

Y7 RE Module 2: Where do we come from?

Key Module Vocabulary

Creationism— The belief that God literally made the world in 6 days and rested on the 7th.

Literalism—Taking the Bible as literal fact.

Evolution—Theory created by Charles Darwin that species have adapted over millions of years e.g. monkeys into humans.

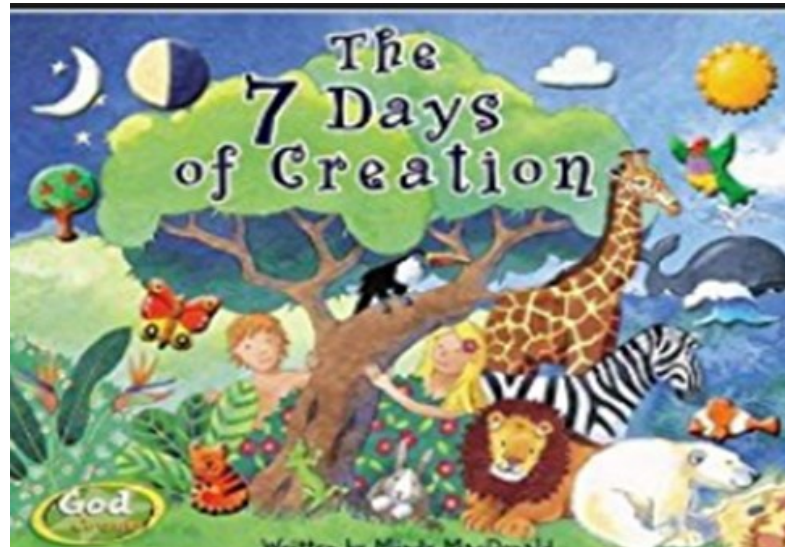
Big Bang— Theory that the universe began with a single explosion. Theory made by a French Catholic Priest.

Creation Myth — A story of how the world was created. A myth is a spiritual truth, not literal fact.

Monk — Someone who gives their life to God. They live in a monastery and religious community.

Monastery— A holy place where monks live e.g. on Holy Island or at Ampleforth.

Invasion — When the country was attacked by overseas raiders e.g. the Vikings.



Science and Creation—The Big Bang:

Many people turn to science to look for the origins of the universe.

Science tells us that the **Big Bang** was the cause of the universe.

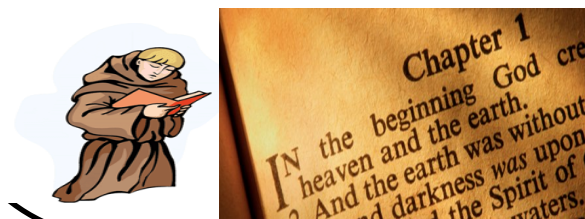
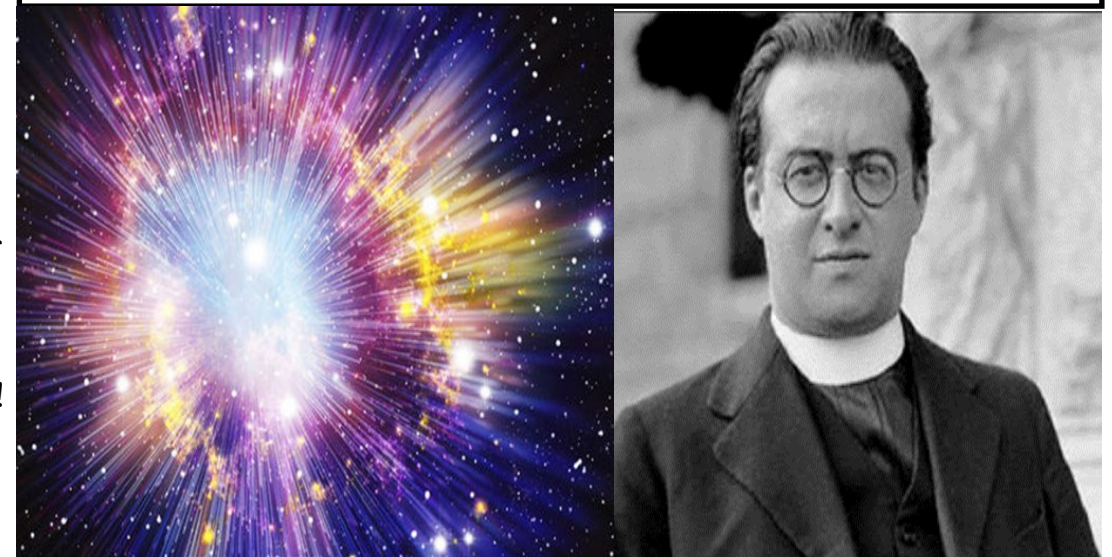
This theory originated by a guy called Georges Lemaitre - who was actually a French Catholic Priest!

Genesis and Creationism:

Evangelical (really strict) Christians called Creationists take the Bible literally. They believe that God literally created the world in 6 days and rested on the 7th.

This is what the book of Genesis, which is the first book of the Bible, says. Therefore because it is written in the Bible they see that as 100% truth.

This impacts Creationists to make sure they rest on the sabbath too. Creationists also do not believe in dinosaurs because they are not mentioned in the book of Genesis.



PJPII EXTENSION READING

Pope Francis even declared to the world that:

"Evolution is the most probable cause of the existence of human beings.

However, God must be the guiding hand behind it".

- ☐ Does this surprise you?
- ☐ Why? Why not?
- ☐ What implications does this have for Catholics today?



LITERALISM VS. LIBERALISM

Some Christians are **literalists** - they take Genesis as 100% fact.

Literalists believe:

- God made the world in 6 literal days.
- God rested on the 7th day.
- Dinosaurs never existed because they aren't mentioned in Genesis.
- Eve was literally made from Adam's rib.



Roman Catholics are **liberalists**- they believe Genesis is just a story with religious meaning.

Catholics believe:

- God could have made the world over 6 billion years.
- God could be behind evolution.
- God is the cause of human beings.
- God could also have created dinosaurs.



Fr. Lemaitre made it to show how GOD created the world.

The Big Bang theory was made by a French Catholic Priest.



Genesis could be telling us here about the light of the Big Bang!!!

In Genesis God says 'let there be light'

How can you be Catholic and agree with science?

God could have started off the Big Bang.



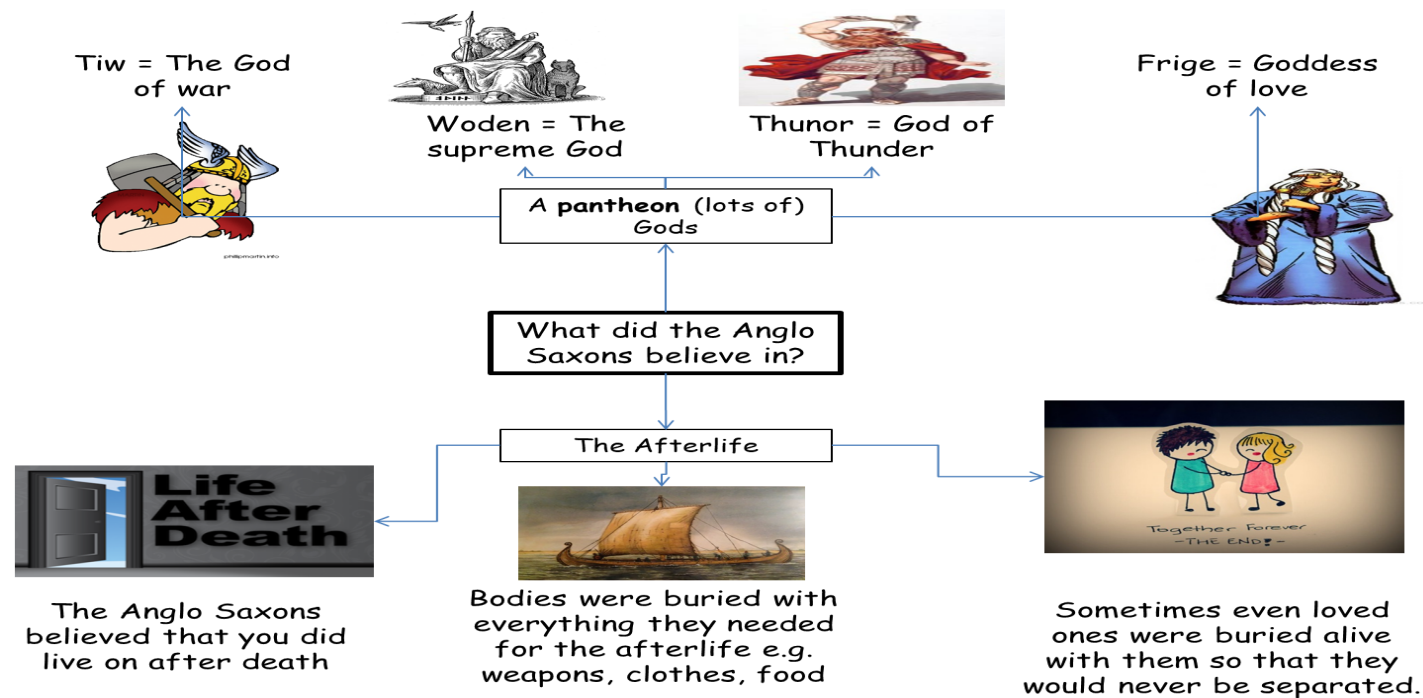
Science does not say what caused the Big Bang or Evolution.



God could have started off Evolution



Y7 RE Module 2: Northern Saints



AD 634



CHRISTIANITY IN ANGLO-SAXON BRITAIN

Before the arrival of the first Christians to Britain, the British people were pagans - people who worshipped Gods of the forests, of trees, of weather or of the sea.

The Pope sent three key Christians to Britain to convert the British people to Christianity namely, St. Columba, St. Aidan and St. Augustine.

These saints came across, set up monasteries, gave people education (how to read and write AND about Jesus) and taught the people how much God loved them. For the first time ordinary people heard the message of Jesus Christ and converted to believe in him.

THE VIKINGS

The Vikings first invaded Britain in **AD 793** and last invaded in 1066 when William the Conqueror became King of England after the **Battle of Hastings**.

The first place the Vikings raided in Britain was the monastery at **Lindisfarne**, a small holy island located off the northeast coast of England. Some of the monks were drowned in the sea, others killed or taken away as slaves along with many treasures of the church.

The raid on Lindisfarne marks the start of the Viking migration from Scandinavia in 793.



VIKING RELIGION

The Vikings also believed in a pantheon of Gods like the Anglo-Saxons. For them, dying in battle was a great honour and killing someone led them to Valhalla (heaven of the warriors).

Many historians actually believe that they killed the monks, not because they disagreed with their religion but for land and money/wealth.

When the Vikings actually settled in Britain they actually mixed with local Christians and merged their beliefs. They felt it easier to accept Christians than to persecute them as this would cause more riots and uprisings.



Y7 RE Module 2: Northern Saints



St. Aidan was an Irish Catholic monk who was sent to the land of Northumbria by the King to teach people about Jesus.

Northumbria was seen as a land of barbarians who were fierce and violent people. St. Aidan was sent and King Oswald gave him the island of Iona—Holy Island where he built a monastery.

Aidan used this monastery as a place for people to pray, to come and get healed if they were sick and to educate the people who did not know about Jesus and he taught them to read and write there.

Aidan was a kind, humble and patient man and the people of Northumbria really warmed to him. Aidan loved to walk from village to village. He loved meeting ordinary people, helping to feed the poor, listening to their problems and teach people about God. The people loved Aidan because he was humble and selfless. He helped people towards faith by being like them and caring for them. Aidan was the first person to bring Christianity to the North East of England.



St. Cuthbert:

St. Cuthbert was a shepherd to begin his life who spent his life guarding sheep from attacks by wolves until one day he had an experience of God. One night he saw a light and angels in the sky carrying a body into the sky, this body was that of St. Aidan.

This convinced him to change his life and become a monk so he set off to train to become a monk and ended up being a monk at Lindisfarne on Holy Island where Aidan had set up a monastery.

Cuthbert was known for performing amazing healing miracles on people and he travelled from town to town praying for people and healing them.

Cuthbert was a man dedicated to prayer. He would spend whole nights in the freezing sea praying. He was a man known for protecting nature and cared deeply for animals too.

Many boys in the days of St. Bede in the North East were shipped off to live in the monastery. This meant that they could never again see their mams or dads. However, many parents knew that by sending their sons off to train to become a monk they would have a better life. This is because:

- They would be fed and looked after at the monastery.
- They could get a good education.
- They could learn about the person of Jesus Christ.

Having joined the monastery at the age of 7, he wasn't ordained a priest until he was 30 (which was pretty old in those days). The average life expectancy in the days of St. Bede was 40-50.

He was a good singer and would sing for the sick monks to make them feel better. He also spent most of his days learning Hebrew and Latin and translating the Bible. Unlike St. Aidan, who used to go out to heal the sick, help the poor and spread the faith, St. Bede used his gifts to teach. He taught young boys who joined the monastery. He wrote lots of books about science, religion, history and about Saints.

He set out the current calendar we use in this country. He came up with the ideas of BC/AD. He stated the world was round (not flat) and he wrote the most famous 'history of the English people' which is still used today. He was a dedicated man, a patient man and a wise man.



St. Hilda was born a princess, her dad was the King. When her dad became a Christian she too decided she wanted to become a Christian too.

Hilda grew up in the town we now call Hartlepool. St. Aidan, who we studied previously cared as much about girls education as he did about boys education. So he asked Hilda to set up a monastery for girls to become nuns, so she did.

Hilda created a monastery for girls in Whitby where young girls could be educated, could learn about the message of Jesus Christ and could grow up to dedicate their lives to God.

She was an example of humility, of helping the poor, of healing the sick and of giving girls a chance to gain an education which in those days was very rare indeed.

