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Apologetics (Theology Proper: God Exists)

Apologetics can be understood as the philosophical, theological and historical demonstration of the *truthfulness* of Christian theological claims.

Jeff Connell, PhD_(abd)
Phone: 252.229.4540
Email: jeff.connell@asimplegrace.net

Terms:

Anthropic: Of or related to the existence of mankind; capable of sustaining any kind of life as we know it.

Anthropic principle: The cosmological theory that the presence of life in the universe limits the ways in which the universe could have come to be.

Teleological Argument

These arguments center on “design,” but differ in the kind of design they defend: Order, purpose, simplicity, complexity, beauty, sense and cognition, information, and cosmic constants (astrophysics).

Design as Order, Pattern, or Regularity:

- Order as qualitative sequences, e.g., spectra.
- Order as regularities of spatial compresence, e.g., propensity to make intersections right angles.
- Order as regularities of temporal succession, e.g., laws of gravity and motion.

Design as Purpose

- Purpose as goals.
- Purpose as beneficent order, e.g., the complementary relationship of photosynthesis and cellular respiration.
- Purpose as nonbeneficent order, e.g., the propensity of nature to seek uniform distribution or stability.
- Purpose as action and the result of an action, e.g., the intentionality of playing golf.

Design as Simplicity

The evidence of a single, rational, efficient mind in mankind’s propensity to seek simplicity in the face of complexity, e.g., unified field theory.

Design as Complexity

The intricate complexity of the universe, e.g., DNA.

Design as Beauty

Beauty as sunsets, fall leaves, the songs of birds, the grace of hummingbirds, and the independent eyes of chameleons.

Design as Sense and Cognition

- The evidence of design in our sensory and cognitive faculties.
- Mankind’s drive to cognitively make sense and order of reality, e.g., mathematical models that describe aspects of the universe.

Design as Information

The data sequences and complementary roles of DNA and RNA.

Design and Cosmic Constants

- The improbability of an anthropic universe, i.e., 1 in $10^{10 \uparrow 123}$.
- Rate of expansion of the universe, i.e., a Δ of 1 in $10^6 \uparrow 6$ would have precluded life.
- Material isotropism (uniform distribution), i.e., 0.1%.
- Gravitational constant, emf, strong force, weak force constants.
- Matter/antimatter ratio, i.e., 1 in 10^{10}