13 billion years ago. That theory leaves a personal Creator out of the process. While it assumes that the required components of the primordial explosion were already in place, no attempt is made to suggest how the singularity came into existence. But the idea of an evolution of the universe after that explosion pointedly leaves out any intelligent planning or control - **Psa 8:3** "*When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained, what is man...?*"

Vast numbers of explosions have been set off in modern warfare. The targets, which began as highly organized rail yards and weapons factories, were reduced to disorganized heaps of rubble. Yet we are asked to believe that the big bang did the opposite - that this explosion resulted in the formation of the many chemical elements of the periodic table, various kinds of stars, planets, moons, galaxies, galaxy clusters and galaxy superclusters. If there were only occasional instances of organization to be seen in the universe, then it might be argued that it happened by chance. But instead, in every direction, and into the deepest space, all is seen to be highly organized - and the likelihood of mere chance drops to zero - **Psa 147:4** "*He counts the number of the stars; He calls them all by name. Great is our Lord, and mighty in power; His understanding is infinite.*"

We are told that the big bang is unlike an ordinary explosion: that it is an expansion of space, with all the objects in it moving apart. A red shift observed in the light from distant stars is taken to mean that galaxies are moving away from each other. This scenario requires that the organizing of the stars and galaxies would have to be built into the original singularity. The art of pyrotechnics produces marvellous displays in the sky. It is well understood that the actions of the firework must be all be carefully organized in advance by the pyrotechnician in the rocket payload, for with the ascent of the projectile all control over the light display is lost.

But even the claimed expansion of the cosmos is not observed as required by theory. No such expansion is seen among the stars within a galaxy. But ironically, the big bang speculation is closer in at least one respect to the Genesis account of creation, than the steady-state view of the universe which would have no beginning - **Gen.1:1** "*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*" The immortal teachers during Christ's thousand year reign may refer their students to the night-time constellations, and ask them, as God asked Job in **Job 38:31** - "*Can you bind the cluster of the Pleiades, or loose the belt of Orion? Can you bring out Mazzaroth in its season? or can you guide the Great Bear with its cubs? Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? can you set their dominion over the earth?*" The teachers will also have the evolution of the species to deal with, and we will look at this next time, God willing.