

Title: Four Proofs of God

Text: John 1: 1-4

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Ever so often I like to preach a message for the unbeliever—for the skeptics, for the agnostic. An agnostic is a person who claims neither faith nor disbelief in God. He claims nothing is known or can be known about the existence or nature of God.

A few years back a brother from Lexington was in town and we went to dinner at Princeton. He brought a business associate who claimed to be agnostic, a very likeable fellow. I declared to him the gospel. He was neutral. I could have been speaking about the hot sauce bottle on the table.

But there is no neutrality concerning Christ. Christ said,

Matthew 12:30: He that is not with me is against me;

The four things I will show you in this message are reasonable. Anyone with common sense must agree these things are so. I am simply meeting the unbeliever where he is.

But it will take God to give you faith in Christ. A true knowledge of Christ comes only by divine revelation. We have spiritual life only by the Spirit of God. We know Christ only by the revelation of Christ in the heart. No man can be reasoned into faith. The doctrine of Christ is very logical. It is the most logical thing there is. But no sinner can know Christ by mere logic and reason. It takes the Spirit of God to reveal Christ in the word in order for a spiritually dead sinner to know and believe on Christ. So I pray the Lord will use his word that I will preach to you today and plant the incorruptible Seed and give someone life and faith in Christ.

As believers we often get the question, “How do you know God is?” The bible makes no attempt at proving God is. It begins “In the beginning God.” And scripture says that due to creation, all men are without excuse for not believing God. The invisible things of God are clearly seen from things that are—by things God has made.

Romans 1: 19: Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them. 20: For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

**Divisions:** I want to use creation. I will give you four words to remember. I used alliteration to make it easier to remember: *logos, life, law and love*. Our Savior is all four. Christ is God the Word, the Life, the Law (Righteousness) and Love.

## LOGOS

Logos is the Greek word translated “Word” in the scriptures. It is where we get the word “logic—intelligence, the ability to reason.” All creation, including man, with its design and order, shows there was an intelligent mind behind its creation.

**John 1: 1: In the beginning was the Word [logos], and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2: The same was in the beginning with God. 3: All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4: In him was life; and the life was the light of men.**

In creation—in the cosmos—we see design and order. The distance of the sun from the earth creates the four seasons. It has done so year after year since creation. The moon affects the tides. It has done so from creation. Design and order does not come about by chance.

All men born into this world have light. Unless suffering from a severe mental condition (and even then to some degree) all men have intelligence. All have the ability to use logic, to reason. All have the ability to increase in natural understanding. That light came from Christ. Even natural light came from Christ the Light.

If you and me want to bring about order in our lives (at least as much as we are capable of) then we have to use intelligence and organize a plan and work very hard to bring it about. Order and design does not come about by chance but by an intelligent being. We operate from this principle every day in our lives. If our car is broken we take it to a mechanic. He has studied combustible engines and other parts of a car. He has intelligence to put it back in working order. When we are sick we do not go to a car mechanic, we go to a physician who spent years studying the order and design of the human body. He or she has intelligence to use medicine to bring back the normal order in our human body. Order and design comes about by an intelligent mind who thought it then brought it to pass. Order and design does not come about by chance.

The Spirit of God declares through John that the intelligent mind that created all things is the Word, the Logos, the Supreme Mind—*All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made*. Even fallen man’s natural intelligence to reason, to design, to bring about order came from the Word—*In him was life; and the life was the light of men*.

Now, consider salvation. The same as natural light comes from the Logos, so it takes God to bless his word and give faith to his child to understand and know and believe the Lord Jesus Christ.

Hebrews 11: 3: THROUGH FAITH WE UNDERSTAND that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

When the Spirit of God reveals Christ, he makes Christ our Wisdom. He gives us faith. Then we behold and understand by faith that it was Christ the Word who designed and ordered the first creation. Then we begin to understand that the first creation was made to glorify Christ Jesus in the new creation of chosen sinners. God the Father purposed from eternity for his Son to save his people. He ordered it and made is sure by entrusting the entire work of salvation into the hands of his Son.

Romans 8: 28: And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. 29: For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30: Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

The Word is Christ who was made flesh and dwelt among us and justified his people from our sins.

Colossians 1:16...all things were created by him, and for him: 17: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. 18: And he is the head of the body, the church:

So by the Word giving us spiritual discernment, through faith we have knowledge of Christ and Salvation given us from God.

Ephesians 1: 8: Wherein he hath abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence; 9: Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: [redemption he designed from eternity] 10: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him: 11: In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

So all men are without excuse for not believing God is because the design and order of creation declares it came from the supreme mind, from the Word, the Logos. But takes the Word to make Christ Wisdom unto us. Then we are given true knowledge, spiritual understanding, so that we know God designed and ordered and brought about our redemption by Christ our Salvation.

## LIFE

Creation declares God is by life. Life always comes from life. It is so of plant life, animal life, and human life. Life always and only comes from life. Matter and energy never produce life.

If we go out in these woods and look around under a big oak tree, we find acorns on the ground—seed. Underneath the tree, we find little saplings. The tree dropped an acorn to the ground. The acorn germinated. Life came forth. Life only comes from life. But where did the first fruit-bearing plant come from?

Christ said, “I am the LIFE!”

Genesis 1: 11: And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so.

Where did animal life come from?

Genesis 1: 21: And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind:....25: And God made the beast of the earth after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and every thing that creepeth upon the earth after his kind...

Genesis 1: 22: And God blessed them, saying, Be fruitful, and multiply,

Where did human life come from?

Genesis 1: 26: And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion [over all living things]...27: So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28: And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion..

Life only comes from life. Life never comes from dead things. The animate never comes from the inanimate. We never see non-living matter and energy producing life. Life comes from life and all life came from THE Life, Christ Jesus.

Another important principle about life is life produces life “after its kind.”—the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, fish and animals produced life after their kind.

Adam sinned and died spiritually. His sin-nature became corrupt. So he produced a son *after his kind*. God made Adam in his image—upright, without sin. But fallen Adam produced a son after his image. A sinner. So it went on down to you and me.

The Word is the incorruptible Seed. We must be born-again of the Spirit of God of the incorruptible Word of God. This is the Word which by the gospel is preached unto you. Christ called the Word the water.

John 3: 5: Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water [the word] and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6: That which is born of the flesh is flesh [sinful flesh only produces sinful flesh]; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. [life produces life after its kind] 7: Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.

No sinner has spiritual life until born of God. God creates a sinner anew in his image after his kind. We only know Christ by divine revelation by the Word.

## LAW

In this world there are moral absolutes. There is a lot of ethical grey. But there are moral absolutes that are black and white. For example, murder is murder. Where did the law come from? Where did our conscious of right and wrong come from? God gave the first law in the garden.

**Genesis 2: 15: And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. 16: And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: 17: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.**

By breaking one, Adam became a guilty sinner. To break one law is to break the whole law of God. In Adam, we all have broken every law of God. God gave the law at Sinai “that the offense might abound” that “every mouth may be shut and all the world become guilty before God.”

God created in man a conscious of right and wrong. It is defiled by sin. But we are born with a conscious, knowing right and wrong.

Romans 2: 14: For when the Gentiles, which have not the [written] law [given at Sinai], do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves: 15: Which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and *their* thoughts the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

But only the Spirit of God can write the gospel on our hearts. He writes the law of faith on our new heart so that we believe the Holy Spirit’s witness of Christ Jesus.

John 16: 8:...when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9: Of sin, because they believe not on me; 10: Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; 11: Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

By giving us faith, we hear the law declare us guilty in the court of our conscious and we confess we are the guilty sinners, nothing more but sinners. We take sides with God and confess that by Adam’s one transgression we are guilty of breaking all the law of God. We confess that in our flesh dwells no good thing. Our sin-nature is only sin.

By giving us faith, we submit to the Righteousness of God, the Lord our Righteousness, confessing he alone is our Righteousness.

By giving us faith, we believe our judgment was settled by Christ on the cross.

Romans 8: 1: *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 2: For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. 3: For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: 4: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

## LOVE

Love did not originate with man. “God is Love.” But even fallen sinners have a natural love for family and friends. As defiled as our nature is, even natural love is of God creating man in his image. But only God creates in his people the love of God.

**1 John 4: 7: Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God. 8: He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.**

Agape love—the love of God—is commitment. God is committed to the objects of his love. God loves his Son and he loves his elect in his Son. When we fell in sin, God remained committed to us for the sake of his Son. He gave his only begotten Son because he loved his people.

**1 John 4: 9: In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. 10: Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.**

Christ is God and God is Love. And Love covered the multitude of our sins by his own blood. He promises to never leave us nor forsake us. Christ is committed to his people. He loves his people.

By forming Christ in us in the new birth, we have the love of God in us. His love constrains us to be committed to him and to our brethren born-again of him.

**1 John 4: 11: Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another. 12: No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13: Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit**

The Spirit of God produces two things in those born from above: faith and love.

Here is faith.

**1 John 4: 14: And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son *to be* the Saviour of the world. 15: Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God.**

Here is love.

**1 John 4: 16: And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.**

His love *for us* covered the multitude of our sins and his love *in us* makes us cover the multitude of sins in our brethren. His love *for us* made him commit to us forever, his love *in us* makes us commit to Christ and to our brethren forever. Only the love of God creates this commitment in us. This is the law of grace we are under, the law of faith which works by love.

Another obvious proof God is is the world's enmity against God, against his gospel and against us who are born of God. Christ said of his people in whom he created the love of God.

John 17:14: I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.

Joh 15:19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

What a blessing God has given us, brethren!

1 John 3: 1: Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

So God is manifest in creation so that all sinners are without excuse for not believing God. But by divine revelation we understand and believe Christ is our salvation. It is by Logos, by Life, by Law, and by Love. God our Savior is all four! Christ is the Word. Christ is the Life. Christ is the Righteousness. Christ is Love. It is having Christ formed in us in the new birth that we have the Logos, the Life, the Law and Love and we know all things.

**Amen!**