

Belief in God is a
reasonable response
to the evidence.

Recognizing (acknowledging) Design

- Improbability (complexity) plus specification equals design.
- Design demonstrates purpose, intentionality, and foresight.
- The design of all living things is based on information which is encoded in a chemical language system (DNA).
- These things (design, purpose, intentionality, foresight, information, and language) only, always come from a mind!
- How intelligent is the source (mind)? Omniscient.
- The “God Conclusion” then is a logical one – based on everything **we do know**.

Arguments for the Existence of God

The Cosmological Argument

- A) Whatever *begins* to exist has a cause.
- B) The universe *began* to exist.
- C) Therefore the universe has a cause.

The Cosmological Argument

The universe contains all

- **Time.** Therefore its cause must be independent of time. (Eternality)
- **Space.** Therefore its cause must be independent of space. (Omnipresence: no spatial limitations)
- **Matter.** Therefore its cause must be independent of matter. (Self-existence, Spirit)

(We begin to see that the cause of the universe and the God of the Bible are identical.)

The Cosmological Argument

The universe . . .

- **Contains innumerable stars.** Therefore its cause must be infinite.
- **Contains infinite power.** Therefore its cause must be omnipotent.
- **Exists according to finely tuned laws.** Therefore its cause must be omniscient and purposeful.
- **Includes life.** Therefore its cause must be living.
- **Includes humans.** Therefore its cause must be self-aware, rational, moral, loving, etc.

The Teleological Argument

- The purpose, order, and design we observe in the world calls for a designer. (Ryrie)
- (Derived from the Greek word *telos*, meaning “end” or “purpose”)
- A finely tuned universe.
- Our solar system.
- Our earth with its laws, systems, and cycles – including its relationship to our sun and moon.
- Life itself and ecological relationships.
- Human existence.

(Really, how many impossible-odds-compound-coincidences are you willing to accept?)

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

- Humans are incredibly unique. (Atheists tend to minimize this vastly understated truth.)
- How can man, a moral, intelligent, and living being, be explained apart from a moral, intelligent, and living God? (Ryrie)
- A string of strictly blind, material processes - big-bang to abiogenesis to speciation to man - with all their happy accidents would never give rise to anything immaterial, let alone man with all his qualities.

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

A string of strictly blind, material processes would never give rise to man with all his qualities.

- **Morality and Ethics:** standards of right and wrong
- **Justice:** legislating what is just, right or fair.
- **Conscience:** The awareness of a moral or ethical aspect to one's conduct together with the urge to prefer right over wrong.
- **Religion and Spirituality:** Belief in and reverence for a supernatural power or being. The innate desire to have a knowledge of or relationship with the one who is responsible for creation.

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

A string of strictly blind, material processes would never give rise to man with all his qualities.

- **Philosophy:** The desire to understand the meaning of man's existence.
- **Faith: belief, trust.** Requires self-awareness, the ability to learn, and the ability to reason.
- **Logic:** The study of the principles of reasoning.
- **Pride:** A sense of one's own proper dignity or value. (And the perception of the violation of it.)

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

A string of strictly blind, material processes would never give rise to man with all his qualities.

- **Shame:** emotion caused by a strong sense of guilt, embarrassment, unworthiness, or disgrace.
- Hatred, love, romance, envy, lust, guilt, longing, anticipation, joy, laughter, humor, good and evil.
- Symbolic, subtly nuanced, facial expressions.

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

A string of strictly blind, material processes would never give rise to man with all his qualities.

- **Symbolic language.** The ability to conceptualize and convey abstract ideas in verbal or written communication.
- **Sense of style:** A quality of imagination and individuality expressed in one's actions and tastes. (Clothing, cars, music, hair, people.)

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

A string of strictly blind, material processes would never give rise to man with all his qualities.

- **Aesthetic Faculties:** The ability to appreciate beauty.
- **Art and Music:** The ability to conceive and produce beautiful images and sounds – melody, harmony, tone and timbre, rhythm; composition and recording; instrument building; musical representation of emotions.

The Anthropological Argument

Coupled with the Moral Argument

A string of strictly blind, material processes would never give rise to man with all his qualities.

- **Design and Construction:** buildings, vehicles, machines, tools.
- **Education, Technology, Invention:** The ability to acquire and assimilate new knowledge, and to transmit that knowledge and apply it to life.
- Community; economy; commerce; banking.
- Sin and the drive to rebel against what is known to be good.

And the flip-side of the anthropological argument:

**Man, a relative wimp in this
“strictly physical” world, is
running the planet.**

The God who is real has provided satisfying explanations for these stubborn facts – in the Bible.