

God



Classical Arguments for God's Existence

- COSMOLOGICAL (Cause to _____)
- TELEOLOGICAL (Design to _____)
- ANTHROPOLOGICAL (person to _____)
- MORAL (Innate sense of _____)
- ONTOLOGICAL (Idea of a most _____ Being)

Corollary: Since there is a God, then supernatural _____ are possible.

Observations:

- These arguments are _____.
- The arguments point to a personal, infinite, perfect _____ to Whom we are _____ accountable.
- These arguments do not identify this God clearly and unmistakably with the God of the Bible.

ILL: These classical arguments are like a slide projected on a screen that is slightly out of focus. We can see that the slide shows a person and can tell a number of things about this person, however when the slide is focused we can identify the person specifically. Natural revelation yields the out of focus slide. Special revelation (Jesus and the Bible) shows His true identity.

Key Passage: Romans 1:18-20

¹⁸The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. ²⁰For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

Observations:

- God's existence is _____ in creation.
- Men _____ there is a Creator.
- Men _____ the truth in unrighteousness.

ILL: Fred Hetzel was never All-American

ILL: Fog-remover Question - "If I could answer all of your intellectual objections about God and the Bible would you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your savior and commit your life to God?" If the answer to this is no, the response is: "then your problem really isn't an intellectual one, is it? Could your real objection be a moral one – you are unwilling to admit your culpability and accountability to God"

and therefore it is easier to hide behind intellectual questions.”

The Attributes (Perfections) of God

- Communicable Attributes (How He is _____ Us)
- Incommunicable Attributes (How He is _____ Us)

ILL: The Attributes of God are like the colors on a palette used to paint a portrait. If we were to remove colors we distort the portrait. There is an tendency of some to emphasize one attribute (ex. Love, sovereignty, mercy, wrath) to the exclusion of others. The portrait of God is realistic when the biblical proportions are maintained.

Suggested Reading: A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy*
<http://www.drstevej.com/Tozer.pdf>

The Names of God

The Doctrine of the Trinity

- There is only _____ God.
- _____ Persons are Recognized as God.
 - ▶ The Father is God.
 - ▶ Jesus Christ is God.
 - ▶ The Holy Spirit is God..
- There is _____ God Who exists in _____ distinct Persons.

Key Passage: Matthew 28:19

¹⁹ *Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

Key Implications

- Idolatry:
- Supernaturalism: