

The Bill Nye and Ken Ham benchmark debate wasn't your typical "ham on rye" event.

By Jim Kraft, author of *Before the Beginning...God Designed*.

Petersburg, Kentucky. The battle for souls was in the air. Key biblical and secular science evidences and assumptions were flying left and right! It was an opportunity for God to plant seeds, seeds of truth and understanding for both sides of the debate. The debate was very refreshing to engage in—especially with a topic that introduces choices that can have epic consequences on one's life.

Both Nye and Ham came across with strong convictions. Both were very friendly, cordial, and reasonable. But if someone could wear spiritual-vision goggles while watching the debate, the debate review would be described quite differently.

Hats off to both of them for putting biblical creation and evolution belief systems before the public. Many "life origin" thoughts were presented. I say "belief" as Ham presented information that debunks 90% of the *dating* methods, hence, the "time assumptions taught as fact" are put into a "belief" category. When Nye defended it with the analogy of clocks. Nye stated that, "All clocks have times that are slightly different." True. However, the clocks do not read billions of years apart from each other either! "Origin origination needs to be accurate or science's highly valued predictions will simply be inaccurate," stated Ham.

Nye challenged Ham about the global flood. And Nye repeatedly asked for evidence that debunked the science community's findings in the earth layers. Ham did not respond.

Many more controversial life origin issues were addressed in the Creation Museum's 900-seat auditorium moderated by CNN's Tom Foreman, Tuesday evening, February 4, 2014.

Who won?... I don't like to look at this debate as with a traditional winner and loser. This is not the typical debate as the information presented reverses the *really* "who won" and "who lost" debate *concept*. The "*one(s)* in the audience" will be the winner(s) or loser(s) based on the decisions or choices made.

If you haven't seen the benchmark debate it is highly worth viewing. Viewing it will sharpen anyone's worldview perspective—no matter what you believe or don't believe! You can view it on the Answers In Genesis YouTube channel.

I call it a benchmark event, as this has been a controversial topic that our society needs to address. Frankly, I am rather embarrassed that assumption-based evidence is presented as fact in our science textbooks at a time when we have the technology to observe *real* data. The question that sticks in my craw is, what did it take for yesteryear's academics to throw out its flat-earth teachings—and what will take for this generation to throw out assumptive-based evolutionary teachings?

Ken Ham explained that creationists and secularists have the identical observable data to use today. Ham states that the difference lies in which worldview we “interpret” the findings.

Nye communicated several times that acknowledging God would somehow extinguish the passion to “go deeper into discovery.” As a designer myself with a lower case “d,” it only opens up discovery doors as in my *heart of hearts*, I can know that I am not going down a “man conceived and contrived” rabbit hole. The wonder of what could our God be communicating to me as I “go deeper” into creation understanding, would provide a limitless passion. E.g.: The instruction sets found in molecular plant life are so ordered and symbiotic it's fantastic! The wonders of pollination and photosynthesis can leave one awestruck. When creatures of the deep defy physics like the blind shrimp doing a backstroke at a deep-sea 750-degree volcano's edge, it is so exciting to be trumped in understanding! I am no DiVinci, but as an artist and designer “exploring and discovering” certainly encourages my creation curiosity.

The book *Before the Beginning...God Designed* is available through STL, CBD, Amazon, B&N and BlossomRidgeBooks.com. The book is an excellent introduction to who our Designer God is. The book makes a number of points on “creation purposes” with eternal perspective observations. The book addresses the topic from a somewhat different angle. The bible teaches that God communicates to us using two vehicles—the bible and through creation itself.

Secularists can leave out the God created part, which is not a good idea according to the New Testament. *Before the Beginning...God Designed* connects the dots by addressing God's priority of what makes you and me—our spirit, soul and heart. God's Word states that *above all else* we are to guard our hearts. When one “considers” creation with an eternal perspective, their worldview could likely open up to a whole new angle on our Creator.

You can receive the “Got Awe?” newsletter by emailing: jim@blossomridgebooks.com. Or you can visit www.blossomridgebooks.com for talk and discussion guide descriptions.