

# PRACTICAL APOLOGETICS

## Session 6 – Arguing for God’s Existence

### 1. The Ontological Argument

- God is that than which nothing \_\_\_\_\_ can be conceived.
- The greatest thing that could possibly be conceived of possesses the attribute of existence, because if it didn’t, there is a thing still greater that could be conceived.
- Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ exists.

### 2. The Transcendental Argument

The transcendental argument argues that \_\_\_\_\_ is the precondition for knowledge, logic, science, and conceptual generalizations.

God made the world, he knows all the facts there are to know about it, he made us in his image with the capability to know things, and he upholds both us and the world continuously with His word.

In such a universe, the possibility of \_\_\_\_\_ is unproblematic.

### 3. The Cosmological Argument

The basic argument is that all things that have beginnings had to have \_\_\_\_\_. The universe had a beginning; therefore, the universe had a cause. That cause, being outside the whole universe, is God.

The scope of the kalam argument is narrow but extraordinarily \_\_\_\_\_: logic itself appears to dictate that there is a First Cause.

### 4. The Moral Argument

This is probably the most \_\_\_\_\_ argument. You don’t need to be philosophically minded to understand it. It’s also effective because it touches people at a \_\_\_\_\_ level that scientific arguments do not.

You can also simply challenge someone who claims to be an atheist and ask, "Where does \_\_\_\_\_ come from?"

David Hume: "is doesn't equal \_\_\_\_\_." How do we get to the reason for the *ought* beyond merely observing what *is*?

The secularists or atheists really has only **three choices**:

- Bite the \_\_\_\_\_
- Accept that are (somehow) \_\_\_\_\_ facts
- Make the \_\_\_\_\_

Biblically, we see that our conscience is a gift given to us by \_\_\_\_\_ (Romans 2).

## 5. The Teleological Argument

While cosmological arguments argue from the *existence* of the cosmos, teleological arguments argue for God's existence from the \_\_\_\_\_ of the cosmos and biological life. It appears to have design or purpose (a goal or end) rather than something \_\_\_\_\_.

The teleological argument, is a logical defense of God predicated upon the \_\_\_\_\_ universe. In other words, it is a way to prove God's existence by looking at things in the physical universe. More simply put this is, at its core, the argument of the Bible which says, 'Creation points to its \_\_\_\_\_.'

The \_\_\_\_\_ itself makes this argument in Psalm 19 and Romans 1.

The teleological argument today finds itself in many \_\_\_\_\_.

**Naturalism** assumes that the origins of everything began through time and \_\_\_\_\_. Very simple equation: Impersonal force + time + chance = creation. Given enough time, anything can happen.

Yet biological life can also be seen to be designed given the amount of *specified* \_\_\_\_\_. This refers to the notion that a given thing needs certain parts to work together properly and to perform some function.

Some **critics** will say this is a "God of the gaps fallacy." But this is true is when one doesn't have enough \_\_\_\_\_ to account for something and then invokes God (fallaciously).

However, this is not what theists are doing. We are saying there is so much *positive* evidence for a designer that there must be one.