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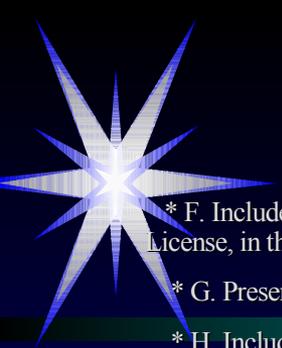
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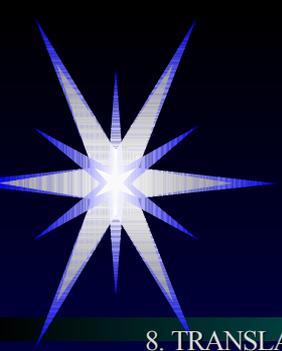
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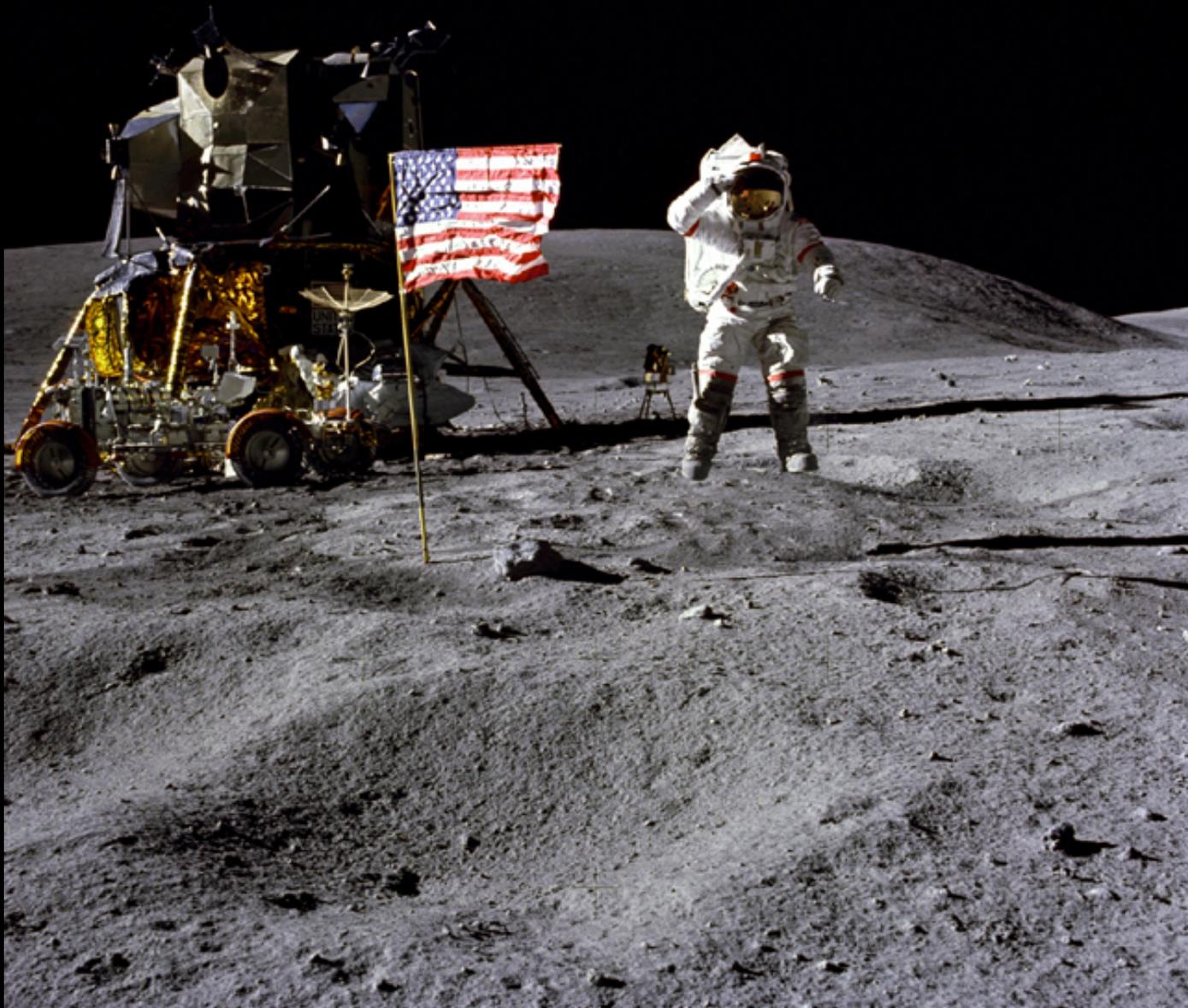
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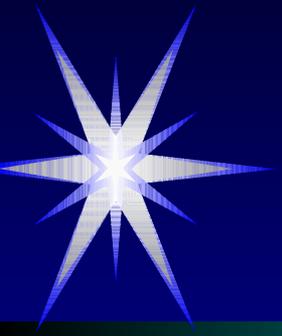






The Bible and Science

Vern S. Poythress, Ph.D., Th.D.

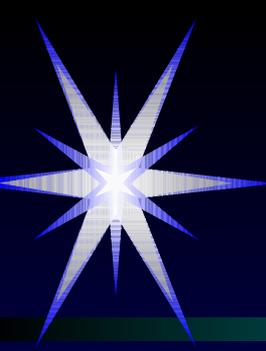


Christian Response to Science

Vern S. Poythress, Ph.D., Th.D.



I. Why Scientists Must Believe

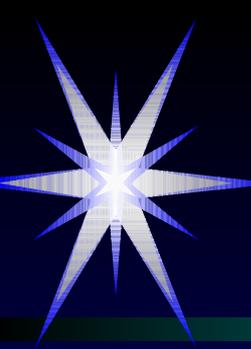


Scientists Believe?

Claim:

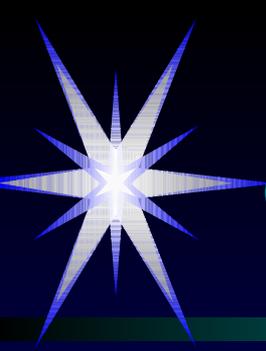
All scientists believe in God.

--including agnostics and atheists.



Trust

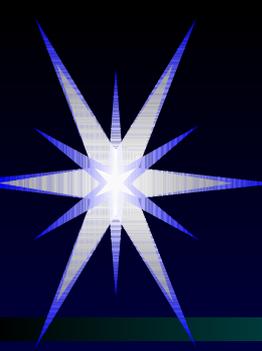




God's Rule (seasons)

Genesis 8:22 (promise to Noah):

While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.

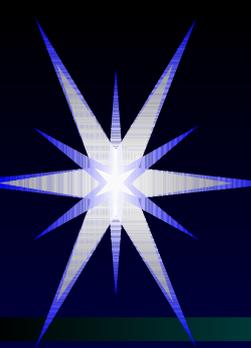


God's Rule (weather)

Psalm 147:17-18:

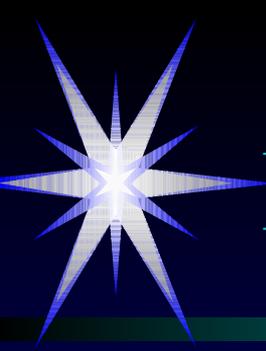
He hurls down his crystals of ice like crumbs;
who can stand before his cold?

He sends out his words, and melts them;
he makes his wind blow and the waters flow.



God's Rule

- Psalm 104:20 (bringing on darkness)
- Psalm 104:14 (making grass grow)



Regularity

regular



regula
(Latin)

= rule

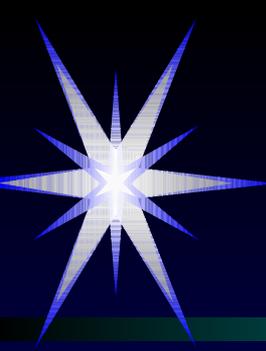


“ordered according to
some established rule,
law, principle, or type”
(Webster’s Dictionary)



Scientific Laws

- ▶ Newton's laws
- ▶ Dalton's law
- ▶ Kirchhoff's laws



Sameness of Law

all places



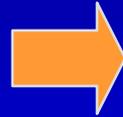
omnipresent

all times

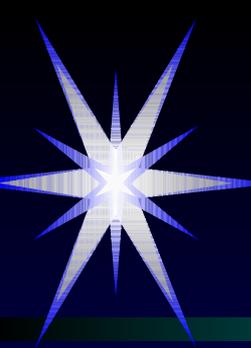


eternal

not changing

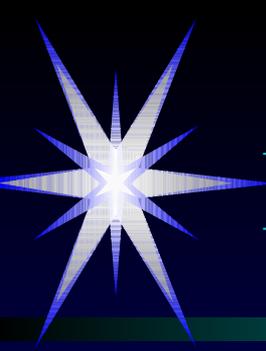


immutable



Attributes

- Immaterial
- Invisible
- Omnipotent
- Truthful
- Transcendent
- Immanent



Problems with Miracle?

Miracles

impossible?



attested in
the Bible

breaking law?



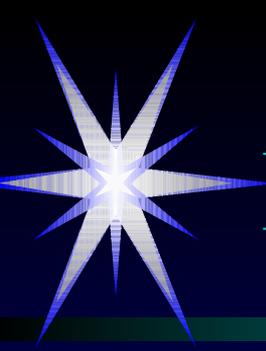
awkward

God's word not
broken

outside law?



God's rule is
comprehensive



Miracle in a Biblical Framework

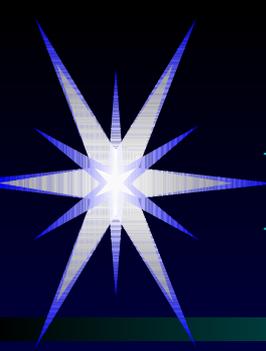
surprising us

contradicting
our guess
about law



harmony
with Biblical
teaching

conforming to
God's plan



Is the Law Personal?

law



law-giver

rational

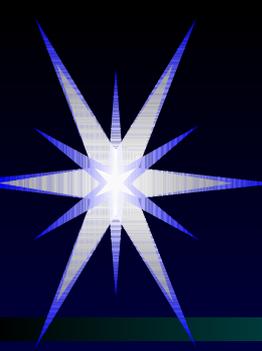


only persons
can reason

language-like



only persons
use language



Further Attributes

- ▶ Good
- ▶ Beautiful
- ▶ Righteous



The Father and the Son

Language involves:

speaker

word

breath

power to send
out and effect

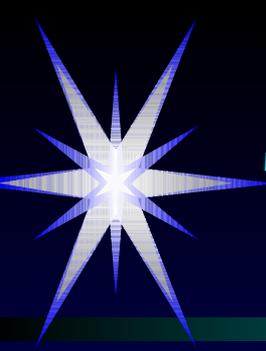
Father

Word



The Son as the Word

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. (John 1:1-3)



Trinitarian

Language involves:

speaker

word

breath

power to send
out and effect

Father

Word

Spirit



Spirit and Breath

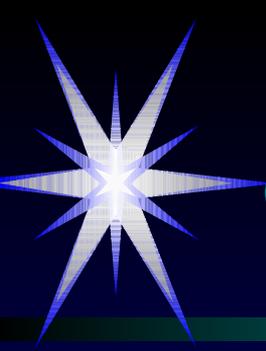
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
and by the breath of his mouth all their host.
(Ps. 33:6)



Hebrew:
ruach



also, Spirit



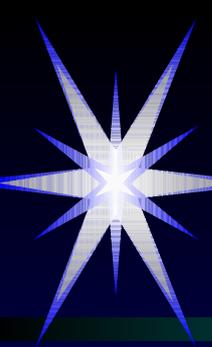
God Showing Himself

- Romans 1:19-20
- Psalm 19:1-2
- Romans 1:21-23



Romans 1:19-20

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.



Psalm 19:1-2

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.



Romans 1:21-23

For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles.

