

---

### QUOTABLE QUOTES: Paradigms

*'The problem is that scientists are never quite willing enough to emphasise that they don't seek knowledge in a willy-nilly way, as though from the back of cereal packets. They stick too closely to their own myth of value-free objective knowledge. We all know that research is just not like that. A research project, if it is to be funded, will conform to what Thomas Kuhn called the current "paradigm" . . . In biology for example, this has for a century been evolution by natural selection, recently involving genetics. In mainstream cosmology it is the big bang hypothesis.'*

Burgess, J., 1995. A dangerous thing. **New Scientist**, 6 May, 1995, p. 54.

*'Science today is locked into paradigms' . . . 'Every avenue is blocked by beliefs that are wrong, and if you try to get anything published by a journal today, you will run up against a paradigm, and the editors will turn it down.'*

Sir Fred Hoyle, as quoted by:

Horgan, J., 1995. The return of the maverick. **Scientific American**, 272(3), March 1995, p. 25.

(As an astrophysicist and Nobel laureate, Sir Fred Hoyle has vigorously opposed the Big Bang hypothesis.)

---

### QUOTABLE QUOTE: Theologians and Naturalism

*'It is true that theologians can adjust to even the most complete naturalistic system by responding, as Polkinghorne does, that God is "the sustainer of the self-contained spacetime egg and the ordainer of its quantum laws," but naturalists perceive such reasoning as defensive and indicating merely that theism is unfalsifiable. Scientific naturalists do not think it necessary or possible to prove the nonexistence of an undetectable sustainer and lawgiver. All they aspire to do is to complete the naturalistic agenda as far as observable reality is concerned and leave everything beyond that to the subjective imagination. The Bible's opening words — "in the beginning God created the heavens and the earth" —state a proposition very different from a modernist theologian's concept of an undetectable sustainer of a self-contained space-time egg that has no beginning. When naturalists have forced theologians to retreat from the former to the latter, they have accomplished their purpose.'*

Johnson, Phillip E., 1995. **Reason in the Balance: The Case Against Naturalism in Science, Law and Education**, InterVarsity Press, Downers Grove, Illinois, p. 226.