
Subject: Re: Questions I would like to pose to athiests
Posted by [eatcow](#) on Mon, 27 Feb 2012 20:56:54 GMT
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Spoony wrote on Mon, 27 February 2012 05:08eatcow wrote on Mon, 27 February 2012 03:29Either the universe was created by chance or from a deity. The odds of chance for the universe can be compared to a million monkeys on typewriters and one of them by chance in a million years will have typed out Hamlet, only the odds for chance is even more staggering. The odds that life evolved as we see it today, is smaller then the inverse of the USA government's debt. So many things could have gone wrong, but here we are. The logical explanation placed by Christians and religions is a deity/deities created.
...which only aggravates the question rather than answers it. now, instead of having to explain the origins of a few blobs of hydrogen or whatever, you've got to explain the origins of a super-intelligent, incomprehensibly powerful being.

If a deity created the universe, then the deity created time. The creator is greater then the creation by principle of causality so the deity is outside of time. This gets us the deity must be infinite.

Quote:One argument put forth for a deity is called the argument of design. Looking at how the universe was designed, that mankind evolved to the way it did. 1 trillionth of a degree difference, and the carbon molecule could have never formed.
i will admit that the "fine tuned universe" is the only semi-thought-provoking argument i've ever heard from the religious. it doesn't prove a word of their own assertions, of course, it simply shows that the origin of the universe is more complicated than we're capable of understanding right now... and certainly more complicated than the fools who wrote the bible and quran could ever dream of.

Quote:The intricacies of evolution is so vast. Theory that it happened without a deity and that a survival of the fittest principle does not explain the altruistic love, abstract thinking, and our conscience.
that's easy... we (most of us, anyway) have figured out that we do better if we work together. we aren't the only species intelligent enough to notice this.

natural selection fails here as well since it does not explain conscience, or abstract thinking. Neither of which are necessary in terms of surviving yet exist.

Quote:Our brain is perhaps the most complicated thing ever created. If the brain is the product of random chance, then this violates the principal of causality, (you cannot get more in the effect than the cause). If there is intelligence in us, man, the effect, then there must be intelligence in the cause. The universe built off random chance has no intelligence thus there must be a cause for human intelligence that transcends the universe, an intelligence behind our physical universe.
uh, random chance? you used the phrase "survival of the fittest" earlier, so i presume you have heard of the theory of evolution.

yes I have heard the theory. But your comments here does not address the argument made here.

Quote:The first two paragraphs establish there exists a deity of some sort, atleast one deity.

they try to...

Quote:The next thing to ponder is if there exists such a being(s), then God(s) must have made an appearance in history.

that doesn't follow. even if i accept that yes the universe was created by a god (which i don't), then it doesn't follow that this god has revealed itself to us. it might have gone away, it might have died or something, it might simply not give a shit about us or not have noticed us turning up billions of years after it started the universe up...

Since the deity is above time and is infinite, the deity cannot die. Does a gardener abandon his garden? Does a mother abandon her child?

Quote:An argument for Jesus. Secular, Jewish, and Christian sources attest to such a man living with revolutionary teaching. This man Jesus cannot be simply a good teacher. He claimed he was the Son of God. Either this is true or false. If true, then he is more than a good teacher. If false, he is far worse for he got nearly 2 billion people to believe a package of lies.

false dichotomy. there are more than two options here. if he claimed to be the son of god, then he may have been lying, he may have been crazy, he may have been joking, he may have been honestly mistaken, he may have been correct (definitely the least plausible option so far), or he may not even have made the claim at all.

and even if he did say so, it's not necessarily his fault that 2 billion people believe it now.

He did claim to be the Son of God, the Bible reveals such along with Roman and Jewish authorities from that era. If he was crazy or joking this proves my point on how he cannot simply be a good teacher (either case, he several times claimed to be divine and the Son of God) for no good teacher would teach something drastically false.

Quote:The Bible claims this man Jesus was crucified and died. Everyone from that time period agree (Christians, Jews, Romans, etc), history reveals such. Death by crucifixion is guaranteed, the Romans would break the legs of the people to ensure asphyxiation. The question is whether he rosed from the dead. This is the key, for if he truly did, then he is the Son of God and we should believe in what he taught.

whoah, what? you were doing fine until the last sentence. some guy did something you don't understand and therefore you know he was the "son of god"? you know what he was because you don't understand how he did X?

secondly, why does surviving death make someone a good and wise person?

You misread, there is a if in the sentence. I am not claiming at this point of my argument that he is and so your argument here falls apart. For the second part, you and I have already ruled out Jesus cannot be a good person, leaving the options of his divinity or him being an imposter. If he was an imposter then he would have stayed dead. What person do you know who can come back from the dead and not be divine?

Quote:Jesus was buried in a cave with a massive stone weighing thousands of pounds barring the entrance. Roman soldiers guarded the entrance. Since Jesus died as an enemy of the state

(crucifixion was the penalty for such people), the Roman soldiers guarded the tomb because if something happened, their lives were at stake so they were vigilant at their duty. History does not show they abandoned their posts yet the body of Jesus was missing. The 11 apostles (the main followers of Jesus, Judas had hung himself so 11 at this time) were not soldiers. They were scared shitless because history reveals they were hiding during this time from the time of the crucifixion to 3 days later (when Jesus was discovered missing from the tomb). It would be highly skeptical to presume these 11 men overpowered professional soldiers. It is also skeptical that they stole the body from the tomb while the guards were sleeping. Not a likely proposition remembering how massive the stone weighed, the psychological state of the 11, and the fact the Roman soldiers would have hunted them down and killed them.

Historically, there are more than a dozen secular sources noting Jesus' rising from the dead coming from the time period, not to mention the Jewish sources and hundreds of Christian sources. End result is the historical conclusion that Jesus lived, was crucified, died, was buried, but rose from the dead
where are you getting these supposed historical facts from?

Here is a list of some

Jewish sources:

Flavius Josephus
Mara bar Sarapion
The Talmud

Secular:

Suetonius
Tacitus
Pliny the Younger
Lucian
Celsus
Galen

Christian:

Mark, Matthew, Luke, John (4 writers of the Gospel)
Paul
Ignatius of Antioch
Justin the Martyr
Irenaeus
Tertullian
Clement of Alexandria
Clement of Rome
Cyprian
Dionysius of Corinth

Quote: The Jewish God is the same Christian God. Christianity of these times may seem like a pool of confusion. After all, there is over 33,000 different denominations in Christianity due to

backbiting, doctrine issues, interpretation, etc.

and the garbled and contradictory nature of the bible (which is only to be expected)

Actually this has more to do with Catholic-Protestant theology versus the Bible. If you make a religion based off the complete works of Edgar Allan Poe and your main tenant of faith is that everyone is to take his poetry and decided what they believed, you will end up with the same result as you see within Christianity today. Protestant theology claims exactly this with the Bible. It is called sola scriptura. Christianity can be broken down like this. There is Catholicism and Protestantism. Every other Christian denomination stems from Protestantism except Eastern Orthodoxy which came from Catholicism. Protestants also broke away from the Catholic Church. For 1000 years there was only one Christian Church, Catholicism. Eastern Orthodoxy rejected the authority of the Pope in 1054 (the only major theological difference between the two). Christianity was not as broken as you see it today until the reformation, when the idea of sola scriptura was born.

Quote: Truth itself cannot be divided. Each denomination has various amounts of truth, but only one can be 100% true. This does not mean to give up for the Christian God is a God of love and He always waiting for the lost to come home.

Let me know if you have questions

OK, then. Question: What happens if we don't "come home"?

It is not my place to judge. No Christian should judge you for anything. Whether or not you "come home" is entirely based on your free will.

I ran out of time, but I am going to post more later today
