

God Is (Is There a God?)

Luke 11:29–32

Introduction:

1. Atheism is on the rise in the United States (Barna Group) - use graph from Barna Group
 - a. Especially among the younger population (GEN Z were born 1999 to 2015. MILLENNIALS were born 1984 to 1998.)
 - b. Atheist clubs are popping up in public schools, both high school and college
 - c. “The Secular Student Alliance empowers secular students to proudly express their identity, build welcoming communities, promote secular values, and set a course for lifelong activism.” (Secular Student Alliance) Eight (8) schools in Alabama have atheist clubs. (ibid)
 - d. This is obviously an important and dangerous issue just as are false religions and doctrines. When the minds of our young are corrupted then we are on a collision course and, the end result can be that of Israel of old who gave up God to follow after the gods of idolatry.
 1. Golden calf (Exodus 32:2-10)
 2. 2 Kings 17:5-17 (Widespread idolatry, pagan religious practices, to a full of rejection of God).
 3. Jeremiah 3:8-10, both Judah and Israel had gone after idolatry, eventually rejected God and then were destroyed because of their journey away from God.
 2. Our world is broken and our society is teaching us that believing in God is silly and without merit.
 - a. “But there is no **evidence** that God exists and almost all versions of God mandate **belief in a magical, chaotic and undetectable supernatural realm**. How can smart people believe things like this with no evidence?” (Atheist Alliance International) - *although the article says that smart people believing in God are like smart people smoking knowing that it will kill them.*
 - b. The thesis of this lesson is to show that God does NOT expect us to believe in Him with blind faith. As a matter of fact, He has given us many evidences to believe in Him, His existence and His Being. A hard heart like that of Pharaoh will not allow us to accept those evidences.
- I. Blind faith
- A. Blind faith is a belief without true understanding, perception or discrimination. (GotQuestions.org) In other words, it is a faith without reasoning.
 1. “The Bible describes God as Eternal (Psalm 90:2; 1 Timothy 1:17), all powerful (Jeremiah 32:17; Colossians 1:17), infinite in understanding (Psalm 147:5; Isaiah 40:28), perfectly holy like no other (Exodus 15:11; 1 Samuel 2:2), the only God (Psalm 86:8-10), incapable of lying (Titus), Creator of the whole universe (Genesis 1:1; John 1:3), and Savior (Titus 2:13)-just to name a few attributes. How do we know such God exists?” (N. Ham)
 2. Is our faith really to be blind, without true understanding?

- B. Abraham: Our example of a reasoning/understanding faith
 - 1. Genesis 22:1-19 - God promised Abraham he would be a father of many nations, even though Sarah was 90 years old and he was around 100.
 - 2. Eventually God asked Abraham to kill his only son (Genesis 22:12), and it seems like Abraham did not question God and “blindly” followed God’s orders.
 - 3. But Hebrews 11:18-19 say that Abraham reasoned (considered, thought things through, weighed out the evidences).
 - a. Abraham believed that since God had made the nation promise, that He had followed through all of His others promises, that God would somehow provide for his son.
 - b. And the fact that God spoke to Abraham would help with his faith.
 - C. Humans are blessed with reason and understanding.
 - 1. Proverbs 3:13 - we are blessed when we find knowledge and understanding
 - 2. Hebrews 5:12-14 - reproves teachers for not growing in understanding
 - 3. Acts 17:11 - The Bereans searched the scriptures to reason if truth was being taught
 - 4. James 1:15 - James tells us to ask God for wisdom
 - D. God created us with he ability to reason and understand, and He expects us to use those attributes to believe in God.
 - 1. John 14:6 - Jesus is truth and every search with reason and logic for truth should eventually take us to Jesus’ feet.
 - 2. Abraham followed God’s commands based on the promise that God would keep His word-so Abraham reasoned and weighed out logic.
 - 3. There will be times when we will act purely on faith because we do not have the whole picture, but it that faith is not based on blind, unreasoning and illogical faith. I
- II. Five Reasons that God Exists (Adamson) There are people who have seen sufficient evidence to believe in God but they refuse the evidence and refuse to believe in God. (Romans 1:19-20; Then there are those who want to believe in God, what to know more about Him, want to have a relationship with Him, and God will make Himself available - Jeremiah 29:13-14) (ibid)
- A. **The complexity of our planet** - Our planet speaks of a Designer (Lisle Chapter 2: The Universe Confirms the Bible)
 - 1. **The Earth:**
 - a. It’s size is perfect
 - b. The Earth’s size and corresponding gravity holds a thin layer of mostly nitrogen and oxygen gasses, only extending about 50 miles above the earth’s surface. If the earth were a bit smaller it would be impossible for it to have an atmosphere - it would be like Mercury. If it were a bit larger it would contain free hydrogen like Jupiter and in either case, the planet would not support any type of plant, animal or human life.
 - c. Perfect distance from the sun - if the earth was closer to the sun we would all burn, if it was further away we would all freeze.
 - d. Perfect water - no living thing can survive without water
 - 1. Salt water from the oceans evaporate into the atmosphere, then it rains and irrigates our land, and it perfect for our consumption.

2. It is perfect for sustaining life in both fresh and salt water.
- e. Our brains
 1. Ability to process an amazing amount of information simultaneously
 2. Brain allows you to feel the dryness your mouth, the coolness of the floor on the bottom of your feet, yet at the same time continues to process information to keep the bodily functions going.
 3. Human brain processes more than 1 million messages a second, has the ability to weight the importance of the messages, determines which to keep and which get rid of.
 4. The human brain allows us to feel emotions, to reasons, dream, plan, to take action and relate to people.
- f. The human eye: can distinguish among 7 million colors (unless you are color blind). Automatic focus and can handle 1.5 million messages simultaneously
- g. Evolution cannot explain the INITIAL source of the brain and eye-the start of living organisms from non-living matter.
2. **What caused the universe? The universe had a start...**
 - a. Scientists are convinced that the universe began with one huge bang (the Big Bang). This, according to scientists was the catalyst, the explosion that started life and eventually gave us this perfect world, perfect universe and perfect human body.
 - b. Astrophysicist Robert Jastrow believes that everything came into being, every perfect star in its place, every planet, solar system, etc., flashed into existence with the Big Bang, "and we cannot find out what caused that to happen." (ibid). In other words, where did the energy for the Big Bang come from? It takes more blind faith to believe in the Big Bang than reasoning faith to believe in God.
3. **Universe operates by uniform laws of nature** - Much of life seems uncertain, we don't know what will happen tomorrow. But there are things we can count on:
 - a. Gravity will remain consistent - what goes up must come down
 - b. Hot cup of coffee left on the counter will eventually cool down
 - c. The earth will rotate in the same same 24 hours
 - d. speed of light does not change, not even in other galaxies far from earth.
 - e. How can we identify the laws of nature that never change? Why is the universe so overly and reliable?
 - f. Scientists say that there is no logical reason why the universe should adhere to the laws of nature. Richard Feynman, Nobel prize winner for quantum electrodynamics said, "Why nature is mathematical is a mystery...The fact that there are rules at all is a kind of miracle." (Feynman)
4. **DNA code informs, programs a cell's behavior**
 - a. All instruction and writing comes with intent. An owner's manual is written with the intent of teaching.
 - b. Every cell in our bodies have a very detailed instruction code
 - c. Each cell has a 3-million lettered code to tell the body what to do. Just like you can program you cell-phone to beep a certain way, our DNA instructs the cell. Each cell is a full instruction manual.

- d. Why is this so amazing? How did each instruction manual end up in each cell? These DNA are chemicals that instruct.
 - e. **There is no natural, biological cause that can explain why and how, without someone intentionally constructing it.**
5. **God pursues us, He is constantly initiating and seeking for us to come to Him...**
- a. Most atheist I know not only vehemently deny the existence of God, but with the same energy argue with people that God does not exist. Why would an atheist expend so much energy arguing against something they believe is not real, to begin with? Could it be that God has programmed us to recognize that there is a God?
 - b. Most atheist, although they will not freely admit it, want to believe.
 - 1. God presses the issue.
 - 2. God wants to be known. He created us with the intention that we would know Him.
 - 3. He has surrounded us with evidence of Himself and He keeps the question of His existence right before us-everywhere!
 - 4. Some former atheists have said that in their pursuit to prove that God does not exist a greater power was working on them to prove that God does exist.
 - 5. Romans 1:19; 2:14-15

III. Jesus the Perfect Picture of God's Existence

- A. Of all world religions, Buddha, Muhammad, Confucius and Moses all identified themselves as teachers or prophets, none as God.
- B. Jesus presented Himself as equal to God. Jesus says that if you have seen the Son you have seen the Father. (John 8:12; John 14:6; John 14:11; Jeremiah 31:3; John 3:16; Revelation 3:20; John 10:27-29)
- C. "Therefore none of us have any excuses for rejecting the knowledge of God. But if that is not enough, we know from Scripture that everyone, including atheists, ultimately knows there is a God (Romans 1:19; 2:14-15), so we are literally "without excuse" (Romans 1:20). But the statement, "Prove to me there is a God," continues to be the rallying cry no matter what argument or confirming evidences of God's Word are given. However, God did show up on the earth at one time in the person of Jesus Christ, but the skeptics crucified Him (1 Corinthians 2:8). He rose from the dead, but they tried to cover it up (Matthew 28:12-15). He performed amazing miracles, but unbelievers tried to destroy the evidence (John 12:10-11). The same continues today (Ecclesiastes 1:9-11)." (N. Ham)

Conclusion:

- 1. God does not expect us to have blind faith, to just accept that He exists and that He is the Creator of all, He gives us all the needed evidence to know that God is God.
- 2. Atheists live off a blind faith that is built upon changing theories.
- 3. God wants us to know Him, to believe in Him and to have a relationship with Him
- 4. Plan of salvation.
 - a. Hear the Gospel. ([Romans 10:17](#), [John 8:32](#))
 - b. Believe the Gospel ([Hebrews 11:6](#), [John 20:31](#))
 - c. Repent of past sins ([Luke 13:3](#), [Acts 17:30](#))

- d. Confess faith in Jesus Christ ([Romans 10:10](#), [Matthew 10:32](#))
- e. Be Baptized ([Galatians 3:27](#), [Mark 16:16](#), [Acts 2:38](#))
- f. Be faithful unto death ([Revelation 2:10](#))

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