

LESSON # 31
HARD QUESTIONS SERIES
“DOES GOD EXIST?”

Genesis 1:1

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

How do I know **there is a God?**

No one has **ever seen God.**

I have never seen the North Pole, but is there **evidence it exists?**

Is it necessary for me to see everything in order for me to believe it is there?

There are at least three reasons to believe that God exists.

- (1) There is Something **inside of us** that keep leading us to believe there is God
- (2) The **Scriptures and Jesus Christ** attest to God being there
- (3) **“Nature” or “Creation”** teach us that God is there.

(I) PEOPLE HAVE AN “INNER-SENSE” THAT THERE IS A GOD

A) On October 25, 2004, Time Magazine ran a cover article called the “The God Gene” with a line that asked, “Does our DNA compel us to seek a ‘higher power.’ Believe it or not some scientists say yes.”

B) Wayne Grudem says, “All persons everywhere have a deep, inner sense that **God exists**, that they are **His creatures**, and that He is their **Creator**.”

C) Romans 1:21 *“For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.”*

This passage us what Time Magazine is telling us that people have an internal sense of God. However they reject God, for a variety of reasons. Not the least being that we want to do what we want to do with our lives and not be answerable to anyone.

D) Romans 1:19 tells us that there are some things about God that are evident to everybody. *“Since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.”*

E) Romans 1:18 *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness”*

This verse says that people “suppress the truth.” This is similar to what we try to do with a beach ball in a pool, when we sit on it and try and keep it under the water. It keeps trying to

come out and get around us. It is difficult to keep the knowledge of God at bay and to get him out of our minds.

(II) THE SCRIPTURES AND JESUS SPEAK OF GOD AS EXISTING AND CREATOR OF ALL THINGS

Psalm 19:1-4

The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard.

Hebrews 3:4

For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.

Romans 1:18-20

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

Acts 17:29

"Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

JESUS AS CREATOR

Colossians 1:16-17

For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

John 1:1-4

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men.

(III) TRADITIONAL AND HISTORICAL ARGUMENTS FOR GOD'S EXISTENCE (Don't worry about remembering the names, but get the concepts)

A) COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT: This means that everything that is made is made. That everything that exists has a "first cause." If the Creation which is so vast, so complex and so extensive, it's "cause" must be God.

B) THE TELEOLOGICAL ARGUMENT says that everything in the universe is orderly. It all has a purpose. There is design. Since these things are true, the conclusion is that there is an intelligent Creator behind everything.

C) THE ONTOLOGICAL ARGUMENT says that since everything is “great beyond what we could ever, ask, think or imagine.” than the One behind it all is greater than th Creation itself. It must be God!

D) THE MORAL ARGUMENT is the idea that everybody has some internal sense of right in wrong on the inside. The idea here is if everybody has the same internal compass, it must come from somewhere, and that somewhere is the God Who exists.

E) CADO The ministry of Evangelism Explosion uses the acronym CADO

- 1) **Creation**—every time you see a piece of machinery, you see an engine, a motorcycle, a car, even a bicycle, you know it has a creator.
- 2) **Art**— every time you see a piece of art, you know it has an artist.
- 3) **Design**— every time you see a wrist watch, you know it has a designer.
- 4) **Order**—every time you see order, like ten coke cans lined up on a counter, you know it has an “order-er.”

When we look around at the universe, what do we see? We see creation, art, design, and order. If everything else has a creator, artist, designer, and order-er behind it, isn't it reasonable to expect that behind this incredibly intricate, complicated, and marvelous universe there is also a **Creator, Artist, Designer, and Order-er** behind it?

All we're asking for is reason and consistency. Creation/Creator, art/Artist, design/Designer, Order/Order-er: logical, reasonable proof that there is a God behind this universe.

