

## Genesis 1:1

## "In the Beginning, God created the heavens and the earth"

It's the very first verse in the Bible. This is the most famous verse apart from John 3:16. I heard this statement and it makes a ton of sense. *If you can't believe Genesis 1:1 then the rest of the Bible is useless to you.* Not that many books open with a bang. Maybe Moby Dick did with a famous line *Call me Ishmael*. Yet, the Whole Bible opens with a declaration. *I am God and I did it*.

It's bold and arrogant. It's different than all the other renditions of how the world began. Yes, there are other ancient writings. They all tell stories of how it all began. God opens his story with a big bang: I DID IT! If you don't believe in God then I guess that's it. He couldn't have done it! There are thousands of verses in the Bible. All of them hinge on this one opening verse. No matter what your circumstances. No matter what your mistakes. No matter what has happened, I am in control. I AM God. The one who made it all.

If he started it, then he could finish it. If God controls it all then nothing is lost. God owns it, uses it, and runs it. So, yes, it's a bold statement to begin with. In that first verse we know nothing of God. He just appears on the scene and declares his dominance. Where did he come from? Why this particular planet in this part of the universe? We just don't know. I had a professor say that Genesis 1 and 2 is all we have. It's very little data. God says he gave us all the info we needed. He did it!

Three religions of Faith come from that statement: Muslim, Jewish, and Christian. Millions and millions of people say they believe in the divine because of that verse. Wars have been fought over who owns this God. Yet, he says he owns us. He made us. People love to declare with the same bold assumption that the Big bang happened first. Not God. They all boldly say that it does not matter why, where, and how this theory began. They believe by faith; the Big Bang is the beginning. You could say *in the beginning the big bang created the heavens and the earth*. That's bold, yet with so little data. Who is right?

Romans 1:20 "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse."