The order of Creation

in Genesis 1

in our likeness'

Christian Creation: Different Views -God created life, it did not happen by chance.

-Undermining the Bible leads to crime and disorder as it takes away the value of the morals -Humans have a soul that is God-given. If we are evolved from animals then how can this be

God said, "Let us make mankind in our image.

-Genesis says that each species was made "according to its kind", meaning that species don't change: species are fixed. Therefore evolution is wrong.

-The Big Bang still doesn't explain what caused the explosion that kick-started the universe. For Creation happened EXACTLY as it Christians, the answer is God

Liberal Interpretation

The creation story is a myth, containing symbolic meaning only. The stories carry true meaning, but don't refer to historical

The stories are best understood as a metaphor. Evolution could have been guided by God or God set down the laws of evolution or the course of the universe's expansion as a result of the Big Bang

The Design Argument

The fact that the world is beautiful, well-ordered and perfect for life implies that there must have been a creator. William Paley used the 'watch analogy' to demonstrate this conclusion of intelligent design. If you were to find a watch, you know it must have had a designer - a watchmaker. It is so complex that it cannot have come about by chance. Likewise, the world is so complex with its patterns and structures that it must have had a designer, i.e. God.

The Illusion of Design

Richard Dawkins argued that the world might appear to have been designed, but this is not true. "The illusion of design is explained with far greater economy by Darwinian natural selection."

STEWARDSHIP Extent to which

φ

Natural selection...has no purpose in mind. It

has no vision, no foresight." (Richard Dawkins)

Evolution and the Big Bang

Charles Darwin argued that life came from the slow,

natural process of evolution. Therefore the earth

The Big Bang theory argues that the universe has a

"In the beginning, God made the

heavens and the earth" (Genesis 1)

LITERAL

Literal Interpretation

says in the Bible, because "all

meaning that the Bible is the

-The Bible is the inspired 'Word of

God'. Evangelical Christians refer

meaning that it came directly from

theories are wrong because they

contradict the Biblical account.

ofnatural causes

The Slippery Slope Argument

inevitably lead to abuse or

might be convinced

to commit euthanasia in

order to no longer

'be a burden' on

her relatives.

The more I study scienc

to the Bible as 'God-breathed'

the mouth of God. Scientific

scripture is God-breathed",

exact word of God.

beginning. A 'Big Bang' happened around

15m years ago, starting the universe

from an infinitely tiny point. This

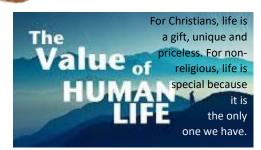
point expanded and formed

the planets and stars.

must be millions of years old.

Stewardship is caring for the world. A steward is a caretaker of the world. Christians believe that God gave humans a duty to look after the world - God's creation.. Global citizenship is the idea that we are part of a world community. We each have a responsibility to look after the rainforests and to prevent climate change, as much as our duties to prevent pollution within our local communities.

Humanists believe that we have a responsibility to work for a more sustainable world, causing as little harm to the environment as possible.



Life is special because it was created by God, who is interested an involved in each human's life. God made us unique, just as he made Adam and Eve. Genesis 1:27 states that God created humans in his own image. Therefore life is sacred.

Christians and Stewardship

-Dominion: humans were told to "rule over" nature, meaning that we can use the world's resources as we wish

- Stewardship: We should live in harmony with nature, not exploit it. God told Adam to 'cultivate and care for' the Garden of Eden.
- -We have a responsibility to be global citizens
- 'Green Christians' are environmental activists who promote awareness and action at church, community and national levels
- Jesus' commandment to "love thy neighbour"

can be interpreted to refer to fellow humans, therefore it is acceptable to kill animals. Others interpret "love thy neighbour" to mean that we should have respect for all living beings. If God created all life, and all ife is sacred, then this must be extended to plant and animal life.

Death and the Afterlife

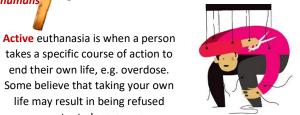
-Dualism: We are made of two separate parts: a physical body and a spiritual soul

-Materialism: Nothing exists but our physical bodies

-The soul gives us our sense of 'aliveness'

-God breathed life (soul) into Adam and has created a soul in each human, through which we can connect with God -Ensoulment is the moment the soul is believed to enter the body. Aguinas though this happened whilst in the womb

- Christians who are dualists believe the soul will rise to everlasting life in heaven
- Christians who are non-dualists believe body and soul cannot be separated. After death, the soul and body will be reunited on Judgement Day. At the resurrection we will rise bodily from the dead, just as Jesus did, and ascended to heaven as a physical being.



life may result in being refused Voluntary euthanasia is when a person asks for help to die. Some consider this their human right as they are acting on their (God-given)

> are seen as life, because life begins at conception.

> > Medical Ethics: Euthanasia, Abortion, IVF

end their own life, e.g. overdose.

own, outside the womb.

mals suffer. (we put animals down) so why humans?

What happens when we die? **Atheists and Humanists**

Nothing survives death. The chemicals in our bodies are recycled into the environment

-There is an eternal life in heaven -The dead will rise to be judged by God and go to heaven or hell





Judgement, Heaven and Hell

Garden of Eden. Getting to heaven requires salvation and to be reconciled with God: we need to be 'saved' and forgiven. This can only happen through Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

-Humans are born sinners because of 'original sin' from Adam and Eve's disobedience in the

- -Liberal Christians do not believe in 'original sin'. We need to take responsibility for our own sin.
- -Those who believe in Jesus and have lived a good life will go to heaven
- -Those who have rejected God's love and caused harm to others will go to hell
- Evangelical Christians believe that Jesus rose again after death, therefore we will too. They believe in a bodily resurrection, like Jesus. They believe that heaven and hell are real places.
- -"The body is sown perishable; it is raised imperishable...there is also a spiritual body" (St Paul)
- -Parable of the Sheep and the Goats explains how Christians should live their lives and what they need to do in order to reach heaven
- -Heaven is considered to be God's presence; hell is God's absence and sometimes considered torment – cut off from all that is good and loving
- -Liberal Christians believe that 'heaven' and 'hell' are symbolic. They remind us of the consequences to our thoughts and actions.

Funeral Rites

-RC: When a person is close to death, 'Last Rites' might be said. They ask for the forgiveness of sins and involves the priest giving Holy Communion. This helps the dying person to ease into the afterlife, enabling them to die at peace, having asked for God's forgiveness.

- -Funerals are held in a church, flowers are displayed, prayers are said and candles are lit to represent Jesus, the light of the world.
- -The minister reads the words of Jesus: "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). This expresses the belief that Jesus lights the path to heaven and reminds people of the afterlife with God. -Psalm 23 ("The Lord is my shepherd") is often read

who have died.



Some people have a DNR, or 'Do

Not Resuscitate' to uphold their quality of life. It guarantees that if in the event that the patient will have a seriously decreased quality of life, doctors are instructed to let the patient die.

> Peter Singer argues that euthanasia should be legalised. Safeguards should be put into place to protect vulnerable people. Quality of life is way in taking part in the important and forcing someone to live an undignified life is cruel.

in bodily resurrection, burial is important so that they can rise bodily into heaven.

Literal Christians TO DUST; IN SURE AND CERTAIN HOPE OF THE on Euthanasia: RESURRECTION INTO -Those who assist ETERNAL LIFE

to express that when they are 'in the valley of the

means that they are not forgotten by God; he will

comfort those who mourn and accompany those

-At the burial the words: "Ashes to ashes, dust to

cremated instead of buried. For those who believe

ASHES TO ASHES, DUST

Book Of Common Prayer

dust" are said. Some Christians choose to be

shadow of death', God is still by their side. This

are involved in murder

-Goes against the Ten Commandments

-Suffering can have a purpose and should be endured -Suffering can be a

suffering of Jesus - Hospices provide an

alternative

Liberal Christians on Euthanasia:

-Acceptable to turn off life support if brain-dead -They would consider withholding a treatment that

prolongs a painful life as they follow Jesus' teaching of acting in the most loving and compassionate way



Hospices are an alternative to euthanasia. They relieve the symptoms of the terminal illness and allow a patient to die with dignity. "We should concern ourselves with the quality of life as well as its length." (Dame Cicely Saunders) Passive euthanasia is where life-Abortion was legalised in Britain in sustaining treatment is removed,

1967 up to 24 weeks of pregnancy. e.g. removing the respirator. Some Pro-choice campaigners argue that accept this form of it is a woman's right to be able to euthanasia because God's temple choose what happens to her body. the patient then dies

Only God should give and take life. "Don't you know that you The acceptance of euthanasia will yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?"

manipulation. E.g. an elderly woman Pro-life campaigners oppose abortion because every human being has a right to life - even embryos. However some people do not consider an embryo a 'person'

> Humanists consider 'Situation Ethics' and consider what would be the kindest action for that situation. Humanists consider happiness and suffering when making ethical decisions.

entry to heaven free will.

> embryo is created outside of the human body. The process also destroys embryos, which

Some Humanists believe that life begins at birth because the child is now surviving on its

RC: IVF is wrong because the

en Hawkins: We don't let

Humanists believe that our purpose is to make ourselves and everybody around us as happy as possible because it is compassionate, kind and the right thing to do. Life is seen with the highest respect, but sometimes decisions might be made that go against the

sanctity of life "God saw all that he had made and it was very good."

"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you."

RC: Life begins at conception. The sperm and the egg are the source of life.

RC: Taking a life in any circumstance is immoral. Abortion, euthanasia and IVF all involve murder The Ten Commandments say: "Do ngt

would allow abortion.

CoE: Life is precious, however some things can be permitted, e.g. an abortion if the mother's life is in thy neighbour" and sometimes the

danger, or if the woman was raped. Jesus said to "love

most compassionate course of action