

Does God Exist?

Main idea: There's good reason to believe God exists.

I. Intro: Promote conference / Promote book

II. Chris / Andy Story part 1

III. Does God Exist: 3 Myths

a. Myth #1: The Conflict Thesis

- i. 19th century invention: John Draper & Andrew White
- ii. Currently, no historian considers it valid.

James Walsh, a doctor and contemporary of White, published his response to the conflict thesis in 1908 saying, "The story of the supposed opposition of the Church and the Popes and the ecclesiastical authorities to science in any of its branches, is founded entirely on mistaken notions. Most of it is quite imaginary...Only those who know nothing about the history of medicine and of science continue to harbor it. That Dr. White's book, contradicted as it is so directly by all serious histories of medicine and of science, should have been read by so many thousands in this country...only shows how easily even supposedly educated men may be led to follow their prejudices rather than their mental faculties."

- iii. They also made up the flat earth idea...

In the top echelons of science, we find that this simply isn't the case. Analysis of Nobel Prize winners shows that, between the years 1901 and 2000, Christians won 74.0% of the prizes in chemistry, 65.3% in physics, and 64.3% in medicine. In contrast, Atheists, Agnostics, and Freethinkers won just 7.1%, 4.8%, and 8.9%

b. Myth #2: Blind Faith

- i. Faith is trusting what you have good reason to believe is true.
 1. Beyond all reasonable doubt
 2. Facts, experience & Doing

c. Myth #3: Seeing Science

- i. Science got it's start from theology
- ii. Christians believe that God has revealed himself in two books – the book of His words (the Bible) and the book of His works (nature).
- iii. Science is a form of Christian worship:
 1. Johannes Kepler (1571-1630) Science was an attempt to "think God's thoughts after him."

iv. Can I believe?

1. My friend Ben – can you believe? (Blinded by Science)

v. Romans 1:19 For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. 20 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.

IV. Evidence from the Telescope & Microscope:

a. Hubble Extreme Deep Field:

i. Ten years, over 2,000 images. What did they find? 5,500 new galaxies that had never been seen before. Scientists now estimate that the observable universe contains 100-200 billion galaxies—and that's just the observable universe!

ii. Psalm 19:1-2 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

b. Where did it all come from?

i. A Roman Catholic priest and scientist named Georges Lemaître. In 1927, he became the first to propose the theory of an expanding universe, a theory that would later be adopted universally among scientists and coined the Big Bang.

c. The Kalam Cosmological Argument:

i. Popularized by William Lane Craig, puts the problem of the origin of the universe like this:

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

ii. William Lane Craig concludes from the evidence cited above that there is a "necessary, uncaused, timeless, spaceless, immaterial personal Creator of the universe.

V. Evidence from the Microscope:

Ps. 139: 14 I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

a. Human Genome Project: 1990 – 2003 Lead by Francis Collins

b. Here's what we know:

i. DNA is a code that is over three billion letters long

- ii. DNA molecule is only two nanometers, while the average diameter of a human hair is around 100,000 nanometers.
- iii. It has been calculated that a single teaspoon could hold one strand of DNA from every species that has ever existed and still have room for the information from every book that has ever been written!
- iv. If your DNA were an instruction manual, it would be approximately 1,000,000 pages long, single-spaced in 12-point font.
- v. 150–3,000 amino acids - 250–3,000 proteins must be organized in order to form a living cell—the very simplest form of life on earth.

VI. I am more than code: I know that full well:

- a. What am I? Defined by purpose (Watch analogy).
- b. I was created to know and be known

VII. Chris Story ending:

- a. Created to understand facts, experience and Tacit Knowledge
- b. This is the great commission...