



The Big Questions

Summer Sermon Series

Today's Question

Does God exist?

Does God Exist? Three Camps

An **Atheist** believes that God does not exist.

A **Thiest**, believes that God exists.

An **Agnostic** believes that we should not believe or disbelieve in God's existence because it is impossible to know either way.

The Office of US Attorneys & US Courts

Acquittal - Judgment that a criminal defendant has not been proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

Guilty- “Judgment that a criminal defendant **has been** proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.



Know

Believe



Know

Faith

Believe

“We act despite what we don’t know because of what we do know.”

Gotquestions.org

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature (Psalm 19:1)

Psalm 19:1 (ESV)

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky
above proclaims his handiwork.

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature (Psalm 19:1)

Evidence in Science (Genesis 1:1)

Genesis 1:1 (ESV)

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.

“For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.”

Astrophysicist, Dr. Robert Jastrow

Astronomers now find they have painted themselves into a corner because they have proven, by their own methods, that the world began abruptly in an act of creation to which you can trace the seeds of every star, every planet, every living thing in this cosmos and on the earth. . . . That there are what I or anyone would call supernatural forces at work is now, I think, a scientifically proven fact”

Astrophysicist, Dr. Robert Jastrow

Archaeological Findings since 2019

- <https://video.search.yahoo.com/search/video?fr=mcafee&p=top+biblical+archaeological+finds+video&type=E210US0G0#id=7&vid=c6be70480aec529c2cd720a61cfb8184&action=click>
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2023/december-web-only/biblical-archaeology-top-10-discoveries-artifacts-2023-list.html>
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/news/2021/december/biblical-archaeology-top-10-discoveries-new-artifacts-2021.html>
- <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2022/december-web-only/top-10-archaeology-discovery-2022-list.html>

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature (Psalm 19:1)

Evidence in Science (Genesis 1:1)

Evidence in Logic (Isaiah 1:18)

Isaiah 1:18 (ESV)

Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white
as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall
become like wool.

Three Main Logical Arguments

1. The cosmological argument

2. The teleological argument

3. The moral argument

UN, Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article I

“All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.”

To endow is to furnish, but not with furniture. If you've been endowed with something, it means you've been given a gift — most likely a gift that can't be returned or exchanged, like a sense of humor or athletic ability or trust.

Vocabulary.com

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature (Psalm 19:1)

Evidence in Science (Genesis 1:1)

Evidence in Logic (Isaiah 1:18)

Evidence in History (Luke 1:1-4)

Luke 1:1-4 (NIV)

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us

1st Century Historians Claims about Jesus

- Jesus was a Jewish teacher
- Many believed he performed healings and exorcisms
- Some believed He was the Messiah
- He was rejected by Jewish leaders
- He was crucified under Pontius Pilate during the reign of Tiberius
- Despite his shameful death, his followers who believed he was still alive, spread beyond Palestine, so there were multitudes of them in Rome by AD 64
- All kinds of people from the cities and countryside, men and women, slave and free, worshipped him as God.

The Four E's (Lee Strobel)

1. Execution

Clearly the weight of historical and medical evidence indicates that Jesus was dead before the wound to his side was inflicted

The Journal of the American Medical Association

*“Jesus death as a consequence of crucifixion is
indisputable”*

(Atheist) Gerd Ludemann

The Four E's (Lee Strobel)

1. Execution

2. Early Accounts

1 Cor. 15:3-7 (ESV)

“3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4 that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5 and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. 6 Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. 7 Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles.”

The Four E's (Lee Strobel)

1. Execution

2. Early Accounts

3. Empty Tomb

The fact that the first witnesses of the empty tomb were women would have been an embarrassing part of the story in that culture and weakened their case, but that is the kind of embarrassing detail that historians see as an earmark of truth-because if you were going to make up stories to have people believe them, you would not have included such a detail.

Josephus (Jewish historian)

In my view the tradition of the women as first discovered is a strong piece of evidence in favor of the history of the empty tomb, if not the reality of the resurrection also”

Craig Evans (NT Scholar)

Even the more skeptical historians agree that primitive Christianity ...the resurrection of Jesus from the dead was a real event in history, the very foundation of the faith, and not a mythical idea arising out of the creative imagination of believers.

Carl Braaten (Historian)

The Four E's (Lee Strobel)

1. Execution

2. Early Accounts

3. Empty Tomb

4. Eyewitnesses

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature (Psalm 19:1)

Evidence in Science (Genesis 1:1)

Evidence in Logic (Isaiah 1:18)

Evidence in History (Luke 1:1-4)

Evidence in Human Experience (Romans 1:19-20)

Romans 1:19-20 (NIV)

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.

Ecclesiastes 3:11 (NIV)

He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set **eternity in the human heart**, yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end.

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature (Psalm 19:1)

Evidence in Science (Genesis 1:1)

Evidence in Logic (Isaiah 1:18)

Evidence in History (Luke 1:1-4)

Evidence in Human Experience (Romans 1:19-20)

Evidence in Life Transformation

Evidence that God exists

Evidence in Nature

Evidence in Science

Evidence in Logic

Evidence in History

Evidence in Human Experience

Evidence In Life Transformation

Corinthians 5:21

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.