

Chapter 1, Lesson 1 - Knowing God through Creation

Goal: Explain how we can know that God exists through reason alone

How do we know that God exists?

Miracle

No creature could create everything

Someone must have created souls

Goodness, beauty, purpose

St. Thomas Aquinas' "Five Ways" to know there is a God.

1) Prime Mover

↳ 1st "Mover"
 ↓
 God causes change

Potential → Actual

Student → Graduate

"Big Bang" discovered by a Catholic priest-scientist: Fr. Georges Lemaitre

2) Uncaused Cause Why? Because.

1st cause → God

Steps

3) Contingency: The Necessary Being We depend on other things for existence but there must be a necessary being who always existed.

Contingent beings

4) Gradation: Perfection of Being

Better

Best

God

Being itself

5) The Teleological Argument: Design or Goal

In creation we recognize:

purpose

Design

Order

Complexity

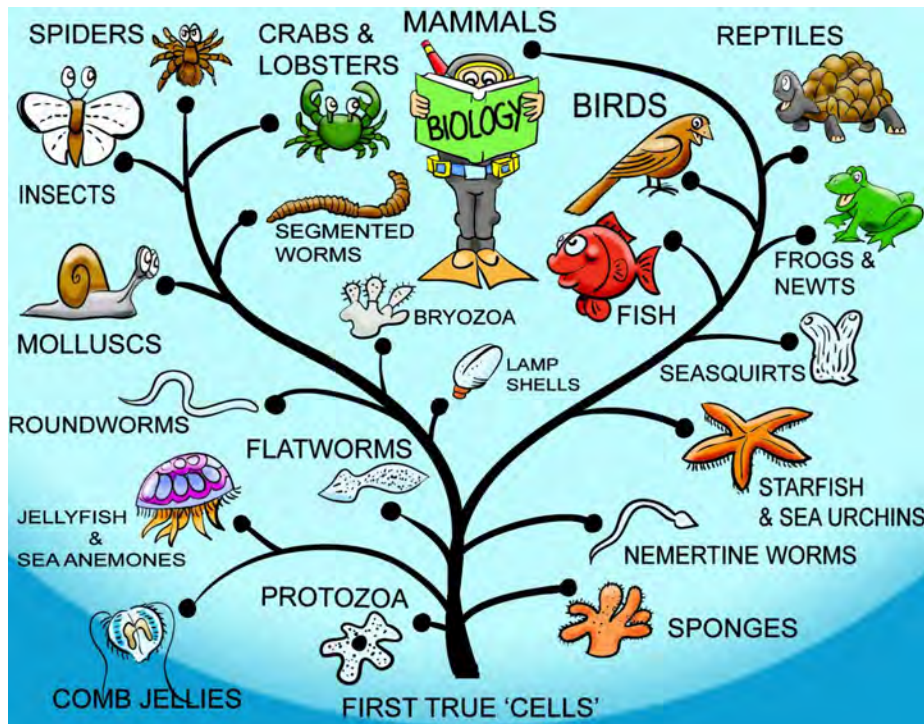
Purpose

Creator "designer"

Jesus = Logos (Word, Reason)

Psalm 14:1: The fool says in his heart "There is no God"

What about Evolution?



Cool design!

Explains how God's creation unfolds.

Doesn't fully explain the origin and purpose of life.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FFCXHr8aKDK>



Dr. Laura Keynes

Darwin's great-great-great granddaughter is a faithful Catholic.

Read Blue Q's, pgs. 16-17
Pop Quiz Lesson 1

Lesson 2

Read pgs 13-14 Learning about
Ourselves Through Reason

Review: In what ways are we
created in the image and
likeness of God?

Read pgs. 13-14

"...maker of Heaven and Earth of all that is seen and unseen."

- Angels
- Human souls

Physical and Spiritual

Body

Physical
(Seen)

Spiritual
(Unseen)

