

Explore God—Seven Big Questions

- 1. Does life have a purpose?**
 - 2. Is there a God?**
 - 3. Why does God allow pain and suffering?**
 - 4. Is Christianity too narrow?**
 - 5. Is Jesus really God?**
 - 6. Is the Bible reliable?**
 - 7. Can I know God personally?**
- More questions: 757-298-7733**

“Nothing will come of nothing. Speak again.”

King Lear (1.1.99)

Is there a God?: The evidence of reality and morality points to something Unseen behind all we see.

Is there a God?

- **The evidence of reality**
 - **Existence**

“Nothing cannot produce something. Everything must come from something that already has being. This means that there must be some unique being that exists without a cause, that did not spring out of nothing, that is its own cause and the source of everything else. That one being who is Being itself is God. Again, because all natural beings have a cause, there must be

some supernatural entity that exists without a cause, from which all has come. There are two responses to this argument. One is to say there was no first cause, only an “infinite regress” of causes. But science knows of no chain of events without a beginning, so how could such a chain have gotten started? The other common response is to say, “If everything must have a cause,

what caused God?” and then to argue that matter has just always existed. But both these rejoinders, while trying to deny the need for God, ironically still require belief in the supernatural. If there is no God, then either original matter sprang from nothing, or original matter has always existed without a cause, or there is an infinite regress of causes without a beginning.

Each of these answers takes us out of the realm of science and the universe we know. They are nothing short of miracles, for science knows nothing of beings or physical processes that spring out of nothing or that have no beginning.”

—Tim Keller

The Reason for God, pg. 218

“Truth is reality, and reality is what you bump into when you are wrong.”

—Dallas Willard

Is there a God?

- **The evidence of reality**
 - **Existence**
 - **The complexity of what exists**

“To suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree.”

—Charles Darwin, The Origin of Species

Is there a God?

- **The evidence of reality**
 - **Existence**
 - **The complexity of what exists**
 - **The beauty of what exists**

Is there a God?

- **The evidence of morality**

John Connor: You just can't go around killing people.

The Terminator: Why?

John Connor: What do you mean why?

'Cause you can't.

The Terminator: Why?

John Connor: Because you just can't, OK?

Trust me on this.

— Terminator 2: Judgment Day

Is there a God?

- **The Evidence of Morality**
 - **Where do moral obligations come from?**
 - **Society creates moral obligations**
 - **Moral obligations were advantageous in the evolutionary process**

“We’re all animals on the Serengeti. Some of us just have bigger teeth than others.”

—*Adolf Eichmann*
Operation Finale

“I wish I could make an intellectually satisfying argument for the divine source of rights, as our founding fathers tried to do. Tactically that would be the strongest argument, especially in America where many hold a strong belief in an intervening God. But I cannot offer this argument, because I do not believe in concepts like divine hands, unalienability, or self-evident truths.

I am a pragmatist, a utilitarian, an empiricist, a secularist, and (God forgive me!) a moral relativist. I reject absolutes (except that my rejection of absolutes is itself fairly absolute; as George Bernard Shaw cynically quipped: “The golden rule is that there are no golden rules.”).

There is no right that is not, in my view, immune from some alienation—or balancing—under certain extreme circumstances. Nevertheless, I believe strongly in the concept of rights, and in certain specific rights such as those of equality, due process, freedom of conscience and expression, democratic participation, life, and liberty.

I have devoted my life to trying to expand these and other rights and to trying to prevent their alienation. Though I accept the reality that rights can, in fact, diminish in extreme circumstances.”

—Alan Dershowitz

Rights from Wrongs:

a secular theory on the origins of rights, pg.4

“The sacred rights of mankind are not to be rummaged for among old parchments or musty records. . . . They are written, as with a sunbeam, in the whole volume of human nature by the hand of the Divinity itself and can never be erased or obscured by mortal power.”

—*Alexander Hamilton*

“And give me something to believe in, if there’s a Lord above.”

—Poison, circa 1990

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God.

³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men.

John 1:1-4

**And the Word became flesh and dwelt
among us, and we have seen his glory,
glory as of the only Son from the Father,
full of grace and truth.**

John 1:14

Is there a God?: the evidence of reality and morality points to something Unseen behind all we see, and John 1:14 proclaims in Jesus, the Unseen is unveiled.

**The Lord called Moses and spoke to him
from the tent of meeting, saying,**

Leviticus 1:1

“The very word, ‘dwelt,’ suggests a subtle but important theme of John’s Gospel, namely, that Jesus will become the place where the people will meet God, displacing the tent and its successor, the Jerusalem temple. Like the temple and the tent, Jesus was a visible presence: ‘We have seen His glory.’”

—D. Moody Smith Jr.

**“Then Jesus said to Thomas, ‘Put your
finger here, and see...’”**

—John 20:27a

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