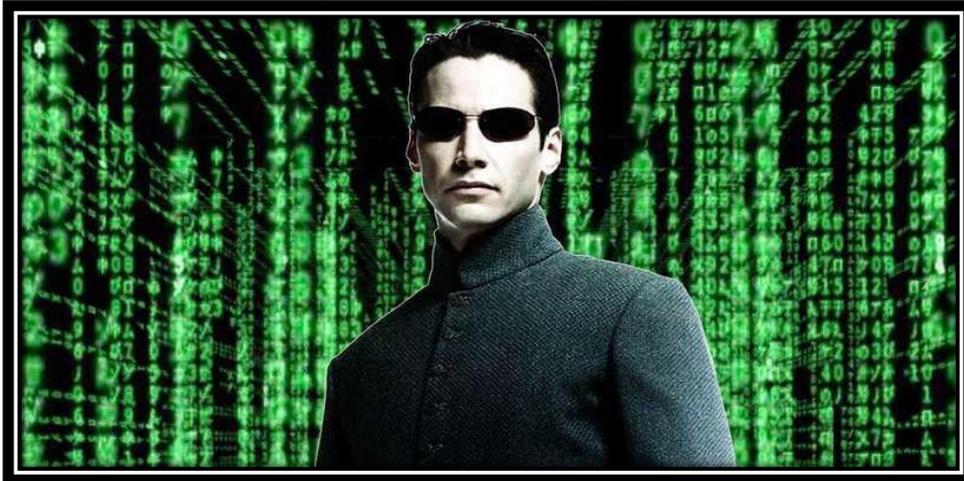


Media Deceptions, Epistemological Matrix & Theistic Worldview

Special Report Re-Posted June 26th, 2022

By Chuck Coppes



"Television is altering the meaning of being informed by creating a species of information that might properly be called disinformation—misplaced, irrelevant, fragmented or superficial information that creates the illusion of knowing something but which in fact leads one away from knowing."

- Neil Postman, *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*

"The Matrix is everywhere. It is all around us. It is the world that has been pulled over your eyes to blind you from the truth....That you are a slave, Neo."

- Morpheus to Neo, *The Matrix Movie (1999)*

"Out, out, brief candle! Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage, and then is heard no more; it is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing."

- William Shakespeare, *Macbeth (1608)*

"My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust?"

- C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity, Classic Christian Apologetic*

"God has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness, through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

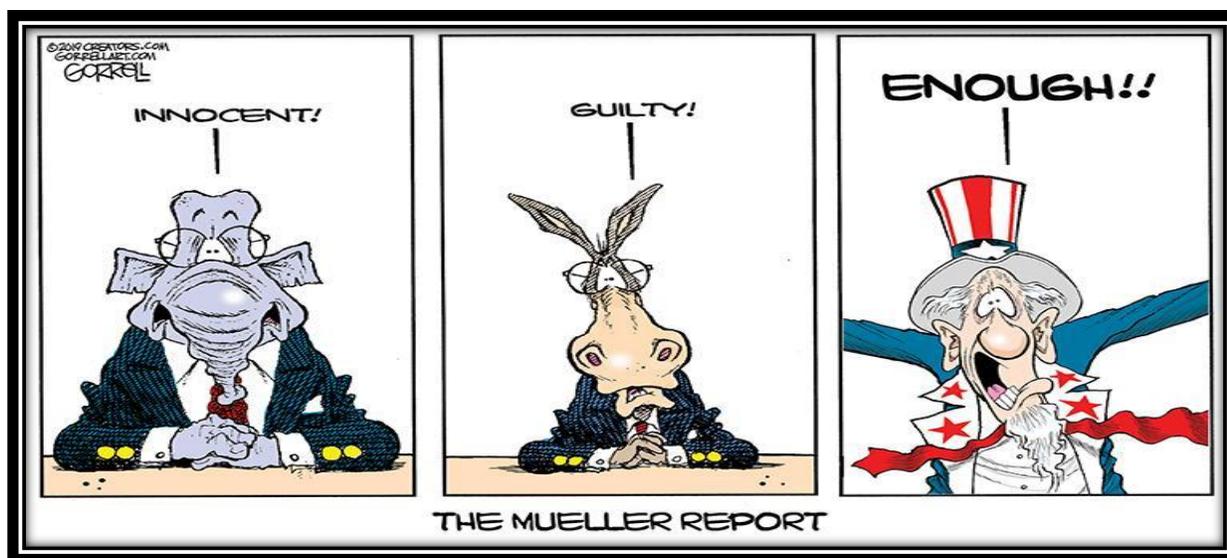
- Acts 17:31, *New American Standard Bible*

Greetings to All from Sandpoint,

As most of you know, I have transitioned my business from Arizona to Idaho earlier this year. I'm glad to report that things are going well and I am moving into a new cabin with privacy and lake views next month. Feeling some urgency, I have become *overwhelmed* with a dozen different projects related to this final move, but I wanted to address the **profound crisis** that grips our nation in the post-Covid and **Trump** era. In 2019, I wrote this **special report** on the **epistemological matrix** that seems more relevant *this moment* more than ever, and I submit this again for your consideration and comments.

The Donald Trump presidency finally exposed the Fourth Estate in America. What is the **Fourth Estate?** This is a reference to the *unelected and unaccountable press* in modern times. In medieval Europe they recognized **three estates of the realm** - clergy, nobility and commoners. According to [this tradition](#) the three estates all represented "a significant indirect social influence," but nothing like what we see today with the **mockingbird media!** And why do we call it the **mockingbird media?** Because that is what the **CIA** decided to call their project to infiltrate the alphabet media (ABC, NBC, CBS) back in the early **1950s.** **Operation Mockingbird** was launched to "manipulate news media for propaganda purposes," and this included the *Washington Post* and *New York Times* according to [THIS LINK](#). Just consider that **CBS** has 222 reporters, **NBC** has 200 and **ABC** has 179 in the press corp, but all three cover *the exact same news stories* in the evening news - often in *the same order!* How can this be unless there is a conspiracy in NY to manage the news? And speaking of **echo chambers** and the **Trump Derangement Syndrome** watch *just how wrong* the feckless media was for **two years:**

Two Minute Clip: Media Obsessed with Trump & Totally Wrong!

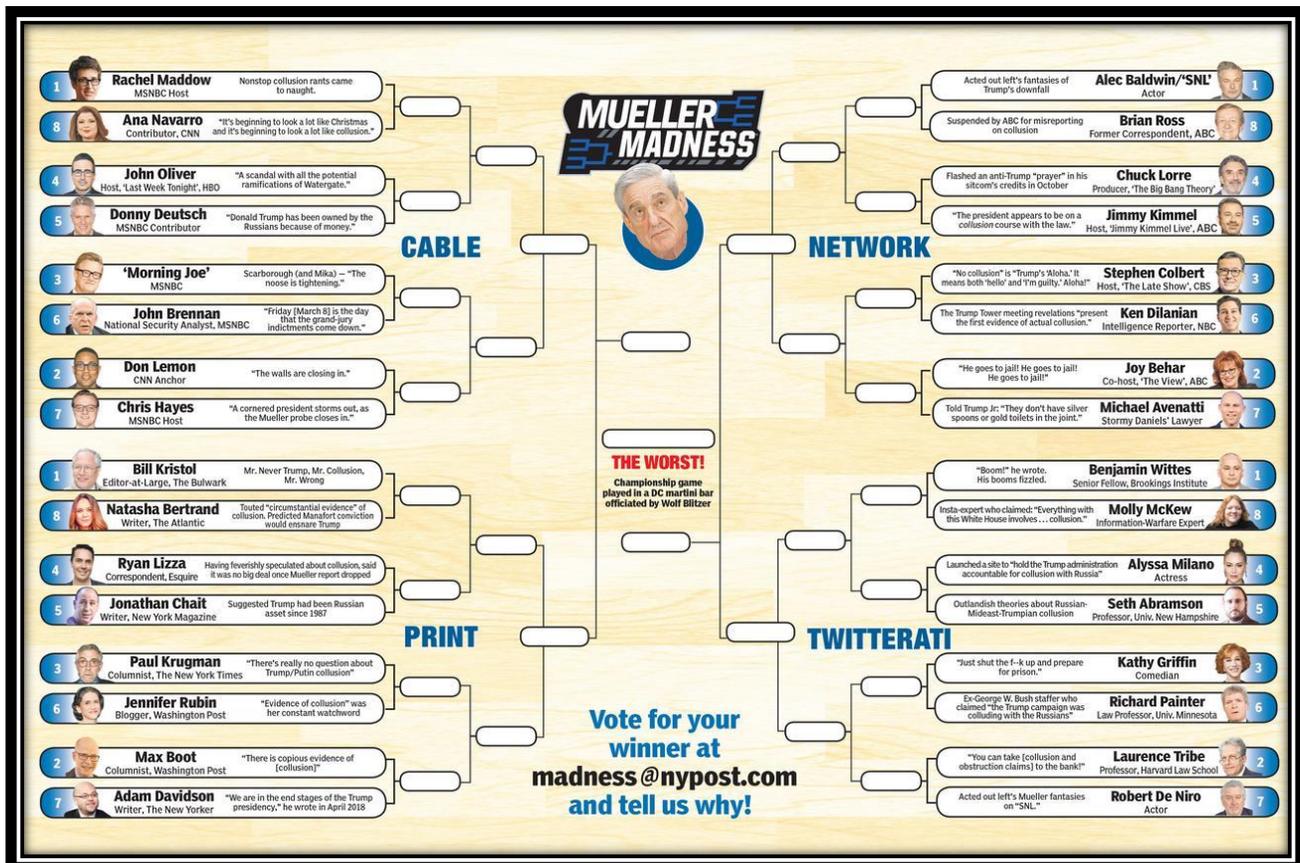


I say, enough already and get over it! As Glenn Greenwald (*The Intercept*) [lays out](#), the **Mueller Report** has exposed **Russagate** as a hoax, but the media elites, **Deep State** trolls and other creatures in the putrid swamp will never admit to any wrongdoing. We have all been scammed!

"Robert Mueller did not merely reject the Trump conspiracy theories. He obliterated them.....In sum, Democrats and their supporters had the exact prosecutor they all agreed was the embodiment of competence and integrity in Robert Mueller. He assembled a team of prosecutors and investigators that countless media accounts heralded as the most aggressive and adept in the nation. They had subpoena power, the vast surveillance apparatus of the U.S. government at their disposal, a demonstrated willingness to imprison anyone who lied to them, and unlimited time and resources to dig up everything they could..... Those responsible for this can refuse to acknowledge wrongdoing. They can even claim vindication if they want and will likely be cheered for doing so.....But the contempt in which the media and political class is held by so much of the U.S. population – undoubtedly a leading factor that led to Trump's election in the first place – will only continue to grow as a result, and deservedly so. People know they were scammed, that their politics was drowned for years by a hoax. And none of that will go away no matter how insulated media and political elites in Washington, northern Virginia, Brooklyn, and large West Coast cities keep themselves."

I purposely avoiding watching or reporting on the Russia collusion melodrama back in 2016. It has all represented and *new and historic low* in our public discourse, trust in the media, Congress or the rule of law. **Group Think**, political correctness and our culture wars have produced a new secular **zeitgeist** that lacks any critical thinking. A study was done in 1977 to determine how repetition creates what they call the "**illusionary truth effect.**" If something is repeated often enough (in the media) it will become true. This familiarity causes **cognitive ease** and a confirmation bias among the masses. This tactic was used very successfully in **Nazi Germany**. In the **1970s**, investigative reporter **John Pilger** interviewed a woman who helped orchestrate propaganda films for **Adolf Hitler**. She said that the message in her films was not so much orders from above, but rather the "submissive void" of the public. She said, "When people no longer ask serious questions, they are submissive and malleable. Anything can happen." Get that? Anything can happen. **Pilger** entitled his article *A Warning From History*, and we had better take heed. I will address the issue of **information overload** in a moment.

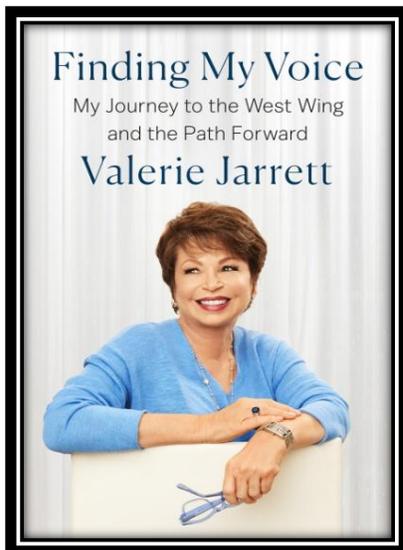
In 1985, Neil Postman wrote *Amusing Ourselves to Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business*. In this book he basically says that we have shifted from a "print-based epistemology" to a "media-based epistemology" when it comes to historical facts, data and information. **TV** has become "entertainment programming" and a politician's views are *less important* than how they "come across" in this **new medium**. He stresses that **TV** has altered "the meaning of being informed" and all we are left with is "...misplaced, irrelevant, fragmented or superficial information that creates *the illusion* of knowing something, but which, in fact, leads away from knowing." **Postman** observed this trend well before the explosion of cable, Internet, social media, Twitter and so on. This submissive void by the masses is being exploited by **evil sources** with an agenda. The sham investigation by **Mueller** and his complicit (colluding) media has been portrayed as **Mueller Madness** by the *New York Post*.



So where do we go from here? First of all, we need to acknowledge that there was a **failed coup** to unseat a duly elected president in **2016** by numerous **bad actors** in our institutionalized **Deep State**, **Fourth Estate** and the **zeitgeist** of late night shows, academy award shows and endless echo chambers in Twitterland. Public discourse is good, but not in the age of show biz and thought-shaping by our deceptive media that has produced the matrix of an **illusionary truth effect**. This bias has now been fully exposed. **Second**, and most importantly, all of the criminal bad actors in the **FBI, CIA, NSA** and others should be rounded up and charged with treason, as noted in **the following clip**:

Greg Hunter: Ex-CIA Kevin Shipp Declares War on the Deep Left

The above interview is recommended if you have time. Shipp and his family have been harassed, *poisoned* and threaten by the **CIA** for many years and live in seclusion for speaking the truth. The only "collusion" (conspiracy) in **mid-2016** was the **FBI** launch of **Operation Crossfire Hurricane** to attack **Donald Trump**, and you can read all about it at [THIS LINK](#). The **Mueller Report** cleared **The Donald** of collusion with **Russia**, and **Attorney General Bill Barr** later charged the **Democrats** with spying. **The above link** concludes, "Now that the shoe is on the other foot, and key Democrats backing away from talks of impeachment, let's see if **lady justice** will follow the rest of us down the **rabbit hole**." And what a rabbit hole it is! Below is a sampling of the **bad actors** to go after.

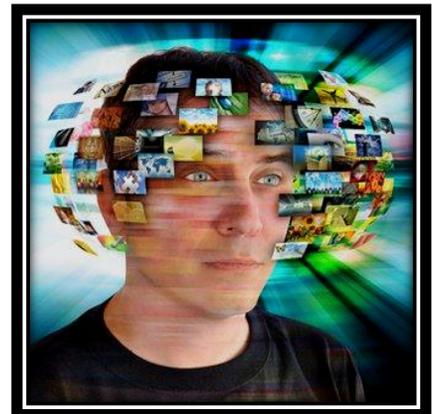


According to [THIS report on zerohedge](#), the **President** immediately went on the offense to investigate the investigators (13 of 19 were Democrats), and all of the above. **Michael Horowitz** was the Inspector General of the **DOJ**, and released a report in **2019** that included criminal charges going all the way back to the **Obama White House**! According to **Philip Giraldi, Sen. John McCain** handled the fake **FISA** dossier to **James Clapper**, who stated in 2016, "If it weren't for **President Obama**, we might not have done the intelligence community assessment that we did that set off a whole sequence of events which are still unfolding today, notably, special counsel **Mueller's** investigation." How's that for *damning evidence* of collusion? And this most certainly includes **Obama's** chief advisor in the West Wing - the smiling **Valerie Jarrett**. Even her book appears to be *a fraud* when it comes to popularity! The *NY Times* ranks it **14th**, but Amazon ranks it **3,600** with a handful of 2-star reviews complaining how incoherent it is. Read more [HERE](#). The always feisty US Attorney **Joe DiGenova** has stated that a new investigation will lead all the way back to **Obama**, **Valerie Jarrett** and all of their people. This **15-minute interview** is well worth a listen:

WMAL Interview with Joe DiGenova: Obama is Going to Look Bad

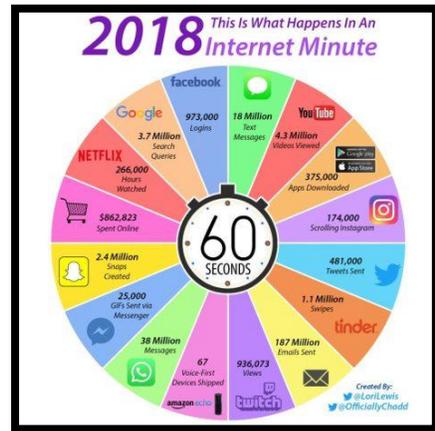
[CIA-Operation Crossfire Hurricane is now a Crossfire Hurricane Boomerang!](#) James Kunstler [says](#) the **Mueller** sham investigation has backfired and "is being revealed daily as a mendacious fraud with criminal overtones running clear through **Democratic ranks** beyond even the wicked **Hillary Clinton** to [the sainted former president Obama](#)." He adds how sick the public is of all this (as I am), "But it's no exaggeration to say that this is the worst and most tangled scandal that the **US** government has ever seen, and that failing to resolve it successfully really is an existential threat to the project of being a **Republic**. I was a young newspaper reporter during **Watergate** and that was like a game of animal lotto compared to this [garbage barge of malfeasance](#)." The shameful manner in which the **Fourth Estate** has peddled an illusionary dream world of **fake news** must be held to account. [Writing](#) for the liberal *Rolling Stone*, **Matt Taibbi** compares **Russiagate** to the media deception leading up to the **Iraqi War** and even says that "**Russiagate** is this generation's **WMD**." Veteran journalist **Patrick Buchanan** declares **Russiagate** to be a "bright shining lie" and [many crimes have been committed](#). **Devin Nunes** (R-CA) and the House Intelligence Committee has launched a [full investigation](#), and this barge of malfeasance floating in the **DC** swamp will soon be grounded, and we can only hope and pray that it will be judicially and successfully resolved against a boatload of swamp creatures. [But all of this raises an important question](#). Why is there so much lying, cheating, treachery, deception and evil today? The *spirit of our times* can be traced back to **faulty worldviews** that are producing all of the bad fruit we are seeing. Our media-based epistemology is just a reflection of our society. It reinforces **Group Think** in the midst of a **submissive void**. This is something that deserves our attention!

Existentialism & the *Epistemological Matrix*



[So what is epistemology?](#) It is "[a branch of philosophy that investigates the origin, nature, methods, and limits of human knowledge....how do we know what we know?](#)" This philosophical pursuit is *ultimately* a **theological inquiry** that I will deal with in my concluding arguments. I love this topic because it fundamentally addresses **Life's Three Big Questions** that I also address in my book. As I mentioned earlier (p. 3), the **CIA** launched **Operation Mockingbird** in the **1950s**, but that was when **TV** was limited to just a few outlets and liberal publications. [This is clearly not the case today](#). As **Neil Postman** warned back in **1985**, **TV** has "altered the meaning of being informed" and it "creates the illusion of knowing something." The sheer volume of communication sources is making it very difficult to sort out the truth in our electronic echo chambers. In **1970**, Futurist **Alvin Toffler** wrote *Future Shock*, and also warned that our society would suffer from "[Information Overload](#)" as **depicted above**. The **Information Age** has arrived and is related to **Moore's Law**. In **1965**, **Gordon Moore** (CEO of Intel) predicted that computing power would *double* every two years...and it has. As noted [HERE](#), this "has led to the modernization of information and communication processes becoming the driving force of *social evolution*." Is this **social evolution** a good thing? **No, it is not.**

Just think about it. We live in an age in which information, research, news and data can be accessed immediately, yet people *are pathetically dumbed-down!* [A study](#) at Technical University in **Denmark** found that all of this content "exhausts our attention and our urge for 'newness' causes us to collectively switch between topics more rapidly." **In other words**, we are living in the instantaneous by constantly clicking and surfing with little time for pause and reflection. This has radically altered the meaning of being informed or being a wise person. **This chart depicts what happens in an Internet minute:**



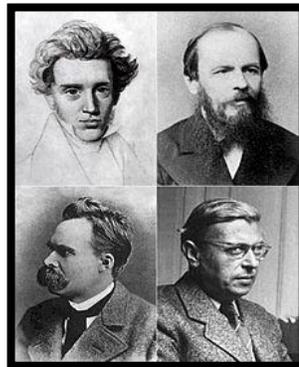
Mind boggling isn't it? Is it any wonder that the **giant tech stocks** have been *the major growth factor* on Wall Street? This is what **social evolution** looks like. As **Sven Henrich** has [recently written](#), "Everybody is distracted. Everybody's focused on *the outrage of the day*, in shorter and shorter increments. Details are lost or ignored. Subject matter expertise is becoming tweet deep. Everybody has expert opinions on issues they know little about. For a day or two. Soon for an hour or two?" This is precisely what **Toffler** predicted almost **fifty years** ago. He predicted that this **information overload** would cause people to *become passive* (a submissive void) and simple *follow the herd* (Group Think). This is why the **Matrix Movie trilogy** is the perfect depiction, or metaphor, for our times.



In early 1999, the **Wachowski** brothers (now [trans-gender sisters](#)) introduced **The Matrix** science fiction film with some amazing special effects. The [major movie theme](#) involves **Neo** (Keanu Reeves) who is a computer hacker who discovers a mysterious reference to "the Matrix" online. He finally meets **Morpheus** who offers **Neo** a choice to take **the blue pill** (to keep living in an illusionary dream world), or take **the red pill** (and wake up to the reality that this world is *a sophisticated computer simulation or virtual reality*). **Morpheus** explains that "the **Matrix** is everywhere...it is the world that has been pulled over your eyes to blind you from the truth....that you are a slave, Neo." Our hero takes **the red pill** and becomes a **Messiah** figure to free, or save, the human race. **The Matrix** is essentially the social evolution of **artificial intelligence** (AI) that eventually enslaves all humanity, and even uses human life as an energy source to maintain **their evil control**. The film script has many allusions to **religious and philosophical** ideas like Buddhism, Christianity, Marxism, Existentialism, Nihilism and Postmodernism. These are all important topics that I will be covering in this **special report**.

It would appear that the Wachowskis were heavily influenced by Eastern mysticism. Buddhism teaches that the world around us is "maya" or an illusion of reality. **Buddha** means "one who is awake" and the goal is to get off the karmic wheel of reincarnation (samsara) and reach enlightenment (moksha) and ultimately the point of **nirvana** (literally being blown out or extinguished). It is this fatalistic worldview that **Neo** is introduced as a savior in a **futuristic/technocratic society**. It also appears that some **Millennials** have bought into an epistemological/mystical matrix to help explain the complexities of our human existence. **Rizwan Virk** is a computer scientist (from an Eastern religious background) that has written *The Simulation Hypothesis: An MIT Computer Scientist Shows Why AI, Quantum Physics and Eastern Mystics All Agree We Are In a Video Game*. In [THIS](#) article and [THIS](#) article he supports his view that we are *actually* living in the **Matrix**. Some very kooky stuff.

This inquiry into epistemology is not new. In the 3rd century, **Plato** (a student of Socrates), pondered the limits of knowledge and *how we know what we know* in his famous allegory of [The Cave](#) (*The Republic, Book VII*). In this dialogue he features **prisoners chained to a wall** in a cave and the fire behind them **casts shadows**, which they interpret as **reality** through their senses. At some point, they (meaning philosophers) are freed and not only recognize fire, but **the sun**. As in the **Matrix**, the major problem with mankind is **ignorance** (not sin), and the **Greeks** would go on to create the schools of [Gnosticism](#) (esoteric knowledge) that exalted human reason. Deep down, mankind knows that there is an **invisible world** out there (Eccl. 3:11). "For the things that are seen are temporal, but the things that are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor. 4:18). "For now we see in a mirror darkly..." (1 Cor. 13:12).



Francis Bacon was an English philosopher who stressed that knowledge only comes from sensory experience (empiricism). He said, "A little philosophy inclineth man's mind to **atheism**, but depth in philosophy bringeth men's minds about to **religion**." Indeed it does, but modern philosophers have rejected **God**, and this non-theistic worldview only leads to despair and existentialism. [Existentialism](#) is a **20th century** philosophy that is focused on the analysis of **human existence** and the effort to find **meaning and purpose**. Thinkers here include Kierkegaard, Nietzsche, Camus and Sartre. **As noted above**, mankind has always been confronted with our place in this vast universe (Ps. 8). It is asking, what is the meaning of life? In response, [THIS](#) writer insists, that we need a **theistic worldview**:

"This has been the ultimate question since the beginning of mankind. It seems inherent in our nature to ask questions such as, Where did we come from? How did I get here? What's my purpose on earth? Where do I go when I die? What is the meaning of all this? ... Through the teaching of evolutionary science, materialism and moral relativism in our popular media and public school system, we've removed God from the potential answers to these ultimate questions of life. Without God, we lose any transcendent purpose for the universe in which we live. Without God, we lose any transcendent purpose to give meaning to our individual lives. We are nothing more than bugs struggling with survival until we die. All the achievements, the sacrifices, the good and beautiful efforts of people, the ugly and dark acts of people, are ultimately futile things of life."

If we are just evolutionary bugs struggling with survival until we die then everything is futile! It is that line from Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. "Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player that struts and frets his hour upon the stage, and then is heard no more; it is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing." In other words, **modern life has no real purpose or meaning**, and this is the predominant **secular humanist worldview** that is afflicting us today. The **epistemological matrix** today (the limits of human knowledge) is being confined to a *naturalistic Darwinian* explanation of all life on planet earth - and this is a **faulty worldview** that I will cover later in this report.

It should be further noted that an **existentialist** can be either a *religious* or *atheist/agnostic* philosopher when it comes to questioning the meaning of life. For example, **Soren Kierkegaard** was raised in a religious family (Lutheran), and he was a prolific writer on the subject of our mortal existence. In his earliest work entitled *Either/Or* (1843), he suggested that people can live in "two spheres" and he called these spheres the **aesthetic** and **ethical**. In the **aesthetic** we live our lives in pursuit of carnal pleasures, and in the **ethical** we have a sense to "observe societal and confessional obligations." And by this he was referring to social mores and conscience. Do you see how **worldviews** really matter? On the other hand, **Friedrich Nietzsche** (1844-1900), was an atheist and his ideology has produced the philosophy of **nihilism** and **postmodernism** that we see today in our **culture wars**.

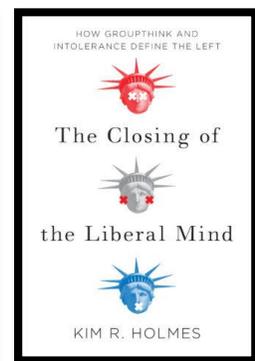
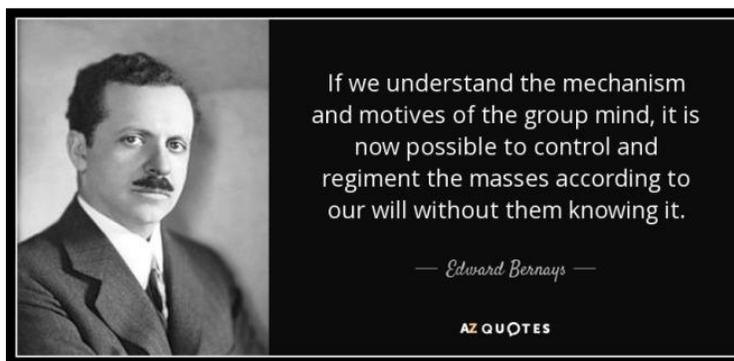
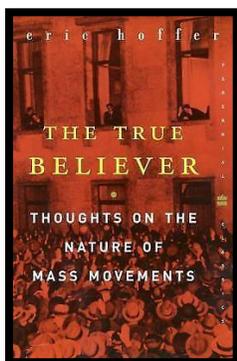
Culture Wars & Postmodernism Contradictions!



Nietzsche is most often associated with nihilism, which in Latin means *nothing*. In his book *The Will to Power* he wrote, "Every belief is necessarily false because there is simply no true world." How's that for a faulty worldview? **Nihilists** are *terribly conflicted* because they insist there are no absolutes, but that is *an absolute statement!*? They **preach tolerance** while beating you with their **tolerance sign** (above). Epistemology and nihilism are closely related. **Epistemological nihilism** denies the possibility of knowledge or truth and is extremely skeptical (the death of God). **Political nihilism** advocates the destruction of all existing political, social and religious orders to make any improvement (unless they don't like the new order). **Ethical nihilism** rejects any absolute ethical or moral values (except theirs). I will address this transcendent issue in a **later section**.

Nihilism is an expression of deep *anguish, confusion and despair* because everything is meaningless. As for **Nietzsche**, his own worldview drove him insane, and he died in his **50s** in a German insane asylum in **1900**. You have probably heard the term "**postmodernism**," and it is a close cousin to nihilism. Postmodern thought rose in the post-WWII era and is now embraced by most of the children of the **baby boomers**. It is a **rejection of traditional values** like those found in early **black & white TV shows** (the modern family unit and lifestyle). It stresses moral relativism, no absolutes, inclusion, evolution, collectivist/progressive ideology, environmentalism, feminism, abortion, pagan spirituality, transgenderism, gay rights, pacifism, social justice, free stuff and just about anything else.

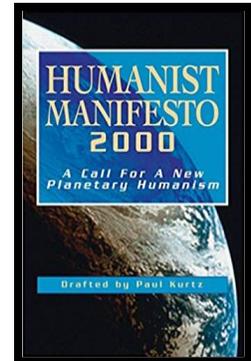
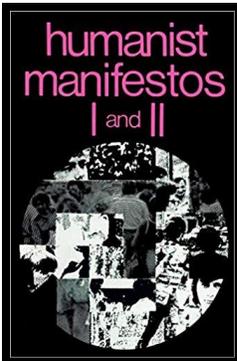
A postmodern worldview is hostile to Christianity. A recent Gallup Poll indicates the **33%** of Millennials have no religion. A General Social Survey reveals that Protestant Christianity has declined **62%** since **1982**, and atheism has increased **266%** since **1991**. Notice the demographics of these age groups. Our society is becoming increasingly not just post-Christian, but *anti-Christian*. **Apologist Randall Niles** says our culture wars "are between traditional American values like belief in God, the Bible, universal moral standards, sanctity of life, family values, marriage between a man and a woman, Christian founding of America, and historic truth, **and the opposite values**, including denial of God, belief in biological evolution, rejection of the Bible, faith in a relative moral code, abortion on demand, abolishing traditional family values, abolishing marriage as between a man and a woman, and denying our Christian heritage." **Postmodernism dominates at the college and university level!** He adds, "Today's **students** enter a world of runaway biotechnology, postmodern social constructions of gender, virtual online identities, family redefinition, distorted understandings of beauty, and multiple sexual orientations, each of which fundamentally challenge our concept of humanness. Further, our culture has largely embraced Darwin, trivialized Scripture, and relativized truth, and has therefore left few stable resources to negotiate this **corporate identity crisis.**" This identity crisis is by design. **John Dewey** is the father of modern education (and signer of the *Humanist Manifesto* in 1933). In *The Humanist* magazine in **1983**, **John Dunphy** wrote, "The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and the new -- the rotting corpse of **Christianity**, together with its adjacent evils and misery, and the new faith of humanism." This is ultimately a **spiritual battle** as we will see.



Edward Bernays (cousin of Sigmund Freud) wrote *Propaganda* in **1928** and "described the masses as irrational and subject to herd instinct" and how social engineers could use crowd psychology to form **Group Think**. Perhaps **Hitler** had a copy? The subtitle of the **book on the right** reads, *How Group Think and Intolerance Define the Left*. Clear enough I would say. The Progressive-Humanist-Left is captive to the **epistemological matrix** of their own existential/postmodern worldview. In **1951**, **Eric Hoffer** wrote *The True Believer* and it is almost *the text book* for all sociology classes in America. In fact, **Hillary Clinton** had all of her staff read a copy. A former college history professor recently described how modern education is "a form of social control" or a **zombie education**. This generation is lost and has no critical thinking at all. It was **Italian Marxist Antonio Gramsci** (1891-1937) who insisted that the way to "fundamentally transform" society was to change the culture - he called it "the long march through the culture" - and by this he meant education, politics, religion and so on. For the first time in history, the **US** has a presidential candidate *who is openly gay*, **Pete Buttigieg**. He is the only child of **Joseph Buttigieg** who was a Marxist professor at **Notre Dame** (in literature) and also the founder and president of **The International Gramsci Society** to promote this radical transformation! **Read** more about it HERE. In a demonstration of faulty worldviews, the young **Mayor Pete** even refers to himself as a "Gay Christian" that is condemned in both the **Old and New Testament** (Gen. 19:1-13, Lev. 18:22, Rom, 1:26-27, 1 Cor. 6:9). Moral relativism is not a Biblical doctrine.

In the book of Judges we read, "In those days there was no king in Israel; *everyone did what was right in his own eyes*" (Jud. 21:25). This pretty much sums up where we are today. **Postmodernism** seems to be an **ancient problem**, and it is full of contradictions. The typical **nihilist/postmodernist** says that all truth is relative (except their particular truth). This liberal perspective embraces **Socialism** while they are wearing designer jeans and have expensive iPhones. They call you a **Fascist** while they advocate government control of the private sector. They want **gun control** while they have body guards. They want to fight **global warming** as they fly around in private jets. And on it goes.....

To summarize, the masses are trapped in an **epistemological matrix** of the **Information Age** that is pushing *social evolution* into an existential-nihilistic-postmodern worldview. People have taken the **blue pill** and live in an *illusionary dream world* with no real meaning or purpose in the universe. **The Bible** describes these kind of people as "...having no hope and without **God** in the world" (Eph. 2:12). In **1933**, the Humanist Manifesto was drafted by **Roy Sellers** (evolutionist) and **Rev. Ray Bragg** (Unitarian minister). In this document, humanists reject **God**, but they still want to assign meaning and purpose to human life. We read, "Humanism differs from the more extreme philosophy of **nihilism**, in that life can have a meaning if we assign a meaning to it. **FIRST:** Religious humanists regard the universe as self-existing and not created. **SECOND:** Humanism believes that man is a part of nature and that he has emerged as a result of a continuous process. **THIRD:** Holding an organic view of life, humanists find that the traditional dualism of mind and body must be rejected." **Notice** how these are even "religious humanist," but the traditional use of that term is a contradiction.

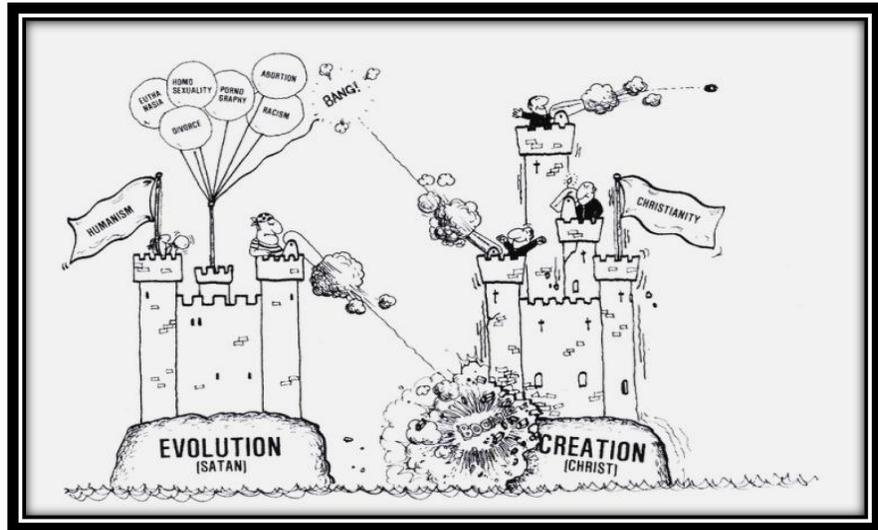
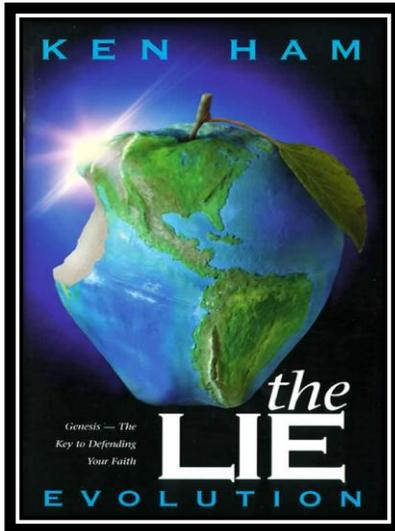


In **1973**, the **Humanist Manifesto II** was drafted by **Paul Kurtz** and this was followed by his book *Humanist Manifesto 2000* in **2003**. Below is a quote that promotes **human reason and Darwinism**.

"Humanist Manifesto 2000 is formulated in the conviction that science, reason, democracy, education, and humanist values can enhance human progress. Drawing on the achievements of modernity - the success of scientific medicine, the overall improvement of public health, the Green Revolution, the conveniences of a consumer society, global communication and transportation, increased understanding of the natural world, and many others - the planetary humanism that this manifesto presents seeks to transcend the negativity of postmodernism and looks forward to the Information Age now upon us."

Notable humanists like B. F. Skinner, Carl Rogers and Abraham Maslow created Third Force Psychology that stressed the *goodness of mankind* and the need for *self-actualization* to be **happy**. They want to transcend the negativity of **nihilism and postmodernism**, but their faulty worldview still leads to despair, anxiety and futility. As noted in the **1933** version above, humanists reject traditional dualism that believes in an immortal soul. All of this stands in sharp contrast to a **Theistic/Biblical worldview** that we shall now cover. I also encourage you to watch this SHORT CLIP on **humanism**.

A Theistic/Biblical Worldview & Epistemology



*"We find insufficient evidence for the belief in the existence of a supernatural...we can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species. While there is much that we do not know, humans are responsible for what we are or will become. No deity will save us; we must save ourselves." - **Humanist Manifesto II***

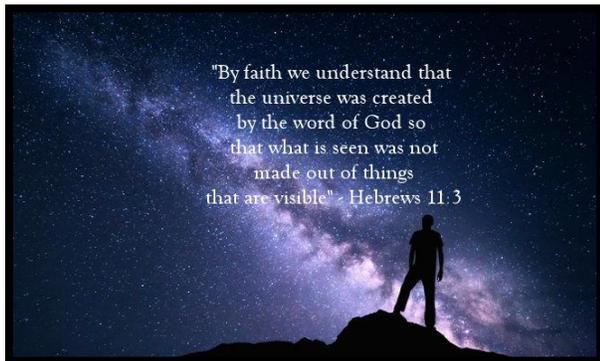
The above quote reveals the hostility that humanists have towards a theistic worldview. Religious humanists affirm that "the universe as self-existing and not created" and the *complexities* of all human life is just "part of nature." In his book, *The Lie*, **Ken Ham** points out that humanism does involve **religious dogma**. It is not creation against evolution. "In both instances we are talking about beliefs, that is, religion. The controversy is not religion versus **science**...*It is religion versus religion.*" As I have stated, **epistemology** is about how we know what we know, and these beliefs form a 'religious' perspective on life. Humanists admit there is much that they "do not know," but they are *absolutely certain* that there is no **God** - and this The Lie. "The heavens are telling of the glory of God" (Ps. 19:1). "It is **I** who created the earth, and created man upon it. **I** stretched out the heavens with **My** hands, and **I** ordained all their host" (Is. 45:18). A Darwinian-Humanist-Postmodern worldview is what produces all the **bad fruit** we see in society. **The cartoon above** is from **Ham's** book and depicts the **spiritual battle** between good and evil. The evolutionary foundation results in host of moral issues (balloons). **Christians** often aim at the moral issues, but not the foundation! Meanwhile, the **Devil** is always attacking the creationist foundation. **Jesus** said, "you can't bring good fruit out of a **bad tree**" (Mt. 7:18). Unfortunately, the classrooms today are strictly confined to the teaching of *naturalistic Darwinism*. Here again is a good example of the "**illusionary truth effect**" based on repetition and a *confirmation bias* among the masses (Group Think). But the theory of evolution is just that, *a theory*. Even worse, it is a monumental and deliberate hoax! In 1954, **George Wald**, a Harvard biochemist and Nobel Laureate wrote an article in the *Scientific American* entitled **The Origin of Life**. He said:

"When it comes to the origin of life there are only two possibilities: creation or spontaneous generation. There is no third way. Spontaneous generation was disproved one hundred years ago, but that leads us to only one other conclusion, that of supernatural creation. We cannot accept that on philosophical grounds; therefore, we choose to believe the impossible: that life arose spontaneously by chance!"

Folks, this is not science! This is an extreme case of prejudice and irrational faith in the impossible!

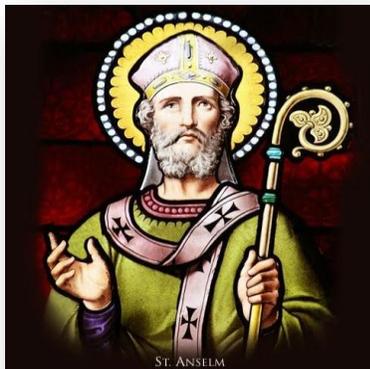
When **Professor Wald** says that he cannot accept "supernatural creation" based on "philosophical grounds," what he really means, is that he *cannot accept a transcendent non-contingent Creator based on moral grounds*. The secular humanist does not want to investigate the sufficient evidence for the existence of **God**. This is not an intellectual issue. It is a moral issue. **Jesus** said that **He** did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. "And this is the judgment; that the **Light** has come into the world, *and men loved the darkness rather than the light, for their deeds were evil*" (Jn. 3:17-20). In a demonstration of this, the late **Dr. D. James Kennedy** tells about an interview with **Aldous Huxley**, the most prominent evolutionist of his time. Asked why he thought **Darwinism** became accepted so quickly he didn't provide a scientific answer. "He stated that belief in Darwinian evolution *allowed us to follow our sexual mores*." As **Kierkegaard** pointed out (p. 9), people live in the "two spheres" of the **aesthetic** and the **ethical**. This is a universal phenomenon that is more than sufficient to prove the existence of **God**, that we shall see in a moment. The postmodern, secular humanist, existentialist, nihilistic person instinctively favors a **non-theistic worldview**, or **weltgeist**. This is a German term that means "world-spirit" in "the sense of secularism, impiety or irreligiosity." And the **philosophical weltgeist** that prevails in the world today (*spiritus mundi*) is wholly inadequate to answer **Life's Three Big Questions** that have challenged mankind since the beginning of time. **And they are as follows:**

Where Did I Come From? Why Am I Here? Where Am I Going?



From a naturalistic & humanist worldview: We have all come from **spontaneous generation** in a chemical soup; we are all here to *fulfill our lusts and exploit other life forms* (survival of the fittest); and **when you die** "there is no credible evidence that life survives the death of the body" (*Humanist Manifesto D*). It is in this **fatalistic worldview** that a *philosophical weltgeist* tries to "assign" meaning to life by being **good, happy and self-actualized**...whatever that means? This is the tragic condition that humanity is in "...having no hope and without **God** in the world" (Eph. 2:12). As I have quoted earlier (p. 8), "Through the **teaching of evolutionary science**, materialism and **moral relativism** in our popular media and public school system, we have removed **God** from the potential answers to **these ultimate questions of life**. Without **God**, we lose any transcendent purpose for the universe in which we live. Without **God**, we lose any transcendent purpose to give meaning to our individual lives." **This writer is right.** In contrast to fatalistic ideologies a **Theistic/Biblical worldview** offers a completely satisfying answer to the big questions of life. **God's** handiwork can clearly be seen in the physical creation (**natural revelation**), and is elegantly revealed in the **Genesis** account (**special revelation**). As we **read above**, "the universe was created by the word of **God**" (*divine fiat*). Because **God** created the universe (and earth), **we know where we came from.** "It is **He** who made us, and not we ourselves" (Ps. 100:3). **We are here to know Him through His Son,** who is "the exact representation of **His** nature" (Heb. 1:3). **And we can know where we are going** by having faith in the **Son of God** for the forgiveness of sins, and have eternal life (Jn. 3:16). "He who has the **Son** has the life, he who does not have the **Son**, *does not have the life*" (1 Jn. 5:12). And it is simple as that.

Our Professor Wald is typical of the *weltgeist* that influences the scientific field today. But he is correct when he makes a propositional statement that "when it comes to the origin of life there are only two possibilities" of **divine creation or evolution**, and "there is no third way." Get that? **There is no third way.** Liberal theologians try to accommodate **Darwinism** with theistic evolution, and it is very unfortunate that the **Catholic Church** does not have a definitive position on the issue of creation and evolution, and generally favors Darwinism! In the **1950 encyclical *Humani generis***, Pope Pius XII confirmed that there is *no intrinsic conflict* between Christianity and the *theory* of evolution. Later in **1996, Pope John Paul** restated that "my predecessor **Pius XII** has already affirmed that there is no conflict between the *theory* of evolution and the doctrine of the faith regarding man and his vocation." More recently in **2004, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger** said, "Converging evidence from many studies in the physical and biological sciences furnishes mounting support for *some theory of evolution* to account for the development and diversification of life on earth." When Joseph became the Bishop of Rome in **2007**, he changed his name to **Pope Benedict XVI**, later that year he outright dismissed the **Genesis** account of **creation** and stated "there are so many *scientific proofs in favor of evolution* which appears to be a reality we can see and which enriches our knowledge of life and being as such." In late **2014, Pope Francis** issued a statement at the **Pontifical Academy of Sciences** and he repeated the heretical statement that "evolution in nature is *not inconsistent* with the notion of creation." The **Vatican** affirms the existence of **God**, but has foolishly gone along with *the spirit of the age* (*zeitgeist*) by accommodating the theory of evolution. The evolutionary process *requires death*, but death only appears *after Adam* sinned! "Through one man [Adam] sin entered into the world...so death spread to all men" (Rom. 5:12). This is the **Biblical** account, and it is also why **Jesus** is called the "last **Adam**" because He "tasted death" for every man when **He** died on the cross and now offers eternal life (1 Cor. 15:45, Heb. 2:9). Let us now explore how man is created in the image of **God** and some valid proofs for the existence of **God**. Our journey begins with **ontology, phenomenology and dualism**.



- 1. It is true by definition that *God* is a being than which none greater can be imagined.**
- 2. *God* exists as an idea in the mind.**
- 3. A being that *exists in the mind and in reality* is greater than a being that exists only in the mind.**
- 4. If *God* exists only in the mind, then we can imagine something greater than *God*.**
- 5. But we cannot imagine something that is *greater than God* - a being greater than the greatest possible being.**
- 6. Therefore, *God* exists both in mind and in reality.**

The Ontological Argument. What is the ontological argument? In the **10th** century, **Anselm of Canterbury** contemplated **ontology** (study of being or what is), and proposed his famous argument for **God's** existence. He defined **God** as the *greatest* conceivable Being - a Being who is **omniscient, omnipotent and omnipresent** in the universe. If **He** *only* existed in our mind, we could conceive a Being *higher*, but that is impossible, thus *God* exists in reality. You can see his reasoning **above**. Is this a coherent argument for **God's** existence? **Dr. William Lane Craig** is a recognized authority in the area of **philosophical debate** and **Christian apologetics**, and he says yes. You can listen to his concise response in **THIS** two-minute clip, of better yet, watch this profound **four-minute clip** below:

St. Anselm of Canterbury: The Ontological Argument Explained

Phenomenology. This is a study of "that which appears" and the structures of experience and human consciousness. Although related to **ontology and epistemology**, it has more to do with perception, thought, memory, imagination, emotion, desire, volition and awareness. It is how we *perceive things*. One writer said it is coming out of **Plato's Cave** of shadows (matrix) and into **real experiences** through our senses (p. 8). The philosophers who influenced this branch of philosophy are **Edmund Husserl**, Martin Heidegger, Emmanuel Kant and others. They also stressed how humans speak in "**the first person**" when we say *I think, I see, I feel, I hear, I am* and so on, and this suggests self-awareness, consciousness and intentionality. It is form of **self-talk** that we all experience because we are made in the image of **God** (*image deo*). It was **French** philosopher **Rene Descartes** who said, "I think, *therefore I am* (*cogito, ergo sum*)." This is an existential term that touches on the sacred name of **God** in the Old Testament. **In Exodus 3:14** (prior to the exodus out of **Egypt** in **1446 BC**, as depicted in the classic 1956 film [The Ten Commandments](#)), **Moses** asks **God** to tell him **His** name. "And **God** said to **Moses**, **I AM WHO I AM**; and thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, **I AM** has sent me to you." This term, **I AM**, in **Hebrew** is **YHWH**, and these **four letters**, are known as the "**tetragrammaton**" (**Greek**: literally, consisting of four letters). We are faced with the phenomena of **phenomenology** because we *cannot escape the fact* that we have all been created by a **transcendent non-contingent Creator** of the universe, who says **I AM**, and we also say *I am!* This is a very deep mystery that we must investigate, and it has everything to do with **Dualism**, our next topic.

Dualism. What is dualism? This is the observation that **the mind and body** are distinct and separable. **Descartes** was the first to distinguish the **mind-brain** phenomenon. He identified the mind with consciousness and self-awareness and this is distinguished from the **physical brain** in our body. Theologians refer to the **mind** (spirit) as man's **immaterial nature** (soul) that survives physical death. This **dichotomous** view stands in contrast to the humanist/atheist view that we are strictly matter acting upon matter in the universe. This materialistic view of anthropology is known as **monism**, and fails to address the philosophical issue of **dualism**. In [THIS](#) two-minute clip, **Randy Niles** compares the dual nature of man as it relates to our mind and brain. If we have simply evolved from lower life forms, what can account for this universal instinct? A study done at **Oxford University Centre of Anthropology and Mind** found "that people across different cultures instinctively believed that some part of their mind, soul or spirit lived on after death." Again, what can account for this?



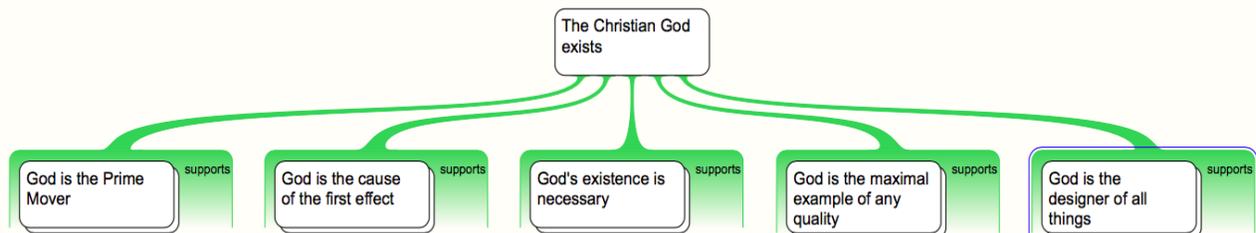
Several Christian theologians hold a **trichotomous view of man** that he is body, soul and spirit based on select passages of Scripture (1 Th. 5:23, Heb. 4:12, 1 Cor. 14:15). The major problem with this view is that both **soul and spirit** are used *interchangeably* throughout Scripture. **Mary** said, "My soul exalts the Lord, and my spirit has rejoiced in **God**" (Lk. 1:46). **Jesus** referred to both His soul and spirit as the same (Jn. 12:27, 13:21). In Genesis, **God** said, "Let Us make man in Our image" and "man became a living being" (Gen. 1:26, 2:7). The **dichotomous view of man's** immaterial and material constitution is what forms our unique personalities. "As a man thinks within himself, so is he" (Pro. 23:7). Many have suggested that the **spirit** (mind) influences our **soul** (personality). And **the Great Command** is "...to love God with all your **heart, soul, mind** and strength" (Mk. 12:30). We are to love this **transcendent non-contingent Creator**, who *necessarily exists*, with our whole person.

FIVE WAYS TO PROVE GOD'S EXISTENCE BY ST. THOMAS AQUINAS

Within a Theistic/Biblical worldview, we now turn our attention to some even **deeper topics** (rabbit holes) that are meant to confront a *naturalistic Darwinian* explanation of life on this **very special planet**, that even the *most skeptical* secular humanist, atheist, postmodern existential nihilist has to reason with. So far, we've looked at **ontology**, and the metaphysics of **phenomenology and dualism**, and these all point to a **cosmological argument** for the existence of **God as our Creator**.

So what is the cosmological argument? In **natural theology**, the cosmological argument for the existence of **God** is rather compelling and concerns itself with **motion, causation and contingency**. This is an observation that **things exist** (the universe) and there cannot be an infinite number of causes that go back into time forever. There had to be an *uncaused* cause, and the **Greeks** referred to this as the **Unmoved Mover**. **St. Thomas Aquinas** (1224-1274) incorporated these arguments into his famous "**Five Ways**" (*Summa Theologia*) from **Plato** (*Laws*) and **Aristotle** (*Physics*) known as Neoplatonism. **Aquinas** expanded on the **cosmological argument** to include the **Biblical** argument from **design** (telological) and **moral** distinctions about good and bad that all point to our **Creator**.

The Five Biblical Ways to Prove That God Exists



1. Argument from Motion. The classic argument from **motion** is grounded in pure logic and reason. **Aquinas** argued that "things in motion and "whatever is in motion must be put in motion by another" and "this *cannot go on to infinity*, because then there would be no first mover." This Unmoved Mover is God. We read, "**In the beginning** (time), **God created** the heavens (space) and the earth (matter)" (Genesis 1:1). **God** is the *Prime Mover* in all of creation, and **He** declares, "For My hand made all these things, thus all these things came into being, declares the **Lord**. But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word" (Is. 66:1-2). This is a majestic passage, and I wanted to *underline* the last part. The **God** revealed in **His** Word is not only all-powerful, but compassionate toward those created in **His** image. "He is mindful that we are but dust" (Ps. 103:14). The **secular humanist** has no answer for the Big Bang, but the argument from motion points to **God's omnipotence**. The oldest book in the **Bible**, Job says, "If it is a matter of power, *behold He is the strong one!*" (Job 9:19). "He rules by His power forever" (Ps. 66:7).

2. Argument from Causation. Closely following the argument from motion is the **law of cause and effect**, and it has already been **stated above** that there cannot be an infinite number of **efficient causes** going back to infinity. This is a [powerful argument](#) and I will let **Thomas Aquinas** explain:

"In the world of sense we find there is an order of efficient causes. There is no case known (neither is it, indeed, possible) in which a thing is found to be the efficient cause of itself; for so it would be prior to itself, which is impossible.....But if in efficient causes it is possible to go on to infinity, there will be no first efficient cause, neither will there be an ultimate effect, nor any intermediate efficient causes; all of which is plainly false. Therefore it is necessary to admit a first efficient cause, to which everyone gives the name of God."

The argument from **causation** can be [further demonstrated](#) in the following syllogism:

- **Whatever begins to exist has a cause;**
- **The universe began to exist;**
- **Therefore: an uncaused Creator of the universe exists.**

[This, of course, raises an objection from the humanist/atheist of who created God in the first place!](#)



The **Biblical** answer is that time, space and matter had a beginning. **But God** has no beginning or end. **He** calls **Himself** the "Alpha and the Omega" (Is. 44:6, Rev. 22:13). He is the **Eternal One**. **Moses** said, "From everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God" (Ps. 90:1). As **God** revealed to **Moses**, **He** is the great **I AM** (the sacred tetragrammaton). This is a *self-existent term* that I will address a bit later.

[Two Minute Video with Randall Niles: So Who Created God?](#)

For further insight into this **rather deep ontological mystery**, I recommend you watch the **above short clip**. For the liberal humanist/atheist, they *are not* living with a coherent worldview. They are in *rebellion* against **God**. The **Bible** says, "Woe to the one who quarrels with his Maker" (Is. 45:9).

3. Argument from Contingency. This final argument from **cosmology** is my favorite, and is logically presented in the **following syllogism**. **Our God** is a **transcendent non-contingent Being**.

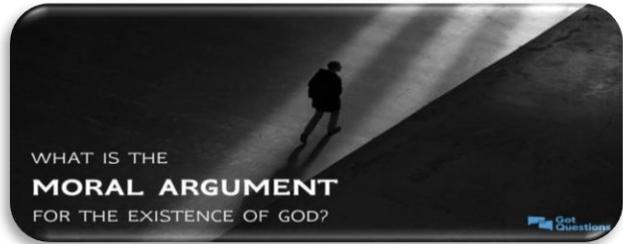
- **Every being that exists is either a dependent being, or a self-existent being.**
- **Not every being can be a dependent being.**
- **So there exists a non-contingent self-existent Being.**

Similar to the **ontological argument**, you can only push things back so far, right? **Aquinas** said, "Only God can be the source of all things, since He is a Being having its own necessity and does not need a pre-existing thing to cause Him to exist. All things existing can trace themselves in a chain back to God." **The angelic doctor** is right, and this also deals with **God's omnipresence**, that speaks of **His necessity**, "For the heavens, and the highest heavens, cannot contain Him" (2 Chr. 2:6). **King David** pleaded, "Where can I flee from Thy presence?" (Ps 139: 7). So, **God** has set things in *motion*, **He** is the **uncaused Creator** of the universe, and we are all *necessarily dependent* upon **Him** for our own existence; but the liberal **humanist/atheist** remains in *rebellion* against this empirical truth. Why is this? This universal and empirical insight leads to a **fourth argument** presented by **Aquinas**.

4. Argument from Goodness. As seen in our chart above, Aquinas stressed that God is "the maximal example of any quality." What does this mean? This employs some classical Greek thought by the neoplatonists, but it is an important insight into natural law, morality and ethics. Aquinas argued that God is the *greatest good* in the sense of being the source of all perfections:

"Some things are found to be more good, more true, more noble, and so on, and other things less. But comparative terms describe varying degrees of approximation to a superlative; for example, things are hotter and hotter the nearer they approach what is hottest.... There is something therefore which causes in all other things their being, their goodness, and whatever other perfections they have. And this we call God."

In the natural world we can see a graduation of things such as good, better and best. We all recognize beauty (otherwise, why do we even have beauty pageants?). We recognize good and bad, or good and evil. For the ancient Greeks, they equated good with *knowledge* and evil with *ignorance*, as Plato illustrated in *The Cave* (p. 8). From a Biblical perspective, Aquinas stressed God's moral perfections and our ideas of good and bad, or **right and wrong**. This is known as the moral argument for God's existence. He is our *transcendent objective standard* for moral values and duties.



What is the moral argument? The moral argument for the existence of God refers to the claim that God is needed to provide a coherent ontological foundation for the existence of objective moral values and duties. This moral and ethical argument can be summarized in the following syllogism:

- If God does not exist, then objective moral values and duties do not exist
- Objective moral values and duties do exist.
- Conclusion: Therefore, a morally perfect God exists.

Because man is made in God's moral and rational image, there is this **universal instinct** that we can distinguish between good and bad, and even *right and wrong*. This points to man's **dichotomist nature** of body (aesthetic) and soul (ethics) and the phenomenon of human consciousness and human conscience. There is a distinction between morals and ethics. It is **morally good** to save money, but it is **ethically wrong** to steal to save money. Ethics speaks to our **duties** as in the Ten Commandments or the **Golden Rule**. "Just as you want people to treat you," said Jesus, "treat them in the same manner" (Lk. 6:31). Dr. William Lane Craig illustrates the **Golden Rule** in THIS two-minute clip that proves that there is a perfect and transcendent God. In this clip, a student gets an **F** for a good paper on *moral relativism*, and then says it is **UNFAIR!** But, what is fair? What is unfair? As we saw earlier with **ethical nihilism** (and its cousin postmodernism) there are *no absolutes* in this secular humanist worldview. Recently at **Florida International University**, **Campus Reform** asked students if they would support a "socialist" policy of *distributing* higher grades (GPA) with students who have lower grades. The students all said it was UNFAIR! Of course, this was to illustrate that it is *morally and ethically wrong* to steal from others, as in **Socialism**. Crazy, and you can WATCH IT HERE. Moral relativism is a conflicted and non-coherent worldview. Only a **Theistic/Biblical worldview** provides the **red pill** to help people escape the **epistemological matrix** of abstract moral values and ethical behaviors.

Right & Wrong Really Does Exist *in a Moral Universe!*



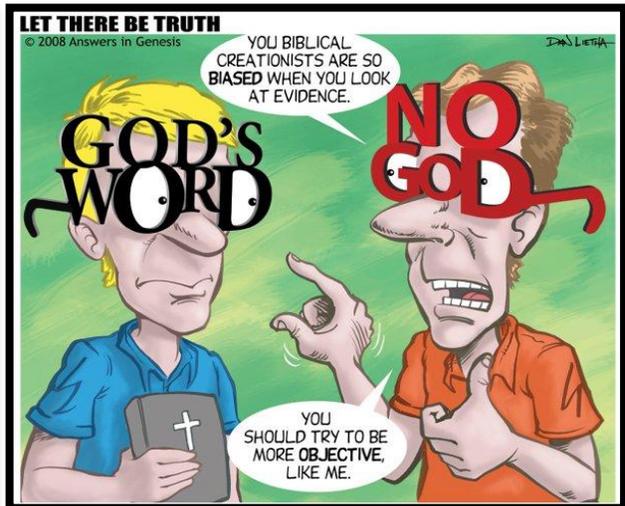
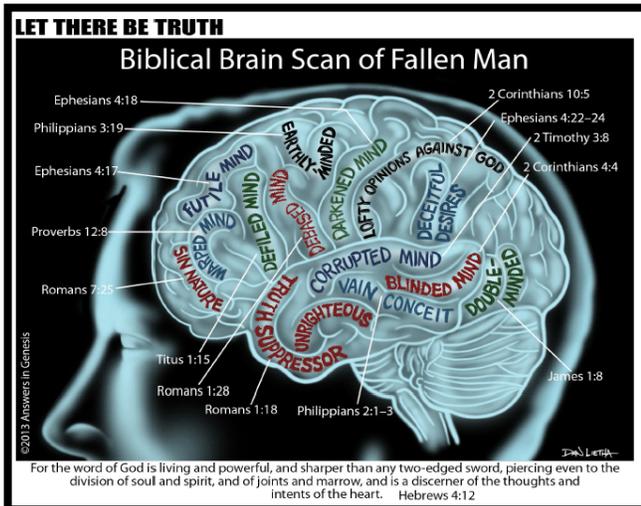
*"My argument against **God** was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line **crooked** unless he has some idea of a **straight line**. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust?"*

The moral argument speaks directly to our **culture wars** and all of the **postmodern contradictions**. Today's **social justice warriors** angrily (and violently) protest for justice, fairness, equality, rights, inclusion, diversity and so on. But where does this idea come from? What would be *just* or *fair* for a secular humanist? As **Christian** apologist and writer **C. S. Lewis** has stated above, how can we call something **crooked** (unjust) unless we have some idea of **something straight**? As presented in the **following five-minute clip**, it is *possible* that secular humanists can be "good without [believing in] a god," but the more penetrating question is; can we be good without God? **You can watch below:**

God is the Morally Perfect Standard for Human Moral Values

As you can quickly see in this video, it is *totally irrational* to argue that objective moral values and ethical duties **do not exist**. As noted, every time you say that something is **not fair, or wrong or an injustice** "...you affirm your belief in the existence of objective values." So, if you have not watched any other video clips, I urge you to watch this one. As I said earlier, we cannot escape the fact that we have all been created by a **transcendent non-contingent Creator** in a **moral universe**. **Aquinas** has provided the **right syllogism** to explain the existence of an objective standard. The ancients spoke of "**natural law**" in their discourses, but this was an appeal to the **moral law** as revealed in the **Bible**. **Aristotle** said, "Universal law is the law of Nature. For there really is, as everyone to some extent divines, a natural justice and injustice that is binding on all men." In **Rome**, **Cicero** said, "There is indeed a law, right reason, which is in accordance with nature; existing in all, unchangeable, eternal. Commanding us to do what is **right**, forbidding us to do what is **wrong**." What to make of this? The **Apostle Paul** demonstrated that even though pagans did not have the ethical teachings of the **Law of Moses** (Ten Commandments), "they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their **conscience** bearing witness, *and their thoughts alternately accusing or defending them*, on the day when, according to my gospel, **God** will judge the **secrets** of men through **Christ Jesus**" (Rom. 2:15-16).

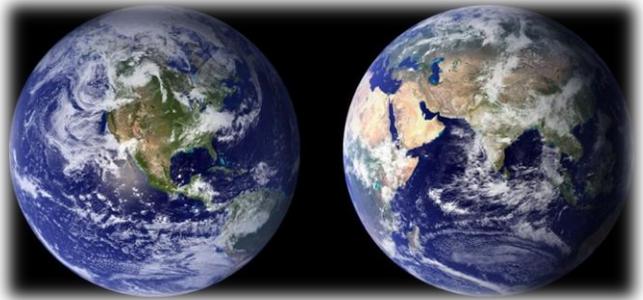
This is a rather profound statement, and it also reminds us of the **omniscience of God** - **He** knows all of the **secrets** in our hearts. We cannot hide from Him. Someone said that **our conscience** is like a red light blinking on the dashboard. So why do we struggle with moral/ethical dilemmas? This can be traced back to **original sin** with **Adam and Eve** in the **Garden of Eden**, which caused death and a darkened mind (Gen. 3:17-19). **Paul** writes that humanity is walking "in the futility of their mind, *being darkened in their understanding*, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart" (Eph. 4:17-18). Below is a brain scan of **Fallen Man**.



Even though the mind has been darkened due to sin, we can still use reason and logic, as **Aquinas** has demonstrated so far. Even though man is in rebellion against **God** (p. 17), **He** still implores mankind to be reconciled to **Him** (through Christ). "Come now, and *let us reason together*, says the Lord, though your sins are as scarlet, they will be white as snow" (Is. 1:18). But, fallen men and women are *predisposed* to favor a **secular non-theistic worldview** that prevails in the world - the *philosophical weltgeist*. It is this Darwinian-Humanist-Postmodern worldview that is responsible for our moral and ethical dilemmas. It clouds our understanding. As seen in the above cartoon, your typical atheist pretends to be *unbiased* and *objective*, but "the carnal mind is enmity against God" (Rom. 8:7). As we saw earlier, it is a *moral issue*, not intellectual, when it comes to the **theory of evolution** (p. 13).

5. Argument from Design. And this brings us to the final argument by **Aquinas**, known as the teleological argument that points to our **Creator** as opposed to abstract ideas about cosmology.

"We see that things that lack intelligence, such as natural bodies, act for an end, and this is evident from their acting always, or nearly always, in the same way, so as to obtain the best result. Hence it is plain that not fortuitously, but designedly, do they achieve their end. ...Therefore some intelligent being exists by whom all natural things are directed to their end; and this being we call God."



God is the Designer of all things. The teleological argument states that **intelligent design** requires an intelligent **Designer**. It is something that we observe and experience. In epistemological terms this is referred to as "*a posteriori knowledge*," which means "from what is after" (experience). In contrast, "*a priori knowledge*" means "from what is before" (experience), and this is a reference to pure logic and inductive reasoning; as in all bachelors are unmarried, all chickens are birds and $3+3=6$. It is intuitive as in **human conscience** (*with-knowledge*) because *it is written on our hearts* and demonstrated in the **moral argument** and the logical syllogisms presented with **motion, causality and contingency**.

The teleological argument addresses the universe (cosmology), natural laws and the *complexities of all human life upon the earth*. I find this a most enjoyable argument because it exalts the **omnipotence** (power), **omniscience** (knowledge) and **omnipresence** of our **non-contingent self-existent Creator**. Let's consider just how **complex and perfect** this [fallen] world is. Take a moment and look around **your house**. Did all that design and complexity just "evolve" over time? Do you see how irrational that would be? Indeed! **The Bible** says, "For every house is built by someone, *but the builder of all things is God*" (Heb. 3:4). Amazing, and **Biblical creationists** have studied just *how complex* this earth is, and [HERE IS A LONG LIST](#) supporting the **teleological argument**, and **this video clip**:

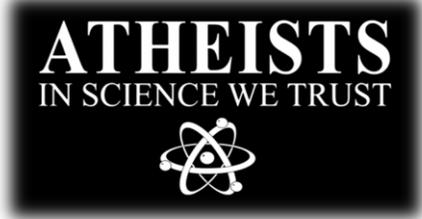
[Creation versus Evolution: The Privileged Planet by Jay Richards](#)

In this six-minute presentation, we are simply overwhelmed with just *how finely calibrated life is* on this **very privileged planet**, that I will comment on in my concluding remarks. The **Darwinian theory** of life evolving on this planet is a **faulty worldview** that is only supported by the "illusionary truth effect" accepted by the undiscerning masses (Group Think). The "religious humanist" likes to suggest that "the universe is self-existing and not created," but everything we **empirically observe** reveals **order and purposeful design**. Consider for a moment the human eye, as seen above. How could the human eye (*or any eye*) simply have evolved over time? The **human retina** contains approximately **1,300,000** light-sensitive cells (rods and cones), and these complex cells translate the light stimulus into a photochemical process with nerve impulses that create vivid three-dimensional images to the brain! **Charles Darwin** taught "the survival of the fittest," but how could that be, unless eyes are fully formed? In Bible College, I did a paper on **Darwin** in which he stated, "To suppose that **the eye**...could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, *absurd in the highest possible degree*." Later, in a letter to a Harvard professor he said, "**The eye to this day** gives me a cold shudder, but when I think of the fine known gradations, *my reason* tells me I ought to conquer the cold shudder." In other words, he was too famous and committed to see the folly of his **faulty theory** and the wonders of the human body. **The Lord** asks, "He who planted the ear, does He not hear? He who formed **the eye**, does He not see?" (Ps. 94:9). You bet **He** does. And He gave us eyes to observe and gain wisdom.



So, where did all the water come from? As you can **see above**, the earth is **70%** water. Without water there would be no life on this planet. Would you believe that secular scientists have **NO** clue, and they even admit it?! At best, there are **only two irrational theories**. **The first** is that *asteroids* passed the earth and deposited ice. **The second** is that water was always in *the mantle of the earth* and simply "degassed" as water vapor. Just think about it. Something as vital, and prevalent, **as water** cannot be accounted for...unless there is a **Designer**. On the second day of creation, **God** separated the land and **the seas**. "And God called the dry land earth, and the gathering of the waters He called seas, and God saw that it was good" (Gen. 1:10). THIS is where all the water came from. And there is also the issue of **Noah's flood** (Gen. 7-9). After the flood, **God** caused a **23-degree tilt** to create the four seasons. According to the **Institute of Creation Research**, without this tilt "life would not be able to exist on earth" and "the poles would lie in eternal twilight." Anyway, these are just **two examples** for the **argument from design**. "The Lord by wisdom founded the earth; by understanding He established the heavens" (Pro. 3:19). In our final section, I will **summarize** things a bit, take a closer look at the **Matrix metaphors**, and put **natural** and **special revelation** into proper perspective.

It is easy to see the reference to **Christian** themes in **The Matrix** trilogy. Most of humanity is under the influence of the "blue pill" and living in the **epistemological/spiritual matrix** of darkness that cannot see the **spiritual battle** between good and evil that the **Bible** depicts. **Morpheus** tells **Neo**, "the Matrix is everywhere. It is all around us. It is the world that has been pulled over your eyes to *blind* you from the truth." **Satan**, and his **fallen angels** (demonic sentients) are behind this deception and **Paul** refers to him as the god of this fallen world. "The god of this world *has blinded the minds of the unbelieving* that they not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" (2 Cor. 4:4). He says that "our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against...the world forces (zeitgeist) of this darkness, *against the spiritual forces of wickedness* in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:12). There is an invisible world out there, and our **dualistic nature**, made in the image of **God**, tugs at us. For **God** "has set eternity in [our] heart" (Eccl. 3:11). In his book, *The Simulation Hypothesis*, [the writer says](#) "...we can understand what the religions have been telling us all along; that we live in an illusionary dream-like world...and that, like **Neo** in **The Matrix**, we can 'wake up' to the world beyond." Indeed we can, by trusting in **The One** who created the universe! In **The Matrix**, the tension between an illusionary dream-like world and the actual virtual matrix world is "**like a splinter in the mind**" - **A famous line**. And I would submit that this *cosmic splinter* is **the deep mystery** that has *perplexed* philosophers for millenia. Asking, why am I here? What is the meaning of life?



As I have covered rather extensively, a secular humanist (atheistic) *philosophical weltgeist* simply rejects the notion of a **supernatural creation**, and this is why we are living in a **nihilistic postmodern society today**, doing whatever we want (Jud. 21:25). In the New Testament, **Jesus** talked more about **hell** than heaven, noted at [THIS LINK](#). And this is the fatal risk that most people are taking. **Hell** was created for **Satan** and the fallen angels that rebelled against **God** (prior to creation). **God** "is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish, but all to come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9). Our problem is not *lacking philosophical knowledge*, but **sin** as I noted earlier (p. 8, 14). **Jesus** said, "For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world; *but that the world should be saved through Him*" (Jn. 3:17). For those who reject **Him**, they will perish "into the eternal fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels" (Mt. 25:41). All sin is against **God**, and must be punished eternally "...for whom the **black darkness** has been reserved forever" (Jd. 1:13). Last month, scientists finally captured the *first image* of a **black hole** using eight radio telescopes spanning the earth (see image above and [this simulation](#)). They described it as "the gates of hell, the point of no return." Is this what **hell** would be like? I pray none of us find out. **Jesus** used extreme examples warning about hell. **He** warned, "if **your right eye** makes you stumble, tear it out, and throw it from you; for it is better for you that one of the parts of your body perish, than for your whole body to go to hell" (Mt. 5:29). The **spiritual matrix** that exists beyond this natural world can either be wonderful (*heaven*) or horrifying (*hell*). As I say in my book, **eternity...is a long time to be wrong**. In his book, *Erasing Hell*, **Pastor Francis Chan** explains how **God's** ways are *not* our ways. Listen to his passion in this **nine-minute clip**.

[Pastor Francis Chan on Hell: We Cannot Afford to Get it Wrong!](#)

In the *Humanist Manifesto II*, humanists state "that traditional theism, especially faith in a prayer-hearing God...is an unproved and outmoded faith." **They go on.** "Promises of immortal salvation or fear of eternal damnation are both illusionary and harmful." **Why?** "They distract humans from present concerns, from self-actualization and rectifying social injustices." We might agree that **God's ways** are somewhat "illusionary" to us **mere mortals**; but by what standard is it *harmful*? And by what **objective moral/ethical standard** do we "rectify" *perveived injustices*? [See the problem here?](#)

The humanists say, "we find insufficient evidence for the belief in the existence of a supernatural" and there is "no divine purpose or providence for the human specie." Their "new faith of humanism" is rooted in *naturalistic Darwinian theories* and bows at the altar of science. **Science is their god.** You can tell by reading their literature that secular humanists are **proud atheists**, and their hostility toward **God** (Christianity) has more to do with *the issue of theodicy* than reason or logic. "**Theodicy** is a branch of philosophy dealing with the issue of [evil](#) in light of the existence of God. If [God is just](#) and holy and good, then how do evil and misery exist? [That's the question theodicy wrestles with.](#)" You can **read more** at [THIS LINK](#), and [THIS BOOK](#) is excellent. For the sake of brevity I will leave it there, and quote from *The Roots of Evil* by **Norm Geisler**. "This fallen world is not the best possible world, but it is the best way to obtain the best possible world." [This is the key.](#) Due to **original sin** and, the resulting **curse** on this creation, we are living in a **fallen world**. As we will see in a moment, **God** will *bring about the best possible world* when **He** establishes **His** kingdom on earth (Mt. 6:10). The humanist is very disingenuous when he says he can't find *sufficient evidence* for the existence of **God**. For **God** has revealed **Himself** through [natural revelation](#) and [special revelation](#) that is *more than sufficient* to support a **Theistic/Biblical worldview**. [Below](#) is a comment on **natural revelation**:

["Natural revelation is truth about God that can be discerned by looking at the world around us and by looking within ourselves. Although not everyone has access to special revelation, the Bible makes it clear that people everywhere have access to natural revelation and that people are accountable for their response to it. Natural revelation assumes that the image of God and the mental faculties of logic are still enough intact for fallen humanity to receive and understand some knowledge about God."](#)

Fallen humanity still has enough logic and reason to **observe/experience** the natural creation that proves the existence of **God** (*a posteriori*). **Special revelation** is *even greater* and involves **God's** written **Word**, and **God** appearing **Himself** in the form of **Jesus** who "has explained **Him**" (Jn. 1:18).



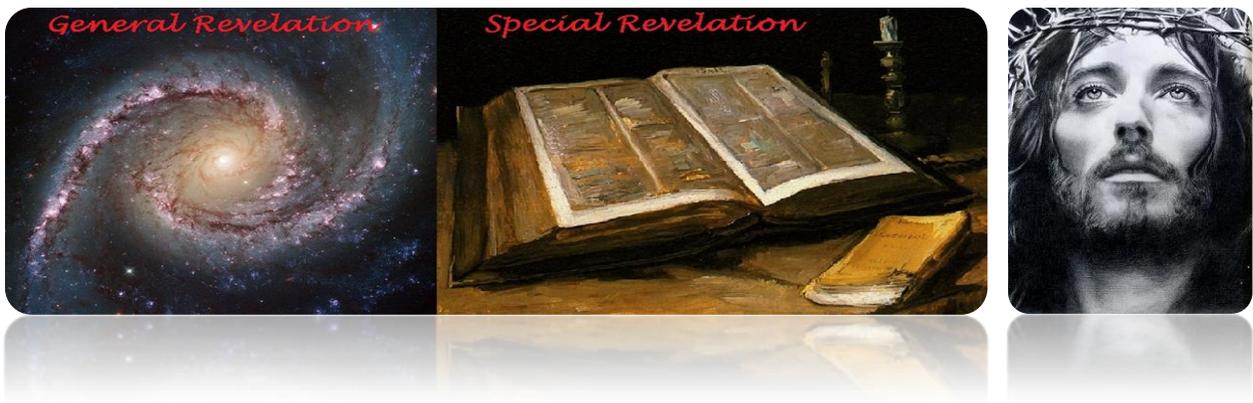
So, here is a quick review of **Aquinas' Five Ways** concerning natural revelation, as it relates to cosmology, morality and intelligent design. [The Argument from Motion](#) is logical and reasonable that "all of the universe in motion" strongly suggests an **Unmoved Mover**. [The Argument from Causation](#) supports *the first argument* that **cause and effect** can't "go back into infinity." [The Argument from Contingency](#) states that **God's** existence is not dependent on anything else, thus **He is a transcendent non-contigent self-existing Being**. [The Argument from Goodness](#) is really *a moral argument*, and we can see how *conflicted* mankind is on this one. **Goodness, morality and ethics** require an objective standard to judge by, **and this standard is God**. As **Oxford scholar, C. S. Lewis** asks in his book *Mere Christianity*, *just where do we get this idea of just and unjust?* The moral law has been pressing down on humanity ever since **Adam and Eve** ate from "[the tree of the knowledge of good and evil](#)" in the **Garden of Eden** (Gen. 2:9). And, I again urge you to watch [this short video](#) on this issue.

The Argument from Design. We now come to the *very essence* of **natural revelation** that reveals **God's** invisible attributes, eternal power and divine nature - **the teleological argument.** Intelligent design, as **Aquinas** said, requires an **intelligent Designer.** Here is how Paul put it in Rom. 1:18-20.

*"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them [moral argument], for God made it evident to them. **For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.**"*

The teleological argument is so potent, **that all men** "are without excuse" before **God** as they behold with **their eyes** the complexity of this privileged planet. **People** will be held accountable for the access they had to **natural revelation** (natural laws, etc.). For, "It is He who made the earth by His power, who established the world by His wisdom" (Jer. 10:12). **Biologists,** tell us that there are **8.7 million unique species** on this planet! **And the Psalmist** says, "O Lord, *how many* are Thy works! In wisdom Thou hast made them all, the earth is full of Thy possessions" (Ps. 104:24). Indeed, for it is "God who gives life to all" (1 Tim. 6:13). The humanists reject **traditional theism.** But like I said (p. 10), it is *inexplicable* that **Catholic** theologians try to "accomodate" **Darwinism** with *theistic evolution.* In response to this heresy, **Ken Ham** provides a splendid response for **creationism,** in **this video** that explains the discovery of **DNA,** the **Biblical** flood of **Noah,** a young earth, ice, morals, and so on:

Ken Ham: Obervational Science versus Historical Science

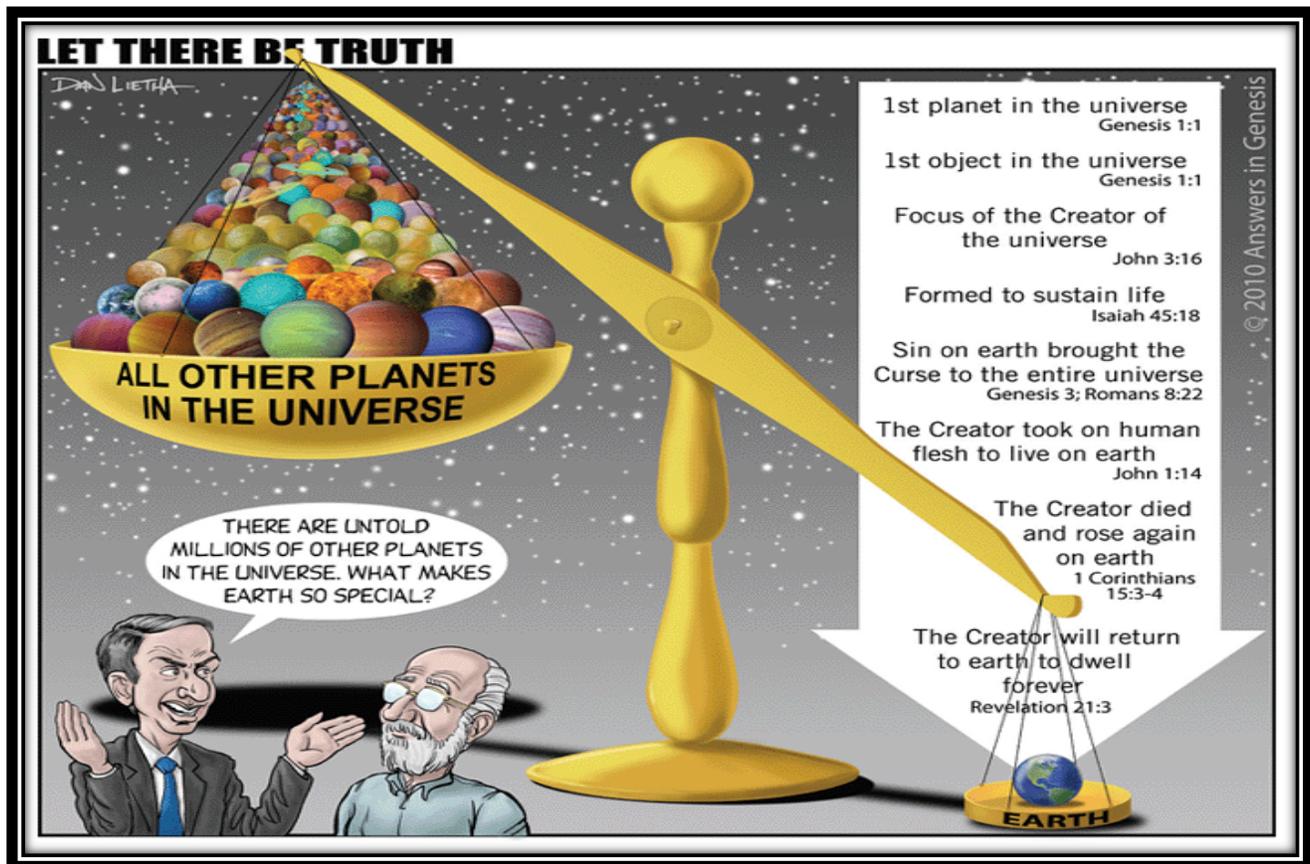


Special Revelation. I hope you find time to watch the above **58-minute clip** in your spare time. It is well presented, and it not only supports **natural revelation** (often referred to as general revelation), but also **special revelation** regarding the **Bible, and Jesus Christ; the Son of God.....The One.**

The Argument from Special Revelation. I now wish to conclude this **special report** with a focus on how **God** has revealed **Himself** through **His Word,** and more importantly through **His Son.** In the *Summa Theologia,* **Thomas Aquinas** presented his rational arguments for **natural revelation** to prove the existence of **God,** as it relates to cosmology, morality and intelligent design; but we need to go deeper into the **Biblical** and **Christological** rabbit holes. **Divine revelation goes beyond** "the limits of human knowledge," and it is precisely ".....how we know what we know" from a **Theistic/Biblical worldview.** "A little philosophy inclineth man's mind to atheism," said **Francis Bacon,** "but *depth* in philosophy bringeth men's minds about **to religion.**" The Judeo-Christian faith is all about **God's intervention in the affairs of man,** as we can see in the life of **Noah, Abraham, Moses** and the **OT** prophets. **The Jews** "were entrusted with the oracles of God" (Rom. 3:2). "For whatever was written in earlier times [OT] was written for our instruction" (Rom. 15:4). For, "the Law of the Lord is perfect, restoring the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple" (Ps. 19:7).

The Bible and Presuppositional Apologetics. *What is presuppositional apologetics?* In contrast to *classical evidentialist apologetics* arguing from **natural revelation** (Aquinas), [this school](#) states that "The Christian faith is the only basis for rational thought," and *presupposes* that the **Bible** is divinely inspired to expose all other **faulty worldviews**. [To which I strongly agree](#). All of the rational and logical arguments presented so far **make perfect sense...precisely** because they are in agreement with the authority of **Scripture**. It is [duly noted](#), that in the **Bible**, the prophets and apostles (even Jesus!), *never* tried to *prove* **God's** existence, but always assumed this truth and quoted **Scripture**. When the **Apostle Paul** confronted the **Jews**, he "reasoned with them from the Scriptures" (Acts 17:2). **Paul** would later affirm that "all Scripture is inspired by God" (2 Tim. 3:16). It is [axiomatic](#) (self-evident) that **God** exists, and this is why theologian, **Cornelius Van Til** [said](#), "the only proof for the existence of God is that without God you couldn't prove anything." And what he means, is that **the atheists** are always "sawing the philosophical limb" that they are sitting on, because they have to *borrow* from a **Theistic/Biblical worldview**. More on that [HERE](#) if you are interested. So, when it comes to the **Word of God**, "The grass withers, the flower fades, [but the word of our God stands forever](#)" (Is. 40:8).

Special Revelation and a Special Planet. **The Bible** is very unique because it contains several prophecies (oracles) of a coming **Deliverer** for mankind. And we find that fulfillment with **Jesus**. "For God so loved the world that He sent His only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life" (Jn. 3:16). **As seen below**, that makes **this planet** *very special* in the eyes of the **Creator**. It was **sin** on this earth that brought a curse to the **entire universe**. "For the creation was subjected to futility" and thus "the whole creation groans" (Rom. 8:18-24). **Jesus** has paid the penalty for sin, and **He** will appear a second time to rule and reign in an earthly kingdom. And then "the creation itself will be set free from its slavery to corruption" (Rom. 8:21). And this is why we pray to **God**, "[Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven](#)" (Mt. 6:10).

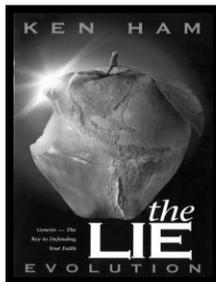


King David once pondered, "When I consider Thy heavens, the work of Thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained; What is man, that Thou dost take thought of him?" (Ps. 8:3-4). **Critics** may suggest that there is intelligent life on **other planets**, but this is from godless evolutionary worldview. **As mere mortals**, we are in awe of the immensity of the universe. But to **God**, this is a small thing. "For He spoke, and it was done" (Ps. 33:9). Someday **He** will make "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Pet. 3:13). This is the *only planet* that **God** appeared as a **Man** to die and "sacrifice for sins *for all time*" (Heb. 10:12). For all time. Never to be repeated. Not for this planet, or any planet.

God has revealed Himself in Creation, Conscience and Christ (in that order). The writer of the book of **Hebrews** says that **God** spoke to **His** people in the **OT**, but "in these last days, has spoken to us in His Son...and He is the radiance of His glory and the *exact representation* of His nature" (Heb. 1:1-4). "He is the image of the invisible God" (Col. 1:15). "For in Him all the fulness of Deity dwells in bodily form" (Col. 2:9). These are astounding truths! And even **Jesus** said this, "For just as the Father has life in Himself, even so He gave to the Son also to have life in Himself" (Jn. 5:26). Who can have "life in themselves" except a **transcendent non-contingent self-existent Being**, as argued from contingency (p. 17)? This is a reference to "**aseity**" which means "the property by which a being exists in and of itself." This is a rare term, but it points to the sacred name of **God - the Great I AM**.

Jesus is the ultimate in special revelation from God. **Jesus** said, "The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost" (Lk. 19:10). He did this on **the cross**, but sinful man still rejects this truth. "For the word of the cross is to those who perishing foolishness," writes **Paul**. "But to us who are being saved, it is the power of God" (1 Cor. 1:18). **The humanist** says "there is no credible evidence that life survives the death of the body" (*Humanist Manifesto I*). Oh really? Not only did **Jesus** rise from the dead, **He** appeared to **His** followers with "many convincing proofs" for "a period of forty days" (Acts 1:3). Lastly, **He** appeared to **Saul** (Acts 9), who would become the **Apostle Paul**, and go on to write *most* of the **NT**! **Paul** writes, "God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him [Jesus] from the dead" (Acts 17:30-31). For a very confused and morally corrupt world - **God has provided proof.**

Information Overload & Escaping The Matrix



A Fallen World Needs a Savior. Mankind is living in an **epistemological/spiritual matrix** of darkness (blue pills), and subject to "the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Eph. 6:12). **Information overload** (media deceptions) and **faulty worldviews** fill our echo chambers with an illusionary truth effect (*zeitgeist*) that has produced a submissive **Group Think**. Critical thinking has given way to an *existential weltgeist* with no meaning, purpose or absolutes; and the **Bible** predicts that this fallen world "...will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived" (2 Tim. 3:13). A **submissive void** has beguiled the masses, but **God** has given **His** light and truth to guide us out of the metaphysical darkness. "Though I dwell in darkness, the Lord is a light for me" (Mic. 7:8).

The Importance of the Eye: Perception vs Reality.

In this research, I was struck with, not only the meticulous design of the **human eye**, but how *essential the eye* is to the study of **epistemology** and the empirical observation of our physical world (*a posteriori*). This "phenomenology" (*that which appears*) is *the central theme* in **The Matrix**. We use our **eyes** to form cosmological, teleological arguments, gain wisdom and so on. In the **NT**, the motif of **light and darkness** is related to **reality and truth vs perception and error**. In Luke 11:34-35, **Jesus** warned, "The lamp of your body is your eye; when your eye is clear your whole body also is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is also full of darkness. **Then watch out that the light in you may not be darkness!**" Many of **His** followers accepted *the truth* that **He** was the **Messiah**, but others *perceived* that **He** was not. So, their "light" was *spiritual darkness and deception* (Jn. 9:39). As we **saw earlier** (p. 20), it depends on which pair of "**eye glasses**" you have on, right?



In this fallen world, the noetic effects of **sin** has spread to all mankind who "suppress the truth in all unrighteousness" (Rom. 3:23). But, by **God's** grace we still have enough reason and logic to find **Him** "...who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth" (1 Tim. 2:4). That "they might grope for Him, and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us" (Acts 17:28). And only a Judeo-Christian apologetic can help us take **the red pill** and escape the evil matrix that we live in. **By faith**, we can wake up/repent, and trust in **Jesus Christ** "who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Pet. 2:9). **Jesus** said, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (Jn. 8:12). And, I like to think that **the red pill**, (above), represents **the blood** that our **Savior** shed on **the cross** to save us from the penalty of sin and hell. For, it is **He**, "...who loves us, and released us from our sins by His blood" (Rev. 1:5).

French philosopher/theologian **Blaise Pascal** once said, about **Jesus**, "Whoever knows Him knows the reason for everything." Indeed we do. And we are reminded that this fallen world is still the *best way* "to obtain the best possible world" when our **Messiah** returns and establishes **His** kingdom. Until then, we are living in sort of an **illusionary dream world** that inspired this **special report**. All of the evils in our society are due to this struggle between light and darknes, and I appreciate your taking the time to consider these serious matters...and take the red pill. As we sing in the classic hymn *Amazing Grace*, "I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see." For more on this **Good News**, you can **CLICK HERE** at my site, and I encourage you to forward this to friends and learn more with the links and videos in this report. **Paul** said that our *perception* of things are "temporal, but the things that are not seen are eternal" (2 Cor. 4:18). For, "**Eye** has not seen and ear has not heard...all that God has prepared for those who love Him" (1 Cor. 2:9). I pray that you have this love and hope, and can say with **King David**, "As for me, I shall behold Thy face in righteousness; I will be satisfied with Thy likeness when I awake" (Ps. 17:15). This, will be ultimate reality, truth and **the light of life**.



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