

Week 7 (Feb 23 + 25)

“Some Reasons for God”

Some people think that to believe in God you need to close your mind to the obvious and take a leap of faith into the dark unknown. Nothing could be further from the truth. For most of human history belief in the supernatural was a given, and atheism was practically unheard of. While we have learned much about the natural world and gained great power over it through technology, there are still reasons to believe that there's more out there than the natural world, and that we are not the highest beings in the universe.

We can make the case for God's existence in a few different ways. We might think about how everything in nature has a cause, but there's nothing in nature to explain what caused the universe. A miracle happened. We think it makes much more sense that this miracle was performed by God. Or consider how the universe is full of order—it appears to have a design. When you consider how certain laws of physics have to be precisely the way they are in order to support life, the odds of this happening by blind chance are staggeringly low. It can't be a coincidence.

Then there are things like morality, which we've discussed. Moral obligations don't make sense based on nature alone—we must be accountable to someone higher than us. If we believe secularism, we have to accept that not just morality but consciousness, reason, and beauty are all illusions, accidents of evolution. Yet we intuitively know they are more than that. We can't explain the survival value of things like the ability to do complex math.

And of course, we don't just believe God exists—we believe that God came to earth and became one of us in the person of Jesus Christ. We have good reasons for thinking this, too. While skeptical scholars try to cast doubt on the sources, the truth is that the oral history preserved in the Gospels represents what the disciples and eyewitnesses saw, heard, and believed—not what later generations added or changed. And when we read the Gospels, what we see is a person so perfect in character and compelling in wisdom that we have to take him seriously. And when someone like that claims to be God, we are faced with the stunning conclusion that he is.

Week 7 (Feb 23 + 25) - Some Reasons for God (cont.)

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION & DISCUSSION

Have you ever gone through seasons of doubt? What questions did you have?

Have you ever examined the evidence for God? Which argument do you find most compelling?

Have you ever examined the evidence for Jesus? What stands out most to you?

Is there anyone in your life who needs to hear this? Do you think they would be open to it? Why or why not?

How has this series impacted your faith? Do you feel any more confident about sharing it with unbelievers?