



SERIES: July Series "OFF ROADING"

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Scripture: Genesis 1:1 / Romans 1:20

NC0192

TITLE: Does God Exist?: The Cosmological Argument

Atheist philosopher Bertrand Russell said that "The universe is just there, and that's all" (Fr. Copleston vs. Bertrand Russell: The Famous 1948 BBC Radio Debate on the Existence of God). In other words, it just exists. It always has. It's a brute fact. But my question is: Is this reasonable? Is this what the evidence shows? Or was there a starting point, and, therefore, a Creator?

This is what we want to discover today - Is there a Divine Creator? If so, how can we be sure? Yesterday, we looked at one line of evidence for God's existence: the teleological argument, or the argument from design.

Today we're going to look at the cosmological argument.

Simply put, the cosmological argument is the argument for causation. In other words, every effect must have a cause. Professor and apologist William Lane Craig has championed this defense in three parts:

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore the universe has a cause.

Premise 1 is whatever begins to exist has a cause. That's a no-brainer. You are here today, not by chance. You didn't just appear in your seats out of nowhere. No, you drove here. You walked through our foyer and eventually sat down in your seat. You are here in existence because your mom and dad engaged in a cause-and-effect equation. This desk didn't just poof into existence. No, someone created it.

So Premise 1 is solid. Whatever begins to exist has a cause.

Premise 2 states that the Universe began to exist. Does the Bible confirm this, or deny this premise?

Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." In the beginning, there was the triune God, coexisting eternally. And He existed outside of space and time. So before time began, there was nothing, and then God spoke it into existence. In an instant, there was time, space, and matter.

Romans 1:20 (NASB) says, "For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power, and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse." The Universe, according to Paul, has God's thumbprint on it. If we think of it as a crime scene, and the detective asks the question, "Who done it?", the thumbprint found is God's. And people know it, but they suppress the truth.

The Bible clearly teaches that God created the Earth, its inhabitants, the stars, the moon, the planets, the galaxies, and the Universe. But science confirms this as well. The Second Law of Thermodynamics confirms this. The expansion of the Universe also backs this up. Even Einstein's General Law of Relativity affirms a beginning of the Universe.

So Premise 2, "The Universe began to exist," is more than reasonable.

The logical conclusion is, "The Universe has a cause." What caused the Universe? Well, out of nothing, nothing comes. So the Universe can't cause itself. The cause must be spaceless, timeless, immaterial, powerful, and uncaused. This sounds a lot like God.

So here's my challenge for you today: share this episode of Win the Day and discuss this with that person. Many people believe in a Creator God, but don't know why. Share this with them and allow their faith to grow.

Also, share in the comments below how this is helping you move closer to God, and any questions you have. I'd love to interact with you.