Evolution has fashioned gods of its own design and named them Mother Nature and Father Time.

James Hewitt tells of a family of mice who lived in a large piano.

In their piano-world came the music of the instrument, filling all the dark spaces with sound and harmony.

At first the mice were impressed by it. They drew comfort from the thought that there was Someone who made the music—though invisible to them—above, yet close. They loved to think of the Great Player whom they could not see.

Then one day a daring mouse climbed far up the piano and returned very thoughtful. He had found how music was made. Wires were the secret; tightly stretched wires of graduated lengths which trembled and vibrated. They must revise all their old beliefs: none but the most conservative could believe in the Unseen Player.

Later, another explorer carried the explanation further. Hammers were now the secret, numbers of hammers dancing and leaping on the wires. This was a more complicated theory, but it showed that they lived in a purely mechanical and mathematical world. The Unseen Player came to be thought of as a myth.

But the Pianist continued to play.¹

The Bible is not a polemic defense of the existence of a Supreme Being. It simply assumes men will know God is (cf. Psalm 14:1). Its opening sentence, from Hebrew, reads: “God, in the beginning, created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). The first word is “God,” for He is the foundation of everything that follows.

God left abundant evidence in His world and in His Word for a fair-minded person to come to a confident conclusion (Hebrews 11:6). He has not left “himself without witness” (Acts 14:17; Romans 1:20). Consider three arguments for God’s existence:

**COSMOLOGICAL: CAUSE & EFFECT**

This argument is simple: The universe exists. Therefore, God exists.

How is this conclusion reached? Every effect must have an adequate cause. There are only three possibilities as to cause of the universe: it made itself; it is eternal; it was created by someone other than itself.

Self-creation is illogical. A material thing cannot be and not be at the same time.
Evolutionists often cite The Big Bang as the likely First Cause, but this dodges the larger question, for it assumes matter existed to be distributed by the Bang. The question thus comes down to whether one believes it is more reasonable to believe that matter or mind is eternal. Christians believe it makes more sense to believe that Mind—the powerful, self-existent God—created matter rather than to believe that matter created mind (human intelligence). Or, stated another way, Christians think it is foolish to believe that nothing times nobody equals everything.

God is the only cause adequate for such a vast universe. The size of heavenly bodies is mind-boggling. The earth, for instance, is a $13,170,000,000,000,000,000,000,000$-pound ball sitting in space. The sun has a diameter of 864,000 miles—one hundred times that of earth’s—and could hold 1.3 million earths inside it. The star Betelgeuse has a diameter of 100 million miles, which is larger than the earth’s orbit from the sun.

**TELOGICAL: INTELLIGENT DESIGN**

“The law of teleology” contends that when an object reflects a purpose, goal, or design, it must have had a designer.¹²

God’s fingerprints are seen in the world above us. “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork” (Psalm 19:1; cf. 8:3). The universe’s precision and functionality show it could not have happened by accident. Life on earth would be impossible if

- The axial tilt of the earth were greater or less than 23.4 degrees;
- The distance to the sun were more or less than 92,960,000 miles;
- The moon’s gravitational interaction on an object on earth were greater or less than about 1/2000th of a pound.
- The earth’s surface gravity were greater or less than an average of about 32.1740 feet/second;
- A day were longer or shorter than about 86,400 seconds.³

Yet each of these is exactly what it must be to work in concert with the others to sustain life. Nature is so mathematically exact that scientists can predict eclipses years in advance or launch a spacecraft to land on the moon with pinpoint precision.

The universe is not static. The earth moves in an almost 600-million-mile-long orbit around the sun at a speed of 1000 miles per minute. Its track is elliptical. At times it is closer to the sun than at others. When closer, it moves faster; when farther, slower.⁴ As it moves in this gigantic orbit, it digresses from a straight line one-ninth of an inch every eighteen miles. If the turn were only one-tenth of an inch, our planet would freeze; if it were one-eighth, it would burn up.

Rather than being fixed in space, as once thought, the sun has its own orbit (cf. Psalm 19:4–6). It moves through space at 600,000 miles per hour, in an orbit so large it would take approximately 220,000,000 years to complete once.⁵ Certainly God “stretched” out the heavens (Isaiah 42:5).

Sir Isaac Newton concluded, “This most beautiful system of the sun, planets, and comets could only proceed from the counsel and domain of an intelligent and powerful Being.”⁶

God’s fingerprints are seen in the world within us. Wayne Jackson points out some interesting facts about the human body:⁹

- There are 206 bones that protect organs, function as levers, supply attachments for muscles, and produce useful chemicals.
- The circulatory system contains 100,000 miles of pipeline (arteries, veins, capillaries), which course through the body, providing cells with food and oxygen and removing wastes.
- The nervous system (brain, spinal cord, nerves) is more complicated than a major city’s phone system. It transmits information by nerve impulses at the speed of 300 miles per hour.
- The brain is a library equivalent of twenty million books.
- The hand has tendons aligned in sheaths, like self-lubricating pulleys, allowing it to work in a tireless, noiseless, almost effortless fashion.
- The human body is a highly organized machine consisting of thirty-seven trillion cells, each a tiny factory that must work in harmony, precision, and skill. In cells are rods (chromosomes); in rods are genes; in genes are DNA. The DNA information from one cell would fill a 600,000-page book.

Truly, we are “fearfully and wonderfully made” (Psalm 139:14).
As secular philosopher Jean Paul Sartre put it: “Each is his own god. Yet unbelievers have consciences; they are disgusted by heinous crimes; they feel guilt after certain behaviors. The presence of such a moral thermostat is inexplicable from an evolutionary model, but it fits the creation one. As C. S. Lewis wrote, “Conscience reveals to us a moral law whose source cannot be found in the natural world, thus pointing to a supernatural Lawgiver.”1 The Bible clearly shows that man possesses a conscience as a tool to aid in his service to Almighty God (John 8:9; Acts 23:1; 24:16; Romans 2:15; 9:1; 13:5).

In summary, the moral argument can be framed in this way: If God does not exist; objective moral values and duties do not exist, but objective moral values do exist. Therefore, God exists.

Scientists gather evidence for theories by conducting experiments to find what works and what doesn’t. Does evolution or Christianity work best as a worldview? Which results in better psychological and sociological health and happiness? Which produces a hopeful and joyful outlook in relationships in this life, and its promises of such a moral thermostat is inexplicable from an evolutionary model, but it fits the creation one. As C. S. Lewis wrote, “Conscience reveals to us a moral law whose source cannot be found in the natural world, thus pointing to a supernatural Lawgiver.”1 The Bible clearly shows that man possesses a conscience as a tool to aid in his service to Almighty God (John 8:9; Acts 23:1; 24:16; Romans 2:15; 9:1; 13:5).

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An evolutionary worldview leads humanity in the wrong direction. Philosopher Ravi Zacharias put it like this: “There is nothing in history to match the dire ends to which humanity can be led by following a political and social philosophy that consciously and absolutely excludes God.” Darwin’s survival-of-the-fittest and Karl Marx’s materialist evolutionary conjectures provided the foundation for both Hitler’s Holocaust and Stalin’s genocide. If all we are is “dust in the wind,” what reason for hope and optimism do we have?

Accepting divine creation tends toward human dignity and happiness. If we are formed in a loving God’s image, and if we are heirs of eternal life through His Son, then we possess dignity and worth. Scripture’s sound moral principles lead to health and happiness as well as good social relationships in this life, and its promises produce a hopeful and joyful outlook in anticipation of eternal life.

Which option seems most sensible to you?

Endnotes:
3 http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/teleological-argument-for-gods-existence/#ixzz37Dl4O23F.
5 http://preachrr.wordpress.com/page/13/.

Faith Is the Victory
1 John 5:4–5

- Over Doubt (Psalm 14:1; 1 Corinthians 15:19).
- Over Fear (1 John 4:18).
- Over Immortality (1 John 2:15–17).
Rules for Bringing Up a Child:
1. Make home the brightest and most attractive place we can.
2. Make him responsible for helping in some daily duties at home.
3. Never punish in anger nor to relieve our own feelings, but only in love and for disobedience.
4. Do not ridicule his ideas; talk frankly on matters in which he is interested.
5. Encourage him to invite friends to our home and table.
6. Impress on his mind the fact that service and honesty are more important than making money.
7. Live Christ before him so you will be able to talk of Christ to him.
8. Let him see your enjoyment and profit from Bible reading and prayer.
9. Set an example in faithful church attendance and interest in the work.
10. Be much in prayer for his salvation and spiritual growth.

Rules for Bringing Down a Child:
1. Let him have plenty of money to spend as he likes.
2. Permit him to choose his companions without restraint or guidance.
3. Let him spend Sunday hours on the street or with companions with low ideals as to the Lord’s day.
4. Allow him to go out at night as he pleases and return when he gets ready.
5. Make no inquiry as to where and with whom he spends his leisure time.
6. Teach him to expect pay for all help at home and for all service to others.
7. Allow him to think that good manners are a good substitute for good morals.
8. Do not trouble to interest him in the Bible or to win him to Christ.
9. Let him see that you think church attendance is not important.
10. Never let him hear you pray, especially for his salvation.

“Bring them UP in the nurture and admonition of the Lord”
EPHESIANS 6:4

For more material on the home and family, fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, grandparents, and family finances, go to www.housetohouse.com.
The Church of Christ

The church of Christ is not an exclusive or proud church. You will find it very simple. Its aim is not to amuse or entertain those who attend its services. It exists in our community as a simple body of Christians, pointing all who look to Jesus Christ as God’s Son, the Hope of the World. Its doors are open to those who from the quiet depths of their hearts reach out to God in simple worship and obedient living.

You may be surprised to find that there is not much ready-made for you in this church. There is no ready-made creed. You take the Word of God as you read it and come to a true understanding of it. There are no ready-made prayers. Every believer voices his own earnest longing for the presence of God and for his sustenance and guidance. There is no ready-made order of worship. Each church of our Lord arranges its own order in harmony with the items described in the New Testament.

There is no ready-made music. Everyone makes his own music by the fruit of his lips as the early Christians did, and it is sweet in the ears of God in proportion to the worshippers’ sincerity and humble obedience to God.

You may be surprised to find that this church is a free church under Christ as its only head. It has no organic connection with any other congregation, but is bound by a unity of faith with all those who follow God’s word without addition or subtraction.

In this church every Christian is a priest. There is no distinction between “clergy” and “laity.” We believe that all Christians are “called to be saints.” Their gifts and functions may differ, but their status before the Lord is the same. Jesus is our High Priest, and all members are priests with no need of further human mediators.

This church is the outward manifestation of the deep conviction in many hearts that simple apostolic Christianity can be produced today by the same living Word which produced it in the first century. We do not claim perfection as human beings. We are all sinners who were saved by the grace of God upon our trusting obedience to the gospel. We seek to serve Jesus humbly and to urge all others to do so. Our aim is to glorify God by exalting Christ in our lives and in our teaching. Truly, to be a free New Testament Christian, without being encumbered by any human name or creed, is a glorious privilege. —M. Norvel Young

Mary and Other Mothers


1. What was the occupation of Mary’s husband Joseph?
2. Which tribe of Israel did Joseph belong to?
3. What was the name of the angel who appeared to Mary?
4. Joseph married Mary, but he did not have a sexual relationship with her until __________________________
5. Who did Mary visit right after the angel appeared to her?
6. How long did Mary stay with Elisabeth?
7. Why did Mary and Joseph go to Bethlehem?
8. What was the feast that Mary and Joseph went to? __________________________
9. Whose mother was paid to be his nurse? __________________________
10. _______ was the mother of Ishmael and handmaiden of Sarah, Abram’s wife.
11. Children are an _________ from the Lord.
12. Who was the mother of John the Baptist?
13. Whose mother said to Mary, “Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb”?
14. What mother brought her son a coat every year?
15. Which king was taught sayings by his mother as related in Proverbs?
16. Whose mother asked Jesus to grant her sons places at his right and left?
17. Who spoke of his desire to gather Jerusalem’s children as a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings?
18. The mother of Gad and Asher was __________________________.

Bible QUIZ

Send us your answers (address on front) to receive a FREE Bible bookmark. We’ll grade and return your questions and enclose the Jesus’ Appearances after His Resurrection bookmark as a way of saying “thanks” for spending time in the Word (quantities may be limited).

Name:
Address:
Phone:

Questions Taken from the King James Version


www.housetohouse.com  5
An obscure family early in the Reformation lived under the rein of Queen Mary, who forbade any to own or even read the Bible. Nonetheless, this family had obtained an English Bible and treasured reading it above all else. “To conceal and secure it, it was fastened open with tapes under and within the cover of a joint-stool. When my great-great-grandfather read it to the family, he turned up the joint-stool upon his knees, turning over the leaves then under the tapes. “One of the children stood at the door to give notice if he saw the apparitor coming, who was an officer of the spiritual court. In that case the stool was turned down again upon his feet, when the Bible remained concealed under it as before.” —From the autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, http://www2.hn.psu.edu/faculty/jmanis/franklin/a_b_benf.pdf
The End Times

Biblical View

Premillennialism
Not found in the Bible

Jesus promised to establish His kingdom (the church)
Matthew 16:18–19
Jesus established His kingdom (the church) Acts 2:38–42
Temple destroyed, AD 70

The world’s last day will be quite eventful. All these things will occur:
• The Lord’s return (Revelation 1:7)
• The dead raised (John 5:28–29)
• The living changed (1 Corinthians 15:51)
• The earth burned up (2 Peter 3:10–13)
• Humanity judged (Matthew 25:31–46)
• Kingdom given to God (1 Corinthians 15:24)
• Wicked separated (Matthew 25:41)
• Saved go home (1 Thessalonians 4:15–17)

Jesus returns, the world is destroyed by fire
2 Peter 3:10

He Is My Everything

Christ be with me,
Christ within me,
Christ behind me,
Christ before me,
Christ beside me,
Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ in quiet,
Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

—from church fathers; “I bind unto myself the name."

God’s Plan for Saving Man

God’s Grace — Ephesians 2:8
Christ’s Blood — Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit’s Gospel — Romans 1:16
Sinner’s Faith — Acts 16:31
Sinner’s Repentance — Luke 13:3
Sinner’s Confession — Romans 10:10
Sinner’s Baptism — 1 Peter 3:21
Christian’s Work — James 2:24
Christian’s Hope — Romans 8:24
Christian’s Endurance — Revelation 2:10

www.housetohouse.com 7
The World Health Organization reports that Ebola virus disease (EVD) is a severe, often fatal illness in humans. The virus is transmitted to people from wild animals and spreads in the human population through human-to-human transmission.

Caregivers working in West Africa contracted the virus. One case of an American aid worker catching the virus is Dr. Rick Sacra. Sacra, fifty-one, treated patients on and off in Liberia for fifteen years. Last August, he returned to the capital, Monrovia, to deliver babies. Somehow he contracted the Ebola virus. Sacra was flown to Omaha, Nebraska, and given blood plasma from another American aid worker, Dr. Kent Brantly, who had recovered from Ebola.

Michaeleen Doucleff reports, “Brantly was treated for Ebola at a hospital in Atlanta back in August. Doctors gave him and his coworker, Nancy Writebol, the experimental drug ZMapp. Both of them recovered from Ebola. But it still isn’t known [for certain] whether ZMapp helped them . . . The idea is that Brantly’s blood contains Ebola antibodies, which could help Sacra’s immune system fight off the virus.”

Isn’t it wonderful? A physician gave some of his blood to help save the life of another physician.

Consider that sin is deadly (Romans 6:23), and unless a remedy is supplied, it leads to eternal death (Matthew 7:13–14). A remedy is available to all who will accept it. Another physician—the Great Physician, Jesus—gave His blood to save us from sin (Ephesians 1:7). Have you been treated? —David A. Sargent