

## ***Is There A God?***

### ***1 Peter 3:15-16***

Explore God, Pt. 2

September 20, 2015

**1 Peter 3:15**, *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,* <sup>16</sup>*keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.*

### **Three Categories Of People:**

**Atheist** – A Person Who Denies The Existence Of God

**Agnostic** – Person Who Asserts That God's Existence Is Unknown

**Theist** – A Person Who Believes God Exists

### **Three Major Views Of God:**

**Theism** – “God Made It All” (Judaism, Islam And Christianity)

**Pantheism** – “God Is All” (Zen, Buddhism, Hinduism, New Age)

**Atheism** – “No God At All”

### **Three Major Origins Of Life Views:**

- 1) **The “Theory” Of Naturalistic Evolution (Darwinian Evolution)** – Is “Not” scientifically proven and it is not actually a theory of creation since it does not account for creation.
- 2) **Theistic Evolution** – God performed the miracle of creation and the origin of life and then continued to lead life, step by step, down the path of evolutionary development.
- 3) **Theistic Creation** – God specially created everything, including creating mankind in His Image.

**Proverbs 18:13**, *To answer before listening—that is folly and shame.*

## **Arguments For The Existence Of God:**

### **Four Irrefutable Features Of The Cosmos:**

#### **1) The Universe Had A BEGINNING**

The universe is a contingency that requires some sort of causality - it hasn't always existed.

**Genesis 1:1**, *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

**Hebrews 11:3**, *By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.*

#### **2) The Fine Tuning Of The COSMOS**

The more we know from science the more impressive the fact becomes that the universe is more finely tuned than we ever imagined.

**Psalms 8:3**, *When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have set in place*

**Romans 1:20**, *For 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 people are without excuse.*

#### **3) The Origin Of LIFE**

Life requires such complexity, structure and design that the idea of spontaneous generation of life is impossible.

**Genesis 1:26**, *Then God said, “Let Us make mankind in Our image, in Our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”*  
<sup>27</sup>*So God created mankind in His own image, in the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.*

#### **4) The Information Rich Component Of Our GENETICS**

This information cannot be reduced to energy and cannot be explained by accidental combustion.

**Psalm 19:1**, *The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. <sup>2</sup>Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.*

**Romans 1:20**, *For 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 people are without excuse.*

### **Four Other Arguments For The Existence Of God:**

#### **1) The MORAL OR ETHICAL Argument**

**Romans 2:14**, *...Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. <sup>15</sup>They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.*

#### **2) The BIBLICAL OR SCRIPTURAL Argument**

**Genesis 1:1**, *In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

#### **3) JESUS Taught There Is A God**

**Matthew 5:8**, *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

#### **4) PERSONAL Experience Reveals There Is A God**

**Jeremiah 29:11**, *For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. <sup>12</sup>Then you will call on Me and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. <sup>13</sup>You will seek Me and find Me when you seek Me with all your heart.*

**Romans 1:21**, *For although they knew God, they neither glorified Him as God nor gave thanks to Him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup>Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools...*

### **Take Away:**

1. Try and share some of these principles with someone.
2. Invite someone to join you next week for Explore God.
3. Join one of our Explore God Discussion Groups in LifeGroups@Church; LifeGroups@Home or one of our many Discussion Groups. Find information on our website: <http://cottonwoodcreek.org/about-lg>
4. Attend our REASONABLE FAITH Chapter that meets here at Cottonwood Creek the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month in room A202 from 6:45p – 9:00p.