

## Analysis of a Bad Argument

“SCIENTIFIC PROOF ELOHIM/GOD EXISTS!” ([http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=jNykJk6v\\_oQ](http://au.youtube.com/watch?v=jNykJk6v_oQ))

**Instructions:** Students should read the transcript given below. It contains a complex argument, which in turn contains many sub-arguments, for the existence of God. The final conclusion and some intermediate conclusions are already identified for you (highlighted in **bold**). Students should (1) draw an Argument Map for the whole complex argument (or put it in Standard Form), and (2) determine whether each of the sub-arguments is valid and whether the whole complex argument is valid.

### Transcript:

Man: Greetings, friends! Can god be proven to exist? Or do we just take it by faith and believe without any facts based on reality? True faith, based on the words of God is faith that is based on facts, based on reality. For the creation demands a creator. We are going to look at the proofs that God exists.

Proof #1 is that Creation demands a Creator. Since, nothing can only create nothing, then clearly, something that always existed had to create everything that is created. The universe has not always existed. If the universe came from nothing, how do you explain that? Now, you may ask “Who created God?” The question itself is a fallacy, it doesn’t make sense. How can God be created? He wouldn’t be God if he was created. He always existed. So then you may ask “How could God always exist?”, “Where did he come from?”. [Screen caption: Duh.] Well, if he always existed, he didn’t come from anywhere.

So you may ask “How is that possible?” Well, that’s a fair question. So, let’s answer that. There is a general principle that says that either everything came from nothing, which is impossible, or **something always existed and created everything that is created**. You have no other choice. So which is it? Did nothing create everything, which is impossible, or did something always exist? Which is it? Well, if you are on the side of logic and reason, you will agree that **nothing can only make nothing**. So, something had to create everything that is created. So, something always existed. What is that something?

You may ask. Maybe the universe always existed. We don’t need to invoke God into the equation. But science has already proved that the universe had a specific beginning. Dr. Stephen Hawking (astrophysicist) said, “**the universe has not existed forever**. Rather the universe, and time itself, had a beginning”. The universe is expanding, which (because of the law of cause and effect), means that a first cause had to put it in motion. An example that proves the universe is not eternal is that all radioactive elements continually give off radiation. Consider! Uranium has an atomic weight of 238.0 As it decomposes, it releases a helium atom three times. Each helium atom has an atomic weight of 4. With the new weight of 226.0, uranium becomes radium. Radium continues to give off additional atoms until the end product eventually becomes the inert element called lead. This takes a tremendous amount of time. But what does this mean? It means that there was a point in time when uranium could not have existed, because it always breaks down in a highly systematic controlled way. This also means there was a specific moment in time when all radioactive elements came into existence. Remember, none of them [radioactive elements] have existed forever.

This is the Second Law of Thermodynamics at work! That is, it is “a process of degradation or running down or a trend to disorder” (Merriam-Webster). This shows the universe is moving towards increasing disorder, which is the exact opposite of the Evolutionary Theory that says everything is moving toward increasing complexity, design, and order. As [Aldous] Huxley defined it, evolution involves a continual increase of order, of organization, of size, of complexity. It seems axiomatic that both cannot possibly be true. But there is no question whatever that the Second Law of Thermodynamics is true. [Implicit conclusion: **The Evolutionary Theory is false.**] Some might object: What about open and closed systems? Some say that because the earth gets energy from the sun, it is an open system and therefore it won’t be increasing in entropy. But this only sidesteps the fact that the Second Law of Thermodynamics is observable all around us on the earth as species are dying off and rainforests are disappearing. Also, raw energy from the sun alone is not enough to lower entropy! Energy must be directed into useable energy through an “information system”, or like a plant, a system that has information on how to convert that energy to useable energy. How does a fish develop the increased DNA information to become a bird through mutations? The mutations of DNA will result in loss of information in that animal, not increasing DNA information! Evolution cannot sustain itself with a loss of information. Over time, the result would be no information (no DNA for the animals). The only way

higher life-form could be created, would be with more – in fact, much more – information. Some evolutionists use the argument to the future logical fallacy. They claim it is going to take further advances in science to be able to figure out the cause for life on earth. This answer is really a non-answer. Evolutionists avoid the question and give no real answer, because they have none.

What about time? Is it eternal? Time is the measure of changes of finite things. And so it **[time] cannot be infinite/eternal** either. Imagine flicking a light switch. And I tell you that after you flick the light switch an infinite amount of time I will give you a one dollar bill. Will I ever give you the one dollar bill? No. Because you cannot reach infinity using finite instances. Or else, how many time would you have to flick the light switch until you reach infinity? Or another way of saying it: you can't have an infinite amount of finite things.

So how do you account for the beginning of the universe? **The Big Bang Theory is proven wrong** by the fact nothing only creates nothing. Therefore something (big explosion of matter) can't come from nothing. Something always existed, as the First Law of Thermodynamics states.

Some may object and say "if energy always existed, doesn't that mean that God is bound by physical laws?" No. Because God dwells outside of time. The physical laws are observable as a law within time and space. The universe is not eternal as science shows. And the law of cause and effect states that every effect must be less than the cause. So, as vast as our universe is, **something greater must have caused it**. What is that greater power, than all the powers of the universe, that has always existed and created all things? Is that Creative power intelligent? All we have to do is to look for intelligent design to answer that question. Now, answer this question [screen caption: "Is your brain intelligent? Or not?"]. If you answer "yes" to that question, that the super-computer between your ears is intelligent, then you agree in intelligent design. The only logical conclusion is that **an eternal, existing outside of time and space, intelligent, creative power, created all things**.

This agrees with what the Bible says, that, Heb 13.8, "Yeshua HaMashiach/Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Mal. 3.6 "I change not". Gen. 1.1 "in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. ... And God said, let there be light, and there was light ....

Screen caption: More proof of the Creator God is ... Life demands a life giver. The Law of Biogenesis states, "life can only come from life", which agrees with the Bible in Gen. 2.7 where God breathed His breath of life into man and brought him to life.

*Video showing wide animals.*

Screen caption: Proof of elohim (God) is that God accounts for the order, complexity, and design of the physical universe.

*Video showing a diagram of the cross section of the human eye.*

Screen caption: God accounts for objective moral values (common among us all). How do you know it's wrong to steal? Cheat? Lie? Kill? Who put your conscience (objective moral values) there? (James 4:12) Yah (God) accounts for the claims, character, and credentials of Yeshua HaMashiach/Jesus Christ.

The Bible is the only "holy book" that has fulfilled prophetic promises showing **it is from the true, eternal God**.

Also, do a Google search to confirm hundreds of already fulfilled prophecies in the 1<sup>st</sup> coming of Yeshua (Jesus). Type in ...

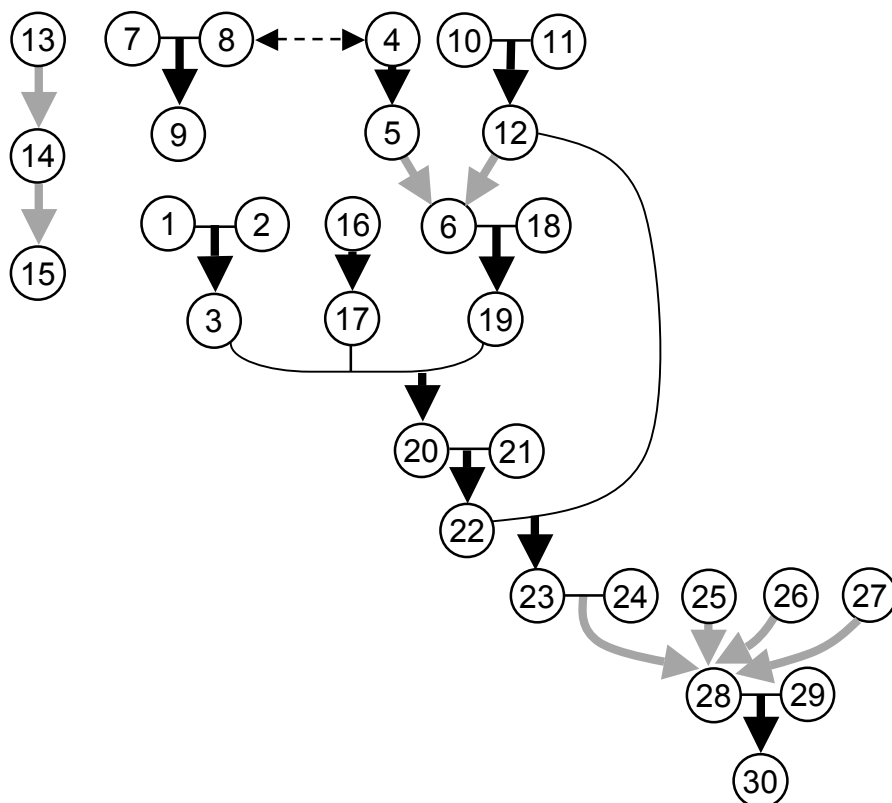
*Video showing how to do Google search "fulfilled prophecy by Yeshua", showing the search results consisting of many quotes from the Bible, such as: "He will bruise Satan's head ..., The god of Shem will be the Son ... As Abraham's seed, will bless all nations ...".*

## Analysis of Argument

### Argument in Standard Form

1. Either nothing created everything or something always existed and created everything that is created.
2. It is impossible that nothing created everything.
3. **Something always existed and created everything that is created. (from 1 & 2)**
4. Uranium and other radioactive active elements always breaks down in a highly systematic controlled way.
5. Uranium and other radioactive elements did not always existed. (from 4)
6. **The universe has not always existed. (from 5; from 12)**
7. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics and the Evolutionary Theory contradict each other.
8. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Law of Thermodynamics is true.
9. **The Evolutionary Theory is false. (from 7 & 8)**
10. Time is the measure of changes of finite things.
11. You cannot have infinite amount of finite things.
12. **Time is not infinite/eternal. (from 10 & 11)**
13. Nothing only creates nothing.
14. Something (big explosion of matter) can't come from nothing. (from 13)
15. **The Big Bang Theory is wrong. (from 14)**
16. The 1<sup>st</sup> Law of Thermodynamics is true.
17. Something always existed. (from 16)
18. Every cause (or that which creates) must be greater than the effect (or that which is created).
19. **Some power greater than all the powers of and things in the universe, created the universe. (from 6 & 18)**
20. The power that is greater than all the powers of and things in the universe and created the universe, **has always existed.** (from 3, 17 & 19)
21. The universe contains intelligent things.
22. The power that is greater than all the powers of and things in the universe and created the universe and has always existed, **is intelligent.** (from 20 & 21)
23. The power that is greater than all the powers of and things in the universe and created the universe and has always existed and is intelligent, also **exists outside of time and space.** (from 12 & 22)
24. Statement 23 agrees with what the Bible says.
25. The Law of Biogenesis (is true and) agrees with what the Bible says.
26. The Bible is the only holy book that has fulfilled prophetic promises.
27. What the Bible says accounts for the order, complexity, and design of the physical universe, and also accounts for objective moral value, your conscience, and credentials of Jesus.
28. **What the Bible says is true. (from 23 & 24; from 25; from 26; from 27)**
29. The Bible said that God is the eternal, existing outside of time and space, intelligent, creative power, created all things.
30. **God is the eternal, existing outside of time and space, intelligent, creative power, that created all things. (from 28 & 29)**

### Argument Map



**Analysis**

16 Starting Premises: (1), (2), (4), (7), (8), (10), (11), (13), (16), (18), (21), (24), (25), (26), (27), (29).

11 Intermediate Conclusions: (3), (5), (6), (12), (14), (17), (19), (20), (22), (23), (28).

3 Final Conclusions: (9), (15), (30).

18 Inferences represented by arrows.

**Comments**

At least 4 premises require affirmation from scientists before we should accept: (4), (7), (8), (16), (25).

At least 6 premises are unsupported and should not be accepted unless good arguments are provided for them: (1), (2), (10), (11), (13), (18), (26).

At least 8 inferences seems illegitimate: indicated by arrows in grey colour.

**Questions**

- Q1.** (a) What is the form of the argument from (1) and (2) together to (3)? (b) Is the form valid? (c) Why?
- Q2.** (a) What is the form of the argument from (7) and (8) together to (9)? (b) Is the form valid? (c) Why?
- Q3.** (a) What is the form shared by the argument from (23) and (24) together to (28) and the argument from (25) to (28)? (b) Is the form valid? (c) Why?
- Q4.** (a) What is the form shared by the argument from (23) and (24) together to (28) and the argument from (25) to (28)? (b) Is the form valid? (c) Why?
- Q5.** Explain why the eight inferences identified above (indicated by grey arrows) are illegitimate.

**Partial Answers****Answer for Q1a:**

The form of the argument from (1) and (2) together to (3) is:

<p><b>P or Q</b>  <b>P is impossible</b>          -----  <b>Q</b></p>
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**Answer for Q2a:**

The form of the argument from (7) and (8) together to (9) is:

<p><b>P and Q contradict each other</b>  <b>P</b>          -----  <b>Not-Q</b></p>
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**Answer for Q3a:**

The form shared by the argument from (23) and (24) together to (28) and the argument from (25) to (28) is:

<p><b>Statement S is true</b>  <b>Statement S agrees with Theory T</b>          -----  <b>Theory T is true</b></p>
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**Answer for Q4a:**

The form of the argument from (27) to (28) is:

<p><b>We have some facts F1, ..., and Fn</b>  <b>Theory T accounts for (i.e., explains) those facts F1, ..., and Fn</b>          -----  <b>Theory T is true</b></p>
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