

# 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. (Part 2)**

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

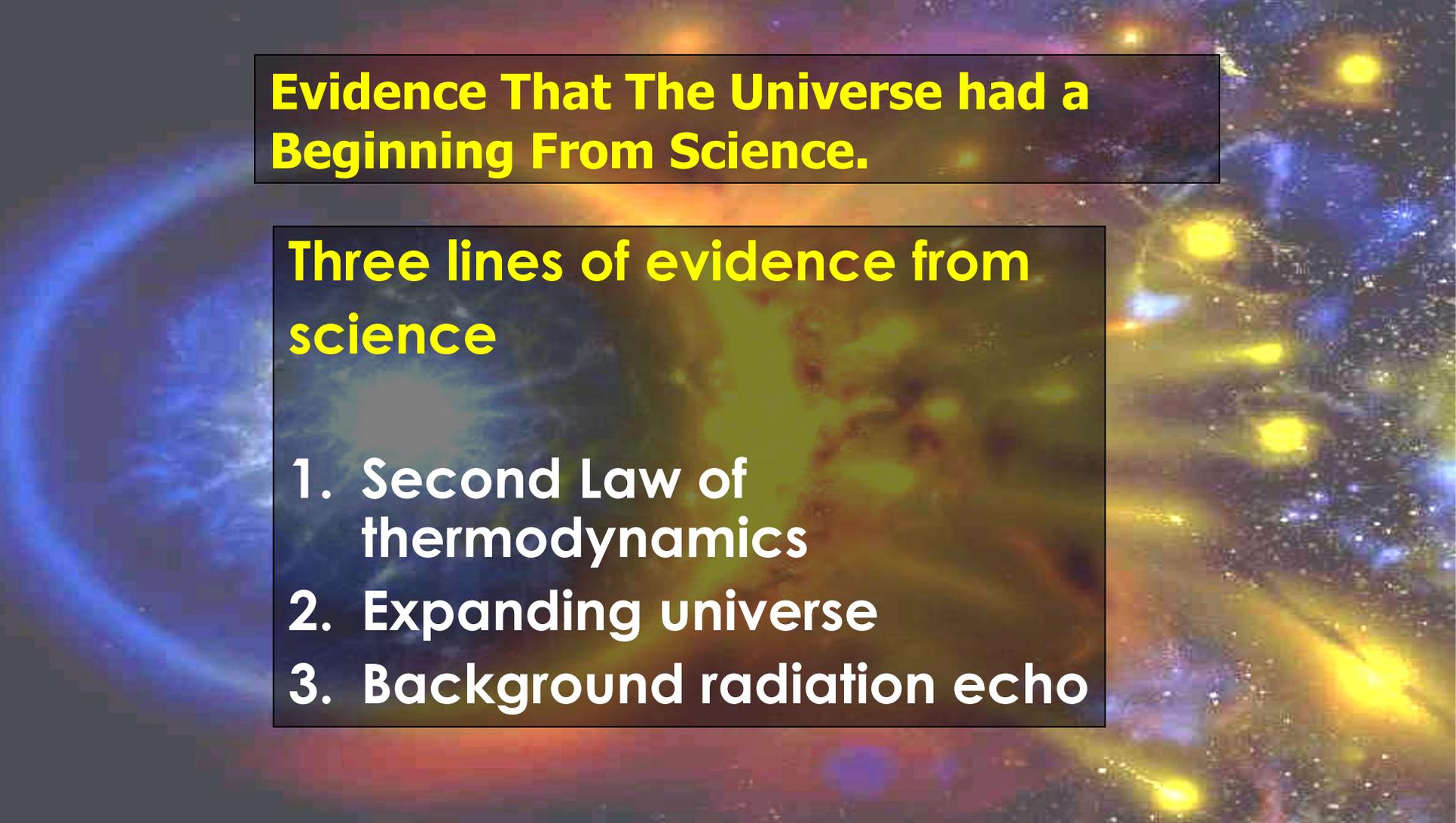
1. Everything that had a beginning, had a CAUSE.

2. The universe had a BEGINNING.

– Evidence for Science

3. Therefore, the universe had a CAUSE.



The background of the slide is a Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB) radiation map, showing a complex pattern of blue, green, and yellow spots against a dark background, representing temperature fluctuations in the early universe. 

## **Evidence That The Universe had a Beginning From Science.**

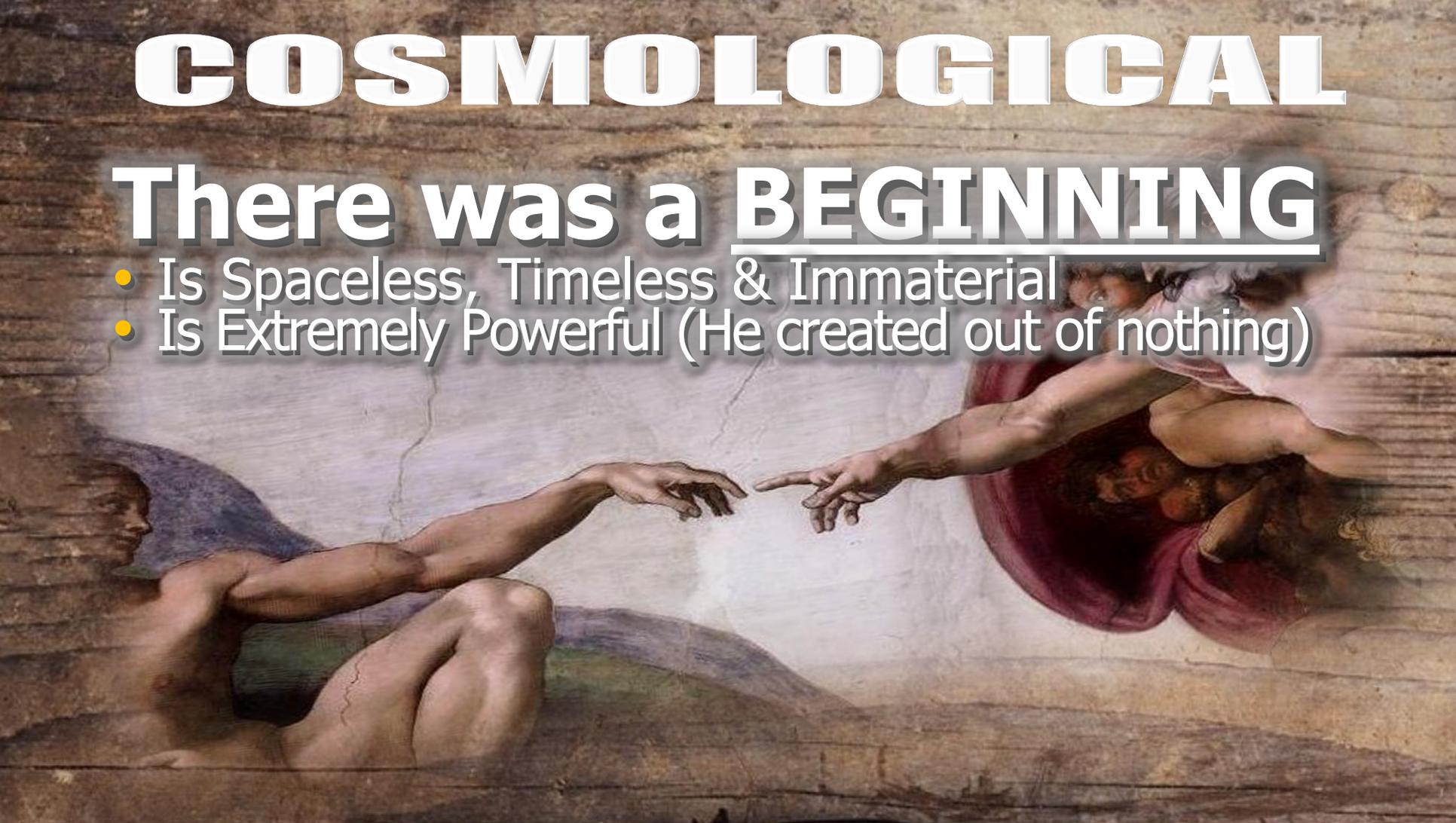
### **Three lines of evidence from science**

- 1. Second Law of thermodynamics**
- 2. Expanding universe**
- 3. Background radiation echo**

# COSMOLOGICAL

There was a BEGINNING

- Is Spaceless, Timeless & Immaterial
- Is Extremely Powerful (He created out of nothing)



# TELEOLOGICAL COMPLEX DESIGN

- Is Extremely Intelligent
- Has Purpose



# MORAL

The background of the slide is a reproduction of Michelangelo's famous fresco, "The Creation of Adam". It depicts God on the right, reclining and pointing his right hand towards Adam on the left, who is lying on his back with one arm extended towards God. The two hands are just inches apart, creating a sense of tension and divine spark.

## COSMOLOGICAL: The Beginning

- Is Spaceless, Timeless & Immaterial
- Is Extremely Powerful (He created out of nothing)

## TELEOLOGICAL: Design

- Is Extremely Intelligent
- Has Purpose

## MORAL LAW: Morality

- Is Absolutely Morally Perfect
- Is Personal

*Who Is This God?*

# So Far...

1. Truth About Reality Is Knowable.
2. The Opposite Of True Is False.
3. It Is True That The Theistic God Exists. Evidenced by the:
  - Beginning of the universe
  - Design of the universe /of life
  - Moral Law

# What Kind of a Beginner?

1. The Beginner Cannot HAVE A CAUSE

**Acts 17:25 (ESV)**

“nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.”

# What Kind of a Beginner?

1. The Beginner Cannot HAVE A CAUSE

## Colossians 1:16 (ESV)

16 For by him **all** things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—**all** things were created through him and for him.

# FAQ: Who Made God?

*Answer:* “NOBODY made God.”

- God does not need a cause, for He did not have a beginning.
- Not everything needs a cause—only what has a beginning does.

God is in a different CATEGORY than we humans.

# FAQ: Who Made God?

Z  
O  
M

WHEN YOU HAVE ELIMINATED THE  
IMPOSSIBLE, WHATEVER REMAINS, HOWEVER  
IMPROBABLE, MUST BE THE TRUTH.

- SHERLOCK HOLMES

Even if God's existence seems highly  
improbable to you, it must be true if  
you remove the impossible!

DAVID  
GEISLER



# What Kind of a Beginner?

1. Cannot HAVE A CAUSE
2. Must Be OUTSIDE OF TIME (Eternal)



*Eternity*

# Must Be Outside of Time (Eternal)

## Psalm 90:2 (ESV)

**Before** the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

## Psalm 93:2 (NIV)

Your throne was established long ago; you are *from all eternity*.

## Isaiah 26:4 (NIV)

Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD, the LORD, is *the Rock eternal*.

# Must Be Outside of Time (Eternal)

## **Jeremiah 10:10 (NIV)**

But the LORD is the true God; He is the living God,  
*the eternal King...*

## **1 Corinthians 2:7 (NIV)**

No, we declare God's wisdom, a mystery that has  
been hidden and that God destined for our glory  
*before time began..*

# What Kind of a Beginner?

1. Cannot HAVE A CAUSE
2. Must Be OUTSIDE OF TIME (Eternal)
3. Must Be Unimaginably POWERFUL

# Must Have Great Power

## Isaiah 40:26 (NIV)

Lift your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one, and calls them each by name. Because of **His great power** and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.

## Jeremiah 27:5 (NIV)

With **My great power** and outstretched arm I made the earth and its people and the animals that are on it, and I give it to anyone I please.

## Jeremiah 32:17 (NIV)

Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. **Nothing is too hard for you.**

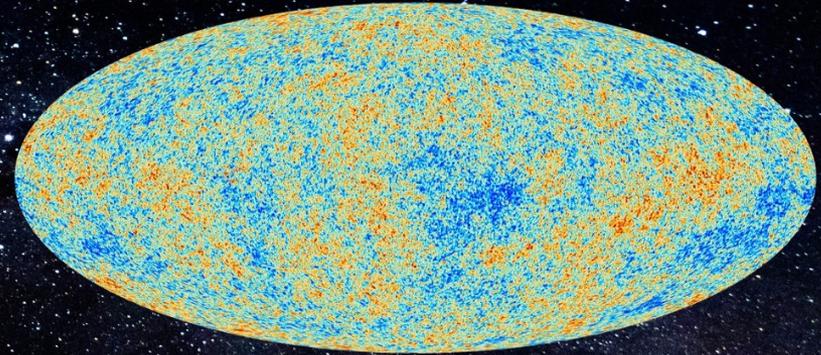
An inference about our Creator from  
observations in the known universe

NGIM  
NORM GEISLER INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES

ROMANS 1:19-20

One light-year is 5.88 trillion miles. Cosmologists have theorized that the universe is 94 billion light-years long. Obviously that is only how big the *known* universe is. Certainly the power to create stars and galaxies in that big space, had to be pretty powerful. So our creator has to be pretty powerful.

DAVID  
GEISLER



|||||  
94 Billion Light-years

# What Kind of a Beginner?

1. Cannot HAVE A CAUSE
2. Must Be OUTSIDE OF TIME (Eternal)
3. Must Be Unimaginably POWERFUL
4. Must Be HIGHLY CREATIVE



# Must Be Highly Creative

- God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. Genesis 1:16 (NIV)
- God created the great creatures of the sea . . . and every winged bird according to its kind. . . . And God said, “Let the land produce living creatures . . . that move along the ground, and the wild animals” (Genesis 1:21–24).

# What Kind of a Designer?

1. Cannot HAVE A CAUSE
2. Must Be OUTSIDE OF TIME (Eternal)
3. Must Have GREAT POWER
4. Must Be HIGHLY CREATIVE
5. Must CARE ABOUT HIS CREATION



# Must Care About His Creation

## Nahum 1:7 (NIV)

The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble. **He cares** for those who trust in Him,

## 1 Peter 5:7 (NIV)

Cast all your anxiety on Him because **He cares for you.**

# What Kind of a Designer?

1. Cannot HAVE A CAUSE
2. Must Be OUTSIDE OF TIME (Eternal)
3. Must Have GREAT POWER
4. Must Be HIGHLY CREATIVE
5. Must CARE ABOUT HIS CREATION
6. Must Be SUPREMEPLY INTELLIGENT

# Must Be Supremely Intelligent

**Psalm 147:5 (NIV)**

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; **His understanding has no limit.**

**Acts 1:24 (NIV)**

Then they prayed, "Lord, **you know everyone's heart.** Show us which of these two you have chosen.

# FAQ

“Given Enough Time...

- **Could Chance Have Produced Life in the Universe?”**
- Time + chance DOES NOT produce COMPLEX DESIGNS or LIFE

# 6 Fingerprints

1. Cannot Have a Cause
2. Must Be Outside of Time (Eternal)
3. Must Have Great Power
4. Must Be Highly Creative
5. Must Care About His Creation
6. Must Be Supremely Intelligent

# Cosmological Argument

2. The *universe* began to exist.

Second Law of Thermodynamics

Universe Is Expanding

Radiation Echo

Galaxy Formations

End of an Infinite Is Impossible

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

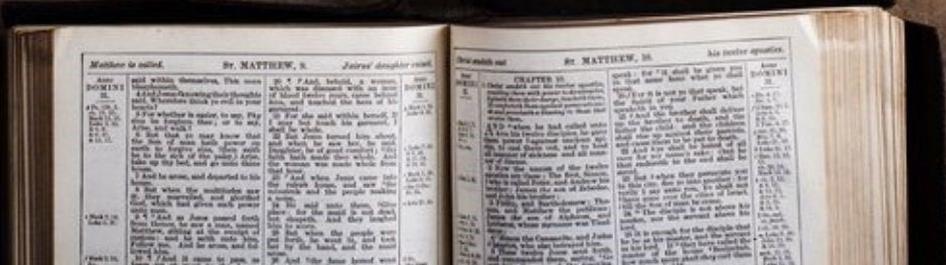
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– Evidence for Science

– Evidence from Philosophy

3. Therefore, the universe had a CAUSE.

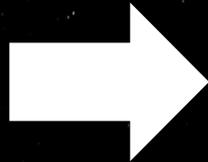


# Cosmological Argument

2. The *universe* began to exist.

3. Therefore, the universe had a cause..

End of an Infinite Is Impossible



# End of an Infinite Is Impossible

What does “infinite” mean?

Infinite- “Unlimited.”

# End of an Infinite Is Impossible

**What's half of an infinite?**

**What's infinity minus 10?**

**These questions are absurd  
because an infinite is endless,  
immeasurable, and indivisible.**

# End of an Infinite Is Impossible

**Infinite Quantity**- It's impossible to have an infinite quantity of anything. There cannot be an end to an endless amount.

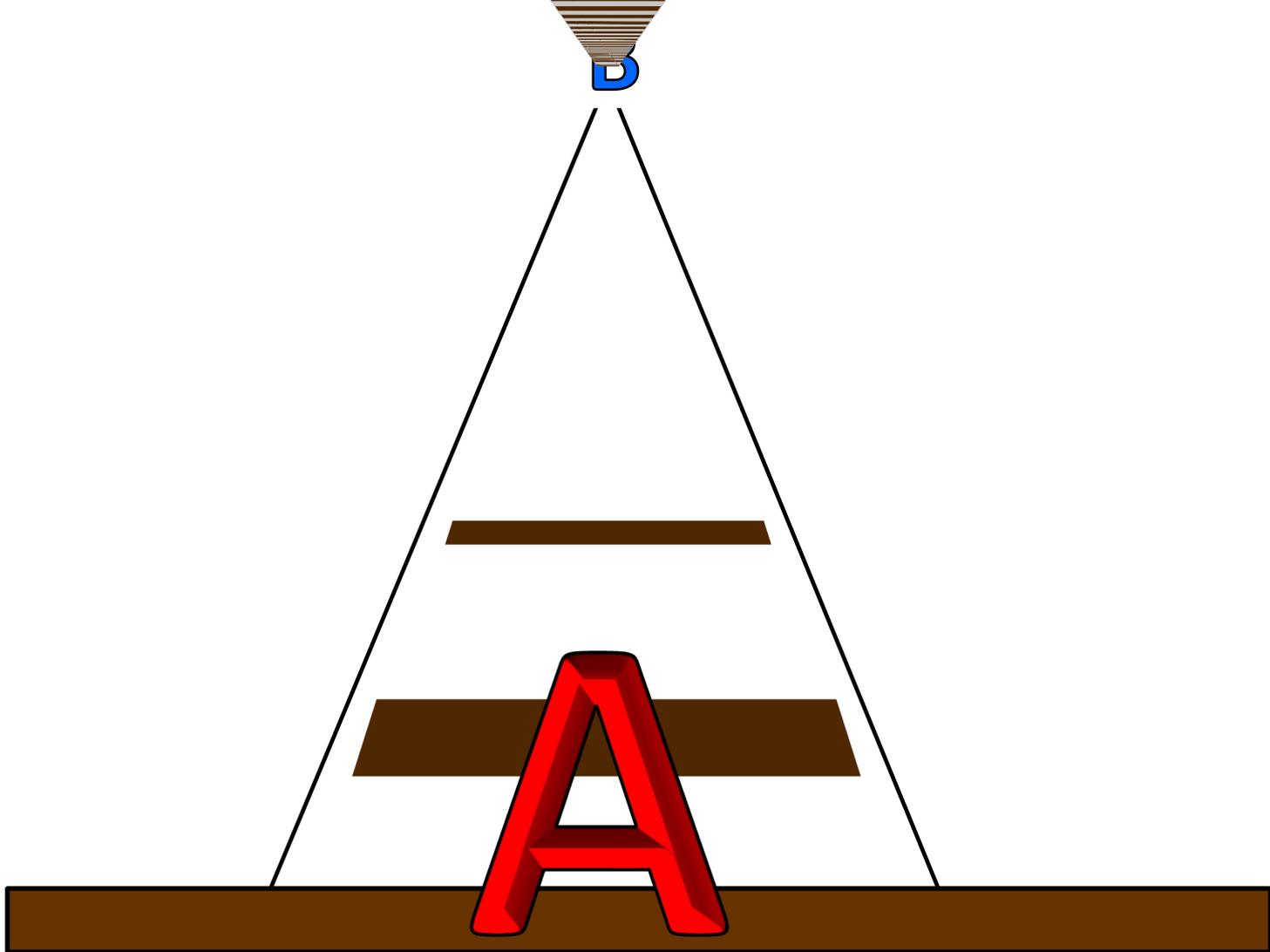
**Infinite Quality**- God can have infinite love. It cannot be measured, it doesn't grow, and it doesn't run out.



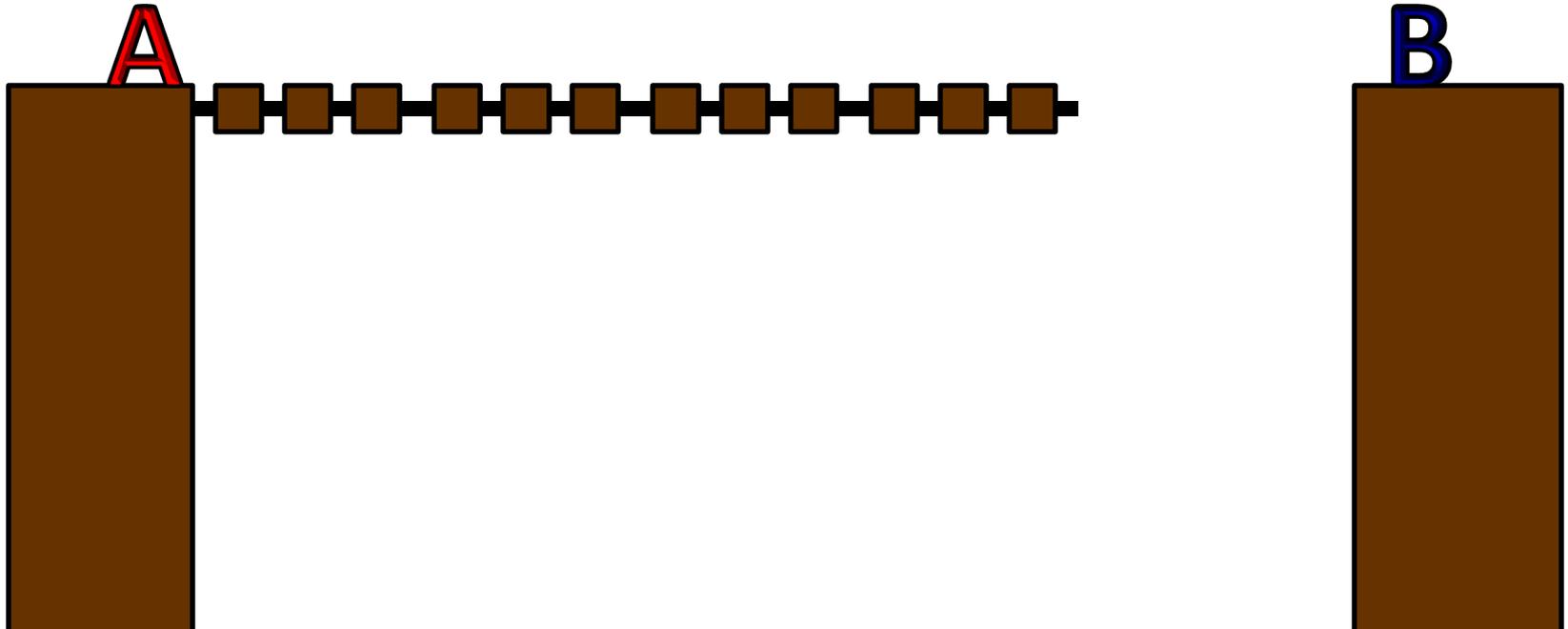
I have an infinite # of pens at my house.

You can  
always  
add one  
more!





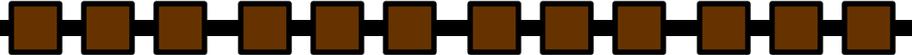
If There's an Infinite # of Planks Between  
Post **A** and Post **B**, Could You Reach Post B?



No, Because It Keeps  
Going and Going

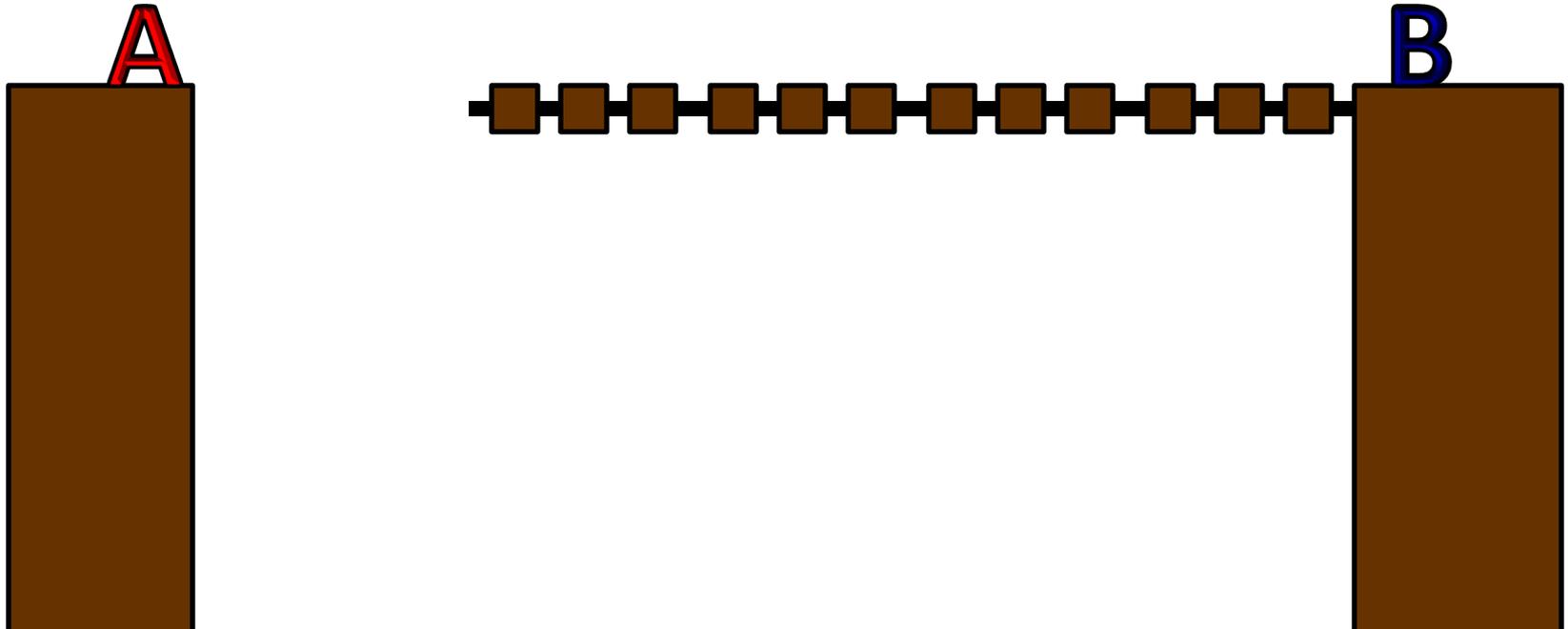
Going and

A

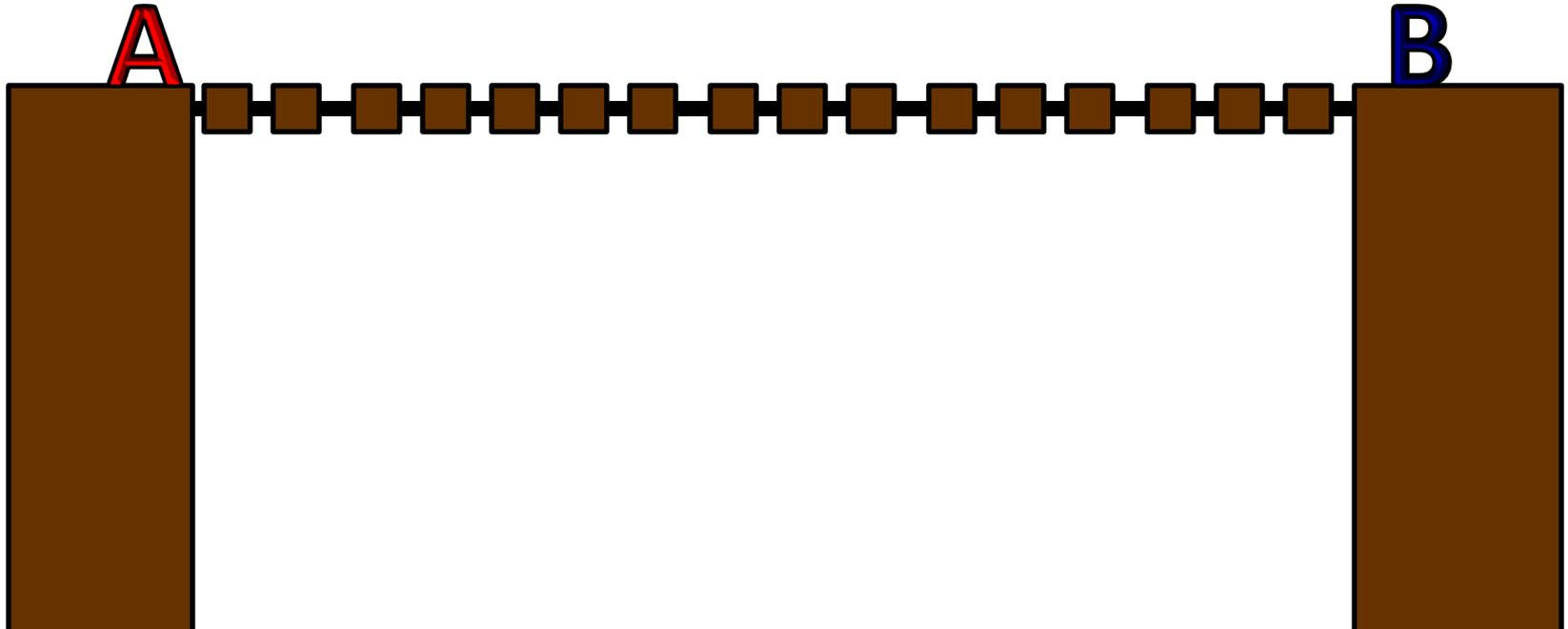


B

If You Reached Post B,  
Then What Would You Know?

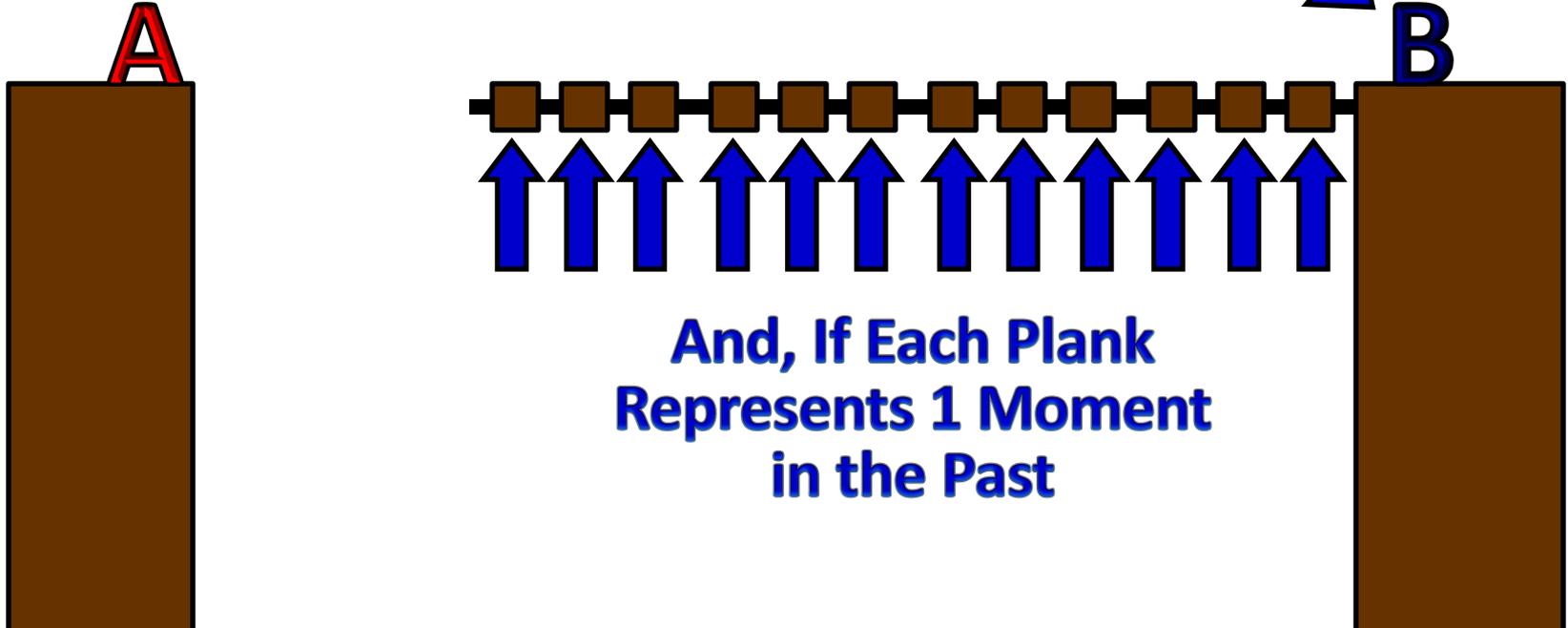
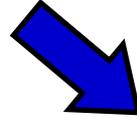


**You Would Know That There's NOT an Infinite # of Planks  
Between A and B.**



**Then, Could There Be  
an Infinite # of  
Moments in the Past?**

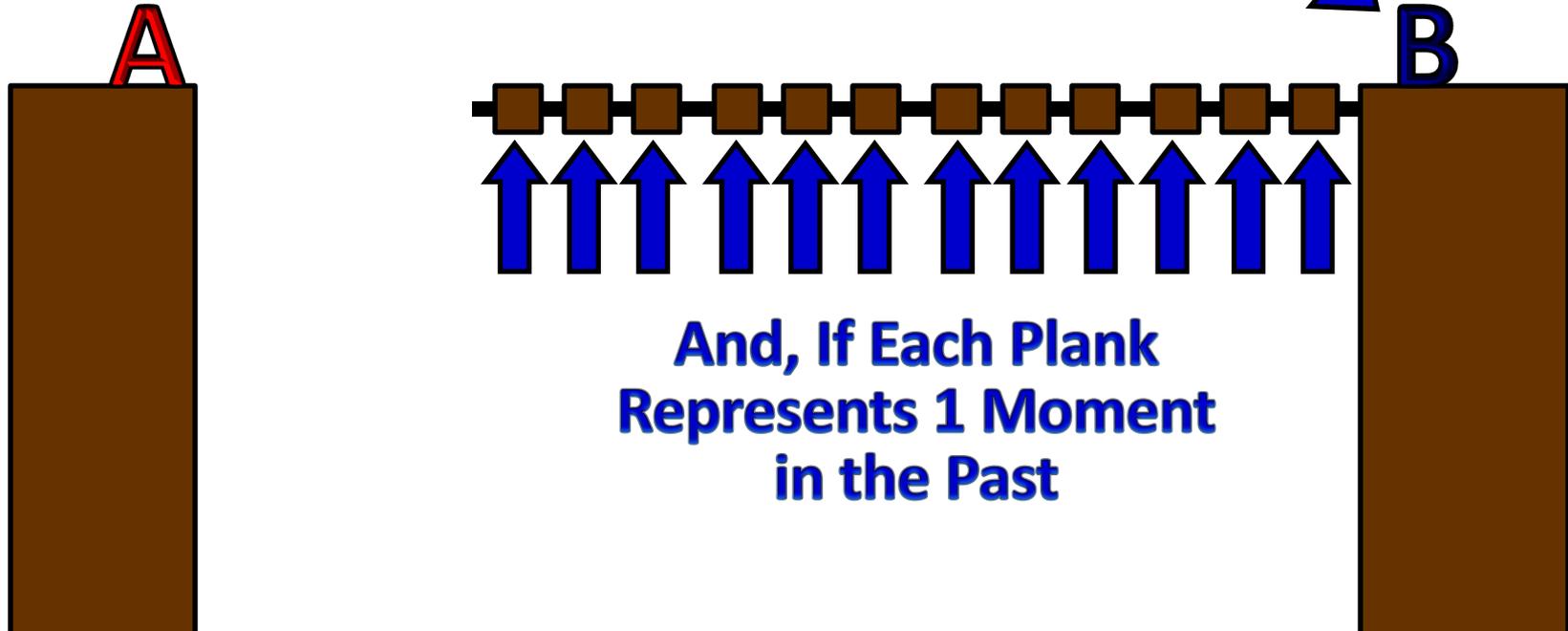
**If "B"  
Represents  
This Current  
Moment**



**And, If Each Plank  
Represents 1 Moment  
in the Past**

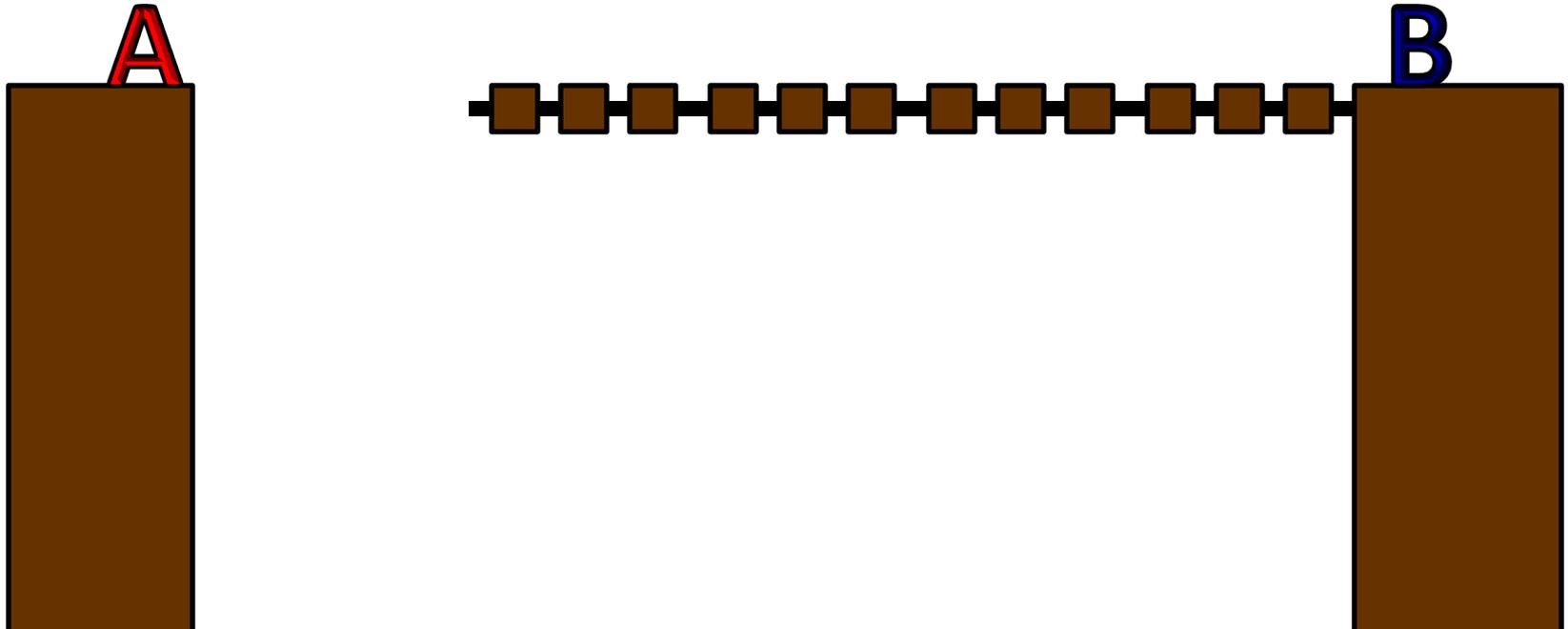
**No, Because You  
Cannot Reach the End  
of an Infinite # of  
Anything**

**If "B"  
Represents  
This Current  
Moment**

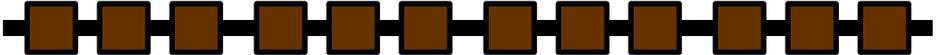
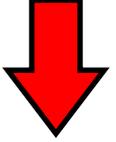


**And, If Each Plank  
Represents 1 Moment  
in the Past**

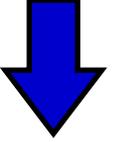
**There Cannot Be an Infinite  
Regress of Moments, Days,  
Events, Changes, Causes, etc.**



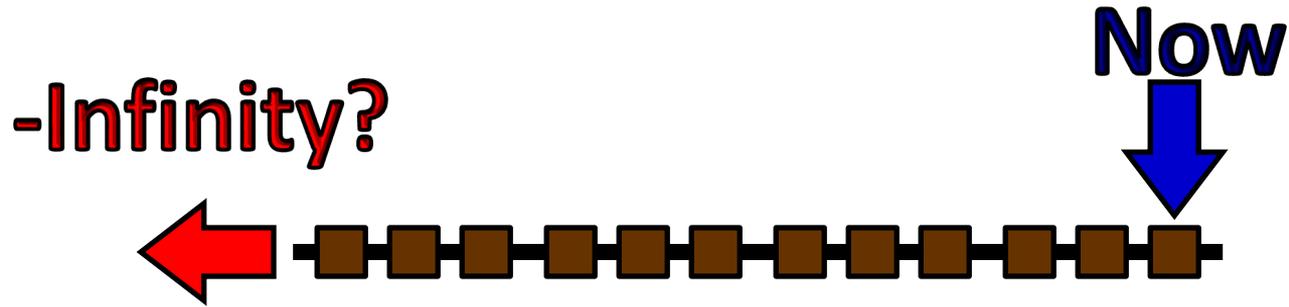
**-Infinity**



**Now**

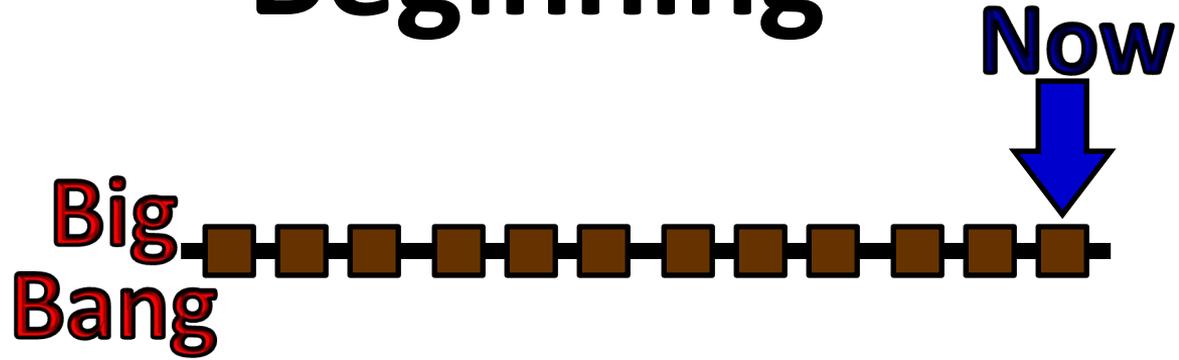


# Could an Infinite # of Moments Already Have Occurred Prior to Now?

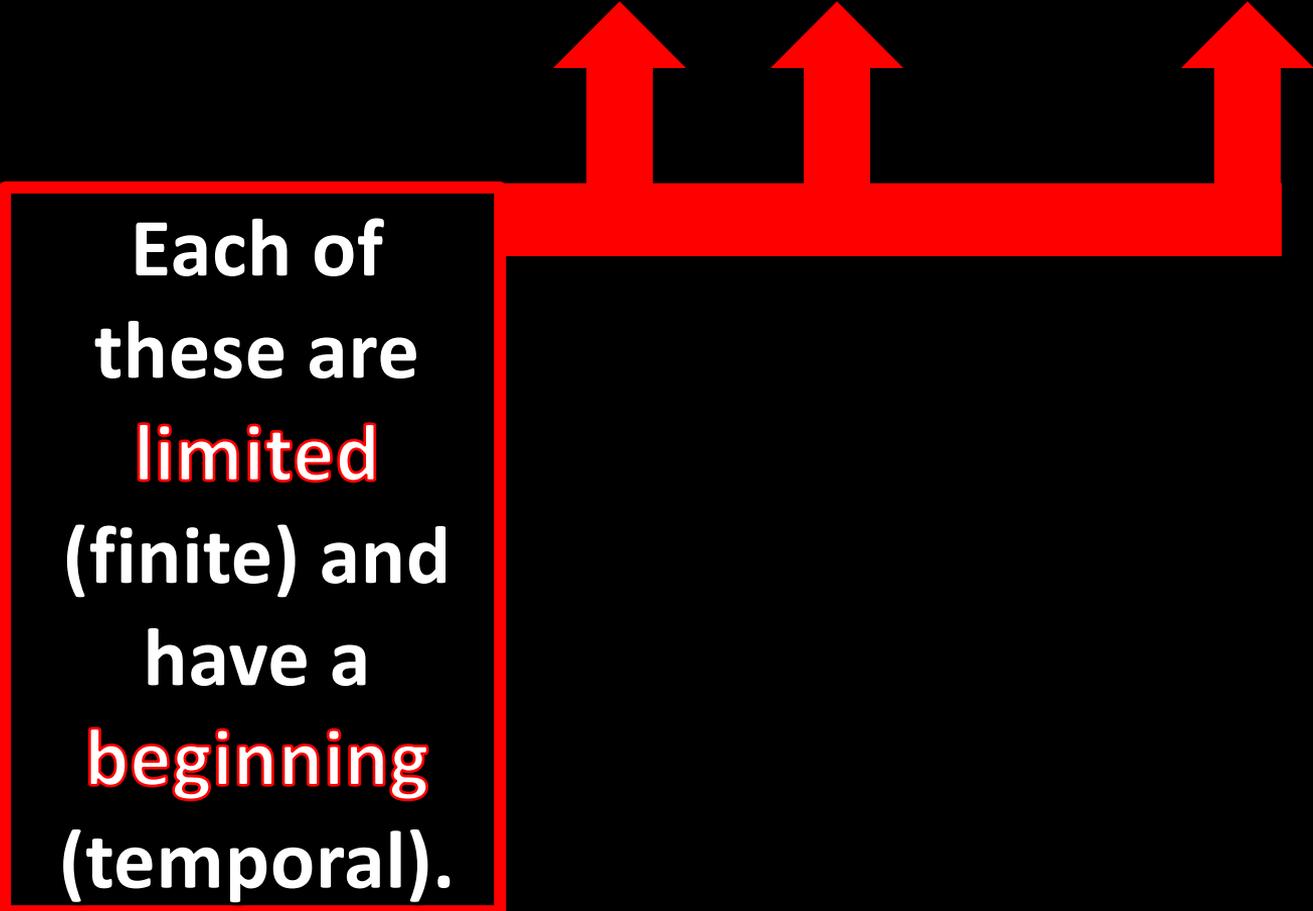


Nope.  
Getting to "now" would  
be an *endless* task.

# There Must Be a Beginning



# Our Universe = Time, Space, and Matter



Each of  
these are  
**limited**  
(finite) and  
have a  
**beginning**  
(temporal).

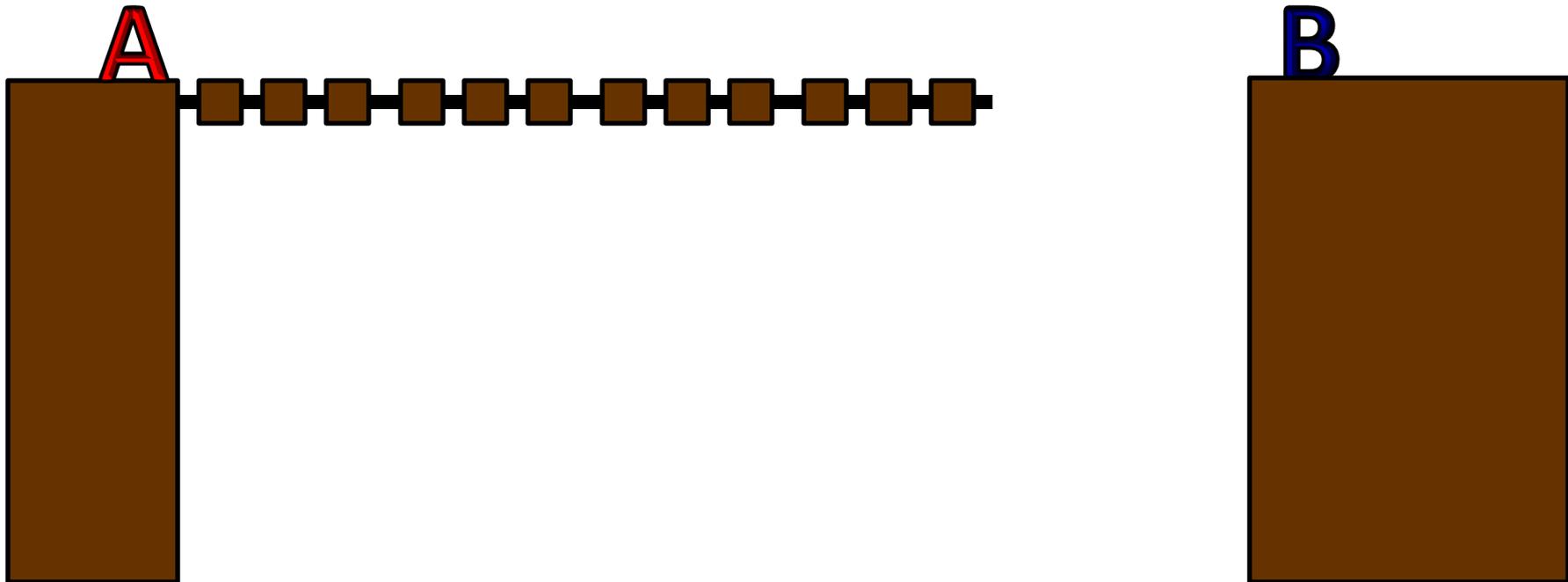
# Matter Is Limited

You Can  
Always Add  
More Matter



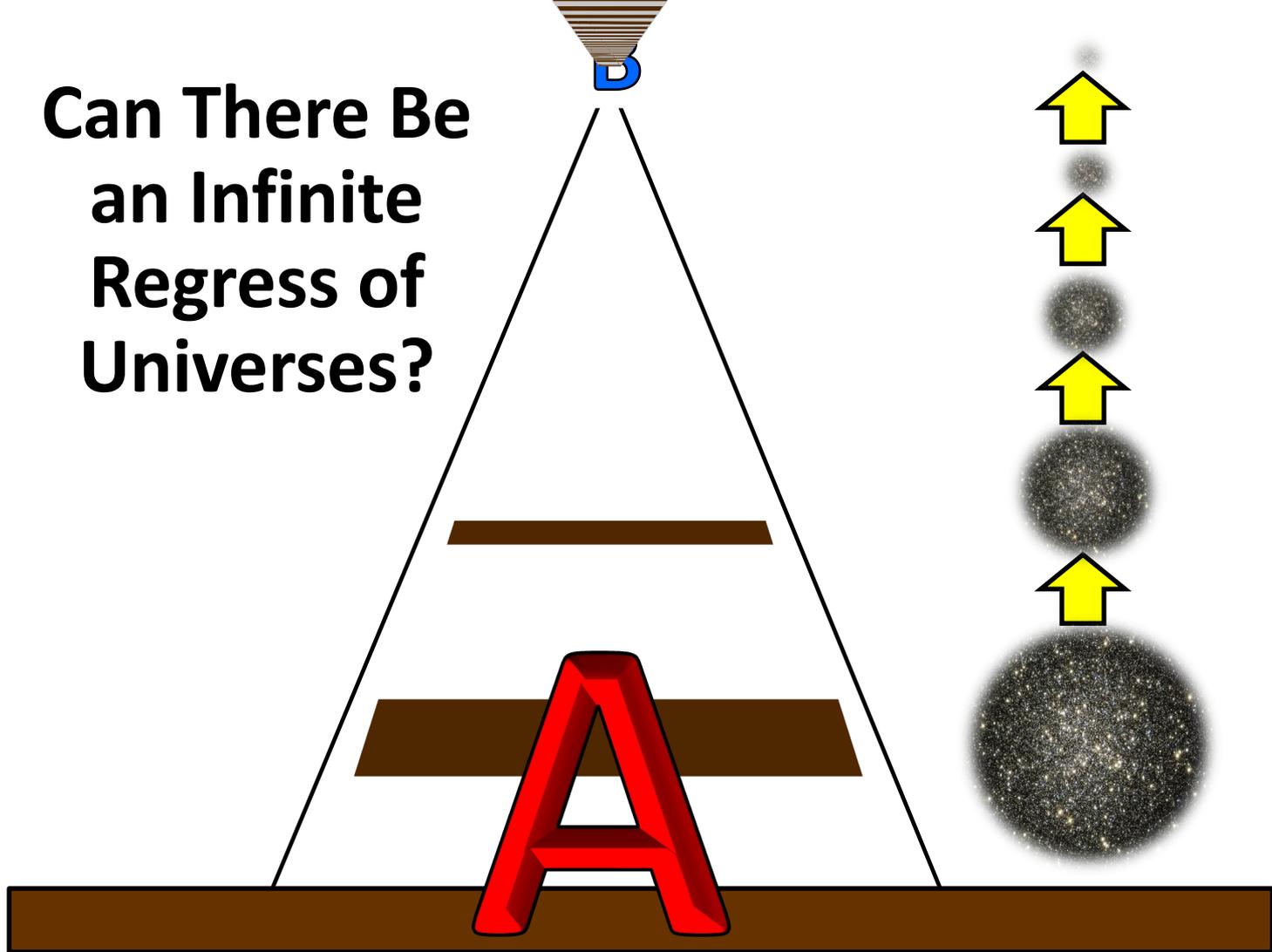
# Time Is Limited

## You Can Always Add More Time





**Can There Be  
an Infinite  
Regress of  
Universes?**



# Horizontal Cosmological Argument

2. The *universe* began to exist.

Second Law of Thermodynamics

Universe Is Expanding

Radiation Echo

Galaxy Formations

End of an Infinite Is Impossible

# Horizontal Cosmological Argument

1. Everything that *begins* to exist has a cause.
2. The *universe* began to exist.
3. Therefore, the *universe* had a cause.

What's the  
Significance of This?



3. Therefore, the *universe* had a  
cause.

**The Thing That *Caused*  
Time, Space, and Matter  
to Begin to Exist**

**Cannot Be**

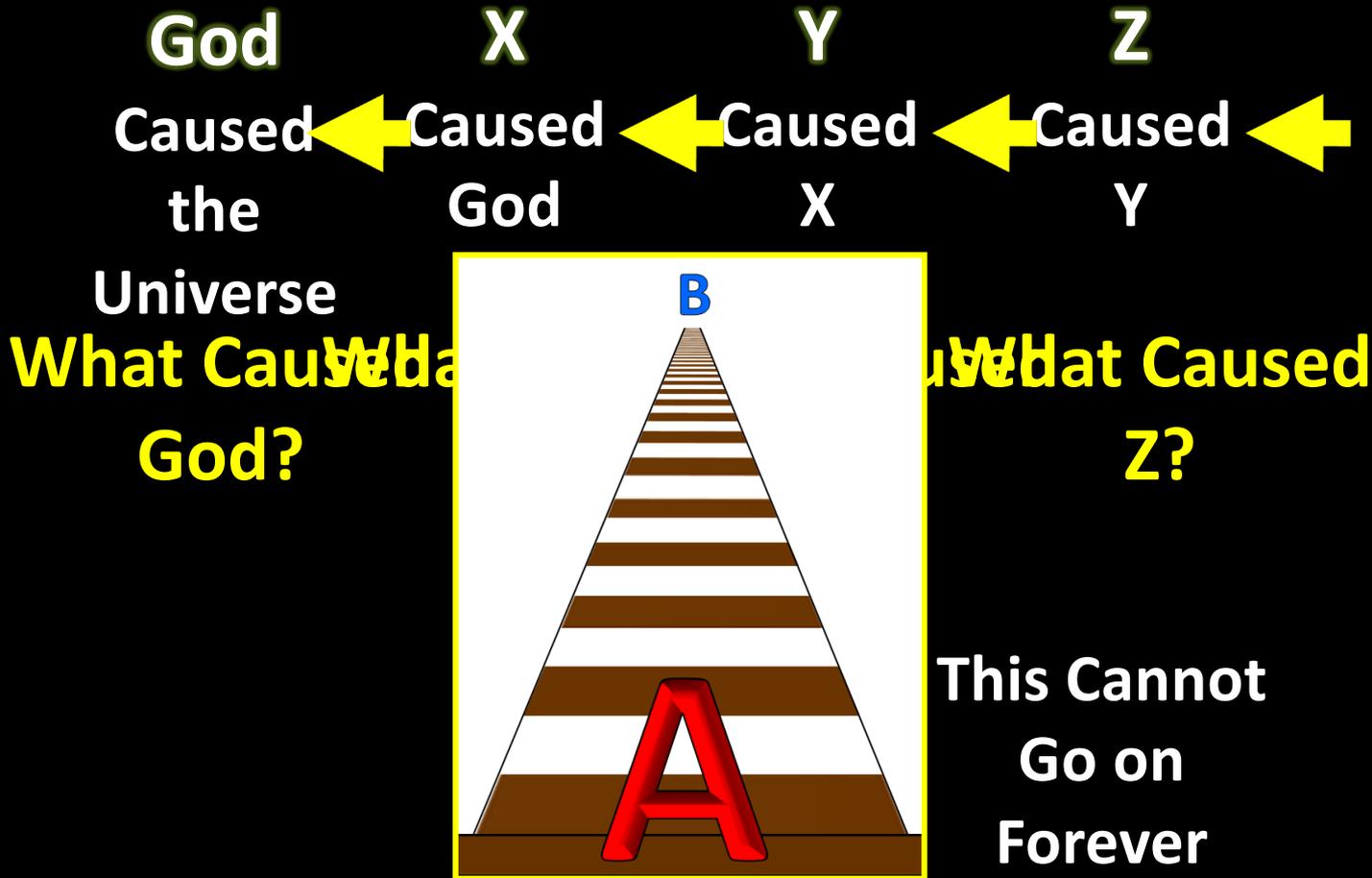
***Composed of Time, Space, or Matter.***

# Our Universe = Time, Space, and Matter

1. The Cause of **Time** Must Be- **Timeless (Eternal)**
2. The Cause of **Space** Must Be- **Non-Spatial**
3. The Cause of **Matter** Must Be- **Immaterial**

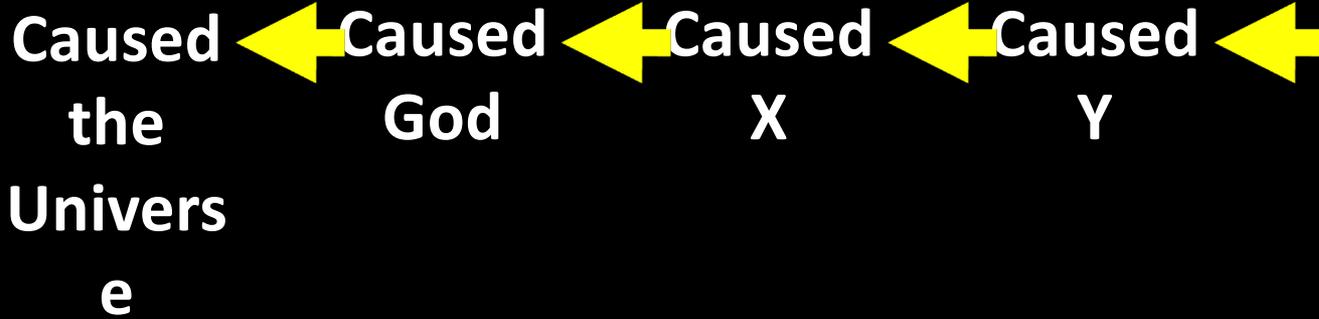


# There Cannot Be an Infinite Regress of Causes



# There Must Be Something That

**Does Not Need a Cause.**



**Something Must Be “Uncaused.”**

**Something “Just *Is*.”**

# The Argument From Dependency

**The Vertical Cosmological Argument**

**WE NEED A CURRENT CAUSE ALSO**

**FOR OUR EXISTENCE! (Col. 1:17)**

## The Argument From Dependency

**“He is before all things, and in  
Him all things hold together.”**

**Col. 1:17**

- Brian wants to ask Gabriela on a date, but he needs \$50.



Brian Needs \$50



Bob



John



Sam



Ted



Tim

Tim

If we add an infinite # of borrowers, will Brian get the money to ask Gabriela out?

If Tim provides the \$50, then Tim is the *ground* of the \$50



Brian *HAS* \$50



Bob



John



Sam



Ted



Tim



# Brian Needs Existence

If we add an  
infinite # of  
Dependent  
Beings, will  
Brian ever  
exist?



Something  
must be the  
ground of  
existence.

**A Being that Just Exists**

Brian *HAS* Existence



A



B



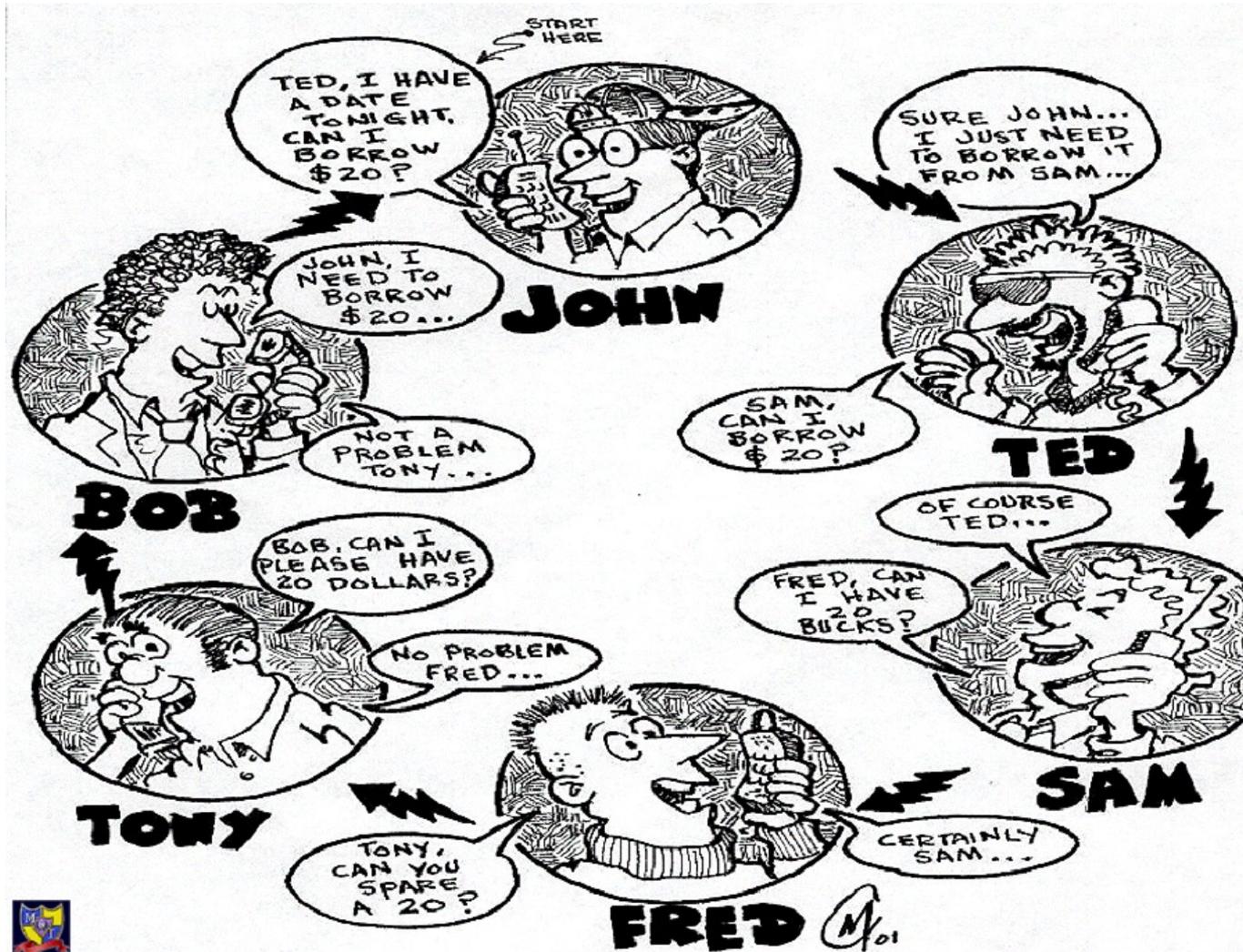
C



D



**A Being that Just Exists**



- Existence Is Different From \$50 Because...

# The Universe Is Dependent On God

What's X  
Dependent  
On?



What's God  
Dependent  
On?



What's Y  
Dependent  
On?



What's Z  
Dependent  
On?



Can There Be An Infinite Regress  
Of Dependent Beings?

# Actuality and Potentiality

- Actuality- Actual existence; realized existence.
- Potentiality- Potential existence; ability to be brought into existence.

**Brian's son has the  
*potential* to exist-**



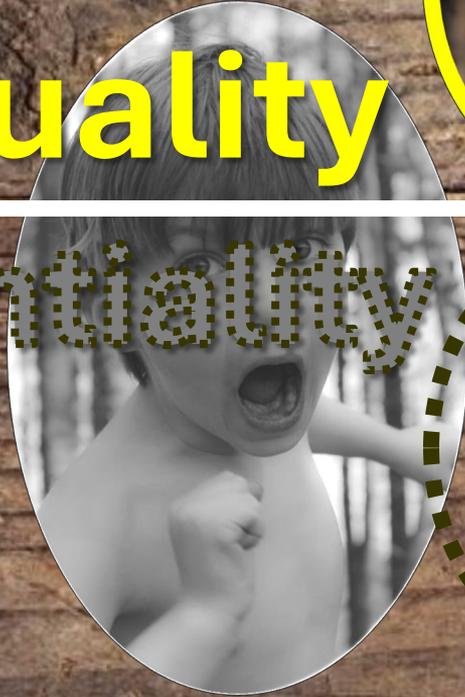
**And he *actually* exists-**



**Actuality**

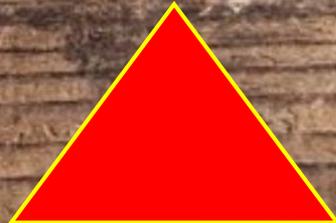


**Potentiality**



# Actuality and Potentiality

- Square Triangles do NOT have the *potential* to exist, so they do not *actually* exist either.





**Brian must *actually* exist and then  
*act upon his son's potential to  
exist in order to actualize his  
potential for existence.***



**But Brian is Also a Potential Being.**



**Another Being Also Acted  
Upon *Brian's* Potential for Existence**



All Potential Beings  
Still Have Potentiality  
After Being Actualized

**Actuality**

---

Potentiality



# What Would a Being That's Pure Potential Be Like?

Potentiality

Potentiality



It Doesn't  
*Actually* Exist Yet

Potentiality

Potentiality





**In Order For Each Potential Being  
to Exist, There Must Be a Prior  
Being that Actually Exists**

What If *All* Beings Were Potential Beings?



# What If *All* Beings Were Potential Beings?



**Then Nothing Should Exist!**

You're potential before you're actual, so the whole chain is potential before being actual. Problem: it needs an Actualizer!  
You cannot start with pure potential beings.

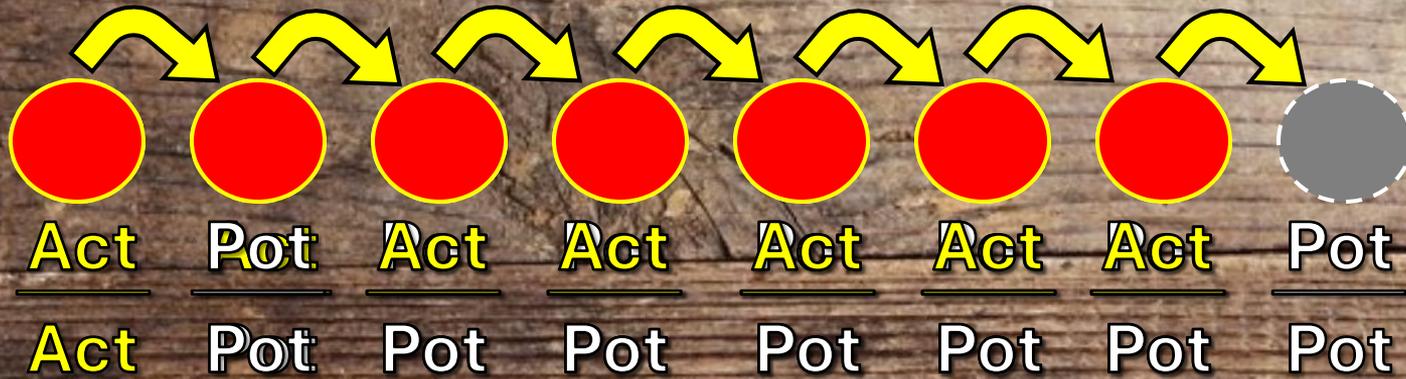
# How Could the Actualizing Ever Occur?



**If the Entire Chain Is Dependent,  
Then the Entire Chain  
Should Not Exist.**

# So, What Must We Infer From This?



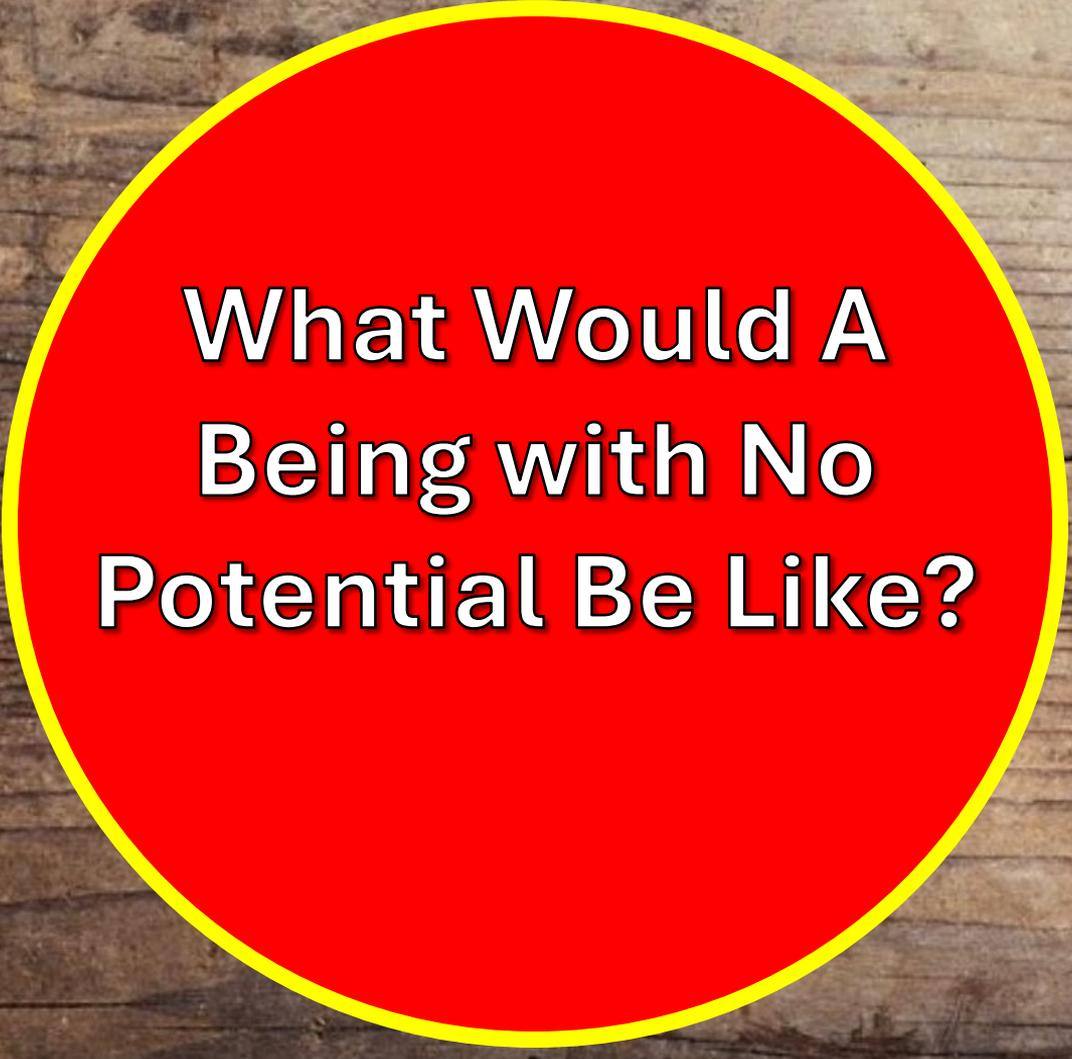


**There MUST Be a Being That Is  
Pure Actuality and Has No Potential.**

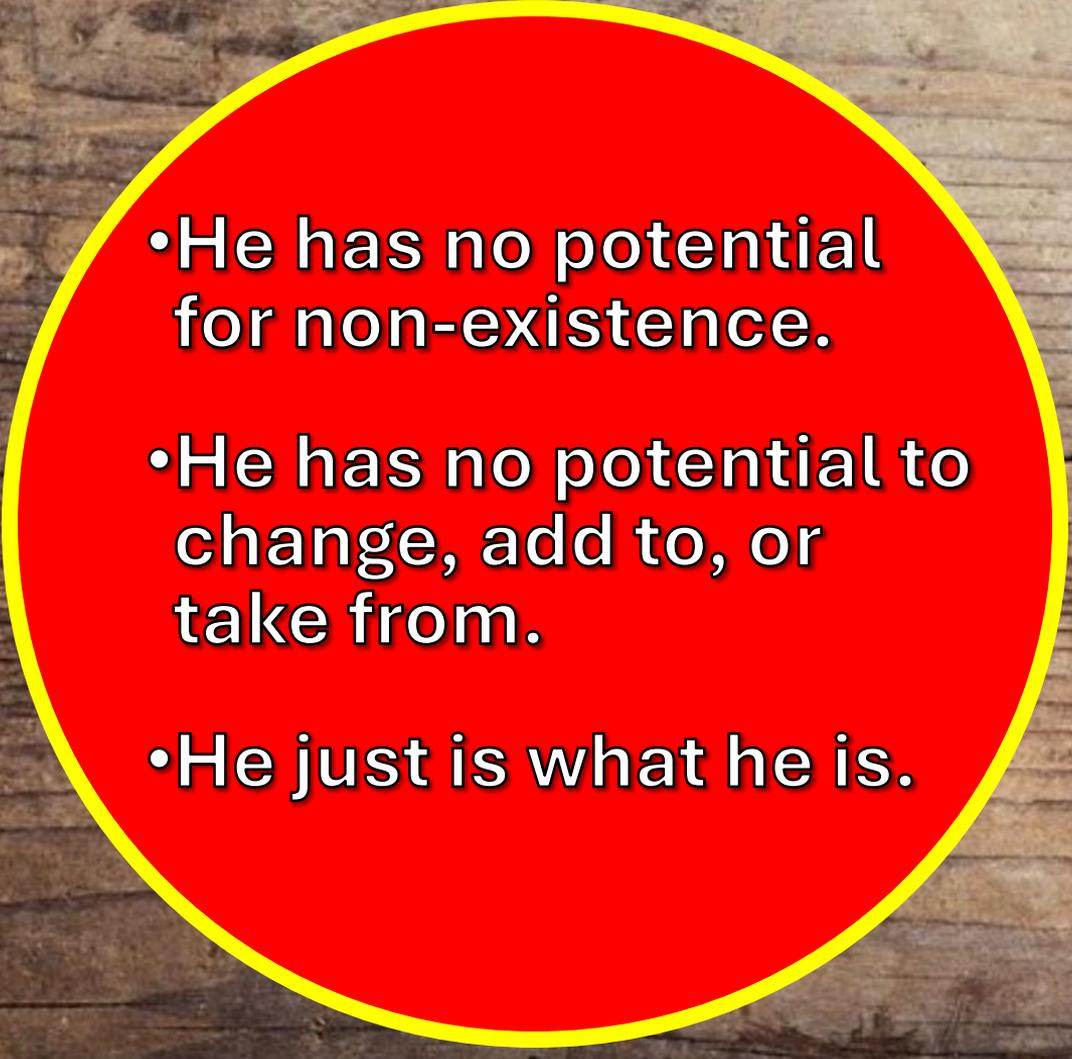
God

**Actuality**

**Actuality**

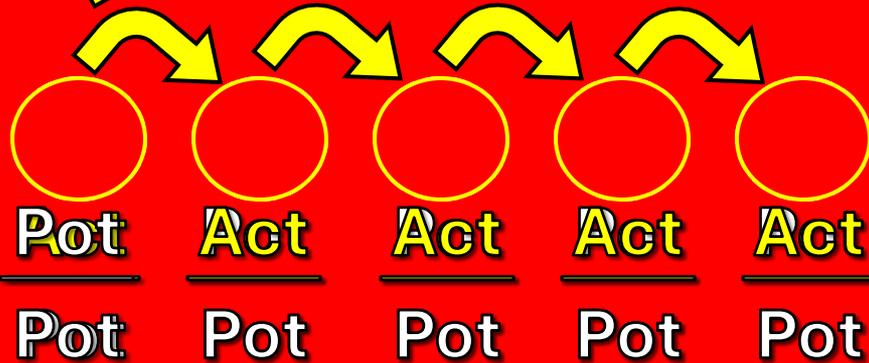


**What Would A  
Being with No  
Potential Be Like?**

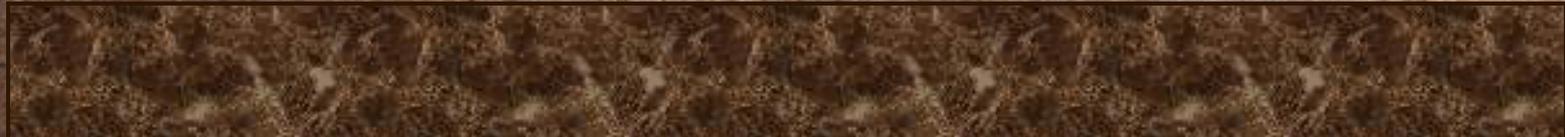
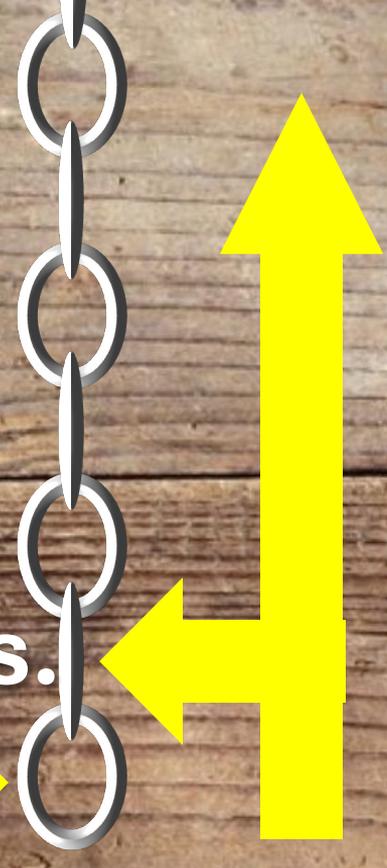
- 
- He has no potential for non-existence.
  - He has no potential to change, add to, or take from.
  - He just is what he is.

# Everything Exists “in” God

All Pure Potential Beings  
Exist as Ideas in God’s Mind



That one is  
What is  
infinite # of  
chain links  
But what is  
explain why any  
causing this  
of the links are  
link to his one is.  
suspended?  
suspend?



No, because each link is *dependent* upon something else for its suspension.



**The whole  
chain must  
be held up by  
something  
outside of  
the chain.**



Links Represent- **Dependent Beings**

Suspension Represents- **Their Existence**

Hand Represents- **Independent Being (God)**

**EVERY** dependent being is  
*currently* dependent upon  
**God for existence!**



Just as this hand is currently  
giving **suspension** to every  
link, God is currently  
giving **existence** to  
every other being.



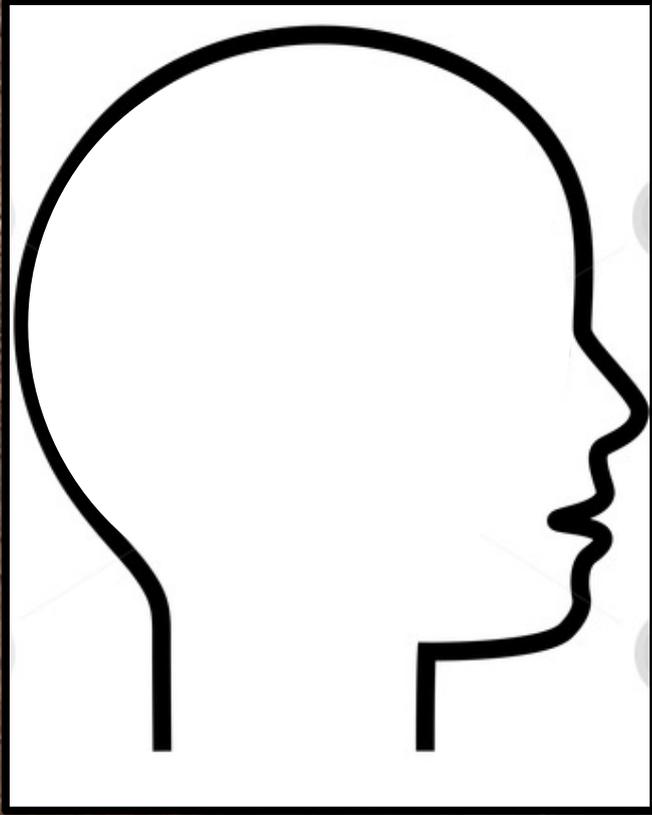
**“...the very first Being beneath (or that undergirds) a changing being (with act and potency) cannot be another being with act and potency, for what does not account for its own existence certainly cannot account for another’s existence. To say it could is like arguing that one paratrooper whose chute did not open can hold up another whose chute did not open. And adding more paratroopers whose chutes do not open does not help the problem; it compounds it.”**

**Norm Geisler, Systematic Theology, Vol. 1 p. 30**

# What's Holding Us Up?



- Principle Extracted From Reality



**Dependent  
Beings Cannot  
Account for the  
Existence of All  
Dependent  
Beings**

**REALITY**

# Argument From Dependency

- 1) A **dependent being** is a being that's dependent upon another being for its existence.
- 2) No dependent being can account for its own existence.
- 3) Dependent beings exist (I'm a dependent being).
- 4) There cannot be an infinite regress of dependent beings.
- 5) Therefore there must be an independent being that gives existence to the entire chain of dependent beings.

# Something Must Be

1. Independent (Not Dependent)

2. Uncaused (It Just Is)

3. Eternal (Timeless)

4. Non-Spatial

5. Immaterial

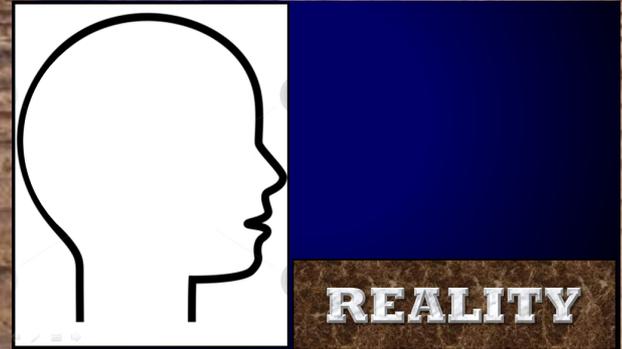
6. Able to act

7. Pure Actuality (No Potential)

8. Unchangeable (Immutable)

This being cannot change. Why not?

(No potential; timeless. Time measures change).

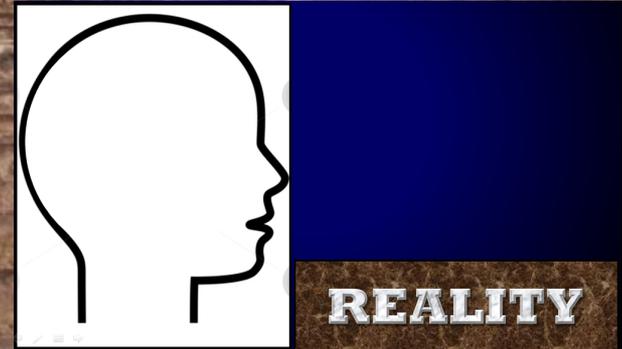


# Something Must Be

1. Independent (Not Dependent)
2. Uncaused (It Just Is)
3. Eternal (Timeless)
4. Non-Spatial
5. Immaterial
6. Able to act
7. Pure Actuality (No Potential)
8. Unchangeable (Immutable)
9. Infinite

If it “just is,” and has no potential, then nothing is sustaining it, causing it, or limiting it. So it’s “*unlimited*,” or

“**infinite.**”



# There Cannot Be 2 Infinite Beings. Why Not?

**Infinite  
Being  
#1**

**Infinite  
Being  
#2**

In Order to Have 2,  
They Would Have to Differ.

**Infinite  
Being  
#1**

**Infinite  
Being  
#2**

To Differ, They Must Be Distinguished  
By What Infinite Properties One Has and  
What the Other Lacks.

**Infinite  
Being  
#1**

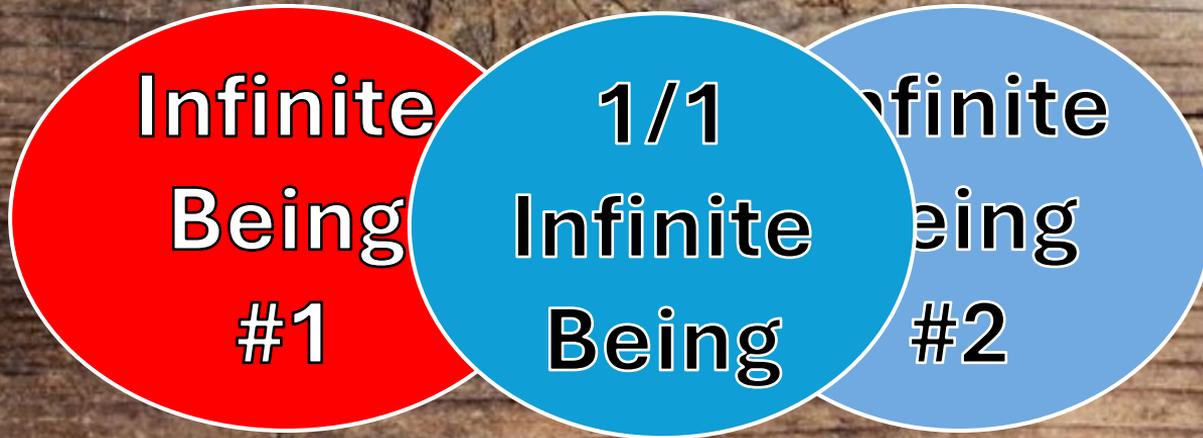
**Infinite  
Being  
#2**

If One Lacks an Infinite Property,  
Then It Is Not Infinite.

Infinite  
e  
Being  
#1

Infinite  
e  
Being  
#2

If Their Properties Are Identical,  
Then There Is Only One Being.



God's  
Nature



God's  
Existence

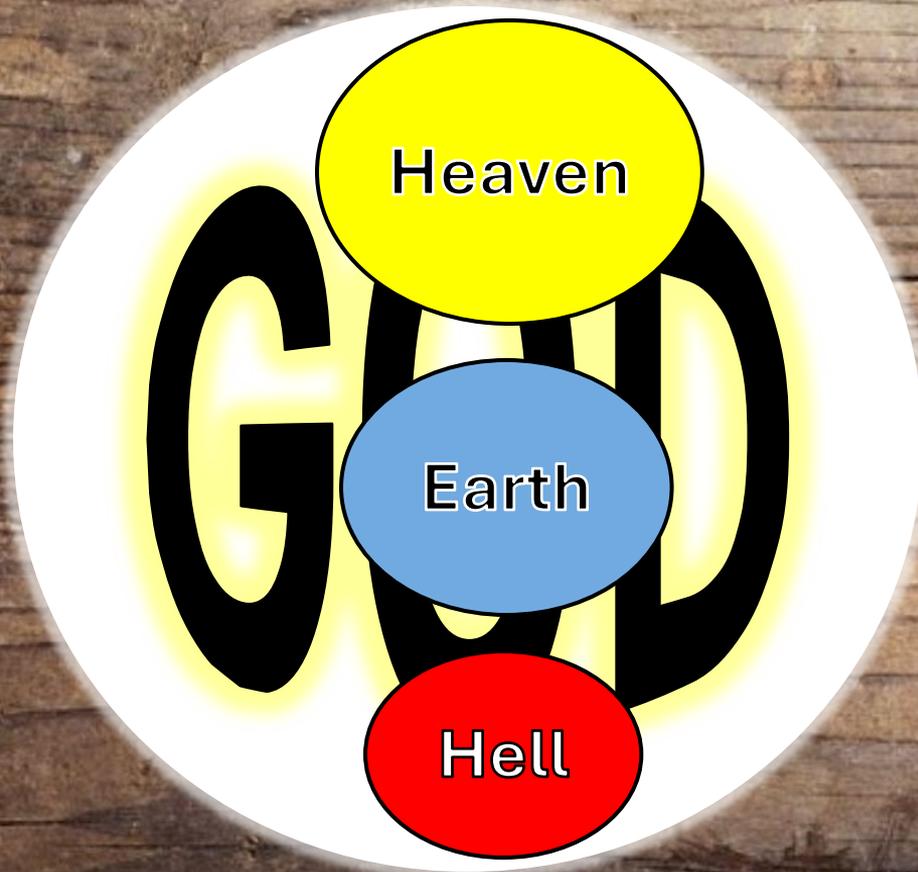
“*What He Is*”

“*That He Is*”



**This Means That God *IS* Existence**  
Only God Is Like This!

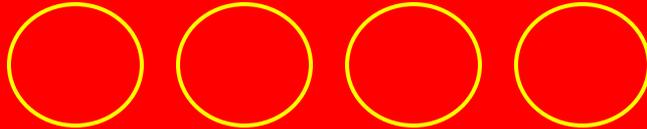
All That Exists, Exists “in” God  
God Is Existence



This is NOT Pantheism Because  
Only God Is Pure Actuality

**Actuality**

**Actuality**



Act   Act   Act   Act

Pot   Pot   Pot   Pot

1. Independent (Not Dependent)

2. Uncaused (It Just Is)

3. Eternal (Timeless)

4. Non-Spatial

5. Immaterial

6. Able to act

7. Pure Actuality (No Potential)

8. Unchangeable (Immutable)

9. Infinite

10. Existence

11. Monotheism: Only *one* being can have these properties

Something Must Be

**These  
are  
NOT  
nature's  
attributes**

# The True God: **Theism**

## Arguments for Theism

1. **Cosmological Argument**
2. **Teleological Argument**
3. **Moral Argument**

# Two Forms of Cosmological Argument

## Horizontal--back to a Beginner

- 1. What had a beginning, had a Beginner.
- 2. The universe had a beginning.
- 3. Hence, the universe had a Beginner.

## Vertical--down to a Foundation

- 1. Every contingent being depends on another (contingent = might not be).
- 2. All beings cannot be contingent (if they were, nothing could cause something).
- 3. Hence, there is a Necessary Being.

# Objection: Who Made the Maker?

If everything needs a cause, then so does the First Cause. If everything is made, then who made God?

## Response:

1. Every **cause** does not need a cause (a Necessary Being doesn't); only every **effect** needs a cause.
2. Every **designer** does not need a designer; only every **design** needs a designer.
3. **Everything** does not need a cause; only **everything** that **begins** or **is contingent** does.

**Objection:** Why can't there be an Infinite regress of causes? If every cause needs a cause, then there would be no First Cause.

**Response:**

1. There is **no** series of causes since the very first efficient cause of a dependent being cannot be a dependent being (It must be an Independent Being).
2. There is no **infinite** series of causes because there is no infinite time. Time began with the Big Bang.
3. There cannot be an infinite series of one cause after another since one more could always be added, and there cannot be more than an infinite.
4. An infinite series of causes is impossible for one cause would be self-caused (since each cause is being caused and one cause must be causing).

# Objection of Meaninglessness

**Objection:** It makes no sense to speak of an uncaused Cause.

**Response:**

- First, atheist speak of an uncaused universe (that was always there). Why couldn't God just have always been there?
- Second, it is necessary that God be uncaused because:

# An Uncaused God is Necessary

Either the universe is:

1. Self-caused (=impossible).
2. Uncaused (= contrary to evidence).
3. Caused by another (= necessary).

**Note:** There are only three possibilities, and the other two are false. So, the third must be true.

Either the First Cause is:

1. Self-caused (=impossible).
2. Caused by another (= impossible; it is First; nothing is before it).
3. Hence, it is uncaused (= the only alternative).

# Another Proof for God

1. Something exists (e.g., I do).
2. Nothing cannot cause something to exist.
3. Therefore, something necessarily and eternally exists.
  - a. It exists eternally for nothing cannot cause something (So if there was ever nothing, there would always be nothing.)
  - b. It must be necessary since every contingent being needs a cause (for no mere potential to be can cause being).
  - c. It must be uncaused since it is a) and b).
4. But an eternal necessary Being is what we call God.

# Yet Another Proof for God

1. Every part of the universe is dependent (caused by another).
2. The whole equals the sum of the parts.
3. Hence, the whole universe is caused.

**Objection 1** : This is the Fallacy of Composition (for a figure is not necessarily a triangle because its two parts are).

**Response**: It is not a fallacy when **the very nature of the parts** (e.g., green tiles) demand that the whole be the same (I.e., a green floor). And contingent parts **by nature** make a contingent whole.

**Objection 2:** The whole is greater than the parts (e.g., the whole car is greater than all its parts (spread over a parking lot)).

**Response:** Ask this question: If you take away all the parts, is the “whole” still there or does it disappear too. **If the “whole” also disappears,** then the whole universe is dependent and needs a cause.

**If it does not disappear,** then the “whole” is the uncaused, independent cause of every part of the universe. But this is just another way to describe God.

# 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. (Part 2)**