

Something to Pray About

By Cindy Sears – October 2010

"GOD IS"

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."

—Genesis 1:1 (NKJV)

In his forthcoming book, *The Grand Design*, Stephen Hawking says, "Because there is a law such as gravity, the Universe can and will create itself from nothing. Spontaneous creation is the reason there is something rather than nothing, why the Universe exists, why we exist. It is not necessary to invoke God to light the blue touch paper and set the universe going."

Question Mr. Hawking, "Where did the Law of Gravity come from? How can you have a law without a Lawgiver?"
"I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth..." We say it every Sunday, but how firm is our belief? Can you stand up to the Stephen Hawkings of this world and say why you believe? "If we live in an exclusively material world, human life—including mine and yours—is absolutely meaningless...But if there is a personal Creator, if God is, then His creation can reflect His character; it can reveal God's purpose for us. Our lives instantly gain meaning. The world becomes a means of knowing God as well as our dwelling place. We can truly be the reasoning, imaginative, creative persons we believe ourselves to be." (Colson, *The Faith*, Chp. 2)

Christians used to be the most prominent and active scientists, because we believe that God created all that is, and know that He is a God of order, not chaos; so men of science worked diligently to discover His laws in nature. Since Darwin's *Origin of the Species* though, scientists appeared who wanted to prove there was no need for a creator at all. Einstein was disappointed by his theory of Relativity because it showed that the universe had a beginning, instead of being eternal. It had to have been caused. The law of causality says that everything that comes to be needs a cause—it does not say that everything needs a cause. God did not come to be. No one made God. He just is. But all the scientific and philosophical evidence tells us the universe cannot be eternal. So it must have an outside or external cause—therefore God.

God or the First Cause: must be 1) self-existent, timeless, non-spatial, & immaterial (since He created time, space, & matter); 2) unimaginably powerful to create the universe from nothing; 3) supremely intelligent to design the universe with such incredible precision; 4) personal, in order to choose to convert a state of nothingness into the time-space-material universe.

These characteristics of the First Cause are exactly the characteristics theists ascribe to God. So, if there is no God, why is there something rather than nothing? How can nothing make something? "If you can't believe that nothing caused something, then you don't have enough faith to be an atheist!" (Geisler, *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist*, p. 94)

In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth...Praise be to God!

—Cindy Sears