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An American professor with a book to sell has recently been interviewed on BBC Radio. This is Brian Greene, a professor of physics and mathematics at Columbia University, who is described as “world-renowned for his ground-breaking discoveries in the field of superstring theory ... and of spatial topology change”. Ah yes! Concerning his new book, “Until the End of Time”, the professor (who we will also refer to as BG) invites us to join him “on a journey from the big bang to the far future”. The book’s message is simple (which is just as well for the rest of us!): in the far-distant future, the entire universe, including the human race, is going to die, because of “entropy”.

Now “entropy” is the scientifically-established natural law that any system, be that a motor car, a human body or a universe, gradually runs downwards from its high, maximum-energy start, via increasing decay and decreasing energy, until it eventually reaches death. So, “so far, so good” for BG’s message.

Meanwhile he marvels at amazing human abilities and achievements, which are so remarkable because, in his opinion, we are such tiny, transient flukes set within this vast universe. Unlike many of his scientific colleagues, he also praises “religion” as being a noble human effort in the search for ultimate meaning.

So there it is – a weighty book from a gifted man who ticks two boxes deemed vital for credibility these days, of being a “scientist” and a “professor”. But unfortunately for him his message is seriously flawed because he makes the age-old error of ignoring Almighty God who is our, and his, Creator.

BG believes in a no-God “big bang” followed by a no-God process of Darwinian evolution over “deep time”. Neither of these beliefs is observable, testable and repeatable, the three crucial requirements for any hypothesis to qualify as scientific truth; (entropy passes each of these requirements with no problem).

He then excludes the possibility of any divinely-granted revelation from OUTside the universe, hence his assumption about “religion” as mentioned above. But the Christian belief is that we are all in the hands of our Creator God who has certainly revealed Himself and has given us His Word, the Holy Bible. This core Christian belief in the unique status

of the Bible as being truly “God’s Word written” is supported by a great weight of internal and external evidence, all of which BG ignores.

In total contrast to the professor’s assumptions, the biblical timescale since creation is approximately 6,000 years. The Lord Jesus Christ, (“all things were made by him; nothing was made without him” (John 1.3)), described Adam and Eve as being “at the beginning” (eg., Matthew 19.4), and accepted the Genesis Flood as being a straightforward historical event (eg., Matthew 24.36-39). It is in their exchanging this recent divinely-wrought creation and global Flood for “deep time” and Darwinian evolution that BG and his like-minded colleagues set off on the wrong road, with dire consequences for so many people, themselves included.

So what does Almighty God tell us in His revealed Word about the past, present and future of His creation? We learn in Genesis Chapters 1-11 of the foundational truths for the whole of creation. We learn in the rest of the Old Testament of God’s dealings with His covenant people, dealings which are coming to prominence again in our own day.

We learn in the Gospels, Acts and Epistles of God’s entry into this fallen, sinful creation in the Person of His Son Jesus Christ; of Jesus’ ministry, death, resurrection and ascension; of the establishment of His Church; of Christian discipleship; and of our Christ-centred assurances over the future, including Jesus’ promised return, first for His believing Church, and then as Messiah for believing Israel.

And then we read in Revelation of Christ’s reign on earth and of God’s righteous judgments (Chapter 20), of “a new heaven and a new earth”, of “that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God, having the glory of God” (from Revelation 21.1 & 10-11), and finally of the eternal state of blessedness for those in Christ (Revelation Chapters 21-22).

Praise God, here set out before us in God’s Word is where this universe is really going. BG is quite right in speaking of entropy, the process of dying and death, (currently so prominent over the coronavirus concerns). But he is then quite wrong in omitting the far fuller, greater, glorious, divinely-revealed, Christ-achieved, life-bringing resurrection truths which Almighty God our loving Creator is bringing to pass. The choice for each of us really is eternal death or eternal life, based on our personal response to Jesus’ simple call, “Follow me” (egs., Matthew 4.19 / John 3.14-18, 35-36 & 14.6 / I Timothy 2.5-6 / ...).

So rather than our reading BG's new book, we do far better to carry on reading the Holy Bible and making its glorious Christ-truths known. For surely the world needs to know these things, and so does Professor Greene.

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