

The Creator and the Cosmos

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“The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge...Their voice goes out through all the earth and their words to the end of the world.”- Psalm 19:1-4.

But is that *really* true?

- Appealing to the Bible won't work for the skeptic. So what do we do?
- We meet the skeptic on their turf.
- Implement the *Cosmological Argument*.

The Cosmological Argument

1. Everything that begins to exist has a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

1. Everything that Begins to Exist has a Cause.

a) Something cannot come from nothing.

i. If something can come into being from nothing, why doesn't anything or everything come into being from nothing?

ii. Why is "nothing" so discriminatory? Why is it just the universe that operates in this fashion?

1. Everything that Begins to Exist has a Cause.

b) Premise #1 seems intuitively true and is verified by science.

i. Think about your daily life for a minute. Have you ever been at work worrying about coming home and a Tiger popping into existence out of nothing to maul you to death?

ii. As we gather here today are you worried that a horse has appeared in your living room, out of nothing, and is currently urinating on your carpet, ruining it forever?

iii. Why not?

1. Everything that Begins to Exist has a Cause.

c) Nothing is always “nothing.”

- i. Popular scientists sometimes say things like, “nothing is unstable,” “There are a variety of forms of nothing,” or “These “quantum fluctuations” imply something essential about the quantum world: nothing always produces something, if only for an instant.”
- ii. This is just a redefining of “nothing” to be “something.”
- iii. Nothing does not have any properties.

1. Everything that Begins to Exist has a Cause.

d) Therefore, on these grounds, premise 1 is true.

2. The Universe Began to Exist.

a) Modern Scientific Discoveries.

- i. Einstein's Theory of General Relativity.
- ii. Friedman and Lemaitre prediction.
- iii. Hubble's verification.
- iv. Borde, Guth, Valinken Theorem.
- v. 2nd Law of Thermodynamics.

Albert Einstein

- Introduced his TGR in 1917.
- It predicted that matter, time, and space were all co-relative. You can't have one without the others. Universe = beginning.
- Einstein introduces a “fudge” factor to allow for a static (eternal universe)

Friedman and Lemaitre

- Russian Alexander Friedman and Belgian Georges Lemaitre utilizing Einstein's model without the "fudge factor" predicted an expanding universe.

Edwin Hubble

- In 1929 the astronomer Edwin Hubble noticed that there was a “red-shift” generated by the light from distant galaxies.
- This was a common feature of all measured galaxies.
- Hubble had discovered/verified the predictions of Friedman and Lemaitre.

BGV Theorem

- In 2003 Arvind Borde, Alan Guth, and Alexander Vilenkin were able to show that any universe that is, on average in a state of cosmic expansion throughout its history cannot be eternal but must have a beginning.

Alexander Vilenkin (agnostic)

“It is said that an argument is what convinces reasonable men and a proof is what it takes to convince even an unreasonable man. With the proof now in place, cosmologists can no longer hide behind the possibility of a past-eternal universe. There is no escape; they have to face the problem of a cosmic beginning.”

2 Law of Thermodynamics

- **States that the universe is running out of usable energy.**
- **Now, if the universe is eternal, why hasn't it already run out of usable energy?**

Analogy

- Think of the picture as the expansion of the universe upon its creation (Gen. 1).
- As the balloon is inflated it expands out.
- Now, what if we reverse the "cosmic clock"?

3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

a) Given that the first 2 premises are true, it follows that #3 is true. However, this leads to another question: What is the nature of the first cause?

i. On the standard model, time, space, and matter all came into existence at the same time. There they could not have created themselves.

ii. This means that the first cause, must be timeless, spaceless, and immaterial.

iii. The entity must be unimaginably powerful since it created the universe without any material cause.

3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

a) Given that the first 2 premises are true, it follows that #3 is true. However, this leads to another question: What is the nature of the first cause?

iv. Since there were no initial laws or operating conditions conducive to bring about the universe from nothing, the only other option seems to be that which is timeless and immaterial.

a. abstract object- such as numbers.

b. or an unembodied mind.

c. abstract objects cannot create anything.

Therefore, the first cause of the universe is a timeless, spaceless, immaterial, unimaginably powerful, personal, unembodied mind.

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.”