

God Revealed

Proverbs 1:1-7

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- ▶ The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel:
 - for gaining wisdom and instruction;
 - for understanding words of insight;
 - for receiving instruction in prudent behavior,
 - doing what is right and just and fair;

Proverbs 1:1-7

- ▶ The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge...

Worldview

- ▶ System of beliefs about how the world is.
 - ▶ What is the nature of reality?
 - ▶ Does God exist?
 - ▶ Who am I?
 - ▶ Why am I here?
 - ▶ What is a good life?

Worldview

- ▶ Christian Theism
- ▶ Other forms of Theism
- ▶ Hinduism, Buddhism
- ▶ New Age
- ▶ Post-Modernism
- ▶ Naturalism

Naturalism

- ▶ “The Cosmos is all that is or ever was or ever will be.”
- Carl Sagan

Naturalism

- ▶ There are arguments for and against naturalism.
- ▶ Belief in naturalism undermines itself.

Naturalism

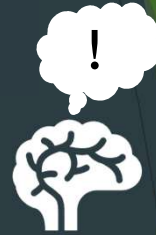
- ▶ If naturalism and evolution are true, then naturalism cannot be rationally affirmed.





Naturalism

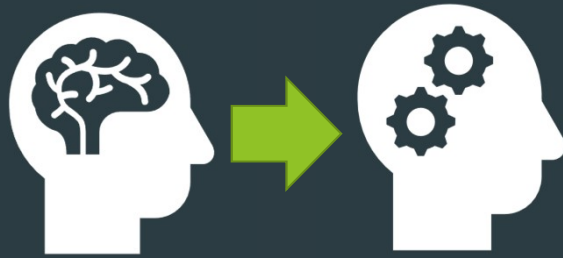
- ▶ All of our beliefs are selected for survival, not truth.
 - ▶ Our beliefs are unreliable.
 - ▶ Our belief that “naturalism is true” is unreliable.
 - ▶ Naturalism may be true, but it cannot be rationally affirmed.



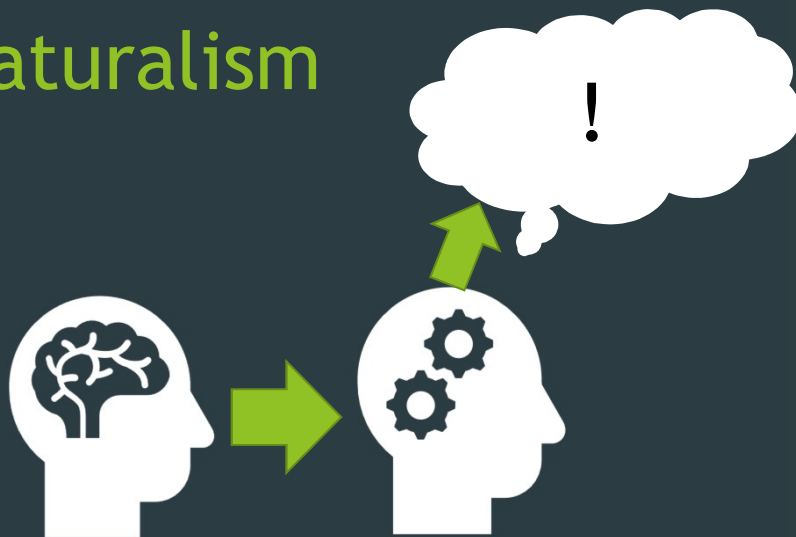
Naturalism

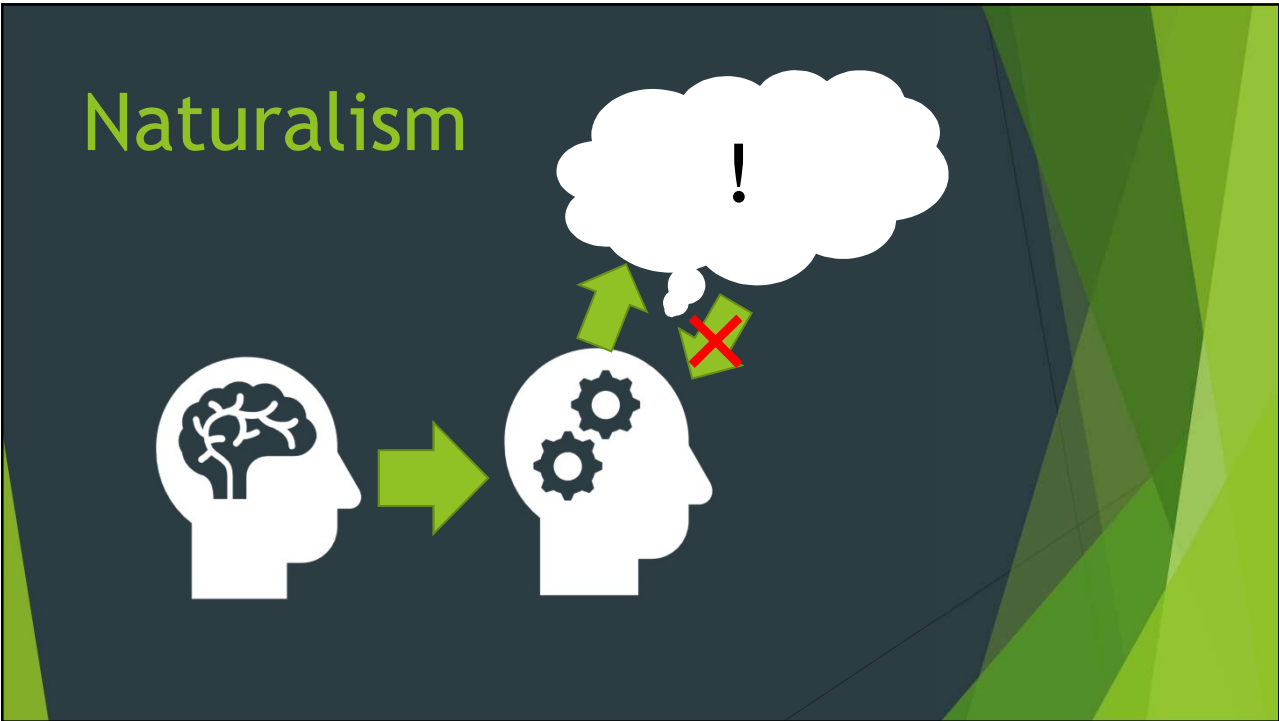
- ▶ If naturalism is true, our beliefs are determined, and naturalism cannot be rationally affirmed.

Naturalism



Naturalism





Naturalism

- ▶ All our beliefs are determined by physics and chemistry.
- ▶ If naturalism is true, it cannot be rationally affirmed.



Naturalism

- ▶ These two arguments do not show that naturalism is false.
 - ▶ They show that there is no warrant to believe it to be true.

Arguments from Morality

- 1) If God does not exist, then objective moral values and duties do not exist.
- 2) Objective moral values and duties do exist.
- 3) Therefore, God exists.

Arguments from Morality

- ▶ Moral Values
 - ▶ What is good or bad?
- ▶ Moral Duties
 - ▶ What is right or wrong?

Arguments from Morality

- ▶ Objective
 - ▶ independent of what people think or perceive.
 - ▶ Without God, good/bad and right/wrong cannot be objective.

Arguments from Morality

- ▶ Our moral experience shows us that objective moral values and duties do exist.
- ▶ There are some things that are wrong not matter what people think.

Arguments from Morality

- ▶ Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them.
- Romans 2:14-15

Arguments from Morality

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Arguments from Morality

- ▶ Moral values are grounded in God's nature.
 - ▶ God is essentially good.
 - ▶ He is the standard of goodness.
- ▶ Moral duties are grounded in divine commands.

Assessment

- ▶ Arguments from
 - ▶ cause
 - ▶ design
 - ▶ morality
 - ▶ mathematics
 - ▶ intentionality
 - ▶ meaning

Assessment

- ▶ These arguments point to God.
 - ▶ transcendent, immaterial, powerful, personal, all-good, uncreated creator
- ▶ But they do not get us to the full concept of the Christian God.

Assessment

- ▶ How do we get there?
 - ▶ God reveals himself in human history through the person of Jesus and his resurrection from the dead.

Resurrection

- ▶ Historical Evidence:
 - ▶ Empty tomb
 - ▶ Appearances of Jesus
 - ▶ Disciple's belief that God raised Jesus from the dead.

Resurrection

- ▶ What is the best explanation of the evidence?
 - ▶ Naturalistic theories fall short.
 - ▶ God raised Jesus from the dead.

God Revealed

- ▶ These worldviews are in conflict.
 - ▶ The debate is not about evidence vs. faith.
 - ▶ We have opposing systems of belief.
 - ▶ Where does the evidence lead?

God Revealed

- ▶ God wants us to know him.
 - ▶ He reveals himself in nature.
 - ▶ He reveals himself in morality.
 - ▶ He reveals himself in human history.
- ▶ We have good reasons to trust in him.

Resources

- ▶ William Lane Craig
 - ▶ reasonablefaith.org
- ▶ Frank Turek
 - ▶ crossexamined.org
- ▶ Stand to Reason
 - ▶ str.org
- ▶ Gary Habermas