<u>Christianity on Trial</u> TRYING THE CHRISTIAN CASE IN A COURT OF LAW.

Class 3: Creation, Science, and the Cosmological Argument

Ι.

THE COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

Premise 1: Everything that begins to exist, had a cause.

Premise 2: The universe began to exist (had a beginning).

Therefore, The universe has cause.

Premise 1: Everything that begins to exist, had a cause

- Aristotle and the oldest law of causation
- Do things pop into existence all the time? Do we see that very often?

Premise 2: The universe began to exist (had a beginning).

Second law of thermodynamics Universe is expanding Radiation from the Big Bang Great galaxy seeds Einstein's theory of relativity

Therefore, The universe has cause.

Jastrow (agnostic)

"Now we see how the astronomical evidence supports the Biblical view of the origin of the world. The details differ, but the essential elements in the astronomical and Biblical accounts of Genesis are the same: the chain of events leading to man commenced suddenly and sharply at a definite moment in time, in a flash of light and energy."

Christians have an answer for both the "how" and the "why." The First Cause- God.

A questions everyone has to answer: *If there is no God, why is there something, rather than nothing?*?

II. <u>Argument from Infini</u>ty

Defeats the steady-state theory.

If the universe has always existed, then today would be impossible

if the universe has always existed, then we are talking about infinity in the past, and infinity in the future.

If there were an infinite number of days behind us, then today never would have come!

Think of trying to count to infinity. You can't. There's always one more. How about trying to count backwards from today, if the universe has an infinite past? You can't.

III. PRINCIPLE: NATURE TENDS TOWARDS DISORDER, NOT ORDER

Drop letters from upstairs to downstairs, will it spell "Take out the garbage -mom?"

The atheist will say, well, we need more time and chance for that to happen- given unlimited time and chance it could happen. Ok then, let's drop them from a tall building. A plane. What happens? *They spread out even further, because nature, left alone, tends towards disorder, not order.*

So, why and how would those letter organize themselves into an encyclopedia (like DNA)?

Given unlimited time and chance, nature gives us the Grand Canyon, not Mount Rushmore.

<u>Jastrow (agnostic):</u> "For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountain of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries."

IV.

Sources

WILLIAM LANE CRAIG, On Guard: Defending Your Faith with Reason and Precision (David C. Cook 2010)

FRANK TUREK AND NORMAN L. GEISLER, *I Don't Have Enough Faith to be an Atheist* (Crossway 2004).

https://www.reasonablefaith.org/writings/popular-writings/existence-nature-of-god/the-kalamcosmological-argument/