

2008

What You Should Know About the Brights

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Recommended Citation

Willmington, Harold, "What You Should Know About the Brights" (2008). . 1.

https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/will_know/1

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WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE BRIGHTS

Let me begin by stating that those who insist upon being referred to by this title are anything but!

The years 2005-2007 may well be remembered as the *Age of the Angry Atheists*, for during this short span over one million copies of their books have been sold, indeed, some appearing on the *New York Times* Best Seller List. These books and their authors include:

- Richard Dawkins, *The Grand Delusion*
- Sam Harris, *The End of Faith*
- Christopher Hitchens, *God Is Not Great*
- Bart Ehrman, *Misquoting Jesus*

As noted above, these four are not just atheists—but angry atheists—hostile to any and all religions, especially the Christian religion!

Nor are they lacking in arrogance, for one of them, Richard Dawkins, has advocated that he, and others of like mind, be known as “The Brights,” as opposed to the rest of us. He defines “The Brights” as holding “a world-view that is free of supernaturalism and mysticism.” But, rejecting any divine being (or beings) whatsoever, how do “The Brights” explain the origin of all things, correctly believing the universe had a beginning?

Well, it all began some 14 billion years ago (perhaps more or less, but then—who’s counting) when all the untold trillions and trillions of stars, plus all other material in our universe, including the proposed existence of dark matter (which may consist of 97% of all matter) was once packed in a radius smaller than an electron! Then came the Ultimate Big Bang, resulting in a colossal explosion, which today, 14 thousand million years is still going on!

Keep in mind, however, this all supposedly happened without any external influence, when there was no time for it to occur (it created its own time), no space for it to fill, and no material for it to work with! **Amazing indeed!** But even more incredible to contemplate: that all life today, from the lowly amoeba to human beings can be accounted for by evolving mud in past time.

This would include the paintings of a Raphael, the music of a Beethoven, the writings of a Shakespeare, and wonder of wonders—the teachings of a Christ! Everything from nothing! Mind boggling to say the least. By the way, what exactly **is** nothing? R. C. Sproul defines *nothing* as that which rocks dream about. But of course a rock **is** something. Perhaps a better definition would be *nothing is what nothing dreams about*. And all this from those who insist upon being known as “The Brights.” Go figure.

Of course, there is a radically different account of origins as written by an Author whose book has continually been on all Best Sellers Lists for hundreds of years!

In fact, in His book He correctly describes “The Brights” (Psa. 14:1).

--Prepared by Dr. H. L. Willmington, Dean
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