

God is.

The fool says I his heart there is no God.

Psalm 14:1 and 53:1

The God-denying man is a **fool** because:

- He denies what is plainly evident.
- He believes in tremendous effect with no cause.
- He denies a moral authority in the universe.
- He believes only what can be proven by the scientific method.
- He takes a dramatic, losing chance on his supposition that there is no God.
- He refuses to be persuaded by the many powerful arguments for the existence of God.

. There are many powerful arguments for the existence of God; among them are these:

- *The Cosmological Argument*: The existence of the universe means there must be a creator God.

- *The Teleological Argument*: The existence of design in the universe means there must be a designer God.

- *The Anthropological Argument*: The unique nature and character of humanity means there must be a relational God.

- *The Moral Argument*: The existence of morality means there must be a governing God.

I love this quote:

"Which is cause, and which is effect? Does atheism result from folly, or folly from atheism? It would be perfectly correct to say that each is cause and each is effect." (Morgan)

The fool has said in his heart:

David not only found *what* the fool said to be significant;

But also

where he said it is also important (**in his heart**).

The God-denying man David has in mind is not merely troubled by intellectual objections to the existence of God; **in his heart** he wishes God away, typically for fundamentally moral reasons.

John 3:20 explains it this way: *For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.*

This means that the man David had in mind is not an atheist for primarily intellectual reasons.

Another quote from Morgan that is interesting:

"Honest intellectual agnosticism does not necessarily produce immorality; dishonest emotional atheism always does." (Morgan)

Tactical advice: It means that when we speak with one who denies God, we should not only - or even primarily - speak to their head, but also to their **heart**.

Even the old preachers got this.

"Let the preacher aim at the heart, and preach the all conquering love of Jesus, and he will by God's grace win more doubters to the faith of the gospel than any hundred of the best reasoners who only direct their arguments to the head." (Spurgeon)

The phrasing of **said in his heart** also reminds us that it is possible for one to say *in his mind* that there is a God, yet deny it in his **heart** and life. One may believe in God in theory, yet be a *practical atheist* in the way they live.

Problem is, it's hard to convince a fool of anything.

How do we know God exists?

1. Information - bible, history,
2. Gut feeling
3. Miracles, the unexplained.
4. Personal experience - the "feeling" of God's presence, guidance and sovereignty.

But how do you explain that to a skeptic?

1. Answer their questions, sometimes said in arrogant statements.
2. Pray bucket loads for the right info and right words. (God will reveal Himself in His way)
3. Dialogical apologetics.
 - A. Ask their opinion and why
 - B. Desire to see their understanding because it is foreign to you. (this opens up for you to explain and compare your view)
 - C. Make it a real dialogue. Keep track of each other's comments. It's like playing chess, one move a day - eg phone chess