

QUESTIONS YOU HOPE THEY DON'T ASK

"Can We Really Know that God Exists?"

(Genesis 1:1)

- Introduction:
1. "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1:1).
 2. "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10).
 3. God's people have always faced skepticism, but today we are facing an aggressive form of atheism.
 4. Faith in God is not an illogical, irrational, leap in the dark, but is based upon evidence (Hebrews 11:1).
 5. Let's briefly examine some evidence for the existence of God.

I. The Framework for Deciding this Question

- A. With reference to God, there are two possible frameworks.
 1. Natural – all that we see and know has a natural explanation and is the result of the laws of science (e.g. – Francis Crick).
 2. Supernatural – all that we see and know has a supernatural explanation and is the result of activity that superseded the laws of nature.
- B. If one can rule out either of these possibilities, then there is only one choice left and their question is answered.

II. Evidence Against Naturalism?

- A. Atheists often chide believers as being uneducated and unscientific.
- B. Consider:
 1. The Law of Biogenesis – Life comes from preceding life and that of its own kind.
 2. Embryology – Ontogeny Recapitulate Phylogeny.
 3. Paleontology – "Hopeful Monster" – Punctuated Equilibrium.
 4. Homology – Similarity of Species.
 5. Eternality of Matter – 2nd Law of Thermo-dynamics (i.e. Entropy).

III. Evidence For the Supernatural – God.

- A. The Argument from Design – Teleological Argument.
 1. Every design must have a designer.
 2. Ills. of William Paley – The Watch and the Watchmaker.
 3. (Hebrews 3:4; Romans 1:20-22; Psalm 19:1; Acts 14:17; Job 12:7-9).
- B. The Moral Argument.
 1. Human beings are created with a sense of morality, or "moral oughtness."
 2. Morals are either:
 - a. The product of God and thus objective.
 - b. The product of man and thus subjective.

3. Ills of the Holocaust – U.S. Supreme Court Justice and Chief Prosecutor in the Nuremburg Trials, Robert Jackson.
- C. The Law of Cause and Effect.
1. For every effect, there has to be a preceding cause.
 2. So, where did matter come from?
 3. An infinite number of effects don't answer the question.
 4. Therefore, there must have been a "first cause."

IV. How God Has Revealed Himself

- A. "General Revelation" (i.e., the works of God, Romans 1:19-20).
- B. "Specific Revelation" (i.e., the word of God, 2 Peter 1:21; 2 Tim 3:16).

- Conclusion:
1. Friends, there is sufficient evidence to believe in the claims of Gen. 1:1.
 2. But some people's minds are closed. (Ills. Francis Crick).
 3. Atheism is a tragic philosophy to live by and a disastrous philosophy to die by.
 4. I would advise you to inform yourself and do as the apostle Paul said when he said, "Let no man deceive you with empty words (Eph 5:6).
 5. In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.