

Evidence for a Creator

I. Science serves to investigate causes

A. There are three different types of causes

1. **Natural** – think of the smoothness of the sand where the waves have rubbed over it.
2. **Law** – think of laws like gravity.
3. **Design / Intelligence** – Think of Mount Rushmore.

B. Naturalists will often say, “You can’t bring design into the discussion of origins.”

1. But remember that is a presupposition.
2. And science does this all the time and has ways to tell the difference between design and these other causes.
 - a. **Forensic police detectives** are trained to distinguish between murder and death by natural cause.
 - b. **Archeologists** have criteria for discerning between erosion and the use of manmade tools.
 - c. **Cryptologist** have procedures to determine whether a sequence of symbols is a message (design) or random.

C. So the question is, as we look at evidence in the world do we see evidence of design or mere naturalistic forces?

II. Evidence for a Creator

A. *Cosmological Argument – Cause and Effect*

1. Basic Syllogism
 - a. Everything that had a beginning had a cause
 - b. The universe had a beginning
 - c. Therefore, the universe had a cause.
2. Scientific evidence for the notion that the universe had a beginning
 - a. The expanding universe (Einstein, Friedman, Hubble)
 - b. 2nd law of thermal dynamics
3. The Bible perfectly fits the idea that the universe had a beginning.

Genesis 1:1 “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth”

Hebrews 11:3 ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

B. Teleological Argument - Design points to a designer

1. Logical Evidence: Watchmaker (William Paley)
2. Evidence from the Cell (biochemistry) - Irreducible complexity (Behe, Darwin's *Black Box: The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution*)
 - a. Darwin wrote, "If it could be demonstrated that any complex organ existed which could not possibly have been formed by numerous, successive, slight modifications, then my theory would absolutely break down" (*The Origin of the Species*, New York University Press, 1988, p. 154)
 - b. Each Cell is like a miniature factory town
 - c. Mouse Trap Illustration (Behe)
3. Fine tuning of the world / universe - Anthropic Principle
 - a. Universe seems to have been designed to make life possible.
 - i. The distance b/w us & sun
 - ii. The make up of H₂O (solvent, expands on freezing, surface tension)
 - iii. The ratios of atmospheric gases
 - iv. The axis of the earth (if it were different, then the temperature variation would be too great for life).
 - v. Gravitational force's value
 - b. Like having a panel of thousands of knobs and each one must be tuned to exactly the right place to make the thing work.
4. The language / information of life - DNA
 - a. DNA molecule is built of 4 bases that combine to "spell out" messages.
 - b. In ordinary life, when we find a set a specific and complex information, do we assume natural causes, natural law, or design? (ex. Scrabble game or Shakespeare play),

C. What best explains for all this evidence?

1. Richard Dawkins (atheist / naturalist) "Biology is the study of complicated things that give the **appearance of having been designed for a purpose**" (Pearcey, *Total Truth*, pg. 183).
2. Psalm 19:1-4

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his **handiwork**.² Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. ³There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. ⁴Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.