



Trinitarianism 103

# THE EXISTENCE AND ATTRIBUTES OF GOD

# Arguments for the Existence of God



# Arguments for the Existence of God

- Why do some doubt His existence?

# Arguments for the Existence of God

- Why do some doubt His existence?

# Arguments for the Existence of God


- Why do some doubt His existence?


# Arguments for the Existence of God

- Why do some doubt His existence?
- “and though you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, ... (1 Pe 1:8)

# Arguments for the Existence of God

- Why do some doubt His existence?
- “and though *you have not seen Him, you love Him, and though you do not see Him now, but believe in Him, ...*(1 Pe 1:8)
- Does this verse help you with this issue?

- 
- Why are some confident as to God's existence?

- 
- Why are some confident as to God's existence?
  - Not all are:
    - "The universe is all there is, all there was, and all there will ever be." Carl Sagan

# Four Arguments as to the Existence



# Four Arguments as to the Existence

- 1. Cosmological: There must be an effect for every cause, and God must be that Cause.

# || Ontological



# || Ontological

- Gk: “being”



# Ontological

- Gk: “being”
- There must necessarily be an existence.
  - If it can be conceived, it must exist.
  - The concept of God is universally conceived
  - God must exist

Ex.—5 eyed monster, Star Wars characters  
(we rearrange what already exists, i.e. if it exists in your mind, it must exist somewhere)

# || Teleological



# || Teleological


- Gk: teleos: “end, or complete”

# || Teleological


- Gk: teleos: “end, or complete”
- The order of the universe evidences intelligent design rather than chaotic chance. (Hence, there must be a designer.)

# || Teleological

- Gk: teleos: “end, or complete”
- The order of the universe evidences intelligent design rather than chaotic chance. (Hence, there must be a designer.)
- Ex.—Paley’s watch

- 
- “While cosmological arguments for God’s existence deal primarily with the existence of the world, teleological arguments focus on certain features of the existing world, notably its apparent order and design.”

Ronald Nash

- 
- 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. <sup>21</sup> For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. (Ro 1:20-21 )

- The heavens are telling of the glory of God; And their expanse is declaring the work of His hands. <sup>2</sup>Day to day pours forth speech, And night to night reveals knowledge. <sup>3</sup>There is no speech, nor are there words; Their voice is not heard. <sup>4</sup>Their line has gone out through all the earth, And their utterances to the end of the world. In them He has placed a tent for the sun, (Ps 19:1-4)



# Moral (Anthropological)

# || Moral (Anthropological)


- Since all people have a concept of right and wrong, that concept must have come from something outside of them—a moral absolute.

# || Moral (Anthropological)

- Since all people have a concept of right and wrong, that concept must have come from something outside of them —a moral absolute.

# Moral (Anthropological)

- Since all people have a concept of right and wrong, that concept must have come from something outside of them—a moral absolute.
- I.e. All people have a conscience. It must reflect some conscience outside of them

- 
- For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, <sup>15</sup> in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, (Ro 2:14-15)



# Sensus divinitatus



# Sensus divinitatus

- Everyone has a sense of the divine built w/in them.

# || Sensus divinitatus

- Everyone has a sense of the divine built w/in them.
- The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God...” (Ps 14:1)

# Sensus divinitatus

- Everyone has a sense of the divine built w/in them.
- The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God...” (Ps 14:1)
- For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. (Ro 1:21)

# Sensus divinitatus

- Everyone has a sense of the divine built w/in them.
- The fool has said in his heart, “There is no God...” (Ps 14:1)
- For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God or give thanks, but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened. (Ro 1:21)
- Have you ever experienced this sense in your life?



# Pascal's "Wager"

# || Pascal's "Wager"

- 1. If you say there is not a God and there is, there will be drastic consequences

# Pascal's "Wager"

- 1. If you say there is not a God and there is, there will be drastic consequences
- 2. If you say there is a God and there is not, you are none the worse; there are no consequences.

# Pascal's "Wager"

- 1. If you say there is not a God and there is, there will be drastic consequences
- 2. If you say there is a God and there is not, you are none the worse; there are no consequences.
- 3. Therefore, one should believe in God

# Pop Quiz!

| Argument           | Type of Person |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Cosmological       |                |
| Ontological        |                |
| Teleological       |                |
| Moral              |                |
| sensus divinitatis |                |
| Wager              |                |

- Scientist, Unsure, Seeking, Scientist, Rational, Philosopher

# Categories of the Attributes of God



# Categories of the Attributes of God

- Incommunicable

# Categories of the Attributes of God

- Incommunicable
- Communicable



# Communicable Traits

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath
- Will

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath
- Will
- Freedom

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath
- Will
- Freedom
- Perfection

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath
- Will
- Freedom
- Perfection
- Blessedness

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath
- Will
- Freedom
- Perfection
- Blessedness
- Beauty

# Communicable Traits

- Spiritual
- Knowledge
- Wisdom
- Truthfulness
- Goodness
- Love
- Mercy
- Holiness
- Peace
- Righteousness
- Jealousy
- Wrath
- Will
- Freedom
- Perfection
- Blessedness
- Beauty
- Glory



Next Week:

Incommunicable  
Attributes and the  
Names of God