

My Perspective on the Most Fundamental Philosophical Topic: God

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"Ask questions, seek answers."

Introduction

There is one notable thing that truly sets humans apart from every other life form, and that is our ability to think deeply- to question, to wonder, and to seek meaning. Yet, this remarkable ability seems to have its limits. Or maybe, we simply haven't thought deeply enough.

Thousands of years ago, our ancestors set on a quest to give answers to the mysteries of the universe. Their quest for understanding gave birth to philosophy and, eventually, the various branches of science we have today. Among the many questions they asked, one has remained particularly elusive: *Were we intentionally created? In other words, is there a God?*

Now before diving into this exploration, I think it's essential we clarify some key definitions and assumptions:

1. **God:** For the purpose of this discussion, I define God as the mastermind behind all existence; A being who is all-good, all-knowing, eternal, and perfect. (We'll expand on these attributes as we proceed.)

The Principle of Causality

The principle of causality is one of the most fundamental concepts in both science and philosophy. It states that every effect must have a cause. This principle is not just a philosophical abstraction- it's the foundation of the scientific method. When we observe phenomena, we naturally seek to understand their causes. For example, the cause of a book is an author; the cause of a building is an architect; the cause of a machine is an engineer. These causes are not arbitrary; they are intelligent, purposeful agents.

Now, let's apply this principle to the universe itself. One of the most basic products of the universe- the Atom- is still far more complex and sophisticated than any man-made machine. Hopefully, you can get a feel of how complex the universe itself is then. Now, this universe, with its vast complexity and order, is an effect. It had a beginning, as evidenced by the Big Bang and the second law of thermodynamics, which tells us that the universe is gradually moving towards increased entropy. If the universe had a beginning, therefore it must have a cause. This cause cannot be part of the universe itself, as it would then require its own cause, leading to an infinite regress. Therefore, the cause of the universe must be something beyond space, time, matter, and causality itself- an uncaused, eternal, and intelligent Creator. This is who we call God.

The Infinite Regress Question

The question of what caused God is a natural one, but it arises from a misunderstanding of God's nature. By definition, God is not part of the causal chain within the universe. He is the uncaused cause, the necessary being whose existence is not contingent on anything else. To ask what caused God is like asking what created the creator of all creators. It's a category error, as it applies temporal, finite reasoning to an eternal, infinite being. The creator of creation itself cannot have been created, because He created creation!

Consider this analogy: Imagine a painter who creates a masterpiece. The painting exists within the framework of time, space, and the realm of painting, but the painter exists independently of it. The painter exists in a realm where he didn't have to be painted, because he is the painter. The painting cannot explain the painter, nor can it fully comprehend the painter's existence. Similarly, the universe cannot explain God, nor can it fully comprehend Him. This doesn't mean God's existence is illogical- it simply means that God exists in a way that transcends our finite understanding. As the philosopher Immanuel Kant argued, some truths lie beyond the limits of human reason.

The Complexity of Creation

The complexity of the universe is one of the most compelling arguments for the existence of God. As at the time of writing this paper, the **Large Hadron Collider** is the most complex and advanced man-made machine, but even that doesn't come anywhere close to the complexity of a simple atom. The human eye alone is a marvel of engineering. It contains over 2 million working parts, including a lens that adjusts focus instantly, a retina that processes light into electrical signals, and a brain that interprets these signals into images. No machine created by humans comes close to this level of sophistication. Even Charles Darwin, in *On the Origin of Species*, admitted that the idea of the eye evolving through natural selection seemed 'absurd in the highest degree.'

But the complexity doesn't stop there. The fine-tuning of the universe is another example. The constants of physics- such as the gravitational constant, the speed of light, and the charge of an electron- are so precisely calibrated that even the slightest variation would make life impossible. As physicist Paul Davies

put it, 'The laws of physics seem to be the product of exceedingly ingenious design.' This precision suggests not random chance, but intentional design by an intelligent Creator.

Addressing Counterarguments

Some argue that natural processes, such as evolution or cosmic collisions, can explain the complexity of life without invoking a divine Creator. While these processes seem remarkable, they don't negate the need for a Creator—they simply describe the mechanisms through which creation unfolds.

I believe in evolution- not that I came from apes, but that my body has been designed to adapt over time through intentional natural processes. If God is all-knowing and all-powerful, as we've defined, then it stands to reason that He would use elegant and efficient processes to bring about His design.

For example, consider the process of evolution. While it explains how species change over time, it doesn't explain the origin of life itself or the fine-tuning of the universe that makes life possible. Similarly, the Big Bang explains how the universe began to expand, but it doesn't explain what caused the Big Bang or why the universe is governed by such precise laws. These natural processes are not alternatives to God- they are evidence of His ingenuity and foresight.

The Value of Belief

Beyond the logical and scientific arguments, belief in God has profound implications for how we view ourselves and the world around us. If we are the product of intentional design, then our lives have inherent purpose and value. This perspective fosters a sense of responsibility- to discover this purpose, care for ourselves, for others, and for the planet we inhabit. It also provides a foundation for morality, as it suggests that right and wrong are not arbitrary constructs, but rooted in the nature of a good and just Creator.

On the other hand, if we are the result of random chance, then life has no inherent meaning. Our existence becomes a fleeting accident in an indifferent universe. While this view may appeal to some, it raises difficult questions: Why should we value human life? Why should we strive to do good? Belief in God offers answers to these questions, providing a framework for meaning, morality, and hope.

Final Thought

In the end, the existence of God is not just a philosophical or scientific question- it's a deeply personal one. While we may never fully comprehend the nature of God or the mysteries of eternity, being humans, all the evidences around us point to a Creator who designed the universe with purpose and

care. The principle of causality, the complexity of creation, and the elegance of natural processes all point to an intelligent Designer. And while we may not have all the answers, we can take comfort in the knowledge that we are part of a grand, intentional design.

As the philosopher Blaise Pascal once said, 'The heart has its reasons, which reason does not know.' Belief in God is not just an intellectual exercise; it's a journey of the heart and mind, one that invites us to explore, question, and wonder. And perhaps, that's the greatest evidence of all: the human capacity to seek and find meaning in a universe that seems to whisper of its Creator.

What do you think? Does the evidence point to a Creator, or do you see the universe as a product of chance? Share your thoughts and join the conversation.

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