

Year 2 Class 2 Session B Notes

Apologetics: Arguments

Presuppositional: The Transcendental Argument for God's Existence (TAG)

How do we make sense of the following areas of human experience?

- Truth/objectivity
- Valid Argumentation
- Self identity
- Reliable senses
- Causation
- Uniformity
- Rationality
- Objective Morals
 - Value and significance of:
 - Equality
 - Justice
 - Love
 - Honesty
 - Altruism

"The claim that a basis for doubt is inconceivable is justified whenever a denial of the claim would violate the conditions or presuppositions of rational inquiry."

"...since inquiry is fundamentally an attempt to discriminate between what is to be accepted and what is to be rejected, nothing can rationally be conceived which involves denying the necessity for making these discriminations or undermining the possibility of making them."

Philosopher Harry Gordon Frankfurt professor of philosophy at Princeton University
- Encyclopedia of Philosophy, vol. 2, p. 414

Christianity provides the conditions or presuppositions of rational inquiry.

1. Rational inquiry is an attempt to discriminate between what is to be accepted and what is to be rejected, according to an objective standard.
 2. Christian theism alone provides an objective standard according to which rational inquiry may proceed.
 3. Therefore Christian theism cannot be rationally rejected.
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1. If Christian theism is not true, rational inquiry cannot occur.
 2. Rational inquiry does occur.
 3. 3.Christian theism is true.

“And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;” 2 Timothy 2:24-25

Denying the Christian God creates self contradiction in our thinking – we oppose ourselves.

People do know God but deny and suppress this truth:

“For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:” Romans 1:20

The Cosmological Argument for God’s Existence

1. If the universe can be explained, that explanation is God.
2. All *things* can be explained.
3. The Universe is a *thing*.
4. The Universe can be explained
5. God exists

The Kalaam Cosmological Argument

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause.
2. The Universe began to exist.
3. The Universe has a cause.

The Argument for Existential Causality

1. A collection of limited and dependant things is limited and dependant
2. The universe is a collection of limited and dependent things.
3. The Universe is limited and dependant.

The Teleological Argument

1. The fine tuning of the universe is due to law, chance, chance or design.
2. It is not due to law or chance.
3. The fine tuning of this Universe is due to design.

Objective Morality

1. If God did not exist, objective moral values and duties would not exist.
2. Objective moral values and duties do exist, therefore,
3. God exists.