

“God, Are You There?”

- Many people today are searching for something – something that will satisfy. But there is more dissatisfaction, depression and suicides than ever. Why?
- What are you searching for? Whatever our situation, the Bible tells us that God is searching for us! Luke 19:10.

There are four basic areas of life and thinking that remind us that God must be real:

1) *FIRST CAUSE – God is the only possible First Cause of everything*

- Some scientists say that the big bang and evolution can give the answer for why everything is here. But evolution is a **theory** which assumes that something (A) evolves into something else (B), but it does not explain *origins* (where the something (A) came from). Also, the big bang is not enough – where did the material that exploded come from, and where did the explosion itself come from?
- The Bible teaches that there is a great and awesome God who was big and powerful enough to create everything. Genesis 1:1.
- There are also things like our rationality (our thinking), our personality and our spirituality that all need an adequate explanation. How could anything other than God explain these non-material things?

2) *DESIGN – God is the only one who can explain the Design we see in the universe*

- We know the difference between things that are designed and things that are by random processes operating over time (compare an arrowhead with a piece of stone worn by water). Examples of design in the universe:

1) **Life** – the living cell with its DNA is a complicated well-organized system, which cannot be manufactured.

2) **Sight** – eyes are a remarkable organ with rods and cones to detect colour and intensity of light. Eyes transfer the information to the retina, which further communicates with the brain, which processes this information so we can recognize what we see.

3) **Pacific salmon** are born in freshwater and swim down to the ocean. Their body changes to allow them to live in the saltwater. Then when it goes upstream to spawn it returns to the exact same stream where it was born!

4) **Redcockaded woodpeckers** have strong beaks and skulls as well as shock-absorbing tissue between the beak and the skull, both of which allow it to bang trees without being hurt and damaged.

5) **The Solar System** – around 1500BC Job wrote ***“God hangs the earth on nothing”*** – long before Newton discovered the Laws of Gravity! Job 26:7 ***Sir Isaac Newton*** said, “I have a fundamental belief in the Bible as the word of God, written by men who were inspired. I study the Bible daily ... Atheism is senseless. When I look at the solar system, I see the earth at the right distance from the sun to receive the proper amount of heat and light. This did not happen by chance.”

6) **The Earth** – Around 700BC Isaiah wrote ***“God who sits above the circle [sphere] of the earth”*** – long before Magellan sailed around the world in 1519AD to prove to people the earth was not flat! Isaiah 40:22 *The Bible says: Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear (Hebrews 11:3).*

3) *MORALITY – God is the only one who can explain Objective Morality*

- “Objective” means something that never changes, something that is true even if no one believes it.
- There is right and wrong, and this is called objective morality. It must have come from the great law-giver (God). Many people do not like this because they want to be their own boss, and do their own thing.
- Morality reminds us that God’s laws exist, and that we have broken them. There we need a Saviour.

4) *PURPOSE AND MEANING – God gives humans Purpose and Meaning*

- Our modern philosophy does not lead us to think of meaning – if evolution is true we are just a pile of molecules, just some “stuff”. How can we manufacture our own meaning if that is what we are?
- It is God who gives meaning and purpose, and He is big enough to do this for everyone because He is God! Revelation 4:11. His purpose is for us to know Him and be saved (Acts 4:12).