

Does God Exist?

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Does God exist? It is life's ultimate question. Because the answer to that question would fundamentally change your relationships, your choices, your lifestyle, and so much more. Every man, woman, and child will have to this question in their lifetime. It could be a simple answer like "Yes, No, I don't know" to more complex answers like "I lack a belief in gods", "How can a God exist when there is so much evil in the world?", or "I believe in the flying spaghetti monster." Their answer will determine how they live.

1.0 Opening Statements

- 1.1 As a Christian, our goal is not to win an argument, but rather win an avenue to sharing the Gospel.
- 1.2 As a Christian, we are not the agent of conviction, the Holy Spirit convicts the heart of the unbeliever.
- 1.3 As a Christian, our goal is not to prove that God exists, but to speak the truth in love.

2.0 What is Truth?

- 2.1 Truth is that which corresponds to reality. Truth is what is self-evident. (Donald Trump is the current President of the United States.)
- 2.2 At their heart of hearts, I believe all people want to know what is true. (Doctor, tell me the truth.)
- 2.3 The problem is they want the truth that is easiest to swallow. (Donald Trump is the current President of the United States.)

Understand people struggle to accept that an all-powerful, all-holy, all-perfect God exists for it would mean they would have to change—a biblical word would be repent.

God exists. Is that statement *true*? It is if, in fact, it matches reality.

3.0 TRUTH—Everyone believes in God.

Romans 1:20–23 KJV 1900

²⁰ For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: ²¹

Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²² Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, ²³ And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

***Those who claim to lack a belief in god or gods are suppressing the truth they already know. Consider what the Psalmist says...

Psalm 14:1 KJV 1900

¹ The fool hath said in his heart, *There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, There is none that doeth good.*

Why is he a fool? Because he is denying what is true—what is self-evident. Remember that even in the days of Jesus, people denied that He was God despite the many miracles He did. With all that we see in this world, it should be self-evident that God exists. Now, a belief in God alone is not salvific belief. For example, James tells us...

James 2:19 KJV 1900

¹⁹ Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Ephesians 2:8–9 KJV 1900

⁸ For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: ⁹ Not of works, lest any man should boast.

So then why do people suppress the truth of God? The answer is sorrowfully simple, they love their sin and don't want to give it up.

4.0 Giving an answer to the Question “Does God Exist?”

I cannot simply say, “God exists” drop the mic and walk away. Saying something doesn't justify it. I need to provide a **meaningful reason that corresponds with reality** for what I believe. That almost sounds biblical doesn't it?

1 Peter 3:15 KJV 1900

¹⁵ But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

- **apologia = defense (legal)** n. — a verbal defense attempting to prove some act or belief to be **reasonable, necessary, or right**; especially occurring in a court of law.
- Our goal is to show that Christianity reasonable accounts for all our universe

As Christians, we understand that the belief that God exists is ultimately a matter of a faith. Yet, it doesn't negate our moral obligation to give a reasonable defense for God's existence. So let's make that our goal to show the atheist or skeptic that believing God exists is 1) reasonable, 2) necessary, and 3) right.

5.0 Believing God exists is reasonable.

5.1 The Kalam Cosmological Argument

PREMISE #1 — Whatever begins to exist has a cause. (**FOCUS IS ON TIME**)

PREMISE #2 — The universe began to exist.

- Science provides us with evidence that the universe had a beginning—making the universe not eternal.
- **2ND LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS** — our universe is running out of usable energy (iPhone battery) — something eternal doesn't have an ending
- **EXPANDING UNIVERSE** — the universe is expanding from a point of beginning — something eternal doesn't have a beginning

Isaiah 45:12 KJV 1900

¹² I have made the earth, And created man upon it: I, *even* my hands, have stretched out the heavens, And all their host have I commanded.

Job 9:8–10 KJV 1900

⁸ Which alone spreadeth out the heavens, And treadeth upon the waves of the sea. ⁹ Which maketh Arcturus, Orion, And Pleiades, and the chambers of the south. ¹⁰ Which doeth great things past finding out; Yea, and wonders without number.

CONCLUSION — Therefore, the universe has a cause.

5.2. If we follow the argument, it means whatever caused the universe must not be like the universe. Otherwise it would be part of the universe. Therefore, it must be...

- all-powerful
- timeless (eternal)
- spaceless
- immaterial
- It must be uncaused. That uncaused cause is God.

Hebrews 3:4 KJV 1900

⁴ For every house is builded by some *man*; but he that built all things *is* God.

TRANSITION: Not only is believing God exists is reasonable...

6.0 Believing God exists is necessary to account for moral absolutes, fine-tuning of the universe, uniformity of nature, rationality, and the laws of logic.

6.1 The Moral Argument

ASK: How do you account for the objective moral values that we find in all cultures, in all times (i.e. child abuse, stealing, rape, murder, etc.)?

PREMISE #1 — *If God does not exist, objective moral values do not exist.*

PREMISE #2 — *Objective moral values do exist.*

CONCLUSION — *Therefore, God exists.*

Romans 2:15 KJV 1900

¹⁵ Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

C. S. Lewis said: *“Human beings, all over the earth, have this curious idea that they ought to behave in a certain way, and cannot really get rid of it.”*

6.1 The Teleological Argument

ASK: How do you account for fine-tuning of the universe—that the universe is designed for life?

PREMISE #1 — *Every complex design has a designer.*

PREMISE #2 — *We find complex designs in our universe.* (Consider our own DNA—a molecule carrying the genetic instructions used in the growth, development, functioning and reproduction of all known living organisms and many viruses).

CONCLUSION — *Therefore, the universe has a designer.*

The suggestion that given enough time, our universe could happen is absurd. All more time would do is cause more chaos.

6.2 Uniformity of Nature (that the course of nature continues uniformly the same)

ASK: How does one who does not believe God exists account for the uniformity of nature?

- We live in an universe—a single and orderly system. We do not live in a multiverse—“a disunified, totally fragmented, and random assortment of disconnected and unconnectable facts.” (*Answers In Genesis: Defending the Faith: Approaching World Religions, Gentry 1/6/17*)
- The atheist or skeptic will assert that physical laws are properties of matter—thus, they are subject to change depending on how the matter changes, but does that line up with what we see in our universe?
- Everyone presupposes the uniformity of nature including the atheist or Bible skeptic. (Buy winter clothes; use umbrellas)

Daniel 2:21 KJV 1900

²¹ And he changeth the times and the seasons: He removeth kings, and setteth up kings: He giveth wisdom unto the wise, And knowledge to them that know understanding:

6.3 The Laws of Logic

ASK: How does one who does not believe God exists account for the laws of logic?

- The law of identity: P is P. (ex. “It is raining.” if it is raining is true, then the statement is true).
- The law of noncontradiction: P is not non-P. (ex. “It is raining” cannot be both true and false).
- The law of the excluded middle: Either P or non-P. (“It is raining” is either true or false; there is no other alternative).

These laws corresponds to reality—that is they are self-evident. I know them to be true. Those who deny these laws have to use them to establish their denials! Their own statements become self-refuting. Consider that the atheist states ***truth and logic are relative conventions (voted on or agreed principles)***. In that position, they use logic, specifically the law of identity!

The source of logic is God.

John 14:6 KJV 1900

⁶ Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

Isaiah 1:18 KJV 1900

¹⁸ Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; Though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

6.4 Rationality

ASK: How does one who does not believe God exists account for rationality?

- The laws of logic are what make up rational arguments.

- If the laws of logic were based on just *voted on or agreed principles*, how then could one have a rational argument?
- For the atheist or skeptic, they use the laws of logic and rationality to establish their worldview.

Hebrews 1:3 KJV 1900

³ Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

6.5 In the end, Atheists borrow from the Christian worldview.

The atheist or skeptic borrows from the Christian worldview because their own atheistic worldview lacks the means to support it. Every atheist or skeptic will use moral absolutes, uniformity of nature, rationality, and the laws of logic. Although, they will deny it.

*****Remember our goal is not to win an argument, but to speak truth in love that the Holy Spirit might convict their darkened heart.**

TRANSITION: We see that believing God exists is reasonable and that believing God exists is necessary to account for moral absolutes, uniformity of nature, rationality, and the laws of logic. **It begs the question for the Christian how do we know our God is the right God?**

7.0 Believing God exists makes sense of the world we live in.

Atheists often want evidence or proof of God. However, the burden of proof is on the atheist to show the evidence for their lack of belief in god. We can account for moral absolutes, the fine-tuning of the universe, uniformity of nature, etc.

7.1 Where does the one who does not believe God exists end up?

- If there is no God, then life has no meaning or purpose (we are just simply star dust, primordial goop, etc. with no meaning or purpose for live for or better life to come).
- If there is no God, then everything is permitted (doesn't matter what you or I believe or how you or I live—no accountability, no right/wrong, no Judgement Day).
- If there is no God, then we don't know anything.

7.2 God's existence makes a difference!

- Because God exists, life has meaning and purpose.

Ecclesiastes 12:13 KJV 1900

¹³ Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this *is* the whole *duty* of man.

- Because God exists, it matters how you live.

Ecclesiastes 12:14 KJV 1900

¹⁴ For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

- Because God exists, we know we have hope.

Revelation 21:4 KJV 1900

⁴ And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Conclusion

Remember, the question of the existence of God is fundamental to understanding our life and the world we live in. We cannot answer any other questions until we answer the question “Does God exist?”