



Apologetics for Parents, Session #8

Topics Covered: Internal Evidence for the existence of a Creator

- A) Universal knowledge of the Creator & Self Condemnation (*Roman 1:18 to Roman 2:4*)
- B) CS Lewis' – God's "Letter Within Each Person" & Video Set
- C) The Universal Principle "Every Effect Requires a Greater Cause"
- D) 4-Truths every human being acknowledges before they get out of Bed
- E) The "What Do You Think?" 2-Question Street Challenge
- F) VIDEO: Jason Lisle's – "God's Ultimate Proof Within Each Person"
- G) The Decision Tree & Its Conclusion

Internal Evidence for the existence of a Creator

A) Scriptural foundation of Internal Evidence: Romans 1:18-20 & 2:1

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of **people who suppress the truth** in unrighteousness,

¹⁹ because that which is known about God is **evident within them**; for God made it evident to them.

²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, being understood by what has been made*, so that they are without excuse.

2 ¹ **Therefore you have no excuse**, you *foolish* person, everyone *of you* who passes judgment; for in that *matter in* which you judge someone else, **you condemn yourself**; for you who judge **practice the same things**.

Summary of Key Points Made from Romans Chapter 1 & 2:

- i. People can unconsciously (but willingly) suppress God's truth that is revealed to them. [vs. 1:18]
- ii. God has made Himself known to each person by His **internal** evidence within each person, that is "within them." [vs. 1:19]
- iii. God has made Himself known to each person, by His **external** visible evidence available to each person "by what has been made." [vs. 1:20]

- iv. God (who is omniscient) states His evidence provided to mankind is so pervasive and persuasive regarding His existence that mankind will be **without excuse** on the day of judgement [vs. 1:20]
- v. People become **self-condemned** by violating their own standards (that is, inconsistencies and hypocrisies to their own stated beliefs and positions). [vs. 2:3]
- vi. Ultimately, while a person may try to deny the evidence that God has left to them, **they will be continuously haunted by the fact they cannot consistently live in their constrained atheistic worldview**, and that the evidence for God to them is beyond a reasonable doubt (especially when they consider that they accept as true many other things about life that are based on weaker evidence).
- vii. **The Sticking Point:** It is impossible for any person to live consistently within an atheistic materialistic worldview – and even their own standards that they demand of others -- and so fall into hypocrisy, which evidence that they are really living in God's world. (Romans 2:1).

NOTE: It is not so much that we force a change in the person's mind with these truths, but "Life" (and the Holy Spirit, John 16:8) confronts the person with these truths and these truths weigh relentlessly heavy upon their heart and mind, soliciting a response.

B) CS Lewis, “The Letter” within Man evidences the Creator (Mere Christianity)

Background:

- 1> All people operate on their current set of presuppositions (consciously or unconsciously).
- 2> One presupposition that all people rely upon, consciously or unconsciously, is “Cause and Effect,” and that the Cause (Source) must be bigger and an adequate source of the effect it caused. (think of hitting a golf ball)
- 3> Pure Materialism (Western Secularism) believes all is matter (and their forces, determined or determined probability), and that there is nothing behind matter, which leaves Materialist living inconsistently with things they act upon as most dear: 1) having a mind, 2) freewill, and 3) a demand to be treated fairly.
- 4> Remember, it is not what people say, but what they do that shows what they believe.
- 5> Two Points: First, that human beings, all over the earth, have this curious idea that they ought to behave in a certain way, and cannot really get rid of it. Secondly, that they do not in fact behave in that way. They know the Law of Nature; they break it. These two facts are the foundation of all clear thinking about ourselves and the universe we live in.

Summary of The Law of Human Nature:

1. Every human being has a set of fair-play truths that they demand from all others, therefore there are some moral absolutes.

2. Quarrelling means trying to show that the other man is in the wrong. And there would be no sense in trying to do that unless you and he had some sort of agreement (or mutual expectation) as to what Right and Wrong are.
3. The Law of [human] Nature exists, because people thought that everyone knew it by nature and did not need to be taught it.
4. Whenever you find a man who says he does not believe in a real Right and Wrong, you will find the same man going back on this a moment later.
5. There have been differences between their moralities [different societies], but these have never amounted to anything like a total difference.
6. No one of us are really keeping the Law of [Human] Nature. (that is, living 100% consistently with the moral standard we demand of others).
7. These, then, are the two points I wanted to make.
 - a. First, that human beings, all over the earth, have this curious idea that they ought to behave in a certain way, and cannot really get rid of it.
 - b. Secondly, that they do not in fact behave in that way. They know the Law of Nature; they break it. These two facts are the foundation of all clear thinking about ourselves and the universe we live in.

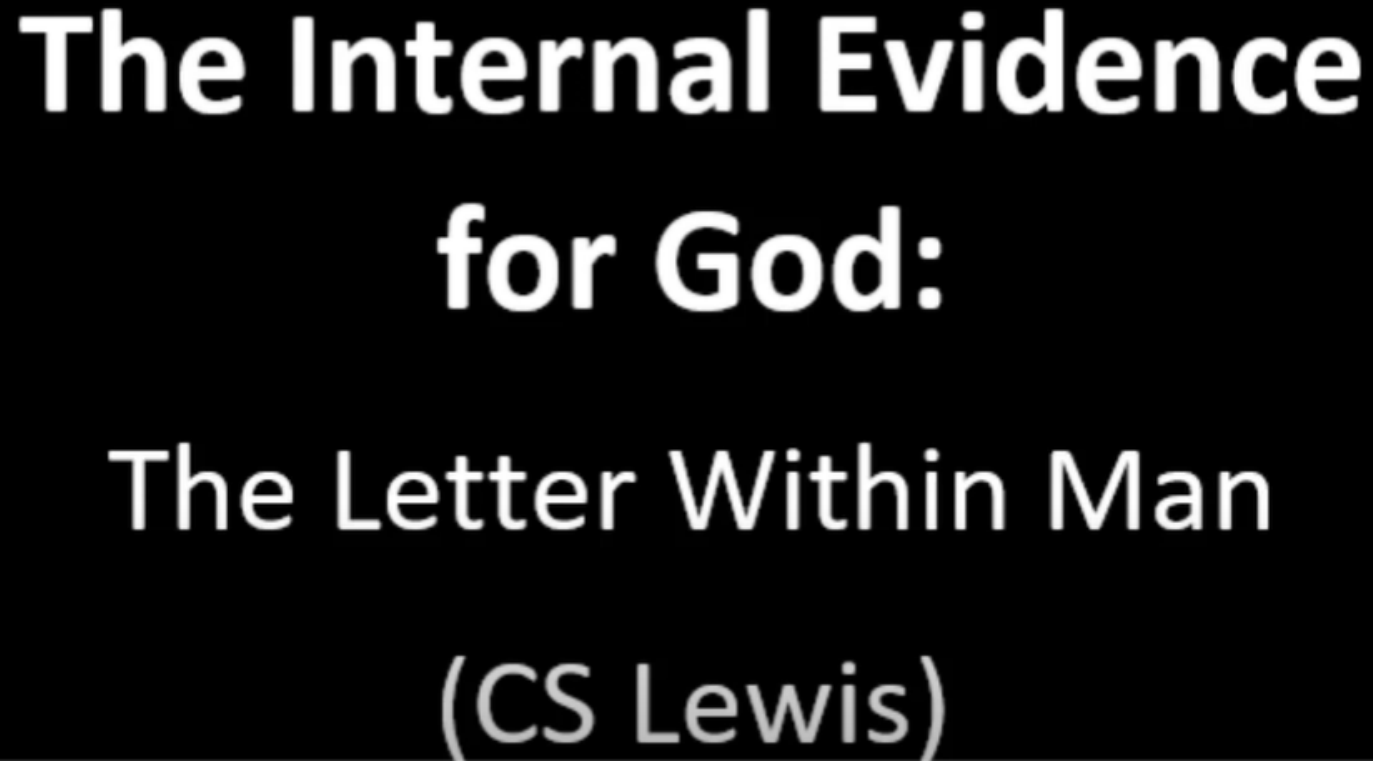
8. The moment you say that one set of moral ideas can be better than another, you are, in fact, measuring them both by a **standard**, saying that one of them conforms to that **standard** more nearly than the other. But the **standard** that measures two things is something different from either. You are, in fact, comparing them both with some **Real Morality**, admitting that there is such a thing as a real Right, independent of what people think.
9. It begins to look as if we shall have to admit that there is more than one kind of reality; that, in this particular case, there is something above and beyond the ordinary facts of men's behaviour, and yet quite definitely real—a real law, which none of us made, but which we find pressing on us.
10. First, there is what is called the materialist view. People who take that view think that matter and space just happen to exist, and always have existed.
11. The other view is the religious view. According to it, what is behind the universe is more like a mind than it is like anything else we know.
12. We want to know whether the universe simply happens to be what it is for no reason or whether there is a power behind it that makes it what it is. Since that power, if it exists, would be not one of the observed facts but a reality which makes them, no mere observation of the facts can find it.
13. All I have got to is a Something which is directing the universe, and which appears in me as a law urging me to do right and making me feel responsible and uncomfortable when I do wrong. I think we have to assume it is more like a mind than it is like anything else we know—because after all the only other thing we know is matter and you can hardly imagine a bit of matter giving instructions.

14. What About Life-Force? When people say this we must ask them whether by Life-Force they mean something with a mind or not. If they do, then "a mind bringing life into existence and leading it to perfection" is really a God, and their view is thus identical with the Religious. If they do not, then what is the sense in saying that something without a mind "strives" or has "purposes"? This seems to me fatal to their view.
15. We all want progress. But progress means getting nearer to the place where you want to be. And if you have taken a wrong turn, then to go forward does not get you any nearer.
16. Now, from this second bit of evidence we conclude that the Mind behind the universe is intensely interested in right conduct -in fair play, unselfishness, courage, good faith, honesty and truthfulness.
17. In that sense we should agree with the account given by Christianity and some other religions.
18. Only a Person can forgive. And we have not yet got as far as a personal God-only as far as a power, behind the Moral Law, and more like a mind than it is like anything else.
19. For the trouble is that one part of you is on His side and really agrees with His disapproval of human greed and trickery and exploitation. On the other hand, we know that if there does exist an absolute goodness it must hate most of what we do.
20. It is after you have realised that there is a real Moral Law, and a Power [and Mind] behind the law, and that you have broken that law and put yourself wrong with that Power-it is after all this, and not a moment sooner, that Christianity begins to talk.

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Video Set: [A Clue to the Meaning in the Universe \(CS Lewis\):](#)

Click Image to Play Video: (64 min.)



**The Internal Evidence
for God:
The Letter Within Man
(CS Lewis)**

C) The Universal Principle of “Cause and Effect”: every Effect must have had a Cause that was greater than the Effect itself:

- i. The most certain and universal of all scientific principles is that of causality, or the law of cause and effect. The implications of this principle have been fought vigorously in the theological and philosophical disciplines, but there is no question of its universal acceptance in the world of experimental science, as well as in ordinary experience.
- ii. Every single effect first had a cause that can be traced to a previous effect from another cause, and so on. But where did it begin?
- iii. When we try to trace the event to its cause, or causes, we find that we never seem to reach a stopping point. The cause of the event was itself caused by a prior cause, which was affected by a previous cause, and so on back. Eventually, we must face the question of the original cause—an uncaused First Cause.
- iv. This law inevitably leads to a choice between two alternatives:
 - (1) an infinite chain of nonprimary causes (nothing ultimately responsible for all observable causes and effects); or
 - (2) an uncaused primary Cause of all causes (the One absolute Cause that initiated everything).
- v. The Effect Problem: There are two other "Universal Laws" that we see demonstrated in everything we examine in the world around us:

- There is no new mass/energy coming into existence anywhere in the universe, and every bit of that original mass/energy is still here. (Law of Conservation of Energy)
 - Every time something happens (an event takes place), some of the energy becomes unavailable. (Law of Entropy)
- vi. The First Law tells us that matter (mass/energy) can be changed, but can neither be created nor destroyed. The Second Law tells us that all phenomena (mass/energy) continually proceed to lower levels of usefulness.
- vii. In simple terms, every cause must be at least as great as the effect that it produces—and will, in reality, produce an effect that is less than the cause. **That is, any effect must have a greater cause.**
- viii. When this universal law is traced backwards, one is faced again with the possibility that there is an ongoing chain of ever-decreasing effects, resulting from an infinite chain of nonprimary ever-increasing causes. However, what appears more probable is the existence of an uncaused Source, an omnipotent, omniscient, eternal, and Primary, First Cause.

[note: if the world is eternal, then the Law of Entropy would have already wound down the universe's "cause and effects" to a cold energy-deathbed state, and so life would no longer exist, but life exists!]

- ix. **The main point:** Every effect must have had a greater Cause, therefore the ultimate Source of a mind, freewill, and fairness must also, at least, have a mind, a will, and a moral standard.
- x. Reference Link: [Cause and Effect | The Institute for Creation Research \(icr.org\)](http://www.icr.org)

D) 4-Truths every human being subconsciously acknowledge about God just to get out of Bed each day:

(Since every Effect requires a Cause that is greater than itself)

1. Truth #1: Today, I **thought** of getting out of bed: therefore, I have must have a mind and therefore the Source of human life must possess a **“Mind.”**
2. Truth #2: Today, I **decided** to get out of bed: therefore, I have must have freewill and therefore the Source of human life must possess a **“Will.”**
3. Truth #3: Today, I thought it was worth getting out of bed because I believe **the world should treat me fairly:** therefore, I demand to be treated fairly and therefore the Source of human life must possess **“Fairness and Morality.”**
4. Truth #4: Today, after I got out of bed I remembered that at times I have **failed to keep my own standard of fairness** that I demand from others: therefore the Source of human life has the right to **“Judge.”**

5. CONCLUSION: The Source of Life has a Mind, a Will, and a Moral Code.

E) The “What Do You Think?” (a 2-Question Street Challenge)

a.

Question #1: Do You Like to Make Your Own Choices?

Yes **No**

Question #2: Do You Want to be Treated Fairly?

Yes **No**

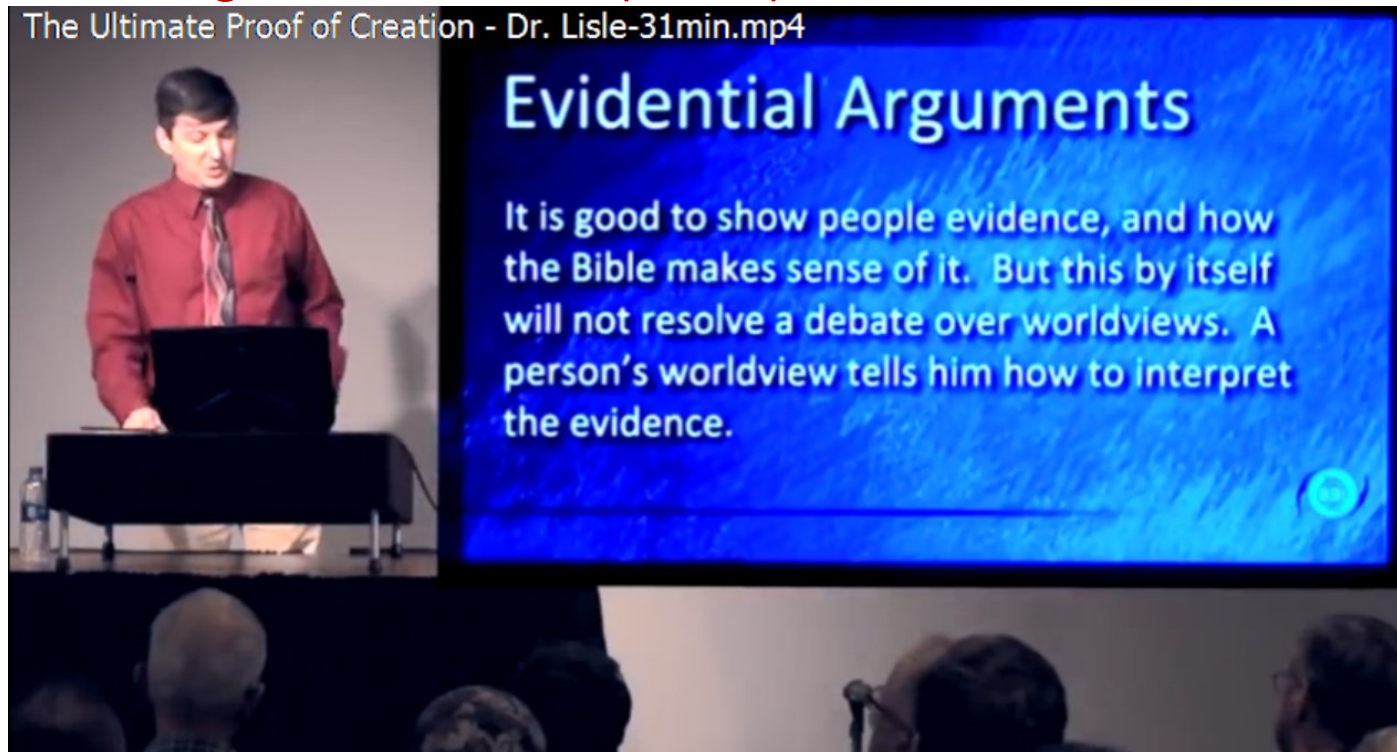
b. If you said “yes” to both of these questions, your answers evidence that true freewill and true moral-fairness must exist (and are demanded). Therefore, the only adequate origin for the existence of these properties requires that the ultimate Source of Life also has a Mind, a Will, and a Moral-Standard.

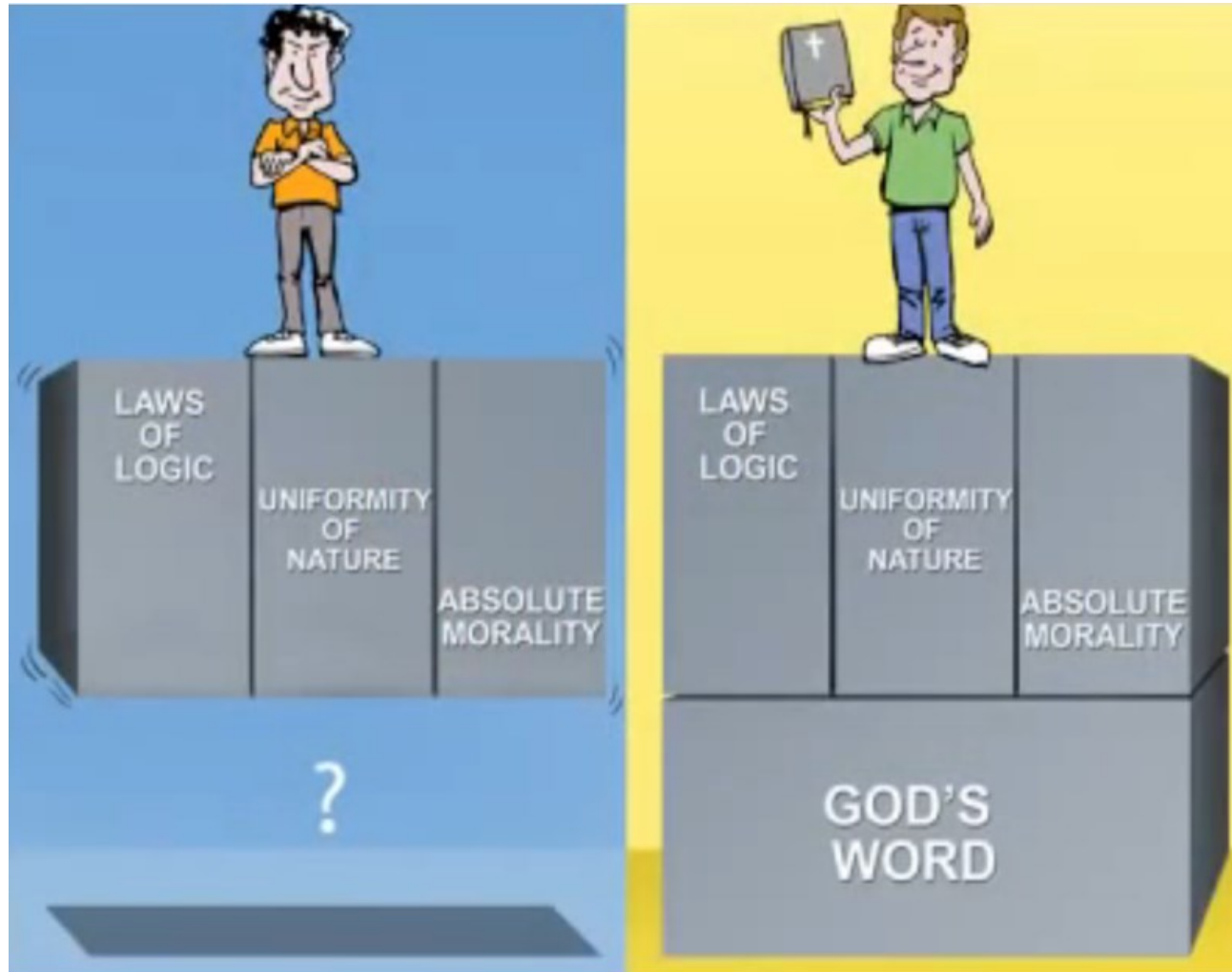
F) Video: The Ultimate Proof of Creation [and God] - Dr. Lisle - 31min.

Without an eternal, transcendent, and personal Creator, the following human experiences and requirements would be impossible:

1. Laws of Logic
2. Uniformity of Nature (laws of physics)
3. Moral Absolutes (also covered by CS Lewis)

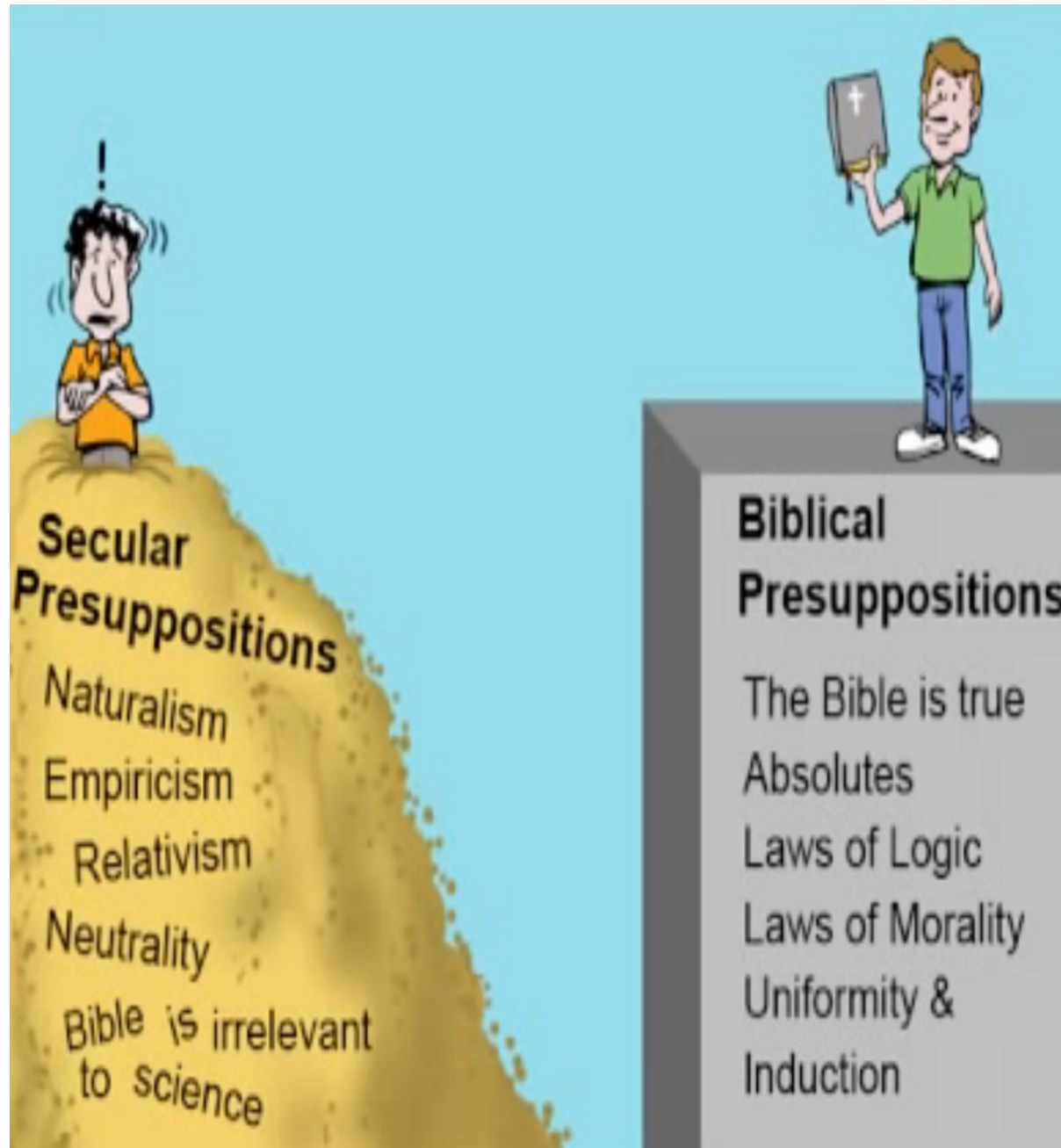
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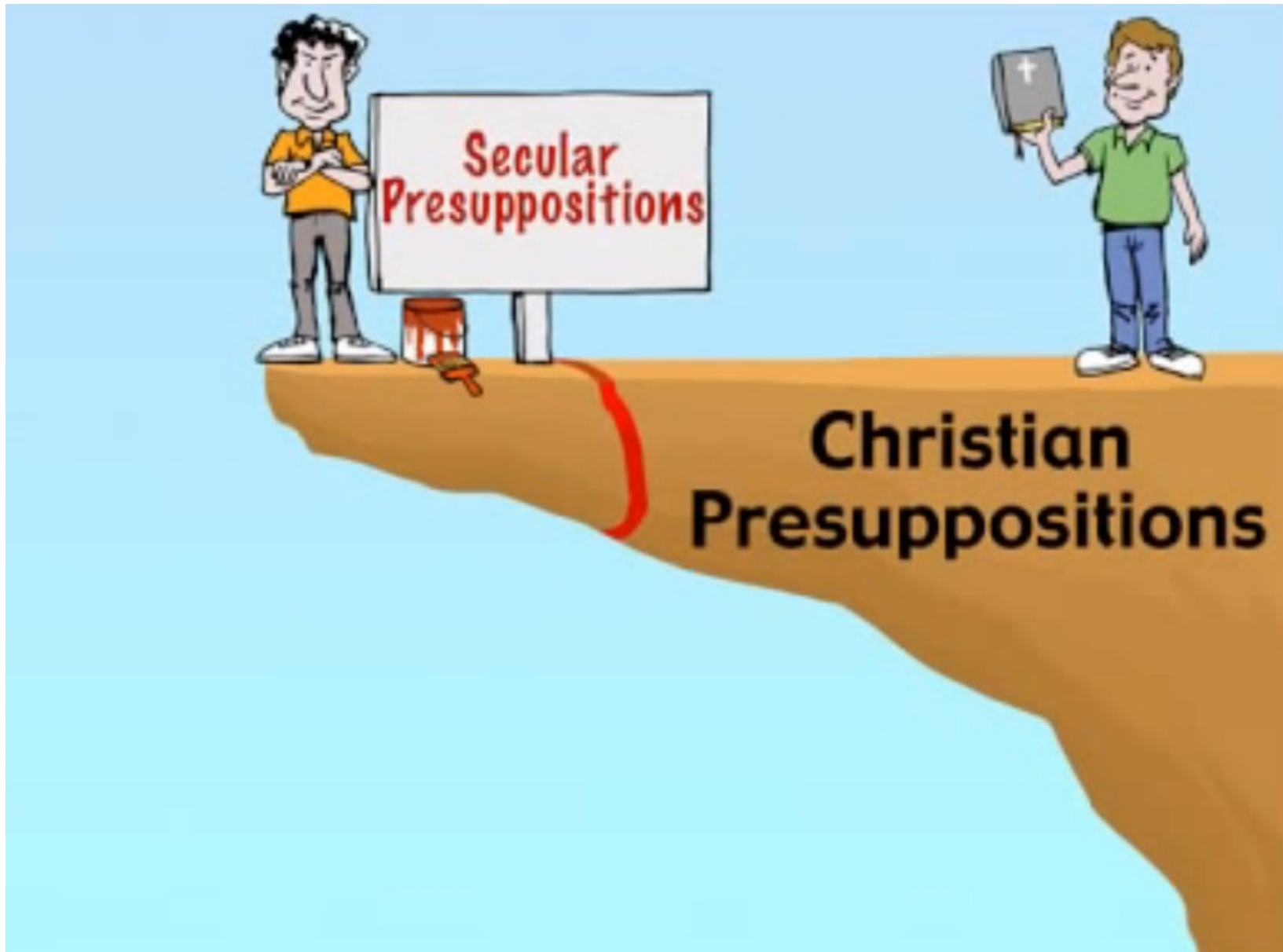




**Materialism Only
(Mechanical-Chemical Forces Only),
No basis for Mind,
No basis for Freewill,
No Universal Code of Fairness,
No basis for Logic,
No basis for cosmic uniformity.**

**Mind Exists,
Freewill Exists,
Universal Code of Fairness Exists,
Logic Exists,
Nature Created,
Creator upholds the universe
with cosmic uniformity.**





G) The Source of Life Decision Tree:

