



I BELIEVE IN GOD BECAUSE...



HOW DO WE KNOW GOD EXISTS?





A book is made up of words ...

... so we can come to the conclusion that it
must have an author.

A painting or sculpture doesn't just
appear ...

... so we can come to the conclusion that it
must have an artist.

We see and experience the world ... so we can come to the conclusion that
someone made it

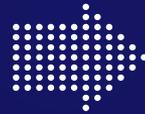
COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause.



Things don't pop into existence from nothing - everything has a cause in order for something to exist

2. The universe had a beginning.



For most of human history, it was unknown if the universe had a beginning. Evidence now shows a definite beginning to the universe (13.8 billion years old)

3. The universe has a cause.



The universe cannot cause itself so it's cause must be beyond space-time universe

creator must be **SPACELESS, TIMELESS, IMMATERIAL, UNCAUSED, AND POWERFUL**
= **GOD**

GOD

THE
UNCAUSED
cause

- There must be a cause for every effect
- Every effect is from a long line of causes
- Each cause is dependent on the one before it
- The world is not full of intermediate causes, without an original cause
- Uncaused cause: that which is not caused by anything and that causes everything
 - holds own existence and the existence of everything else
 - have to be a pretty intelligent person to create such an intricate world

FINE-TUNING OF THE UNIVERSE

- Life in the universe can only occur if physical constants lie within a very narrow range of values.
 - if altered even a hair, no life could occur
- These values are not themselves the result of necessity
 - the universe could exist without people
- Probability of these values occurring by chance is next to impossible
 - no evidence of a multiverse and if there were a universe generator, it would require extreme fine tuning itself
- Therefore, they are the result of design.

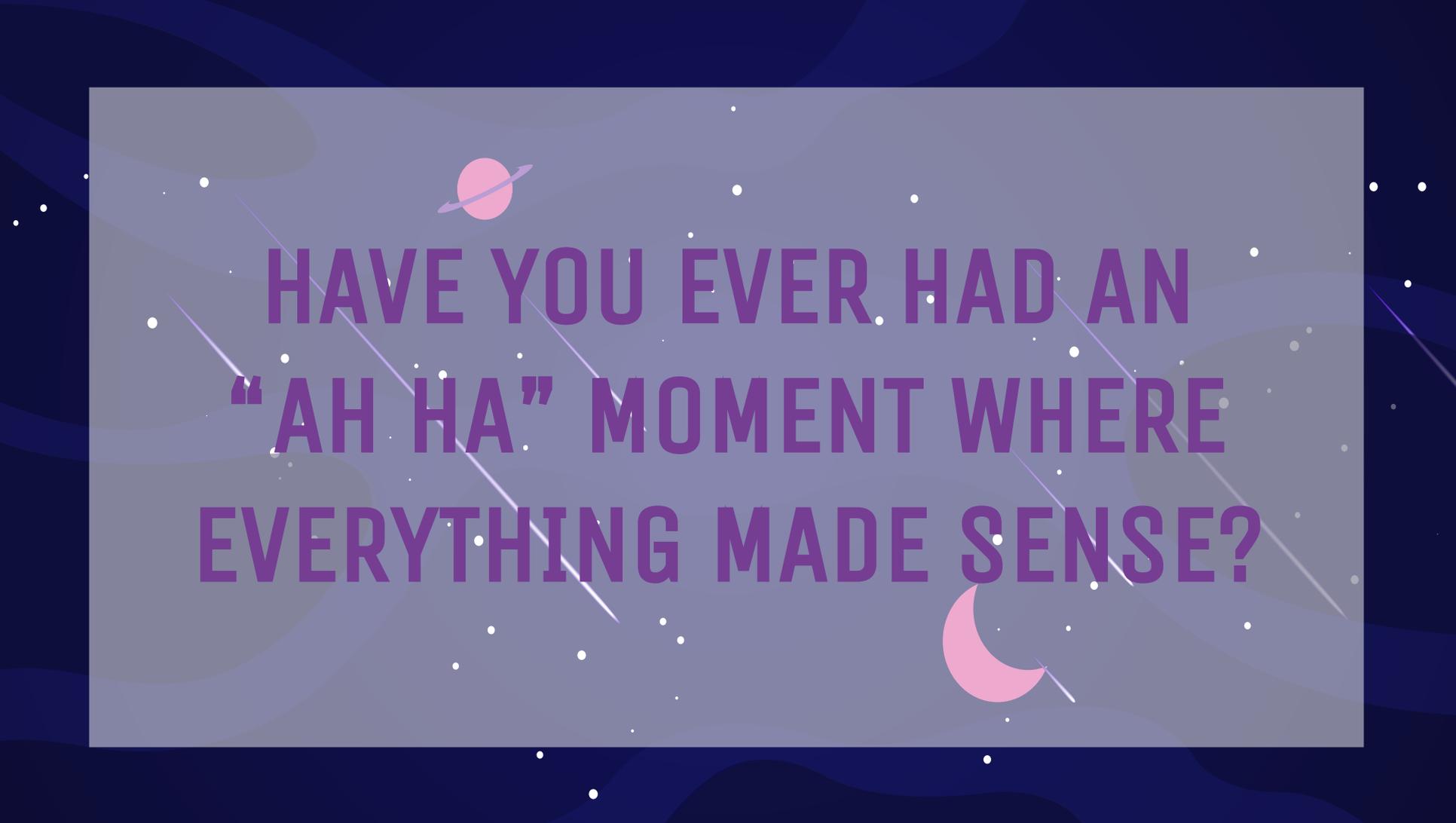


If none of that made sense,
we also have

—
FAITH

- Our response to God
- Leap of trust
- Knowledge isn't what will get us to faith completely
- Relationship
- Faith = Heart, not smarts
- Daily decision to have faith in God



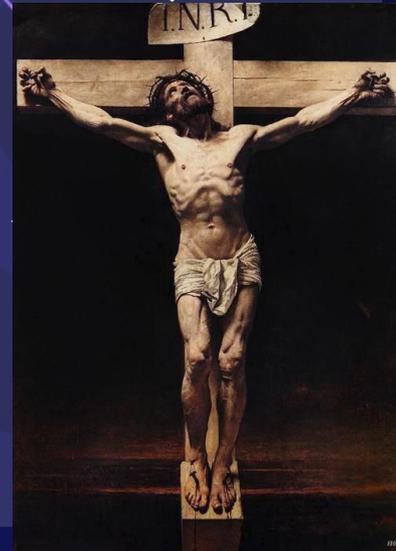


**HAVE YOU EVER HAD AN
“AH HA” MOMENT WHERE
EVERYTHING MADE SENSE?**

**WE CAN PROVE
THERE IS A GOD,
BUT HOW CAN WE
KNOW WHO GOD
IS?**



God has been revealing Himself to us since the beginning of time - **Salvation History**



WHO IS JESUS?

Lamb of God

God's Son

Father

Miracle Worker

Mentor

Bread of Life



Lord

Divine

Good Shepherd



Best Friend

Messiah

Nice, Perfect Man

Healer

Emmanuel

LIAR, LUNATIC, OR LORD?

- **Liar** - Christianity is a fairytale
 - 500 witnesses to the resurrection
 - Women were first to see Him resurrected - women's testimony was not respected in Jewish society, so it is very unlikely for someone making up a story to include this detail
 - Apostles wouldn't die for something they don't believe
 - Romans were very good at crucifying people, confirming they were dead.
- **Lunatic** - He was a crazy man
 - His teachings made sense and still do
 - They were not hallucinating - risen Jesus appears to multiple people, is touched by them, and eats with them
 - How would this "lunatic's" story still be told today?
- **Lord** - more than a nice man

JESUS' TEACHINGS HANDED DOWN TO US



SACRED SCRIPTURE

“the speech of God as it is put down in writing”

The Holy Bible



SACRED TRADITION

“beliefs and practices that have been handed on through the centuries that are rooted in sacred scripture”

Ex: rosary, sacraments, sign of the cross, Assumption of Mary

Protestants claim the Bible as the only rule of faith - *sola scriptura* - they believe the Bible contains everything they need to know about their faith.

WHY DID JESUS COME?

1. paid our debt and forgives sins
2. shows us how much God loves us
3. shows us how to live
 - instituted the Church to ensure His teachings would continue
4. gives us divine life - everything