

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander." (1Pt 3:15-16)

God exists

... and it matters more than anything.

God Exists

- 1. Why people reject God (1Cor 1:18-25).
- 2. Cosmological Argument (John 1:1-5).
- 3. Moral Argument (Rom 2:14-16).
- 4. God's existence matters ().

1. Why people reject God.

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is <u>folly to those who are</u> <u>perishing</u>, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God ... ²² For Jews <u>demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom</u>, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles ... (1Cor 1:18-25; cf Ps 14).

Thou shalt not commit logical fallacies.

- i. Ad hominem Attacking the arguer not the argument.
- ii. Straw Man Creating/attaching a misrepresentation.
- iii. Guilt By Association Wacky religions do not invalidate all religious claims.
- iv. Genetic Fallacy Attempts to invalidate a proposition by explaining the proposition's origin.

2. Cosmological Argument (Jn 1:1-5)

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." (John 1:1-5; cf. Gen 1; Rom 1:20).

Cosmological Argument

Premise 1: Whatever begins to exist has a cause.

- i. Something cannot come from nothing.
- ii. Otherwise, anything/everything could come from nothing.
- iii. Experience and scientific evidence confirm premise 1.

Cosmological Argument

Premise 1: Whatever begins to exist has a cause.

Premise 2: The universe began to exist.

- i. An actually infinite number of past events cannot exist.
- ii. A series formed successively cannot be actually infinite.
- iii. Expansion of the universe
- iv. Thermodynamics.

Cosmological Argument

Premise 1: Whatever begins to exist has a cause.

Premise 2: The universe began to exist.

Therefore: The universe has a cause.

This cause is an uncaused, timeless, spaceless, immaterial,

powerful personal creator. (GOD)

3. Moral Argument (Rom 2:14-16).

¹⁴ For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, <u>by nature do what the law requires</u>, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. ¹⁵ They show that the work of <u>the law is written on their hearts</u>, while their conscience also bears witness, and their conflicting thoughts accuse or even excuse them ¹⁶ on that day when, according to my gospel, God judges the secrets of men by Christ Jesus. (Rom 2:14-16; Isa 5:20; 2Co 5:10).

The Moral Argument for God.

Premise 1: If God does not exist, objective moral values and duties do not exist.

- i. Without God morality is illusive.
- ii. Atheists being good people demonstrates the existence of God, not their belief in God.
- iii. Humanism fails to explain why moral properties attach to certain states of affairs.

The Moral Argument for God.

Premise 1: If God does not exist, objective moral values and duties do not exist.

Premise 2: Objective moral values and duties do exist: Our moral experience reveals this.

The Moral Argument for God.

Premise 1: If God does not exist, objective moral values and duties do not exist.

Premise 2: Objective moral values and duties do exist.

Therefore: God exists.

4. God's existence matters.

²³ Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD." (Jer 9:23-24).

God's existence provides:

- i. Meaning and significance to our lives.
- ii. Purpose and reason for our lives.
- iii. Morality and values to guide our lives.

The uncaused, timeless, spaceless, immaterial, powerful personal creator that wrote objective moral values and duties on your heart, wants a relationship with you.

He sent Jesus to secure that relationship.