

Does God Exist?

Is there a God? If there is, what is he like? Does he care about us? What responsibility do we have to him? The answers we give these questions will determine the thoughts and actions of our life. No one can pass over these important questions without giving them thought.

The Bible never seeks to prove God's existence. It begins simply and powerfully, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Later on, the Psalmist declares, "The fool hath said in his heart, there is no God." (Ps. 14:1)

This lack of Biblical proof is surprising to many because the entire Bible is based on the premise that there is a God.

There are two possible reasons for this lack of proof: (1) the acceptance of God was so universal that there was no need to prove God's existence. (2) The evidence in the world about us is so strong and plentiful that only a fool would deny his existence. (See Romans 1:20)

No matter what the reason was then, we know in this age of doubt, it is necessary to prove that God exists. In this article, we will offer a few basic reasons for believing that God exists.

Evidence from the Universe

There are two things about the universe that proves the existence of God:

- (1) *It exists.* It is evident to all that the universe exists. Even the atheist does not deny this reality. But how did the universe come into existence? There are two possibilities: (1) it came into existence by blind chance from nothing, or (2) it was created by an eternal God. To accept the former is not only unreasonable, but also unscientific for we know that the universe and intelligent life could not have come from nothing. Intelligent man has learned years ago that something cannot come from nothing.
- (2) *Its design.* "For every house is builded by some man, but he that built all things is God." (Heb. 3:4) When we see a house, we know that there was a designer and builder. When we see a painting, we know that someone painted it. When we see a book, we know that someone wrote and printed it. We draw these conclusions because we know that wherever there is a design there must have been a designer. We cannot conceive, for example, a watch's "just happening." We know that there must have been a designer and maker. For exactly the same reason, we know there is a God.

Consider the following facts about our earth as they appear in F. J. Meldau's book, **WHY WE BELIEVE IN CREATION, NOT IN EVOLUTION**:

The mass and size of the earth are just right. If the earth were 9,500 miles in diameter instead of 8,000 that it is, it would double the weight of the air. With twice as much oxygen, the amount of water would be greatly increased: so much so that the entire surface of the planet would be covered with an ocean.

If the earth were much lighter -- it would not be able to hold as much air as we now have. The lighter gases would escape — carbon dioxide would remain -

conditions on earth would approximate those on the moon.

If there were a variation of only 10 per cent, either in the increase or decrease of the size of the world, no life on earth would be possible!

The earth is just the right distance from the sun. Dr. Hilliam J. Humphreys, formerly with the U. S. Weather Bureau told the American Meteorological Society, that if the average temperature of the earth were raised but two or three degrees, you could bid goodbye to all the big cities of the earth, for the glaciers would melt and that in turn would raise the main level of the ocean 150 feet.

Someone has written, "If the word God were written upon every blowing leaf, embossed on every passing cloud, engraved on every granite rock, the inductive evidence that God is in the world would be no stronger than it is. The universe is a big advertising poster spelling "God."

Evidence From Man

The Psalmist exclaimed, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psa. 139:14) The longer men study the human body, the more they realize that it is a masterpiece of intelligent and superhuman planning. Consider:

1. ***His mind.*** Man has the ability to think and reason. He can appreciate music, poetry, and the beauty of God's earth.
2. ***His body.*** The intricate systems in the human body give witness to a divine planner. For example, consider the human eye:
 - "There is the same proof that the eye was made for seeing as that the telescope *was* made for assisting it. Both were adapted to the transmission and refraction of light rays. The pupil, *or* that part of the eye, through which the light enters, dilates and contracts according to the amount of light needed for vision... When we look at a near object the eye changes its shape and becomes elongated as though it was squeezed in the middle. In fact that is what happens. It is somewhat like pulling a telescope out to its full length. But when we look at a distant object. It goes back to its round, convex shape. Then we have glands behind the eye that produce a salty fluid, which keeps the eye, washed. When we cry or our eyes smart this comes out as tears. But we do not cry all the time, so something has to be done with this salty water. Something is done. There are two tiny holes in the nose. When this moisture has done its work. It runs out through these holes into the nose where it is dried up by out breathing... Then there is the eyebrow. That is not up there for the girls to pluck. It protects the eye from moisture that runs down the forehead. The lashes protect the eye from bits of trash that would otherwise plague us." (Luther Blackmon)
 - The heart is another example of divine planning. It pumps about 6,000 pounds of blood through the 10,000 arteries and veins of the body every 24 hours and can operate for 60 to 90 (or more) years without shutdown or repair.

When one also considers the workings of the human digestive, circulatory and nervous systems, we can only say like the psalmist, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made."

Evidence From The Animals

Man would do well to consider the design, purpose and instincts of plant and animal life.

For example, consider the work of a North Pacific spider:

“A spider, not bigger than a shirt button, on the North Pacific Coast, makes its nest in the empty shell of any bivalve. While the spider weighs a fraction of an ounce, the shell may weigh as much as 1/2 pound. The shell is generally raised 12 to 20 Inches above the ground. This would be comparable to a man raising 3600 tons of concrete and steel 1800 feet in the air. If you were faced with such a task, how would you accomplish it? Of course, you couldn't, unless you possessed sufficient scientific knowledge and engineering technique.

“A law of physics decrees that a drying object shrinks and contracts. The spider is seemingly aware of this law for she locates her shell in relation to her bough and swings down, leaving behind her a thread as wet as she can make it. This thread she ties to one edge of the shell and waits for it to dry. After incessant labor for several days, she succeeds in lifting first one end and then another.” (H. Rimmer)

How does the spider know how to do this? We all know, “by Instinct.” But what is Instinct? Mr. Rimmer gives this definition: “Instinct is imparted wisdom. In the very dawn of creation, the Creator imparted to every creature the knowledge essential to survival in its own environment.”

Even the animal kingdom bears witness to the fact there is a God!

Conclusion

If you accept the fact that God exists, then you must realize that you have a responsibility to Him. Are you living up to that responsibility?

—Robert C. Archer