#### **Atheistic Worldview Intro**

The three main worldviews are:

- <u>atheism</u> (no God)
- theism (one God)
- <u>pantheism</u> (everything that exists is a part of God or God is a part of everything that exists).

## **Atheistic Arguments Against Christianity**

"There is no evidence or proof that God exists."

A good place to start is to explain why there must be a <u>cause</u> for universe to exist. Then we show how this cause leads to God being the <u>Creator</u>.

Most atheists believe in science and know from scientific evidence that the universe had a <u>beginning</u>.

### 1. Evidence in the Origin of the Universe Points to God

Scientific evidence points to a beginning of the universe out of <u>nothing</u>.

- Any universe that has been expanding throughout its history must have had a beginning.
- Something cannot come from nothing apart from <u>God.</u>

# The Kalam Cosmological Argument says:

- o Anything that begins to exist has a <u>cause</u>
- o The universe began to exist
- o Therefore the universe has a cause

## 2. Evidence from the fine-tuning of the universe points to God

- In order for life to exist at all, the universe has to meet certain conditions.
- Many of these conditions are highly improbable.

- Their improbability is so large, in fact, that we cannot reasonably attribute their existence to pure chance.
- It's reasonable to attribute the conditions to <u>supernatural</u> design.

"Our universe seems fine-tuned because it just happens to be the one of thousands of other universes in the multiverse that came together this way by chance."

Atheists believe that God cannot be the cause of anything in science.

One work-around they have developed is the <u>multiverse</u>...that there are many universes and ours happened to be created by chance.

(from video) There is no proof that other universes exist.

## 3. Evidence in Biology

# • Information always comes from a mind

Our DNA stores <u>information</u> through the arrangement of chemicals given the letters A, G, C and T, which shows it came from a mind (God).

# • There is no "God of the gaps."

Some atheists say that Christians fill in <u>blanks</u> in their knowledge with God.

However, intelligent design is based on <u>scientific evidence</u>, not a gap in our knowledge.

"We don't need God to be moral. A sense of morality was created by evolutionary pressures that teach people which behaviors make society flourish."

If there is no God, there is no objective morality. But there is objective morality.

Therefore, there must be a <u>God</u>.

Morality depends on there being <u>moral laws</u>, and moral laws require a <u>moral law</u> maker.

## "If God is good, why does he allow so much evil in the world?"

A good and powerful God could allow evil if he had good reasons to do so.

With our limited, temporal <u>view</u> of things, we cannot hope to know what he might or might not allow to happen.

Children come by their tendency for disobedience naturally.

This is why Christ came into the world, to rescue us from the penalty of our sin.

### "You can't trust the Bible."

#### ...because it was written by humans."

- Christians believe that the Bible was written by humans but <u>inspired</u> and <u>guided</u> by God
- Fulfilled <u>prophecies</u> show that the Bible is more than simply a humanauthored book.
- o The question shouldn't be, 'Who wrote it?' but, 'Is it true?'

# ....because it has been translated and re-translated so many times, it is no longer reliable."

People are thinking of the <u>telephone</u> game where one person tells another person a story until the story no longer represents the original.

Instead, every translation of the Bible has been translated only once; from the <u>original language</u> to the new language.

## ...because it is filled with mistakes and we don't have the original manuscripts.

We can correct the copying errors by <u>comparing</u> all the manuscripts to each other.

We have more copies of <u>ancient texts</u> of the New Testament than any other ancient book.

"People don't come back to life. The resurrection of Jesus is impossible. This extraordinary claim requires extraordinary evidence. "

We do have extraordinary evidence. How would the atheist explain the following:

- o why the disciples believed in the resurrection, to the point of dying for it
- o the empty tomb and enemy attestation to the empty tomb
- o the <u>public appearances</u> of the resurrected Jesus
- o the demonstrable sincerity of the <u>eyewitnesses</u>
- o in the Apostles' case, compelling, inexplicable change
- the <u>conversion</u> and demonstrable sincerity of key antagonists- and skepticsturned-martyrs
- the testimony of the <u>women</u>, deemed unreliable given the historical context

I only believe in what can be proved by science. We used to think thunder was caused by the god Thor. But now science has shown us it's from heat expanding in the atmosphere caused by lightning. So we no longer need God to explain things we don't understand."

This is called <u>Scientism</u> – that no claims are true unless they can be proved by science.

But this statement is self-refuting. Can that *claim* be proved by science?

"Where did God come from? Who designed the designer?

We don't have to say where God came from, because by definition He is eternal.

"You're a Christian just because you were born in America. If you were born in Iran, you would be a Muslim."

To quote Lewis, "You can only find out the rights and wrongs by reasoning.