

Introduction

The Law of Non-Contradiction

Two contradictory claims cannot be true. The law can be stated this way: $A \neq \sim A$

What is a worldview?

Worldviews are how we view the world in which we live.

Four Major Worldviews

1. *Theism* – God exists as infinite person Creator in and beyond the universe
2. *Atheism* – God does not exist anywhere in or beyond the universe
3. *Pantheism* – God is identical with the universe ... God is all and all is God, including people.
4. *Polytheism* – many finite gods exist beyond and in the universe

Three Less Prominent Worldviews

1. *Deism* – God exists as the finite personal Creator, but is not active in it
2. *Finite Godism* – A finite God exists in and beyond the universe but is limited in power
3. *Pan~~e~~thesim* – God is in the universe like a soul is in the body

Which worldview is true?

1. It must be logical and consistent with the facts already known to be true.
2. It must be practical and livable.
3. It must be all-encompassing and comprehensive.

Evaluating Atheism

1. Atheists do not have a first cause of the universe.
2. Natural forces cannot explain the origin of the universe.
3. Atheists do not have an ultimate moral standard by which to distinguish between good and evil.

Evaluating Pantheism

1. Pantheists can't explain how people have come to forget their own divine nature.
2. Pantheism is logically inconsistent with its own claims about God.
3. Pantheism fails to be a livable worldview.

Evaluating Polytheism

1. If forces of nature birthed the gods, why not worship nature as divine?
2. Human minds invented the gods of polytheism.
3. The polytheists' belief that the world is eternal is contrary to scientific facts.

Evaluating Deism

1. *The Deists belief that God miraculously created the world is inconsistent with their disbelief in miracles.*
2. *Deists seem to ignore the evidence that supports the miracles of the Bible.*
3. *Why would God abandon His creatures if He could help them?*

Evaluating Finite Godism

1. *Finite God needs a cause of His existence. If a God needs a cause, He is not really God.*
2. *Many people don't believe in an infinite, all-powerful God because evil still continues in the world. However, just because evil is not destroyed now doesn't mean that it won't be in the future.*

Evaluating Panentheism

1. *The panentheist's concept of an infinite-finite God is actually impossible (contradictory statements).*
2. *A finite God can't guarantee final victory over evil.*

Evaluating Theism

1. *Theism offers a "first cause" to the origin of the universe that is consistent with the scientific principle of causality: "Everything that has a beginning needs a cause."*
2. *Theism posses an absolute unchanging basis by which we can make moral decisions.*
3. *Theism offers meaning and hope to millions of people worldwide.*
4. *The God of theism is perfect in every way; therefore, He is worthy of our ultimate worship.*