

## Why Christianity?

What is religion? The word religion refers to humanity being rejoined to God or god. It is a belief in the supernatural—what exists outside space-time—and that what we cannot see is more important than what we do see. It is the belief in a creator—whether personal or impersonal. Most religions believe the creator is worthy of our attention and worship. Which religion is true? With the vast array of religions in the world, is there any way to determine which one is true, if they all are true or if they all are false? One way to look at the validity of a religion is to look at how it says the universe began. Scientific investigation has made vast strides in determining how the universe began. Any supernatural force would have an accurate knowledge of how it all began. Any religion that does not reflect this can be ruled out for any serious consideration as a true religion since matter is not eternal and had to come from a cause other than itself.

Current cosmology (in this case how the universe began) predicts that the original cause of all that exists cannot be a product of the universe. Whatever started the universe must stand outside space and time. Any religion that starts with a piece of the universe as its first cause cannot be true. To put it simply, any creation account that begins with the created stuff cannot be true. Which religions can be ruled out as true because they do not have an accurate account of the beginning? Animistic faiths begin with a part of creation. Animism is the belief in spirits. In particular, it attributes souls to plants and animals—not to just people alone. These tribal faiths do not have an accurate conception of how we know the universe began. Therefore, they cannot have come from its creator be it personal or impersonal. These creation accounts all begin with matter and simply make more matter or reshape it in some way. However, they never explain where the matter came from.

Current cosmological models also rule out the idea of an oscillating universe. This rules out Hinduism and Buddhism because they predict an oscillating universe. Their belief in reincarnation not only applies to living things but to the universe itself. The universe also experiences reincarnation, which scientists refer to as an oscillating universe. What is an oscillating universe? It is a universe that begins, expands, collapses then begins again in an unending cycle. Hinduism and Buddhism have at the heart of their faiths the idea of reincarnation not only of people but also of the universe itself. Since the universe is expanding at an increasing rate, the universe cannot collapse then be reborn. This rules out Hinduism and Buddhism as viable candidates for accurately revealing the creator. This brings us to the monotheistic faiths of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Each of these predicts the right kind of beginning (i.e., a causal agent that stands outside space-time). However, only Christianity predicts the right kind of ending. Islam's view of heaven is materialistic in nature—humanity living a wonderful life very much as this existence. This will not be possible once all of the stars of the universe have burned out. The retention of male and female in the afterlife is a problem since this is tied to a physical existence rather than one that lies outside space-time.

The second law of thermodynamics predicts that the universe is moving from a state of order and energy to a state of entropy, which means the universe, as we know it, will come to an end. Life cannot exist without energy. Any afterlife must be supernatural or spiritual (i.e., standing outside space-time) in nature. Judaism hints at the correct form of afterlife but does not provide enough explanation for what life will be like after we die. This is the most important question—whether there is life after death and what it will be like. To put it simply, Judaism does not say enough about the afterlife to be considered the best choice. In essence, Judaism does not teach anything that conflicts with what we know of the cosmos, it simply does not tell us enough. Christianity alone has a satisfactory explanation of how it all began and how it all will end. God creates the universe from nothing. In the afterlife, we will live outside space-time like the angels (see Matthew 22:30).

God works in systems. The earth had no form, yet he comes in and gives it order. Life must have order and law. He provides physical laws for life to operate. He provides living systems for creatures to thrive and grow. He makes a formula for creation. God makes systems within systems. God makes sub-atomic particles, which form atoms, which form molecules that form cells which form tissues which compose living systems. All of these systems work together to form the basis of life. If any were to break down, life would cease. And God says (thought)... God brings his ideas into being. There is nothing like light before he creates it. He takes absolutely nothing to bring something into being. Whatever he thinks, he brings into reality. Whatever God says is. God brings into existence whatever he imagines. In essence, all that is other than himself is but a figment of his imagination brought into reality by his desire. God possession of the ability to think us into existence demands his omniscience and omnipotence. Thus, only the Bible accurately predicts both a worldview and a First Cause that fits all of the scientific models.

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