

Building the *CORE* Series  
The Existence of God: Our *CORE* Belief  
Romans 1:18-20  
October 10 -11, 2009  
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Our physical bodies are made up of several core muscles which keep our bodies functioning properly if we keep them exercised and in shape. Our spiritual walk also has several *CORE* beliefs we need to exercise in order to glorify God. During this sermon series, the *CORE* beliefs we will focus on are the Word of God, the existence of God, how we are saved, set apart and glorified, the Trinity, and Jesus Christ as prophet, priest and king. It is our hope that God will use this series to strengthen us individually and as a church. Today, we will look at some of the clues for the existence of God.

How do we know that God exists? The answer can be given in two parts: First, all people have an inner sense of God. Second, we believe the evidence that is found in Scripture and in nature.  
Wayne Grudem

“Though there cannot be irrefutable proof for the existence of God, many people have found strong clues for this reality- divine fingerprints- in many places.” Timothy Keller (The Reason for God) p. 127.

**Why should the existence of God be our *CORE* belief?**

I. God reveals Himself through \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 1:18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, 19 since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. 20 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, so that men are without excuse.

Acts 14:17 "Yet he has not left himself without testimony: He has shown kindness by giving you rain from heaven and crops in their seasons; he provides you with plenty of food and fills your hearts with joy."

A. God is revealed in the "\_\_\_\_\_."

"Almost everyone now believes that the universe, and time itself had a beginning at the Big bang." Stephen Hawking (The Nature of Time and Space p.20).

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

"We have this very solid conclusion that the universe had an origin, the Big Bang. Fifteen billion years ago, the universe began with an unimaginably bright flash of energy from an infinitesimally small point. That implies before that, there was nothing. I can't imagine how nature could have created itself. And the very fact that the universe had a beginning implies that someone was able to begin it. And it seems to me that had to be outside of nature." Francis Collins, Scientist

<http://www.salon.com/books/int/2006/08/07/collins/index2.html>

The very fact that the universe had a beginning means that someone began it.

The humanist considers evolution the correct foundation for every individual's worldview and believes that the world can be properly understood only from this perspective. Noebel, p.118.

"Evolution is a fact, not a theory." Carl Sagan

Science has never observed macroevolution, and there is no indication of such a series of "miracles" occurring in fossil records.

B. God is revealed in the beauty of \_\_\_\_\_.

Psalm 19:1-4 The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. 2 Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. 3 There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. 4 Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. In the heavens he has pitched a tent for the sun,

**Our Response:** Our innate appreciation for the beauty of the creation is a clue that what we see is not a random collection of matter but evokes in us to seek a deeper sense of purpose from our Creator.

II. God is revealed in our \_\_\_\_\_ sense or conscience.

Romans 2:14 (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, 15 since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.)

John 1:9 The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world.

Acts 17:31 "For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to all men by raising him from the dead."

You could argue that, but if it was just a cultural tradition, you ought to be able to find some cultures where it is not present. If you read the appendix of C.S. Lewis' wonderful book "The Abolition of Man," he comes to the conclusion that there is this wonderful, monotonous repetition of morals across the world and across history. You are to reach out to those who are less fortunate. You are to aid the widow, you are to help the orphan. All of these altruistic things seem to be a universal feature of human beings. And yet, they're a scandal to evolutionary biology because they motivate people to do things that are exactly the opposite of what evolution would require. Francis Collins

**Our Response:** There are two choices: remember the Creator or forget the Creator.

A. The propensity of our world is to \_\_\_\_\_ the Creator.

Romans 1:25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator-- who is forever praised. Amen.

Romans 1:28 Furthermore, since they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done.

Psalm 10:4 In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

“I believe that people in our culture know unavoidably that there is a God, but they are repressing what they know.” Timothy Keller

B. The great purpose of our lives is to \_\_\_\_\_ God our Creator.

Ephesians 1:13 And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,

Ephesians 2:8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith-- and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--

Hebrews 11:6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

**Our Response:** We see God in nature, in the beautiful things around us, through our sense of right and wrong, and agree with the testimony of Scripture about the existence of God who loves people and displayed it through His Son Jesus Christ.