

5 Proofs  
for the existence of  
GOD

By Dr Andrew Corbett

*This is a draft edition of an upcoming eBook I am about to publish. I am looking for comments and feedback that will help make this eBook better. Please pass your comments onto me at – [mail@andrewcorbett.com](mailto:mail@andrewcorbett.com). I am also looking for people to endorse this book. If you would like to be a part of this project, please also contact me.*

Andrew Corbett, March 31<sup>st</sup> 2009

**5 PROOFS**  
**FOR THE EXISTENCE OF**  
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## **5 Proofs For The Existence of God**

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**Is there an intellectual basis for believing in God? Or is being religious just a matter of faith? Christianity invites scrutiny into its claims and its reasons for having faith and these deserve examination...**

And what's at stake is the entire credibility of the Bible!

# Atheism

The belief that there was nothing and nothing happened to nothing and then nothing magically exploded for no reason, creating everything and then a bunch of everything magically rearranged itself for no reason what so ever into self-replicating bits which then turned into dinosaurs.

Makes perfect sense.

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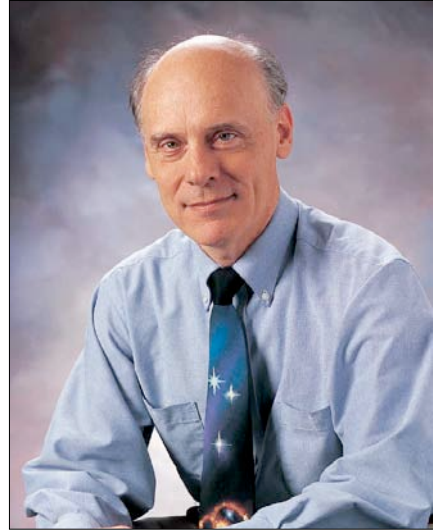


# What Atheists Couldn't Believe

*In December 2004 it was announced that long time British Professor and Philosopher, Anthony Flew, regarded by many as “the world’s most acclaimed atheist”, had renounced his atheism in favour of theism...*



This dramatic conversion of Antony Flew has been likened by Astrophysicist and now one of the world's leading Cosmologists, Dr Hugh Ross (pictured right), as having the same impact on the academic world as an announcement that Billy Graham had renounced Christianity would have on the Church!



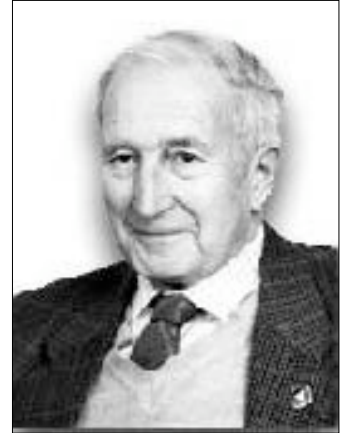
In referring to the subsequent book by Professor Flew, Professor Ian Hutchinson (Head of the Department of Nuclear Science and Engineering at MIT) said-

*“Antony Flew’s book will incense atheists who suppose (erroneously) that science proves there is no God. Flew is a distinguished philosopher whose position has been changed by force of argument about the significance of scientific discoveries. This engaging personal retrospective on Flew’s philosophical pilgrimage illustrates that it is dangerous for an atheist to think too hard about his religious commitment—he might become unconvinced.”*

“There Is A God – How The World’s Most Notorious Atheist Changed His Mind”, Antony Flew, *Harper One*, 2007

One of the reasons cited by Professor Flew was “the evidence”. Speaking of Flew’s conversion, Alvin Plantinga one of the most respected Christian Philosophers, said-

*“It speaks very well of Professor Flew’s honesty. After all these years of opposing the idea of a Creator, he reverses his position on the basis of the evidence.”*



“There IS a God”, Antony Flew, *Harper One*, 2007:72

He admitted that for a long time the growing problem of Darwinian Evolution’s inability to explain how life began, or for that matter, how anything began, led him to the inevitable conclusion that it was an inadequate answer in the face of the evidence. Then when the Human Genome code was unravelled the evidence for Design became “undeniable”. These two pieces of evidence (1. the existence of life demanding a Life-Source, and 2. the scientific evidence of an extremely complex code in the make-up of that life-DNA) were enough for Prof. Flew to renounce atheism.

*“Yes, I now think it does...almost entirely because of the DNA investigations. What I think the DNA material has done is that it has shown, by the almost unbelievable complexity of the arrangements which are needed to produce (life), that intelligence must have been involved in getting these extraordinarily diverse elements to work together. It’s the enormous complexity of the number of elements and the enormous subtlety of the ways they work together. The*

*meeting of these two parts at the right time by chance is simply minute. It is all a matter of enormous complexity by which the results were achieved, which looked to me like the work of intelligence.”*

“There IS a God”, Antony Flew, *Harper One*, 2007:75

The screenshot shows the New York Times Magazine website. At the top, there are navigation links for 'HOME PAGE', 'MY TIMES', 'TODAY'S PAPER', 'VIDEO', 'MOST POPULAR', and 'TIMES TOPICS'. The main header includes 'The New York Times Magazine' and a search bar. Below the header is a secondary navigation menu with categories like 'WORLD', 'U.S.', 'N.Y. / REGION', 'BUSINESS', 'TECHNOLOGY', 'SCIENCE', 'HEALTH', 'SPORTS', 'OPINION', 'ARTS', 'STYLE', 'TRAVEL', 'JOBS', 'REAL ESTATE', and 'AUTOS'. A prominent advertisement for Ford's 'Drive one. ESCAPE HYBRID' is displayed, featuring a green SUV and the text 'Ford brand has 15 car, truck and SUV engine/transmission choices that get 25 mpg or better.' Below the ad, the article 'The Turning of an Atheist' is featured, with a photo of Antony Flew at his home in Reading, England. The article is by Mark Oppenheimer and was published on November 4, 2007. The text of the article begins: 'Unless you are a professional philosopher or a committed atheist, you probably have not heard of Antony Flew. Eighty-four years old and long retired, Flew lives with his wife in Reading, a medium-size town on the Thames an hour west of London. Over a long career he held'. To the right of the article, there is a 'TicketWatch - Theater Offers by E-Mail' sign-up form and a 'Branson on Business: The Virgin staff' advertisement. At the bottom of the article, there are options to 'SIGN IN TO E-MAIL OR SAVE THIS', 'PRINT', 'SINGLE PAGE', and 'SHARE'. A 'MOST POPULAR' section is also visible at the bottom right.

*In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.*

Genesis 1:1

## Can We Prove God?

Ax 1.  $\bullet \forall x\{[\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x)] \wedge P(\varphi)\} \rightarrow P(\Psi)$   
 Ax 2.  $P(\neg\varphi) \leftrightarrow \neg P(\varphi)$   
 Th 1.  $P(\varphi) \rightarrow \emptyset \exists x [\varphi(x)]$   
 Df 1.  $G(x) \leftrightarrow \forall \varphi[P(\varphi) \rightarrow \varphi(x)]$   
 Ax 3.  $P(G)$   
 Th 2.  $\emptyset \exists x G(x)$   
 Df 2.  $\varphi \text{ ess } x \leftrightarrow \varphi(x) \wedge \forall \psi\{\psi(x) \rightarrow \bullet \forall x[\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x)]\}$   
 Ax 4.  $P(\varphi) \rightarrow \bullet P(\varphi)$   
 Th 3.  $G(x) \rightarrow G \text{ ess } x$   
 Df 3.  $E(x) \leftrightarrow \forall \varphi[\varphi \text{ ess } x \rightarrow \bullet \exists x \varphi(x)]$   
 Ax 5.  $P(E)$   
 Th 4.  $\bullet \exists x G(x)$

Some people feel that acceptance of God is entirely a matter of faith. But the Scriptures actually claim that

it is the *truth* which is the basis for this faith (Rom. 10:17). Truth is only truth if it is *objective* truth, that is, it is true for everyone regardless of time or circumstances. Thus, God is either true (and there can be objective proofs to support this), or He is not true and only subjective 'truth' can be offered for 'proof'.

The witty Christian writer and Sky News Reporter, Jonathan Hill, explored the issue of faith and reason in his highly commendable book- *What Has Christianity Ever Done For Us? (Its Role In Shaping The World Today*, and found-

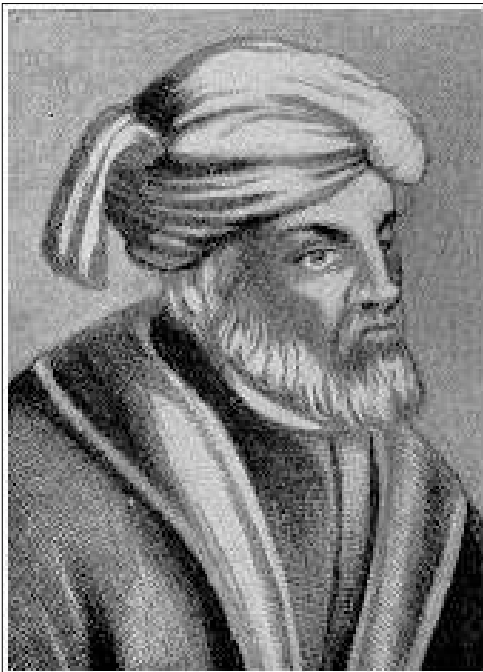
*Christians have often been accused of 'blind faith'. The idea seems to be that they hold to a set of beliefs even when there is no evidence for them. Arguing with such people is impossible: show them reasons why God does not exist, for example, and they will simply brush them aside with a glib, "Well, you just have to take it on faith." Not only are they irrational, they are incredibly annoying to boot.*

Jonathan Hill, "What Has Christianity Ever Done For Us?" *Lion Hudson*, Oxford, 2005:116

This kind of thinking among some Christians has become all too prevalent. In an early online edition of this book as it originally appeared as an article, one subscriber responded to me-

*There is no other way to know God except through faith (those who come to him must believe that he exists) for (without faith it is impossible to please God). Why is this? Why did God set things up this way? The answer is in Genesis. There were two schools of knowledge in the Garden of Eden, one was trust through faith the other was distrust through rebellion, that is, 'I want to work it out myself and see if I agree with you'. All the continual search for proof shows is the continual rebellion of mankind. Faith can see evidence in the mirror, in the sky, in every breath, in life itself.*

Some ancient Philosophers have argued that the fact mankind can imagine there being a God is a proof that there must be one. While this argument does have some merit, it mainly has limitations. Taken to its natural application this means that if *anything* can be imagined it must exist. Based on the nightmares I had as a three and four year old boy- I really hope this theory isn't true or I'm not going to sleep well tonight!



On the other hand, 'beliefs' and 'truth' are sometimes not entirely related. Tertullian once bragged that the main reason he so readily accepted Christianity was that it was fundamentally absurd. Perhaps he was alluding to 1Corinthians 1-2 which talks about human wisdom and divine wisdom being incompatible. Some people are so committed to their beliefs that

despite the evidence of truth they refuse to change their beliefs. In this way we observe that what some atheists claim is their scientific basis for unbelief is nothing more than *belief* in opinions rather than evidence. Thus, despite the mass of evidence to the contrary, many atheists refuse to accept that origin of life is best explained by appears to be obvious (a Designer/Creator).

We have to applaud Prof. Flew for having the courage to consider and then accept the evidence.

■ **THIS WEEK** | "Lavelle's wonderful life" December 25, 2004 [Printer Friendly](#) [E-mail to Friend](#)

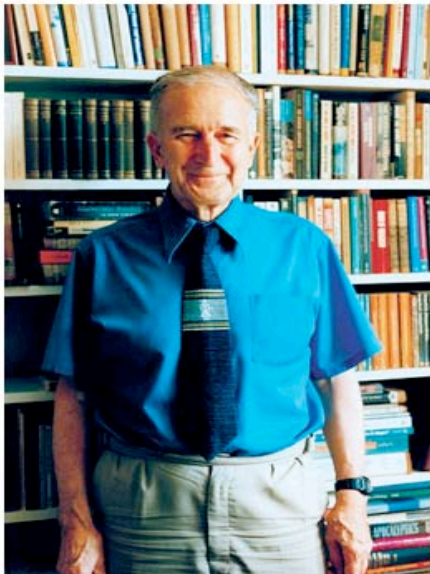
## Flew the coop

**RELIGION:** How a prominent atheist philosopher made the revolutionary decision to become a theist | *Gene Edward Veith*

College freshmen taking Philosophy 101, in which the professor is trying to challenge Christianity, have likely encountered the writings of Antony Flew. Mr. Flew has been called the most influential atheist philosopher in the world, and his arguments against the existence of God are staples of many college anthologies and textbooks. Now he says that he believes there is a God.

Mr. Flew still does not accept any revealed religion, including Christianity. He has simply become a "theist," or, as he says, a "deist," believing that God created the world but no longer has a personal relationship with it. Nevertheless, as philosopher Angus Menuge says, for "one of the 20th century's most famous atheist philosophers" to become a theist is "huge news in philosophy."

ARTICLE CONTINUES BELOW



“Proof” though is measured and determined according to the type of claim. The type of proof needed to substantiate a claim involving chemistry is different to the type of proof needed to substantiate a claim made about history. Proof in physiology is different to the type of proof needed for psychology. Proof in philosophy is different to the proof required for philology. Proof required for biology is different to the type of proof required for theology. To demand that “hard” science (physics, biology, chemistry, astronomy) proof tests be the only acceptable means for testing a “soft” science (psychology, history, philosophy, literature) claim is unreasonable.



Thus, imposing natural proof tests on supernatural claims is an unreasonable measure and totally inappropriate. But where supernatural claims are made which have natural implications, such as “an invisible God created all that we see” (Romans 1:20) “proof” takes on the garb of *supporting evidence* when looking at the natural evidence to support this supernatural claim.

*“Are we engaging in science or philosophy here? When you study the interaction of two physical bodies, for instance, two subatomic particles, you are engaged in science. When you ask how it is that those subatomic particles—or anything physical—could exist and why, you are engaged in philosophy. When you draw philosophical conclusions from scientific data, then you are thinking as a philosopher.”*

“There IS a God”, Antony Flew, *Harper One*, 2007:89

## The Basis of 'Proof'

Proof demands reasonableness not certainty. For a claim to be reasonable it must be –

- (i) **Coherent** – it must consistently agree with reality. For example, *all life on earth is subject to gravity*.
- (ii) **Logical** – it has a premise, an assertion, and a conclusion that shows that the assertion matches both the premise and the conclusion. For example-

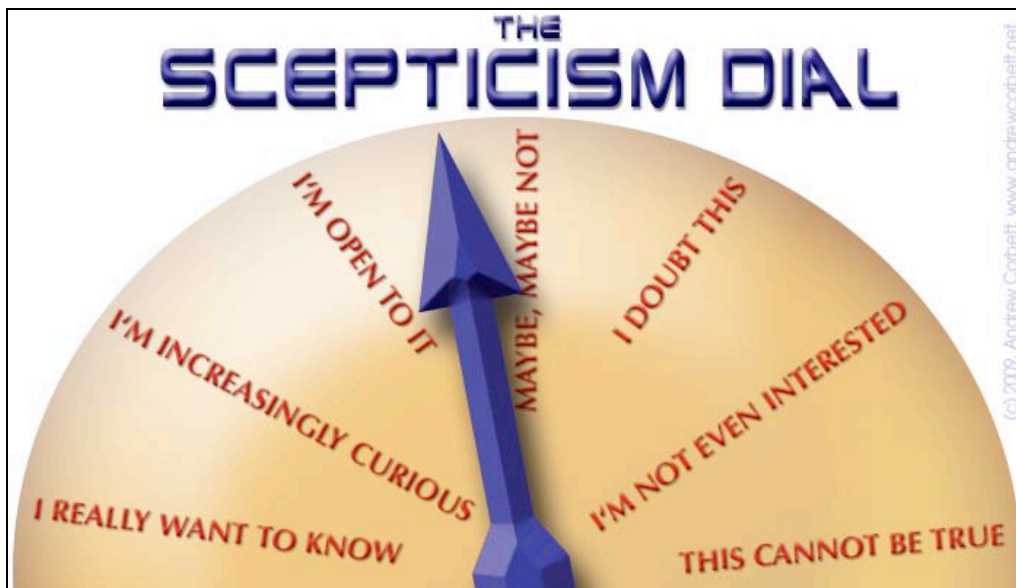
*PREMISE:* All men are mortal.

*ASSERTION:* The Japanese Emperor is a man.

*CONCLUSION:* Therefore, the Japanese Emperor is a mortal.

- (iii) **Likely** – that is, it is more likely to be true than its negation. For example, *Andrew and Kim Corbett have four children and will not be having any more.*

The appeal to absolute certainty as the sole basis for *proof* is never consistently applied to any other area of investigation (or even life). Not even the most hardened sceptic lives with absolute certainty (about *anything*).



In writing to atheists who are quick to dismiss the proofs or evidence for God, Prof. Antony Flew asks- “*What would have to occur or to have occurred to constitute for you a reason to at least consider the existence of a superior Mind?*” (Page 88). This is a good question.

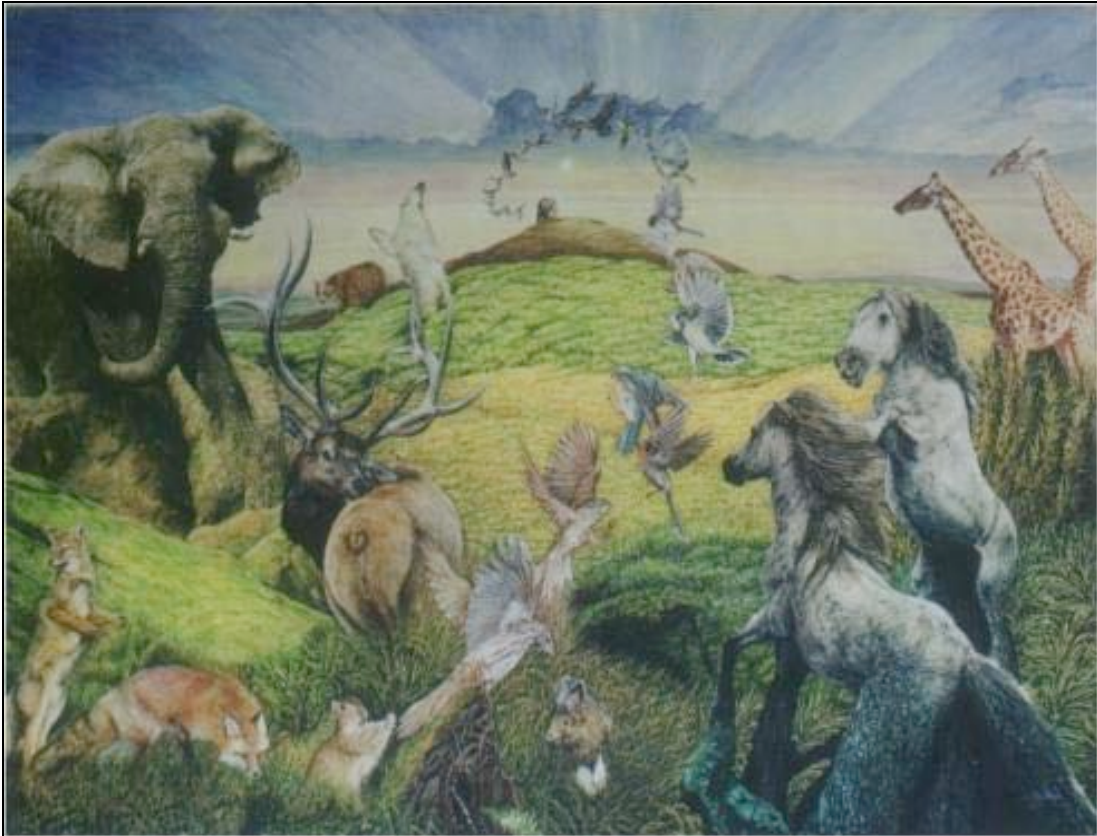
## The Evidence

There have been a rash of very articulate and passionate atheists such as Richard Dawkins, Christopher Hitchens, Sam Harris, Daniel Dennett, who have attacked theism (the belief in God) by attacking Religious Fundamentalism (the poor behaviour of those claiming to believe in God and their abuse of Religious rules to oppress people). The type of God these Religious Fundamentalists promote is not the God I am arguing for. But to some it is going to sound like it.



CS Lewis artfully makes the point in the “Magician’s Nephew” that there can be several people confronted with the evidence for God yet they can interpret that evidence quite differently.

Lewis describes Uncle Andrew’s direct encounter with Aslan where he vehemently denied what he was seeing and hearing as making himself look stupid. And Lewis, the former atheist himself, continues, “*Now the trouble about trying to make yourself stupider than you really are is that you very often succeed. Uncle Andrew did.*” When it comes to proof for God, the evidence is *cumulative* and therefore acceptable *proof*.



This evidence, or *proofs*, for the existence of God invites those atheists to consider it- especially for those who claim that there is none. At the very least it should be reasonably concluded that *atheism* (the absolute claim that there is no God after considering all possible knowledge) is a highly irrational position.

The following is reasonable evidence for accepting that there is indeed a Personal Omnipotent God as described in the Christian Bible.

*For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.*

Colossians 1:16

## Proof #1. Cause

### Everything has a cause...

*It is illogical to suggest that something had no cause. This is where the theory of evolution becomes inadequate. It can not explain how anything began, let alone life. When we consider the evidence (that there are things which exist) it logically demands that either something or someone caused it. We can then rule out “something” as the solution since we would be returning to the original problem (what made the something?). This demands that there must be someone who has always existed (eternal) and is in themselves therefore uncreated. We don't have to understand this in order for it to be so.*

At this point some say we should not even try to understand these things because our minds just get in the way. But I suspect the opposite is the case. That is, it is perfectly legitimate to ponder these things and rather than our minds being too big an obstacle, our minds are actually too inadequate to comprehend them. Therefore, faith and thinking are not incompatible- it's just that we have realise that they both require discipline and exercise.

## The Kalam Cosmological Argument

Dr. William Lane Craig (pictured right), one of the world's most articulate defenders of Christianity, has championed the Kalam Cosmological Argument. His summary of it might be presented as-



1. Whatever begins to exist, has a cause of its existence.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause for its existence.

The implication of the Kalam Cosmological Argument is that the universe must have had a cause. It also stands that this cause was *uncaused*. There are only three alternatives to this conclusion-

1. The universe (matter, time, space and energy) has always been, that is it is *eternal*.
2. *Our* universe was created by a powerful being from another universe (Multiverse Theory).
3. The universe does not actually exist, that is, this universe is an illusion.

In response to these alternatives we note-

1. The universe did have a demonstratable beginning. The Big Bang, where all matter, space, time energy, and matter began, is now attested to by over 20 major research projects. There is no credible evidence for the universe being eternal.
2. The Multiverse Theory does not resolve the issue of beginnings. In affect it becomes a series of infinite regression, that is, if someone from another “uni” verse (which actually voids the term “uni” verse) created our universe, then who created this person? If the answer is someone from another universe, then who created this person, and so on.
3. The idea that nothing is real might sound feasible in the Philosophy classroom, but our self-consciousness and ability to interact with other people who are similarly self-conscious, immediately dismisses this fanciful theory. It does however remind me of the story of the Philosophy

Professor who held up a chair and asked his class to write a paper proving that the chair did not exist. Most students got to work immediately and referred to past philosophers and their writings to show why the chair did not exist. When the Professor graded the papers, there was only student who received top marks- even though he only wrote two words! He wrote, “What chair?”

Drawing upon the Kalam Cosmological Argument we know that our universe must have had a cause which was *uncaused*. This cause must have been outside of space, time matter and energy (as we know it). In theological terminology, we refer to: omnipresent, eternal, incorporeal, and omnipotence. We refer to the person satisfies these requirements as – God.

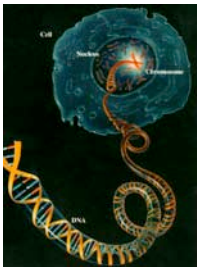
*I made the earth  
and created man on it;  
it was my hands that stretched out the heavens,  
and I commanded all their host.*

Isaiah 45:12



## Proof #2. Design

The fact that living organisms and systems display evidence of design is now beyond dispute.



*The unravelling of the Human Genome Code was announced to the world as the discovery of the language of the Creator by then President, Bill Clinton. What scientists discovered was an extremely sophisticated genetic language necessary for even the simplest life forms to exist. To believe that this level of apparent design happened either randomly or by chance is a mathematical equation of probability with more zeros than I care to type (plus I don't know what the word is for numbers which are thousands of trillions!).*

The universe displays an amazingly complex level of interdependency which logically leads to the conclusion that it was designed that way. There are just too many coincidences of such “just rightness” for it to be a random haphazard coincidence. The earth is “just the right” distance from the Sun; it contains “just the right” mixture of chemicals and gases to sustain life; humans have “just the right” ability to breathe these gases; the human body has “just the right” synergy of internal organs in order to function, and so on.

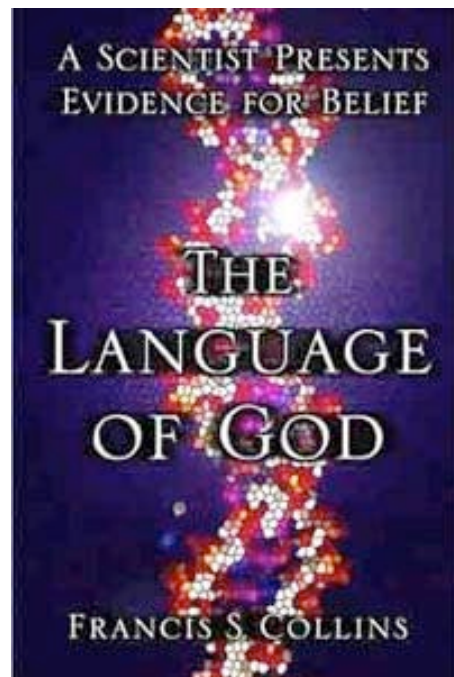
It’s important to note that the Bible does not give a date for the commencement of creation of the universe, or the date for the creation of mankind. The universe may well be around 14,000,000,000 years old, and mankind’s origins may well be as recent as 50,000 - 30,000 years ago. These numbers are in no way counter to the Biblical record, and extremely compatible with the evidence.

*“Perhaps the most popular and intuitively plausible argument for God’s existence is the so-called argument from design. According to this argument, the design that is apparent in nature suggests the existence of a cosmic Designer...Although I was once sharply critical of the argument to design, I have since come to see that, when correctly formulated, this argument constitutes a persuasive case for the existence of God.”*

“There IS a God”, Antony Flew, *Harper One*, 2007:95

Antony Flew artfully describes the design of the universe, and in particular its obvious design *for humans*, by asking his readers to imagine arriving at a motel room without a booking. As they come into their assigned room their favourite CD is playing their favourite track. As they bring their bags into the room they smell a very familiar fragrance. In fact, it is so familiar because it is their favourite scent. As they place their bags down they notice a basket of their favourite food waiting for them on the bed. On the wall hangs a copy of their favourite artwork. In the mini-bar there is a complimentary block of their favourite chocolate next to their favourite soft drink. It appears that someone knew they were coming and also knew they would be staying in this room!

In Flew's scenario, there are just a handful of parameters (the music, the scent, the food, the drink, the artwork) that indicate that someone *designed* the room for a particular guest. According to Dr Hugh Ross of *Reasons To Believe* ([www.reasons.org](http://www.reasons.org)) there are over 400 parameters that are simultaneously needed in order for human life to be possible on earth. If one takes Flew's analogy and considers not just the parameters that make life possible, but those which make life *enjoyable* and give *pleasure* to life, we soon discover that this list of design parameters climbs to over 600!



For Flew the reasons for so many “Anthropic” design parameters became undeniably obvious: *there must be a Designer*. He argues that if all it takes is five or so parameters in a motel room for us to conclude that someone designed *our* arrival, then what do you do with an entire planet that displays around 600 such parameters?

Dr Hugh Ross has been one of the pioneers in developing a comprehensive list of all the parameters necessary for human life.

*Human existence is possible because the constants of physics and the parameters for the universe and for planet Earth lie within certain highly restricted ranges. John Wheeler and others interpret these amazing “coincidences” as proof that human existence somehow determines the design of the universe. Drawing an illogical parallel with delayed-choice experiments in quantum mechanics, they say that observations by humans influence the design of the universe, not only now, but back to the beginning. Such versions of what is called the “anthropic principle” reflect current philosophical and religious leanings towards the deification of man. They produce no evidence to support the notion that man’s present acts can influence past events. Furthermore, their analogies with quantum mechanics break down on this point. The “coincidental” values of the constants of physics and the parameters of the universe point, rather, to a designer who transcends the dimensions and limits of the physical universe.*

Dr. Hugh Ross, [http://www.origins.org/articles/ross\\_designanthropic.html](http://www.origins.org/articles/ross_designanthropic.html), as of March 2009

In one of his earliest articles on the parameters necessary for human life ([http://www.origins.org/articles/ross\\_designanthropic.html](http://www.origins.org/articles/ross_designanthropic.html), as of March 2009) Dr Ross discusses some of his early findings-

### ***Cosmic Connection***

*Now that the limits and parameters of the universe can be calculated, and some even directly measured, astronomers and physicists have begun to recognize a connection between these limits and parameters and the existence of life. It is impossible to imagine a universe containing life in which any one of the fundamental constants of physics or any one of the fundamental parameters of the universe is different, even slightly so, in one way or another.*

*From this recognition arises the anthropic principle—everything about the universe tends toward man, toward making life possible and sustaining it...*

### ***Insufficient Universe***

*It is clear that man is too limited to have created the universe. But, it is also evident that the universe is too limited to have created man. The universe contains no more than  $10^{80}$  baryons (Baryons are protons and other fundamental particles, such as neutrons, that decay into protons) and has been in existence for no more than  $10^{18}$  seconds...*

*The bottom line is that the universe is at least ten billion orders of magnitude (a factor of  $10^{10,000,000,000}$  times) too small or too young for life to have assembled itself by natural processes. (A common rebuttal is that not all amino acids in organic molecules must be strictly sequenced. One can destroy or randomly replace about 1 amino acid out of 100 without doing damage to the function of the molecule. This is vital since life necessarily exists in a sequence—disrupting radiation environment. However, this is equivalent to writing a computer program that will tolerate the*

destruction of 1 statement of code out of 1001. In other words, this error-handling ability of organic molecules constitutes a far more unlikely occurrence than strictly sequenced molecules).



The evidence for the universe being designed is overwhelming. This observation is not original. It was stated much earlier by one of the world's leading cosmologists and physicists, Paul Davies, who said-

*“the impression of design is overwhelming”*

Paul Davies, “The Cosmic Blueprint: New Discoveries in Nature’s Creative Ability To Order the Universe”, *Simon and Schuster*, New York, 1988:203

Dr. Hugh Ross goes on in his article to list 19 specific parameters necessary for a planet to sustain complex life-

#### **1. Number of star companions**

- *if more than one*: tidal interactions would disrupt planetary orbits
- *if less than one*: not enough heat produced for life

#### **2. Parent star birth date**

- *if more recent*: star would not yet have reached stable burning phase
- *if less recent*: stellar system would not yet contain enough heavy elements

#### **3. Parent star age**

- *if older*: luminosity of star would not be sufficiently stable
- *if younger*: luminosity of star would not be sufficiently stable

#### **4. Parent star distance from center of galaxy**

- *if greater*: not enough heavy elements to make rocky planets
- *if less*: stellar density and radiation would be too great

### 5. Parent star mass

- *if greater*: luminosity output from the star would not be sufficiently stable
- *if less*: range of distances appropriate for life would be too narrow; tidal forces would disrupt the rotational period for a planet of the right distance

### 6. Parent star color

- *if redder*: insufficient photosynthetic response
- *if bluer*: insufficient photosynthetic response

### 7. Surface gravity

- *if stronger*: planet's atmosphere would retain huge amounts of ammonia and methane
- *if weaker*: planet's atmosphere would lose too much water

### 8. Distance from parent star

- *if farther away*: too cool for a stable water cycle
- *if closer*: too warm for a stable water cycle

### 9. Thickness of crust

- *if thicker*: too much oxygen would be transferred from the atmosphere to the crust
- *if thinner*: volcanic and tectonic activity would be too great

### 10. Rotation period

- *if longer*: diurnal temperature differences would be too great
- *if shorter*: atmospheric wind velocities would be too great

### 11. Gravitational interaction with a moon

- *if greater*: tidal effects on the oceans, atmosphere, and rotational period would be too severe
- *if less*: earth's orbital obliquity would change too much causing climatic instabilities

### 12. Magnetic field

- *if stronger*: electromagnetic storms would be too severe
- *if weaker*: no protection from solar wind particles

**13. Axial tilt**

- *if greater:* surface temperature differences would be too great
- *if less:* surface temperature differences would be too great

**14. Albedo (ratio of reflected light to total amount falling on surface)**

- *if greater:* runaway ice age would develop
- *if less:* runaway greenhouse effect would develop

**15. Oxygen to nitrogen ratio in atmosphere**

- *if larger:* life functions would proceed too quickly
- *if smaller:* life functions would proceed too slowly

**16. Carbon dioxide and water vapor levels in atmosphere**

- *if greater:* runaway greenhouse effect would develop
- *if less:* insufficient greenhouse effect

**17. Ozone level in atmosphere**

- *if greater:* surface temperatures would become too low
- *if less:* surface temperatures would be too high; too much uv radiation at surface

**18. Atmospheric electric discharge rate**

- *if greater:* too much fire destruction
- *if less:* too little nitrogen fixing in the soil

**19. Seismic activity**

- *if greater:* destruction of too many life-forms
- *if less:* nutrients on ocean floors would not be uplifted

Dr Ross continues on to say that there are even more necessary parameters for a planet to sustain life-

*About a dozen other parameters, such as atmospheric chemical composition, currently are being researched for their*

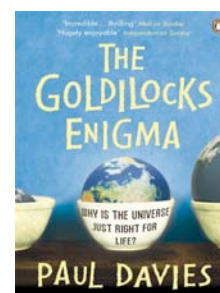


*sensitivity in the support of life. However, the nineteen (parameters) listed (in Table 1, above) in themselves lead safely to the conclusion that much fewer than a trillionth of a trillionth of a percent of all stars will have a planet capable of sustaining life. Considering that the universe contains only about a trillion galaxies, each averaging a hundred billion stars, we can see that not even one planet would be expected, by natural processes alone, to possess the necessary conditions to sustain life. No wonder Robert Rood and James Trefil (Rood, Robert T. and Treffi, James S. *Are We Alone? The Possibility of Extraterrestrial Civilizations*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1983) and others have surmised that intelligent physical life exists only on the earth. It seems abundantly clear that the earth, too, in addition to the universe, has experienced divine design.*

Dr. Hugh Ross, "Design & The Anthropic Principle",  
[http://www.origins.org/articles/ross\\_designanthropic.html](http://www.origins.org/articles/ross_designanthropic.html)

Professor Antony Flew marvels at the complexity of life's design as he writes-

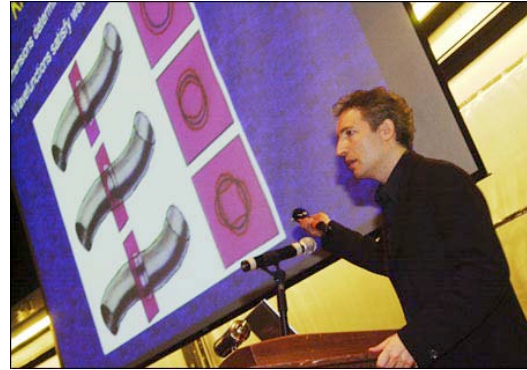
*...there is a rich narrative drama surrounding our current understanding of the cell...The genetic message in DNA is duplicated in replication and then copied from DNA to RNA in transcription. Following this there is translation whereby the message from RNA is conveyed to the amino acids, and finally the amino acids are assembled into proteins. The cell's two fundamentally different structures of information management and chemical activity are coordinated by the universal genetic code.*



"There IS a God", Antony Flew, *Harper One*, 2007:126-127

Professor Paul Davies calls the undeniable design of universe and in particular earth's unique place in the universe as *The Goldilocks Enigma*. There are simply too many 'just rights' in the universe to dismiss the universe's obvious design.

While the late Professor Carl Sagan dismissed planet earth as *an insignificant, pale blue dot*, his successor, Professor Brian Greene (Professor of Mathematics & Physics at Columbia University), is far less



prepared to deny the obvious. He says that the universe has been designed cannot be denied so the real issue is not *whether* it is designed but *who* is the Designer? Professor Greene appeases atheists by avoiding the theologically loaded term: "God", instead opting for the term *Grand Organising Designer*, which coincidentally equates to G.O.D.

*He answered, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female,*

Matthew 19:4

## Proof #3. Morality

There is intrinsic morality which we all know intuitively - this needs a point of reference...

*How do we know what “evil” is? How do we know what “good” is? These concepts demand either the existence of a standard to make such evaluations, or an understanding what these concepts mean. Each of us are born with an innate sense of morality. We each fundamentally know what is right and wrong. It is incredible to consider that no matter what the time, culture, geographic location, or people, the Moral Law has been universally acknowledged.*

William Lane Craig says it this way-

- “1. *If God does not exist objective moral values do not exist.*
2. *Objective moral values do exist.*
3. *Therefore, God exists.*”

Dr. William Lane Craig, “The Moral Argument, Part1”, Defenders Podcast, 15<sup>th</sup>  
October 2007

Is rape always wrong?

Is the worst abuse of children always wrong?

Is genocide always wrong?

There seems to be something intuitive within us all that *knows* that these acts are evil. Rape is not wrong because there is a statute against it. It is wrong because it is wrong.



After World War II Nazi war criminals were judged at Nuremberg. The prosecutors had a major problem though. The defendants had not broken any laws! Even though they were responsible for the mass murder of

millions of people (including Jews, Gypsies, and Christians). Since they were merely carrying out the policies of the lawful, official German government, the prosecutors were initially at a loss about how on earth they could charge them with any crimes.

In a moment of inspired genius one of the prosecutors said they could legitimately charge these SS Officers with crimes against the laws common to all of humanity (the Natural Law). Thus, the charge of *Crimes against Humanity* was introduced and universally accepted. It was upon the basis of the court accepting that there was indeed a set of objective moral laws that universally define right from wrong that they were able to proceed in the prosecution of Nazi War Criminals.



There are of course those who object to the idea of acknowledging that there are objective moral laws presumably because it interferes with their lifestyle and sexual proclivities.

This tends to confirm that all of creation bears the finger-prints of a Creator who is fundamentally good and right. That is, we each share a knowledge of what is right and wrong not just because we are taught or conditioned to accept these values, but because we are born with them.



After Dinesh D’Souza debated the atheist Peter Singer about intrinsic morality being an argument for God’s existence, he was stunned with Singer’s admission-

*I write this fresh from debating bioethicist Peter Singer on “Can we be moral without God?” at Singer’s home campus, Princeton University. Singer is a mild-mannered fellow who speaks calmly and lucidly. Yet you wouldn’t have to read his work too long to find his extreme positions. He cheerfully advocates infanticide and euthanasia and, in almost the same breath, favors animal rights. Even most liberals would have qualms about third-trimester abortions; Singer does not hesitate to advocate what may be termed fourth-trimester*

*abortions, i.e., the killing of infants after they are born.*

*Singer writes, “My colleague Helga Kuhse and I suggest that a period of 28 days after birth might be allowed before an infant is accepted as having the same right to life as others.” Singer argues that even pigs, chickens, and fish have more signs of consciousness and rationality—and, consequently, a greater claim to rights—than do fetuses, newborn infants, and people with mental disabilities. “Rats are indisputably more aware of their surroundings, and more able to respond in purposeful and complex ways to things they like or dislike, than a fetus at 10- or even 32-weeks gestation. ... The calf, the pig, and the much-derided chicken come out well ahead of the fetus at any stage of pregnancy...*

*In Singer, we may be witnessing someone both horrifying and yet somehow refreshing: an intellectually honest atheist.”*

Dinesh D’Souza, “Staring into the Abyss - Why Peter Singer makes the New Atheists nervous.”

Ironically, the oft made objection to there being a God is that a loving, good, God would never allow evil and suffering in the world. This is a self-defeating argument. Firstly, on what basis does anyone assume that God is “loving” and “good”? It seems that we all intuitively know that God is both loving and good. Secondly, the basis for our understanding of what constitutes “moral” (good and right conduct) is God. Therefore, saying that since there is evil in the world (relative to there being a loving and good God in the world) is like saying- *since there is a loving and good God in the world by which we know what evil is, there can not be a loving and good God.*





## Proof #4. The Resurrection

*Sceptics may dispute this historical claim that Jesus Christ rose again from the dead but they do so perilously. This is because there is enough evidence to validate it and it is the point at which all of the history of Christ and Christianity rests. This means that if anything of Christ and Christianity is true then the Physical Resurrection of Christ is also true. The opposite is also true. If Christ did not literally rise from the dead then none of his history or teachings have any credence.*

*and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep.*

1Corinthians 15:5-6

But if the resurrection of Christ can be seen as an event that is grounded in reasonable historic facts then this is perhaps the most overwhelming evidence (proof) for the existence of God.

*After more than 700 hours of studying this subject, I have come to the conclusion that the resurrection of Jesus Christ is either one of the most wicked, vicious, heartless hoaxes ever foisted on the minds of human beings--or it is the most remarkable fact of history.*

Josh McDowell, "Evidence for the Resurrection",  
<http://www.leaderu.com/everystudent/easter/articles/josh2.html> (as of March 2009)

## The Evidence For The Resurrection of Christ

### 1. Eye Witnesses

The first Christians based their entire case on the truthfulness of the physical resurrection of Christ. To them, if Christ did not rise from the dead, then their message had absolutely no credibility.

*And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain.*

1Corinthians 15:14

Since the claim of Christ's resurrection was central to the earliest Christians' message, all their opponents had to do to rebut this naturally outrageous claim was to produce the corpse of Christ.

There were eyewitnesses to the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. These eyewitnesses numbered in the hundreds. At one time there were up to 500 at one time who witnessed the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. While some may contend that the resurrection of Jesus was merely wishful on the part of His followers who simply got lost in the ecstasy of wanting His resurrection to be true, it should be noted that it is impossible for 500 people at one time to see the same “hallucination.”

But was there merely a conspiracy to lie about the resurrection of Jesus? Considering that the testimony of these witnesses brought about swift and severe retribution from authorities, it seems an incredible claim to make that these people merely *lied* about being eye-witnesses to the resurrection of Christ. People hardly lie to their own detriment. That is, we generally lie to advantage ourselves not to disadvantage ourselves!

## **2. The Realisation of the Promised Experience With The Holy Spirit**

On the Jewish Day of Pentecost, the Christian Church was birthed with a miraculous event (the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of tongues and prophecy) which Jesus assured them would only happen after He was resurrected from the dead.

*“...if all the evidence is weighed carefully and fairly, it is indeed justifiable, according to the canons of historical research, to conclude that the sepulcher of Joseph of Arimathea, in which Jesus*

*was buried, was actually empty on the morning of the first Easter. And no shred of evidence has yet been discovered in literary sources, epigraphy, or archaeology that would disprove this statement."*

Prof. Paul L. Maier,

### **3. The Inability of Christianity's Opponents To Produce The Corpse of Jesus**

Peter addressed the crowd of thousands immediately after this miraculous commotion.

*"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.*

Acts 2:22-24

Peter based the truthfulness of his entire message upon the truthfulness and historicity of the resurrection of Christ. If Christ had not died and been resurrected then someone in this vast crowd could have pointed this out. But the claim by Peter went unchallenged!

The empty tomb of Christ was immediately verifiable by the apostles original audience. But it was also *falsifiable*. The body of Christ was placed in the tomb of a rich man, Joseph of Arimathea, and then sealed (with wax) by the Romans with their insignia displayed. To unlawfully break this seal was punishable by death!

#### **4. The Character of the Eyewitnesses**

Those who witnessed the resurrection of Christ were all consistent in their testimony of what they claimed to have seen. One of the most basic investigation techniques a criminal detective has is to ask a witness or suspect the same question over and over. If their testimony is untrue their inconsistency obviously indicates their attempted deception. But if they are consistent in their testimony – and consistent with hundreds of others who claimed the same events to be true, then their truthfulness becomes obvious.

*“I have been used for many years to study the histories of other times, and to examine and weigh the evidence of those who have written about them, and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort, to the understanding of a fair inquirer, than the great sign which God hath given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead.”*

Professor Thomas Arnold, *“History of Rome”*, (Chair of Modern History at Oxford)

#### **5. The Dramatic Change In The Eyewitnesses**

These eyewitnesses shared their testimonies about the resurrection of Christ at the risk of death. Around 112 A.D. the Roman governor of Asia Minor wrote to Emperor Trajan regarding the Christians there-

*“I was never present at any trial of Christians; therefore I do not know what are the customary penalties or investigations, and*

*what limits are observed...whether those who recant should be pardoned...whether the name itself, even if innocent of crime, should be punished, or only the crimes attaching to that name...Meanwhile, this is the course that I have adopted in the case of those brought before me as Christians. I ask them if they are Christians. If they admit it I repeat the question a second and a third time, threatening capital punishment; if they persist I sentence them to death. For I do not doubt that, whatever kind of crime it may be to which they have confessed, their pertinacity and inflexible obstinacy should certainly be punished...the very fact of my dealing with the question led to a wider spread of the charge, and a great variety of cases were brought before me. An anonymous pamphlet was issued, containing many names. All who denied that they were or had been Christians I considered should be discharged, because they called upon the gods at my dictation and did reverence...and especially because they cursed Christ, a thing which it is said, genuine Christians cannot be induced to do.”*

Bettenson, Henry, Documents of the Christian Church, Oxford Press, London, 1943:3

## **6. The Willingness of Jewish Christians To Change Their Day of Worship to Sunday**

The Sabbath (Saturday) was a core cultural distinctive for the first century Jew. Yet thousands of Jews willingly shifted their day of worship to *Sunday* based on the fact that it became the day the early Christian commemorated the resurrection of Christ.

## **7. The Change in the Brothers of Christ, the Sons of Mary, After The Resurrection**

Sometimes family members are the hardest people to persuade when you're claiming to be God in the flesh! Yet we have two books of the Bible written by the half-brothers of Jesus (James and Jude) where they acknowledge that Jesus was God and that He rose again from the dead.

*I claim to be an historian. My approach to Classics is historical. And I tell you that the evidence for the life, the death, and the resurrection of Christ is better authenticated than most of the facts of ancient history...*

*Prof. E. M. Blaiklock, Professor of Classics, Auckland University*

## Proof #5. Validation By Experience

The claims of Christ can be experienced...

*Jesus Christ made some seemingly outrageous claims about the benefits of following Him. He offered “rest” for the weary, “nourishment” for the hungry, “water” for the thirsty, “resurrection” for the dead, “direction” for aimless, “liberty” for the oppressed, “protection” for the vulnerable, “healing” for the hurting, and “salvation” for the lost.*

Experience is not the best test of truth, but it is a necessary one when certain experiences are integral to the truth claims. The Christian experience is not normatively an event (“a conversion experience” although many people do have such an experience) – it is however a process of transformation that is in itself an experience and is also punctuated by experiences.



*Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11:28

Jesus offered an experience of *rest* for all who commit their souls to Him. Many people have come to realise the weight of their moral guilt. Dealing with guilt and shame has become a huge industry in our modern society. People will pay extraordinary amounts of money or go to extraordinary lengths to be relieved of the burden of guilt and shame. Yet Jesus offered relief – *rest for the weary* – for free!

*For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 6:23

This rest is deeply spiritual. It is a spiritual request made by praying. The beauty of testing this claim is that you can be in any spiritual condition, from any religious or irreligious background, of any ethnicity at any age, or any mental condition to test it. Praying is not necessarily reading aloud someone else's prayer to God. Praying can be out loud or just in your mind (silently). Praying can be eloquent (well thought out) or spontaneous, urgent, and grammatically incorrect. There is no "right" way to form a prayer. Jesus taught His disciples to pray by how He prayed. At times He prayed out loud in public, but most of the time He prayed quietly (not usually silently though) and alone.

Through out history, there has been an estimated 3 billion people who have become Christians and have testified to experiencing Christ in their lives. The claim that God can be experienced is not one that is easily dismissed based on these sorts of numbers!

I was 15 years of age when I accepted Christ. Never have I regretted it. It has been a journey for me that has seen me grow and change. I have felt the Lord guiding me. I can honestly say that I have heard Him speak to me (even though it hasn't been audibly). He has answered my prayers so often that I now almost take it for granted that my prayers will be answered. He has given my life direction and purpose that I otherwise would never have had.



A worship service at Legana Christian Church, Tasmania

Today He extends to you the invitation to experience for yourself the claims which He has made. Will you pray to God to experience His offer of new life, salvation, and healing for your soul?

The intellectual evidence for the existence of God is available. Most stubborn objectors to God however, are not basing their opposition to God on intellectual grounds. For the strenuous objectors to God the motivation for their opposition is emotional rather than intellectual. Often some person claiming to know and represent God has acted dishonourably and hypocritically and thus caused great emotional resistance toward the claims they failed to live up. (This and other objections to God are dealt with in the last section of this book.) But for honest enquirers there are honest answers.

For those who acknowledge that there is at least *reasonable* evidence worth considering (even if not all 5 points of evidence are accepted) then they can no longer claim to be “atheist”. Like Professor Flew they can bravely embrace the title “theist” (*God believer*) without adopting any particular religious framework. Once this position can be reached then the next phase of the journey is to answer the question, “*Is religion necessary or even helpful in discovering God?*”

*Oh, taste and see that the LORD is good!*

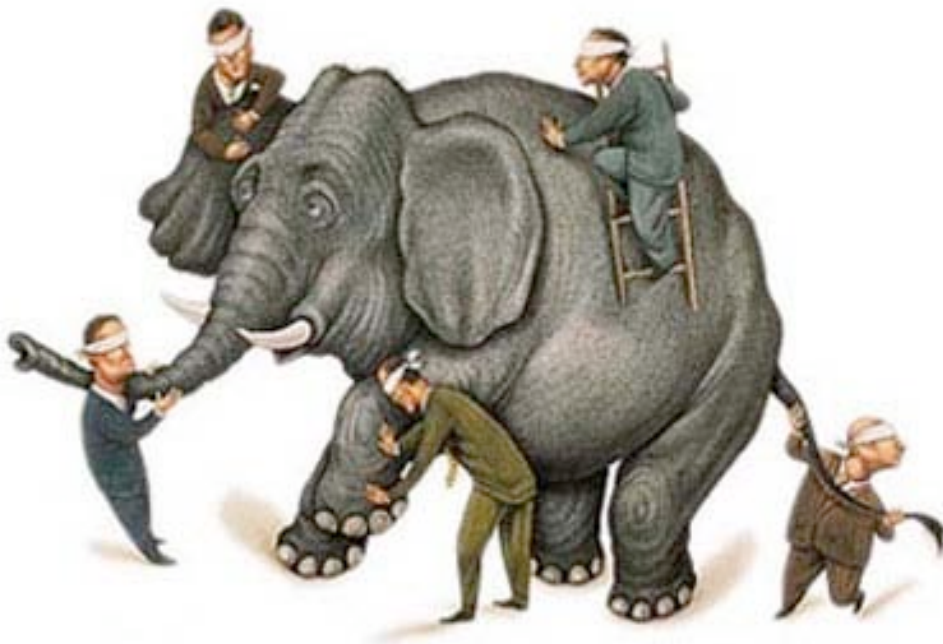
*Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!*

Psalm 34:8

*Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.*

First Peter 5:7

## PART 2 - WHO IS GOD?



*This means that the universe has no absolute beginning. The questions this idea poses for science are fundamental. Was there a single big bang or were there many? Is there a single universe or are there many, or even an infinite number of these? Is the universe finite or infinite as the Buddhists state? Will our universe continue to expand indefinitely or will it decelerate, will it even stop and everything end in a grand implosion? Does our universe form part of a cosmos in an eternal state of reproduction? The scientists debate these questions intensely. From the Buddhist point of view, an additional problem arises. Even admitting that there was only one grand cosmic explosion, we can ask if this was the origin of the entire universe or only the commencement of our cosmic system in particular. The fundamental question, therefore, whether the big bang, which, according to modern cosmologists, marks the commencement of our current cosmic system, was the beginning of everything» (page 103).*

Guillermo Armengol (Chair of Science, Technology and Religion, Universidad Comillas), "The Universe In A Single Atom According To The Dalai Lama"  
<http://130.206.70.237/sites/corporativo/Biblioteca%20de%20documentos21/Documents/G.%20Armengol%20-%20The%20Universe%20in%20a%20Single%20Atom%20according%20to%20the%20Dalai%20Lama.pdf> (As of March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009)



## 5 Proofs For Christianity

### How We Know That The God of Christians Is The Creator That The Evidence Points To

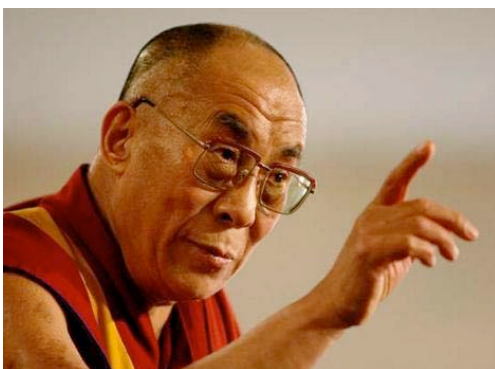
*The scientific method has become synonymous with methodological naturalism. This is the idea that the only way knowledge can be apprehended is if it can be observed. But this is a fairly recent hijacking of what the scientific method means. If we could allow the scientific method to lead to certain to certain deductions, whether they be physical or metaphysical, we may be removing the restrictions which might hold us back from the truth - especially if we employ the scientific method in examining any theories involving metaphysical claims.*

# 1. The God Of Christianity Is The Only God Who Fits The Data

Since there is sufficient evidence to show that the universe began and therefore must have had a beginning, we must also include the dimensions of time and space as part of that beginning. Therefore the “Beginning Cause” must have been outside of time and space. This is one of the central claims of the Bible about God: *He is eternal and dwells “above the heavens”* (Heb. 7:26) - that is, *God is outside of time and space*. At this point, we could apply these deductions using the scientific method to dismiss the claims of certain religions that present their “God” as being a part of time and space (pantheism). This includes Buddhism and Hinduism. Secondly, these religions attribute eternity to the universe (since in their minds, the universe is divine). The Dalai Lama has written-

“...the universe is *“infinite and beginningless.”*”

Dalai Lama, “The Universe In A Single Atom”



But in the previous quote of the Dalai Lama he admits that the latest cosmology shows that the universe had a beginning (the “Big Bang”) and that this is at odds with Buddhist philosophy. Given the choice between the evidence and Buddhism he is tentatively still clinging to Buddhism (despite the evidence that shows it is false).





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