

OPEN BIBLE CHURCH

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SERMON TITLE

Evidence of God

SERIES

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KEY SCRIPTURE

Various

SYNOPSIS

There are a number of compelling reasons to believe in God.

HIGHLIGHTS



☞ Evidence of God

A scientist told God, "We no longer need you. These days we can clone people, transplant organs and do all sorts of things that used to be considered miraculous. We have advanced to the point that we can create anything we need with our own ingenuity." God said, "You want to put that to a test?" The scientist said, "Sure. What do you have in mind?" God said, "Let's each make a man, just like I did with Adam. I'll go first." Then God created man from the dirt. The scientist leaned down to pick up a handful of dirt, so he could replicate the work of God. "Wait a minute!" said God. "Go make your own dirt!"

Today, we are probably not telling you anything you don't already know, but hopefully we are reaffirming your faith. As I've said before, I'm a fan of "reasonable" faith. There are compelling reasons to believe in God and to trust him with your life.

7 Arguments in favor of God's existence.

☞ THE CONFIRMATION OF THE BIBLE

2 Timothy 3:16

All Scripture is God-breathed

-Norman Geisler... There's more evidence that the Bible is a reliable source than there is for any other book from the ancient world. (by far!)

The Bible is very unified: 66 books written in different literary styles, by 40 different authors with ☞ diverse backgrounds over 1600 years and yet contains **one central message**.

☞ The Bible has **transforming power**.

☞ 1000's of archaeological finds in the Middle East support the Bible's **historical accuracy**.

☞ **Prophecies fulfilled**: The Bible is the only book in the world that has precise, specific predictions that were made 100's of years in advance and that were literally fulfilled. There were 191 predictions in the OT regarding the coming of Christ that were correct.

Isaiah 40:8

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.

☞ THE UNCAUSED CAUSE

Since something cannot just come out of nothing, there has to be **a transcendent entity beyond space and time which brought the universe into being**. This first cause is God.

-Fred Heeren... Einstein tried to find an explanation for his general relativity equations that would not require a beginning and a beginner for the universe and he came away a believer in both. He later wrote of his desire "to know how God created the universe."

☞ **Isaiah 43:10**

Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.



☞ THE COMPLEXITY OF THE UNIVERSE

The delicate balance of nearly infinite possibilities required for life, make life without God absurd. The complexity of life implies **an intelligent designer**. The **order in the universe** tells us there is a God.

☞ Romans 1:20

since the creation of the world **God's invisible qualities** — his eternal power & divine nature — **have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made**, so that men are without excuse.

Scientifically speaking, it's far more probable for a life-prohibiting universe to exist than a life-sustaining one. Life is balanced on a razor's edge.

☞ THE CONSISTENCY OF MORALITY

All human beings have an **innate sense of right and wrong**. Many moral values are the same in every culture. Why is this? If there is no God, then moral values are merely the products of socio-biological evolution and personal taste. However, we all know deep down that, in fact, objective moral values do exist. That's because God put them there.

☞ Romans 2:15

they show that the **requirements of the law are written on their hearts**, their **consciences** also bearing witness...

- Augustine... *If there is no God, why is there so much good?*

☞ THE CRAVING FOR MEANING IN LIFE

Without God, life becomes meaningless. We are just accidents of nature who live a very short time. In Ecclesiastes Solomon tells about trying to find meaning in life. He tried everything including pleasure and power as well as education and wealth. But in the end, he found that **none of those things brought real meaning to life**.

☞ Ecclesiastes 12:8

"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. **"Everything is meaningless!"**

☞ Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: **Fear God and keep his commandments**, for this is the whole [duty] of man. **14** For God will bring every deed into judgment, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.

☞ THE COMPULSION FOR MORE

This argument simply asserts the presence of **an unfulfilled desire in the heart of every human being**. All people everywhere can relate to the desire for something more, something that this life just doesn't seem to offer, or at least hasn't offered yet.

- Peter Kreeft... *"1. Every natural, innate desire in us corresponds to some real object that can satisfy that desire. 2. But there exists in us a desire which nothing in time, nothing on earth, no creature can*



satisfy. 3. Therefore there must exist something more than time, earth and creatures, which can satisfy this desire. 4. This something is what people call 'God' and 'life with God forever.'"

☞ **Ecclesiastes 3:11**

He has also set eternity in the hearts of men

This is why even the rich and powerful are often still depressed and suicidal. Having it all doesn't bring fulfilment. There's something else beyond which our hearts desire, and that is God.

☞ **THE PERSONAL CONVICTION OF MANY**

Ultimately, the reason a Christian really knows that God is real is through the witness of God's Spirit. Other evidence, though still valid, is basically just confirmation.

☞ **Romans 8:16**

The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

Many have experienced the presence of God. And many speak of a personal relationship with God. Either these are self-deluded or there's something there. Billy Graham said, "I can tell you that God is alive because I talked with Him this morning."

There is plenty of reasonable evidence of God, if we only take notice.

☞ **Job 19:25**

I know that my Redeemer lives