

On Monday, June 21, 1999, the Tallahassee Democrat published a newspaper article entitled: "Universe is expanding rapidly, at ever increasing rate." A scan of the article can be view below:



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This discovery surprised scientists back in 1998. Being generally agnostic or atheistic, they don't much like this. Why? Because as Stephen Hawking said, it has "religious overtones and implications." Why? Because, as he said, the universe is confirmed to be "expanding at the critical rate." That is, not only to continue expanding at an ever increasing rate, but at just exactly the precise rate to go on expanding forever. There is no way this could happen by accident, or without a guiding hand - in other words, by a "Creator" (Isaiah 42:5).

This is exactly what the Bible said: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

The ever-expanding universe means that it had a **“beginning” (Genesis 1:1)**. There are no other options left. A beginning to the universe means the universe must have had a Creator, since the First Law of Thermodynamics says that something can't come from nothing ( **$E=MC^2$** ). The Second Law of Thermodynamics says that anything left to itself becomes less organized over time. The perfect rate of expansion of the universe gives evidence the universe is being maintained. Scientists do not like this fact at all. Why? Because this is exactly what the Bible has said all along, and proves atheism false! How can we so sure about who, or what, maintains the universe?

**“He alone stretches out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea.” (Job 9:8 NIV; HCSB)**

“Stretches” is in the present tense, indicating an ongoing action. God maintains the universe.

**“The LORD . . . stretches out the heavens like a tent” (Psalm 104:2 NIV). “Spreading out the sky like a canopy” (Psalm 104:2 NIV). “Stretches out”/“Spreading out” is in the present tense.**

**“God is enthroned above the circle of the earth; its inhabitants are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like thin cloth and spreads them out like a tent to live in.” (Isaiah 40:22 HCSB)** “Stretches out the heavens” is present tense. God is the one who maintains the universe!

**“This is what God, Yahweh, says—who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and life to those who walk on it” (Isaiah 42:5 NJB).** “Created” and “stretched out” are past tense because this is what happened in the distant past.

**“This is what the Lord, your Redeemer who formed you from the womb, says: I am Yahweh, who made everything; who stretched out the heavens by Myself; who alone spread out the earth.” (Isaiah 44:24 HCSB)**

**“I alone made the earth and created mankind upon it. With my own hands I stretched out the heavens and directed all their host.” (Isaiah 45:12 REB)**

**“My hand founded the earth, my right hand spread the expanse of the heavens; when I summoned them, they came at once into being.” (Isaiah 48:13 REB)**

**“God made the earth by his power, fixed the world in place by his wisdom, and by his knowledge unfurled the skies.” (Jeremiah 10:12; 51:15 REB)** This refers to God’s tremendous knowledge and power by which he created everything, and the fact that he **“unfurled the skies,”** causing the universe to expand.

**“Yahweh, who stretches out the heavens, lays the foundation of the earth, and forms the spirit of man within him” (Zechariah 12:1 LSB)** “Stretches out” is in the present tense! The expansion of the universe is shown to be an ongoing process.

The Bible, God’s Word, as usual, is ‘light years’ ahead of human discoveries. In fact, it is continually **“making the inexperienced wise” (Psalm 19:7 HCSB)**, that is, those who read and study the Bible!