

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEC 4, 2016

HOME: Fred & Romaine Elliott, Henry McDonald, Lucille Finn, Peyton Preston, Rick Pope, Hoyt Elliott, Shanna Robbins

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, J.D. Dailey, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Margie Thomasson, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Wanda Self, Jamie Sanford, Bruce Windham, Raymond Johnson, Joyce Jacobs, Patrick Parker, Gene McDonald, Mike Miles, Terry Galloway, Jon Sanford, Marvin White, Jimmy Harrison, Otto Tolbert, Diane Chambers, Angie Jones, Victor Crosby, Brianna Cordell, Michael Griggs, Bud Howell, Margaret Henson

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "DEFENSES FOR OUR BELIEF"

PM - BEN WRIGHT - "TRUST IN TRYING TIMES"

THERE WILL BE CAROLING AFTER SERVICES TODAY FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE AND ANY WHO ARE INTERESTED IN GOING WITH

DEC 25TH AFTERNOON SERVICE TIMES ARE CHANGED: THERE WILL BE A 30 MINUTE BREAK AFTER MORNING WORSHIP AND THEN WE WILL MEET FOR OUR AFTERNOON SERVICE WITH CONNOR RODEN SPEAKING FOR US

REMEMBER TO FILL OUT YOUR MENU SELECTIONS FOR OUR HOLIDAY MEAL AND GIVE THEM TO CHRIS OR SHANNA BY TODAY

BIRTHDAYS:

Dec 4: Sandra Richardson & Tammy Whitfield

7: Jason Chambers

ANNIVERSARY:

Dec 6: Gene & Linda McDonald

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HWY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Class 9:30

Worship 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827

Carlton Myers 221-0637

Neil Myers 924-9289

Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

David Preston 300-1927

Kevin Richardson 295-8864

Chris Robbins 388-1354

Vince Roden 924-4062

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

DEFENSES FOR OUR BELIEF (1 Peter 3:15)

I. The Cosmological Argument.

A. This argument in its simplest form says that the universe is here and it must have a _____ for being here.

B. In scientific terms, the cosmological argument says there are no _____ regressions.

1. In other words, at some point there had to be a _____.

2. If, as many say, there was a big bang, which goes against scripture, from where did the _____ come that went bang?

C. Ultimately what this is, is the law of _____ and _____: For an effect to have occurred, there must be a _____ cause.

D. The universe _____, so there must be a cause great enough to have this effect.

E. We believe and know this Cause to be _____.

F. Science does not argue at all with the Law of Cause and Effect because it is the _____ of every scientific experiment that is done.

II. The Moral Argument.

A. Basically, this argument states God is necessary for _____ moral values or duties to exist.

B. I have heard this argument described as a sense of _____.

1. We are born with a _____ of oughtness.

2. There are those who simply do what they want and these people are described as _____.

C. If there is no ultimate _____ of morality, then a person can do whatever he wants to do.

D. Our Lord used this argument against the _____ (Matthew 23:23).

E. Peter and the apostles used this argument to defend why they needed to continue to preach _____ (Acts 5:29).

III. The Teleological Argument.

A. This is the argument from _____: design demands a designer.

B. There are _____ signs of design with the placement of planets, moons, and stars, so there must be a Grand Designer.

C. This argument is _____ with scripture, as are the other arguments (Romans 1:20).

D. The _____ shows amazing signs of design.

E. Sir Fred Hoyle made this brilliant remark: "The chance that higher forms have emerged in this way is comparable with the chance that a tornado sweeping through a _____ might assemble a Boeing 747 from the materials therein".

The Perfect Analogy **Trevor Major, M.Sc., M.A.**

One of the problems with William Paley's design arguments, critics allege, is that his analogies were imperfect. For example, while we know that watchmakers exist and make watches, or at least that such skill is available, we cannot be sure that nature has such a Maker. In other words, while the watchmaker is real and apparent, we know of God only by inferring His existence from the things He supposedly designed.

The clearest response to this claim comes from archaeology, which rummages through nature looking for evidence of human activity. On occasion, it unearths something with no modern analogy. For example, archaeologists still do not fully understand how the Egyptians built the Great Pyramid, and no one is building such pyramids today. Yet few people would argue that it is anything but a feat of ancient Egyptian engineering.

The argument applies equally to future events. Carl Sagan wrote that a "single message from space" would show evidence of intelligent life elsewhere in the Universe (1979, p. 275). Just recently (1993), he and his co-workers declared that Earth harbors not only life, but intelligent life, based solely on data gathered from the Galileo spacecraft. Researchers hope to use similar techniques in identifying intelligence from extraterrestrial radio emissions (even in a "single message"). Yet they would know nothing about the cause of that message, apart from inferring that it must be intelligent enough to make such a transmission.

This is precisely the argument used by Paley, and modern science has served only to sharpen his analogies. Paley saw design in the wonders of life, but through our knowledge of DNA, we can observe the genetic code responsible for that life.

How do we know that something has an intelligent cause, like DNA or a message from space? Simple order is not enough (e.g., a crystal of salt, or the sequence of letters "aabbaabb"). Nor is mere complexity sufficient (e.g., a random arrangement of molecules, or the sequence of letters "adndjbsaf"). Rather, it must contain information, or specified complexity (e.g., a sequence of binary digits making up a computer program, or the sentence "In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth"). Using four chemical "letters," DNA contains instructions for thousands of different proteins, enzymes, and hormones. This information is so like the products of intelligence—especially language and computer programs—that we must infer an intelligent cause of life (Geisler and Anderson, 1987).

REFERENCES

Geisler, Norman L. and J. Kerby Anderson (1987), *Origin Science* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker).

Sagan, Carl (1979), *Broca's Brain* (New York: Random House).

Sagan, Carl, et al. (1993), "A Search for Life on Earth from the Galileo Spacecraft," *Nature*, 365:715-716, October 21.

(www.apologeticspress.org/apcontent.aspx?category=13&article=383)