

Does God Exist?

Introduction:

- A. When Halley's comet returned from the deep recesses of space in 1986 to once again circle the sun and be visible on earth, scientists were able to predict precisely where it would go and when it would be there. The British astronomer Sir Edmond Halley observed this comet in 1682, and based on the times of similar sightings in past centuries, correctly predicted it would return in 1758. The comet returns to view about once every 75 years. In the eighteenth century astronomers were able to work out a complex formula to accurately predict the orbits of comets. What does this demonstrate about the nature of the universe?
- B. A boy in one of our Bible classes asked his teacher how we know God exists. Could you answer his question? - Psalm 19:1
- C. Does God exist?
- I. It is a matter of faith.
 - A. I cannot prove by the scientific method (observation and experimentation) that God exists.
 - B. But neither can the atheist prove by the scientific method He does not exist.
 - C. Why doesn't God just come down and show Himself to us?
 - 1. Once He did. - Exodus 19:16-19
 - 2. The people begged God not to appear any more to them. - Exodus 20:18-21
 - 3. Less than two months later they forsook God. - Exodus 32:1-6
 - 4. It is no different for us. - Luke 16:27-31
 - D. God wants us to accept Him by faith. - Hebrews 11:6
 - E. This means we must have conviction and trust about things we do not see based on evidence. - Hebrews 11:1-3; e.g., Do you believe Columbus discovered America?
- II. Is there sufficient evidence to cause a reasonable, honest person to believe God exists?
 - A. First Argument
 - 1. Consider as evidence some of the most basic laws of science.
 - a. The Law of Causality: The first principle of science is the Law of Causality (Neal D. Buffaloe and J.B. Throneberry, **Concepts of Biology**. 6) In essence, it states there must be an adequate cause for every effect.
 - b. The First Law of Thermodynamics: This great principle “states that energy can neither be created nor destroyed but can be changed in form.” (Ibid, 76)
 - c. The Second Law of Thermodynamics: The Second Law *holds that energy tends to dissipate itself* In other words, the second law relates energy changes in a system to the organization of that system. Placed in this context, it states that there is an increase in **entropy** (disorder or randomness) - that is, a decrease in organization. Since useful energy is organized energy, an increase in entropy means a decrease in useful energy. (Ibid, 77)
 - 2. Think!
 - a. Either the material universe does exist, or it does not exist.
 - b. Either the material universe (the summation of all physical effects) has always existed or it had a beginning.

- c. If the universe had existed forever, all usable energy would have been gone in the ageless past.
- d. either mindless energy is the uncaused first cause, or there must be a supernatural (outside the realm of nature) uncaused First Cause.
- e. Since energy cannot be infinitely old (Second Law), it cannot be the Uncaused First Cause.
- f. There must be a supernatural Uncaused First Cause.

B. Second Argument:

- 1. Order in Diversity: Our universe has amazing order in incomprehensible complexity. The laws of physics apply in all parts of the universe.
- 2. Energy cannot be the Uncaused First Cause, else the universe would be random, cold, lifeless chaos.
- 3. There must be a supernatural Uncaused First Cause.

C. Third Argument: The Law of Biogenesis: “Thus far, life seems to come only from prior life in an unbroken chain...” (Ibid. 114)

- 1. Either life exists on earth, or it does not.
- 2. Either life has always existed, or it had a beginning. (Since the universe had a beginning, life on earth had a beginning.)
- 3. Either life came from natural or supernatural causes. (The Law of Biogenesis rules out natural causes.)
- 4. Therefore, life came from a supernatural Cause.

D. What kind of a supernatural Uncaused First Cause?

- 1. infinitely powerful
- 2. infinitely intelligent
- 3. eternal existence
- 4. These are the divine attributes, the characteristics that belong to God alone. - Romans 1:20

III. Yes, the evidence is conclusive. - Romans 1:18-23; Psalm 14:1

Conclusion:

- A. What are the chances of a random explosion in a print shop producing all 30 volumes in order of the **Encyclopaedia Britannica**? There is far less chance of a “Big Bang” producing the infinitely complex yet perfectly orderly universe.
- B. Without a doubt, “The heavens declare the glory of God.”