

Proof Of God

By Rent-A-Friend 2000

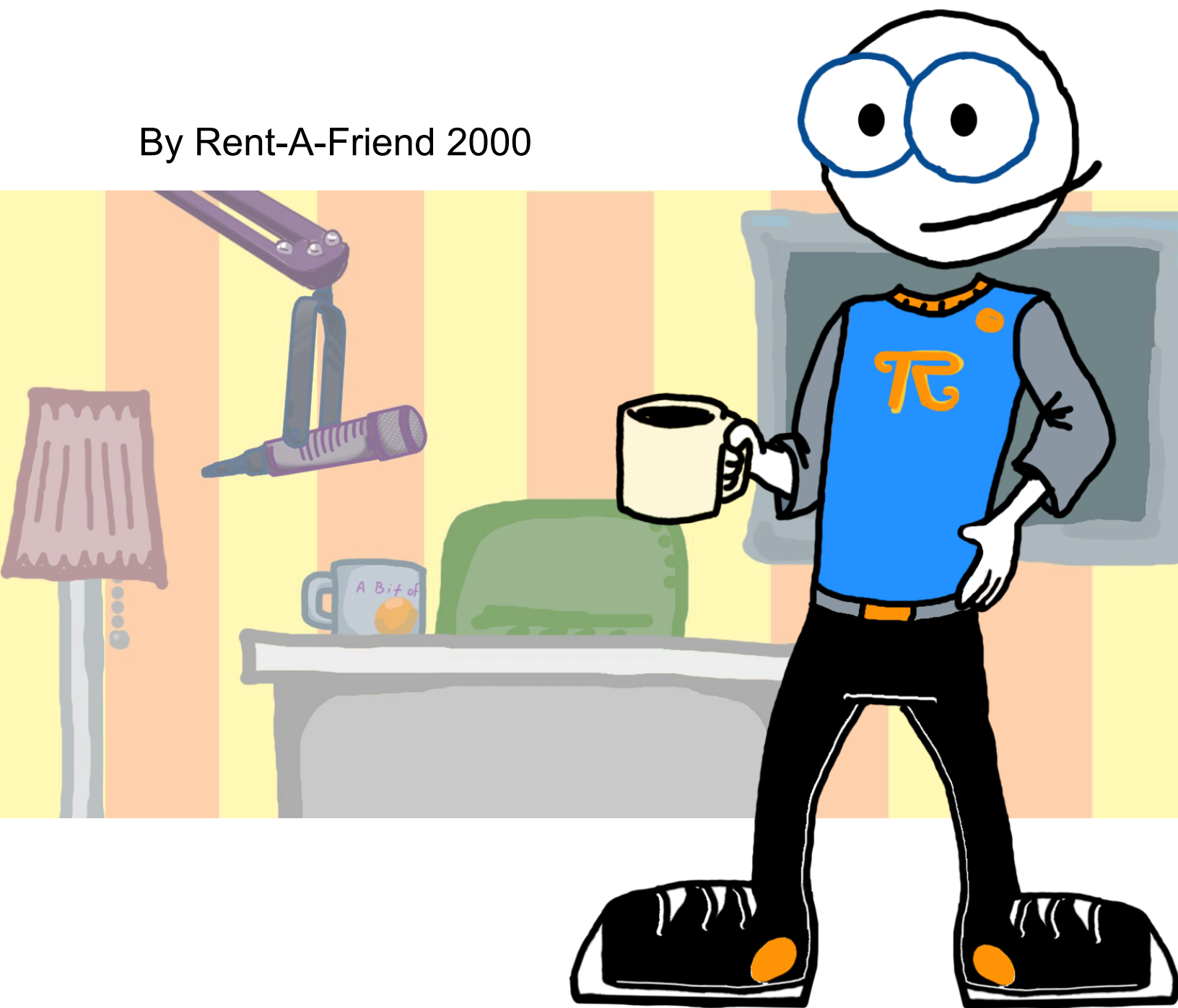


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Intro: Why are we Proving God? And to Who?

As some of you are pondering the topic of this book, you may be wondering, ***“Why do I need to PROVE that God exists? Can’t I just Believe?”***

And the answer is, of course, yes. You can. Knock yourself out.

But the problem with that kind of unintellectual faith is:

1. Jesus said to love the Lord your God with your MIND (Matthew 22:37)
2. Believing things without knowing WHY they are true makes for VERY flimsy faith which is easy to destroy.
3. A strong faith with no reasons to believe is essentially just stubbornness. This is not what Jesus was talking about when He said “Believe in me” the like, 600 times he said it in the Gospel according to John alone.
4. Not everyone is content to believe without thinking.

Like me. I’m a very skeptical person. I was raised on episodes of the X Files which taught me to TRUST NO ONE. Also, my father was either a compulsive liar or had a very dry sense of humor. Either way, I have no idea how to distinguish between the things he said that I can trust and the things he said which were lies stolen directly from episodes of the TV shows he grew up watching. Also, I can’t ***prove*** that he was my real father. I mean, my mother says he is, but taking her word for it seems like an “Appeal to Authority” Fallacy. After all, when I was younger, she told me Santa Claus was bringing me presents- so I know I can’t trust everything she says. I mean, maybe she’s only a liar on major holidays, but maybe she’s not.

Like I said, I’m skeptical. You probably know people like me. Someday you’re going to have a conversation with someone like me and you’re going to tell them Jesus Loves them, and they’re going to say, ***“Jesus loves me, huh? Why should I even believe a god exists, let alone believe that it’s the God of the Bible? Why do YOU believe He exists?”***

What are you going to say?

“I don’t have any reasons, I just believe. Can’t you just believe too?”

How do you think that’s going to go for you?

Statistically speaking, this conversation could very well happen with one of your own children- especially if you send them to a public or state school (though a lot of Christian

schools aren't doing much better these days). I don't want to get too controversial right here in the introduction to this book, but if you've been lying to them every Christmas since they were babies, they already distrust you. So you're going to need more to go on than your own personal, unreasonable faith. For a lot of teens, the fact that their parents believe something is reason enough NOT to believe it themselves.

Thus, this book.

You can search the internet for answers, but the majority of those answers will come from Atheists who claim that God does not exist, and that the question is meaningless and unimportant to them, and thus they have dedicated their every waking moment to attacking the faith of Christians. Other answers, while very good answers, come from Christians with a PhD in philosophy and 30 years experience debating atheists with PhDs in philosophy, thus making their answers the intellectual equivalent of drinking from a firehose. That's why friendly people like me write books like this. This book is the intellectual equivalent of taking a drink from the garden hose out in the backyard on one of those hot summer days when you've been playing with the other kids in the neighborhood and you need a drink but you don't want to go back in the house. Wasn't that the best? And even at full blast, completely unlikely to blow your eyebrows off, unlike that firehose.

Before we begin, let me define a few terms to frame the conversation.

When it comes to the question of God's existence, or the question of any other debated truth, there are only three possible positions one can hold intellectually, which were taught to us by the show MythBusters: Confirmed, Plausible, or Busted.

Confirmed means "Yes, this is totally true and can be proven to be true."

Plausible means "This COULD be true, and there is no reason why it cannot be true, but I couldn't prove that it is true."

Busted means "No, this is false and can be proven to be false."

In short, your options are **yes**, **maybe**, or **no**. When it comes to the discussion about the existence of God, the positions are Theism (Yes-confirmed), Agnosticism (Maybe-plausible), or Atheism (No-busted).

When talking to atheists on the internet, you will find that a lot of them aggressively reject these labels, and they will insist that Atheism is Agnosticism and Atheism. They'll start to throw up a lot of word salad intending to defend this use of Atheism to mean Agnosticism. They'll say, "Agnosticism" is Atheism while "Atheism" is Gnostic Atheism. They'll insist that Atheism is not a position that affirms a truth claim, but rather than it only indicates a lack of belief in theism, which means they don't have the burden of

proof and so YOU have to prove to THEM that God exists and they don't have to think or reason or answer questions. It's a whole thing for these people. They want the "Atheist" label, because it sounds much more macho than "agnostic" which essentially means, "I don't know" even though their actual position is Agnosticism.

Their confusion seems to stem from their desire to combine their position with how they feel about the ability to prove a given position. Their position is MAYBE, but they have decided that theism is PROBABLY not true, even though they admit they can't prove it is not true, so they want a label that sounds confident even though they don't have a confident position or any reasons to think Atheism is true. But how you feel about a position doesn't change it, so they're saying "Maybe, but I feel probably not" and they want to use the label "No-busted." To me this is like saying, "I eat meat, but I FEEL like I really shouldn't, so I'm a vegetarian, and if you don't call me a vegetarian I'm going to get mad at you." Like I said, it's a whole thing for some of these people.

Here's my advice- don't worry about it. If they want to be Agnostics who call themselves Atheists, fine. Let them. I make sure I let them what I know what I mean by MY use of these words, and when they disagree, I don't argue with them about it. The important thing in these conversations is to find out what their position is, not what label they prefer. And as I have said, there are only three possible positions, however you *feel* about it: Theism (Yes-confirmed), Agnosticism (Maybe-plausible), or Atheism (No-busted).

Another distinction needs to be made between Agnostics who call themselves Atheists, Atheists who call themselves Atheists, and insane trolls who call themselves Atheists. Some people who call themselves "Atheists" can be reasoned with. They will ask good questions and listen when you answer. But there is a species found in many parts of the internet which is the roach of any comments section, whose stupidity is so amazing that it would be sad if it were not so funny. They are either uninterested or incapable of



listening to and understanding your answers, and when the light of truth is shined on their worldview they scatter and run off to hide in the dark recesses of the internet behind cartoon avatars and dumb user names which often have the words "atheist" or "godless" in them, like "Godless Muffin Man" or "The BronyAtheist." Those names are often a giant waving red flag that lets you know in advance that this person will not care one ounce about truth or reason, and will only be spewing hate and rehashing tired old and often debunked attacks against the Bible. I call these people "Roach Clowns." Just imagine a very

angry cockroach in a colorful wig, hopping across a keyboard to communicate “I don’t understand your position, but you’re wrong and I hate you.” That is the Roach Clown.

A further distinction needs to be made. “Theism” is a general belief in some god or gods. While some proofs for the existence of God are these kinds of proofs, you will find that many are not. As a Christian I am not interested in proving that a *god* exists, anymore than in a debate with a flat earther I would be interested in proving that the earth exists. I intend to show you that the Bible can be trusted, that the Christian worldview is true, that God exists, came to earth as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and that he loves you and died for your sins, rising from the tomb three days later.

The fact is, most of these proofs are not sufficient for any concept of God other than the truth depicted in the Bible. For instance, the origin of the universe cannot be used to prove the existence of the Mormon god, and the existence of objective morality cannot be used to prove the existence of the Islamic god, but both can be used to prove that the God of the Bible is real. Roach Clowns like to pretend that the word “god” always means the same thing, and that all religions are essentially the same. You may have to remind them over and over that you are not intending to prove that ALL gods exist, but only the one revealed in the Bible. Also, most of them manage to confuse Islam with Catholicism and attack the one with descriptions of the other. The modus operandi of the Roach Clown is not thinking and reasoning, it’s really more copy and paste. They read the title of your article or video, go to a popular Atheism dumping ground and copy some nonsense intended to prove that you’re an idiot, and then paste it in your comments section. And this is only if they’ve decided to work hard. Many of them are lazy and will just type out something like, “Nope. Wrong. You’re an idiot.” Yup. Roach Clown. If you find them in the comments section, don’t try to domesticate them. Just spray that “Block” feature all over them, for the good of all. But like mosquitos, they will be back. You may have to spray for them every season.

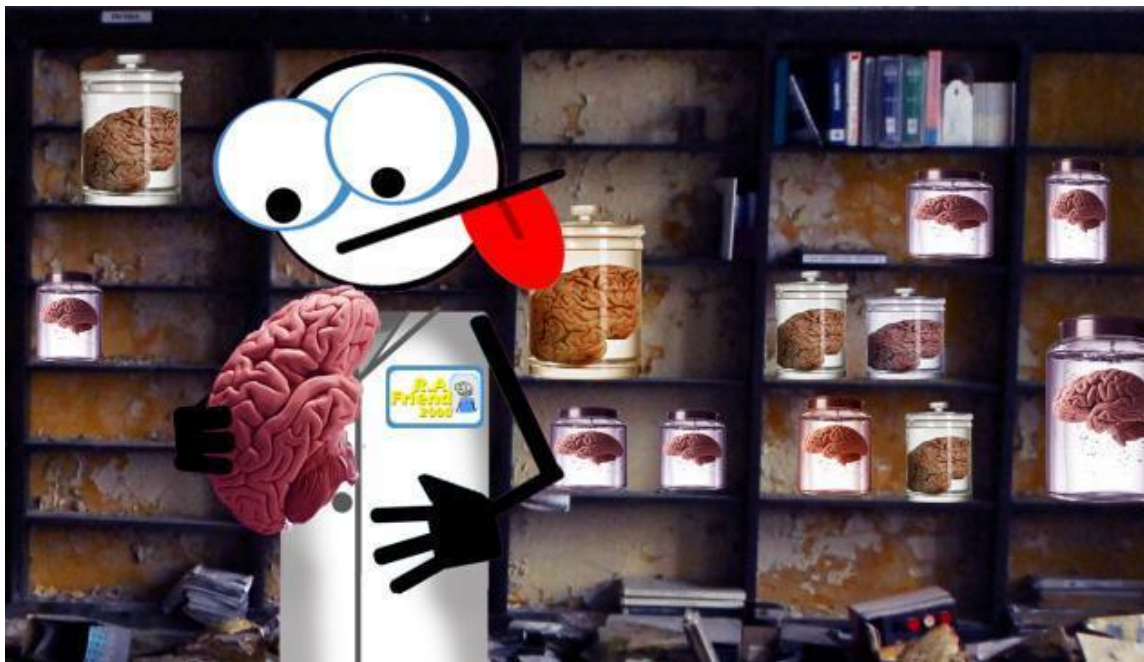
So while I am following the habit of Veggie Tales in using the word “God” when I mean “the God revealed in the Bible,” just remember that, like my singing vegetable brethren, I am showing you the many ways in which the Bible is true and trustworthy, that the God who reveals himself in scripture and nature is real, and that Jesus loves you. The point of all of this is and should be the Gospel- the good news.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” -John 3:16

It's true, and you can know it to be true.

Chapter 1. I Think I Think, Therefore... Maybe I Am?

Today we are going to take a good close look into your brain. Of course, I don't mean you'll be taking your brain out of your head. I wouldn't recommend that for a moment. I am going on the assumption that you have an extra brain or two laying around, maybe down in the basement in a box near all of those Christmas decorations. If not, just hit one of the local garage sales. Someone is bound to have a brain they aren't using. Taking a look around our world today, I'd say there are a LOT of people who have brains they aren't using. On the internet, these people are called Roach Clowns.



When Roach Clowns find out you're a Christian, they like to demand proof for the existence of God which is **"100% certain, like mathematical proofs are 100% certain"**. This is the kind of thing which makes them feel very clever. However, these same Roach Clowns will admit that, if you were to prove to their satisfaction that God existed and the Bible was true, they would not worship God or become Christians. This always makes me wonder why they don't just get another hobby to occupy their time while they wait to die. Is harassing Christians on line with their limited vocabulary REALLY enjoyable enough that they choose to spend what little time they have before oblivion calling me names on Twitter? If I were them, I'd try surfing, or arson. But I digress.

The point I wish to make is that the demand for **“mathematical proofs and 100% certainty”** is itself horribly wrong and based on some misunderstandings.

How about that, huh? They’re all, **“I DEMAND 100% Certainty!”** and yet their demand comes from them already being wrong about a bunch of things they wouldn’t believe in if they actually DID demand 100% certainty. Is that irony? Somebody get Alanis Morissette on the phone.

The reason I am making fun of their collective thoraxes is not because I feel it is wrong to ask for proof of God’s existence. There are no “Off Limits” questions. It’s because these Roach Clowns don’t actually want to be given proof of God’s existence. They are intending to play philosophical tennis, returning anything you serve up, by setting the bar SO HIGH that they can reject anything you give them. The conversations go like this:

Roach Clown: You believe in this imaginary God on blind faith!

You: On the contrary, my faith is not blind. It’s reasonable.

Roach Clown: There’s NO evidence for the existence of God!

You: Actually, there is lots of evidence for the existence of God which makes being a Christian VERY reasonable. For instance, The Cosmological Argument, the Moral Argument, the Argument from Design, the evidence for the Resurrection of Jesus...

Roach Clown: There is no evidence for the existence of God! WINNING!

You: Did you not hear that list of proofs just now? I just listed half a dozen. Are you going to just pretend those aren’t there?

Roach Clown: Uh... There is no evidence for the existence of God which is 100% CERTAIN!

You: I see you’ve chosen the “Pretending” option. How rare for an atheist...

Here’s a quick rebuttal to their dumb: 100% certainty is a bar SO HIGH that many people would agree with Rene` Descartes (*Mr. “I Think Therefore I Am” 1637*) that the

only 100% certainty anyone can have is that they are thinking, and thus must exist- because even if you are thinking that you DO NOT exist, it still proves you exist because it is YOU thinking that thought. Yet, despite the obvious truth of this assertion- that if I think I must exist- SOME people have **actually rejected that conclusion** by saying that, you cannot be 100% certain that you exist if you are thinking, you can only be sure that thinking exists. They assert that thinking does not require a thinker. I think their assertion does not require a thinker. They are making an argument to DISAGREE with what SHOULD be the obvious fact that they exist. No, really, these people are out there. What fun they must be at parties.

So while Roach Clowns are demanding 100% certainty that God exists, Roach Clowns have also claimed that no one can be 100% certain that *they themselves* exist! Which means they want me to convince them more certainly that God exists than they can be certain of *their own existence*? This isn't reasonable doubt. This is diving head first down the rabbit hole without a helmet. And missing the rabbit hole.

Here's my reply to any Roach Clown who demands proof with 100% certainty that God exists:

I'd be happy to give you such proof! But I'll need some help from your obviously superior intellect to understand what "proof with 100% certainty" looks like. How about a very simple and applicable example. Give me proof with 100% certainty that I exist, and that you are not dreaming and merely imagining me. When you can do that, I will show you along similar lines that God exists with 100% certainty.

In all sincerity, I hope someone tries to reply to this. You can imagine the hilarity that will ensue from this philosophical discussion. It'll be like an Abbott and Costello routine.

Allow me to explain how this argument SHOULD work. You can decide for yourself how certain it is.

You've probably heard this phrase before: "I think, Therefore I am" (Or, in the original French, "Cogito, Ergo Sum," and in Pig Latin "Iway inkthay, ereforethay Iway amway."). "Cogito, Ergo Sum" is Latin, but the guy who made this phrase popular was French. His name was Rene' Descartes, and he was trying to find a way to reduce philosophy to the most basic of self-evident premises. It doesn't get any more basic than realizing that you exist. If you need a lot of evidence to believe that you exist, just give up. You're

never going to be anything but a skeptic. Also, don't leave me comments on social media. I'll just pretend you're not there just like you do.

The idea goes back at least as far as Plato (the Greek philosopher, 428 B.C.), but Descartes was the guy who really made it popular- put it on t-shirts and bumper stickers, founded France's most popular theme park, "Cogito Ergo Sum Land." That sort of thing (or he would have if he had teamed up with Walt Disney). In short, this is a basis for arguing toward the existence of God.

Like many arguments for the existence of God, this one may be tremendously helpful to you, in which case I recommend you read it twice and share it with friends. However, it may not help at all, in which case I recommend you simply put it in your toolbox and remember it's there in case you ever need to use it. Apologetics (Arguments for the Christian faith) are like tools in a toolbox- if they help you, use them. If not, then forget it. The defense is not the faith itself, and frankly, this one gets a little abstract. I'll try and keep it simple.

I think about my rubber ducky, **therefore I am**. In fact, I'm looking at him right now.

I perceive my ducky, which supports the existence of an external universe (That is, the existence of things other than myself).

Even if my ducky is an illusion and does not exist, it still proves that **I exist**. There is no illusion if there is not a ME to perceive it. Therefore, whether my ducky is real or not, I have still proved that I exist.

If I exist, there must be some external universe for me to exist IN. This universe is either eternal and has always existed (*impossible for multiple reasons- more on that later*) or the universe is finite and had a beginning. If it began to exist, it must have had a cause. That cause must be God (*Again, more on that later*).

If there is no external universe, then I am the entirety of the universe. Frankly, I find this idea absurd and indefensible. I may have put on a little weight as of late, but I am NOT the entire universe. But even if I am the entire universe, I am either infinite in age (*impossible*) or I had a cause. My cause must be uncaused, and He must be God.

In summary, I think about my Ducky, therefore God exists.

This argument is not meant to prove the whole of Biblical theology. It's more like saying, I can prove that rubber exists, and that is proof for the existence of my rubber duck. Sure, you will need more facts to believe in my own personal ducky, but if I could not prove that rubber existed, or if there was reason to think it did not exist, that would put a cramp in any other argument I had would it not? This argument certainly proves Atheism false, and manages to find itself *at least* in conflict with other worldviews such as Materialism, Determinism, Mormonism, and some others. But while the fact that I think and therefore exist cannot be used to defend just any religion or worldview, and it doesn't go as far as proving that God is trinity or that Jesus rose from the tomb on Easter morning, it certainly can be used to show the validity of the Biblical worldview and the existence of the God of scripture.

Does this argument provide 100% certainty that God exists? It can, but that depends on you. If you can't be persuaded that YOU exist, then I don't see how anything could ever give YOU 100% certainty. For some people, the fault is not in the evidence or reasons, but in the skeptic. In this book I'll poke some holes in the Roach Clowns' faulty understanding of not just logic, but basic math. In the meantime, keep your brains clean, wherever you keep them, and Remember: #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 2: Sleeping Through Math Class

We're going to dust off the cobwebs of our minds and try to remember way back to our various math classes. Remember how the cover of the book always looked like the jacket for some Atari racing game or 1980's pop album cover? Remember that thing the teacher had which held chalk and allowed him to draw perfect circles on the board? Remember that blond girl from Alabama who sat behind you and managed to learn nothing every day even though the option of being distracted by an i-phone was still years away? Those were good times. Oh, and there was something about numbers. Try to remember some of that, because today it will help.



Roach Clowns all the time be trying to set the bar for acceptable proofs for God's existence so high that NOTHING could ever be acceptable as evidence in favor of the Biblical world view. One of the things they demand is **"100% certain mathematical proofs"**. Conversations on social media tend to sound like this:

Roach Clown: If you want me to believe God exists you'll have to show me evidence that is 100% mathematically certain!

You: You want me to prove God exists with math? You know God isn't an equation, right?

Roach Clown: I knew it! You can't prove God exists! WINNING!

You: No, really. Let's talk about what you think the word "God" means. Because it seems like you have no idea.

Roach Clown: Christians are all hypocrites!

You: I think we need to talk about what you think "God" means, because...

Roach Clown: The Grand Canyon proves that the flood never happened!

You: Am I even part of this conversation?

In the previous chapter I showed how demanding 100% certainty is an unrealistic goal, first because "Certainty" is not dependent on the facts but rather on the person who needs to be persuaded, and secondly because a skeptic can choose to reject ANYTHING as certain, even his own existence. If you can't convince a person that he exists, there's no point trying to talk him into anything else. After all, if it's not certain he's there, who are you even talking to?

Demanding 100% mathematical certainty merely shows how the Roach Clown doesn't understand math. The Roach Clown here is intending to demand evidence which is scientific, but science is not math, and the ways in which evidence is used for scientific models is not the same way in which math can be used to prove something true. Math is not based on deductive or inductive reasoning where in evidence is shown to strongly support a conclusion. Math is based on something much simpler. We can be absolutely sure that $2 + 2 = 4$, not because of science, nor because of smart people doing smart things in smart books or on smart TV shows (if such a thing exists) but merely because of the definition of the terms.

The Law of Noncontradiction says that anything (A) is itself (A) and thus, for anything

A = A.

If you rename A, so that it has a nametag which says, “*Hello, my name is Perfecto Sanchez*”, this does not change the fact that $A = A$, because when $A = \text{Perfecto Sanchez}$, what you are saying is $\text{Perfecto Sanchez} = \text{Perfecto Sanchez}$, which is really just another way of saying $A = A$. There’s no trick here. It really is that easy.

When we say $2 + 2 = 4$, we are saying $A(4) = A$ (also 4). Only, on one side, we have written the sum of 4 as $2 + 2$.

As a different example, when I say a shape with three sides is a triangle, I am not saying a shape with three sides can become a triangle when the appropriate tools and techniques are applied by a master craftsman. I simply mean that a shape with three sides (A triangle) = a Shape with three sides (A triangle). This is true merely as a matter of definition. So, as long as you are sane and sober enough to accept the law of non-contradiction, you can see that math is not scientific evidence based on observation, intelligence, or some kind of skill, but merely calling things what they are. Metaphysically, $2+2=4$ is equivalent to [a shape with three sides]=[a triangle].

Anything is itself. Of that we can be 100% certain.

When you are asking for mathematical proofs for the existence of God, what you are saying is, you want it to be shown that by definition, God is someone that exists, and thus, God=real. Can God’s existence be proven with 100% mathematical certainty?

Yes. Yes it can. Saint Anselm of Canterbury did that like a thousand years ago.

You’re welcome.

So, I guess I’ll see you in church. If that girl from Alabama is there, don’t sit near her. She’ll just be playing Candy Crush on her i-phone.

And remember, #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 3. The Elephant NOT in the Room: A Brief Interruption about Certainty

During the previous chapters you may have gotten the idea that I am saying that 100% certainty is an unachievable goal, and thus we need to have faith in things we can't be certain of. But this is not what I am saying, and I want to interrupt my book to make clear my point.

The demand for "100% Certainty" is presented as if it is a demand for a certain type of evidence. You may think that it is distinguishing between "hard" evidence, like the kind characters on a CSI show would find at a crime scene, such that they could put it in a cardboard box and take it back to the office. This is opposed to "soft" evidence, such as anecdotal evidence, like that time your friend in middle school said his cousin went to church with a guy who heard the voice of God one night telling him to invest in a chicken farm, or something like that. Maybe that's all true, but it lacks the certainty of finding fingerprints on the murder weapon.

First, as I said in the previous chapter, the demand for "100% Certainty" is not actually about the evidence itself, but rather about the person who needs convincing. Evidence can't be "certain" at all. Evidence just is whatever it is. It's some kind of fact. It becomes evidence when it is used to prove a position to be accurate, and it becomes 100% certain when the person being persuaded decides that he HAS to accept your position because of the strength of the evidence.

I was talking to an Atheist online recently (*by which I mean I was talking to an Agnostic who calls himself an Atheist*) and he said that the demand that Atheists PROVE atheism is unreasonable because one cannot PROVE a negative. You can't prove something *isn't*. I disagreed, and offered the example of there NOT being an elephant in my room. I could look around my room and know for certain that there was NOT an elephant in my room. It's a small room, and offers no hiding places sufficient for an elephant of any kind. I could look around and NOT see an elephant, and to me that was 100% certain evidence that there was no elephant in my room.

I told him this, and suggested that he could choose to believe me, though, because of the placement of my webcam, he could not see what I could see. Thus far he had my testimony that there was no elephant in the room, but was that sufficient? Was it "100%

Certain proof” that there was no elephant in the room? That depends entirely on his faith in me as a trustworthy person, and on whatever reasons he might have to think that there WAS an elephant in my room. For someone who trusts me, they can have 100% certainty. Perhaps my Atheist friend needed to see the room? If I showed him the room, and he could see for himself that there was indeed NO elephant, would that provide 100% certainty? Again, this depends on his thinking. If he felt seeing was believing, then seeing a room with no elephant in it would be certain evidence that the room had no elephant in it. But remember that there are people who reject as certain evidence or arguments for their own existence. Some people cannot ever be given 100% certain evidence, arguments or proofs, but that is because of their own quirky personality. It’s not a comment on the evidence or arguments themselves.

Many apologists don’t talk about “100% certainty,” but rather discuss the “power and scope” of an argument. To say an argument has great “power” is to say that, when the known facts are considered, it points to a conclusion being far more likely to be true than it is NOT to be true.

For example, when I show you my room and you don’t see an elephant, that is powerful evidence that there is no elephant in my room. However certain you feel, you must admit that seeing a room with no elephant is much more powerful evidence for there being NO elephant in the room than it is for there being an elephant in the room. Thus, the reasonable conclusion based on the evidence is to accept it powerfully likely that there is no elephant in the room. But this means that you are also concluding that it is powerfully likely that the claim that **there is** an elephant in that room must be a false claim.

We tend to use the language of certainty only when we discuss things which HAVE TO BE, or things which are IMPOSSIBLE (more on that later in the book). For instance, if I say I have an elephant in my pocket, we can know with 100% certainty that it is NOT true, because it is impossible for an elephant to be in a pocket. It could never fit, thus my claim HAS to be false. On the other hand, if I claim that I do NOT have an elephant in my pocket, that is also 100% certainly true and for the same reason. Thus, claims of fact (*Something being or not being*) can be made with absolute certainty, provided they are made clearly.

The “scope” of an argument is about how much of the known data the explanation deals with. If I show you that there is no elephant in my room via the webcam, but you heard elephant noises just before I turned the camera to face the room, and you also know I live in a circus that has a dozen elephants, the scope and power of my evidence starts

to diminish. In my example, showing you my room covers part of the knowable data (i.e. can you SEE an elephant in my room) but it doesn't cover ALL of the knowable data (you HEARD elephant sounds picked up from my webcam). In this case, my argument (that you can be certain there is no elephant because you cannot SEE one) lacks explanatory scope because it fails to account for what you HEARD and only addresses what you SEE.

In summation, when someone demands of you evidence which is 100% certain, just keep in mind that they are making a demand, not about the evidence, but about their own willingness to accept your evidence, arguments or conclusion. It's an unreasonable demand. They are literally insisting that you MAKE THEM BELIEVE what you are claiming to be the truth. What you ought to try to provide is evidence, arguments, and reasons with great explanatory scope and power- they lead to your conclusion and show it to be far more likely to be true than not to be true, and they account for all of the knowable facts.

But if a person cannot be convinced with certainty that he doesn't exist, neither elephants or arguments will be helpful to him about anything else.

Chapter 4. The Elephant IN the Room: A Brief Interruption about Faith

In the previous interruption, I talked about making a solid case for your position that has powerful explanatory scope and power- it accounts for all of the evidence and it leads logically to your position and also leads just as reasonably to showing that the opposite assertion cannot be true. All of this was done in the context of showing Atheists that the Bible is true and can be trusted, but there is another context where this is also very important, and that is in your own faith.

Not terribly long ago I asked a teen boy a fairly common question. This boy had been raised in the church in a Christian home, so I was confident I knew what his answer would be. I asked, "Is the Bible true?" And naturally he said, "Yes." But then I asked "Why?"

He pondered for a moment and then said, "Because we believe it." Again, this is the answer I expected, but it was entirely wrong.

When it comes to your own faith, you need to put yourself in the place of the person to be convinced and build not only an unshakable faith, but a reasonable faith. I don't know how unshakable this boy's faith was, but I knew then that it was not reasonable. Nothing is true "Because we believe it." Rather, we should believe something because it is true. If he thinks the Bible is true "because we believe it," then he most likely has no reasons why we should believe it. After all, if believing it makes it true, then the matter is settled and you need no further answers. But then, if believing makes it true, then what about people who believe something entirely different?

1 Peter 3:15 says "in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you..." Being prepared to make a case does not start with blind optimism or selfish stubbornness. It starts with seeking the truth.

Before you try to make the Case for Christ and win the lost back to the church, you need to take the time to think about what it is you believe. Can you explain it? Can you defend it? Does it fit the facts, or is your certainty mere stubbornness? In everything, not just the questions about religion and spirituality, but also about politics, money, military, who you vote for, what rules you give your kids, what habits you form for yourself- put

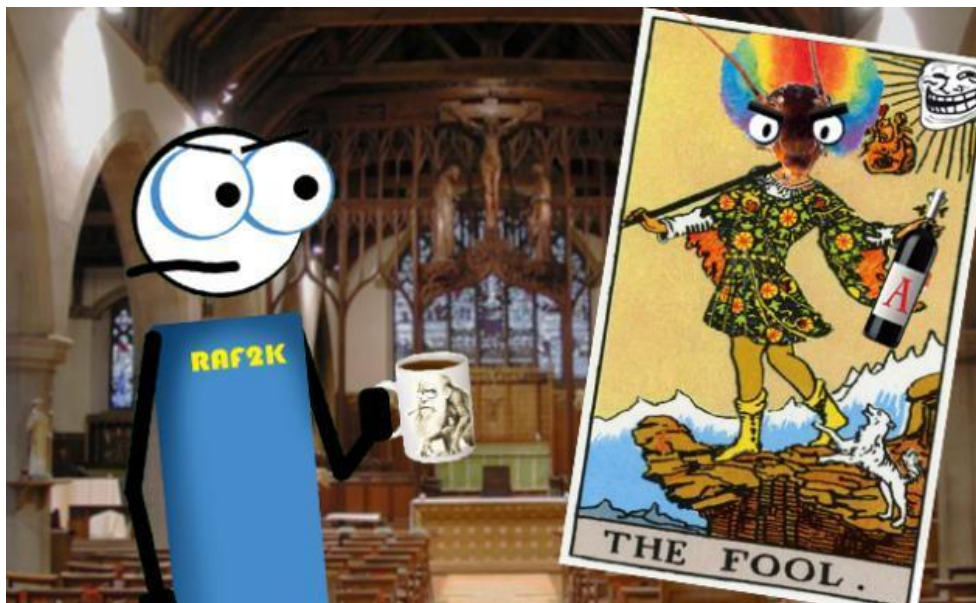
yourself in the hot seat and think about your beliefs. Use reason and available evidence to discover the truth. Don't be content to merely look for reasons that you've always been right, but have the humility to be asked those tough questions, and start by being the one to ask them of yourself.

Sometimes this is a lot of work, and sometimes it is unsettling, but better to unsettle lies you believe in the search for truth than to let them lay settled in your heart. Find good resources and see what the defense is for what you believe. Then see what the arguments are against it, and see what replies there are to those arguments. The truth will always win because a lie is harder to defend. The truth will always lead you back to the Bible- back to Jesus.

One last thing: there are a great many things which are not built on a solid foundation of scripture- things like how old your kids need to be before they are baptised, or how often your church should be having communion, or what styles of music are appropriate for worship. Hold these with an open hand. Fight for the Gospel, debate the side issues with respect, and have the humility to hold tradition or preferences with an open hand. The truth is that which is revealed by God. Don't confuse that with the things you personally prefer.

Chapter 5. Tological Argument: ON!

Have you ever tried to get to the top of a tall tree by digging a really, really deep hole? If so, you have some idea what it's like to be a Roach Clown. By trying to set the bar for evidence high enough that faith in God can never be justified, they've actually dug themselves a really deep hole. It's no wonder these guys worship at the altar of Darwin, as evolution depends on great additions being made by small, gradual subtractions. Hard to say if that makes it a running gag or some kind of contagious disease, but I digress.



What is both sad and very funny is where one of these guys tries to be REALLY consistent with this attitude. Those conversations sound a lot like this:

Roach Clowns: You can't know God exists because you can't have 100% mathematical certainty.

You: But wouldn't you agree that, on your worldview, you can't know anything for certain in that sense? Can you even prove that YOU exist with that certainty?

Roach Clown: No. I could be wrong about everything I know.

You: So, you'll admit that maybe you're wrong to claim atheism and God does exist.

Roach Clown: NO! I'm totally right about that!

You: But you'd admit that maybe evolution is wrong and all life was intelligently designed.

Roach Clown: NO! Evolution is a total fact and I'm totally right about that too!

You: I see how this works.

I have seen SEVERAL atheists in various debates admit to this- that (according to their own atheistic worldview) they could be wrong about EVERYTHING- even that they CANNOT KNOW ANYTHING. One very popular atheist has said that TRUTH is that which corresponds to objective reality, but then also that he CANNOT KNOW objective reality- thus he CANNOT KNOW ANYTHING.

They admit that, according to their own worldview, they can't say they KNOW ANYTHING, but then they quickly try to assert that they know with certainty that the Christians are wrong, evolution is a fact, the flood didn't happen, and that we too can't know anything. It's both funny and sad.

I think when they stand before Jesus on Judgment day, Jesus will just play those clips from YouTube and say, "Really guys? Really?" And the Roach Clowns will hang their heads and just walk off to hell.

Roach Clowns' tragic comedy aside, can we know with absolute certainty that God exists? The answer is yes, and I think that we've known this for a thousand years thanks to Anselm of Canterbury.

Anselm was inspired by **Psalm 14: 1** which says,

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

Anselm read that and said to himself, "If it takes a fool to say there is no God, and he still only says it in his heart, then there must be a way to show the certain existence of God which even the Fool can't reject *in his mind!*" He came up with the Ontological

argument, which is one of the best, least popular, and most often misunderstood arguments for the existence of God.

I'll be giving you the Dollar Store, home-made, low sodium, gluten-free version of this argument. For a better discussion of it, I recommend you surf on over to iTunes U and find Ronald Nash from Reformed Theological Seminary. He taught some great philosophy classes while he was yet living, and they are available to you for free thanks to the magic of the interwebs.

In short, we define God as the greatest being that could ever be. Imagine the greatest being that you can imagine. He's greater than that. And by simple application of logic, we can see that existing would certainly be greater than not existing, so by definition, God is real.

I told you, Dollar Store version. Unfortunately the Dollar Store version is so incomplete that it's actually wrong, but this is the version Roach Clowns like to attack when trying to refute it. I hope attacking a straw man is fun for these guys, because they do it a lot.

The Roach Clowns attack this by saying, "You've just arbitrarily added 'has to exist' to your definition of God! I could do the same thing with unicorns! If I define Unicorns as a horse with a horn that exists, does that mean they exist too?" Sadly, they really think they're being clever when they do this sort of thing. Just take a second and remember that these are the guys who claim, if they are consistent Atheists, that they can't know anything.

Let me clarify the argument a bit. First, we need to understand that, like any being, God is one of three things: ***Necessary, Contingent, or Impossible.***

Necessary- means it HAS to exist. Because it has to exist, it doesn't have a cause or a beginning, because there could not be a time when it wasn't. Numbers fall into this category. There is no possible universe where the number five doesn't exist. The word "Five" and the symbol "5" certainly could NOT exist. But not the idea/quantity of five. THAT MUST exist in ANY possible universe. If in their next comic book the X-Men travel to a universe wherein **five** doesn't exist, they have jumped the shark and the writers will be fired. From a cannon. Into space.

Contingent- Something that CAN exist, even if it doesn't. Must be made/caused by something else. My favorite coffee cup may or may not exist in possible universes.

If you think you found a parallel universe where my coffee cup doesn't exist, that would be possible. If you think you found one where my coffee cup was the King of Spain, I'd say it's time to check into rehab. Because that mess is impossible. But if you find a parallel universe where there are NO coffee cups at all, that's entirely possible because coffee cups are not necessary things. Essentially anything in the universe is contingent. It doesn't HAVE to exist, and it was caused by something else.

Cause and effect relationships are contingent as well. This applies to events, and not just objects. Every falling domino was knocked over by the previous falling domino. Each domino falling was contingent on the previous one falling. But any domino can be removed from the line and replaced by a different domino. No domino is necessary to its place. However- whichever domino it is, the row MUST have a first domino. THAT is necessary if there is to be a row of dominos.

Every effect has a cause- but logically the existence of contingent things implies the existence of at least one necessary thing- a first domino and someone who pushed over the first domino. Unless you have an infinite regress- an infinite chain of causes stretching back into the eternal past- an infinitely long row of falling dominos- then there must be some Necessary cause which got everything going in the first place: The first, unmoved mover, the someone who pushed over the first domino. But an infinite regress is impossible.

Impossible- These things cannot exist in any possible world.

An infinite regress- an infinitely long row of falling dominos- would require that EVERY domino must first wait for a literally infinite number of previous dominos to fall before it could fall, which would require an infinite amount of time, which would (by definition) never pass, meaning no domino in an infinitely long row of dominos would ever fall. Whether we are talking about the falling of dominos or the passing of days, it is impossible. There MUST be a first. It is necessary. (More on that later in the book)

Contrary to how the word is used in casual conversation, "Impossible" here doesn't mean something that is simply very unlikely. When we discuss the metaphysics of existence, "impossible" things are merely incoherent, such as a square circle, a triangle with five sides, a married bachelor, congressional ethics or reality television. If you have to explain "Impossible" to someone, I think you may be talking over his head for much of this, even if he has a PhD in physics. Odds are he's one of those people who arrogantly

rejects any argument for his own existence and who, as we will see later, fails to understand concepts like “Nothing.” I wish I was kidding about that.

So the foundation here is that, for any person, place, thing, or event, it is Necessary, Contingent, or Impossible.

This brings us back to Anselm and his argument for the existence of God.

When Anselm says God is the greatest being that could ever be, he means God MUST be Necessary. If what we call “God” was a contingent being, he would have to be contingent on something greater, and that greater something would be the TRUE God. Also, it’s impossible to have an infinite regress of greater and greater creators, so again there must be one maximally great being who is uncreated- who exists because He HAS to exist. Thus, by definition (*and by the fact that the universe exists- more on that later*), the TRUE GOD would HAVE to be necessary and thus would HAVE to exist. If God is NECESSARY, then He IS REAL because He MUST be real.

Remember the example of my row of dominos. Because there is a row of dominos, there must be a first one. Because the dominos are falling, there must have been a first domino to fall. Because dominos can’t set themselves up and push themselves over, there must be a someone who set them up and who knocked over the first one. The existence of a row of falling dominos makes the first domino Necessary and makes the person who set up the row of dominos necessary. If what you imagine when you try to think of God is just one of those dominos- a god made by a bigger god- then you are not imagining what Anselm (and the Bible) are describing as God. Many other religions have smaller, contingent gods who are the children of previous gods, but the Bible reveals to us the Necessary One True God. He is not a domino which needs an explanation. He is the One who set the universe into motion.

Because the row of dominos exists, there is the Necessary person who set them all up and who started them falling. Because the universe exists, there is the Necessary uncaused cause, the uncreated creator, the first, unmoved mover. To claim God is impossible is as absurd as claiming that there is a row of dominos, but that it is impossible that there is a first domino in the row. That claim is nonsense.

Anselm reminds us that God is either Necessary, contingent, or impossible, and then reminds us that the Bible tells us what logic and reason tell us. God cannot be contingent. All contingent things need Him in order for them to exist. Also, there is no

way to argue that He is impossible. That is absurd. So by simple process of elimination, God MUST and therefore DOES exist. His argument is more complicated than this, but for the pocket sized version you can take with you and share with friends, I think this will do.

What did God tell Moses when Moses asked for His name? He said, "**I AM.**" God is not just one of the existing things, He IS existence. He gives existence to anything and anyone else which ever is, was, or will be. As colored objects reflect light, we reflect God's being with our own. That's biblical and logical.

What the argument basically comes down to is a 100% mathematical certainty based on the definition of God, based on the existence of the universe, and based on everything we have learned through the sciences. **God = Real** because by definition, God MUST exist. What follows is that the atheist has the tremendous burden of proof to show, not that God *doesn't* exist, but by necessity he must prove that God *CANNOT* exist. The only way for atheism to be rational is if it is based on a solid proof that God's existence is impossible, which, as we have already seen, is absurd. This is why a lot of atheists have settled for the far simpler task of redefining "Atheist" to mean "Agnostic."

Like I said before, spend some time learning more about this argument, because it really is good and rock solid when properly understood. Don't get discouraged when you share this and find it's over the heads of the Roach Clowns. Everything is over the head of someone who's dug himself a deep hole and fallen in. Just stay optimistic and ontological (Or at least logical) and remember: #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 6. Mind Blown! Agnosticism ALSO Fails!: A Brief Interruption about Reasonable Choices

I recently realized one of the ramifications of my academic offerings as regards the existence of God. It came as quite a shock. I was forced to lay down and play Angry Birds for several hours. But let me back up and set the scene.

First, I explained that, when it comes to the existence of God, there are only three possible positions: Yes, No, or Maybe. Or as I label them, Theism, Atheism, and Agnosticism.

Next, I showed that Atheism is not a valid position. The burden of proof is such that, for an atheist to be reasonable, they must be able to prove that God (a metaphysically **necessary** being) is metaphysically impossible. Just like it sounds, the atheist must prove that something which HAS to exist CANNOT exist. This is more absurd than trying to prove that light is darkness, or that infinity is equal to zero, and thus can never be done. It's beyond impossible. It's merely silly. I liken the atheists' burden of proof to having to write a persuasive essay proving that words don't exist. It's that silly.

At this point I addressed those friends who attempted to insert a fourth position, namely the idea that "Atheism" can be defined as merely an absence of belief in the existence of God. I showed that this still leads to either my definition of Atheism ("no"), or my definition of Agnosticism ("maybe") and so not only was this, in my opinion, an invalid use of the word Atheism, but it resulted in Atheism meaning either Atheism or Agnosticism. I didn't find this particularly helpful. I find this to be, in terms of rational discourse, like having people try to argue that the "RED light" either means "Yellow Light OR Red light," because all RED light really means is "NOT Green light." You're not making rush hour more efficient with that philosophy, if you get what I'm saying.

But reflecting on it, I realized something so obvious that I was amazed that I hadn't seen it before. I had shown that atheism is an invalid position because its burden of proof is SO BIG that it becomes literally absurd. But then, I realized, if Atheism is not a valid position, **neither is Agnosticism!**

Think about it- if no one can logically say NO, then on what basis can anyone logically say MAYBE? Once “NO” is no longer a valid option, “MAYBE” is not a valid option either. The only logical, defensible position is **YES!**

Consider again a row of dominos. Imagine as many as you like- millions of dominos in a long, long row, one after the other. Now let me ask you a question: Is there a first domino in the row?

Because this is a row of dominos, and we know an infinite row of dominos is impossible, we know that saying “No, there is not a first domino” is absurd. But once we realize that saying “no” is not an option, it is also immediately absurd to say “maybe”!

Maybe simply says “I don’t know. Possibly yes and possibly no.” But once we know that “no” is impossible, then your maybe immediately becomes, “I don’t know. Possibly yes and IMPOSSIBLY no.”

When we apply the same simple logic to the existence of God, you will see that, since atheism is not a valid option, then agnosticism is not a valid option either. You can’t say MAYBE God exists when “God does not exist” is NOT a valid option. Once atheism is dead, agnosticism is no longer an option! Theism is literally the only option available!

You see why I needed to lie down for a while? Mind Blown!

Agnosticism remains valid only when it is agnosticism (ignorance) of God’s identity, and not of His existence. Logically speaking, you can only say “I don’t know who God is.” It is nonsense to say “I don’t know if God exists.” His existence is just as valid as yours. Actually, more so, since He is a metaphysically necessary being, and you are contingent. If He didn’t exist, you wouldn’t either.

Doesn’t that just make you need to lay down and play Angry Birds for several hours? Or eat chocolate pudding? Both of those sound pretty good. I wonder if I could do both at the same time? The takeaway here is, Atheism is dead, and it has taken Agnosticism with it. I guess theism is looking a lot closer to 100% certain, isn’t it?

Chapter 7. Proving God with science- or, What does the Number Five Smell Like?

If you've admitted in the public space of social media that you are a Christian, you no doubt have been attacked by the filthy pests of social media which I call Roach Clowns in an exchange that sounds something like this (*once you remove the profanities and name calling*):

Roach Clown: You believe fairy tales! I'm a man of science! I only believe things which can be proven scientifically with 100% mathematical certainty!

You: You can prove atheism to be true then?

Roach Clown: Uh...I don't have to prove anything! Don't try to push the burden of proof on me! You're the person believing in fairy tales! I only believe things which can be proven scientifically with 100% mathematical certainty!

You: You mean, for example, evolution?

Roach Clown: Evolution is a scientific fact! We don't need to prove it, we KNOW It's true!*

You: With 100 % mathematical certainty?

Roach Clown: Evolution denier! Heretic! OFF WITH HIS HEAD!!!

** Roach Clowns actually say this kind of thing all the time. Be sad for them.*



Roach Clowns all the time be demanding “**Scientific Proof**” for God’s existence, which to me is just another way they prove how much they don’t know. In this case, they are admitting that they don’t understand the nature of God or science or what it means to prove something. You’ve got to hand it to the Roach Clowns. They cover all of their bases.

Problem 1: Science is a search for truth and understanding based on observation. This is why its full name as it appears on its driver’s license is “*Observational Science*.” We observe with the five senses, and thus we are doing science on things which can be seen, felt, heard, smelled, or tasted- things like bacon, wombats, trees, or fossilized dinosaur poops (aka: coprolites in case you think I’m making that up).

Just as an example that shows the limits of science, the number five is a real thing, but you cannot “do science” on the number five. It’s not made of atoms, it doesn’t take up a certain amount of space, and it doesn’t taste like anything. If we could get it to taste like bacon I would be more anxious to spend time balancing my checkbook, but I digress. The point is, to do science on something, that something has to be part of the material world which can be experienced, interacted with and measured with the five senses.

Problem 2: God is not a part of the physical, material universe. He is not made of atoms, doesn’t take up space, etc. Like the number 5, He is REAL, but He is not material**. He is Spirit, not matter. He Created matter. The material universe is the effect we can study, He is the cause of our universe.

Problematic Conclusion: Demanding “Scientific Proof” for the existence of God is like demanding to know what the number five smells like, or how much the color blue weighs. The problem is not in our ability to answer the question. The problem lies in the question itself.

Takeaway: When someone demands “Scientific Proof for the existence of God” what they are really saying is, “*I don’t understand God or Science or what it means to prove something.*”

It would be sad if it wasn’t so funny.

So when the Roach Clowns demand scientific evidence for the existence of God, politely explain to them what is meant by “God” and “Science.” In the next chapter I’m going to blow your mind by presenting scientific evidence for the existence of God. Until then, remember: #JesusLovesYou

***I say “God is not a part of the physical, material universe. He is not made of atoms, doesn’t take up space, etc. Like the number 5, He is REAL, but He is not material” and of course I mean except for the incarnation and various post resurrection appearances of Jesus, but that material form is his human nature and not his divine nature and thus is not by definition characteristics of God anymore than you are made of cotton when wearing a comfortable t-shirt.*

Also, this distinguishes the real God from other gods, all of whom seem to be physical, have bodies, have parents, and are capable of being killed by other gods as if they were all characters on Game of Thrones. Jesus puts on humanity, and his human body is killed on the cross. Other gods are just man-like beings capable of being injured, disfigured, or killed. Essentially, those other gods are NOT gods, they are the ancient equivalent of comic book superheroes.

There is truly only one God.

Chapter 8. Religion, Science and Shakespeare

I was thinking about the alleged fight between science and religion (*or as it is presented to me on social media, the fight between Evolution and Christianity*) and I realized that we all learned what we need to know about this issue in school. However, it was not in science class as you might expect, but in English class that the answers came. To understand the relationship between science and God, consider Shakespeare.

Shakespeare was the George Lucas of his day. He wrote a lot of popular entertainment (based heavily on pre-existing entertainment) in a wide variety of styles, many of which had people being killed via sword fight.

Let's consider Hamlet. The fountain of knowledge which is Wikipedia says this:

Hamlet is a tragedy written by William Shakespeare ... between 1599 and 1602. Set in the Kingdom of Denmark, the play dramatises the revenge Prince Hamlet is called to wreak upon his uncle, Claudius, by the ghost of Hamlet's father, King Hamlet. Claudius had murdered his own brother and seized the throne, also marrying his deceased brother's widow.

Just to be clear- **William Shakespeare is not *IN* Hamlet**. He wrote it. He is the author of the play. It is because of William's mind, choices and pen that Prince Hamlet lives and moves and has his being. Shakespeare determined Hamlet's appointed time in history and the boundaries of his story. In one poetic sense, Hamlet is Shakespeare's offspring. He was made in the image of his author- a man with feelings and passions and a sense of justice.

What does all of this have to do with the conflict between God and science? It helps us define the terms of the conflict, and illuminates the actual matter.

Religion is the study of God- the author of life- the Shakespeare to our Hamlet. Science is the study of Hamlet and the world he inhabits. When Hamlet looks at his castle, or his family, or the horses and trees outside, he is doing science. When he considers the mind of Shakespeare, he is doing religion.

Religion is the study of what we can know about Shakespeare. Science is the study of what we can know about Hamlet. Atheism is when you realize Shakespeare is not one of the characters in Hamlet and therefore decide he didn't exist.

And that is why there is no conflict between science and God. Without God, there would be no world to examine through science, just as without Shakespeare, there would be no Hamlet. And atheism once again fails the logic test by demanding that there is no Shakespeare, because-it asserts- a long, long story with LOTS of information can write itself. But science and common sense tell us that information, whether Hamlet or our DNA, needs an author. It cannot write itself.

Sorry Atheism, *F-*. *See me after class.*

For more from someone much smarter than I- check out CS Lewis discussing Finding God/Finding Shakespeare from an article he wrote called The Seeing Eye, which can be found found at https://www.cslewisinstitute.org/The_Seeing_Eye

Chapter 9. Universe from the new i-God (Not coming to any store near you)

I've been focusing on how Roach Clowns all the time be demanding evidence for the existence of God, but they are not the only people who ask for evidence for the existence of God. Lots of people ask for evidence for every part of the Christian worldview. And of course they should if they want to. There are no "Off Limits" questions. What makes Roach Clowns unique is that they have absolutely no desire to hear the answer, and will do anything in their power to ignore, misunderstand, or misrepresent any evidence you provide. It's like they ask you to pass the ketchup, then when you try to hand it to them, they slap it out of your hand and then insult you for failing to pass them the ketchup. Roach Clowns are like a poorly written bully character from a kid's movie from 1992.

When Roach Clowns ask you to give evidence for God, they are like Midwesterners who say, "*How are you doing?*" We don't really want to know how you are doing. It's a greeting. It simply means, "*I acknowledge your presence in my vicinity.*" You're supposed to reply, "*Fine,*" or "*Good,*" and then quickly change the subject. When a Roach Clown says, "*What evidence do you have for the existence of God?*" what he means is "*I don't understand your position, but you're wrong and I hate you.*"

Naturally, the meaning does get lost in translation.

A friend of mine- not a Roach Clown- once asked me to give him evidence of God's existence. So I said, "*OK, how about the entire universe?*" The look on his face told me he was expecting something smaller, but I figured, if I can start with **everything**, then this would expedite the conversation. I'm all about efficiency.

When asking for the cause of something, you need to look for something other than that something. Nothing can be its own cause. You can't be your own mother, a machine can't build itself, and a tree comes from a seed from a previous tree. Everything that begins to exist needs to come from something else, and that something else has to have the properties it takes to make the something in question.



The universe is really only made of four things: **Time, Space, Energy, and Matter.**

Thus, to explain why there is a universe- to explain why there is time, space, energy and matter- we need a cause which is **timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial.** I hope that as soon as you see this list you'll realize that, while it's not God's entire resume, it's a thick enough slice to make a sandwich from (and yes, this is a terrible metaphor, but I stand by it). Who or what other than God is timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial, and would likely create a universe of such intricate design governed by laws and full of information?

It's so obviously God that a lot of atheists do back flips and other clownish routines just to avoid the obvious conclusion.

William Lane Craig once asked this question of an atheist during a debate- If not God, then what or who? The atheist, desperate to squirm out of an obvious conclusion suggested a vastly powerful computer that could make the universe. Dr. Craig pointed out that he was suggesting a timeless, space-less, immaterial computer. But computers are made of matter, take time to process, and exist in space. The atheist squirmed even more and tried to stick with his answer. Dr. Craig simply made the observation that it was not a computer he was talking about. He was talking about God but using the word "computer" to avoid having to say "God." And at this point the atheist changed the subject.

When it comes to the universe, some people are actually stupid enough to say it literally came from NOTHING. A Professional Roach Clown named Lawrence Krauss wrote a book called "*A Universe From Nothing*," and even debated Dr. Craig on the subject. Here's the joke: **He knows that it's not true.** If you read his stupid book you'll find that, eventually, he admits that he's using the word "**Nothing**" to mean something *other* than "**Nothing**." You know how I've been attacked by Roach Clowns because I insist on using the word "Atheist" to mean "Atheist"? This seems to be a theme with these guys. I have both been attacked for saying Atheists believe that the universe made itself from nothing, and been attacked for insisting that the word "nothing" in this context must mean "nothing." The internet is a great way to lose your faith in humanity.

When Krauss uses the word "**Nothing**," he is referring to "*The Quantum Vacuum*," which is a vast sea of powerful, fluctuating energy which has properties and some organization according to those properties- which is obviously not Nothing. It's something. Now, even when "**Nothing**" and "*The Quantum Vacuum*," are defined correctly, Krauss is wrong, but the bigger problem (*which he depends on to sell books*) is the fact that far more people will buy his book than will actually read it, and far more will read it than will get to the end where he admits this lie, and far less will understand what a jerk he is for being a big liar. What results is Roach Clowns all over the internet, and sometimes in newspapers and on CNN will say, "**Scientists have proven that the universe came from nothing!**"

Sigh, roll eyes, face palm.

Let me dispel this idea in short: Whatever properties are needed to make a universe- NOTHING does not have those properties. I mean, take ANY property you can imagine. High energy, organization, blueness, the smell of cheese, hope, the tendency to giggle when thinking about chickens in little hats... NOTHING DOES NOT HAVE THOSE PROPERTIES. Nothing doesn't have ANY properties.

That's why it's called NOTHING.

This is the intellectual level one must reach to get on keel with Roach Clowns. I have to explain what NOTHING is. Remember when common sense was common? I miss those days.

In defense of the various atheists who aren't stupid enough to be Roach Clowns, I will here admit that I have heard from MANY of them who are offended to hear that the Big

Bang model teaches that the universe came from nothing. They believe that this is an idea SO STUPID that it has to be a lie I invented as a Straw Man to make atheism seem more stupid than it really is- because they aren't stupid enough to believe that. But then I show them how proponents of the Big Bang have been saying for decades that the Big Bang is the universe coming into being from nothing without a cause, and I also remind them of the impossibility of an infinite regress which debunks any model which is not the "Universe from nothing" model, and eventually they stop talking to me.

Here's the part to remember: The universe is really only made of four things: **Time, Space, Energy, and Matter**. Thus, to explain why there is a universe- to explain why there is time, space, energy and matter- we need a cause which is **timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial**. Not all gods fit this description, so once again this cannot be an argument for merely any religion. Most gods were only god of one small part of the universe- thunder, the sun, the ocean, grape juice, etc. And again, most of those gods were the children of previous gods who were the children of previous gods or monsters or mud puddles near a river.

In the previous chapter we saw the logical need for a Necessary being to explain the universe: Because the universe exists, there is the Necessary uncaused cause, the uncreated creator, the first, unmoved mover. Because there is time, space, energy and matter- we need a cause which is **timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial**. Because the God of the Bible fits this description and almost all other gods do not, this proves the Bible to be reasonably true and other religions to be reasonably false. As we've already seen that Atheism and Agnosticism are invalid options, the Biblical worldview is looking pretty good. It has excellent explanatory scope and power and it succeeds where every other worldview fails. Like I said, I'm all about efficiency.

In the next chapter I will provide even more scientific evidence for the existence of God. Until then, remember: #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 10. Proving God with Science (AKA: Indiana CSI: Tomb Raider)

Roach Clowns all the time be saying, *"I don't understand God, Science, or the concept of proof!"* but because their spelling is so bad it frequently comes across as *"I demand scientific proof for the existence of God!"*

Because they so often want scientific observations of God Himself, they prove only what they don't know. They are demanding physical observations of an immaterial being. This is like asking how much water **love** would displace when submerged or how tall **Jazz** is in centimeters or what color the number 5 is. On the other hand, there is a second way to take this demand. We could alter it to demand that science be used to show the existence of God.

Sometimes you need to help the Roach Clowns make sense before you can answer them. This is one of those times.

It is in this second way that science is of great help to the Christian Apologist. But before I explain that, I need to tell you something truly amazing about this article.



You may picture me (*Stunningly good looking, hair blowing in the wind*) sitting at my laptop and typing away at these chapters, and for all previous chapters that is true. However, I did not write ANY of this chapter! Not even this paragraph! I actually left my laptop out in the backyard during a nasty thunderstorm, and hail rained down on my keyboard for nearly half an hour. When it was all done, the hail strikes on the keyboard had managed to produce this entire chapter! Even this paragraph! Can you believe it!?!

Is that not AMAZING?!

For what doest thou roll thine eyes? Ought I to be offended? Surely thou thinkest not that information comest from minds only? Egad and forshooth! Does thou? Then like archeologists, CSI scientists and the SETI team listening for radio signals from space, thou concludest that information- the specified complexity which carries in it meaning- comes not from brute matter but from minds only? Not even from a well organized storm of hail on a laptop running Windows 8?

Alas poor Darwin. I knew him well Horatio. He was a man of infinite jests and silly theories pretending to be science. And he married his first cousin. What's with that, Horatio?

Consider how Crime Scene Investigators or Archaeologists use science.

Both Crime Scene Investigators and Archaeologists will look at existing evidence, consider all of the logical and possible ways that the evidence may have been caused, and then try to determine the single most likely cause of the evidence. First they have to determine if the thing in consideration has a cause which was intelligent. Was it an electrical fire or was it arson? An accident or murder? A person writing an unknown language on a cave wall or an animal scratching on rock? An arrow head or just a pointy rock? But even if they can determine that the cause was intelligent and intentional, they face other challenges.

CSI teams and archaeologists can often run into a common difficulty, and that is not being able to talk to the person responsible for a particular piece of evidence. When an archaeologist finds a piece of pottery made 3,000 years ago in Egypt, he may never even hope to know the name of the individual who had made it. But he knows that the pottery was made by a person with a mind, who chose to make that piece, as opposed

to wind, sun, and rain over thousands of years. Natural causes could never make pottery- not even a shard. Furthermore, in thousands of years, we have never once seen a plant or animal make a piece of pottery, and thus any fragment of pottery from thousands of years ago is proof that there was a human who chose to make pottery at least that once. Even if we cannot know the man, we know the man was there.

Similarly, the exploration of the universe has shown us that we had an intelligent designer. Our universe was no accident, and it cannot be explained by nature itself. The universe could not bring itself into being, and once it existed, it could not have made our world, so very clearly made for life, and once the earth existed with conditions perfect for life, DNA could not write itself and cells could not build themselves. At every stage the sciences have shown us design.

This brings us to all of the sciences. While I could go on and on with examples for ages, I will sum up a couple of the best examples for design by God as described in Genesis:

1. Math and physics: Math shows us that we cannot have an infinite regress, so even time itself must be finite. The laws of physics tell us that matter and energy cannot be created or destroyed- thus there can be no NATURAL explanation for the beginning of the universe. Yet because an infinite past is impossible, we must have had a beginning. Anything that begins to exist must have a cause, but in this case that cause cannot be natural, because nature is the thing being caused.

The laws of thermodynamics prove that the universe cannot be infinitely old, thus, it must have come into being. The amount of usable energy in the universe is constantly decreasing (this is called “entropy”) but has not yet run out, clearly indicating a beginning to the universe a finite time ago. Thus physics supports what math has already proven- the universe cannot be infinitely old. In short, physics proves that the universe had a first moment and a supernatural cause.

Also, remember that in a previous chapter we saw that anything that comes into being must have a cause and there needs to be a first uncaused cause which is timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial, which proves yet again that the universe had a cause and that cause must have been God.

Remember also that the study of other religions fails to come up with a comparable depiction of creation or creator to rival the Bible, and so the creation by God in Genesis is the only plausible explanation for the universe described by science.

2. Physics and biology: The universe, from the very big to the very small is AMAZINGLY fine tuned for life, and brilliantly designed. From the charge of electrons to the size of the moon, there are a HUGE collection of things that, were they to change by a TINY amount, life on Earth would be impossible. But life itself is astoundingly complex. Every living thing is a series of systems which are irreducibly complex.

Just as one example: When you get injured, you bleed. If your body had to wait until your skin grew back over the injury, you could bleed to death, so your body has a mechanism of blood clotting which can help close punctures and cuts. The clotting has to be designed to start at an injury- both at the time and place of the wound- otherwise it doesn't stop you from bleeding to death. Also, it has to be designed to NOT start anywhere else, otherwise it stops your blood from getting around your body and parts of you die and fall off. Also, it has to be designed to stop when the cut is closed up, otherwise it will turn your whole blood stream into a solid blockage and again you die. This is only three facets, but if your blood was not designed to do all three at the same time from the beginning, then you wouldn't make it very long in this world, even if you didn't get injured, but if you lived long enough to get cut, almost any injury would be enough to kill you. The human race would not survive a week under those conditions. Especially if it was wearing roller skates.

Every part of every living thing is made from cells. Cells are tiny but astoundingly complex chemical factories which are more complex than anything ever built by the human race. Tiny machines of many different kinds, from rotating motors to little walking legs keep the cell working. Machines drive what comes into the cell and control what goes out. And all of these machines are made from the instructions written into the DNA. But the DNA is read by machines made of proteins, and those machines are built by the cell by other machines made of proteins, all of which are made from the instructions written into the DNA. The DNA cannot survive outside of a cell, and alone it can do nothing. Without DNA a cell is incapable of growing or reproducing. Both have to exist at the same time. It is an irreducible system with vast amounts of information in a coded language system that produces specified machines and tiny robots. All of life is clearly designed by a brilliant engineer and programmer.

So is there scientific evidence for God? I would say it goes well beyond that. I would argue that all of science is evidence of God, just as every Ford automobile is evidence of Henry Ford, or how every one of his paintings is evidence for Leonardo da Vinci, or how Hamlet is evidence for William Shakespeare.

From the laws that govern matter and energy (e.g. gravity), to the vast amounts of information packed into every cell (DNA and RNA), as well as the irreducibly complex machinery in every living thing, we know that nothing but the greatest mind in the universe could have caused the world we know. Design demands a designer, and only a fool would try to say otherwise.

Which brings us back to the Roach Clowns who DO say otherwise. Yes, these angry, hostile voices on the old internet insist that THEY are the side of science and reason, but when presented with science and reason they abandon the obvious conclusions for any absurdity merely so they can grasp onto their conclusions for dear life like a rat clinging to a box of doughnuts in a flooded sewer drain. They will try to avoid the obvious need for a designer that design provides by relabeling it as “apparent” design, as if that somehow makes the statistically impossible somehow scientifically explicable. Remember, these are the people who refuse to be persuaded that THEY exist.

If you want to know what it’s like to be someone like me talking to a Roach Clown about these things, watch any one of those CSI shows, and imagine that one of the detectives was ***ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN that there are NO MURDERS and that ALL of the evidence was*** created by natural causes like wind, rain, and random chance.

Bullet holes? Nope. Natural causes. Maybe spontaneous torso openings.

Ransom note? Ink being spilled by the wind accidentally forming the illusion of words (Not REAL writing, only “apparent” writing).

Footprints? Dug by ants in the unlikely but not impossible shape of a foot.

Dead body with the head missing? Probably had a heart attack caused by blood pressure so high that his head popped off. Death by natural causes. Case closed.

Eventually you start to go a little crazy.

Try to stay sane, and remember: #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 11. We Hold These Truths to be Self-Evident

One of the classes you slept through in High School was the one where you should have learned the Declaration of Independence. (Don't worry. I was awake for it and I took notes.) It's a long document which explains why we should always be ready to arrest the ENTIRE government for treason and replace them with trained farm animals if need be. But I digress. It begins thusly:

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

I'm sure you've heard this part several times, just before your eyelids get heavy and the room goes dark. But have you ever wondered what the phrase "Self-evident" means?

Just like it sounds, self-evident means it is SO OBVIOUS that merely hearing it is proof enough. The evidence for the truth is the truth itself. One great example of "self-evident" is the law of non-contradiction. All it says is that anything is itself, and nothing is something other than itself. Or, as Dr Seuss once said, "**You are YOU!**"

That's the point of the concept of "Self-evident." Even if you CAN find evidence to prove it, you don't NEED to because the alternatives are SO RIDICULOUS that they may as well be impossible merely by definition. Some things which most people would accept as self-evident are thing like:

The existence of ourselves.

The existence of the physical world.

That fact that our perceptions are of real things.

The existence of people/minds other than ourselves.

The fact that the past was real and our memories are of real events.

The fact that we think when we think we are thinking.

The fact that bacon is delicious.

The cuteness of bunnies.

American analytic philosopher Alvin Plantinga has argued (and many have said argued very well) that belief in God is what he calls properly basic- meaning it is a self evident belief that we are born with, just as belief in the external world is properly basic.

Plantinga, in his 1981 paper titled, **Is Belief in God Properly Basic?** says:

“According to the classical foundationalist, some propositions are properly or rightly basic for a person and some are not. Those that are not, are rationally accepted only on the basis of evidence, where the evidence must trace back, ultimately, to what is properly basic. The existence of God, furthermore, is not among the propositions that are properly basic; hence a person is rational in accepting theistic belief only if he has evidence for it.

“God has so created us that we have a tendency or disposition to see his hand in the world about us. More precisely, there is in us a disposition to believe propositions of the sort this flower was created by God or this vast and intricate universe was created by God when we contemplate the flower or behold the starry heavens or think about the vast reaches of the universe.”

(http://www.cola.calpoly.edu/~rgrazian/docs/courses/412/Plantinga_BeliefGodPBasic.pdf)

Plantinga explains further that this is not merely an acceptance for anything which you wish to believe without evidence. He admits that some people may choose to believe falsehoods without evidence. Also, he explains that calling something “properly basic” or “self evident” doesn’t mean that there is not evidence for it. He merely attempts to prove that one is rational to believe in the existence of God even if he does not know the evidence which proves his beliefs to be true.

Among the self-evident facets of the Christian faith are such things as-

- Truth and lies are real and distinctly different.
- Anything is itself and nothing is something other than itself.
- The material universe exists.
- From nothing, nothing comes.
- If there had ever been merely nothing, then there would always be merely nothing.
- Nothing can cause itself.

- An effect requires a cause.
- Whatever begins to exist must have a cause.
- Design requires a designer.
- Information only comes from a mind.
- You cannot add by subtracting.
- An increase in chaos and disorder cannot result in an increase in order and complexity and functionality.
- Good and Evil are objectively real and distinctly different.
- Human life has value.

All of these truths are self-evident, and all of them are found in the Christian worldview. Yet, all of these are violated by the religion of Atheism and its mythology of Big bang Cosmology and Evolution. Once more, what we all know even without evidence proves Atheism is false and the Bible can be trusted. Naturally, those professing to be Atheists will claim they believe these self-evident things, and of course they do. I am not arguing that people who accept the label “Atheist” are so stupid as to be unable to see these self-evident truths. I am saying that the religion of Atheism violates them. I am saying that “Atheists” already know that Atheism is too stupid to believe.

Apologist Sye Ten Bruggencate argues from the Bible that all people KNOW God exists, and they know the God of the Bible exists. Sye just goes to Romans chapter 1:18-20 and reads,

“...men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.”

Which, when you look at it, does sound like Paul is trying to say what can be known about God is plain to them, and that they are without excuse. But that’s just my interpretation. However, former atheists who have become Christians always tell the same story- they find that coming to Christ is a seeing what was always there, and accepting what they really always knew. Maybe they didn’t know how to prove it, or they FELT He was absent, but I’ve never heard one who professed to believe they had discovered it to be true that God was really and truly absent. I don’t think I’ve ever heard a former atheist say, *“I had NO IDEA God was there! I really thought atheism was true!”* Maybe those people are out there, but I’ve not yet met one. They tend to be like people

who are looking for their glasses, and come to discover they've been wearing them the whole time.

Don't hate. We've all been there.

The rarity of Atheism is further proof of this concept. ALL Cultures have been theists. The whole human race for our entire history has been born knowing there was a "Higher power" or "Great Spirit" or "Jesus of Nazareth." Some descriptions have been better than others, but they've all agreed that we are not merely matter, alone in the universe.

I encourage you to ask questions, find answers, and examine the evidence, because I know you will eventually come to see what you already know and have suspected all along- God is there. That's the truth- but even better than the truth is the good news that comes with it:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

John 3:16-17

Faith in God is reasonable. Science does show his fingerprints all over the universe. Seek, and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened. Seek His mercy and you will be forgiven. Seek His love and you will be adopted as His child.

And as always, remember that #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 12. The Moral Argument in a Nutshell (And another reason to avoid Shia LaBeouf)

Think about a meteor smashing into the surface of the moon.

The moon is damaged. It cannot be repaired. The crater will remain forever. Is that evil?

Nah. It's just rocks hitting rocks.

Consider a self driving car driving into another self driving car at at 80 miles per hour. They are smashed into tiny pieces. They cannot be repaired. They are gone forever. Is that evil?

Nah, that's just a machine colliding with another machine. Expensive, but not evil.



Imagine that your dog eats your favorite shoes. They cannot be repaired. They are gone forever. Is this evil?

Nah, he's just a dog. He didn't know they were your favorite.

Imagine that I break your favorite pen *on purpose*. It cannot be repaired. It is gone forever. Those shoes your dog just ate cost FAR more to replace than this pen. You didn't get mad at your dog, why are you mad at me? The dog chewed up your shoes on purpose. Why is MY choice to destroy your possessions worse than his?

While you're yelling at me about the pen, Shia LaBeouf kills your mother with an ax. She cannot be repaired. She is gone forever.



You would certainly feel as if one of these acts was more evil than the others (*depending on your relationship with your mother, but let's assume for the sake of argument that your mother was a good mother and you aren't a psychopath*). Clearly, you would say that Shia LaBeouf killing your mother is EVIL when none of the other incidents are EVIL.

But based on what? You observe and experience the data that evil has been committed, but on atheism your observation cannot be justified.

On atheism, a human is an animal, and an animal is a collection of cells, and cells are chemical factories. Matter, all controlled by the laws of physics and chemistry. No different than rock, robo-car, or dog except in structure and ability. You can think different kinds of thoughts than they can, but the dog can smell and hear far better, and the car can calculate different spatial relationships and receive and process traffic data. A rock, a car, a dog and a man are all made of the same stuff- atoms, obeying the laws of physics and chemistry.

Why, if atheism were true, would a human be held to a different standard?

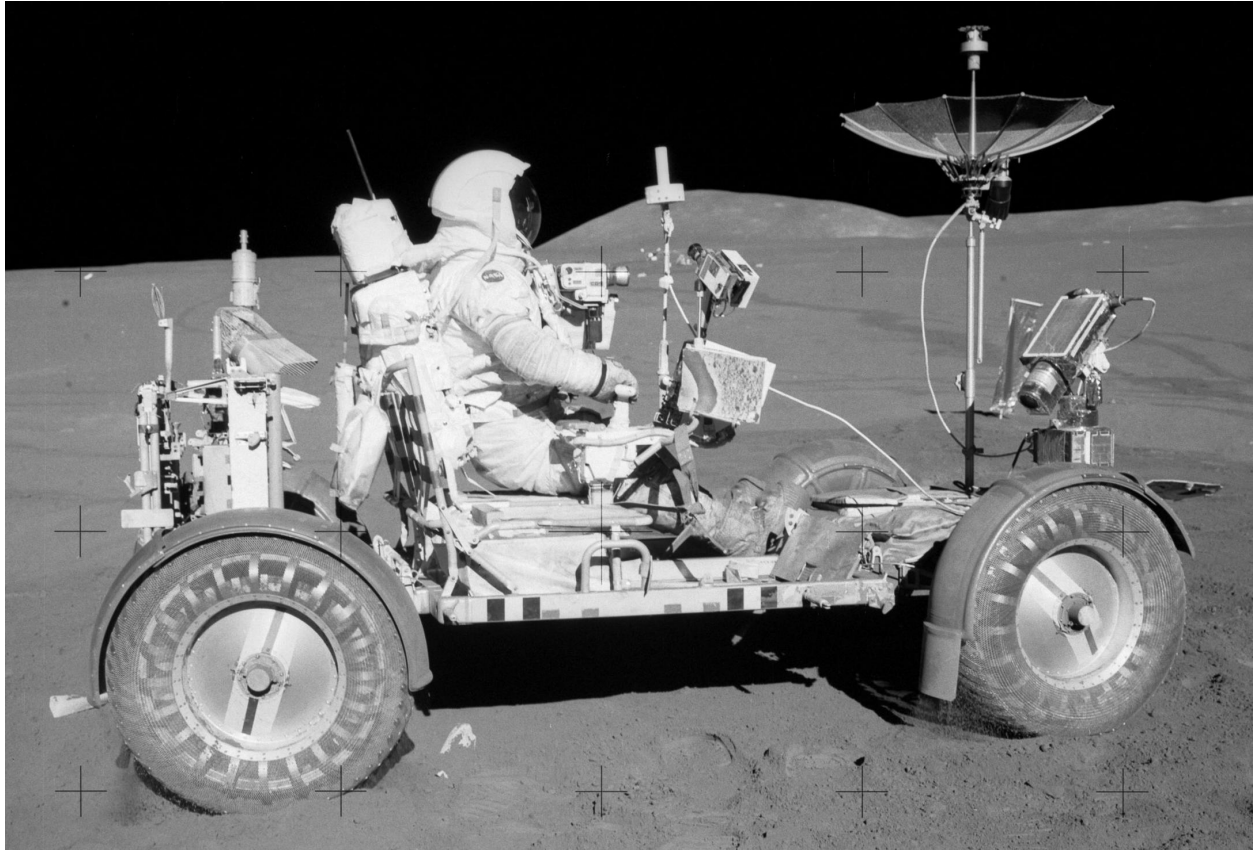
Those self driving cars made decisions which resulted in the irreversible loss of one of their own kind. But we don't consider that an act of evil, so why do we consider it an act of **evil** if Shia LaBeouf kills your mother with an ax? Why is human choice worse than robo-car choice? Why is human death worse than robo-car death? Why is the irreparable damage done to a collection of matter which happens to be human worse

than the irreparable damage done to other collections of matter, such that we acknowledge that the destruction of the human object is **EVIL**?

None of our judgement, observations and experience would make sense unless the value of human life was a REAL THING. The Bible tells us that God made us in His image, and so we have value. Every human being is valuable, more than anything we can discover or create. We all know this to be true, and yet, on atheism this makes no sense. Atheists may recognise the value of human life, but atheism cannot account for it. This is how the observable data once again shows us that atheism is false, and the facts lead us once again to the Bible.

Oh, also, I'd encourage your mother to steer clear of Shia LaBeouf if I were you. Just in case. And remember, #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 13. The Speed Limit on the Moon: Arguments Against the Moral Argument



The Moral Argument is very simple in structure. If God does not exist then there is no transcendent source for a universal moral law. There is only time, space, matter, and energy, and blind, pitiless indifference. But we all recognise that the universal moral law DOES exist. There is real right and wrong. Therefore, God must exist.

This argument is based on facts which are universally recognised. Everyone knows that there is absolute right and wrong. No one argues that murder and stealing and lying are GOOD. They may want to give themselves permission, but even so they know they are giving themselves permission to do evil, just as we know we are giving ourselves permission to eat something bad when we supersize those fries.

But why does that HAVE to mean that God exists? Why can't there be another reason? Always attempting to squirm out of the obvious failure of Atheism, some have argued that what we call morality is simply our evolved herd instinct. After all, animals behave in

ways that benefit them all. Sometimes certain members of a herd or hive will even sacrifice themselves to protect the others. Why can't our sense of "goodness" be just this instinct to protect the herd?

First, because then we are pretending that our morality is not objective. This argument is saying that we value truth and love over hate and lies only for the same reasons that cows eat grass or that Germans have blue eyes. It's purely an evolved trait which was not part of our ancestors and which will someday not be part of our descendants. On this view, murder isn't EVIL, it's just opposed to a certain instinct that has served the survival of our collective. It's no more evil than being tall or growing a beard, or being short and NOT growing a beard.

But we all know better. This evolutionary excuse is not an argument created from observation or reason, but merely from the desire to escape the conclusion that God exists. Also, in its attempt to escape the logical conclusion, it sacrifices the observational data. It would be like NASA arguing that, since the moon is made of cheese, then all of those rocks that the astronauts brought back from the moon don't count. Moon rock is simply a lactose free type of cheese which is high in mineral content. They would have to pretend that rocks aren't rocks, just as Atheists have to pretend that objective morals aren't objective morals.

But even worse for this argument is the evolutionary model itself. Evolution is supposed to be driven by Survival of the Fittest, but if the herd instinct drives us to sacrifice ourselves for the greater good, then those that survive will be those without that instinct. Evolution would drive out of any species the instinct to sacrifice themselves for the greater good and would instead instill in them the instinct to sacrifice each other for themselves. Given a few generations, our herd instinct would be selfishness and backstabbing. Evolutionary fitness is measured only by survival, so then where is its standard for goodness? It can't have any. Behavioral traits, like physical traits, are merely what bring a survival advantage in the environment the organism lives in. Kindness and mercy as opposed to cruelty and brutality, on evolutionary thinking, are no more good or bad than being tall or blonde or short or brunette or having a tail or hooves or wings or any other trait. On evolutionary atheism, any trait is just what that species needed to survive right now, and that is all.

Part of the confusion comes because people often tend to think of GOODNESS as this thing off by itself. They think that there is some self-existent standard of GOODNESS which God himself must be measured against just as you would measure any man with feet and inches or pounds and ounces, but this idea makes no sense. This is like saying

that there is a speed limit that JUST IS and then comparing this idea of the SPEED LIMIT to the one the local government assigns to a street to see if they chose the right one. But the obvious fact is that a law doesn't judge the government; the government assigns the law. The law can only exist because an authority decrees something to be good or bad.

Imagine we were on the moon in moon buggies capable of going 200 miles per hour. Awesome, right? But imagine I said we were not allowed to go more than 45 mph. You would say, "Why not?"

"Because the speed limit is 45 mph," I reply.

"What speed limit?" you ask. "We're on the moon. There's no government up here. There's only the two of us."

"There doesn't NEED to be a government," I say confidently.

"Then how can there be a speed limit?" you demand.

"The speed limit just IS," I say, rolling my eyes. "Everyone knows that there's a speed limit."

"Because YOU said so?" you demand. "You're not in charge up here."

"No one needs to be in charge. The speed limit just IS. And it's 45 mph."

Would you be persuaded, or would you check my space suit for an oxygen leak?

Saying love and kindness just ARE good FEELS right, because in a sense we recognise that this is true- almost. Love and kindness are good, but not because of themselves any more than a speed limit can JUST BE. But just as a speed limit doesn't exist unless it is the law- which requires an authority to write the law- goodness isn't real unless it is a MORAL LAW- which requires a higher authority. When we recognize the objective nature of morality, we are recognizing the fact that there is a moral LAW.

One of the problems people tend to encounter when thinking about this problem is the confusion over what goodness is and where it comes from. After all, is the moral law Good because God demands it, or does God demand it because it is GOOD? Some people think that the Bible teaches goodness to be whatever God arbitrarily demands, as if He could demand that we grow bananas on our heads and it would become GOOD, and then the next week He could forbid it and it would become somehow EVIL. They feel that, if God had commanded us to lie, or to hate our neighbors, that those would be GOOD because they were what God commanded.

This view- the command theory of morality- is an accurate description of other religions, such as Islam, but they are NOT an accurate description of the Biblical worldview. God doesn't merely say "because I said so!" but rather He always comes back to "Because I

AM.” Why does God command us to love? Because HE is loving. Why does God command us to forgive? Because HE is merciful. God doesn’t arbitrarily assign good and bad, but rather he consistently asks us to be like HIM. We are to always ask, “What would Jesus do?” The moral law is based on the unchanging character and nature of God.

The need for God goes deeper than the need for an authority to set the rules and enforce them. Instead of thinking of GOOD as this thing that God has or makes or enforces, we need to think of GOODNESS as GODLINESS. It’s not something separate from God, but rather a description of Him. God made us in His image, and so He demands that we look like Him, just as we expect our selfies to look like us. When we recognize that something is GOOD, we are recognizing that it is what Jesus would do.

If God does not exist, there is no objective morality.

Objective morality does exist.

Therefore, God does exist.

Objective morality is the answer to the question, “What would Jesus do?”

We are held to that standard because we are made by Jesus in His image and He wants us to fulfill the purpose for which we were created, which is to be like Him.

The Moral argument takes observable data which we can all observe and which almost everyone agrees to and uses it to prove that God must exist. However, like most of the other arguments for the existence of God, this one only really makes sense in the Biblical worldview. Once more, what is plain to all of us and is clearly seen by all of us proves Atheism is dead and the Bible can be trusted.

Chapter 14. Slavery and Bacon

“Atheists” try to attack the Bible by saying it condones slavery. This is false and has been answered well more times than I can say. But let’s pretend that it’s true. Let’s pretend that this old, tired, false accusation against the Bible from ignorant internet skeptics is in fact entirely true. Let’s pretend that the Bible gives the old Thumbs-Up to the owning of other people like you would own a cow, a fish, or a toaster.



The Old Testament condemns the eating of bacon. But I like bacon. I like it very much! Does this mean the Bible must be false or somehow wrong?

Take a second and ask yourself if you could come up with some argument which proves that, since the Bible makes a statement against bacon (thus making a statement which I dislike) that it must therefore be **WRONG**. Could you argue that this prohibition against bacon **PROVES** the Bible to be untrustworthy, God doesn’t exist, and Jesus did not rise from the tomb on Easter morning? Could any reasonable argument be made from the forbidding of bacon to those conclusions?

This is what the skeptics are trying to do with this accusation about slavery.

If the atheist is to somehow make a point against the Bible, they must show that slavery is objectively evil and therefore the Bible fails by failing to match that objective standard. But on atheism, there is no objective moral standard, so this is impossible. An atheist

condemning the moral standard of the Bible is like a person looking at a picture of a unicorn and saying, "Unicorns don't exist, and you have drawn it wrong because this isn't what they look like!" If atheism were true, it would make just as much sense for an atheist to condemn the Bible for saying we should love our neighbor.

To merely say that The Bible condones slavery, therefore it's wrong is like saying that The Bible condemns the eating a bacon and therefore must be wrong. Because Atheism has no foundation for any immaterial values, the argument is essentially,

"I don't like it therefore it must be WRONG!"

Which is the kind of argument a small child would make when arguing why they should have to eat their veggies or go to bed on time. It is not an argument at all.

Also, the eating of bacon was not forbidden by the MORAL law, but by the Kosher Law. Jesus lifted the requirement of the Kosher Law in the New Testament (Acts 10:13-15), so you can eat bacon now! But if you're trying to sell your little brother on ebay, that is still wrong. Untie him and go get some bacon for the two of you to share.

#JesusLovesYou

Chapter 15. God and Isaac Newton

In 1689* Isaac Newton described his thoughts on relative motion by asking his reader to imagine being inside a ship. Imagine you are inside of a large ship, sitting in a chair at a desk taking stock of the contents of the hold. Suddenly, you see an onion rolling toward you across the floor. It moves across ten feet of the deck in five seconds. How fast is the onion moving? 10ft in 5 seconds- The obvious answer is two feet per second.

Or is it?

You may think this is an easy question, but remember you are on a ship. The ship is moving. If so, you are moving too, even though you are sitting in a chair watching an onion roll across the floor. BUT...Maybe you and the ship are moving toward the onion at two feet per second and the onion is actually sitting still!

But sitting still in relationship to what? The ocean floor? But the ocean floor is part of the earth- a planet rotating around its axis every day, and also orbiting a star which is itself orbiting the center of the galaxy... Isn't EVERYTHING MOVING?

The Necessary Question

The necessary question Newton reveals to us when asking how fast something is moving- or to even determine if it's moving at all, is to ask "in relationship to WHAT?" There must be a fixed point- a constant- by which we can measure movement. The fact that motion is always relative to some constant, fixed point, doesn't make that movement any less real, but the fact remains that we can only know and describe motion because of a fixed point.

Motion and Morality

Motion and morality are very similar in a lot of ways. First, because we tend to start out thinking of things in relationship to ourselves. We have the instinct to consider ourselves as the fixed, constant point by which to judge the world around us because it is the perspective through which we experience things. Much like in the study of physics, however, we will eventually find that we cannot use ourselves as the moral constant. We are moving.

Not just us as individuals as we grow, mature, and learn, but cultures also change. Things which we as a culture used to consider normal, such as slavery, are now considered to be abominations, and things we used to consider abominations, such as homosexuality, are now considered normal. Has our culture improved or gotten worse? Can we even know? Not by looking to ourselves. To know if we are getting closer to or further away from “good” we have to ask the necessary question: “In relationship to WHAT?”

Or rather- “In relationship to WHO?”

The Same Yesterday, Today and Forever.

In order for good and bad to be REAL, there has to be a fixed, unchanging point. Just as no one argues against the objective nature of motion, almost no one argues against the objective nature of morality (and those that argue against it will assume it is a fact when reacting to how they are treated- even liars hate being lied to).

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8(NIV)
“I the Lord do not change.” Malachi 3:6 (NIV)

We know from creation that God is the maker of the heavens and the earth. He is the creator of everything that is, and even space and time itself. When considering the nature of objective morality, the only answer that makes any sense is the anchoring of objective morality in the unchanging, eternal character and nature of God. We must anchor objective morality in God because He is unchanging and eternal. He is literally the only possible fixed point.

Made in HIS Image

Furthermore, God has made us in HIS image. We are intended to be like Him. Just as a portrait is good because it resembles the person in whose image it was made, we are good when we reflect the character and nature of God, and we are bad when we reject His image. In an important sense, the answer to defining objective morality is literally, “What would Jesus do?”

Biblically, moral “good” must mean “Godly.” When we say loving our neighbor is “good” we mean it is “Godly.” It is what Jesus would do. Trying to place moral good outside of God, as if it is its own, self existent thing, makes it either a paper thin replacement for

god- a little god that is not a person- or it reduces moral good to the kind of “good” we talk about when discussing our preferences. This common, secular understanding of goodness means that loving is “good” no different than a particular cheeseburger is “really good.” But then we’re not talking about the **actual goodness** of loving our neighbor, but now we’re only saying how **we FEEL** about the idea of loving our neighbor.

God is the eternal, unchanging standard of good. God is perfectly just and loving. God is holy and wise. God is eternal and omniscient. The character and nature of God is the standard by which right and wrong **MUST** be determined. No other standard is eternal and unchanging. What is logically deduced by this fact is that God does and must exist, and everyone knows it as Paul describes in Romans chapter 1.

Everyone knows that objective right and wrong exist. While we may debate the proper application of these principles, the human race has always known that good and evil are real things. But right and wrong require a fixed, unchanging point of reference. Right and wrong in relationship to who? The only answer which makes objective morality possible is Jesus Christ. Because we all acknowledge that right and wrong are real, we are already acknowledging the truth of the Biblical worldview, even if we don’t realize that we are.

Skeptics will question the existence of God, and demand evidence for His existence. But we all, skeptics included, already have absolute assurance of God’s presence based on facts we can know first hand. In a strange sense, we all know that God exists with more certainty than we can know the speed of a rolling onion.

*Described in *Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica* and made public here: <https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/newton-stm/scholium.html>

Chapter 16. The Everyday Supernatural Norm

One of the arguments Atheists try to make against the existence of God is their seeming lack of experience with anything we might call “Supernatural.” Because they believe all of their experiences to be with material things, they choose to believe that there is little or no reason to believe in the immaterial or the Supernatural. God is not a man with a physical body who takes up a certain amount of space or displaces a certain volume of water when submerged. God is immaterial-Supernatural. But is that different from saying “imaginary?”

Do normal people have experience with anything immaterial, such that we can claim to have some normal experience with the Supernatural? Putting aside those people who have claimed to have witnessed or experienced a miracle I mean. Is there something else which we know to exist which is also immaterial?

What can we possibly experience which is immaterial? Astoundingly, this is so simple and so common that everyone misses it. We have all gotten so used to our experience being the experience of the material world that when we experience the immaterial- the supernatural, we miss it entirely- not because it is so strange, but because it is so ordinary. The Supernatural which we experience EVERY DAY is:

INFORMATION.

Information is obviously real. Without information what would make a book different from an ink spill? Or music different from noise? Or math different from scratches on a tree trunk? Information is all around us and it is specified complexity which carries meaning and often demands a response, all based in a specific coding system. Information is constantly causing changes in our material universe without applying any forces or even touching anything. But what elements of the periodic table is information made from?

How much space does it take up?

What does it weigh?

What color is it?

Information is not part of the material universe! Instead, it is conveyed by material means. Stories are carried in ink and paper even though they are not MADE of ink and paper. Similarly, you, like a book, are a supernatural thing carried by a material thing. If

you burn a book, you destroy the ink and paper but you do not destroy *the story*. Likewise, someday your body will die and decompose but *YOU will not cease to exist*. YOU are more than your body like a story is more than a book.

Every time you read a story and every time you look in the mirror or think your own thoughts, you are experiencing the supernatural! You are experiencing invisible and immaterial things! Your thoughts are not made of atoms, and they have no mass and take up no space. Yet they are certainly real, like your soul.

DNA contains information. It is the instructions for making and running cells, conveyed by material means- the molecules that make up DNA, RNA, and various other components. It results in physical construction of protein machines that become the functioning parts of a cell. But DNA is a molecule that carries information. The information is not the DNA itself. When mutations scramble the DNA enough, the information is lost even though the DNA strand remains. Every living cell is built and run because of this immaterial, supernatural information.

God is the author of your story, the code writer who designed your DNA. Just as a book needs an author, the whole universe (including us) needs a designer, and the God revealed in the Bible is that author of life.

He wrote himself into his story as Jesus- our savior, who died to pay for our sins and make us right with God. He's offered you eternal life, and now you have to choose your own adventure. If you choose life, you will have eternal life! If you choose death... you get what you choose.

So choose Jesus today my friends! Get to know your heavenly father and author, and accept his free gift of eternal life through Jesus today! And remember, #JesusLovesYou

Chapter 17. WHY does God exist?

Why does God exist? What is *HIS* cause? A good question and worthy of an answer! On the surface, it seems to be the case that in the debate over the origin of the universe, Christians are saying,

***“The Big Bang can’t be true because nothing can be uncaused!
...Except God.”***

But if the Big Bang HAD a cause, what caused the cause?
And what caused *that* cause?

You wind up in an infinite regress of causes, which is no more possible than one universe with an infinite past and no beginning, both of which leave you unable to account for existence at all!

After all, if an infinite number of causes (or days) had to pass before today occurred, we would never have reached today because you cannot pass an infinite number of anything one at a time.

So how did we get here?

Obviously not through an uncaused explosion. God must have done it! But where did God come from? Was he made by a bigger God?

And was the bigger God made by a bigger, bigger God?

And was the bigger bigger God made by a bigger bigger BIGGER GOD?

WHERE DOES IT END?!?



The way the Bible solves this dilemma is **not** by saying God was ALWAYS HERE- as if he existed through *an infinite amount of time* before he made us, but rather that God is **ETERNAL**. God exists **outside of time**, which is necessary because He created time, and he couldn't create time from within time. God is not infinitely old, but rather He is Eternal- outside of time.

The difference between Eternal and infinite in the past is a VERY important difference.

Consider this: The author of a book does not have an age *inside the story he is writing*. Hamlet can't look back into his own history and find the birth of William Shakespeare. Shakespeare is everywhere in the story of Hamlet, and there is nowhere in the history of Hamlet where Shakespeare began. In the world/play of Hamlet, Shakespeare just IS. And if he wasn't, then neither would any of the characters, places or events in Hamlet.

Similarly, God isn't IN our story, he is our author. He doesn't age in our time- he MADE our time.

But what about His cause?

After all, Shakespeare may be omnipresent and omniscient to Hamlet, but William Shakespeare was born in 1564.

In philosophy we acknowledge the need for a first, unmoved mover. Someone to knock over the first domino so that we can explain all of the dominoes which are still falling- a first, unmoved mover. We also call this the first uncaused cause.

This is not a cop out- it's NECESSARY.

In fact, that's what we call it- a **necessary** being. Because you can't have an infinite regress of causes, there **MUST** be a first, uncaused cause. A first unmoved mover. A timeless, eternal cause of the temporal universe. That's not a stopping of the search for answers, **that is the answer one reaches if they keep searching.**

There **MUST BE AN UNCAUSED CAUSE** or NOTHING would exist! Because the universe exists, it must have a cause. Because there cannot be an infinite past or an infinite regress of causes, there must be a first moment and a first uncaused cause.

Because that cause is the cause of time itself, it must stand outside of time- an Eternal cause. And for that cause to also explain the universe, it must be GOD.

So, logically, GOD MUST exist, and He must exist, not forever back in time- but BEFORE time- outside of time.

Do Christians say, “***The Bible doesn’t mention anything before God so I’ll just stop there***”? No sir. Philosophy shows us that the Bible describes God accurately when it says he is uncaused and eternal- God MUST exist. He cannot NOT exist. This is not the result of stopping the investigation, this is the logical result of following the reason to where it has to lead, and as always.

It leads back to the Bible.

Chapter 18. British Literature and An Elephant on the Couch

If you're like most citizens of the internet you have no doubt seen memes and whatnot attempting to show that belief in God is silly. Here's an example of what I mean:

Many atheists think they have come up with a clever defeater for the creation of the universe by God by asking **WHEN God created the universe if Time is a part of the universe**. On the surface, this question presents quite a pickle.

If God made time, WHEN did he make it? But if there was no time yet, then there was no WHEN when it could have been made... thus the whole sweater starts to unravel.

Or does it?

To answer this question I shall appeal to a brilliant American Philosopher and two very popular British stories.

JP Moorland is a brilliant philosopher who sums up the Kalam Cosmological argument for the existence of God like this:

One- the universe exists

Two- it was either caused or uncaused

Three- the cause is either personal or impersonal

And then he argues that the universe is caused, and that the cause is personal. I won't go into all of those details there, but he goes into them and I highly recommend it. Just search the YouTubes for The Kalam Cosmological Argument – JP Moreland, PhD.

I bring up Mooreland primarily because it is in this discussion that he explains the relationship of God to his creation.

The personal cause stands in **ontological** relationship to the creation of the universe- not **temporal** relationship to the beginning of the universe. In other words, the one owes

its existence to the other even if there is no moment when the one caused the other. This sounds like self-contradictory gobbledygook, but allow me to explain.

Shakespeare stands in ontological cause to Hamlet. He is the reason Hamlet exists, even though Hamlet was not written in the timeline of the story of Hamlet. If Guildenstern and Rosencrantz were to ask Hamlet when Shakespeare wrote “Hamlet,” there can be no answer. Hamlet cannot say Shakespeare began when Hamlet was born, or a hundred years before, or anything else which would make sense in his own story. Shakespeare did write Hamlet, but not at a point in time inside Hamlet’s universe.

If I step into my Tardis and fly through all of time and space with the Doctor, will we ever find the moment when the first episode of Dr Who was written? To you it was 1962, but to the Doctor himself, it never happened. That story- the story of his origins- happened outside of his own story, and so he can never travel through space and time to see it for himself.

Similarly, God made the universe outside of the time of our own universe, the act of which caused the first moment of our time. God stands in relationship to our universe like an author to a story.

Let me skip 500 years of British literature. Step into the Tardis and hold on for a moment until we land at Hogwarts...

Imagine that Prof. Albus Dumbledore waved his wand and instantly an elephant on a couch appeared in the great hall. **POOF!** The elephant looks around somewhat perplexed, because he finds himself in a school for wizards, and the children begin to scream because they are children.

The couch has a considerable dent in the cushions made by the elephant. It exists because the elephant is on the couch. Thus, the dent in the couch owes its existence to the elephant. We would say of this relationship of elephant causing the dent, “the elephant stands in ontological causation to the dent”- in other words the dent exists because the elephant is causing it.

However, the elephant did not create the dent at any particular time. The elephant did not walk over to an undented couch cushion and sit on it, causing the dent, but rather the couch and the elephant were magically created at the same moment. Thus we would say of the relationship between elephant and dent in the couch that the elephant

does not stand in *temporal causation* to the dent. It didn't create it at some point in time, but rather it *causes* the dent to be without *having caused* the dent to come into being at a particular time by sitting.

When did the elephant sit? He didn't. But the fact that he is sitting is what is causing the dent.

So, **when did God create the universe? WHEN did God create TIME?** It's an unanswerable question, but not because the idea of God creating the universe is self contradictory. It's unanswerable because the author is not inside our story until he writes himself into it. God makes the elephant of our universe at the same moment as the couch of time. This is no problem for God, as he stands outside of our time in what we call Eternity. God can cause time to exist without there being a time in our history when he made the effect.

But for the atheist, when did the Big Bang happen? THAT, my friends, is an unanswerable question because it is literally asking, "When did the cause of the universe make time?" And this time, there is no Shakespeare outside of the story to write the first line. Where atheists fail to understand the distinction is when they try to think of God as a physical part of this universe which we are claiming also made the universe. They think we mean by God "Prof. Albus Dumbledore," when we actually mean something more like "JK Rowling." He's not just the greatest character in the story- he's the author.

There is a wider parallel between the two stories. Both the Genesis Creation and the Big Bang tell the sudden creation of the universe- all of time, space, matter and energy. Both resulted in this present, fine tuned universe with its laws of physics governing all matter. Both stories call upon us to believe in a beginning we cannot witness, where in the present laws of physics cannot apply, where the known laws of science and nature cannot describe what is happening, in part because those laws are coming into being. Both ask us to believe that there was a first moment of time and not an infinite past.

In short, both stories tell us that some finite time ago, an amazing miracle happened that cannot be described or explained by science, where in time, space, matter and energy all came into being with precise laws of physics to govern the result. The important difference between the two is that the Genesis creation story has a creator- a cause that stands outside of the effect- a miracle worker to explain the miracle- an eternal creator to explain the creation of time- and a brilliant designer to account for the

fine tuning of the laws of physics. The Big Bang merely has “Oops!” and “Wasn’t that lucky?”

Both the creation by God and the self-creation via Big Bang present deep questions of science and philosophy, but of the two, only creation by God is reasonable. And that’s being said by a mad man in a Tardis traveling around inside of British stories.

Conclusion: The Amazing Gospel!

In the introduction we asked the question, “Why are we Proving God? And to Who?” The who is to ourselves, so that we can have an unshakable faith built on knowledge, truth, and loving the Lord our God with all of our minds. The why is ultimately so we can lead other people to Jesus. Our purpose is not to win arguments, but to win souls. Our goal is not to defeat Atheism, but to serve our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As I have said over and over through this book, these arguments are not sufficient to defend any or every religion. No God but the one revealed in the Bible fits the requirements of being verifiable real, ontologically necessary, and ultimately knowable. These arguments for God are not a defense of anyone or anything labeled as ‘god’ but only for the one True God of scripture, who made the heavens and the earth.

I could nit pick at the various religions of the world, but my time is better spent presenting the Christian faith. First of all, I am a Christian, so it wouldn’t make much sense for me not to. Secondly, it saves a lot of time. If Christianity is true, then the other religions are wrong on those points where they disagree. I can prove one point instead of disproving a lot of others. That saves time and energy (although your mileage may vary).

Therefore, I am going to spend some time introducing you to the Christian faith, and I will start by shouting like a cheerleader! GIVE ME A G!!!!

G– God made you to have a personal relationship with Him.

O– Our sins separate us from God

S– Sin cannot be removed with good works.

P– Paying the price for sin, Jesus died and rose again

E– Everyone who trusts in Him alone has eternal life.

L– Life with Jesus starts now and lasts forever

What’s that spell? GOSPEL! It means “Good news!” *(I stole this acronym from Dare 2 Share)*

Now, if you got your theology from watching the Simpsons, you're probably asking,

"Does the Bible really teach this? Doesn't it teach that you have to obey the Ten Commandments to get into heaven? Don't you have to wear a sweater and have perfect Sunday School attendance?"

Oh, you poor misguided souls. Don't worry. I am going to show you some Bible verses that will astound you!

Here's Jesus talking about himself (The Son of God) to a religious bigwig in John chapter three, verses 16-18:

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God."

And Paul writes about it in his letter to the Romans, chapter five:

"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

"OK," you're saying, "love love love. Apparently that's all over the Bible, but what's all this about not being able to pay for our sins with good works? Isn't that what the ten commandments are for? Isn't that why we do good works? Aren't we buying the stairway to heaven?"

Read on, friends, and be AMAZED!

John 5:24 is Jesus talking about himself again;

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."

And then in John 14, verse six:

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

What is the way to God?

Jesus.

What is the truth that will save you from sin?

Jesus.

Where do we get eternal life?

Jesus.

It’s all about Jesus.

Still think you earn your salvation? Well, my man Paul has lots more to say on this subject. Check him out in Romans 3: 21-25:

“But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith.”

Paul continues to explain this in Romans chapter 11, verse 6:

“But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works; otherwise grace would no longer be grace.”

And then in Galatians 2:20 & 21 he’s all:

“I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness were through the law, then Christ died for no purpose.”

And you can be all, *OK Paul! We get it!* But he keeps going in Ephesians chapter One, verse seven:

“In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”

And before you can tell him that you seriously have it this time, the Ephesians are all, *“Wait, what?”* and you roll your eyes, but Paul is happy to keep on going in chapter two verses eight and nine:

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.”

At this point you might be thinking, *“Woah! The Bible seems to say this over and over!”*

Yeah, it does. Just do a search for the word Grace over at biblegateway.com and you'll see it pop up nearing two hundred times across the New Testament (Depending on your translations of course).

Heaven is discussed, mentioned, alluded to, and shown in all kinds of ways. Here's the important things to know: 2 Corinthians 5:1

“For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

The tent is your body. God has a plan to give you something better when you are done with this tent. THAT one will last.

Ephesians 2: 4-6 says this: **“God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.”**

See? Our heavenly home is so secure through Jesus Christ, Paul talks about it in the past tense. We were SEATED with Him. We already have our eternal life and our eternal home. We're just waiting to catch the bus to heaven. The only downside is, the bus is death- literally. But once you get there, you won't mind. Besides, how bad is a bus ride when you are going home? Not too bad at all. Even if the bus smells funny and

it's a long, bumpy ride, you should look forward to catching that bus. There is going to be one sweet welcome home party when you get there.

Not saved? No problem.

It's as easy as A B C.

Accept that you are a sinner in need of God's Grace.

Believe that Jesus died for your sins and paid for them all, making you right with God- and rose from death.

Confess your faith. (I suggest using Baptism AND your mouth, since the Bible tells us to do both.)

First, confess this to God in prayer. Prayer is nothing real fancy- it's talking to God. You don't have to know any particular religious words. Just come to your creator and king and tell Him you accept, you believe, and you confess it to be true.

Commit yourself to loving and serving God for the rest of your days, and he will never leave you or abandon you. Now, like a marriage, you haven't reached the finish line once you make this commitment-you have taken your first steps into a larger world. You are saved, but that is just the beginning of a new and eternal life. You're a child of God! You have an eternal salvation and a home in heaven. God almighty has adopted you into His family, so love your Daddy and make Him proud!

And whenever our buses come for us, I'll be seeing you in heaven. Between now and then, let someone else know that Jesus loves them.

The Arguments Covered in this Book

This book does not cover all of the possible logical arguments for the existence of God. And it should go without saying that it comes nowhere close to presenting all of the scientific evidence for design by God. Below are the arguments presented in this book, summarised into concise formulas.

The Argument from Existence *

God is the best explanation why anything at all exists.

We can summarize this reasoning as follows:

1. Every contingent thing has an explanation of its existence.
2. If the universe has an explanation of its existence, that explanation is a transcendent, personal being.
3. The universe is a contingent thing.
4. Therefore, the universe has an explanation of its existence.
5. Therefore, the explanation of the universe is a transcendent, personal being.

– which is what everybody means by ‘God’.

The Argument from Efficient Causality #

Some things cause other things to be (to begin to be, to continue to be, or both).

Everything that exists stands in need of being caused to exist.

If there is no Uncaused Being, no God, then nothing could exist right now.

So there must be something uncaused, something on which all things that need an efficient cause of being are dependent.

Therefore there must exist a God: an Uncaused Being who does not have to receive existence like us—and like every other link in the chain of receivers.

The Argument from Time and Contingency #

Things come into being and go out of being.

1. Whatever comes into being or goes out of being does not have to be; nonbeing is a real possibility.

2. If nothing has to be (that is, that nonbeing is a real possibility for everything) then right now nothing would exist. For
3. If the universe began to exist, then all being must trace its origin to some past moment before which there existed—literally—nothing at all. But
4. From nothing nothing comes. So
5. The universe could not have begun.

So

6. There must exist something which has to exist, which cannot not exist. This sort of being is called necessary.
7. This absolutely necessary being is God.

The Design Argument

1. The universe shows an unlikely combination of factors necessary for human life, both in the relationships between the sizes and distances of bodies in the solar system, as well as the fundamental constants and quantities of physics and chemistry
2. Life is composed of irreducibly complex bio machinery and is guided by information stored in genetic material, all of which shows the hallmarks of language
3. Either this intelligible order, irreducible complexity and information is the product of chance or of intelligent design.
4. We know from probability and the sciences that it cannot be chance.
5. Therefore the universe is the product of intelligent design.
6. Design comes only from a mind, a designer.
7. Therefore the universe is the product of an intelligent Designer.

And in combination with other arguments, we know that the designer of the universe must be God.

The Kalam Argument

*(aka the Kalam Cosmological Argument, aka the Cosmological argument) ***

The Kalam Cosmological Argument

Based on the Beginning of the Universe

Here's a different version of the cosmological argument, which I have called the kalam cosmological argument in honor of its medieval Muslim proponents (kalam is the Arabic word for theology):

1. Everything that begins to exist has a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

Once we reach the conclusion that the universe has a cause, we can then analyze what properties such a cause must have and assess its theological significance.

The Cosmological Argument from Contingency

The cosmological argument comes in a variety of forms. Here's a simple version of the famous version from contingency:

1. Everything that exists has an explanation of its existence, either in the necessity of its own nature or in an external cause.
2. If the universe has an explanation of its existence, that explanation is God.
3. The universe exists.
4. Therefore, the universe has an explanation of its existence (from 1, 3).
5. Therefore, the explanation of the universe's existence is God (from 2, 4).

The Argument from Fine Tuning *

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

Thus, the fine-tuning of the universe constitutes evidence for a cosmic Designer.

The Argument from Contingency #

1. If something exists, there must exist what it takes for that thing to exist.

2. The universe—the collection of beings in space and time—exists.
3. Therefore, there must exist what it takes for the universe to exist.
4. What it takes for the universe to exist cannot exist within the universe or be bounded by space and time.
5. Therefore, what it takes for the universe to exist must transcend both space and time.

In this book I have summarized this argument as follows:

1. The universe is Time, Space, Energy, and Matter.
2. Nothing can cause itself or be its own explanation
3. Thus, to explain why there is a universe- to explain why there is time, space, energy and matter- we need a cause which is timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial.
4. The conclusion of the Argument from Design shows us that the cause must also be comprehensively intelligent
5. Intelligence is indication of a mind; of personhood
6. Thus the cause of the universe is a personal cause who is timeless, space-less, tremendously powerful, and immaterial.
7. This cause must be the God of the Bible

The Ontological Argument#

Anselm's Version

1. It is greater for a thing to exist in the mind and in reality than in the mind alone.
2. "God" means "that than which a greater cannot be thought."
3. Suppose that God exists in the mind but not in reality.
4. Then a greater than God could be thought (namely, a being that has all the qualities our thought of God has plus real existence).
5. But this is impossible, for God is "that than which a greater cannot be thought."
6. Therefore God exists in the mind and in reality.

Editor's note: My version of this argument in this book is derived from this original version as well as following versions such as the modal version (Charles Hartshorne and Norman Malcolm) and the addition of understanding from the Argument from Contingency which, like Anselm's Ontological Argument, is ontological.

The Moral Argument *

God is the best explanation of objective moral values and duties.

1. Objective moral values and duties exist.
2. But if God did not exist, objective moral values and duties would not exist.
3. Therefore, God exists.

The Argument from Conscience #

Where did conscience get such an absolute authority—an authority admitted even by the moral subjectivist and relativist? There are only four possibilities.

1. From something less than me (nature)
2. From me (individual)
3. From others equal to me (society)
4. From something above me (God)

The only source of absolute moral obligation left is something superior to me. This binds my will, morally, with rightful demands for complete obedience.

Thus God is the only adequate source and ground for the absolute moral obligation we all feel to obey our conscience. Conscience is thus explainable only as the voice of God in the soul.

Editor's Note: In this book I combined this argument with the Moral Argument, as well as focused on the need to define "goodness" as "Godliness," meaning that the character and nature of God himself is the standard of goodness.

Sources for the above come from the following with limited alteration intended for brevity.

* William Lane Craig from "Does God Exist?"

<https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/popular-writings/existence-nature-of-god/does-god-exist1/>

** William Lane Craig from “The New Atheism and Five Arguments for God”

<https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/popular-writings/existence-nature-of-god/the-new-atheism-and-five-arguments-for-god/>

Peter Kreeft from Twenty Arguments God's Existence

https://www.peterkreeft.com/topics-more/20_arguments-gods-existence.htm#3

Thanks for Reading!

And remember:

Jesus Loves You!

