

## God Is!

There are a number of arguments for the existence of God, each of which vary in strength. First, there is the ontological argument which is an *a priori* (based on reason alone) argument which says man cannot comprehend a perfect being unless that perfect being exists. Although the argument is somewhat circular, it is in an interesting concept. Second, there is the cosmological argument which basically says that in order for the universe to exist it must have had an adequate cause. Since there was a time that life (except for God) did not exist, and since life cannot come from non-life, the only adequate cause for the universe had to possess life and to always possess life. That demands the existence of God. This argument is incontrovertible. Third, is the teleological argument, usually referred to as the argument from design. Something as complex and orderly as the universe must have had a designer. That designer must have had the intent to bring order out of chaos. Neither the big bang theory, nor any other theory discounting God can account for the existence of universe because every scientific theory eventually asserts chaos resulted in order, and that matter produced mind, which is impossible on its very face. Consequently, in the realm of logic and the physical world, only God satisfactorily explains the existence of all things.

As strong as, especially the last two of the above arguments are, there is another category of proofs, that in the mind of this present scribe which absolutely prove the existence of God. Upon the basis of these arguments, one can say with no doubt at all, God is! The arguments to which we are referring are the biblical arguments.

The proposition for the argument can be set forth as follows: If a book exists which possess attributes and characteristics demanding it be divine in origin, then, God is. The Bible is a book that possesses the attributes and characteristics demanding that it be divine in origin; therefore, God is. An exhaustive look at all of the evidences of the divine origin of the Bible is way beyond the scope of this brief article, so we will simply list a few of them, and then draw attention to one of them.

The Bible is confirmed by archeological findings, by scientific foreknowledge, by its harmony, by its influence, by its frankness, by recorded history, by the commitment of first century Christians, and by fulfilled prophecy. These are but a few of the facts about the Bible proving beyond the shadow of a doubt that it is divine in origin and irrefutable proof that God exists.

It has never ceased to amaze us how scoffers, in their attempt to disprove the Bible, and thereby argue against God, try to remove the force of fulfilled prophecy, manifest the ridiculousness of their efforts by trying to shove Old Testament prophecy ahead sometimes by several hundred years, but still years or even centuries before the birth of Jesus, and yet fail to realize their puny efforts do not disprove that the prophecies are still prophecies. If, for instance, one tried to push the prophecy of Isaiah ahead to claim the prophecy in Isaiah 7:14 was made even one or two years before Christ's birth, it would still be prophetic and unexplainable except by the revelation of God to someone.

The prophecies of Jesus recorded by Old Testament writers are many, and include prophecies regarding His forerunner (Mal. 3:1), His place of birth (Mic. 5:2), that he would be called a Nazarene (Isa. 11:1). In that passage, the word branch is from the Hebrew Nay-tser (Nay-tser-ene). Jesus would use parables in His teaching (Psa. 78:2), and be betrayed by one of His own (Pa. 41:9). At His crucifixion not one bone would be broken (Psa. 34:20), and the soldiers would cast lots for His raiment (Psa. 22:18). Lastly, He would not stay in the grave (Psa. 16:10). It is

sheer impossibility for these prophecies to have been made before the events occurred and every one of them be fulfilled, unless they were revealed to the prophets by God Himself.

In addition to the personal prophecies about Christ, Daniel, Isaiah, and Micah prophesied about the Kingdom (church) Jesus would build. Isaiah and Micah prophesied the house of the Lord would be built in Jerusalem. According to Daniel, the kingdom would be established during the times of the Roman Kings and would begin upon Jesus' ascension to the Father. All of the prophecies about Christ and His kingdom were fulfilled exactly as the prophets said they would be. The only possible way that could happen was if God revealed the facts to them, and that could not have occurred unless God is!

We do not have to say things like there is a strong possibility God exists, I am almost certain God exists, or that there is a reasonable possibility that God exists. We can say with absolute certainty that God is. We have only briefly considered one of the lines of proof that the Bible is from God, but the proof is irrefutable, which means the truth of God's existence is also irrefutable.

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