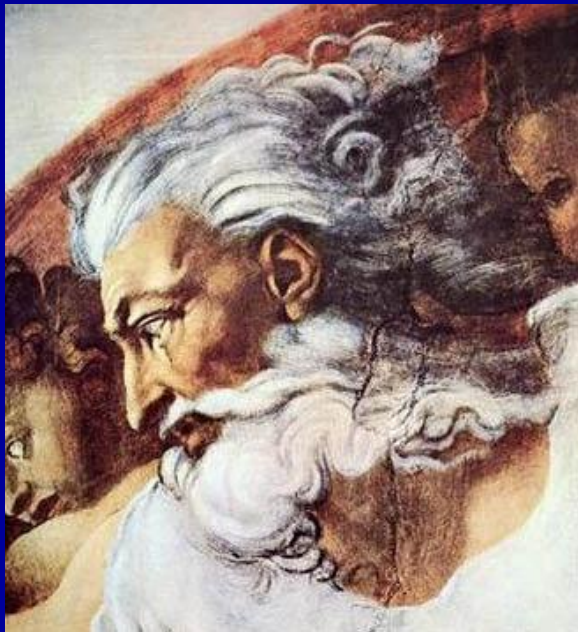




PHIL 107

Winter 2007



Self, World,

& God

Self, World, & God

Religious Evidence

- **Natural theology**
- **Proofs of God's existence**
- **Circumstantial evidence**
- **Inference to the best explanation**
- **Hume's *Dialogues***
- **Contemporary developments**

Cosmological Argument

E_1 . The physical universe exists.



T_0 . God exists and created the universe.

Telzological Argument

E₁. The physical universe exists.

E₂. The biological world exhibits great structure order and purpose.



T₀. God exists and created and designed the universe.

Eclipse of the Teleological Argument

- **Rivals to the amazing structure, order and purpose in the biological world**
- **Impact of natural selection**
 - **Doesn't disprove God's existence**
 - **Offers the framework for a totally naturalistic account of biological order**
- **Fate of the teleological argument after Darwin**
- **Recent developments in science and natural theology**

Cosmic Coincidences

- **Order and structure in physics and chemistry**
- **Critical density**
 - **Closed universe**
 - **Open universe**
 - **Euclidean universe**
 - **Flatness parameter – accurate to 10^{60}**
- **Homogeneity of the universe**
- **Density perturbations**
- **Anthropic principle**

New Teleological Argument

- E₁. The physical universe exists.**
- E₂. The biological world exhibits great structure order and purpose.**
- E₃. The physical universe exhibits an exceedingly “fine-tuned” structure and order. The precise structure and order seems to be a precondition for the evolution of conscious intelligence.**



- T₀. God exists and designed the universe in such a way that intelligent life would eventually evolve.**

Secular Naturalism

- **Anthropic principle**
 - **Selection bias**
 - **Flippant articulation**
 - **Swinburne's response**
- **Theories of everything**
- **Inflationary universe**
 - **Phase change**
 - **Magnitude of the expansion**
- **Contrast with the Darwinian rival**

What's the Best Explanation?

- **My naturalistic biases**
- **Still ...**
- **If I were a theist**
- **All the relevant evidence?**
- **Religious pluralism?**
- **Incommensurability**