

Revision Outline For The Design Argument

AO1	<p>a) <i>Examine the Design argument for the existence of God.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Also known as teleological argument. Teleos = Greek for end or purpose ➤ A posteriori argument based on empirical evidence. ➤ Outline argument <p>P: The universe has order, purpose and regularity P: The complexity of the universe shows evidence of design P: Such design implies a designer C: The designer of the universe is God</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 2 parts of the argument; <i>design qua regularity</i> and <i>design qua purpose</i> ➤ Design qua regularity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on regularity of the universe. E.g. seasons • Related to St Thomas Aquinas' 5th proof for the existence of God "<i>From the governance of things</i>". He concludes this proof by saying "<i>Therefore some intelligent being exists by whom all natural things are directed to their end and this being we call God.</i>" Summa Theologica. • Supported by William Paley, Natural Theology 1802. He uses the examples of astronomy and the solar system and Newton's laws of motion and gravity • Also supported by Arthur Brown, Footprints of God 1943. He uses the example of the ozone layer ➤ Design qua purpose <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based on evidence that parts of the universe appear to fit together for some purpose. The universe can be compared to a machine E.g. a TV is fitted together to receive pictures and sound. Similarly there are complex structures fitted together for special purposes evident in nature. • William Paley, Natural Theology 1802. Paley famously uses the analogy of the watch. If one were to find a watch as opposed to a stone whilst crossing a heath we would conclude that all parts fitted together for a purpose. We would presume a watchmaker had designed the watch for the particular purpose of telling the time. Similarly, we must presume that God designed the universe for a particular purpose. The analogy of the eye is also used. ➤ Anthropic principle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent development linked to science. The cosmos is designed for the development of intelligent life. • F R Tennant Philosophical Theology 1930. The universe is not chaotic and was designed in such a way that the evolutionary process would create an environment in which intelligent life could exist. • Richard Swinburne also accepted this principle. He recognised that the universe could just as easily have been chaotic but it's not, which suggests design rather than chance. • Aesthetic Principle was developed by Tennant. He argued that humans had the ability to appreciate beauty, to enjoy art, music and literature. Such an appreciation is not necessary for survival and it is therefore evidence of a divine creator.
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