

What do different believers say about how the world began?

There are three main versions of how the world began:

- Many people believe that the Big Bang helps us understand how the universe began. An atheist who agreed with this would say that it was just chance that the big bang happened and that there was no God involved. Many people would accept Darwin's theory of evolution too and an atheist who agreed with this would say that it was a natural process and there did have to be a God to make it happen.
- Some liberal Christians believe God caused the Big Bang to happen. They might also say that evolution was part of God's plan; he designed the animals and the earth but he did not create them as they are today.
- Some Christians are creationists and believe god created everything exactly as it says in the Bible. They say the evidence for this is in Genesis chapters 5 and 11. A few Christian creationists say this happened about 6000 years ago.

The theory of evolution is supported by scientific evidence. Scientists have found that some of the fossils are over a million years old! This has been proved by a special machine that can work out how old the chemicals are inside a fossil. If this evidence is right how can the Earth have begun 6000 years ago? Also, there is a soft humming sound in space, which scientists believe is the echo of the Big Bang. Also, scientists believe that human life evolved from tiny bacteria to insects to monkeys to humans by a process called evolution. But in the story of Adam and Eve, the Bible says God created man and woman as they are (without evolution). But how can the earth be populated by two humans? Adam and Eve had two sons, so they couldn't have children. I think the best theory for the population of the earth is evolution. This theory is very likely because of the scientific evidence.

However, some Christians who are creationists use evidence from the Bible, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth' (Genesis, 1:1-3) They believe that fossils are not evidence of evolution, but evidence of Noah's Ark and the worldwide flood. They believe that a flood this large must have caused many animals to die, burying their

bodies under layers of sediment – “The waters flooded the earth for a hundred and fifty days, and every living thing on the face of the earth was wiped out.” (Genesis 6:1-9:17) They have these views because they deeply believe that what is written in the Bible is literally true. They say that no scientist has ever proved the Big Bang theory, but there is evidence of it.

Then there is theistic evolution. Some liberal Christians believe this and say that God caused the Big Bang, but when the world began, God did not create the animals and the plants. People who believe in theistic evolution would argue that the Bible and Science both contain truth and they both explain part of what happened.

I believe in theistic evolution, however I also think the big Bang theory is the strongest one we have today. There is good evidence to support this theory. Likewise, evolution is still happening today for example a species of moth had silver-white wings but a few were born with black wings. The bark of most trees in the area was white, so the moths with silver-white wings were easily camouflaged. But then, due to global warming, the bark of most trees began to turn black so the moths black winged moths began to be survive and eventually more black winged moths started to be born and the silver-white winged moths began to die out.

In conclusion, many people have different opinions and beliefs about how the world began. Each theory provides an answer. Science aims to tell us how the world began and religion aims to tell us why. No one knows exactly how it happened, maybe we will know one day.