

## In Cosmology Philosophy Starts Where Physics Ends

Many Christians tend to doubt the Standard Cosmological Big Bang Model. This model is based, on the one hand, on many observations, and on the other hand, on philosophical pre-assumptions. For a layman the two are hard to distinguish, especially because they are seldom stated explicitly. Rather, there is a tendency to meld assumptions into evidence and to present them both as solid natural science, giving the Standard Model an inviolable status. In contrast this talk intends to clearly separate hard facts from wishful thinking and worldview assumptions. This approach shall reveal which parts can be considered proven and where freedom for alternative models remains. Also, the need for such alternative models will be discussed in the light of Biblical statements.

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### I. A brief introduction to the Standard Cosmological Model (SCM)

A. What is a cosmological model?

B. How can the SCM be described?

### II. Observational evidence for the SCM

A. What is redshift and which role does it play for the SCM?

B. What other evidence is there for the SCM?

### III. Philosophical pre-assumptions behind the SCM

A. Why are pre-assumptions required?

B. Which pre-assumptions are made and how valid are these?

IV. Alternatives to the SCM

A. Why should one look for alternatives to the SCM?

B. Which alternatives are discussed?