

Does God Exist?

The second step in our Apologetic Goal is to address the question: "Does God
"Does God exist?"

Why not use **Scripture** to prove that God exists?

- ① When trying to show an unbeliever that God exists, we must understand that their worldview may not accept the Bible as a valuable source of information. To a person who does not trust Bible as an accurate source of truth, using the Bible would be as useful as using a fortune cookie.

Examples Paul used to prove God's existence:

Acts 14:5-18

Paul uses NATURE (v.18)

Acts 17:22-34

Paul uses POETRY (v.28)

Acts 17:1-4

Paul uses the OT to explain
Messiah

When witnessing, the Gospel message does not change, but how we present the Gospel can

RWT

R E A L
W O R L D
T H E O L O G Y

Syllogisms - **logical** proofs

It's like a logic recipe:

Premise 1: a general truth.

Premise 2: a specific truth.

Conclusion: what must be true if both premises are true.

Classic Example:

Premise 1: All humans are mortal.

Premise 2: Michael is a human.

Conclusion: Michael is mortal.

God's existence can be shown by the following three **proofs**:

1

First-cause proof

God must be the first-cause of the world

2

Design proof

Shows God is intelligent and purposeful

3

Moral proof

Demonstrates God is good and moral

The FIRST-CAUSE PROOF: God must be the first-cause of the universe

How did the universe get here? Did it always exist? Was it put here by someone or something?

The FIRST-CAUSE PROOF seeks to show the universe is not eternal, nor could it have arrived under its own power.

Whatever had a beginning had a cause

The universe had a beginning

Therefore the universe had a cause

WHAT EVER HAD A **BEGINNING** HAD A CAUSE:

The principle of causality states that every effect has a cause. Things do not do not come into existence by themselves!

THE UNIVERSE HAD A BEGINNING:

The options to how something comes into existence:

1. **Uncaused** – impossible, it violates the principle of causality
2. **Self-caused** – impossible because something cannot create itself!
3. **Caused** by someone or something else – the only reasonable explanation!

For centuries, many believed the universe was eternal, having always existed and having no end. In 1927, Edwin Hubble found that galaxies are **moving away** from us at high speeds. This is called the EXPANDING UNIVERSE. This caused many to switch to the belief that the universe had a cause.

What is harder to believe? The universe came **FROM nothing** and **BY nothing** (atheist); or it was created from nothing and by **someone**! Christians have an explanation for the first cause of the universe.

THEREFORE, THE UNIVERSE HAD A CAUSE.

There is good reason to believe that the universe **began** to exist. Since the universe **began** to exist, it must have a **cause**. We call this cause "GOD."

THE DESIGN PROOF

Now that we have shown there is a first cause to the universe (GOD), it is important to show that this first cause (GOD) is both INTELLIGENT and PURPOSEFUL.

Every design had a designer

The universe has a design

Therefore, the universe had a designer

EVERY DESIGN HAS A DESIGNER

This should be easy to demonstrate to any person. It is obvious to all that ordered, intelligent designs do not come from natural causes.

A note written in the sand is not created by ocean waves.

THE UNIVERSE HAS DESIGN

How can we prove the universe has a designer, and it is not just the result of **natural events**? By observing the universe, we find that it is **complex** and **ordered**.



Single cell animals

Contain as much information inside of them to fill 1.5K - 223M pages of standard paper



Human brain capabilities

More sophisticated than computers, even AI...



Eyeball focusing

More advanced than the best cameras

ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE

The idea that the universe exhibits elements of design specifically for the purpose of containing intelligent beings.

OXYGEN

Too much and plants would burn up too easily, too little and we couldn't breathe

SEISMIC ACTIVITY

If greater, life forms would be destroyed. If less, nutrients on ocean floor would not be recycled.

MAGNETIC FIELD

Protects Earth from solar wind and cosmic radiation. Without it, atmosphere would erode (like Mars), making life on the surface impossible.

OTHER FACTORS

GRAVITY/MOON DISTANCE, AXIAL TILT, THICKNESS OF EARTH'S CRUST

THEREFORE, THE UNIVERSE HAD A DESIGNER

- All things that show design or order had a designer or orderer.
- The universe has obvious design.
- The universe must have a designer (GOD.)

God must be intelligent to create intelligence.

The odds of a single celled animal to receive all the order it has in order to survive is 1 in 10^{40000} . That is a 10 with 40,000 zeroes behind it!

Which is harder to believe, design or chance?

THE MORAL PROOF

If there is a MORAL LAW in our hearts, there must be a moral LAW-GIVER (GOD.) A persons ability to know the difference between right and wrong in their own heart was given to them by their Creator (GOD.) God is not only INTELLIGENT, but He is also GOOD AND MORAL.

Every moral law had a moral law
law giver

There is a moral law

Therefore, it had a moral law giver
giver

EVERY MORAL LAW HAD A MORAL **LAW-GIVER**

Laws do not appear out of thin air, there are **lawyers** and **legislators** that create that create them. Rules are not just there, someone must have first set them set them up.

THERE IS A MORAL LAW

How do we know all humans know the difference between right and wrong? How do we know there is a moral law within us?

Evidence for moral law:

1. Certain things are always wrong
2. Even those who deny a moral law, still live their lives by it
3. Those who deny an absolute standard of right and wrong still value the standard
4. We often make judgments of the world getting "better" or "worse." Better than what?

THERE IS A MORAL LAW

Certain things are always wrong

Murder, lying, rape, theft, child-abuse are almost always considered wrong no matter what country or society you are in.

Those who deny moral law still live their lives by it

Theories sound good but the real world test reveals another story

THEREFORE, A MORAL LAWGIVER EXISTS

Moral law does indeed **exist within man**, and moral laws require moral law-moral law-givers.

There is a moral law-giver (**GOD**).

God is the **absolute standard** of what is right and wrong, He is the one who **wrote the law** and gave it to us!

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Gen 1:1

2

Design proof

Shows God is intelligent and purposeful

Gen 1:2–31

3

Moral proof

Demonstrates God is good and moral

Gen 2:16–3:24