

Proving the existence of God

Most people believe that God exists, because everything that exists must have a cause. According to the “watchmaker” argument, a watch is so complex that it couldn’t have assembled itself. This implies the existence of a Watchmaker. The known universe, and everything that exists within it, is infinitely more complex than a watch. Therefore, there must be a Creator God who made it. Most physicists believe that everything started from basically nothing, out of which emerged the Big Bang. The resulting universe is so complex that it must have resulted from some sort of intelligent design or cause.

The problem with this line of reasoning is that God, or that First Cause, must be even more complex than anything He/She/it could have created or caused. So, where is the Watchmaker who created or caused God to exist? Our inability to answer this question is the reason why many, if not most, scientists do not believe in God.

The problem, in my view, lies with our definition of God. In order to prove the existence of God, we need to begin with a correct definition of God.

If we define God as a supernatural being who exists outside of the created universe, then this begs the question, who or what created God? There is no solution to this tautology.

If, however, we define God the “Source” of everything that exists, rather than the “Creator” of everything that exists, then there is no requirement for a “beginning.” Nothing in the universe came from nothing. Everything in the universe came from something else in the universe. By extension, we might assume that the universe itself, at the point of the Big Bang, did not come from nothing, but from some other universe or realm of existence outside of the known universe. In other words, nothing is created from nothing. If the universe came from nothing, then there would be a need for a creator, who in turn would also require a creator, and so on.

If, however, we postulate that nothing was created from nothing, then we could logically conclude that everything that exists has always existed. What we would regard as a “creative” act would not be a creation out of nothing, but instead a change in the form of something that already exists.

If we define God as “everything” that exists, rather than the “cause” of everything that exists, then we don’t have to “prove” the existence of God. Physicists are beginning to discover and verify through empirical experiments that the physical universe actually exists only in the thoughts of conscious observers. In other words, the physical universe is not physical at all. It is spiritual, consisting only of conscious thoughts. The single “source” of all these conscious observers is a greater consciousness, that I would call God. We were not created by God from nothing. We “emerged from” or “separated our consciousness” from the consciousness of God, but still remain part of God. We are spiritual beings made of “God parts.” Our separate existence is not permanent. If it were, that would imply that our consciousness had a beginning in time. Time is a useful illusion, but actually does not exist independently. It is an artificial construct that enables us to have “experiences.” Experiences require some sort of sequential thought in order to exist, hence the need for time.

I love the words that Paul used to describe our relationship with God. *“In Him we live and move and have our being.”* (Acts 17:28) Our “separateness” from God is actually only a “useful illusion,” by means of which God enjoys a variety of “experiences” through us. Eventually, every one of us will be *“reconciled”* with God in our conscious awareness, and we will again experience our oneness with Him, and God will again become *“all in all.”* (1 Cor. 15:22-28)