

God Is!

I. Introduction

- A. Some object to arguing the matter at all: even some theists (believers in God) feel that traditional arguments need to be downgraded in importance or entirely omitted.
 - 1. Some border on claiming miraculous revelation.
 - 2. This attitude is exceedingly dangerous. Why?
- B. The fact that faith may spring from internal attitudes does not destroy the validity of the arguments that are introduced.
- C. The Bible does not try to prove the existence of God: it takes it for granted.
 - 1. The problem of Bible times was belief in too many gods, not unbelief.
 - 2. The claim of the entire Bible to be from God is based upon the existence of God.
 - 3. Revelation is the only reasonable explanation of how the idea of God originated. The only alternative, forces resident in matter, is unreasonable, for it views God as material and limited.

II. Arguments from Design

- A. The existence of orderliness in the way the universe functions shows design.
 - 1. Earth's rotation
 - 2. Earth's temperature
 - 3. Earth's sun
 - 4. Accuracy of movement in heavenly bodies and earth
 - 5. Earth fitted for life, not other planets
- B. Interdependence in plant and animal world: the survival of each is dependent upon what the other can supply.
- C. Human Body: the intricate workings, the obvious system and order, the complementary aspects of the body
- D. Design proves a designer who is capable to perform the task.
 - 1. The creation exhibits the power of God. Rom. 1:20
 - 2. The human mind recoils at the idea that this order came about by chance.
 - 3. The existence of God is more credible than an accidental universe.
- E. Rebuttals offered to this argument
 - 1. Disorder of the world
 - 2. Evolution
 - 3. Assumes an uncaused first cause (God): This point applies equally to the other position, the eternity of matter. Which is more reasonable?

III. Argument from the Universal Characteristics of Mankind

- A. Mankind's Tendency to be Religious — Some concept of God is nearly universal.
- B. Mankind's Basic Moral Concepts
 - 1. An idea of "right"
 - 2. An idea of "duty"

3. An idea of "honesty"
- C. Moral order argues for a Personal Creator & Governor.

IV. Argument from Beauty

- A. The Beauty of the Natural World
 1. Sight
 2. Sound
- B. The Response of Man to the Beauty in Nature

The Folly of Atheism

1. It assumes to know all that is knowable in order to state dogmatically that there is no God.
2. It arrogantly rejects the one universal belief of mankind, the existence of a Supreme Being.
3. It makes the world and man, with all of their evident design, the products of pure chance.
4. It means that intelligent men evolved from non-intelligent matter and forces.
5. It demands the conclusion that man's character is irrelevant since there is no life after death.
6. It leaves man hopeless and miserable in the present world.
7. Is it any wonder that the psalmist declared, "The fool hath said in his heart, "There is no God"? (Psalm 14:1).

Some Causes of Atheism

1. Our Materialistic environment (standards for success, education)
2. Prejudice - Dishonesty
3. The Misuse of Science (can't explain faith or provide moral standards)
4. Human Philosophy (exalting earthly wisdom, for it is limited in its knowledge and vision)
5. The Divided State of Professed "Christians"
6. The Evils of the World (death, sickness, oppression, etc.)
7. Ignorance of Bible Teaching (much unknown and misunderstood)
8. Moral Necessity: Humans are made so that they must live by conscience or change the standard of right and wrong. It is morally impossible to continue believing the Bible and to live by another standard. In this way many force themselves into a corner, morally speaking, so that they have to renounce God in order to practice what they want to do.

Information Sheet for Evidences

Lesson 1: God Is!

Passages: Gen. 1:1; Psm. 19:1-6; Isa. 48:3; Acts 14:17; Rom. 1:20

Life on earth no accident - design and purpose govern it; everything just right

- Earth weighs 6 sextillion, 570 quintillion tons
- Travels over 292 million miles yearly w/o losing even 1/1,000 of a second
- Rotates on its axis about approx. every 24 hours at 1,000 mph at the equator, giving us our days and nights
- Tilting on its axis 23.5 degrees for our seasons and controlling tides
- Revolves around the sun in a year at 66,000 mph and 1,600,000 miles per day, giving us our years
- Earth's temperature - 93 million miles from sun just right because of sun's temperature, no freezing or roasting because of extreme temperatures
- Sun's surface temperature - 12,000 degrees F., just the right distance & radiation
- Moon located just right distance from earth, o tides do not overwhelm the continents twice a day (high tides)
- Earth's crust right thickness so adequate oxygen is available for animal life
- Ocean depths just right so carbon dioxide and oxygen adequately available for plant life
- Atmosphere of earth right depth so that meteors shooting through space burn up before setting fires on earth
- Earth's movements, location, tilt, atmosphere, and crust; sun's and moon's locations; ocean depth all manifest design, which demands a Designer!

To reason that we live in a world without Supreme Intelligence/God is to state an absurdity. It assumes that something came from nothing without mind to guide the process.