

IMPACT

I **M**ust **P**ersonally **A**cknowledge **C**hrist **T**oday
Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; *in all your ways acknowledge Him* and He shall direct your path.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Passage: Isaiah 44:24 “Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, And He who formed you from the womb: ‘I am the LORD, *who makes all things*, Who stretches out the heavens all alone, Who spreads abroad the earth by Myself.’” 45:12 “I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. 18 For thus says the LORD Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: *I am the Lord and there is no other.*”

Quote: “The Lord our God is the one and only living and true God; *Whose subsistence is in and of Himself. Who is infinite in being and perfection; Whose essence cannot be comprehended by any but Himself.*”¹

Those who reject anything supernatural substitute the “big bang” or some other speculation for God stretching out the heavens, and forming the earth as a fine-tuned, unique habitat for life. Instead of acknowledging the self-existent Maker and Sustainer revealed in the Scriptures, they “place their bets” on the notion of self-existent matter that mysteriously brought forth our complex, orderly, immense universe and the laws by which it “runs itself.” In place of God creating life after its kind, and man uniquely in His image, they speculate that matter spontaneously brought forth life that evolved from the “not-so-simple” cell to the highly complex variety evident today. Instead of design by choice, the engine driving these changes was innumerable genetic abnormalities by chance over millions of years.

Christians believe that the uncaused Cause behind all that exists is God Who best described His self-existence with five words in a dialogue with Moses. **“I AM WHO I AM.”**² “God has no cause external to God, and this is precisely what makes God God, and not something else.”³ “How convenient!” scoffs the materialist. God has no cause, He just is and has always been!” The creationist replies, “What is the source of the matter and the energy for “the big bang?” Proposed alternatives to God are laced with unanswered

questions, mysteries, assumptions and hypotheses.⁴ Christians embrace that it is “by faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.”⁵ Our faith is strengthened as we study the attributes of the self-existent God Who formed it all, and Who has given answers in His inspired, inerrant Word to questions of origin, purpose, destiny, human uniqueness and a host of other marvels about which scientists speculate!

In the account of Moses and the burning bush, God offers amazing insights into the nature of His self-existence. “There is no analogy in the creation for the independent and the uncreated. So God creates a picture of His character in the burning bush. He gives Moses a sign: an ‘*independent*’ fire. The fire...is self-generated, contradicting all rules of creation. *The bush is on fire, but the fire is not dependent on the bush; it possesses its own energy.* There is, it seems, a deliberate miracle given by God to unveil the significance of the divine name, **‘I AM WHO I AM.’** It stresses the absolute independence of God’s being, that *He possesses being in and of Himself in a manner that is uncaused...* It is the ultimate fact about God that makes the human mind stagger and reel because we have no categories to describe or understand this element of the existence of God—that *He simply is...*”⁶

As the *infinite, eternal Spirit*, God is not bound or restricted by space, time, or matter. “When we say that God is unlimited, we mean that He is unlimited *in His perfections.*”⁷ He cannot violate Who He is. He can not lie because He is truth. He cannot repent because He is righteous in all His ways. He cannot fail because He is all-knowing and all-powerful... What a Source of confidence and contentment for believers! *In all of His glorious and perfect essence, God has always been and will always be Himself!* Tragically, many Christians have lost the wonder of the words, **“I AM WHO I AM.”**

God is Self-Existent and Infinite

1 1689 Baptist Confession of Faith 2 Exodus 3:14 3 Thomas Oden 4 Look up dark matter and dark energy for examples. 5 Hebrews 11:3 6 Westminster Theological Seminary professor Scott Oliphint 7 N. Geisler