



[www.OverflowToday.com](http://www.OverflowToday.com)

## Big Bang Backs Bible Belief?

## Discussion Guide

Based on the book Choosing Your Faith by Mark Mittelberg, from Tyndale House Publishers.

### **Section 1**

Discuss what you applied in the past seven days from the last OverflowToday show.

PASSAGE: Read Colossians 1:15-:17. Jesus made seemingly outrageous claims about himself to the people of his day. In this passage Paul makes some seemingly outrageous statements about Jesus. What interesting claims about Christ do you see here?

### **Section 2**

Go to [www.OverflowToday.com](http://www.OverflowToday.com) and listen to the 5-minute podcast titled

Big Bang Backs Bible Belief?

### **Section 3**

What did you think? What stood out to you as you listened?

Perhaps it's more of a discussion for philosophy or astronomy majors, but let's take our best shot at it: What do you think about Mark Mittelberg's contention that everything that has a beginning has to have a cause?

Would you agree or disagree with this show's statement that the biblical account of creation does not necessarily contradict some elements of the Big Bang theory? Why?

Over the years, people have debated whether the universe has always existed or whether it had a definite beginning point in time. From what you know of the history of science in the last 100 years and the history of biblical scholarship in the last 2,000 years, which group has held to a beginning view consistently, and what group has changed their view to that position in recent years?

What is a key distinguishing detail between the biblical view and the non-biblical view of the creation of the sun and stars? (That the event was caused versus happened without a cause.)

Recently, naturalists have developed theories on other possible causes of the big bang. Does anyone know of any of these? (Two examples are 1 – aliens, or 2 – What if there were parallel universes to ours that we can't know of which could cause a new universe like ours to begin?)

What is your opinion of Mittelberg's claim that it takes as much or more faith to believe A below as compared to B?

A - That something can happen without a cause. That the universe appeared without a cause.

B - That God created the universe.

Mittelberg said that being an atheist requires having faith or taking a faith position. What did he mean?

The author gave a mix of characteristics that people today want to see in a person of faith who would try to offer "truth" to them. What were some of those characteristics?

Any other thoughts or reaction to this?

## **Section 4**

Discuss some ways we could apply a few of these principles in the next 7 days?

*One suggestion (if needed):*

*Let's type up a little survey and each of us approach 3 people this week in this way:*

*"My weekly discussion group is focusing on how the universe began. Could I get your vote on these three options? We're trying to gather a lot of opinions to see what people are thinking.*

*First, tell me which of these options is the most believable to you:*

- 1- That the universe was caused by aliens or by some parallel universe that we can't see.*
- 2- That there was nothing that caused the universe. It just sprang into existence, uncaused, from nothing.*
- 3- That God created and caused the universe to exist.*

*Second, tell me which of the above options take faith to believe and which do not."*

*If a person says that their favorite option above does not require faith, ask them how they know it is true. If they can't demonstrate that it is true, than explore with them how they are indeed exercising faith to think that their option is valid.*

*Let's get back together next week and compare results and conversations that we had.*

[www.OverflowToday.com](http://www.OverflowToday.com)