

The Oologah Informer

October 12th, 2014

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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.
Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher:

Russ Earl

AM Sermon:

Turn our Hearts
Lesson 1 of 2
(Jer 18:7-11)

PM Sermon:

Turn our Hearts
Lesson 2 of 2

Sunday AM Bible Class:

The book of Joshua – D. Jackson

Wednesday Bible Class:

Swearingen

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way

Tulsa KWHB TV 47
Sunday mornings at 7:30am

Does God really exist?

Wayne Brewer

You may be one of many people who have sincerely and honestly asked the question, "Does God really exist?" The question is valid because of the impossibility of approaching, seeing, and touching God physically as one would a member of their family. Not being able to physically approach, see, or touch God can cause one to wonder, "does God really exist?" Some have been provoked to genuinely ask the question, "does God really exist," after hearing of or seeing violent crime or observing general wickedness and evil in the world.

While these things may cause one to be skeptical of the existence of God, these same things overwhelmingly demonstrate God's existence. The very fact that cultures, nations, and individual people understand that wickedness and evil exist points to God's existence. Nations enact laws prohibiting murder, robbery, and various kinds of abuses, and to punish those who commit such acts. The act of recognizing the existence of evil and the need to enact laws to prevent and punish, is the acknowledgment that there is an objective standard of authority, an authority that is higher than any man or group of nations. It is the acknowledgment that such a standard exists is in reality an acknowledgment that God exists.

Without an objective standard of authority, then nothing could be classified as evil, wicked, or a crime, and consequently could not be punished. Without an objective standard of authority or a higher authority of appeal concerning all actions, then even actions such as murder, rape, abuse, and robbery would fall into the realm of opinion. It is the existence of God that provides man with that higher objective standard of authority. Humanity is pained and suffers because of crime, immorality, and injustices committed, but it is the recognition of those things as evil that is also an acknowledgment of God's existence.

God's existence can also be known by a careful and logical examination of the natural world. Observing the natural world in such a manner leads one to see and understand the principle of adequate cause and effect, such as with daylight and darkness. The light and darkness do not just appear and disappear without adequate cause, but it is the rotation of the earth in a complete circle every twenty-four hours that brings this about. The adequate cause is the sun and the rotation of the earth, and on days when there is less light, the adequate cause may be clouds, rain, fog, or snow in the upper levels of the atmosphere. The natural law and principle of adequate cause and effect demonstrates the existence of God because this detailed world could not exist without adequate cause.

The principle of adequate cause and effect is also recognized in other aspects of life. The logic of adequate cause and effect demands that a city could only exist because of human creativity, ingenuity, work, and talent. It is important to note that the word "adequate" is used because not only must there be a cause, but the cause must be able to bring about the effect, or the cause must be

adequate. Human creativity is the adequate cause for a city with buildings, streets, etc.

The Bible teaches the very same principle, “For every house is builded by some man, but he that built all things is God” (Hebrews 3:4). The truth is that the natural world cannot exist without adequate cause, and that adequate cause is God.

God’s existence can also be known by recognizing the principle of order and design in the natural world. Is it by chance or design the earth makes a complete rotation, to the second, every twenty-four hours? Is it by chance or design the earth circles the sun in an ellipsis, creating our distinct seasons, in one year? Is it by chance or design that though there are great fluctuations in temperatures from day to day, morning and night, season-to-season, and year-to-year, that year in and year out average temperatures will only vary by less than a degree? Is it by chance or design the human eye can see in color, with depth perception, can focus on something near or far, and can adjust to varying light conditions? The logical conclusion after seeing the order and detail of the universe is: it exists and functions by design. The question then arises, who designed all of this? Concerning things that human beings design and make, one would not think when seeing a house that it just evolved into existence, or a tornado came through forming a house. However, that same logic is used in the natural realm when one views the existence of the universe and humanity as by chance. The order and design of the world lead one to logically conclude and know that God exists.

Finally, a critical observation of who we are as human beings demands the existence of God. Humanity is more than a mere physical body because humanity has the ability to think, reason, create ideas, forgive another person, possess emotions such as love for family, and so much more. These very things are what make us human beings, but where do they come from? For humanity to exist there must have been an adequate cause, and the only logical explanation is a being having these abilities to an equal or greater degree. The human being, a man, a woman, or a child is the greatest answer that can be given to the question, “Does God really exist?” You are living proof that God does exist. The Bible says, “In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth” (Genesis 1:1). “And God said, Let us make in our image, after our likeness...” (Genesis 1:26).