

DOES GOD EXIST?

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IN THE "ANSWERS" SERIES:

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THE CHRISTIAN FAITH HAS SOLID AND THOUGHTFUL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS PEOPLE ARE ASKING.

1 Peter 3:13–16 (NLT) (13) Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? (14) But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. (15) Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And **if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.** (16) **But do this in a gentle and respectful way....**

Jude 3 (NLT) (3) Dear friends, I had been eagerly planning to write to you about the salvation we all share. But now I find that I must write about something else, **urging you to defend the faith** that God has entrusted once for all time to his holy people.

Colossians 4:5–6 (NLT) (5) Live wisely among those who are not believers, and make the most of every opportunity. (6) Let your conversation be gracious and attractive so that you will have the right response for everyone.

TODAY'S BIG QUESTION: DOES GOD EXIST?

FOUR ARGUMENTS FOR GOD'S EXISTENCE:

1) The _____ **Argument—Something can not come from nothing.**

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD IS A REASONABLE EXPLANATION FOR THE CREATION OF THE UNIVERSE.

Genesis 1:1 (NLT) (1) In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

2) The _____ **Argument—Design demands a designer.**

Psalms 19:1 (NLT) (1) The heavens proclaim the glory of God. The skies display his craftsmanship.

Psalms 139:13–14 (NLT) (13) You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. (14) Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

Romans 1:20 (NLT) (20) For ever since the world was created, people have seen the earth and sky. Through everything God made, they can clearly see his invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature. So they have no excuse for not knowing God.

INTELLECTUALLY HONEST PEOPLE CAN DRAW NO OTHER CONCLUSION BUT TO SAY THAT THE DESIGN OF THE UNIVERSE AND HUMAN BODY HAD TO HAVE A DESIGNER.

3) The _____ Argument—Where does right and wrong come from?

IF THERE IS A MORAL LAW THAT GOVERNS MANKIND IN EVERY CULTURE AND HAS FOR CENTURIES, WHERE DOES THAT COME FROM?

Romans 2:14–15 (NLT) (14) Even Gentiles, who do not have God’s written law, show that they know his law when they instinctively obey it, even without having heard it. (15) They demonstrate that God’s law is written in their hearts, for their own conscience and thoughts either accuse them or tell them they are doing right.

4) The _____ Argument—The reality of God in human experience.

ANTHROPOLOGIST HAVE NEVER DISCOVERED A HUMAN CULTURE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD THAT HAD NO CONCEPT OF THE DIVINE.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NLT) (11) Yet God has made everything beautiful for its own time. **He has planted eternity in the human heart**, but even so, people cannot see the whole scope of God’s work from beginning to end.

DOUBT IS NOT THE ENEMY OF FAITH. THE ENEMY OF FAITH IS THE UNWILLINGNESS TO SEEK ANSWERS TO YOUR DOUBT.

Hebrews 11:6 (NLT) (6) And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that **he rewards those who sincerely seek him**.

THE FOUR ARGUMENTS ARE NOT JUST INTERESTING IDEAS. THEY ARE LINES OF EVIDENCE THAT WHEN YOU PUT THEM TOGETHER BUILD A CASE FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOD.

*For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at info@otterbeinchurch.org, or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking "**Next Steps > Jesus**" on*