

# Vancleave Church of Christ

**Sermon Title:** No one ever spoke like this man!

**Scripture:** Hebrews 1:1-4

## Prayer Requests and Announcements

July 9, 2023

**Charles Fitzgerald:** Passed away recently. His family would appreciate our continued prayers.

**David Robinson:** Recently completed final rounds of latest treatments. Let's pray earnestly for David.

**Mary Ashley Nabors:** She is settling into her new residence and work in Texas. Pray for her success.

**The Phillips:** They have returned safely to Guam. Let's continue to pray for their work.

### Ongoing Prayers

***Please be sure to update at:*** [vcocministry@vancleavechurch.org](mailto:vcocministry@vancleavechurch.org)

Larry Ishee	Charlie Tanner	Judy Stutts	Malory Glenn
Michael Schlett	Barbara Patton	Earl Kenney	Linda Kenney
Roger Hammond	Lisa Jenkins	Tara Forte	Ron Wages
Jackie Roach	Sue Flurry	Gregory Cooley	Frank Sentelle
Keondra Huddleston	Teresa Blackmon	Carla Clayton	Scott Mcollough
Zenie George	Cheryl Solla	Tommy Webb	Anita Dees
Pete Hankins	Andi Barrett	Traci Herrin	Rick Bedwell

### **A Word of Encouragement for the Week Ahead**

"For God's people, earthly worship and heavenly thoughts naturally go together. We are pilgrims—strangers on earth. But we are closer, day by day, to the gates that swing outward never."

Wayne Jackson, d. 2020

"But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city."

(Hebrews 11:16; KJV)

### **Announcements / Other:**

- Hurley Church of Christ is hosting a Gospel meeting (9-12 July, 2023). See flier for details.
- FOOD PANTRY: For now, we have an adequate supply of vegetables. We are in need of: **PEANUT BUTTER, JELLY, CEREAL AND BOXED MILK.** All donations are appreciated!
- Chad Marshall and Emerald are expecting a new addition to the family due Dec 10, 2023!
- Jason and Katie are also to be parents (due Jan 6, 2024); exciting times for the family!

### **Our Local Mailing Address:**

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Phone: 228-826-4949 / email: [vcocministry@vancleavechurch.org](mailto:vcocministry@vancleavechurch.org) Website URL: [www.vancleavechurch.org](http://www.vancleavechurch.org)

For **Wi-Fi connection Network:** 2Wire029

**Password:** 399572302



## Where Did God Come From? by Eric Lyons, M.Min.

Where did God come from? Most everyone knows the Christian's response to this question: "God is eternal. He did not 'come from' anywhere." Although atheists may think that this answer is unscientific and merely an attempt to avoid the question, in truth, observation and reason declare otherwise.

The question "Where did God come from?" (or "What caused God?") **assumes** that God had a cause. However, by definition, an **eternal** spirit ("the everlasting God") cannot logically have a cause. Asking about **God's cause** (or origin) is as incoherent as asking "Why matter is eternal?" Matter is not eternal. Matter is no more an eternal essence **without** a cause than God is a physical being **with** a cause. Asking "where did God come from?" is like asking "when did eternity start?" By definition, eternity never began. Eternity, by definition, is without beginning and end. By definition, so is God.

Consider that **in nature**, matter and energy are neither created nor destroyed. Scientists refer to this observed fact as the First Law of Thermodynamics. Evolutionists allege that the Universe began with the explosion of a ball of matter 13 to 14 billion years ago, yet they never have provided a reasonable explanation for the cause of the "original" ball of matter. Evolutionist David Shiga made an attempt a few years ago in an issue of *New Scientist* magazine in his cover story, "The Beginning: What Triggered the Big Bang." Interestingly, in the last line of the article, Shiga admitted: "[T]he quest to understand the origin of the universe seems destined to continue until we can answer a deeper question: **why is there anything at all instead of nothing?**"<sup>1</sup> The fact is, a logical, naturalistic explanation for the origin of the "original" ball of matter that supposedly led to the Universe does not exist. It cannot exist so long as the First Law of Thermodynamics is true (that matter and energy cannot create themselves).

Since the physical Universe exists, and yet it could not have created itself, then the Universe is either eternal, or else some thing or some One outside of the Universe must have created it. Relatively few scientists propose that the Universe is eternal. In fact, there would be no point in attempting to explain the "beginning" of the Universe (with a Big Bang, for example) if scientists believed it has always existed. What's more, the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which states that matter and energy become less usable over time, has led scientists to conclude that the Universe has not always existed; that is, it is **not** eternal.<sup>2</sup>

So why don't the laws of thermodynamics or the law of causality<sup>3</sup> apply to God? Because these scientific laws, like **all** scientific laws, apply to what we find and study **in nature**. Again, by definition, God is **not natural** and thus logically is not subject to the laws of **nature**.

In short, if matter is not eternal, and it cannot create itself, then the only logical conclusion is that some thing or some One outside of nature (i.e., supernatural) caused the material Universe and everything in it. Christians call this Someone, "the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth" (Isaiah 40:28).

### Endnotes

1 David Shiga (2007), "The Universe Before Ours," *New Scientist*, 194[2601]:33, April 28.

2 For additional information on the Laws of Thermodynamics, see Jeff Miller (2013), "Evolution and the Laws of Science: The Laws of Thermodynamics," <https://apologeticspress.org/APContent.aspx?article=2786>.

3 This law states that "every material effect must have an adequate antecedent or simultaneous cause." For more information, see Jeff Miller (2011), *Evolution and the Laws of Science: The Law of Causality*, <https://www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=9&article=3716>.

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