## Esther Freitag

The Torah is a very complicated and deep piece of literature. Many people who follow the words of it have at least once questioned it and its relevance in the modern world. I will be looking specifically at when science clashes with the Torah. I will look into three different perspectives on this topic. The opinions in a simplified explanation are that the Torah is right and science is wrong, that both science and the Torah are correct while intersecting, and that both are correct because they never intersect.

The first view comes from a letter that the Lubavitcher Rebbe wrote to one of his students. From what we see it seems that the student wrote to him with some doubt about the Torah. The Rebbe explains to his student why he shouldn't have doubts. He states that science is flawed; as he says in his article "At best, science can only speak in terms of theories inferred from certain known facts and applied in the realm of the unknown."

The second view comes from Rabbi Simon Schwab; this article shows that both science and Torah can be correct. As he states in this article "there should not be any logical objection to the possibility which science allows the universe for its evolution from chaos to its present state are identical with a time span of six ordinary days." He brings up the fact that though the Torah says it took six days for creation it does not specify what type of days they were. He states that on other planets days are much longer due to its distance from the sun and its rotation; so it may be being counted in days other than Earth days.

The third article by Sanford Aranoff is stating that there is no possible way for science and Torah to be in conflict because they never touch in the first place. We see this when he states "Many concepts in the Torah are meaningless in science." He brings up the fact that science deals with things that can be calculated while Torah deals with spiritual concepts that can not be measured; thus the two concepts don't conflict at all. In conclusion many intelligent and learned answers exist as to answer this question. Though they are all very different they all provide good points; such as that science should be dismissed, that the two can work in tandem as to not conflict, and that the two never touch each other thus they can't conflict. I personally agree with the second opinion the most. I believe that science and Torah can work very well together such as (like he explained) creation. Though there are some points where they clash we may just have not gotten far enough in science for it to match up.