

# 12 Points That Show Christianity Is True

By Dr. David Geisler

1. Truth About Reality Is Knowable.
2. The Opposite Of True Is False.
- 3. It Is True That The Theistic God Exists.**

# BUILDING A BRIDGE USING THE FIVE PLANKS

1. "I am accountable."
2. "I cannot measure up."
3. "I am a sinner."
4. "I need an outside source for help."
5. "I need what only Jesus can give."

**If you and I were created shouldn't we expect to be accountable in some way to our Creator?**



# 12 Steps That Show Christianity Is True

1. Truth about reality is knowable.
2. The opposite of true is false.
3. **It is true that the theistic God exists.**
4. If God exists then miracles are possible.
5. Miracles can be used to confirm a message from God.
6. The New Testament is historically reliable.
7. The New Testament says Jesus claimed to be God.
8. Jesus' claim to be God was miraculously confirmed by:
  - a. His fulfillment of many prophecies about Himself;
  - b. His sinless and miraculous life;
  - c. His prediction and accomplishment of His resurrection
9. Therefore, Jesus is God.
10. Whatever Jesus (who is God) teaches is true.
11. Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God.
12. Therefore, it is true that the Bible is the Word of God (and anything opposed to it is false).

*See **Twelve Points That Show Christianity Is True** by **Dr. Norman Geisler**  
(This can be ordered on Amazon)*

# Last Week...

Truth is what:

- MATCHES THE FACTS
- Corresponds to REALITY

Contradictions (or opposites)

- Cannot both be true at the same time and in the same sense.
- If a statement is true, its contradiction is false.



# So Far...

1. Truth About Reality Is Knowable.
2. The Opposite Of True Is False.
- 3. It Is True That The Theistic God Exists.**

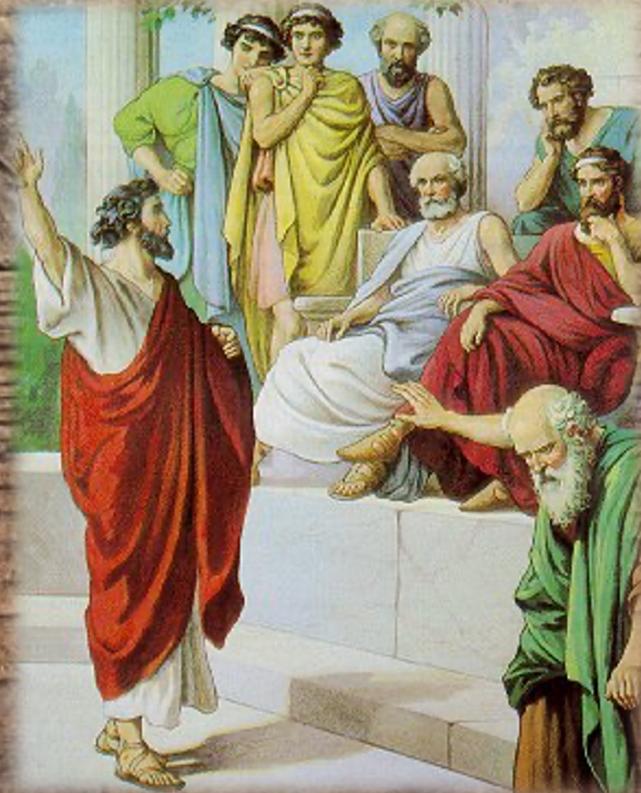
Find common ground with those you are trying to reach.

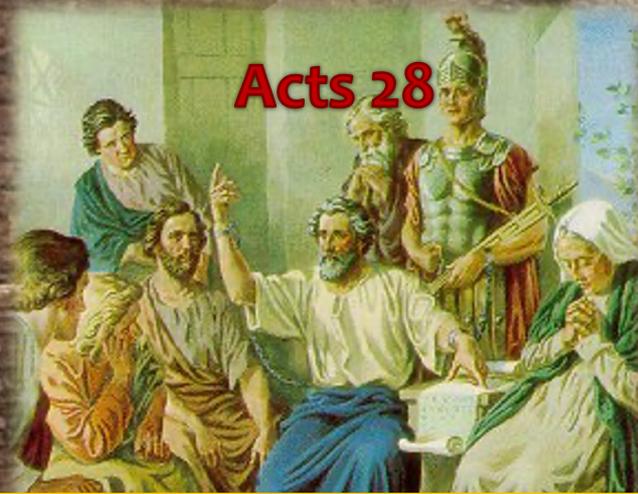
“To the weak I became weak,  
to win the weak.  
I have become all things to all  
men so that by all possible  
means I might save some.”

1 CORINTHIANS 9:22

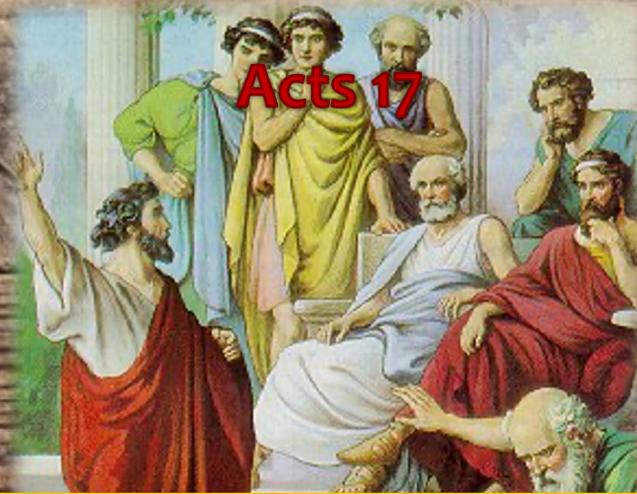


The Apostle Paul kept in mind  
where people were coming from...





**Acts 28**



**Acts 17**

The Apostle Paul's approach was different depending on the perspective of the audience he spoke to.

## **Persuading them From the Law and Prophets (Acts 28:23)**

“...They came to him at his lodging in large numbers and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God; and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening” (Acts 28:23).



From the Law and Prophets

Paul's approach in Acts 28:23-24

The Apostles' aim was merely to show that Jesus was the fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures concerning the Messiah (Acts 28:23).



Persuading them the nature of God

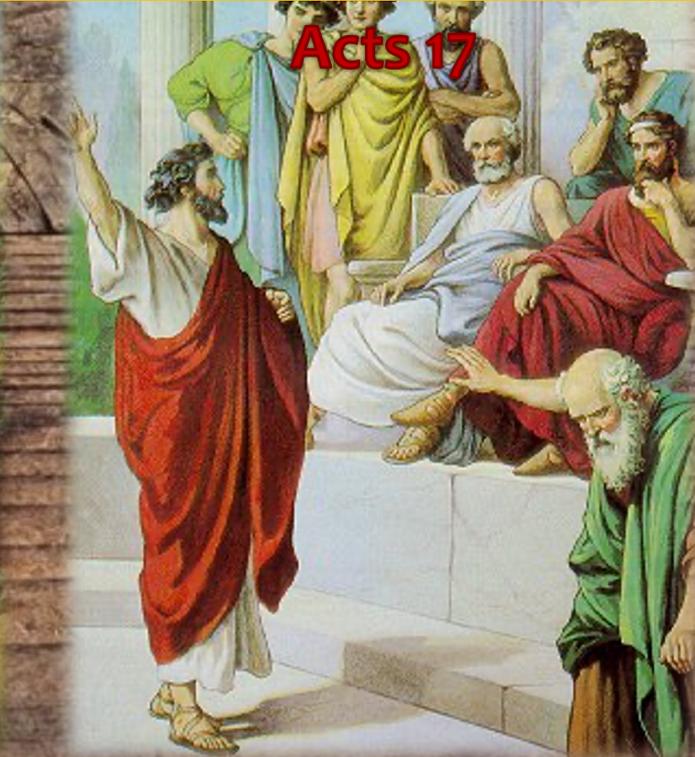
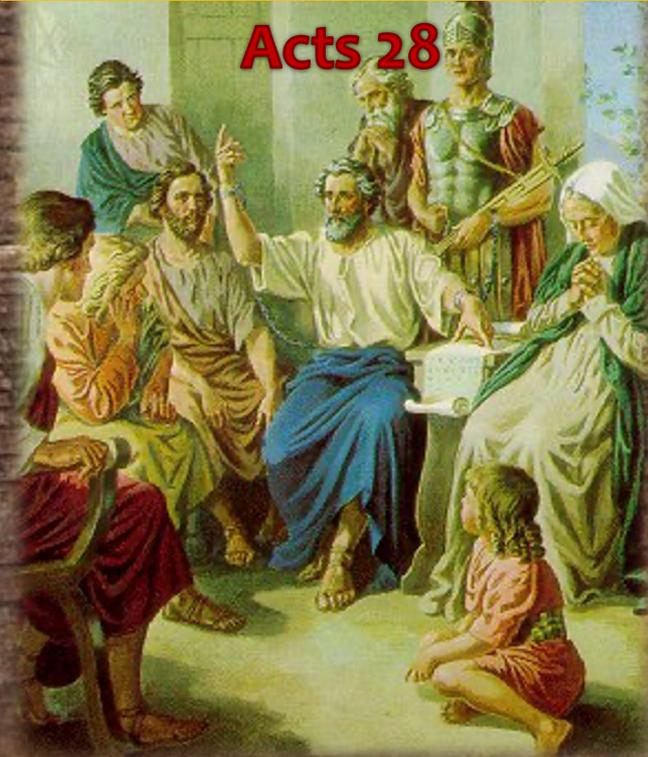
## Paul's approach in Acts 17:16-34

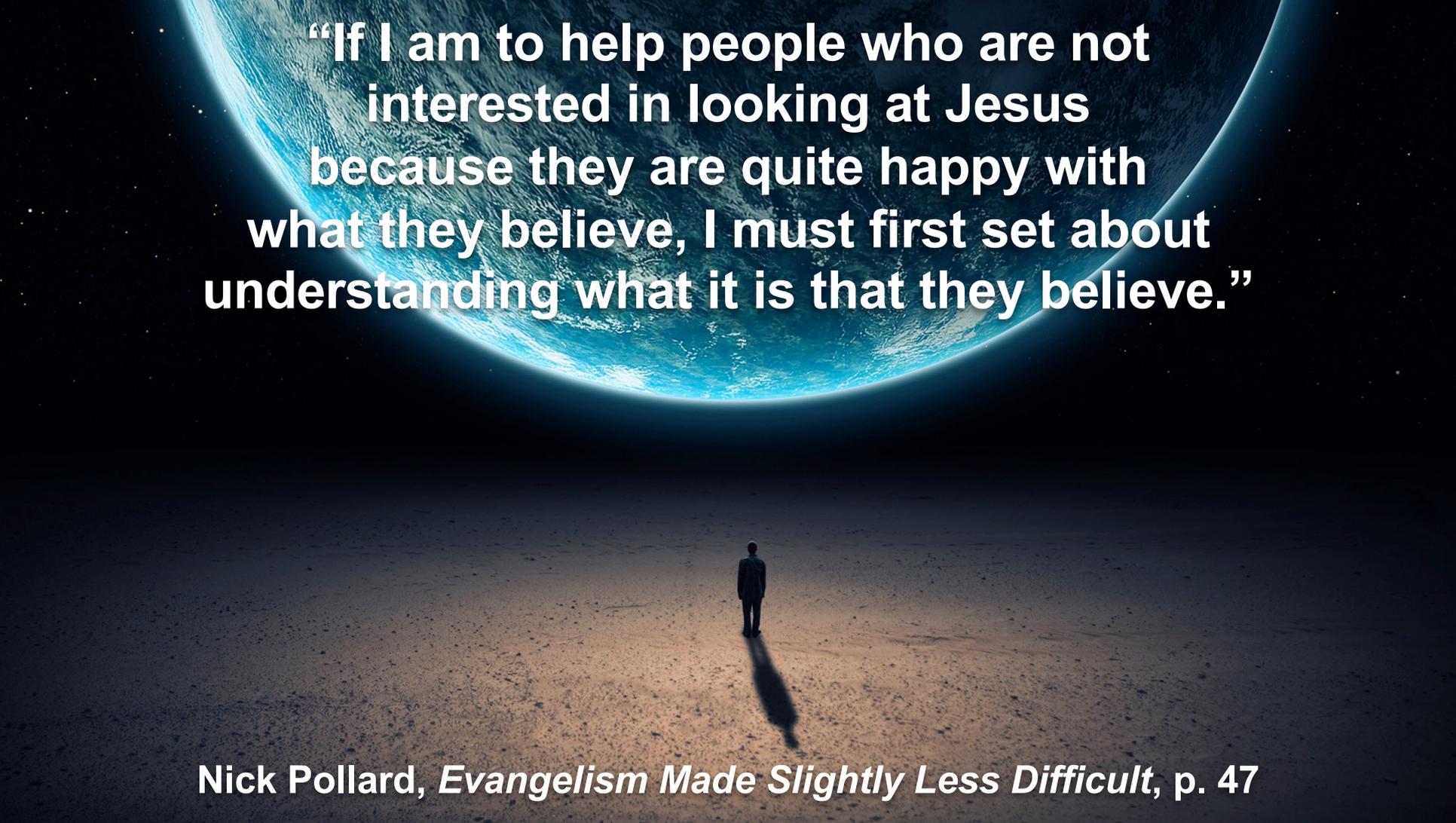


“Being then the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.”

Acts 17:29

# How We Dialogue Depends On Where People Are Coming From!



A person stands in the center of a dark, sandy landscape, looking up at a large, glowing blue planet in space. The planet's surface is detailed with white clouds and blue oceans, and it dominates the upper half of the frame. The person is a small silhouette, and their shadow is cast on the ground. The background is a deep black space with a few distant stars.

**“If I am to help people who are not interested in looking at Jesus because they are quite happy with what they believe, I must first set about understanding what it is that they believe.”**

**Nick Pollard, *Evangelism Made Slightly Less Difficult*, p. 47**

A person stands in the center of a dark, sandy landscape, looking up at a large, glowing blue planet in space. The planet's surface is textured with white clouds and blue oceans, and it dominates the upper half of the frame. The person's shadow is cast on the ground, and the overall scene is set against a black background with scattered stars.

**“I must do everything I can  
to understand their worldview.  
Only then will I know what kinds  
of questions to raise with them.”**

**Nick Pollard, *Evangelism Made Slightly Less Difficult*, p. 47**

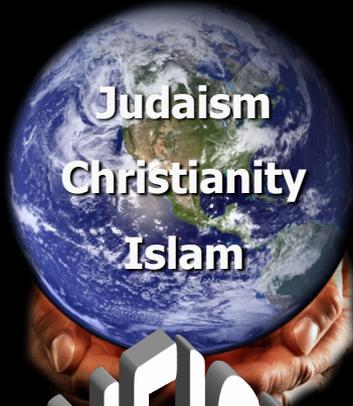
# “Worldview”: Definitions

*“A worldview is a way of viewing or interpreting all of reality. It is an interpretive framework through which or by which one makes sense out of the data of life and the world.”*



Norman Geisler, *Worlds Apart*, p.11.

# THREE MAJOR RELIGIOUS WORLD VIEWS



Judaism  
Christianity  
Islam

**THEISM**

God Made All



Zen Buddhism  
Hinduism  
New Age

**PANTHEISM**

God Is All



Religious  
Humanism

**ATHEISM**

No God At All

# YOUR WORLD VIEW CAN COLOR YOUR CONCLUSION

*Theism*



*Atheism, Pantheism*

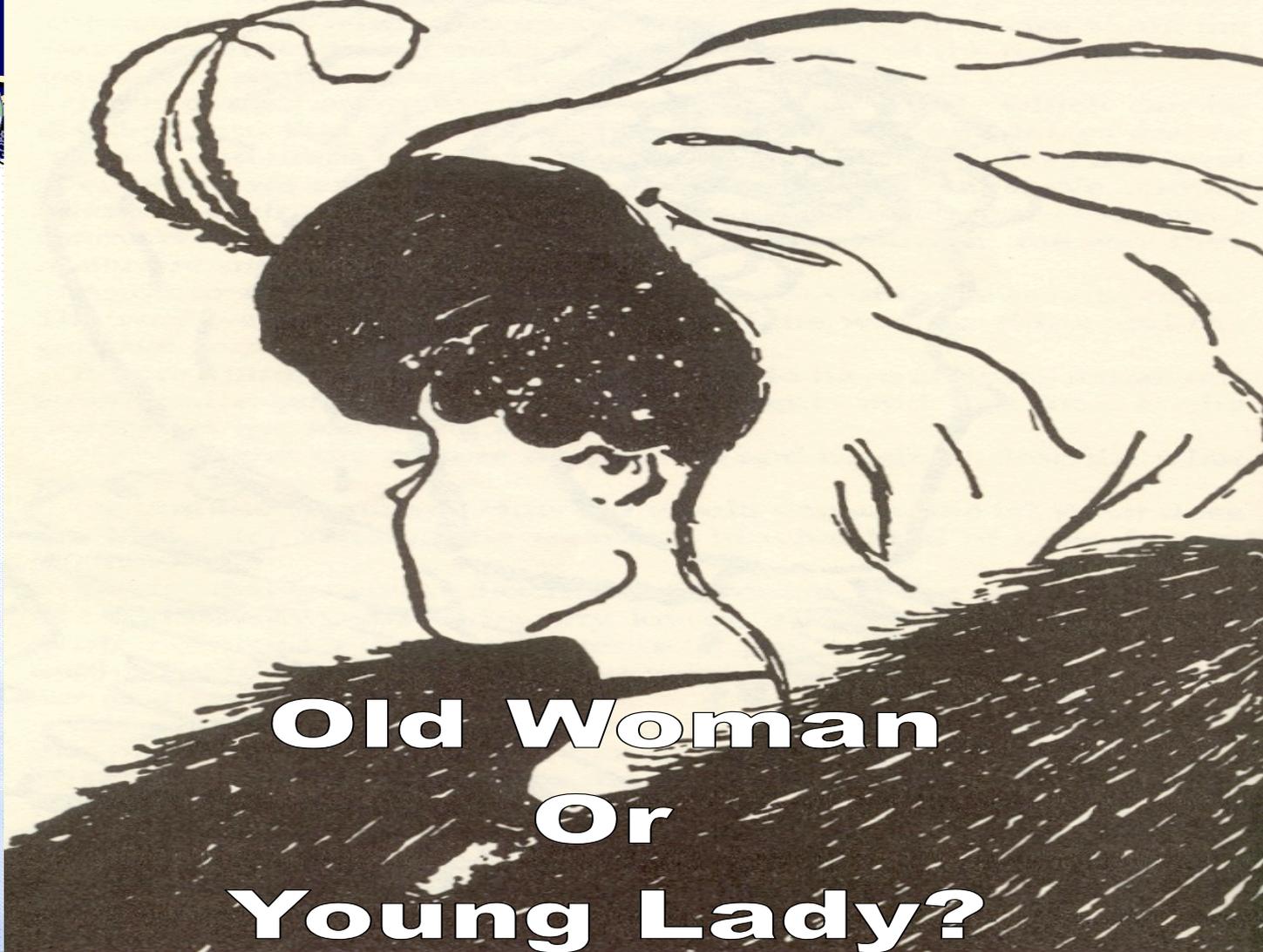




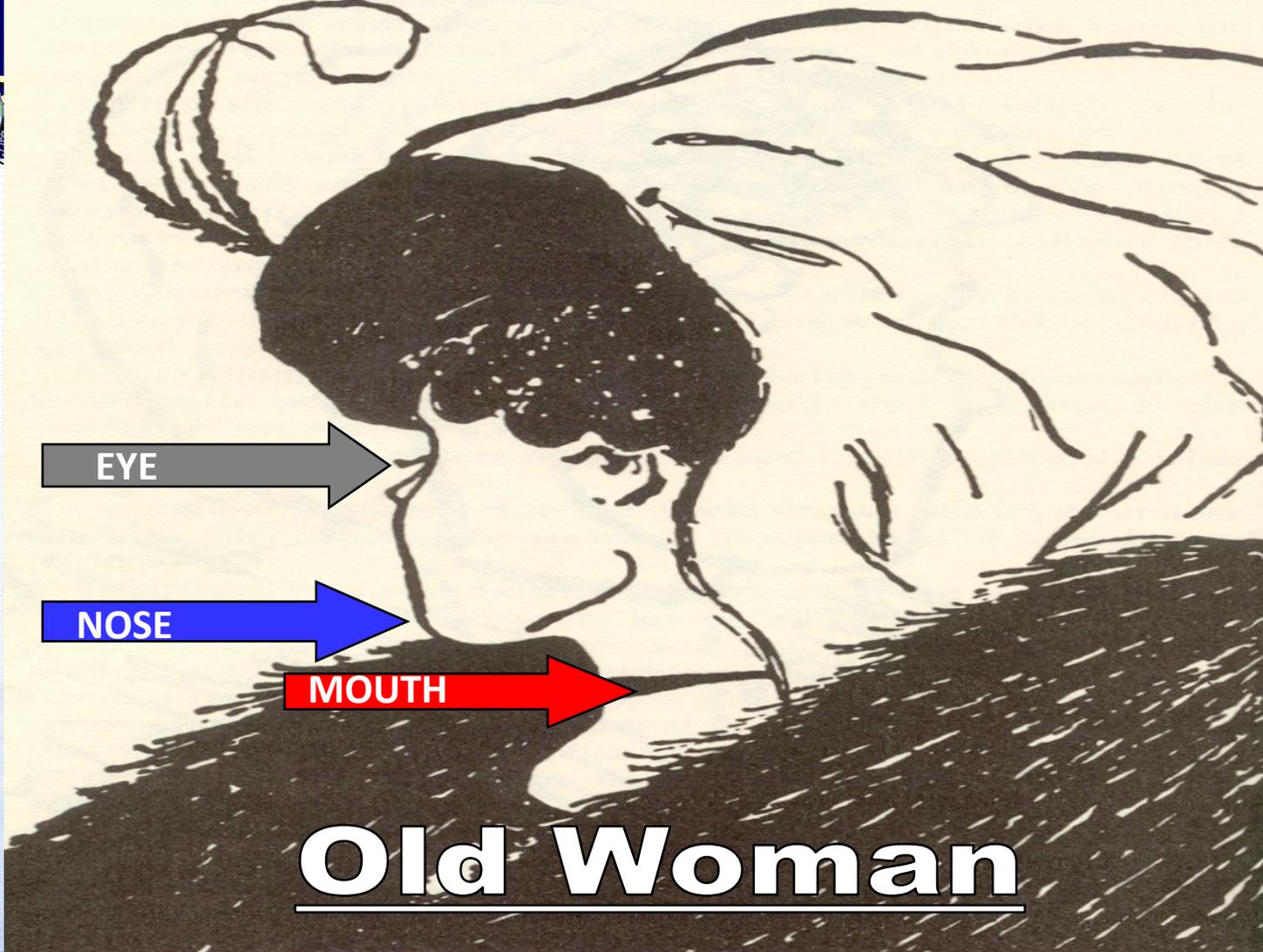
# Understanding Worldviews...

Understanding worldviews is important because how we dialogue depends on where people are coming from!

Biblical examples: Acts 28 and Acts 17



**Old Woman  
Or  
Young Lady?**



EYE

NOSE

MOUTH

Old Woman

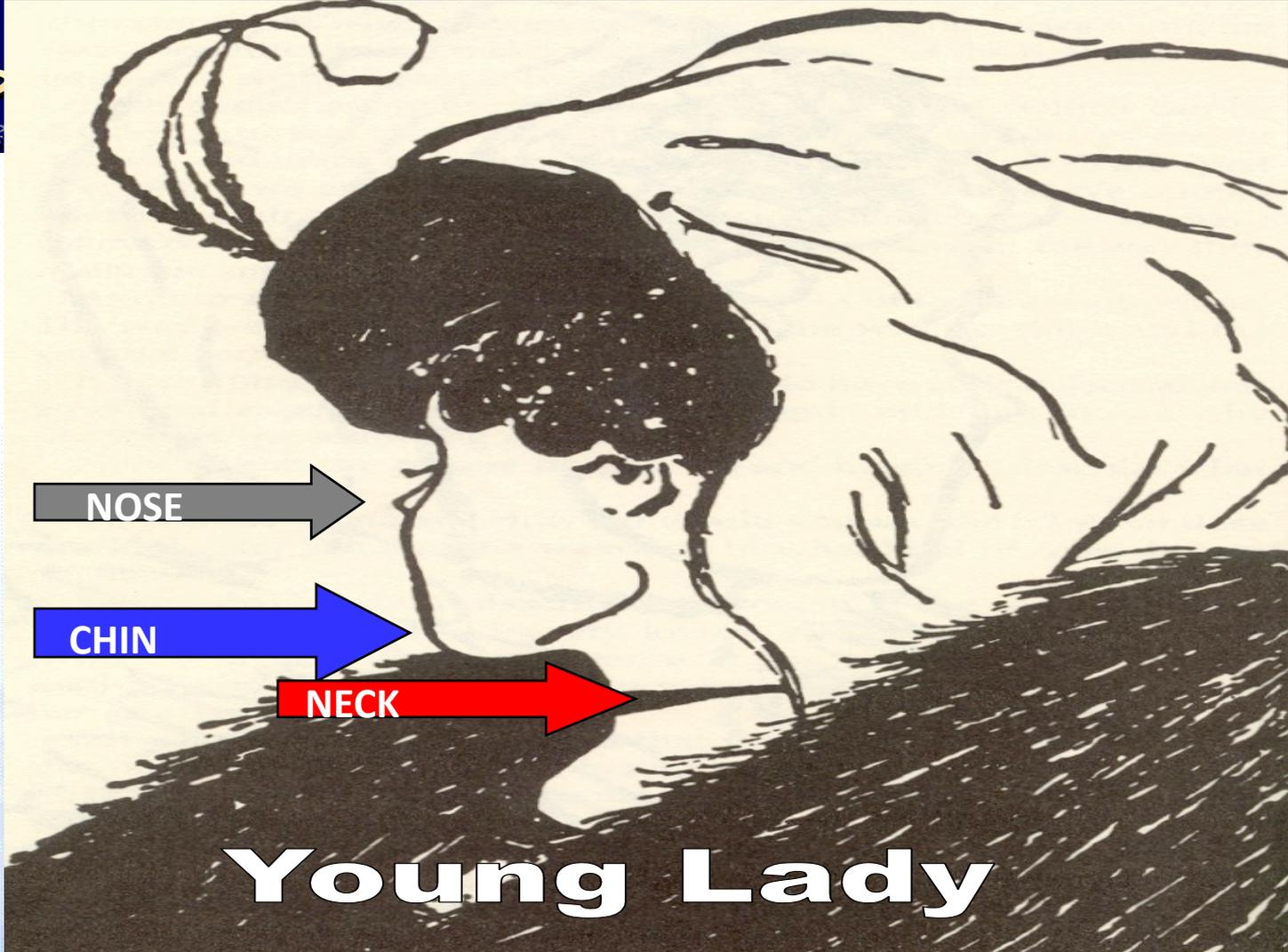


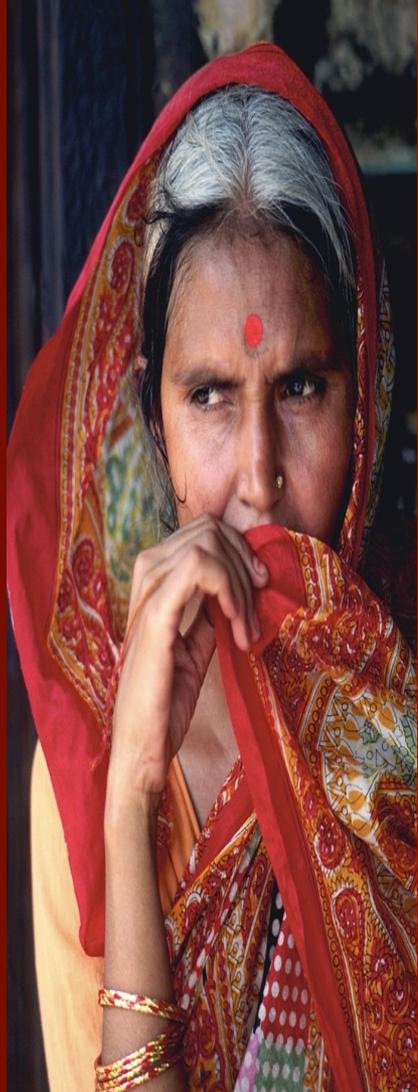
NOSE

CHIN

NECK

**Young Lady**





# Witnessing to a Hindu

Personal Example:

“I believe we all have the power to do what Jesus did.”

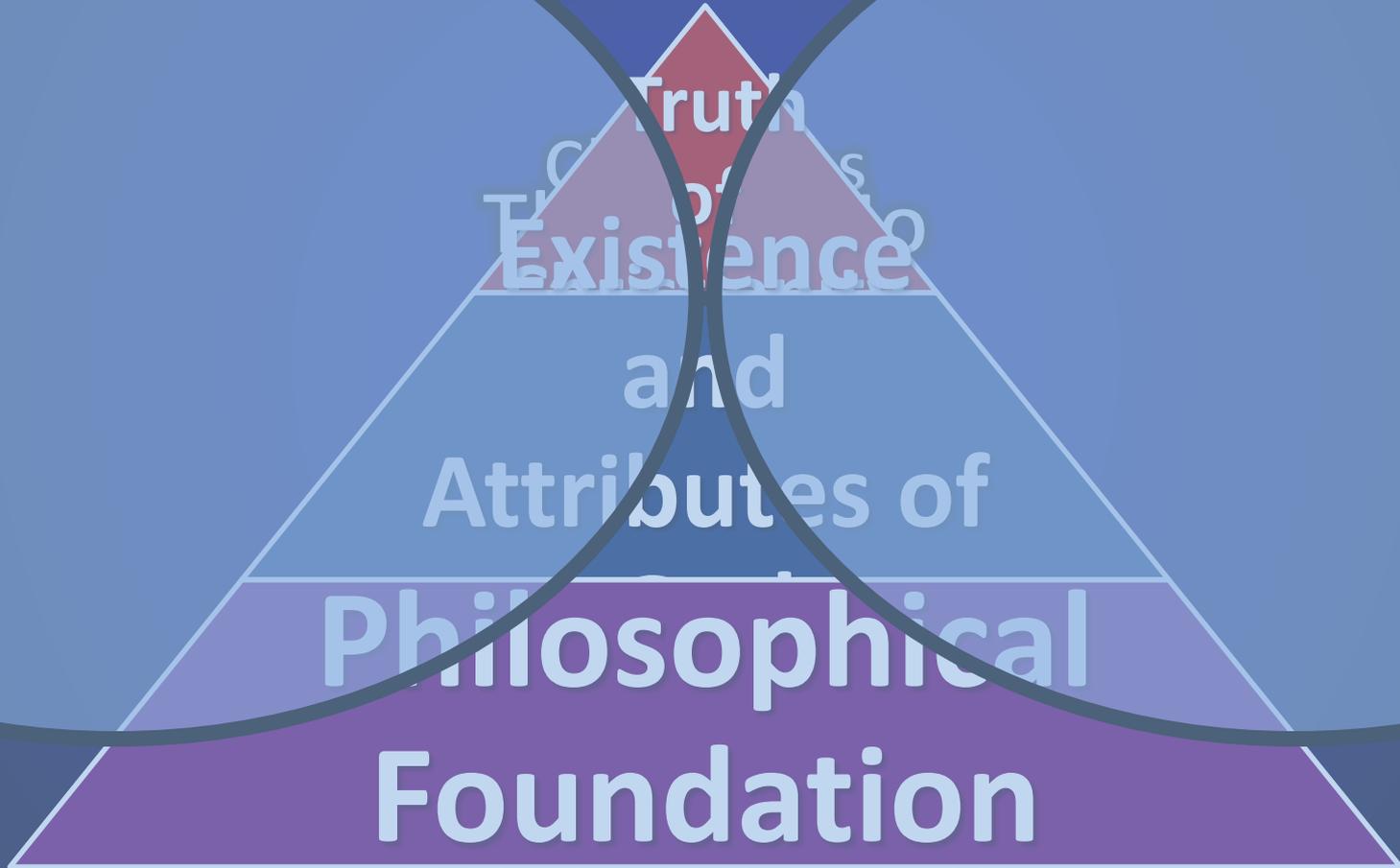
Hindu Grad Student, University of Texas at Austin

Truth of  
Christianity

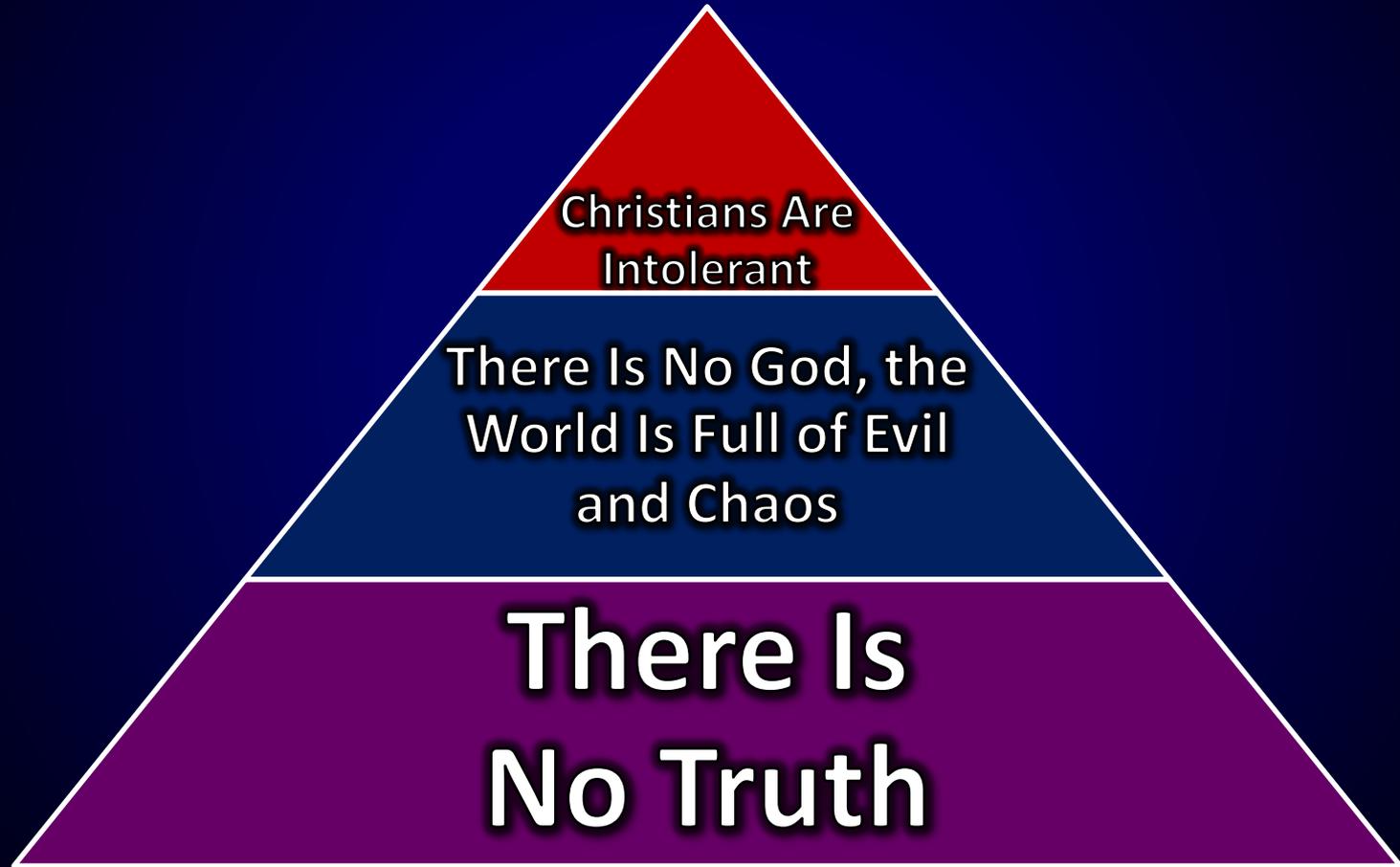
**Existence  
and  
Attributes of God**

1. Absolute Truth Does Exist
2. We Can Know The Truth.
3. Truth Corresponds to Reality
4. The Laws of Logic Apply to Reality

People who view Reality through a  
Fallacious Worldview



# Whatever You Believe Is True Is True for You



# The Existence of God

- Christianity rests upon GOD'S EXISTENCE.
- If God does not exist, Christianity is false



# The Big Questions

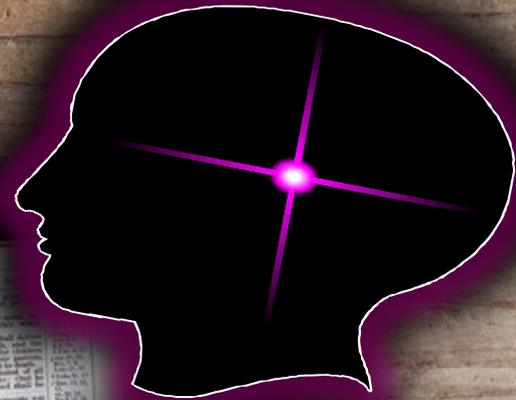
1. What is the EVIDENCE that God exists?
2. WHICH GOD does the evidence point to?



# THE TWO FUNDAMENTAL origin questions WHAT CAUSED THE:

## 1. Universe ?

## 2. Life ?



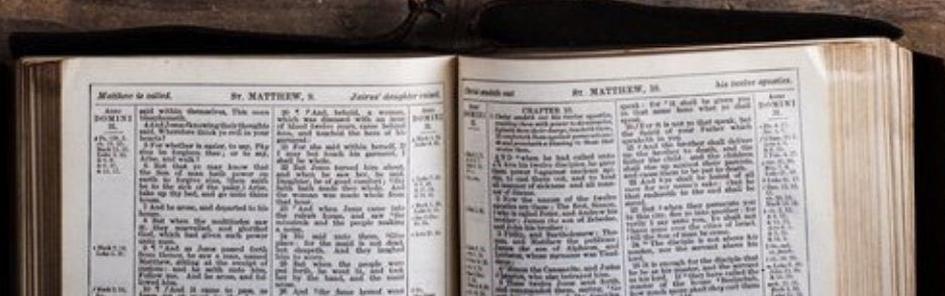
# Challenge #2: "God Does Not Exist"

- Do the FACTS support a belief in God?
- Can we demonstrate CONVINCINGLY that the God of the Bible is there?



# Your "Worldview" Will Determine What You Believe About God

- Where did we come from?
- Are we a by-product of evolutionary processes, or were we created by God?
- Why are we here?
- Does life have any meaning or purpose, or are we born only to die?
- What happens to us after we die?
- Is heaven real? Is hell real?



# 4 Contrary Worldviews

- Atheism / Deism / Pantheism / Theism

Our Goal:

To ascertain which has the MOST SUPPORTIVE evidence



# Atheism

- Claims there is NO GOD
- Universe had NO BEGINNING and has no end
- Humanity is the result of blind RANDOM CHANCE
- NO REASON for our existence
- NO AFTERLIFE



# Deism

- God who created the universe
- God created people
- No longer DIRECTLY INVOLVED in his creation
- Don't believe in miracles



# Theism

- ONE eternal God who CREATED EVERYTHING
- Universe is NOT ETERNAL
  - came into being “in the beginning,”



# 4 Contradictory Worldviews

Worldview	
Atheism	Universe Eternal – <u>NO GOD</u>
Deism	God created Universe - now <u>ABSENT</u> and <u>INACTIVE</u>
Pantheism	<u>ALL</u> is God
Theism	God created everything , is <u>ACTIVE</u> and can do <u>MIRACLES</u>



# Theism Contradicts other 3 Views

## Theism

Universe is eternal	F
Life evolved	F
God is actively involved	T
Man is 'god'	F

## Contradictory

Atheism	T
Atheism	T
Deism	F
Pantheism	T



# THREE GREAT ARGUMENTS for a theistic God

**BEGINNING:** Cosmological  
Argument

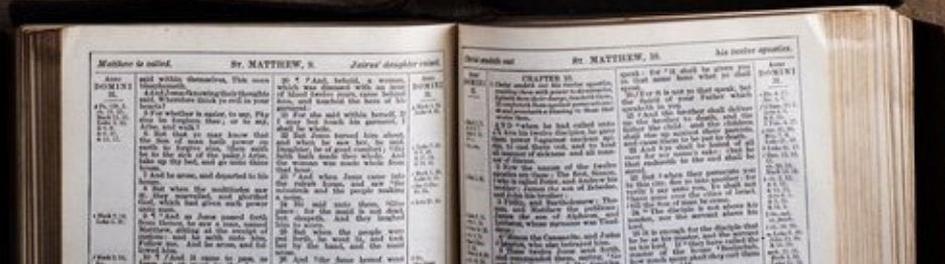
**DESIGN:** Teleological  
Argument

**MORALITY:** Moral Argument



# 1<sup>st</sup> Everything That Had a Beginning Had a Cause

1. Everything that had a beginning, had a CAUSE
2. The universe had a BEGINNING.



# 1<sup>st</sup> Argument: A Beginning

1. Everything that had a beginning, had a CAUSE
2. The universe had a BEGINNING.
3. Therefore, the universe had a CAUSE.



# 2<sup>nd</sup> The Universe Had a Beginning

2 evidences that the Universe had a beginning

## 1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of THERMODYNAMICS

- the universe is RUNNING OUT of usable energy.



# THE UNIVERSE IS LIKE A DYING TORCH

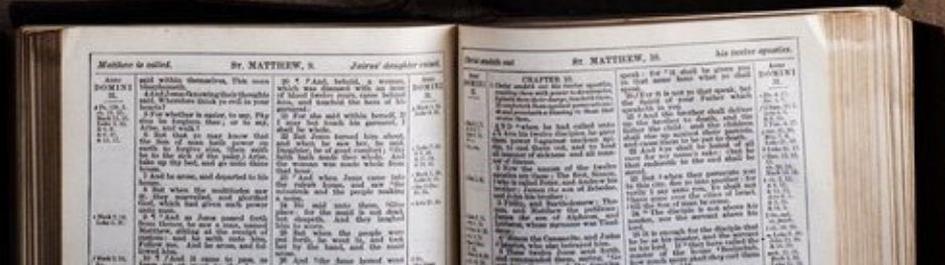
It's running out of energy.

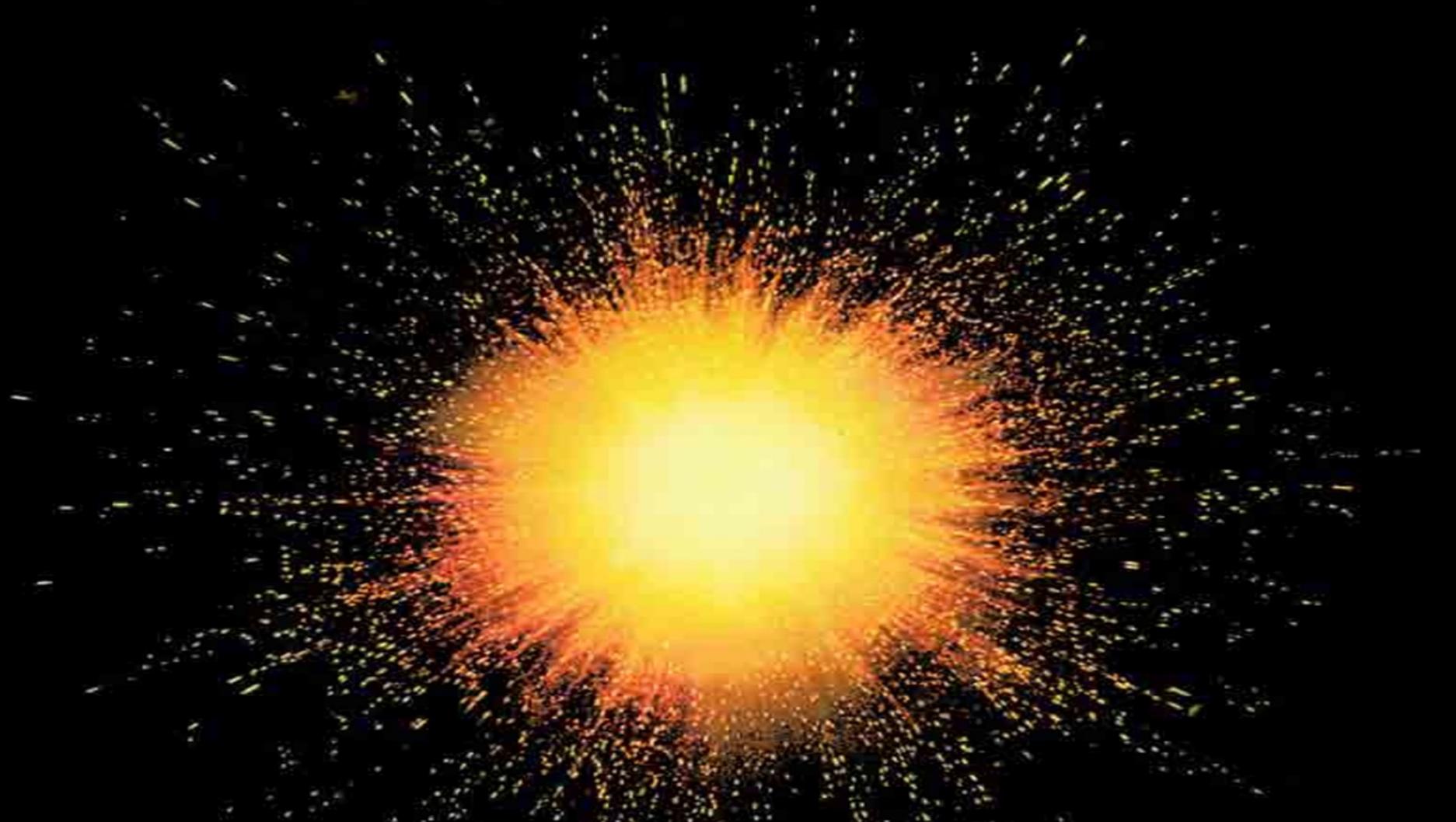


# 2<sup>nd</sup> The Universe Had a Beginning

2 evidences that the Universe had a beginning

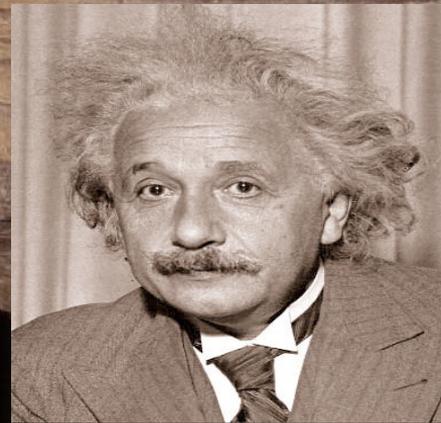
2. The universe is expanding.





# The Bible says:

- “In the *beginning* [TIME]
- God created the *heavens* [SPACE]
- and the *earth* [MATTER]” (Genesis 1:1)



# Scientific Evidence Leads to the biblical account of creation



“...astronomical evidence leads to a biblical view of the origin of the world.... the essential element in the astronomical and biblical accounts of Genesis is the **same**.”

(Jastrow, God and the Astronomers.)

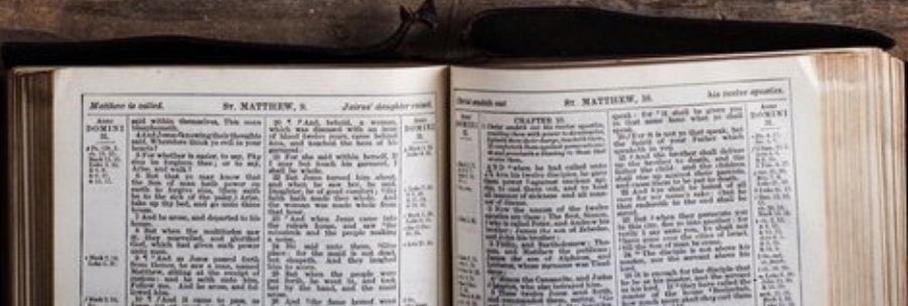
**Robert Jastrow**  
Founder of NASA's  
Goddard  
Institute of Space  
Studies



***“Astronomers now find they have painted themselves into a corner because they have proven, by their own methods, that the world began abruptly in an act of creation to which you can trace the seeds of every star, every planet, every living thing in this cosmos and on the earth. And they have found that all this happened as a product of forces they cannot hope to discover. . .***

***That there are what I or anyone would call supernatural forces at work is now, I think, a scientifically proven fact.”***

***(Agnostic Astronomer Robert Jastrow.)***



# Nobel Prize Winners State: The Beginning is Biblical

**Arno Penzias** – *“The best data we have (concerning the Big Bang) are exactly what I would have predicted had I had nothing to go on but the five books of Moses, the Psalms and the Bible as a whole.”*

**Robert Wilson** – *“Certainly there was something that set it all off.... I can't think of a better theory of the origin of the universe to match Genesis.”*

**George Smoot** – *“There is no doubt that a parallel exists between the big bang as an event and the Christian notion of creation from nothing.”*



# How did that happen?

In the **beginning** You laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. (Psalm 102:25)

You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honour and power, for **You created all things**, and by Your will they were created and have **their being**. (Revelation 4:11)



IF THE UNIVERSE HAD A **BEGINNING**

then it must have had a **Beginner**

The evidence leaves us with the following two options:

1. *No One Created Something Out Of Nothing*

**EITHER** (view)

**OR**

2. *Someone Created Something Out Of Nothing*

(theistic view)

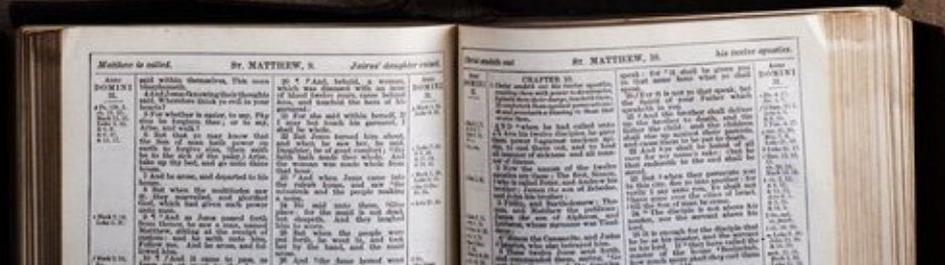
**?** **Question To Ask An Atheist**

*"If there is no God, why is there some-thing rather than nothing at all?"*



# The Logical Conclusion

- Everything that had a beginning had a **Beginner (or Causer)**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> law of thermodynamics & The Big Bang, demonstrate that the universe had a beginning
- Therefore The universe had a BEGINNER (Causer)



# THREE GREAT ARGUMENTS for a theistic God

**BEGINNING:** Cosmological  
Argument

**DESIGN:** Teleological  
Argument

**MORALITY:** Moral  
Argument



# DESIGN: 2nd Argument for God's Existence

- Every complex design has a DESIGNER.
- Everywhere we look in the universe we find EVIDENCE of complex Design.
- Therefore, the universe had a Designer.



# 3 Tests for Design

1. Is it simple or COMPLEX?
2. Is it just orderly or does it convey some kind of INFORMATION?
3. Does it seem to have a PURPOSE?



# 3 Tests for Design

## Test 1: Is it simple or complex?



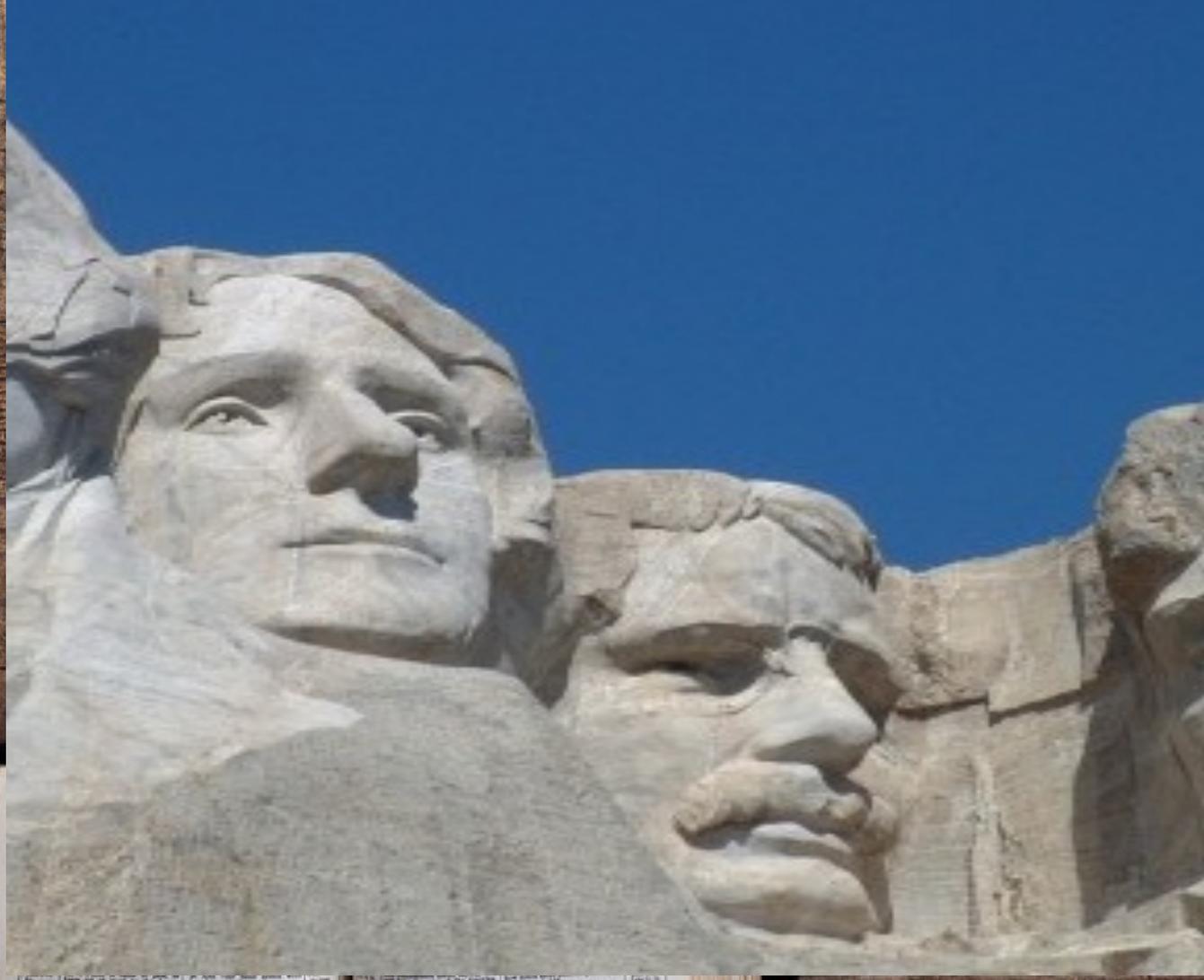
# Simple / Natural

# Wind, Rain, Ice and Snow



**Complex /  
Intelligent**

**Someone  
planned  
and  
designed**



If you found this watch in the bush, would you think it was made by natural laws?









I Love you





# 3 Tests for Design

## Test 3: Whether it has a purpose?



# 1. Every Complex Design Has a Designer



# Every Complex Design Has a Designer

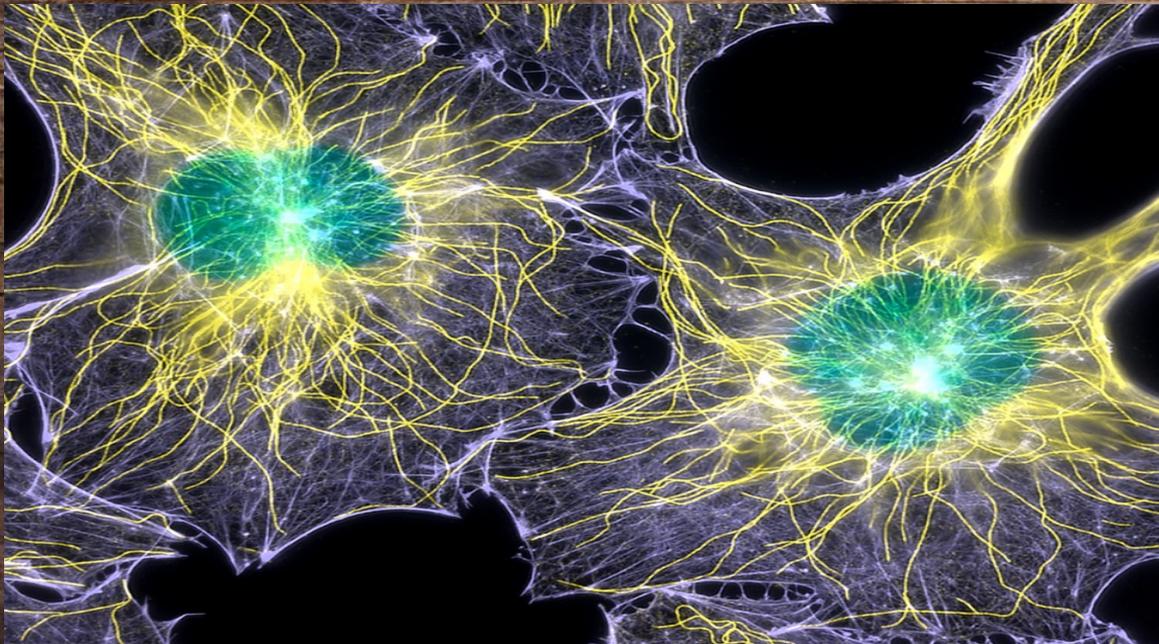


# Every Complex Design Has a Designer

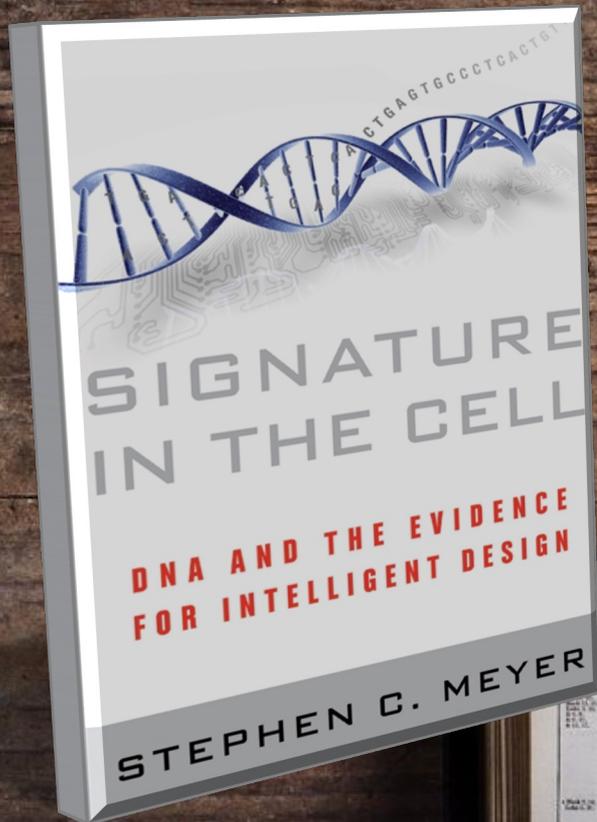


## 2. The Universe Is Filled With Evidence of Complex Design

**TEST #1 FOR DESIGN: SIMPLE OR COMPLEX?**



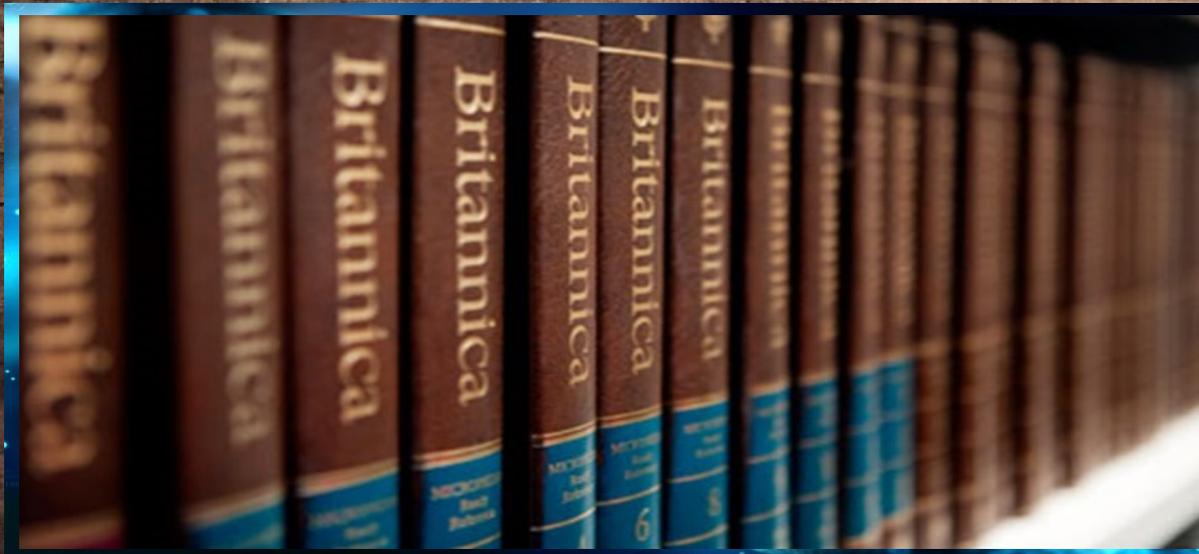
# Messages Come from Minds Not Natural Laws



“Our uniform experience affirms that specified information—whether inscribed hieroglyphics, written in a book, encoded in a radio signal, or produced in a simulation experiment—always arises from an intelligent source, from a mind and not a strictly material process.” (p. 347)

# The Universe Is Filled With Evidence of Complex Design

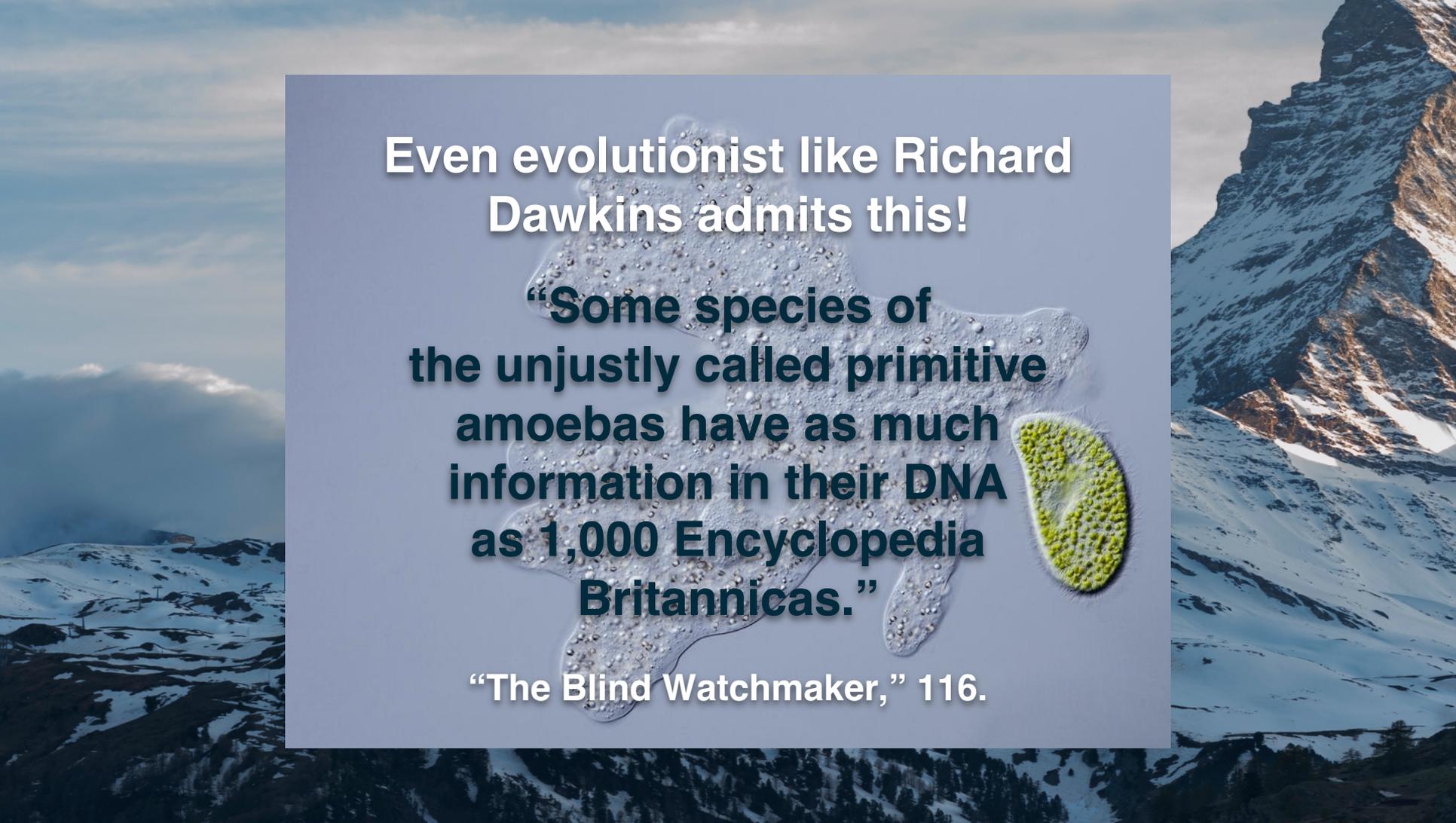
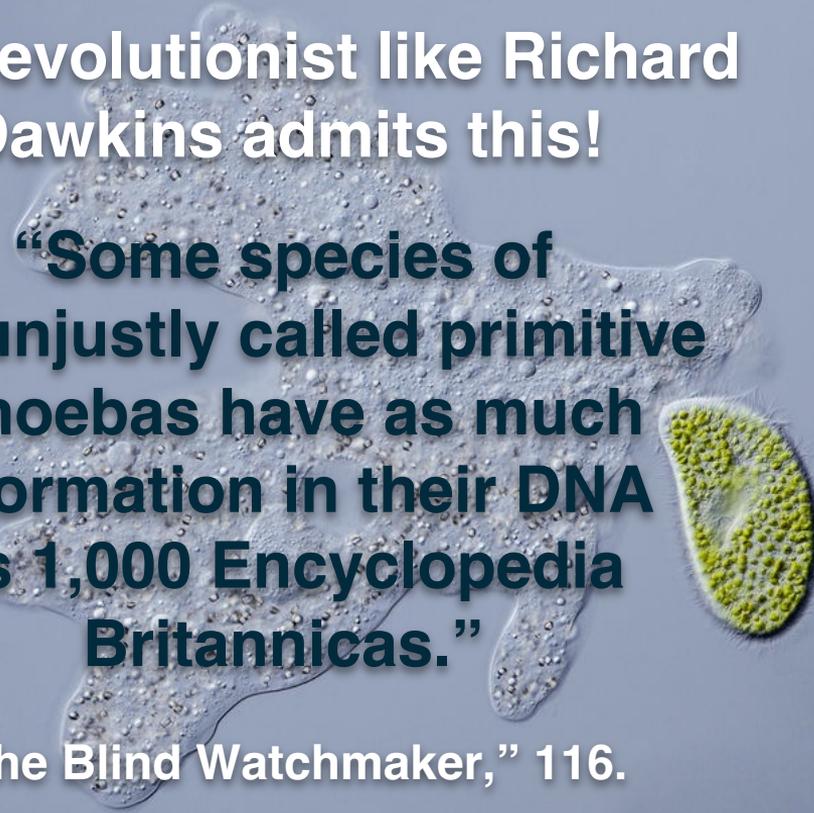
**TEST #2 FOR DESIGN : ORDER ONLY, OR INFORMATION?**



**Even evolutionist like Richard Dawkins admits this!**

**“Some species of the unjustly called primitive amoebas have as much information in their DNA as 1,000 Encyclopaedia Britannicas.”**

**“The Blind Watchmaker,” 116.**





# INFORMATION COMES ONLY FROM A MIND

## THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2011 - VOL. CCLVII NO. 40

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### What's News—

#### Business & Finance

Energy prices were higher in January than earlier, but a tug-of-war between the prices of services going on in the U.S. economy's mild inflation kept the worry in Europe and emerging markets. A1  
Number of U.S. jobs behind on their payments fell in the fourth quarter to the lowest in two years. A2  
U.S. industrials rose to 12318.14, a near high, helped by report on mid-manufacturing. C5  
Fed is investigating some mutual funds stated the value of capital bonds that traded. C1

Trust regulators are tightening the terms Apple has with its firms that want content available on other devices. B1  
Foreign banks are restructuring their

#### World-Wide

■ Bahrain's army tightened its grip as unrest spread. Neighboring Persian Gulf monarchies endorsed Bahrain's violent response to large-scale protests that left at least three dead. Two protesters in Yemen died in fresh clashes, bringing the death toll to at least four. At least four protesters were reportedly killed in Libya, as Gadhafi mobilized pro-government demonstrations. A9  
Divisions are emerging among Egypt's opposition activists, in part over their stance toward the military.

■ The House neared approval of a bill to slash the budget by over \$61 billion. Boehner vowed to block any measure that kept current spending levels. A4

■ Democratic lawmakers fled Wisconsin to block a vote on limiting unions' collective-bargaining rights as protests against the plan continued. A1

■ Ties between spy agencies in the U.S. and Pakistan are fraying, alarming military and counter-terrorism officials. A1

■ A Medicare-fraud sweep

## Union Fight Heats Up

Absent Teachers March; Wisconsin Democrats Flee to Halt Vote



Jeffrey Phelps for The Wall Street Journal

A kindergarten teacher showed up at a Madison school where colleagues called in absent to attend protests.

By KRIS MAHER AND DOUGLAS BELKN

MADISON, Wis.—Democratic

state employees.

The governor's proposal, part of a bill aimed at overcoming a \$127 million deficit in the gov-

Families!" erupted in cheers of "Thank you, thank you."

By the end of the day, after a fullness deep to deep search for

## Spy Feud Hampers Antiterror Efforts

WASHINGTON—Ties between U.S. and Pakistani intelligence agencies have deteriorated sharply in recent months, compromising cooperation on a range of critical counter-terrorism efforts, including U.S. drone strikes targeting top militant leaders, current and former officials say.

By Adam Entous, Julian E. Barnes and Tom Wright

Some U.S. officials describe relations between the two spy agencies as the worst since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks. One senior official said the tensions have cost the U.S. the chance to strike at some senior terrorists in the region.

The state of relations, while never perfect, is now alarming counter-terrorism and military officials, who say close cooperation between the Central Intelligence Agency and Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence is essential to the mission.

# WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF THE GENETIC CODE?

“DNA is a like a computer program but far, far more advanced than any software ever created.” Bill Gates



# INFORMATION COMES ONLY FROM A MIND

## The design of the cell:

- \* Hierarchical filing system files within folders
- \* Automated error correction system – like spell check
- \* Distributed Storage and Retrieval System

Best explanation for the information an INTELLIGENT DESIGNER



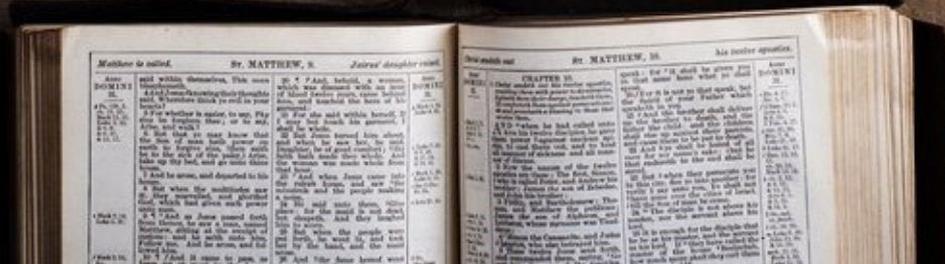
# The Universe Is Filled With Evidence of Complex Design

**TEST #3** FOR DESIGN: DOES IT HAVE A  
PURPOSE?



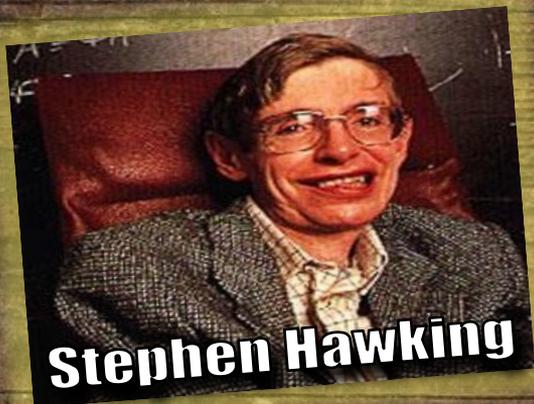
# The Universe Appears to be Designed for Life

## 1. THE BEGINNING OF THE UNIVERSE WAS DESIGNED FOR LIFE



# Extreme Precision at the beginning

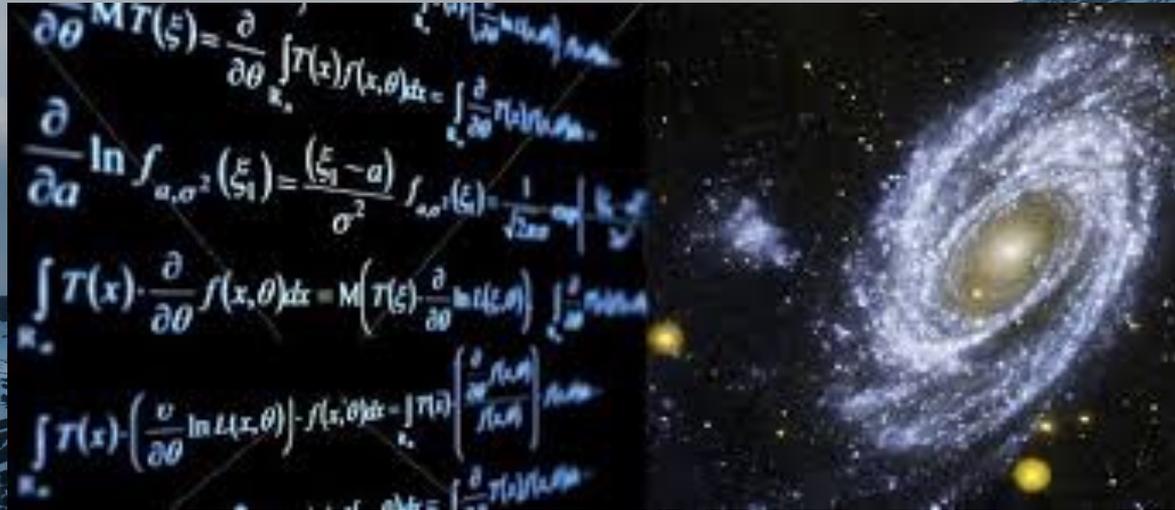
*If the expansion rate of the universe was different by one part in a thousand, million, millionth of a second after the big bang, the universe would have collapsed back on itself or never developed galaxies.*



**Stephen Hawking**



Ask them, “If there is no creator, why is there so much design embedded at a micro level as well as at a macro level?”



# The Universe Appears to be Designed for Life

1. THE BEGINNING OF THE UNIVERSE WAS DESIGNED FOR LIFE
2. THE LAWS OF THE UNIVERSE ARE FINELY TUNED FOR LIFE



# The Universe Appears to be Designed for Life

“The remarkable fact is that . . . [these laws] seem to have been very finely adjusted to make possible the development of life.” Steven Hawking





**“This universe was made, [it] was designed, for man to live in.”  
Robert Jastrow**

# The Necessary Conclusion

1. Every complex design has a **designer**
2. Everywhere we look in the universe, we find evidence of **complex design**.
3. Therefore, the universe had a **DESIGNER**



# THREE GREAT ARGUMENTS

for a theistic God

BEGINNING: Cosmological Argument

DESIGN: Teleological Argument

MORALITY: Moral Argument



# HOW DO YOU DISCOVER

who's right & who's wrong?



# GOD'S UNCHANGING MORAL NATURE

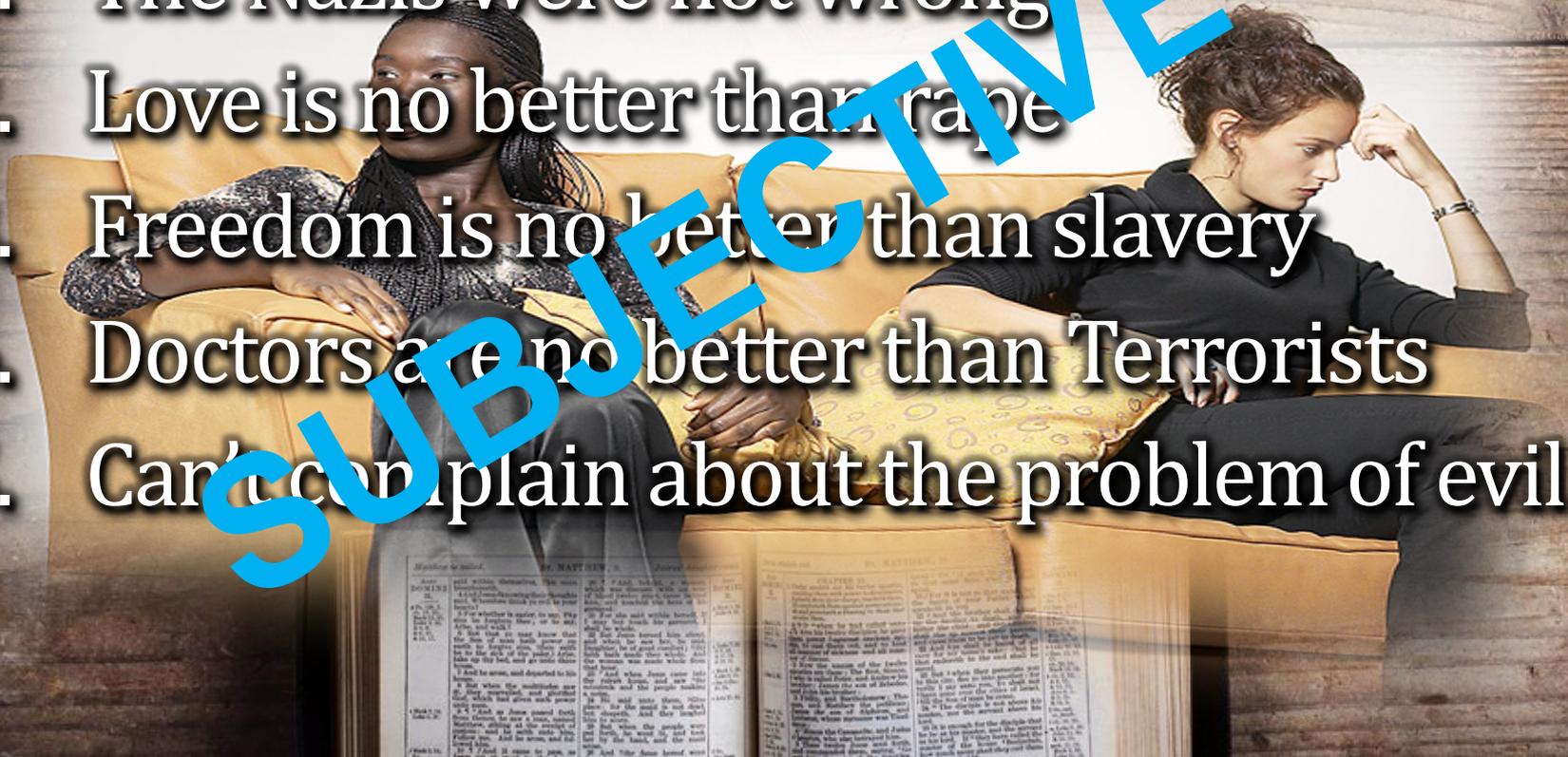
is the standard of measurement



# If There is no Objective Morality...

1. The Nazis were not wrong
2. Love is no better than rape
3. Freedom is no better than slavery
4. Doctors are no better than Terrorists
5. Can't complain about the problem of evil

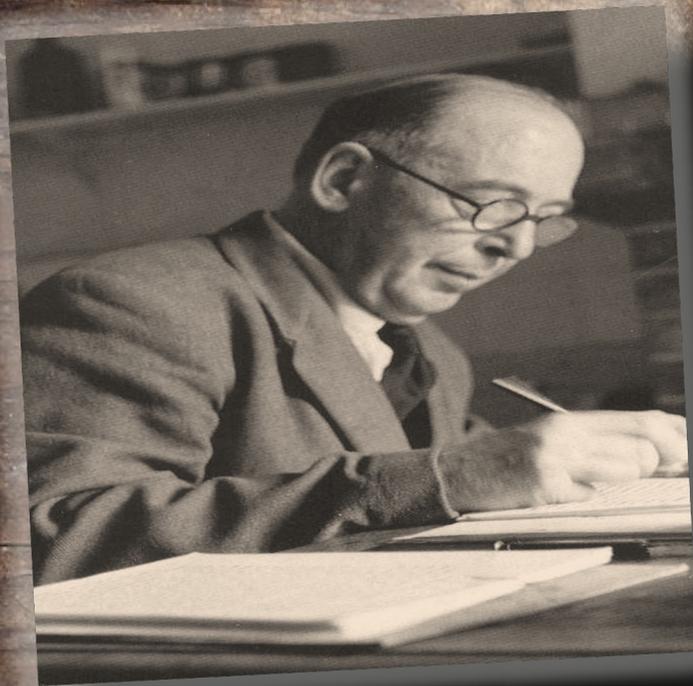
SUBJECTIVE



# Evil Requires Good

## Good Requires God

*"{As an atheist} my argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust?"*



**C.S. Lewis**

Mere Christianity, p 45.

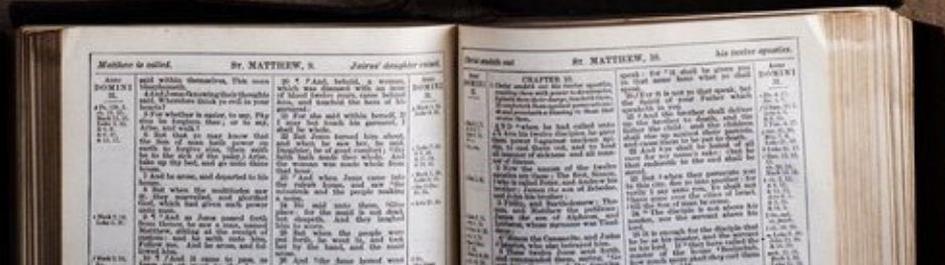
# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- Every LAW has a lawmaker.
- There is a MORAL law.
- Therefore, there is a Moral Lawmaker



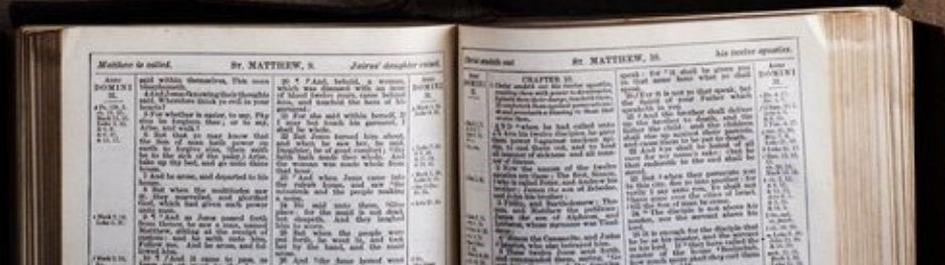
# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- Every LAW has a lawmaker.
  - No laws happen on their own.
  - Lawmakers must have the authority.
  - The authority for every law must come from outside.



# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- Every LAW has a lawmaker.
- There Is a Universal MORAL LAW
  1. THE SAME BASIC MORAL CODE IS FOUND IN ALL CULTURES.



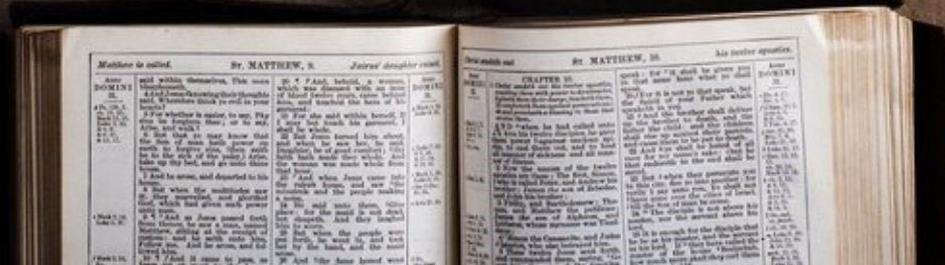
# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- Every law has a lawmaker.
- There Is a Universal Moral Law
  - The SAME BASIC MORAL CODE IS FOUND IN ALL CULTURES.
  - ALL PEOPLE BELIEVE CERTAIN RIGHTS SHOULD APPLY TO THEM.



# There Is a Universal Moral Law

- THE SAME BASIC MORAL CODE IS FOUND IN ALL CULTURES.
- ALL PEOPLE BELIEVE CERTAIN RIGHTS SHOULD APPLY TO THEM.
- ALL PEOPLE LIVE THEIR LIVES LIKE THERE IS A MORAL LAW.



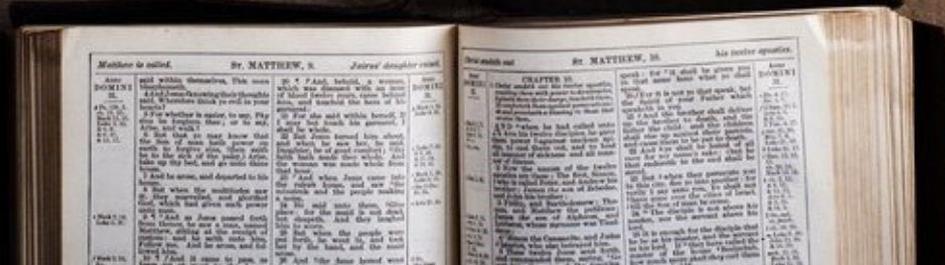
# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- Every law has a lawmaker.
- There Is a Universal Moral Law
  - ALL PEOPLE TALK LIKE THERE IS A MORAL LAW.



# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- There Is a Universal Moral Law
  - ALL PEOPLE TALK LIKE THERE IS A MORAL LAW.
  - LIFE WOULD BE CHAOS WITHOUT A MORAL LAW.



# Universal Moral Law: A 3rd Argument for God's Existence

- There Is a Universal Moral Law
  - ALL PEOPLE TALK LIKE THERE IS A MORAL LAW.
  - LIFE WOULD BE CHAOS WITHOUT A MORAL LAW.
  - MORAL LAWS ARE JUST PLAIN OBVIOUS.

“Human beings, all over the earth, have this curious idea that they ought to behave in a certain way, and cannot really get rid of it.” C. S. Lewis



# The Logical Conclusion

1. Every moral law has a moral lawmaker.
2. There is a universal moral law.
3. Therefore, there is a Moral Lawmaker.



# THREE GREAT ARGUMENTS

for a theistic God

BEGINNING: Cosmological  
Argument

DESIGN: Teleological  
Argument

MORALITY: Moral Argument



# What We've Looked at

Evidence of :

1. A BEGINNING

2. COMPLEX DESIGN in the universe – Intelligent Designer

3. UNIVERSAL MORAL LAW – Moral Lawmaker



