

1. "What evidence do you have that there is a God?"

The very existence of the universe itself is evidence that there is a God. Let's think about this for a moment. There are only three options for the existence of the universe. One is that it has always been. Another is that it came into being by itself. The third is that it was created.

The first option, that the universe is eternal, has been utterly rejected by the scientific community. The motion of the galaxies, the background radiation echo, and other evidences all overwhelmingly point to the fact that the universe sprang into existence at a particular point in time, something scientists call the Big Bang.

The second option, that the universe created itself, is philosophically impossible. Of course, before the universe existed it would not have been around to do the creating. Obviously, a nonexistent universe could not have done anything! It did not exist. We all know that nothing cannot do anything. Nothing is nothing. It (if we could even call nothing an it!) cannot see, smell, act, think, or create. So option one and two can be thrown out on scientific and philosophical grounds.

The third option, that something or someone outside of the universe created the universe, is the only reasonable option.

Let's imagine I am holding up a painting. When you see a painting, what proof do you need to establish the fact that a painter exists? Nothing, besides the painting itself. The painting is absolute proof that there was a painter. You do not need to see the painter to believe that he or she exists. The painting is all the evidence you need. It would not be there if the painter did not exist, and so it is with the universe. The existence of the universe itself proves absolutely that there is a creator.

Great Quotes:

*"A proponent of the big bang theory, at least if he is an atheist, must believe that the matter of the universe came from nothing and by nothing."* Anthony Kenny (1931-), author and former pro-vice-chancellor of the University of Oxford and president of the British Academy. *The Five Ways: St. Thomas Aquinas' Proofs of God's Existence* (Routledge, 1969), p. 66.

*"When you realize that the laws of nature must be incredibly finely tuned to produce the universe we see, that conspires to plant the idea that the universe did not just happen, but that there must be a purpose behind it."* John Potkinghorne (1930-), author, former physicist and professor, and winner of the Templeton Prize. "Science Finds God," *Newsweek*, July 20, 1998.

*"I am persuaded that men think there is no God because they wish there were none. They find it hard to believe in God, and to go on in sin, so they try to get an easy conscience by denying His existence."* Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892), British preacher and author.