



## Lesson 3: Evidence for the Existence of God

### Atheism VS. Theism – Cause & Effect – Human Morality

#### ATHEISM VS. THEISM

Atheism is the belief that there is no God. Theism is the belief that there is a God, and Agnosticism is the belief that the existence of God cannot be determined with certainty. If there is no God, one is left with a number of highly improbable and unreasonable conclusions.

- ***Matter would have to be eternal, yet become more organized with time.*** The Laws of Thermodynamics make this impossible. Matter and energy run down in a closed system over time (entropy). Time creates more disorder, not more order. To illustrate, the chance of throwing red, white and blue confetti from an airplane resulting in an American flag landing on your front yard is remote; the passing of time makes it even more unlikely.
- ***Chance would have to account for the existence of everything.*** There is no real chance that chance can account for the existence of even the simplest life forms, let alone everything that exists. In a laboratory, scientists can manipulate inert matter in a test tube to generate amino acids, the building blocks of life. They have not *created* living organisms from non-living matter. The scientific Law of Biogenesis states that they never will. But the probability of non-living matter forming even the building blocks of life by chance *in nature* is infinitely remote. It has been shown that it would take a million monkeys typing on a million computers 284,000,000,000 years to type the first line of Shakespeare's "Hamlet" by chance. The probability of blind chance accounting for even one life form on earth is many times greater, and that assumes the existence of the earth.
- ***A person would have to be God to KNOW that God does not exist.*** A person would have to be omniscient and omnipresent to be able to say with certainty that there is no God, because the thing he does not know could be the thing that proves God's existence.
- ***The problem of evil would be an illusion!*** Many Atheists claim that God cannot exist because "there is so much evil in the world." How can they declare that something is evil if there is no absolute standard of good? If God does not exist, then how can evil exist?

#### CAUSE AND EFFECT (THE COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT)

**The principle of cause and effect implies an "uncaused first cause".** Every effect must have a sufficient cause. This truth begs the question, "What caused the world to exist?" Most atheists believe that the universe began with a "big bang," but they have no empirical evidence or explanation for what caused it. Notice the following statements of two famous atheist scientists:

- "All the evidence we have says that the universe had a beginning" (Alexander Vilenken).

- “Many people do not like the idea that time has a beginning, probably because it smacks of divine intervention” (Stephen Hawking).

So, atheists admit that the universe must have had a beginning point, but they have no real explanation for the FORCE that caused it. God is the only reasonable explanation. He is the uncaused first cause. He has no beginning and no end. He is the “eternal God” (Deuteronomy 33:27).

#### THE MORAL NATURE OF MANKIND

Humans have a built-in sense of right and wrong and “fair play.” We are moral beings. Material things don’t live by a moral code. If you stub your toe on a rock, the rock does not feel guilty about hurting you. How could our morality have come from non-moral matter? Man possesses a conscience – a sense of what he *ought* to do or not do. While humans may not always agree on exactly what is right or wrong, we all agree that right and wrong exist. Surely the only reasonable explanation for this is that a Moral Being brought us into existence and coded morality into our make-up.

1. In your opinion, what is the most unreasonable thing about Atheism? Why?
  
2. What do the following Bible verses say about what caused the universe?
  - Hebrews 3:4
  
  - Hebrews 1:10
  
  - Romans 1:20
  
  - Genesis 1:1
  
  - Isaiah 66:2
  
3. If God is the “uncaused first cause,” He could not have had a beginning. Nothing would have caused Him to exist. What do the following verses say about the existence and eternal nature of God?
  - Psalm 90:2
  
  - Exodus 3:14-15
  
  - 2 Peter 3:8
  
4. According to Romans 2:14-15, did the Gentiles who were not given God’s law still have a sense of right and wrong? According to the passage, where did this sense of morality come from?