

WHY I BELIEVE IN GOD

SCRIPTURES: Genesis 1:1; Psalm 14:1; Psalm 19:1; John 3:31-33; Romans 1:20

- In my preaching here at the Village Church, I have been considering the theme – **“Why I Believe.”**
- The first two (2) sermons we considered were **“Why I Believe In The Bible.”** In the first sermon, we looked at **predictive prophecy fulfilled.** In the second sermon, we looked at **archeological evidences.**
- In the last sermon, we considered **“Why I Believe In Jesus Christ.”** We learned that there were many **witnesses** that saw Him before and after His resurrection which proved that He existed.
- The main premise in all of these sermons is **evidence!** And with that in mind, we want to continue this idea of **evidence!**
- Brethren, we do NOT walk in blind faith nor does God or Jesus want us to walk in blind faith!
- So tonight, we will again examine the **evidence** as we consider our subject, **“Why I Believe In God.”**
- But first, if you have your Bibles, let us read the following verses.
- **GENESIS 1:1** - *“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”*
- **PSALM 14:1** - *“The fool hath said in his heart, ‘There is no God.’ They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.”*
- **PSALM 19:1** - *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament (skies or dome) sheweth His handywork.”*
- **JOHN 3:31-33** - *“He (Jesus) that cometh from above is above all; He that is of the earth is earthy, and speaketh of the earth: He that cometh from Heaven is above all. And what He hath seen and heard, that He testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. He that hath received His testimony hath set to His (Jesus) seal that **God is true.**”* Jesus is saying that God exists because He has seen Him!
- **ROMANS 1:20** - *“For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”* The Apostle Paul is saying that **creation** proves that there is a God!
- Tonight, I want us to consider especially the two (2) verses from **Psalm 19:1** and **Roman 1:20** where it says, **“the firmament (skies) sheweth His handywork”** and **“the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen.”**

ILLUSTRATION: “Where Is God?” (From page 1)

In 1962, the second Soviet cosmonaut, Gherman Titov, told an audience at the Seattle World’s Fair, *“I saw neither angels nor God”* and *“No god was helping make the rocket.”* C.S. Lewis responded to the *“I see no God”* claim – often attributed to Soviet cosmonauts – by **arguing that looking for God in space is like Hamlet looking for Shakespeare in his attic.** He asserted that God is the author of the universe’s framework (space and time) not an object within it to be found by empirical study. Lewis stated in an article (*“The Seeing Eye”*) that those who do not find God on Earth are unlikely to find Him in space, as they are looking for a creature, not the Creator.

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INTRODUCTION:

(1) ILLUSTRATION: IT TAKES NO BRAINS

Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "It takes no brains to be an atheist. Any stupid person can deny the existence of a super-natural power because man's physical senses cannot detect it. But there cannot be ignored the mystery of first life...or the marvellous order in which the universe moves about us. All of these evidence the handiwork of a beneficent Deity. For my part, that Deity is the God of the Bible and Christ, His Son,"

(2) ILLUSTRATION: WHERE IS GOD?

A heathen philosopher once asked a Christian, "Where is God?" The Christian answered, "Let me first ask you, Where is He not?"

- (3) Is there a God or not? This question eclipses all other questions that mankind might ask.
- (4) Should you feel that statement is the opinion of a theologian or a preacher, then listen to this statement, found in *THE GREAT IDEAS SYNTOPICON*, the crucial study guide for the Great Books series, a remarkable collection of most of the combined wisdom of Western civilization from the time of Thales to the present.
- (5) Mortimer Adler states, "With the exception of certain mathematicians and physicists, all authors of the Great Books are represented in the chapter on God."
- (6) The reason is obvious.
- (7) More consequences for thought and action follow
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the affirmation or denial of God than the answering of any other basic question.

- (8) The whole tenor of human life is affected by whether men regard themselves as the supreme being in the universe, or acknowledge a superhuman being whom they conceive of as an object of fear or love and a force to be defied or a Lord to be obeyed.
- (9) In this time of militant, marching atheism, which is spreading itself like a deadly fungus across our world, we need to consider the significance of this question and the evidence for the existence of God.

I. HAS SCIENCE DISPROVED GOD?

A. SCIENCE IS PREPARING A SURPRISE FOR MANKIND!

1. Perhaps one of the most commonly held opinions of modern sophisticated Americans is that somehow science has disproved God or, as Julian Huxley said, they have reduced Him "to simply the disappearing smile of the Cheshire cat."
 2. In his book *GOD, THE ATOM AND THE UNIVERSE*, James Reid states that some scientists may be startled to find that their newly uncovered fact, or accepted theory, provides still another link in the chain of evidence that is showing that the facts of the universe support the Bible's statements - including creation!
 3. As we moved into this century and the old classical physics gave way to the new quantum physics, the atomic theory, a whole new concept of the universe emerged.
 4. As Einstein's theory of relativity revealed the inner relationship of mass and energy, he suddenly found that the new discoveries of science were establishing the teachings of the Scripture.
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5. The facts of the universe are supported increasingly by the findings of science, and the consequences of this are incalculable.

B. ASTRONOMERS.

1. Have scientists disproved God?
2. There is no branch of science which looks at a larger portion of God's handiwork than do astronomers.
3. The Scripture says: *"The Heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handiwork"* (Psalm 19:1).
4. Ninety percent of all astronomers today believe in God!
5. Those who have most thoroughly examined His handiwork believe in God.
6. That is a higher percentage than will be found of butchers, bakers, or candlestick makers.
7. Those who have looked most intently and to the farthest extent that man has been able to see in the universe have concluded that the hand that made it is Divine.

II. THE COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT.

A. TERM "COSMOS."

1. There are many different arguments for the existence of God.
2. One is known as the cosmological argument.
3. The cosmological argument comes from the term "cosmos," which means the universe and from which we get the word "cosmetic."
4. It means ordered and beautiful, and there is within the universe so much evidence of order that it would be impossible to list it all.

B. QUANTUM PHYSICS.

1. Quantum physics, the atomic theory, has demonstrated that at the level of subatomic particles, there is an irresistible urge of electrons toward symmetry and that there is an amazing cosmetic aspect to the universe.
2. One author said that nature is a great architect, meaning that nature is God.
3. It is also a great astronomer, a great chemist, a great physiologist, a great psychologist, and a great mathematician, demonstrating an incredible knowledge of the facts of the various sciences now known to mankind, which have all said the same thing.

II. THE TELEOLOGICAL ARGUMENT.

A. THE UNIVERSE IS DESIGNED FOR A PURPOSE.

1. The word "telos" in Greek means the end, and teleology is that view of philosophy which sees that in the universe things are designed for a purpose, for an end.
2. Atheists and evolutionists (they must almost invariably be one and the same) detest the words purpose or teleology because they believe that the world has no purpose.
3. They believe it is all one gigantic accident, simply the linking together of atoms that happened to come together in a chance fashion.
4. Although people may say that things exist in an incredibly complex way and that is the only reason why we are here, it is hard for the human mind to disregard the fantastic number of evidences that Someone has been providing for our well-being.

B. MASS & SIZE OF THIS PLANET.

1. Consider the mass and size of this planet
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upon which we have been placed. IT IS JUST RIGHT!

2. Dr. Wallace says that if the earth were either 10 percent larger or 10 percent smaller than it is, life would not be possible upon this planet.
3. Furthermore, it is just the right distance from the sun, and thus we receive the right amount of heat and light. *1/10 of a degree*
4. If it were farther away, we would freeze, and if it were closer (such as the distance of Mercury or Venus) we would not be able to survive.

C. TILT OF THE EARTH.

1. Consider the amazing fact of the tilt of the axis of the earth.
2. None of the other planets is tilted as ours is - 23 degrees.
3. This angle provides that the earth is slowly turned in all parts of its surface before the rays of the sun, much as a chicken would be turned upon a spit.
4. If there were no tilt to the axis, the poles would accumulate enormous masses of ice, and the center part of the earth would become intensely hot.

IV. THE WONDER OF THE ATMOSPHERE.

A. GREAT OCEAN OF AIR.

1. We live under a great ocean of air - 78 percent nitrogen, 21 percent oxygen, and the other 1 percent is made up of almost a dozen different trace elements.
 2. Spectrographic studies of other planets in the stellar universe show that no other atmosphere, no other part of the known universe is made up of these same
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ingredients or anything like this composition.

B. **ELEMENTS MIXED MECHANICALLY.**

1. These elements are not chemically combined but are continually mixed mechanically by the tidal effect of the moon upon the atmosphere.
2. This has the same effect that it has upon the seas and always provides the same amount of oxygen.
3. Though man dumps a tremendous amount of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, this is absorbed into the ocean and man is able to continue to live on this planet.
4. If the atmosphere were not as thick as it is, we would be crushed by the billion pieces of cosmic debris and meteorites that fall continually upon our planet.

V. **THE NITROGEN CYCLE.**

A. **NEEDED FOR PLANTS IN THE GROUND.** (INACTIVE)

1. Nitrogen is extremely inert - if it were not, we would all be poisoned by different forms of nitrous combinations.
2. However, because of its inertness, it is impossible for us to get it to combine naturally with other things.
3. It is definitely needed for plants in the ground.

B. **LIGHTNING.**

1. How does God provide to get the nitrogen out of the air into the soil?
 2. He does so by lightning!
 3. One hundred thousand lightning bolts strike this planet daily, creating a hundred million tons of usable nitrogen
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plant food in the soil every year.

VI. THE WONDER OF THE LAYER OF OZONE.

A. A PROTECTOR.

1. Forty miles up there is a thin layer of ozone.
2. If compressed it would be only a quarter of an inch thick, and yet without it life could not exist.
3. Eight killer rays fall upon this planet continually from the sun; without ozone we would be burned, blinded and broiled by them in just a day or two.
4. The ultraviolet rays come in two forms: longer rays which are deadly and are screened out, and shorter rays which are necessary for life on earth and are admitted by the ozone layer.
5. Furthermore, the most deadly of these rays are allowed through the ozone layer in just a very thin amount, enough to kill the green algae, which otherwise would grow to fill all the lakes, rivers, and oceans of the world.

B. GOD CONTINUALLY PROVIDES FOR LIFE.

1. How little we realize what God is continuously doing to provide for our life.
 2. We see that we live with a tiny ozone layer protecting us from an unseen deadly bombardment that constantly comes down upon our heads.
 3. Beneath us is a thin rock crust, thinner than the skin of an apple in comparison.
 4. Beneath that is the molten lava that forms the core of this earth.
 5. So man lives between the burning, blackening rays above and that molten lava be-
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low, either of which would burn him to a crisp.

6. Yet man is totally oblivious that God has so arranged things that he can exist in such a world as this.

VII. THE WONDER OF WATER.

A. ABUNDANCE OF WATER.

1. Nowhere else in the universe do we find water in any abundance except here on the earth.
2. Water, the amazing solvent, dissolves almost everything upon this earth except those things which are life-sustaining.
3. This amazing liquid exists as ice, breaks up rocks, and produces soil.
4. As snow, it stores up water in the valleys.
5. As rain, it waters and cleanses the earth.
6. As vapor, it provides moisture for much of the arable land of this earth.

B. CLOUDS.

1. It exists as cloud cover, in just the right amount.
2. If we had clouds like Venus, Earth could not exist.
3. But we have exactly 50 percent of the surface of the earth covered by clouds at any one time, allowing just the right amount of sunlight to come through.

C. OTHER ELEMENTS.

1. As steam, it runs the powerful machinery that we have here on the earth.
 2. Other than bismuth, a type of ore, it is the only liquid that is heavier at 4° C. than it is at freezing.
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3. If this were not so, life could not exist on this planet.
4. Therefore, when it is frozen, it is lighter and it rises.
5. If this were not so, lakes and rivers would freeze from the bottom up and kill all fish.
6. The algae would be destroyed and our oxygen supply would cease, and mankind would die.

III. OTHER WONDERS.

- A. **THE MOON:** creates tides which aerates the oceans providing oxygen for plankton, and without plankton, there would not be oxygen and man would not be able to live upon this earth.
- B. **DUST:** if it were not for dust, we would never see a blue sky and it would never rain. One drop of rain is made up of eight million droplets of water, and each one of those eight million droplets is wrapped around a tiny particle of dust.

IX. WONDER OF ALL WONDERS, THE HUMAN BODY.

- A. **BLOOD & BLOOD CELLS.**
- B. **HEART.**
- C. **EYE.**
- D. **BRAIN.**

CONCLUSION:

- (1) Not only are these compelling reasons for the existence of God, but I believe in God because I believe in Jesus Christ.
 - (2) The prophecies, the birth, the life, the mir-
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acles, the teachings, the death and the resurrection of Jesus Christ, and His continuous performance of those things which He said He would do convince me that God lives and that God lived in Jesus Christ and even now can transform people.

- (3) I believe in God: However, to believe in Him is not enough, for even the devil believes in God and trembles.
- (4) It is necessary that we believe and that we repent of our sins and cast ourselves at His feet and place our trust in Him.