

Proving Christianity – The Existence of God

Purpose: To provide evidence of the existence of God by examining the natural order of the universe in which mankind lives.

The Biblical Groundwork

The idea of evidence for the existence of God in nature is taught in the Bible.

- The heavens declaration – Psalm 19:1-3
- Paul's message at Lystra – Acts 14:15-17
- Paul at Athens – Acts 17:22-26, 31

Evidences for the existence of God.

I. The Cosmological Argument – Argument from Existence of the universe

The cosmos is the universe, so cosmology is the study of the universe, both why and how it is. Therefore, the cosmological argument seeks to prove the existence of God from the existence of the universe.

Central questions

1. Was there a beginning moment or has the universe always existed?
2. If there was a beginning moment, why did it happen? What caused it?

a. The Kalam Cosmological Argument

- 1) Whatever *begins* to exist has a cause.
- 2) The universe began to exist.
- 3) Therefore, the universe has a cause.

Premise 1 – Whatever begins to exist has a cause.

- Something doesn't come from nothing
- Evidence doesn't support random, ongoing, spontaneous creation.

Premise 2 – The Universe Began to exist

It is impossible for the universe to be infinite, therefore it must have begun to exist at a fixed point in the past.

Conclusion – Therefore, the universe has a cause.

b. God is the Answer – the Cause

Uncaused – Infinite, beginningless,

Transcendent – timeless, spaceless, immaterial

Personal – possessing intelligence, will, and emotions

All Powerful – Satisfactory source of all energy

Since the universe began to exist it needs a cause, and there is no cause that is sufficient other than God, we know there is a God and since the universe is the way that it is, the God of the Bible is the God that created the world. (Argument from First Principles)

II. Teleological Argument – Why the Universe is the way it is? – Design and purpose

We see in our world that there is clearly a design which means two things, there is a Designer, and we have a purpose as designed by Him.

a. Design implies a designer. – The Watchmaker

b. Design is seen in Irreducible Complexity

If are things that cannot be simpler than they are, how did they evolve?

c. Design in see in Cosmic Fine Tuning

Fine tuning – Our universe’s ability to support intelligent life is governed by certain constants in the laws of nature. The smallest deviation from these constants would cause our universe to be uninhabitable.

Argument for it fine tuning

- 1) The fine tuning of the universe is due to either physical necessity, chance, or design.
- 2) It is not due to physical necessity or chance.
- 3) Therefore it is due to design.

III. The Anthropological Argument (moral) – The existence of right and wrong

a. The Existence of Moral Absolutes

There are moral absolutes and that their existence demands a moral Lawgiver.

- Religion has existed in every society, from the most primitive to the most culturally advanced.
- Similar morals have existed in every society (apart from intentional deviations)
- Every desire that we have can be fulfilled.
- All People possess a moral impulse.
- Since morality is not always rewarded in this life, it must have some basis outside of this life
- There is no morality in the animal world (every creature for himself)

a. The Implications of Morality

- **There must be a transcendent standard**

- **The standard must be morally perfect**

IV. The Absurdity of Life Without God

The line of despair – I am nothing, with no purpose, going nowhere.

When you reject God you have no meaning, no value, no purpose, and no reward.

Atheists live life in two stories – They cannot live happily and consistently.