

God – The Existence of God Rom. 1:20-23

Thesis: To prove that God does exist.

Introduction:

The Bible has always assumed that God existed.

Gen. 1:1 - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

We have to believe that God exists in order to be pleasing to Him.

Heb. 11:6 - But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

So how do we know that He exist?

It is difficult to prove that God exists by using His word. The reason is that those who do not believe in God will not be convinced by His word. However, there are ways, outside of the Bible, that we can know that God does indeed exist.

I. The argument of Cause and Effect (Cosmological)

A. This argument asks the basic question, “What caused this earth to exist?”

1. Because the earth is contingent (i.e. it is dependent upon something outside of itself to explain its existence), there must have been something that caused the earth to come into existence.
 - a. There is some point at which the earth did not exist as it now does.
 - b. If the earth had no beginning, it would not exist today.
2. The earth had to be caused by something.
 - a. It is impossible for something to be created from nothing without an outside force (i.e. God).
 - b. There must be a cause to the universe; and that cause is God.

B. Notice the simple example of a building.

1. A building does not appear out of nowhere.
2. A builder does not place the materials of a building in one spot and hope for building to appear.
 - a. It takes work for a building to appear.
 - b. If there is a building, there has to be a creator of the building.
3. Even the Hebrew writer used this argument (**Heb. 3:4** - For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.)

C. Notice the objection to the Cosmological (cause and effect) Argument

1. The main objection to this argument is that of an “infinite series of finite causes.”
2. Simply stated, there are endless causes that occurred so that the earth can exist in its present state.

3. But we ask:
 - a. At what point did this miraculous process occur?
 - b. At what point did the earth go from non-existence to existence?

II. The argument of Design (Teleological)

A. The earth and everything in it has a specific design to it.

1. Notice the design of the earth.
 - a. The earth is 93 million miles from the sun.
 - b. The sun is 12,000 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - c. If the earth were to move in either direction, we would either freeze to death or burn up.
 - d. In fact, if the earth were to slow its rotation around the sun, we would also either freeze or burn up.
 - e. The earth has a perfect design to keep life on earth.
 - f. If the earth has a design to it, it must also have a Designer.
2. Notice the design of our human bodies.
 - a. Look at some of the systems that we have within our bodies.
 - 1) Nervous
 - 2) Digestive
 - 3) Circulatory
 - 4) Respiratory
 - 5) Reproductive
 - 6) Skeletal
 - 7) Sensory
 - b. Each of these systems contains millions of functioning parts.
 - c. In order for our bodies to have so many functioning parts, there has to be a design to our bodies.
 - d. If there is a design, there has to be a Designer.
3. Because of the design of all that is around us, we can know that there must be a Designer.

B. Notice again, the simple example of a building.

1. You can know that a building has a designer because of its design.
2. We are able to use a building because of the design of the building.
3. It is easy to see a purpose to the design of a church building.
 - a. There is space for an office.
 - b. There are rooms designed for classrooms, and a hall that connects one room from another.
 - c. There is a large room that is used for the auditorium.
4. The point is that our building has a specific design to it.
 - a. Therefore, it must, by necessity, have a designer.
 - b. The same is true with the earth; it has a design, and therefore, there must be a Designer.

III. Throughout the Bible, we read of these arguments,

A. It is evident, by looking at the earth and the things in it, that God does exist.

1. **Rom. 1:20-23** - For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, {21} because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. {22} Professing to be wise, they became fools, {23} and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man-- and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.
2. **Ps. 19:1** - The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork.
3. **Acts 14:15-17** (When the people of Lystra wanted to worship them as gods) - and saying, "Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men with the same nature as you, and preach to you that you should turn from these useless things to the living God, who made the heaven, the earth, the sea, and all things that are in them, {16} who in bygone generations allowed all nations to walk in their own ways. {17} Nevertheless He did not leave Himself without witness, in that He did good, gave us rain from heaven and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness."
4. **Acts 17:24-27** (Paul in Athens at the Areopagus) - God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. {25} Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. {26} And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, {27} so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

B. It takes more faith to believe that God does not exist than it does to believe that He does exist!

1. There is no doubt that God exist!

Conclusion: