



**WHY ARE ZIGGURATS
FOUND AROUND THE WORLD**



5 BIG? QUESTIONS

After God sent a worldwide flood during Noah's life, he told Noah and his wife, along with

their sons and their wives, to spread out and fill the earth when they came off the ark (Genesis 9). Sadly, the people once again disobeyed God. They stayed together in a group and built a tall tower so that they could worship the heavens instead of worshipping God (Genesis 10–11). This tower was likely what we call a “ziggurat” today.

To get the people to spread out, God confused their language so that different family groups began speaking different languages. They couldn't understand each other and couldn't work together on the tower. They began to leave the area and traveled to different parts of the earth. As they settled in these areas, they once again built towers that looked like the one at Babel. They also took with them the stories of Babel and of the great flood. The true accounts are given in the Bible, but because all people groups are part of the same family, they all share a common memory of what happened in the past.



DID THE **BIG BANG** ?
REALLY HAPPEN

5 BIG? QUESTIONS

Some people suggest that the universe began with an explosion of dense matter—a big bang—

billions of years ago. But this isn't what we learn from God's Word. In the beginning, God created the universe from nothing just by speaking! He created all things in six days (Exodus 20:11) about 6,000 years ago, yet the big bang idea teaches that all things formed on their own over millions of years. That's not the same, is it?

According to Genesis, God created stars on day four, three days after he made the earth. Yet the big bang idea teaches that stars formed billions of years before the earth appeared. Again, not the same. In addition, there are lots of scientific problems with the big bang idea.

Did the universe begin with a big bang? No! God created the heavens and the earth to be "very good" just a few thousand years ago (Genesis 1).



WHY DO **BAD**
THINGS HAPPEN **?**

5 BIG? QUESTIONS

In the beginning, God created the universe and everything in it in just six days. And because he is good, his creation was good (Genesis 1). He made the first two people, Adam and Eve, in his good image. Because God is joyful, his creation was full of joy and life. So why do sad things happen today?

God had lovingly given Adam and Eve all kinds of fruits and veggies to eat yet told Adam not to eat one tree (Genesis 2). Sadly, Adam disobeyed God's command, which is sin. The punishment for Adam's sin was death (Genesis 3; Romans 6:23). As a result of Adam's sin, God placed a curse on his beloved creation. This curse included thorns, pain, suffering, disease, and disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes.

The "very good" world is now filled with both goodness and evil, beauty and ugliness, health and disease. This isn't God's fault but is a result of our sin. Thankfully, God has given us a way to be saved from sin through repentance and faith in Jesus and promises he will one day return his creation to be "very good" (Revelation 21).



WHERE DO **FOSSILS**
COME FROM



5 BIG QUESTIONS

God made Adam and Eve perfect, but they disobeyed one of his commands, which is

called sin. Each of their children also sinned. As more people filled the earth, their wickedness became great (Genesis 6). God is holy and must punish sin, so he sent a flood of water to cover the whole earth to wipe out mankind. God is also merciful, so he saved Noah, his family, land animals, and birds on an ark.

God sent rain for 40 days and caused fountains of water to burst from under the earth (Genesis 7–8). All that water stirred up lots of mud, which buried lots of land animals and sea creatures. These buried plants and animals eventually hardened (after the flood stopped), and we find their remains today as fossils. This didn't happen over millions of years but instead happened rather quickly during and after the flood about 4,300 years ago.



HOW DO WE KNOW **JESUS**
ROSE FROM THE **DEAD**



5 BIG? QUESTIONS

Jesus appeared to 11 of his original disciples after he rose from the dead (Matthew 28:16–17; Mark 16:14).

When Jesus was arrested, his disciples ran away (Mark 14:50). And when Jesus died, they were sad because they thought he wasn't the promised Messiah after all. But their lives changed when they saw Jesus after his resurrection. After they were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2), they began to boldly preach the good news of Jesus' death and resurrection on behalf of sinners. They were even willing to be beaten for what they taught (Acts 5:40–42). They were no longer cowardly but were instead courageous preachers of the gospel!

The change in their lives wasn't just because the tomb of Jesus was empty. They were changed because they had seen Jesus with their own eyes. Jesus even encouraged Thomas to touch his wounds (John 20:24–29). They preached the truth so that we can believe that Jesus is the promised Savior and offers us eternal life through repentance and faith in him (John 20:31).