

Can Rational  
People Believe In  
Divine Creation?



“Science”

“Logic”

“Reason”

“Rational  
Thought”

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**WARNING:  
PHOTOS  
ARE  
EASILY  
FAKED!**

**GOD**

THE  
**RICHARD  
DAWKINS  
DELUSION**

**Professor Dawkins**

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# Thinking Like A Christian...

- Creature / creation distinction is fundamental. If we start somewhere else, we WILL think mistaken thoughts about God.
  - The knowledge of God is all mediated from the Creator to his creatures.
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# Thinking Like A Christian...

- To leave aside creation in our thinking is to leave aside Christianity, and the God worshipped by Christians.

Hence, the denial or ignoring of creation is the denial of the triune God of Christianity.

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# Going On The Attack!

Is *disbelief* in divine creation logical, reasonable or rational?

I will be arguing that the issues regarding logic, reason and morality themselves are unsolvable problems without assuming divine creation.

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# Going On The Attack!

If we assume that atheism is true, then what can we say about logic, reason and morality themselves?

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# IMAGINE



# NO RELIGION



# IMAGINE



# NO ATHEISM

# None of this today...

- Genes, fossils, rocks...
- History, Genesis, the Big Bang...

## But this...

- Comparing two systems of thought – Christianity + atheism
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# What Is Atheism?

No God, or no proof  
for God?

Making atheism the  
“default”

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*“We cannot, of course, disprove God, just as we can't disprove Thor, fairies, leprechauns and the Flying Spaghetti Monster. But, like those other fantasies that we can't disprove, we can say that God is very very improbable.”*

Richard Dawkins

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# God vs. Atheism

The meaning of “logic”, “reason”, “good” and “evil” is part of what's at stake, and cannot be assumed.

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# War of the World-views

- An interpretative grid
  - What is fundamental to everything else – assumed, not derived.
  - Everybody has one – but may not think about it, or live consistently with it.
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# A World-view

1. Creation – where's it from?
  2. Fall – what's gone wrong?
  3. Redemption – what's the answer?
  4. Consummation – how will it end?
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Different world views give different answers to essential questions...

What is logic?

What is evil?

Why is reason reliable?

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# Christian World-view

*“In him we live, and  
move, and have our  
being” - Acts 17:28*

No neutral territory!

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# Christian World-view

Logic, reason, and morality are fundamental in God's creation because they are fundamental in the perfect being of God the Creator.

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# Atheist World-view

## 1. Materialism

-> The brain contains the mind.

## 2. Natural processes explain all organisation.

## 3. Evolution and change.

-> The mind is the result of, and undergoing, evolutionary change.

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# Atheist World-view (2)

4. The end:

Destruction... or more change.



# Atheist World View

*“Lead us, Evolution, lead us  
Up the future's endless stair:  
Chop us, change us, prod us, weed us,  
For stagnation is despair:  
Groping, guessing, yet progressing,  
Lead us nobody knows where.”*

*- C. S. Lewis*

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# Atheism & Logic

Christianity gives us unchanging laws.

Atheism must posit that logic depends upon matter and upon the brain.

Atheism cannot give a coherent account for the immutability or transcendence of the laws of logic.

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# Atheism & Rationality

Christianity says that man has innate knowledge, through the divine image.

The atheist can only know what his genes, in the present state of human evolution, allow his brain to know – and all is subject to future change.

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# Atheism & Morality

Christianity grounds creature morality in the Creator's morality – objective, universal, unchanging.

Atheist morality is only a convention, subject to change, a personal preference, exchanging morality for pragmatics and essentially denying it.

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# Atheism & Morality

Atheist morality cannot satisfyingly explain the way that we instinctively and necessarily feel morality works.

The atheist has the real “problem of evil” - under atheism, there can be no ultimate, objective evil - only personal taste. Evil is just “stuff I dislike”.

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# IMAGINE



# NO MEANING

# Atheism & Coherence

Christianity explains why logic, reason and morality agree so perfectly – because they all agree perfectly in God.

Atheism cannot give any coherent explanation either to prove that they do agree, or to explain why they might do.

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# Atheism & Meaning

Christianity explains that life has objective meaning; history is purposeful.

Atheist attempts to give meaning to life are all necessarily and fundamentally irrational.

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*“The universe that we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is, at bottom, no design, no purpose, no evil, no good, nothing but pitiless indifference.”* - Richard Dawkins, in “Scientific American”.

... which means you Dawkins cannot, without being illogical, argue that religion is evil ...

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# Conclusions

No neutral ground!

Creation alone allows reliance upon science, logic, reason, morality etc. Under atheism, these things hang in mid-air.

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# Conclusions

*“18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, 19 because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Professing to be wise, they became fools, 23 and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.” - Romans 1:18-23*

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# Conclusions

Man is made in the image of God; man cannot deny his fundamental nature. It keeps leaking out! The atheist is created, and lives in the created world – he is compelled to keep on contradicting the beliefs he claims to hold. In other words...

*He must live irrationally.*

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