

at a finite moment, a creation event commonly referred to as a singularity, or the *Big Bang*. Scientific advancements since the 1950's have continued to confirm this *Big Bang* event in which all matter, energy, space & time came into being. Although other theories have been put forth, in an effort to refute the overwhelming evidence of this finite, creation event, each has been proven weak at best & fallacious at their worst, not being based on the scientific evidence that we have available to us today. As world renowned philosopher William Lane Craig states, "There is no other theory of the origin of the universe which is as mathematically consistent or as confirmed by the evidence as the standard *big bang* theory."³

Which brings us to #3—"therefore the universe has a cause of its existence"—which if premise #1 & #2 are true, must be true as well.

Ok, now we have established that the universe has a cause. What is that cause? Well, it must be something that is outside of the realm of our finite

existence in order to cause or create the universe as the universe could not have created itself, contrary to certain fallacious hypothesis put forth by some. The universe is all of space time reality—all matter & energy. This being the case, it follows that if there is going to be an explanation of time, matter & energy, the cause of the universe must be a being or force that is non-physical & immaterial in its nature—a being of intelligence or force that transcends time & space. There are only two objects that can fit that description—either abstract objects such as numbers; or else, an un-embodied mind. Abstract objects cannot cause anything, so the cause of the universe must be a transcendent, necessary, uncaused, timeless, space-less, immaterial, personal creator of the universe.

Who then is this un-embodied, yet personal Mind, this creative Force that lives outside of our temporal reality & existence? The One who created such a complex universe and the earth upon which we live—a place so intricately designed, that scientists have to date discovered 824 design traits that are necessary to sustain such life?

As philosopher Richard Swinburne concluded, "...a first state of the universe *cannot* have a scientific explanation, since there is nothing before it, and therefore it cannot be accounted for in terms of laws operating on initial conditions. It can only be accounted for in terms of an agent and his volitions, a *personal* explanation..."⁴ The first Cause of all things, the 'agent and his volitions' referred to here, is the personal and loving God found in the very first line of the Bible, "In the beginning, *God* created the heaven and the earth."⁵ Upon finishing the creation of all things within the universe, the creation narrative states, "*God* saw all that he had made, and it was very good. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array."⁶

Having read and thought on the argument presented here for God's existence, the majesty of free choice is now before you. Fifteenth century French mathematician, physicist, and Christian philosopher, Blaise Pascal likened the decision or choice to a wager and stated, "God is, or He is not... You must wager [make the



THE CAUSE OF IT ALL...

WHO AND WHAT IS IT?

Think or meditate on the following:

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause of its existence
2. The universe began to exist
3. Therefore the universe has a cause of its existence¹

Now let's put each of these points to the test. #1—Have you ever seen or do you know of anything that began to exist without a cause? Really?! Kindly identify it for me. Go ahead—give it your best shot. That's what I thought, your list of such 'uncaused' entities is rather short—in fact you don't have one item to even begin your list because there is nothing in the universe that has, or can begin to exist, without a cause.²

Ok, on to #2—the majority of astrophysicists/cosmologists agree that the universe came into existence

turn to You now, Jesus, & ask You to enter my heart, and illuminate my mind and open it to Your thoughts & truth so that I may understand and know the reason & purpose for my life within Your marvelous universe. Thank You for manifesting Yourself to me and being my personal Cause and creating it all.”

(Endnotes)

- 1 The Kalām cosmological argument is a variation of the cosmological argument that argues for the existence of a personal First Cause for the universe. Its origins can be traced to both medieval Christian and Muslim thinkers, but most directly to Islamic theologians of the Kalām tradition. Its most contemporary proponent is William Lane Craig. For more on the Kalam cosmological argument go to: www.reasonablefaith.org
- 2 Some have argued that quantum physics disprove that “something cannot come out of absolutely nothing.” Example of virtual particles is often posited—however, virtual particles do not come out of nothing—the vacuum in which they are seen is not nothing, it is a sea of fluctuating energy endowed with a rich physical structure, governed by physical laws—so it does constitute an explanation of these virtual particles—they are fluctuations of the energy in the vacuum.
- 3 William Lane Craig, Doctrine of Creation podcast: www.reasonablefaith.org
- 4 Craig/Sinclair; Blackwell Companion to Natural Theology, pp. 192-3
- 5 The Bible—Genesis 1:1
- 6 The Bible—Genesis 1:31; 2:1
- 7 Blaise Pascal; excerpts from *Pensées*, part III, note 233

For more information contact:

Lane Davis

existenceofgod@yahoo.com

decision]...it is not optional. Wager, then, without hesitation that He is... There is here an infinity of an infinitely happy life to gain, a chance of gain against a finite number of chances of loss, and what you stake is finite.”⁷

Won't you make the wager? Going “all in” in wagering your finite life, heart and mind, for that which is eternal? Surely it is worth the “gamble” to win the ultimate prize of a direct connection and personal relationship with the personal God who created it all, both in this life and the life to come. As Christian missionary Jim Elliot so aptly put it, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep, too gain that which he cannot lose.” The following is how to make your wager—my prayer is, that you do:

“I humbly come before You, the personal God who created both the heavens & the earth, acknowledging my need for You, my Creator. I accept Your Son, Jesus Christ through Whom all things were created and by Whom all things consist—the One Who came to this earth to reconcile me to You, through His death & resurrection. I