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Why I Believe God Is - Part 3

I believe God is because of the law of Cause and Effect

Why are we here? What is the purpose of life?

a) Summary of how life began “without the Cause being God”

- i) There are teachings in the secular world that all we see and are, came from nothing, or that everything which is material is eternal. Such teaching propagates that everything is void of any cause or for being, which is not only contrary to the scriptures of truth, but also there is no purpose in anything. Since this is, on both counts, contrary to the scriptures, it is wrong. There are also those who teach that all we see and are, began with the Big Bang but then this just shifts the question back to where did the substance for the Big Bang come from? As far as life, whether it is animal, vegetable or human, the best that those who reject the Biblical account of creation can say is that everything may or possibly came from outside by an unknown mechanism, or from an outside ignition by a meteorite, or from inorganic matter, or by spontaneous generation. It is of no account that all their arguments against God are built on imaginary ideas, being without any scientific or historical evidence.
- ii) Such teachings reduce all we see and humanity to being a causeless combination of molecules which have no purpose in being, and are the result of accidental happenings and exist in a sphere of no purpose. As Richard Dawkins said, "Humans have always wondered about the meaning of life . . . life has no higher purpose than to perpetuate the survival of DNA . . . life has no design, no purpose, no evil and no good, nothing but blind pitiless indifference”.

b) Summary of how life began “with God”

- i) When life is considered beginning with God and an individual reads Genesis 1:1-2:3, a number of truths are clear:
 1. There is the Causeless Cause, namely “God”. The argument is if God created all things including humanity, where did God come from for He also must be an effect? Since the cause is always greater than the effect, the argument then becomes God had to come from someone or somewhere.
 - (a) If there was a somewhere, nothing would ever have come into existence. That is an unassailable fact. God is not part of creation nor was He ever made. Consequently, God is not an effect, He is the Cause. For things to come into existence there had to be a power that caused all else to come into existence. The choice is there is no God and nothing by mysterious unknown forces brought all complex things into existence, or a Person outside of this universe created all things.
 - (b) Looking at Genesis 1:1-2:3 it does not say God created the earth in seven days. It simply says, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth, And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep”. There is the assumption that all was done almost in quick succession but Job 38:4-7 makes it clear that the heavens were made and populated before the earth was created. Furthermore, there is no way of knowing how long the earth was without form and void before the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. To make it clear, I believe all the various layers of rocks etc. of the geological so called ages are a direct result of the flood, and while the earth may, as a planet, be untold years in existence, the rock strata does not prove such a thing. All we know is at one point after earth was created God began to work with it. Then it is observed that:
 - ii) On day one it reads: “And God said, Let” (only once) and light began (Gen. 1:3-4).
 - iii) On the second day it reads: “And God said, Let” (only once) (Gen. 1:6)
 - iv) On the third day we read twice over: “And God said Let” (Gen. 1:9, 11) (Note not just the word “let” but the clause “And God said Let”)
 - v) On the fourth day we read: “And God said “Let” (Gen. 1:14)
 - vi) On the fifth day the same words are repeated (Gen. 1:20)

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- vii) But, on the 6th day, as on the 3rd day, we read: “And God said Let” twice over (Gen. 1:24, 26)
- viii) This informs us of two truths that every time we read, “And God said Let”, each time there is indicated a distinct creative act, independent on that which had been already created or made. Furthermore, in each successive step of life becoming more complicated, does complexity come from simplicity, from disorder, or life from death, or God consciousness from ignorance? The established second law of thermodynamics rejects such a notion.

What is cause and effect?

Cause and effect is a well established principle of life and with it is the fact that the cause is always greater than the effect. *Illustration:* When I was a young fellow we played marbles trying to hit one of the opponents or get mine closer to the circle. The marble went rolling, it did not do that on its own, it was because I flicked it. I was the cause, the effect was it rolled along. On another occasion the marble seemed to roll on its own but it only did so because the place where we played was on a slight grade. The slight grade was the cause of the marble rolling. Everything made or functioning has a cause, an effect, and a purpose.

- a) Without God life is meaningless. God is the “Cause” of everything He created, the result or effect of His creating is all we see around us and the brilliance of the human body and brain. The purpose was for the fulfilling of His own will. John wrote the words he heard in Heaven: “Thou hast created all things, and for Thy pleasure (will) they are and were created” (Rev. 4:11).

God and creation

Since the universe is orderly and since order does not evolve from disorder, it is evident that God is the God of order. Furthermore, in the most casual look at the universe it is clear, to have such a creation there had to be an intelligence to formulate it all and there had to be an understanding of all that was needed for as long as man was on this earth. Finally, He had to have the power to create. Reading the first creation narrative again, the first presentation of the Supreme Being is God, Elohim. As we read the scriptures concerning Him, we discover we have a God by whom:

- a) All was created by His powerful word: “Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear” (Heb. 11:3).
- b) It was created by His wisdom: “To him that by wisdom made the heavens: for his mercy endureth for ever” (Psa. 136:5).
- c) He created it Himself: “Thus saith the LORD, thy redeemer, and he that formed thee from the womb, I am the LORD that maketh all things; that stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth by myself” (Isa. 44:24).
- d) He created it by power and understanding: “He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heaven by his understanding” (Jer. 51:15).

Concluding thoughts

Even though cause and effect are distinct, yet they cannot be separated. It is foolishness to argue that whatever is a Cause but there is no effect. *Illustration:* When the wind blows, that is a cause, and the effect is the leaves on the trees wave. There has to be an effect. Furthermore, to have an effect without a cause is an impossibility. The waves of the sea will not roll if there were no tides or winds. This universe and every aspect of living organisms are the result of a Cause, and that is either God or accident. The universe is not eternal, it had a beginning, and since the universe is an effect, what is the Cause, God or accident?

Stephen Hawking, wrote: “The Universe did not create itself. Such an idea is absurd, philosophically and scientifically.” I prefer to place my faith in the God whose:

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- a) Purposes are irresistible: “For the LORD of hosts hath purposed, and who shall disannul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back?” (Isa. 14:27)
- b) Characteristics are invariable: “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning” (Jam. 1:17).
- c) Promises are immutable: “For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen” (2 Cor. 1:20).
- d) Person is unchangeable: “For I am the LORD, I change not” (Mal. 3:6).

He is the God who is:

- a) Eternal in His permanence (Duet. 33:27)
- b) Mighty in His power (Psa. 91:1)
- c) Glorious in His person (Acts 7:2)
- d) Sovereign in His abilities (1 Chron. 29:11)
- e) Incomprehensible by human understanding (Job 11:7)

When I consider the awesomeness of the starry Heavens, the magnificence of the galaxies, the beauty and delicacy of a rose, the nutrition that comes from the grasses and the marvel of the human brain, I am convinced that all of this is not a gigantic accident but the creation of a magnificent God. Dr. John Lennox sums up the overall matter of the cosmological argument well when he writes: "There are not many options – essentially just two. Either human intelligence ultimately owes its origin to mindless matter; or there is a Creator. It is strange that some people claim that it is their intelligence that leads them to prefer the first to the second."

..... *Rowan Jennings*