



Intelligent Design

Friend or foe in the war of worldviews?

Introduction

- How many different beliefs about how the universe came into being exist in our world today?
- What are they?

What Is “Intelligent Design”?

“Intelligent design is a scientific theory which holds that certain features of the universe and living things are best explained by an intelligent cause, and are not the result of an undirected, chance-based process such as Darwinian evolution.”—IDEA (Intelligent Design and Evolution Awareness) Center

1. How is the theory of intelligent design different from classical Darwinian evolution?
2. What are your initial reactions to intelligent design as an explanation for the origin of the universe?



Understanding Intelligent Design

1. Intelligent design isn't _____, but it is _____.



Year	Author	Book	Significance
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1802

1859

1996

2. Intelligent design explains observable _____ with the cause of _____.

Examples:

3. Intelligent design struggles to explain perceived _____ and _____.

Examples:

4. Intelligent design is not a _____ explanation for the origin of the universe and, therefore, is not fully incompatible with natural evolution.
5. Intelligent design focuses on the _____ rather than the _____.

Evaluating Intelligent Design

Romans 1:20

1. What value does a field of study such as intelligent design have?

Colossians 1:15-20

2. What is the biggest reason why any examination of the intelligence of the universe's design is a good starting point but can't be the final destination?

Romans 8:18-22

3. Why is God's revelation in the Bible necessary not only for an understanding of observable intelligence in creation but also for the only proper understanding of observable imperfections?
4. In spite of these shortcomings, what are some potential benefits of the intelligent design movement?

BONUS MATERIAL

Watch the National Geographic video of Richard Dawkins discussing a giraffe's recurrent laryngeal nerve.

1. Summarize the argument made against intelligent design based on the example of the recurrent laryngeal nerve.
2. What response can a Bible-believing creationist offer?
3. What encouragements and reminders can we take away from the video?