

Rational Reasons to Believe in God

1. It is rational to consider God as the explanation for the beginning of the universe.

Whatever has a beginning has a cause. (In science this is called cause and effect). The universe had a beginning. Therefore, the universe had a cause.

We know that this cause must be outside the universe (transcendent) because the universe (or any 3 dimensional thing) cannot create itself (you, a book or a building cannot make yourself/itself). Also, whatever creates the universe must be very powerful, very intelligent, etc. Therefore, it is rational to consider God as the explanation of the beginning of the universe.

About the beginning of the universe, Dr. William Lane Craig has written the following: *“We have pretty strong evidence that the universe has not existed eternally into the past, but had a beginning a finite time ago. In 2003, the mathematician Arvind Borde, and physicists Alan Guth and Alexander Vilenkin were able to prove that any universe which has, on average, been expanding throughout its history cannot be infinite in the past, but must have a past spacetime boundary (i.e., a beginning).*

What makes their proof so powerful is that it holds so long as time and causality hold, regardless of the physical description of the very early universe. Because we don't yet have a quantum theory of gravity, we can't yet provide a physical description of the first split-second of the universe; but the Borde-Guth-Vilenkin theorem is independent of one's theory of gravitation. For instance, their theorem implies that the quantum vacuum state which may have characterized the early universe cannot have existed eternally into the past, but must itself have had a beginning. Even if our universe is just a tiny part of a so-called 'multiverse', composed of many universes, their theorem requires that the multiverse itself must have had a beginning.”

Read more: <http://www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles-does-god-exist#ixzz30oGxkxX9>

相信上帝的理性依据

一、以上帝来解释宇宙的起源是合理的

万事只要有开始，就必有其发生的原因。（在科学中这被称作因果关系。）宇宙有起始。所以，宇宙有（产生它的）原因。

我们知道，这个产生宇宙的原因必定存在于宇宙之外（超越宇宙的）因为宇宙（我们存在的这个三维世界）不能产生它自己。（例如，你、一本书、或者一栋楼都不能自己创造出自己。）另外，宇宙的创造者必定有大能力、有大智慧，等等。因此，以上帝来解释宇宙的起源是合理的。

关于宇宙的起源，威廉·雷恩·克雷格 (William Lane Craig) 博士这样写道：“我们有非常有力的证据显示宇宙不是永恒存在的，而是在一个有限的时间前有一个起始。2003年，数学家阿文德·宝迪 (Arvind Borde)、物理学家阿兰·古斯 (Alan Guth) 和亚历山大·韦林金 (Alexander Vilenkin) 证明了，任何一个宇宙，如果其平均的效应是一直在膨胀，那么它的过去一定不是无限的，而且必定有一个时空界限（即一个起点）。

他们的证明极其有力，是因为他们的证明不依赖于宇宙初期的具体演化行为，只要时间及因果律存在，他们的结论就成立。因为我们还没有关于引力的量子理论，我们还不能提供宇宙最初时刻的物理描述；但是这个宝迪-古斯-韦林金 (Borde-Guth-Vilenkin) 定律与引力理论无关。例如，由他们的定律可以推导出，可能用来描述早期宇宙的所谓量子真空态不可能在过去永恒存在，必须有一个开始。即便假设我们的宇宙仅仅是所谓的“多重宇宙”的极小的一部分，他们的定律推导出这个多重宇宙自身也必然有一个起点。”

参考: <http://www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles-does-god-exist#ixzz30oGxkxX9>

Dr. William Lane Craig has written the following about the fine-tuning of the universe: *“In recent decades scientists have been stunned by the discovery that the initial conditions of the Big Bang were fine-tuned for the existence of intelligent life with a precision and delicacy that literally defy human comprehension. This fine-tuning is of two sorts. First, when the laws of nature are expressed as equations, you find appearing in them certain constants, such as the gravitational constant. The values of these constants are independent of the laws of nature. Second, in addition to these constants, there are certain arbitrary quantities which define the initial conditions on which the laws of nature operate – for example, the amount of entropy (disorder) in the universe. Now these constants and quantities fall into an extraordinarily narrow range of life-permitting values. Were these constants or quantities to be altered by less than a hair’s breadth, the life-permitting balance of nature would be destroyed, and life would not exist.”*

Read more: <http://www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles-does-god-exist#ixzz30oIaZge6>

Dr. Paul Davies is a British-born theoretical physicist, cosmologist, astrobiologist and best-selling author who has moved from promoting atheism to conceding design in the universe. He said in his book *The Cosmic Blueprint* (p. 203), *“[There] is for me powerful evidence that there is something going behind it all...It seems as though somebody has fine-tuned nature's numbers to make the Universe...The impression of design is overwhelming.”*

Question for the skeptic: How do you explain the fine-tuning of the universe?

3. It is rational to consider God as the explanation for the beginning of life on this planet.

For many years this planet had no living things on it. Then suddenly, simple living things began to exist. How do dead, non-living chemicals

威廉·雷恩·克雷格 (William Lane Craig) 博士对于宇宙的微调是这样写的: *“近几世纪科学家们被下面的发现震惊了, 即他们发现大爆炸的初始条件是照着生命的存在而被精细地微调的, 这个微调的准确度和精细度超出了人们的理解能力。这些微调分为两类。第一, 当自然的规律可以用数学公式来表达时, 在公式里出现的常数, 例如万有引力常数。这些常数的数值是独立的, 与这些自然规律无关。第二, 除了这些常数外, 还有一些描述初始状态的数值, 它们决定了自然规律的运行状态。例如, 宇宙中熵 (或者无序) 的总和。为了使生命能够存在, 这些常数和初始值的取值必须被局限在极其狭小的范围。即使这些常数及初始值做了非常小的修改, 那些使生命存在的极其细致的平衡就会被打破, 生命也不会存在。”*

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保罗·戴维斯 (Paul Davies) 博士是生于英国的理论物理学家、天文学家、宇宙生物学家和畅销书作家, 他从提倡无神论转化为认同宇宙是存在设计的。在他的《宇宙的蓝图》书中 (203页) 他写到: *“(这些) 是对我而言有力的证据说明在所有事情后面还有什么东西..... 看起来像是有人微调了自然的数值后才创造了宇宙..... 设计所留下的痕迹无处不在。”*

给怀疑者的问题: 你怎样解释宇宙的微调?

三、以上帝来解释这个星球的生命的起源是合理的

有很长的时间, 地球没有任何生命。突然, 简单生命开始出现。那些死的、没有生命的化学物质是怎样通过随机组合来形

arrange themselves by chance into living cells, DNA, etc.? Is this even possible? Can we even do this in a lab by design (ie, take non-living chemicals and turn them into cells, DNA, etc.)? Have biochemists or microbiologists proposed a realistic, step-by-step process of how this happens?

Therefore, it is rational to consider God as the explanation of simple life on this planet.

Dr. Michael Denton has said in his book, *Evolution: A Theory in Crisis*, “*The complexity of the simplest known type of cell is so great that it is impossible to accept that such an object could have been thrown together suddenly by some kind of freakish, vastly improbable, event. Such an occurrence would be indistinguishable from a miracle.*” When he wrote this, he believed in but questioned evolution. He has since become a strong believer in design.

Some other interesting quotes by famous scientists on abiogenesis (spontaneous beginning of life without design) are listed below.

All of us who study the origin of life find that the more we look into it, the more we feel it is too complex to have evolved anywhere. We all believe, as an article of faith, that life evolved from dead matter on this planet. It is just that its complexity is so great, it is hard for us to imagine that it did. (Harold C. Urey, quoted in *Christian Science Monitor*, January 4, 1962, p. 4)

An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that, in some sense, the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle. (Francis Crick (Nobel Prize Laureate in Physiology and Medicine, *Life Itself, Its Origin and Nature* (1981), p. 88)

More than 30 years of experimentation on the origin of life in the fields of chemical and molecular evolution have led to a better

成有生命的细胞、DNA 等等的？这种事甚至是否可能发生？我们是否能够在实验室中完成这样的转变（即，将无生命的化学物质转化为有生命的细胞、DNA 等等）？生物化学家或者微生物学家是否能够提出一个真实的、有详细步骤的操作来实现生命的出现？

因此，以上帝来解释星球上的简单生命是合理的。

迈克尔·丹顿 (Michael Denton) 博士在他的书《进化论：一个处于危机中的理论》中写到：“我们所知的最简单的细胞的复杂性是如此的巨大，我们没办法接受这样的物体是在一个奇特的、几乎不可能的事件中由各种物质突然地拼凑出来的。这样的事件与奇迹没有任何区别。”当他写下这些的时候，他还相信进化论，但只是质疑它。他现在已经成为坚定的宇宙设计论的支持者。

著名科学家关于无生源说（即认为生命是无设计的偶发事件）的一些其他论述列在下面。

“我们所有研究生命起源的人发现，我们越是深入研究它，越是感到它是那样复杂、不可能从任何（无生命）物质中进化而来。地球上生命是从无生物进化而来的这样一种认知，实际上是我们的一个信仰。是因为（生命或者生物的）复杂性实在是太大，我们很难想象无生物会进化出生命。”（哈罗德·C·尤里 (Harold C. Urey), 摘自《基督教科学箴言》1962年1月4日版第4页）

“一个诚实的人，如果掌握了人类目前认识到的所有知识，只能做出下面的结论，即，从某种意义上说，生命起源目前看起来像是一个奇迹。”（弗朗西斯·克里克 Francis Crick, 诺贝尔生理与医学奖获得者，DNA 双螺旋结构发现者之一，《生命本身：起源和性质》1981年，第88页）

“在化学和分子进化领域里超过30年对生命起源的实验研究，

perception of the immensity of the problem of the origin of life on Earth rather than to its solution. At present all discussions on principal theories and experiments in the field either end in a stalemate or in a confession of ignorance. (Dose, Klaus. *Interdisciplinary Science Reviews*. 13(4):348 (1988))

Question for the skeptic: How do you explain the beginning of simple life from dead, non-living chemicals?

4. It is rational to consider God as the explanation of the sudden appearance of complex plants and animals.

In the Pre-Cambrian layer deep in the earth we find a few very simple, primitive life forms. But in the Cambrian layer above it (dated 540 million years ago) we find the sudden appearance of most complex plants and animals. This sudden appearance of complex life is called the Big Bang of biology, the Cambrian Explosion or the Cambrian Big Bang. Complex plants and animals appear fully-formed with all their systems and features and there aren't any transitional fossil forms before (below) them. If evolution were true, there would have to be a slow gradual transition from simple to complex plants and animals with many transitional or intermediate forms. This is not found in the fossil record, even after hundreds of years of searching by thousands of workers.

Therefore, it is rational to consider God as the explanation for the sudden appearance of this complex life.

Richard Dawkins (an outspoken atheist and evolutionist) wrote in his book, *The Blind Watchmaker* (p. 229), “...*the Cambrian strata of rock, vintage about 600 million years, are the oldest ones in which we find most of the major invertebrate groups. And we find many of them already in an advanced state of evolution, the very first time they appear. It is as though they were just planted there, without any evolutionary history.*”

Kevin Peterson, Michael Dietrich and Mark McPeck, in the journal *BioEssays* (July 2009, p. 737) said, “*Thus, elucidating the materialistic*

使（我）更深刻地认识到生命起源的问题的艰巨，（而）生命起源的解答却没有太大进展。现在对该领域中主要理论及实验的讨论一般只有两种结局：陷入僵局或承认（我们的）无知。”（克劳斯·窦思，Klausa Dose, 《跨学科科学总数》13期，348页，1998年出版。）

给怀疑者的问题：你们怎么回答简单生命是从死的、无生命的化学物质中起源的这个问题？

四、以上帝来解释复杂动植物的突然出现是合理的

在寒武纪之前的很深的地层中我们只发现了少量的极其简单原始的生命形式。但在这些地层上面的寒武纪（大约5亿4千万年前）地层中，我们发现了非常复杂的动植物的突然出现。这个复杂生命的突然出现被称作生物大爆炸、寒武纪爆发、或者寒武纪大爆炸。复杂生命一出现就具备了完备的系统 and 特征，并且在它们之前没有发现任何过渡态化石。如果进化论正确，从简单到复杂生物要经过缓慢漫长的过程，中间还应该有很多过渡形态。这些，在化石中都没有发现，即便是千万工作者经过几百年的搜索都没有发现。

因此，以上帝来解释复杂生物突然出现是合理的。

理查德·道金斯（Richard Dawkins，一个著名的无神论者和进化论者）在他的书《盲眼钟表匠》中写道（229页）：“*古老的寒武纪岩层，大约形成于6亿年前，是我们能够发现含有大多数无脊椎动物的最老的地层。这些动物的大多数，在它们第一次被发现的时候，已经进入了比较高级的进化阶段。看起来就像是它们被放在那里似的，没有任何进化历史。*”

凯文·彼得逊 (Kevin Peterson)、迈克尔·迪特里希 (Michael Dietrich) 和马克·麦克匹克 (Mark McPeck) 在学术期刊《生物学

basis of the Cambrian explosion has become more elusive, not less, the more we know about the event itself...".

This was a huge problem for Charles Darwin and he often referred to the enigma of the Cambrian explosion as a problem for his theory of slow change in life over time:

"I concluded that this great group had been suddenly developed at the commencement of the [Cambrian] series. This was a sore trouble to me, adding as I thought one more instance of the abrupt appearance of a great group of species." (On the Origin of Species).

Question for the skeptic: How do you explain the sudden appearance of complex plants and animals?

5. It is rational to consider God as the explanation for real but non-material things like love, logic, consciousness, and morality.

Do people believe it is wrong to murder, steal and lie? Does love exist? Does logic exist? Do all people think that it is wrong to lie, steal and murder? Transcendent moral values, love and logic do exist and are not just products of culture or society. However, if we live in a purely materialistic universe there is no explanation for them since they are non-material. If God does not exist, there would be no transcendent law-giver, and, therefore, there would be no transcendent moral laws. But they do exist. If there is no God, then all acts are permissible. But no one, not even the atheist, believes this or acts like this.

Therefore, it is rational to consider God as the explanation for transcendent moral laws, love, logic, and consciousness.

Dr. William Lane Craig has written the following on this subject:

"In our experience we apprehend moral values and duties which impose themselves as objectively binding and true. For example, we recognize that it's wrong to walk into an elementary school with an automatic weapon and shoot little boys and girls and their teachers. On a naturalistic view, however, there is nothing really wrong with this:

随笔》(2009年7月期, 737页)中写道:“我们对寒武纪大爆炸理解越多, 我们的希望阐明它的原因的企图就变得越渺茫。”

这对于达尔文来说也是一个困难的问题, 他经常把寒武纪大爆炸这个谜题作为他的缓变进化论的一个难题。(在《物种起源》书中他写道)“我的结论是这些种类繁多的物种是在寒武纪纪元开始是突然发展成的。这对于我来说是一个弱点, 在大量物种突然出现这一方面又多出了一个例子。”

给怀疑者的问题: 你怎样解释大量复杂动植物的突然出现?

五、以上帝来解释真实的、但非物质的事情是合理的, 这些事包括爱、逻辑、意识和道德。

人们相信谋杀、偷盗和撒谎都是错误的吗? 爱存在吗? 逻辑存在吗? 超自然的道德价值、爱和逻辑都是存在的, 而不仅仅是文化或者社会的产物。但是, 如果我们存在于一个纯物质的世界, 那么这些就都没有解释, 因为他们都是非物质的。如果上帝不存在, 就没有一个主体能够制定超自然的定律, 那么也没有一个超自然的道德标准。但它们却是又都是存在的。如果没有上帝, 所有的行为都是允许的。但是没有一个人, 哪怕他是无神论者, 会这样想, 并这样去做。

因此, 以上帝来解释超自然的道德规范、爱、逻辑和意识是合理的。

威廉·雷恩·克雷格 (William Lane Craig) 博士对这一方面这样写道:“在我们的日常经验中, 我们都认为道德的价值和责任都是客观真实并对我们有约束力的。例如, 我们都认为带一个冲锋枪到小学中屠杀无辜的小学生和他们的老师们是错误的。但如果从一个自然主义的观点看, 这里没有什么错: 道德价值仅仅是生物进化及社会交往中形成的一个主观副产品, 没有客观

moral values are just the subjective by-products of biological evolution and social conditioning, and have no objective validity.”

Alex Rosenberg is brutally honest about the implications of his atheism here too. He declares, “*there is no such thing as... morally right or wrong.*” (The Atheist’s Guide to Reality, p.145); “*Individual human life is meaningless... and without ultimate moral value.*” (p.17); “*We need to face the fact that nihilism is true.*” (p.95). By contrast, the theist grounds objective moral values in God, and our moral duties in His commands. The theist thus has the explanatory resources to ground objective moral values and duties which the atheist lacks.

Read more: <http://www.reasonablefaith.org/popular-articles-does-god-exist#ixzz32ZGLo198>

Question for the skeptic: How do you explain the existence of real but non-material things like love, logic, consciousness and morality???

6. Personal experience of God

As we have seen in the previous five sections of this paper, modern scientific discoveries have not made belief in God irrational. In fact, many would argue that just the opposite has happened.

However, there is another reason that people believe in God - personal experience of God.

Although not in the same category as the above reasons and certainly not as objective, one cannot deny the lives of those who have clearly stated that they have experienced God in a personal way. Billions of people have experienced this relationship with God and know Him, just as certainly as they know their family and friends.

Tucson AZ
May 2014

真实性。”

亚历克斯·罗森博格 (Alex Rosenberg) 对于这种无神论所导致的后果也无情地坦诚。他宣称：“*任何事情都无所谓在道德上正确或错误。*”（《无神论者关于现实的指导》，145页）；“*单独个人的生命是没有意义的，也是没有任何道德价值的。*”

（17页）；“*我们需要面对这样一个事实，就是虚无主义是对的。*”（95页）。与这些相反，有神论的基础是上帝给出了客观的道德价值，并且命令我们要遵守它们。这样，有神论就能够解释客观道德价值和责任，而无神论则办不到。

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给怀疑者的问题: 你怎样解释这些真实存在，但又非物质的事情，例如爱、逻辑、意识和道德？

六、与上帝的个人关系

从以上五部分我们可以看到，现代科学发现并没有使信仰上帝变成非理性的事情。实际上，恰好相反，许多人认为科学反而使信仰上帝更加理性。

但是，人们相信上帝还有另外一个原因----与上帝的个人关系。虽然这一点与上面五点原因不同，属于不同的类型，而且不如上面五点客观，但我们不能否认那些众多经历了上帝的生命的真实性，这些人（基督徒）都真诚地承认他们以各自的方式经历着神。亿万人经历了与上帝的关系，并且认识祂，就像是认识他们自己家人和朋友那样真切地认识祂。

亚利桑那州图森市
2014年五月