Explaining Christianity

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Part 1: Explaining the Existence of God

CHALLENGE QUESTION: How do you know God exists since you can't see him, hear him, or measure him scientifically?



From the beginning of time, humanity has wrestled with one of life's greatest questions: *Does God really exist?* Some insist that faith in God is blind or outdated—that science has explained everything. Yet, the more we learn about the universe, the more it points back to design, purpose, and intelligence. Our moral sense, our longing for meaning, and even the precise order of creation all whisper the same truth: *there must*

be a Creator. This study invites you to explore the evidence—both logical and spiritual—that belief in God isn't wishful thinking, but the most reasonable conclusion about life, the universe, and who we are.

A. COMMON OBJECTIONS TO GOD'S EXISTENCE

- "You can't prove God exists."
- "Faith is blind. You're simply assuming God exists"
- "If God exists, why is there evil and suffering?"
- "Science explains everything; the Bible doesn't."

B. THE NEED TO EXPLAIN GOD'S EXISTENCE

- Because God commands us to give an answer (1 Peter 3:15). Christians are called to defend their faith with gentleness and respect (1 Peter 3:15). Explaining God's existence helps others understand the reason behind our hope and faith.
- Because people are searching for truth (Eccl. 3:11). Scripture: "He has planted eternity in the human heart." Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT). Many people are confused or misled about where life came from and why we exist. Deep down, people want to know there's meaning and purpose and Christians can point them to the Creator who gives it.

• Because faith (believing) comes from hearing the truth about God (Romans 10:17). People come to believe in God when they hear the truth clearly explained. Explaining God's existence opens the door for others to hear and believe the Gospel.

C. LOGICAL EXPLANATIONS FOR GOD'S EXISTENCE

- Every culture generally has had an awareness of a supreme being (Ontological Argument). Why do people in <u>crisis instinctively call out to God?</u> The Bible points out that all people have an <u>inner sense of God (Romans1:19-21)</u>,
- Man's moral sense gives evidence of God's existence (Anthropological Argument) Illustration: When someone lies, steals, or hurts another person, we instinctively know it's wrong even if no one taught us. That "inner voice" isn't random; it's evidence that a man has always had an inner sense of right and wrong, and of the need for justice to be done. There must be some basis or reason for moral behavior that is beyond this life. How is this phenomenon explained? God made us in His image. Our conscience isn't an accident it's God's fingerprint on the human soul.
- The apparent order of the universe gives evidence of God's existence (Teleological Argument). Many Christian and non-Christian world-class scientists acknowledge that there appears to be order and purpose in the universe. How is this explained? So...how can someone explain these phenomena if God does not exist?
- The slowing down of the universe gives evidence of God's existence (Cosmological Argument). Scientists agree that the universe seems to be slowing down. This is based on the Law of Entropy, the 2nd law of thermodynamics. Since the universe seems to be slowing down there must have been a beginning. What caused this beginning Scientists are convinced that our universe began with one enormous explosion of energy and light, which we now call the "Big Bang." This was the singular start to everything that exists: the beginning of the universe, the start of space, and even the initial start of time itself.

D. SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE POINTS TO GOD

- The universe had a beginning (Big Bang theory). Time, space, and matter all came into existence together. To say this just happened is false. Only a powerful God could cause this to happen.
- DNA and the "code of life," require intelligence design DNA contains a 3-billion-letter code in every cell. Codes, the genetic instructions stored in DNA, clearly had require

intelligence. Psalm 139:14 (NLT): "Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous."

- Human mind and morality reflect God's qualities Humans possess reason, love, creativity, and morality—qualities that reflect God's image (Genesis 1:27).
- Fine-Tuning and Constants Over 30 universal constants (gravity, electromagnetic force, etc.) are precisely calibrated for life. A change in any would make life impossible. Sir Fred Hoyle remarked, "A super-intellect has monkeyed with physics."

E. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Provide responses to each of the following objections about the existence of God.

1. Objection: "You can't prove God exists."

2. Objection: "Faith is blind. You're simply assuming God exists."

3. Objection: "If God existed there would be no evil and suffering in the world."

4. Objection: "Science explains everything; the Bible doesn't."

F. SUMMARY

The existence of God is supported by creation, conscience, Christ, and common sense. Faith in God is not irrational—it's the most reasonable explanation for the existence of everything. Belief in God is both rational and relational, grounded in truth and experienced through Jesus Christ.

Christianity begins not with religion, but with reality: a real God who created a real world and invites us into a real relationship through His Son, Jesus Christ.

Where to Get More Information

Craig, W. L. (2008). Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics (3rd ed.). Crossway.

Geisler, N. L., & Turek, F. (2004). I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist. Crossway.

Strobel, L. (1998). *The Case for a Creator*. Zondervan.

Keller, T. (2008). The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism. Dutton.

McDowell, J. (1999). The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict. Thomas Nelson.

Lewis, C. S. (1952). Mere Christianity. HarperCollins.

Recommended Online Resources

GotQuestions.org – "Does God Exist?" and "Evidence for God" articles.

CrossExamined.org – Dr. Frank Turek's short apologetics videos and talks.

ReasonableFaith.org – Dr. William Lane Craig's debates and Q&A resources.

AnswersinGenesis.org – Scientific and biblical explanations about creation and design.