

Class 4, Wednesday, February 1, 2023

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander." (1 Peter 3:15-16, NIV)

Class Introduction and Personal Note

Believers must know *what* and *why* we believe, and we must talk about these things with respect and with lives that match our words. I believe Christianity is true and it and makes sense religiously, scientifically, historically, and philosophically—so I tell others!

Section 1 – Reasons Why There Must Be A God

In section one, we've summarized many of the reasons why—from a scientific or philosophical perspective—there must be a God. We've focused on six (out of at least 20) arguments for God's existence:

- #1 The argument from causality.
- #2 The argument from design.
- #3 The argument from Desire.
- #4 The argument from Morality or Conscience.
- #5 The argument from Religious Experience or Conscience.
- #6 The Argument called Pascal's Wager.

Section 2 – If There Is A God, What Must He Be Like?

If there is a God—which I believe is self-evident from the Universe what is He like? What can we deduce about Him even before we look at Him revealing Himself in the Bible and in the incarnation? 1. God is i______ and e______.

God has absolutely no l_____. He is not just "bigger" or "older." Limitations mean He is not really God.

2. God is o ______.

There can only be one "infinite" who is everywhere and who is everything. Therefore, there can only be one God.

3. God is s ______.

God is not limited by the m_____.

4. God is i______.

He is in all things and actively communicating with all things—or they would cease to exist.

5. God is i______.

*Every*thing shows structure and a plan--intelligence. It is reasonable to infer that it is the act of an intelligent God.

6. God is o______ and o ______.

If God is infinite, there can be no limits.

Two Common But False Understandings of God

1. P .

This misunderstanding identifies God with the material. He is part of it and one with it. It is popularized in S ______.

2. D _____.

This misunderstanding makes God remote from the Universe.

More Study:

Handbook of Christian Apologetics: Hundreds of Answers to Crucial Questions, by Peter Kreeft and Ronald K. Tacelli. (A study book which I have used extensively in preparing for this class.)

The Big Book of Christian Apologetics: An A to Z Guide, by Normal L. Geisler. (*A Dictionary approach to Apologetics.*)



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