

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

by Nick Bibile

The external and the internal evidence of Gods existence.

Where did God come from? Who made God? These are some basic questions that many children and unbelievers ask. If someone says that God does not exist and he is very positive of his remark, then the Bible says, "The fool says in his heart, there is no God." (Psalm 14:1, 53:1) This person directly denies the existence of the personal God. A person to this conclusion, he had researched and investigated the entire universe and positively found that God does not exist. The Bible is not sarcastic in saying that person is a fool, but he is a fool that lost wisdom, a right understanding of God. He is the one who is dead in sin. The Bible says, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world." (Psalm 19:1-4) Everyday we see the creation of this world, there is one sun, moon, the carbon dioxide for the plants to inhale and oxygen to exhale, man in turn inhale the oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide, there is water for survival, food for hunger, materials for protection and the mountains, trees, waterfalls, and how a knowledgeable and a powerful Creator has arranged and placed everything in order. If the earth was a little closer to the sun we will all burn and if we are a little away from the sun we will all be frozen. We all see the clear picture of the designer and yet there are who deny that there is a designer. It is as if an artist who painted a beautiful picture and the person who looks at it says, there is no artist. The Bible says that person is a fool. Even if we look at our body structure, the internal organs how it is arranged precisely, even if one internal organ is lost it is not possible for the body to function. It is like a person looking at a watch that is precisely put together and shows seconds, minutes and hours, but yet denying there is no watchmaker. The Bible says that person is a fool. The reason even the most intellectual people are seeing Gods creation and yet cannot comprehend, because they are spiritually dead. Sin has affected their heart, mind and will. (See the article on Sin)

1. Is the evidence of God visible? _____
2. How is it that many intellectual people are ignorant of God and deny the existence of God? _____

When people look at me they know I am not from USA, as my accent and the features are different from an average American. They ask me, "Originally from where are you?" Yes, we all have origins and we are so fond of tracing our origins to our ancestors especially if they were rich and popular! On the other hand God of the Bible has no origins. "Lord, you have been our dwelling place through out all generations. Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." (Psalm 90:1-2) "In the beginning was the Word" (John 1:1)

the expression does not mean to a particular time, but to a timeless eternity. It means, throughout eternity was the Word. God has no beginning and no end. He always exists, and he is called the Alpha and the Omega, meaning before anything began God is there and he lives forever and ever. "I, the LORD, with the first of them and with the last, I am he." (Isaiah 41:4, 44:6, 48:12, Revelation 1:8, 17.) God is not limited to time like us, as he lives from everlasting to everlasting. Therefore he is always in the present. He is called the great I AM. He is called, "I AM WHO I AM" (Exodus 3:14) God is eternal and his name is, "I AM." He is called the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, meaning is the living God. Jesus referred to this passage as he said, "He is not the God of the dead, but of the living" (Mark 12:26-27)

1. Everything has a beginning, but how come that God does not have a beginning?

2. How the God of the Bible is different than other gods of different religions in existence? _____

God is not dependent on anything but totally independent.

God is independent in his being- and independent in everything else. All his creatures are totally dependent on him, in every aspect of life. On the other hand we cannot bring God to our level, as he is the Creator God and he is not dependent on anyone.

God is independent in his thought - "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out! Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?" (Romans 11:33-34) This means our thoughts are not his thought and our ways are not his ways. Our logic does not comply for him to react. God is above logic.

God is independent in his will - "All the peoples of the earth are regarded as nothing. He does as he pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold his hand or say to him, what have you done?" (Daniel 4:35) "He predestined us to be adopted as his sons through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will." (Ephesians 1:5) "You are worthy our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being." (Revelation 4:11)

God is independent in his power. - "Our God is in heaven; he does what ever pleases him." (Psalm 115:3) "I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted." (Job 42:2)

God is independent in his council. - "But the plans of the Lord stands firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations." (Psalm 33:11)

1. Who is dependent on God? _____

2. Are the unbelievers dependent on God, even if they do not know him?

3. Is God dependent on us? _____
4. God is independent in his _____ in his _____ in his _____ in his _____ and in his _____

God is self sufficient.

We are not self sufficient, we all including the richest people have problems and needs. Sometimes people think, only if I win the lottery or have a millions of dollars I will be self sufficient. If we only look at the rich and we see that all the money they have cannot make them self sufficient and they have enough problems like any of us. God is totally self sufficient. He does not need anything and all things belong to him. "For every animal of the forest is mine, and cattle on a thousand hills. I know every bird in the mountains, and the creature in the field are mine. If I were hungry I would not tell you, for the world is mine, and all that is in it." (Psalms 50:11-13) "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything, because he himself gives all men life and breath and everything else." (Acts 11:24-25)

God is not lonely, that he created humans to keep him company, or he lacked glory so he created beings to supply him with glory. He did not lack love to create us to love him, he did not need worshippers, so he created humans to worship him. God is not obligated to create any one or anything. Creation is a sovereign act of God, as he is self sufficient in all his ways. To believe in God adds nothing to his perfection or to doubt in him does not take anything away from him. Self sufficient of God means, he does not need any helpers, but we all need help from him. God does not trust in anyone, because he is above everyone, he alone trusts in himself. He cannot put his trust in dying men, but we need to put our trust in him. "For who in the skies above can compare with the Lord? Who is like the Lord among the heavenly beings? In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; he is more awesome than all who surround him. O Lord Almighty, who is like you?" (Psalm 89:6-8)

1. What are the needs of God? _____
2. Was God obligated to create us? _____
3. In whom does God trust? _____

God is immutable.

Immutable means will not change. God is unchanging in his being, perfection's, purposes and promises. If God is changing then our will fall apart. Our faith, hope and knowledge rest upon the God who can be trusted. Everything around us changes but God remains the same, because he is eternal.

"In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands, they will perish but you remain; they will wear out like a garment. Like clothing you will change them and they will be discarded. But you remain the same, and your years will remain the same, and your years will never end." (Psalm 102:25-27)

"I the Lord do not change." (Malachi 3:6)

When we say that God is unchangeable, it does not say that he cannot move. God is always on the move as he responds to the situations. When scripture speaks of God changing, sorry or repenting it speaks on human terms. (Genesis 6:6, Exodus 32:9-14, Jonah 34-10)

It looks like when you see the above scriptures that repented. According to Christian theologian John Calvin, "Repentance of God is an anthropomorphic expression of the pain of the divine love at the sin of man, and signifies that God is hurt no less by the atrocious sins of men than if they pierced his heart with mortal anguish." In the sense God never repents of anything.

"He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a man, that he should change his mind." (1 Samuel 15:29)

We need to understand that God enters into numerous relations with man and according to the situation there is a change in the relationship with men, but his being does not change. In reality the change is not in God, but in man in his relation to God. When God says, I will bring disaster because of your wickedness, and then the change has to be in man, if he repents God will not bring disaster.

1. Have you ever made a decision then afterwards changed your mind?

2. Does God grow in his love, wisdom, power, righteousness?

3. What will happen if God decides to change his mind?

4. Why is it that God cannot change?

5. What does it mean in then when the Bible says in some scriptures God is repenting?

God is infinite

God is not limited to time or space, but we are all limited to time and space. God is free from all limitations, because he is perfect. He is perfect as he is without any blemish. He is infinitely perfect in his holiness, in his love, in his wisdom, in his justice, in his righteousness and perfect in all his attributes.

"He is the Rock, his works are perfect and all his ways are just, a faithful God who does no wrong, upright and just is he." (Deuteronomy 32:4)

"Can you fathom the mysteries of God? Can you probe the limits of the Almighty? They are higher than the heavens, what can you do? They are deeper than the depths of the grave, what can you know? The measure is longer than the earth and wider than the sea."

(Job 11:7-9) We can search for the nature of God, but it cannot be fully found as God is perfect and infinite, and the end is endless. We Christians cannot measure him. The wisdom is so high, that we cannot reach, and so deep that we cannot fully research, it stretches far beyond human thought as God is infinite. Apostle Paul, speaking of Christ's love in this infinite nature said, "May have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ." (Ephesians 3:18)

God created time and he is the Lord of the time. The time will not change him and he is infinite, above time. We live by days, weeks months and years and not so with God.

"Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God." (Psalm 90:2) Kings, philosophers, prophets, religious leaders, theologians and heroes are born and make a name and they perish, they become history, but God rules over human history.

"How great is God, beyond our understanding! The number of his years is past finding out." (Job 36:26)

"I am who I am" (Exodus 3:14) this name reveals the nature and the operations of God. Then he explained the name. He is the one who made the covenant to Abraham and he is the God of the fathers. He is the living God.

Unlike us God is not limited to space. He is the Lord of the space. "To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it." (Deuteronomy 10:14) God is present everywhere. See 1 Kings 8:27

"Can anyone hide in secret places, so that I cannot see him?" Declares the Lord. "Do not I fill the earth?" (Jeremiah 23:24)

"Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? If I go up to the heavens you are there; if I make my bed in the depths you are there." (Psalm 139:7-8) Remember Adam and Eve, after the sin they were fleeing away from God, trying to hide, and Cain could not hide and neither Jonah when he wanted to get away from God by diving into the depths of the sea, cannot get away from Gods presence. God is omnipresent.

1. Why is it that God is not limited to time and space?

2. Why is it that we cannot fully understand his wisdom?

3. Where can we feel the presence of God? _____

Unity

- 1.) God is numerically one.
- 2.) God is not complex.

God is numerically one.

"So that all the people of the earth may know that the Lord is God and that there is no other." (1 Kings 8:60)

"Hear O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one." (Deuteronomy 6:4)

"I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God." (Isaiah 45:5)

"For even when there are so called gods, whether in heaven or on earth (as indeed there are many gods and many lords) yet for us there is but one God." (1 Corinthians 8:5-6)

"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus." (1 Timothy 2:5)

The Jehovah's Witnesses and the cults have tremendous problems with the above verses.

God is not complex.

a.) God is not divided into parts.

In 1 John 1:5 say God is light, and in 1 John 4:8 say God is love. It does not mean that a part of God is light and a part of God is love, but God himself is light and love.

b.) God is not a collection of attributes put together.

Gods whole being includes all of his attributes.

c.) Attributes are not added to God.

d.) We should not divide his attributes according to time, saying in the Old Testament he was the wrathful God and in the New Testament he is the loving God. God is the same always.

e.) We should not single out one attribute more important than the other attributes. Today many would like the love of God but not the holiness and the justice of God. God is a whole being, and all attributes shows the character of God and all attributes are perfect.

1. Many religions and cults believe in more than one God, but what does the Bible say?

2. Is there any attribute of God that is more important than the others?

3. God can be divided into how many parts?

4. In what way your perspective of God changed after studying this subject?

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