#### Is There A God?

Isaiah 45:18 January 20, 2018 Pastor Gary Hollinger

# God has given <u>sufficient</u> <u>evidence</u> of His existence that a reasonable and rational person may believe, but not so much that all room for disbelief is erased.

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. (Hebrews 11:6)

# It is more far more reasonable and rational to believe in a <u>Creator</u> than <u>chance</u> and chaos...

#### Science/Athiesm

- 1) The universe just exploded into being.
- 2) Non-living matter (dirt) spontaneously "came to life"
- 3) "Life" didn't quickly die off but instead "evolved" and multiplied both in numbers and in types in ever increasing complexity.
- 4) Man is just another animal (accident of evolution)
  - No meaning survival of the fittest
- 5) Good and evil are human constructs (changeable)

### Design/Creationism

1) Universe is product of God's creative will

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

"You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, since you created all things, and because of your will they existed and were created!" (Revelation 4:11)

2) God designed and created both plant and animal life

God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: plants yielding seeds according to their kinds, and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds." It was so. (Genesis 1:11ff)

3) God made creatures to reproduce "after their kind"

God said, "Let the water swarm with swarms of living creatures and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." ...God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: cattle, creeping things, and wild animals, each according to its kind." It was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the cattle according to their kinds, and all the creatures that creep along the ground according to their kinds. God saw that it was good. (Genesis 1:20-25)

#### 4) Man was created in God's image

Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, after our likeness, so they may rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move on the earth." (Genesis 1:26)

• Inherent worth – responsibility to God

The LORD God formed the man from the soil of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. (Genesis 2:7)

- 5) Good and evil are defined by Creator God (permanent)
- I. The evidence of **Cosmology** points most accurately to a Creator.
- II. The evidence of Physics points most accurately to a Creator.

In the past 40 or so years, a strange fact about our Universe gradually made itself known to scientists: the laws of physics, and the initial conditions of our Universe, are fine-tuned for the possibility of life. It turns out that, for life to be possible, the numbers in basic physics – for example, the strength of gravity, or the mass of the electron – must have values falling in a certain range. And that range is an incredibly narrow slice of all the possible values those numbers can have. It is therefore incredibly unlikely that a universe like ours would have the kind of numbers compatible with the existence of life. But, against all the odds, our Universe does."

The author goes on to say, "... like many scientists and philosophers, I find this implausible. In *The Life of the Cosmos* (1999), the physicist Lee Smolin has estimated that, taking into account all of the fine-tuning examples considered, the chance of life existing in the Universe is 1 in  $10^{229}$ , from which he concludes In my opinion, a probability this tiny is not something we can let go unexplained. Luck will certainly not do here; we need some rational explanation of how something this unlikely turned out to be the case."

For this is what the LORD says—
he who created the heavens,
he is God;
he who fashioned and made the earth,
he founded it;
he did not create it to be empty,
but formed it to be inhabited—
he says:
"I am the LORD,
and there is no other. (Isaiah 45:18)

...because what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world his invisible attributes—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, because they are understood through what has been made. So people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not glorify him as God or give him thanks, but they became futile in their thoughts and their senseless hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for an image resembling mortal human beings or birds or four-footed animals or reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the desires of their hearts to impurity, to dishonor their bodies among themselves. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creation rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. (Romans 1:19-25)

## III. The evidence of **Biology** points most accurately to a Creator.

The Case for a Creator; Lee Strobel (Zondervan) Darwin's Black Box; Michael Behe (Free Press)

Darwin on Trial; Phillip Johnson (IVP)

Discovery Institute: https://www.discovery.org Answers in Genesis: https://answersingenesis.org