

# Arguments for the Existence of God

## INTRODUCTION:

Have you ever talked to someone and you are trying to talk to them about God and they don't believe the Bible is the Word of God and they aren't even sure that God exists. What should you do when you are talking to them?

### I. Non-apologetic approach

If someone says to you that they don't believe that the Bible is the Word of God, you could say something like this: "I know you wouldn't just reject it without having read it and having examined it first. What would you say is the primary message of the Bible?"

You could then share with them what you believe is the overarching message of the Bible, which is the gospel.

### II. Get them to doubt their doubts

1) I want to suggest that if you are a Christian and you are struggling with doubts you need to wrestle with your doubts. Matthew 11:1-5

Why?

- (a) This will strengthen your faith- help you develop your own convictions
- (b) It will also enable you to provide grounds for your beliefs to skeptics and hopefully cause you to respect and understand those who do doubt.

2) Likewise, skeptics need to look for reasons behind their beliefs, for all doubts are really a set of alternate beliefs.

- (a) For example: if you say you doubt Christianity, "that there can't be just one religion", you must recognize that this statement is itself an act of faith.
- (b) The reason that you doubt Christianity Belief A is because you hold to your own subjective Belief B by faith. Every doubt, therefore, is based on a leap of faith.

3) The only way to doubt Christianity rightly and fairly is to discern the alternative belief under each of your doubts and then to ask yourself what reasons you have for believing it. How do you know your belief is true?

For example, if you reject that God created the world, what is your explanation of the world's existence? How do you know that is right and the other is wrong? Which belief requires more faith to believe?

- 4) It would be inconsistent to require more justification for Christian belief than you do for your own alternative beliefs.
- 5) Therefore, you need to recognize the beliefs on which your doubts about Christianity are based and ask, "Do you seek just as much evidence for your alternative beliefs?"  
Often when you begin to seek as much proof for your beliefs as you do for Christianity, you find that your doubts aren't as solid as they first appeared.
- 6) In summary, skeptics need to wrestle with the unexamined "blind faith" on which skepticism is based and see how hard it is to justify those beliefs with those who do not share them.
- 7) Believers need to wrestle with their personal and culture's objections to the faith, as well. If Christianity is true, and I believe that it is, then we don't need to be afraid to investigate it and seek the truth. That doesn't mean that we will always fully understand everything (as God is infinitely beyond us) but God has given us more than enough to know Him and to follow Him.

What I want to do with the remainder of our time is give you some arguments for the existence of God. The first argument is called the Moral argument for the existence of God.

III. Some Argue That All the Evil in the World Proves There is No God.

They say, "If there was a good God, He wouldn't allow evil and He would stop all evil. Since there is evil, then God must not exist."

IV. I want to suggest that Evil Proves the Existence of God

- A. If there is no God, then there is no basis for morality- determining right or wrong.
- B. Some may deny that objective moral value exists and say that all morality is subjective or relative. But let the professor flunk this moral relativist based on that opinion, and he will cry that he is being treated "unfairly"; and not just Unfairly in a subjective sense, either. Rom. 2: 1-3
- C. If there is no God, then how can you call anything good or bad? Whose morality do you choose?
- D. But all of us have an intrinsic and intuitive sense that some things are right and some things are wrong. Otherwise, you couldn't argue what Hitler did was wrong or that rape is wrong. (Rom. 2:14-15)  
The Bible calls this our conscience. But if we are just random products of chance, then where does the sense of right and wrong come from?

E. But once you concede that morality exists, then you have to ponder where this objective standard comes from. This, then, is the moral argument. In its simplest form:

- 1) If objective moral value exists (if there is such a thing as right or wrong), then God exists
- 2) Since Objective moral value exists
- 3) Therefore, God exists

F. Or we could say it this way:

- 1) If you assume evil, then you must assume good.
- 2) To define good and bad, you acknowledge a moral law.
- 3) There can be no moral law without a law giver.
- 4) Therefore, there must be a God.

IV. Next steps if there is a God.

A. God is a spirit (John 4: 24) which means that we can't experience Him with our five physical senses.

However, that doesn't mean that we don't see evidence of His existence (Rom. 1:19-20). Just as we can't see the wind, we certainly can see evidences of a tornado.

1. When we look at creation we see design and purpose.  
The universe has order, symmetry, patterns, seasons, therefore it points to a designer.
2. When we see the universe we see this great effect that must have had a cause.  
The idea is that a sufficient cause must have existed to account for this effect for the cause is always greater than the effect.

To take this a step further, the personal is greater than the impersonal. A person is of greater significance than a rock. And since the cause must be greater than the effect, it only makes sense that the effect (a person) must have been caused by a person (God).

3. If anything exists now it must have been eternal or else something not eternal must have come from nothing. That doesn't make sense. Since we don't just see randomness it makes sense that the universe was created by an eternal being.

B. Therefore, for us to know God (who is Spirit) means that He is going to have to do something to reveal himself to us. He did this in two personal ways.

1. Through Jesus coming to earth. Heb. 1:1-3
2. Through giving us His written Word 2 Peter. 1:20-21, 2 Tim. 3:16

## Conclusion

It is one thing to have doubts and sincerely seeking answers. It is another thing to have doubts but not really wanting to know the truth. In those situations, it is legitimate to ask, "How much evidence will be necessary for you to believe?" God has given us lots of evidence that point to His existence. Are you willing to seek it out and submit to Him?

### SMALL GROUPS:

- 1) What convinces you that there is a God?
- 2) What are the implications if there is no God?
  - No basis for morality
  - No basis for purpose in life
  - No basis for meaning in life
- 3) What are the implications of how we should live if there is a God? Why?
  - As our Creator, He has the right to tell us how to live
  - As our Savior, we don't belong to ourselves and should live to please Him
  - As our Father, He has demonstrated His love for us and how can we respond in any other way, but to love Him and spend time with Him in relationship?
- 4) Is that how you are living your life? Why or why not?

