

A Last Look at the *Dialogues*

**PHIL 101
Self, World, & God
Winter Quarter 2008**

The Problem of Evil

- **Positive and negative evidence**
- **Difficulty in finding best explanation**
- **Inevitability of reasoned disagreement**
- **Limitations of the human cognitive condition**
- **Modest natural theology**
- **Theism as an explanation**
- **Secular naturalism as an explanation**
- **Pluralism as an explanation**

Where Was Hume?

- **All the characters have strengths**
- **Cleanthes**
 - **The power of the teleological argument**
 - **Natural selection as a rival**
 - **“New” teleological argument**
- **Philo**
 - **Value of skepticism**
 - **Power of the problem of evil**
- **Demea**
 - **Weakest, but ...**
 - **Limitations of the human cognitive condition**
- **Hume**