

Nothing Comes From Nothing

Joe Slater

As Maria (Julie Andrews) sang of her love for Captain von Trapp (Christopher Plummer) in Rodgers & Hammerstein's hit musical, "The Sound of Music," she stated what ought to be an obvious truth: "Nothing comes from nothing; nothing ever could." She was expressing her belief that there had to be a reason behind their love for each other, though she couldn't pinpoint just what that reason was.

The truth that nothing comes from nothing applies in other contexts, too. For example, there must be a reason the universe exists. Many "scientists" maintain that it originated in a gigantic explosion. Guess what exploded? If you said "nothing," you got it! That's so absurd on the face of it that these "scientists" have coined a word for it: the "singularity." But of what does "the singularity" consist? Nothing.

Though it is called the "Big Bang Theory," it really fails the test of being a theory at all. By definition, a theory can be tested and must be capable of being falsified. How would one test whether "nothing" can become "something"? Big Bang adherents acknowledge that no human was there to observe the Big Bang. Likewise, no one has observed "nothing" become "something." At best, it's the "Big Bang Hypothesis," and it really isn't even a very good hypothesis.

Reasonable people know that nothing comes from nothing; nothing ever could. But the fact is, "something" exists (the universe, including us). The scientific laws of thermodynamics show that matter is not eternal. The universe had a beginning. Therefore, something or someone non-material must have brought the universe into being. That someone or something must be eternal, existing prior to the beginning of the universe.

"In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth" (Genesis 1:1).

Are You Hungry?

Have you thought of hunger as a blessing? We are privileged in America to be blessed with food and consider hunger for any length of time to be unbearable. We usually think of hunger in terms of food, but there is another hunger that is even more needful—a spiritual hunger. Jesus said, *"Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for shall be filled"* (Luke 6:21).

Following are some things the Bible teaches that we should hunger for:

Hunger for God, our Creator. Proverbs 42:1 reads, *"As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God."* There is within all a need and hunger for our Creator which often goes unrecognized. We fill our lives with other things to try to satisfy that hunger and find ourselves empty.

Hunger for truth. We are admonished, *"Buy the truth, and sell it not"* (Proverbs 23:23). No commodity should be valued as highly as truth. Jesus taught that truth has the power to free man from the bondage of sin, saying to his disciples, *"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free"* (John 8:32). Truth is not found in human dogmas, but Jesus prayed on behalf of the disciples, *"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth"* (John 17:17). Do you feed upon Bible truth?

Hunger for Heaven. None will live in this world forever. The apostle Paul spoke of believers who *"by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honor and eternal life"* (Romans 2:7). Earthly gain pales into insignificance to that of God's heavenly promise to the faithful in Christ Jesus.

For what do you hunger the most? Heed Jesus' promise: *"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness: and all these things shall be added unto you"* (Matthew 6:33).

--Ron Bartanen (via *Bulletin Gold*)

Can We Really Be Like Jesus?

When thinking about the earthy life of Jesus Christ, it is nothing short of extraordinary. From His humble birth in a manger, to His ministry to the multitudes, we are fascinated by His composure, compassion and character. He reached out to the rich and the poor, the popular and unpopular, without partiality. Having the full measure of the Holy Spirit, He performed amazing healing miracles including bringing the dead back to life. Yes, when we consider the life of Jesus, it is remarkable.

Thus, the perceived dilemma of 1 John 2:3-6. *"Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He who says, 'I know Him,' and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. By this we know that we are in Him. He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."* Walk (live) just as Jesus walked? How is that possible? Why would God ask us to do the impossible? The truth is, He never would.

Not only does this passage encourage us to be like Jesus, but there are others as well. Matthew 11:29, John 13:15, and 1 Peter 2:21 all tell us to exemplify the life of Christ. We do this by being humble, compassionate, giving, sacrificial, and possessing the servant's attitude. We may not be able to heal the sick, raise the dead, or walk on water, but we can take on the character of the Christ and thus be like Jesus!

--Jay Launius (Maud, TX)

WITH WHOM ARE YOU WALKING?

You cannot walk with Jesus and with the world at the same time. They are going two different directions.

--Doug Smith (via Facebook)