

Does God Exist?

JEFF SMITH

Christianity, some may believe, is a “religion” of blind faith and that it is far removed from science (so-called) and reason. Yet, the God of the Bible has invited us to do just the opposite of that popular belief.....”Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord.” (Isaiah 1:18). Christianity has no fear of controversy, indeed, reason is very important to her very foundation.

Does God exist? We must reason about this concept and reason alone will tell us (aside from any Biblical arguments for God’s existence) that God does exist! How can we affirm this? There are four naturalistic arguments (these are arguments that have nothing to do with the Bible) for the existence of God.

1. *Cosmological* (Greek word *cosmos*, “world”). The universe is an effect which requires an adequate cause, and only possible sufficient cause is God (Psalms 19:1, of course the Bible concurs).

2. *Teleological* (Greek word *telos*, “end”). The universe not only proves a maker but tells of the existence of a master designer (Romans 1:18-20). We can observe in the universe and all of nature a distinct purpose for all things, this strongly argues that there is a God and great designer. Again, the Bible concurs.

3. *Anthropological* (Greek word *anthropos*, “man”). Because man is a moral and intellectual being (certainly this greatly distinguishes humans from animals), he must have a maker who likewise is moral and intelligent (Acts 17:29). Man’s moral nature, religious instincts, conscience, and emotional nature, tell us....there is a God! Yes, the Bible agrees.

4. *Ontological* (Greek word *on*, “being”). Man inherently harbors the notion of a Perfect Supreme Being. This notion includes the idea of existence, since a being, otherwise perfect, whom did not exist would not be as perfect as a perfect being who did exist. We conclude that, since the idea of existence contains the idea of the Most Perfect Being, logic and reason tells us that the Most Perfect Being must exist.

day in the WORD BIBLE CONFERENCE

CATHY WATSON

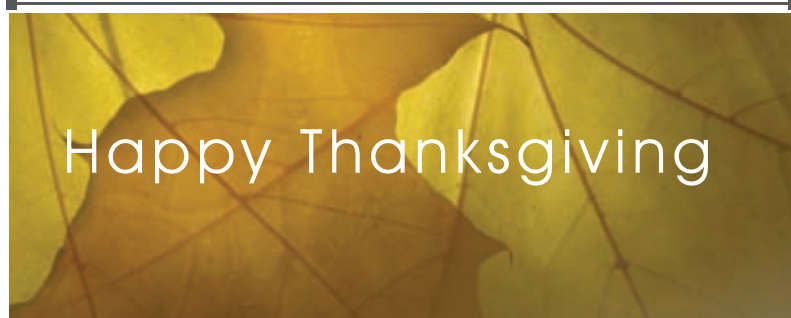
As a fitting ending to our month-long trip in October, we wound up in North Bend, OR to attend the Sixth Annual Day in the Word Conference sponsored by Mariner's Reformed Baptist Church.

The conference began on Saturday morning at 9:00 with juice and coffee for all. This was an opportunity to renew old acquaintances and be introduced to the speakers and new faces. The actual business began promptly at 9:30.

The first speaker was Pastor Gordon Taylor, who is coordinator for the ARBCA (Association of Reformed Baptist Churches of America). Using scriptures from The Gospel of John, his messages inspired us toward greater love for our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The second speaker was Jamin Hubner, a young man with an impressive list of accomplishments and an amazing gift for preaching. His exposition of the First Chapter of Romans was outstanding. It took three messages to unpack the entire chapter.

At this writing, I have not received the promised CD's of the messages, but when I get them they will be available to all who would like to benefit from them.



Happy Thanksgiving

FAVORITE recipes

ALLISSA BELL

Grandma Naomi's Feather Rolls

- 2 yeast cakes or 2 packages of dry yeast
- Add to 1/2 cup of warm water (Warmer than a baby bottle, but not hot).
- Let set until dissolved.

- 1 cup scalded milk (hot milk but not boiling)
- 1/3 cup melted shortening (can use melted butter)
- 1/3 cup of sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs (well beaten)
- 4-5 cups of flour

Mix hot milk with shortening, sugar, salt, and eggs in large bowl. Let hot mixture cool down to warm and add dissolved yeast mixture. Beat in about 3 cups of flour the rest you may need to knead in. Dough should be soft. Let rise until doubled.

Roll out into a circle and spread on softened butter. Cut into 2 inch pie shaped pieces and then roll up like croissants. Let rise again and bake on greased cookie sheet, at 350° for 12 - 15 minutes.

Photos: Lauran Woodruff

The Listener's Bible (mp3)

RECOMMENDED LISTENING

Narrated by Max McLean

JEFF KROEKER

Struggling to consistently read through the Bible each year? Are you wasting valuable time each day in your car while traveling across town, or down the highway on a trip? Perhaps "The Listener's Bible" narrated by Max McLean may be a useful tool in your Christian arsenal.

The Listener's Bible is an excellent way to hear the entire Word of God read each year in fewer than 15 minutes a day. According to "Sperling's Best Places to Live" internet site, the average one-way commute time in Bend, Oregon is about 17 minutes per day. While that falls significantly below the average of many large cities around the U.S., it proves that even "we Bendites" spend at least 24 minutes a day in our cars on average. Having this amount of free time each day easily enables us to hear the entire Bible read each year.

You will not be disappointed, as the entire Bible is magnificently narrated by the renowned President of Fellowship for the Performing Arts, Max McLean. Mr. McLean is the speaker on the daily radio program "Listen to the Bible," which airs on over 670 radio affiliates worldwide. Max is also well known among prominent Christian leaders, and has been a frequent guest of Ligonier's R.C. Sproul.

Finally, and after hearing all of these good things about this audio Bible you ask whether or not it works? The humble reviewer has now been listening for almost a month and enjoys every minute of the time I used to "waste" while commuting each day. Happy Listening!

Jesus, Lord

JAN KROEKER

Jesus, sweet breath of life,
Breathing immortality into
this clay-
His coming death
the price!

Jesus, precious presence,
Enveloping the soul
With His very essence!

Jesus, fresh fragrance,
Rewarding every part-
Filling up our hearts as
the Frankincense.

Jesus, heavenly wind,
Gentle, peace and calm
You so often send.

Jesus, meek Lamb of God,
Before the shearers dumb;
All humanity on Him trod!

Jesus, meek Lamb of God,
Before the shearers dumb;
All humanity on Him trod!

Jesus, Almighty
God and Lord.
Lord of creation,
Supreme Commander
wielding strength
and sword!

Jesus, lover of my soul-
More precious than
silver or gold.
My life's greatest goal!

Jesus, my love,
sweet dove-
My heart's

strongest yearnings;
Delights me with
His love!