



**#1 Does God even exist?**

**What evidence do you have that God exists?  
Hasn't evolution disproved God?**

Conclusive evidence is proof.

Converging evidence is basis for belief.

There are three options:

**Option A "No, God does not exist."**

1. What evidence do you point to that God does **not** exist?
  - A. People usually say, "*Evolution.*"
    - Many theists believe that evolution is the mechanism God used to create life. Theistic Evolution holds that God guided evolution. (Gen. 1:24-25)
  - B. People usually say, "*Evil and suffering.*"
    - The presence of evil and suffering is not evidence that God does not exist.
    - Questions as to the character and purposes of a God who allows evil and suffering will be addressed on question 8 of this series, on August 4<sup>th</sup>.
2. Objections to theism are not evidence or proofs for atheism.
  - Objecting to my claim does not falsify my claim.
  - And objecting to my claim does not prove your claim to be true.

**Option B "Maybe. I don't know if God exists."**

What evidence suggests or points to the existence of God?

1. The material universe suggests the existence of a God.
 

What caused the effect of a universe/matter?

  - A. **Either** the universe is an illusion,
  - B. **Or** the universe is eternal (has always existed),
  - C. **Or** the universe emerged from (came from) nothing (is self-caused),
    - but this means that the something that exists (the universe) came from nothing
    - or to say it another way, no one used nothing to make something
  - D. **Or** the universe was **made** by some non-material Being who exists outside of and apart from it.
    - or to say it another way, Someone used nothing to make something.
2. The material universe must have been caused to come into existence by a non-material, eternal (non-caused, uncaused) Being who exists outside of and apart from it.

**Option C "Yes, God does exist."**

What is God like? What evidence is there that God is a personal Being?

1. The material universe is here. It exists.
  - It can't have always been here and it can't have caused itself.
2. The universe displays order and design. (What caused the effect of design?)
  - A. This is the teleological argument. Design points to a designer.
    - As a watch proves a watchmaker, so design proves a Designer.
  - B. The world is fine tuned, so as to support life. (Plantiga's poker illustration.)
3. Man is an intelligent, personal and moral being.
  - A. Intelligent, personal beings (What caused the effect of intelligent, personal beings?) This is the anthropological Argument.
    - Only an intelligent, personal Being can cause intelligent, personal beings to come into existence.
  - B. Morality in all societies (What caused the effect of a moral conscience?)
    - a. This is the moral argument. All societies and individuals have things they feel are right or wrong, moral and immoral.
      - Only a moral Being can cause moral beings to come into existence.
    - b. Atheism does not acknowledge the immaterial part of man.
      - Evolutionary psychology explains the rise of mind, spirit or soul in merely physiological terms.

**Evolutionary Theory (in chronological phases) and chance probability**

1. Cosmic Evolution: The development of matter and energy from nothing.
2. Stellar Evolution: The development of complex stars from the chaotic first elements.
3. Chemical Evolution: The development of all chemical elements from an original two.
4. Planetary Evolution: The development of planetary systems from swirling elements. (See Fine tuning evidence, chances 1 in 10<sup>100</sup>)
5. Organic Evolution: The development of organic (living) matter from inorganic matter (rocks, water). (See molecular biology evidence, chances for a single protein to randomly form, 1 in 10<sup>75</sup>)
6. Macro-Evolution: The development of one kind of life from a totally different kind of life. (Note the absence of fossil evidence for transitional forms)
7. Micro-Evolution: The development of variations within the same kind of life.

**Atheist Response to the Probability Problem: Multiverse Theory**

**Message**

Faith in God isn't believing *against* the evidence or *in spite of* the evidence.  
Faith in God is believing *in response to* the evidence.

**Action Points:**

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