

Theology 101: If God Obviously Exists, Why Do People Reject Him?

"And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." (John 3:19)

What Does Genesis 1 Suggest About God?

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. (Gen 1:1)

1. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Obvious
The Bible does not seek to prove God, but assumes God's existence.
2. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Eternal
God was around before creation.
3. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Incomprehensible
God is clearly higher than we are. He is beyond fully knowing.
4. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Knowable
God reveals some information about Himself, creation, and us.
5. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Unique
Not "god of" or "a god" but God.
6. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Plural
7. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Creative
He did not just exist, but created.
8. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Intelligent
God had a plan, a process, a schedule, and the know-how to do what He planned.
9. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is Powerful
10. Genesis 1 Suggests that God Is the Center of Attention
Creation is not man-centered, but God-centered. It is the account not of man being created, but of God creating everything (including man). 35x Elohim is used 35x in the creation account (Genesis 1:1-2-3). This does not take into account all of the pronouns!

Theology 101: If God Obviously Exists, Why Do People Reject Him?

God Has Clearly Shown Himself in Many Ways

GENERAL REVELATION

1. **Creation** (Psalm 14:1; Romans 1:18-32)
2. **Conscience**

SPECIAL REVELATION

3. **Communicators (Prophets)**
4. **Coming to Earth (Jesus)**
5. **Canon (the Bible)**

A Brief Introduction to Some Commonly Used Evidences for God

1. **Cosmological** – Everything we see has a cause. God = First Cause.
2. **Teleological** – Everything has design and purpose. God = Designer.
3. **Ontological** – We have the idea of God. There must be a God.
4. **Psychological** – We have a consciousness of God in the soul.
5. **Anthropological** – Man=intellect & morality. Evolution is material.
6. **Moral** – We have a sense of right, wrong, & justice.
7. **Laws of Logic** – Only with God can there be reason or logic.

If God Obviously Exists, Why Do People Reject Him?

NOTE: It is NOT a lack of information.

1. **Because They Desire to _____ the Truth They Know**

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **suppress the truth** in unrighteousness, ¹⁹ because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown *it* to them.

²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, (Rom 1:18-20)

2. **Because They Develop _____ Thoughts and Become _____**

²¹ because, **although they knew God**, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

²² Professing to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man-- and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. (Rom 1:21-23)

3. **Because God _____ to Deeper _____**

²⁴ Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness, in the lusts of their hearts, to dishonor their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ who **exchanged the truth of God for the lie**, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. ²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. ²⁷ Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. ²⁸ And even as they **did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge**, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers, ³⁰ backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹ undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; ³² who, **knowing the righteous judgment of God**, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them. (Rom 1:24-32)

4. **Because They Love _____ and Desire to Hide from God's Truth**

¹⁹ "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. ²⁰ "For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ "But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God." (John 3:16-21)

5. **Because the God of This Age Has _____ Them**

³ But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, ⁴ whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them. (2 Cor 4:3-4)