

Natural Revelation

Romans 1:19-20

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- ▶ ...what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities - his eternal power and divine nature - have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made.

What is God like?

- ▶ Self-Existent
- ▶ Eternal
- ▶ Personal
- ▶ Spiritual
- ▶ All-Powerful
- ▶ All-Present
- ▶ All-Knowing
- ▶ All-Wise
- ▶ Unchanging
- ▶ All-Good

Self-Existent

- ▶ For as the Father has life in himself, so he has granted the Son also to have life in himself.

- John 5:26

Eternal

- ▶ to the only God our Savior be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore!

- Jude 25

Personal and Immaterial

- ▶ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.

- John 4:24

All-Powerful

- ▶ Ah, Sovereign Lord, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.
- Jeremiah 32:17

Arguments from Cause

- ▶ The world provides evidence for God's existence as the first cause or "uncaused cause" of everything else.



Arguments from Cause



► Kalām Cosmological Argument

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

- Conceptual analysis: What does it mean to be a cause of the universe?

- William Lane Craig,
Reasonable Faith

Arguments from Cause

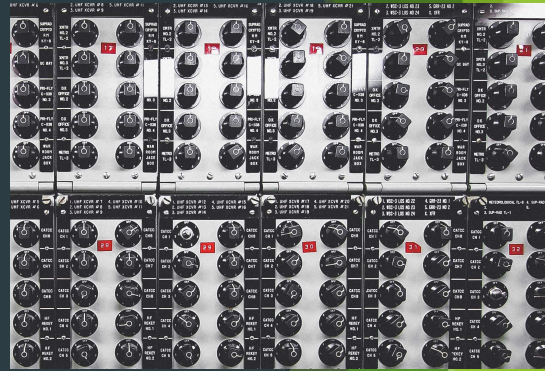


- What does it mean to be a cause of the universe?

- Spaceless
- Timeless
- Immaterial
- Uncaused
- Powerful
- Personal

Arguments from Design

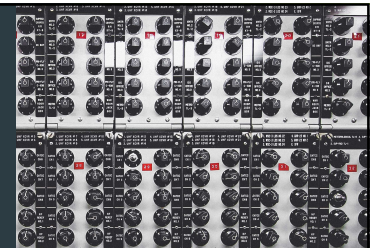
- ▶ Fine-Tuning
 - ▶ Small deviations from the actual values of the constants and quantities in the physical laws of nature would render the universe life-prohibiting.



- William Lane Craig,
Reasonable Faith

Arguments from Design

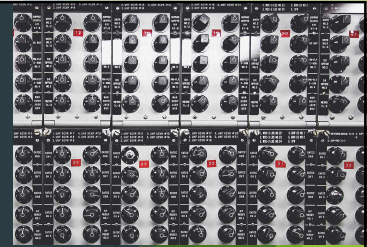
- ▶ Fine-Tuning
 - ▶ Examples
 - ▶ Gravity
 - ▶ Expansion Rate
 - ▶ Initial Distribution of Mass and Energy



- William Lane Craig,
Reasonable Faith

Arguments from Design

- ▶ Fine-Tuning
 - ▶ Possible Explanations
 - ▶ Necessity
 - ▶ Chance
 - ▶ Design



- William Lane Craig,
Reasonable Faith

Arguments from Design

- ▶ Genetic Information
 - ▶ DNA
 - ▶ Genetic Code



- Stephen Myer

Arguments from Design

- ▶ Information comes from intelligence.



- Stephen Myer

Arguments from Design

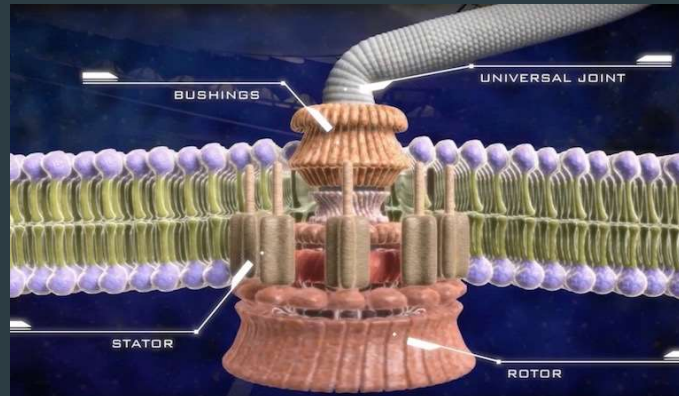
- ▶ Irreducible Complexity
 - ▶ Complex machinery exists in the cell that cannot have arisen by small incremental changes.



- Michael Behe

Arguments from Design

► Irreducible Complexity



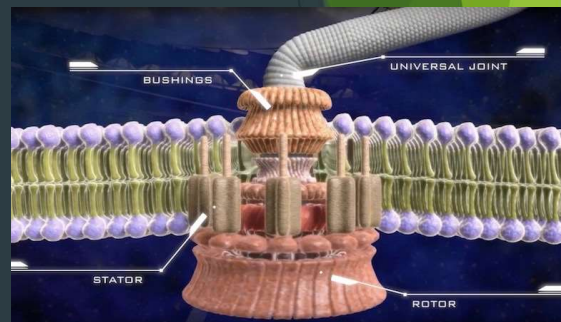
- Michael Behe

Arguments from Design

► Irreducible Complexity

► points to design.

► Design points to an intelligent designer.



- Michael Behe

Assessment

- ▶ These arguments point to a creator.
 - ▶ They do not get us to the full concept of the Christian God, but they do tell us something about the creator.

Natural Revelation

- ▶ In creation God reveals his eternal power and divine nature.

Resources

- ▶ William Lane Craig
 - ▶ reasonablefaith.org
- ▶ Stephen C. Meyer
 - ▶ stephencmeyer.org
- ▶ Michael Behe
 - ▶ michaelbehe.com