

# SKEPTICAL





# SKEPTICAL

HOW CAN WE BELIEVE IN GOD  
IF THERE ISN'T ANY PROOF?





***Faith in God is nothing more than the license religious people give themselves to keep believing when reasons fail...Atheism is not a philosophy; it is not even a view of the world; it is simply a refusal to deny the obvious [God does not exist]. The atheist is merely a person who believes that the eighty-seven percent of the population who claim [to believe in the existence of God] should be obliged to present evidence for his existence.***

***-Sam Harris, "Atheist Manifesto"***



CRITICAL  
REFLECTIONS

**New Atheism:**

**Faith in God is**

**UNREASONABLE and**

**IRRATIONAL**

CRITICAL  
REFLECTIONS

**Goal Today:**  
**Demonstrate that belief**  
**in God is the most**  
**REASONABLE and**  
**RATIONAL explanation**  
**of reality.**



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THE PLANTINGA PROJECT

TWO DOZEN

(OR SO)

ARGUMENTS

FOR GOD

*Edited by*

Jerry L. Walls and Trent Dougherty

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NEW YORK TIMES Bestseller

TIMOTHY  
KELLER

*Belief in an Age of Skepticism*

The Reason  
for God

With a New Preface



PHILIP YANCEY

rumors

OF ANOTHER WORLD

WHAT  
ON  
EARTH  
ARE  
WE

MISSING?



SCIENTIFIC  
QUESTIONS

**FOUR REASONS**  
**Belief in God is the**  
**Best Explanation for**  
**Reality.**

SCIENTIFIC

REASON #1  
The Big God  
behind the  
“Big Bang”



**“Almost everyone now  
believes that the  
universe, and time itself,  
had a beginning at the  
Big Bang.”**

**-Stephen Hawking**

**SCIENTIFIC**



SCIENTIFIC

REASON #1  
The Big God  
behind the  
“Big Bang”





***In the beginning God created the  
heavens and the earth.***





***The heavens declare the glory of  
God.***



VERTICAL

REASON #2

A Fine-Tuned

Universe



***“When you look from the perspective of a scientist at the universe, it looks as if it knew we were coming. There are 15 constants...that have precise values. If any one of those constants was off by even one part in a million, or in some cases, by one part in a million, million, the universe would not have been able to coalesce, there would have been no galaxy, stars, planets or people.”***

***-Francis Collins, Human Genome Project***

**UNIVERSE**



**“The odds of a universe like ours emerging out of something like the Big Bang are enormous. I think there are clearly religious implications. It would be very difficult to explain why the universe would have begun in just this way except as the act of a God who intended to create beings like us.”**

**-Stephen Hawking**

**SCIENTIFIC QUESTIONS**



VERTICAL

REASON #2

A Fine-Tuned  
Universe



PHILOSOPHICAL

**REASON #3**

**Transcendent**

**Beauty, Desire**

**and Meaning**



















# NEPTICAL



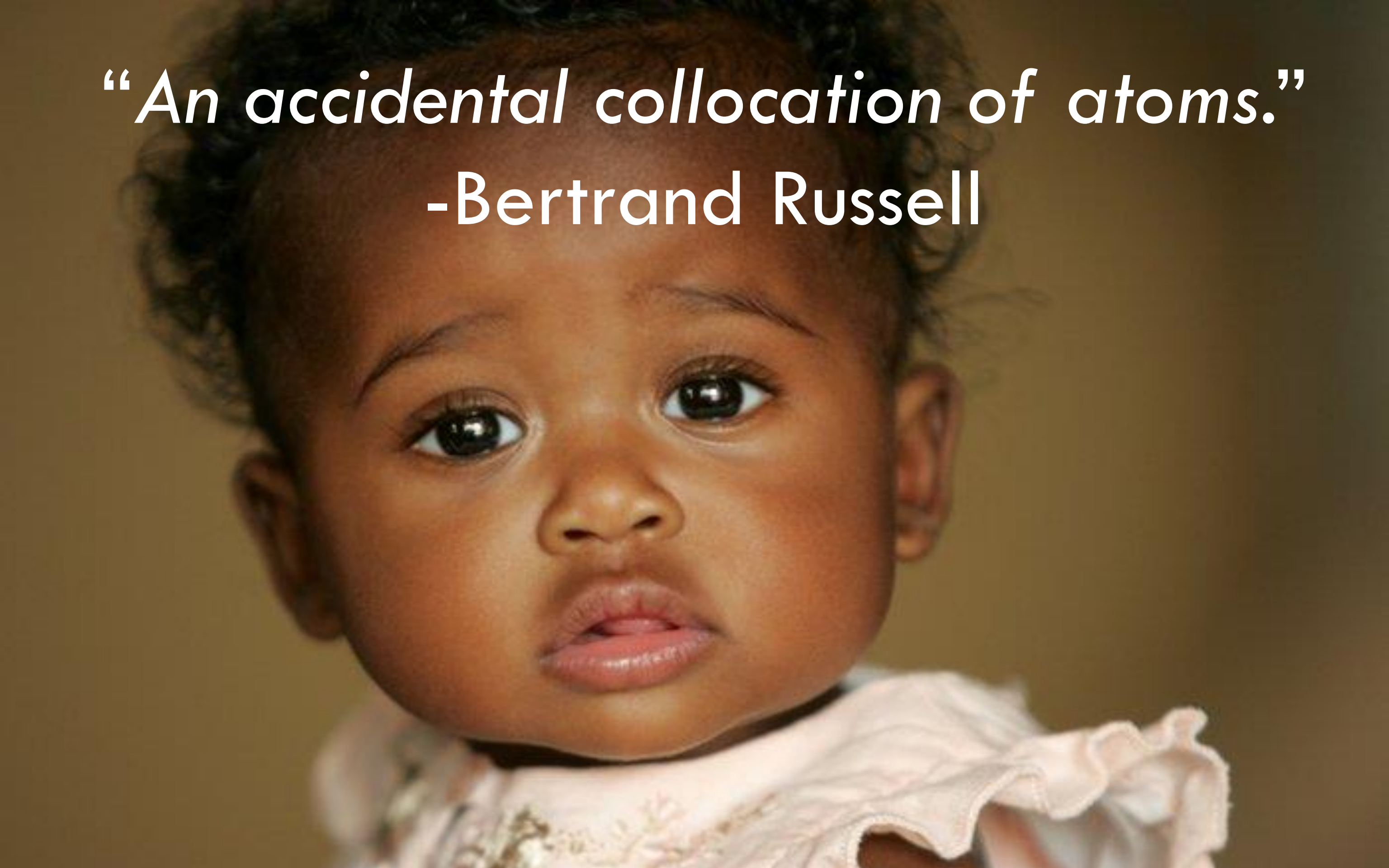






*“An accidental collocation of atoms.”*

-Bertrand Russell





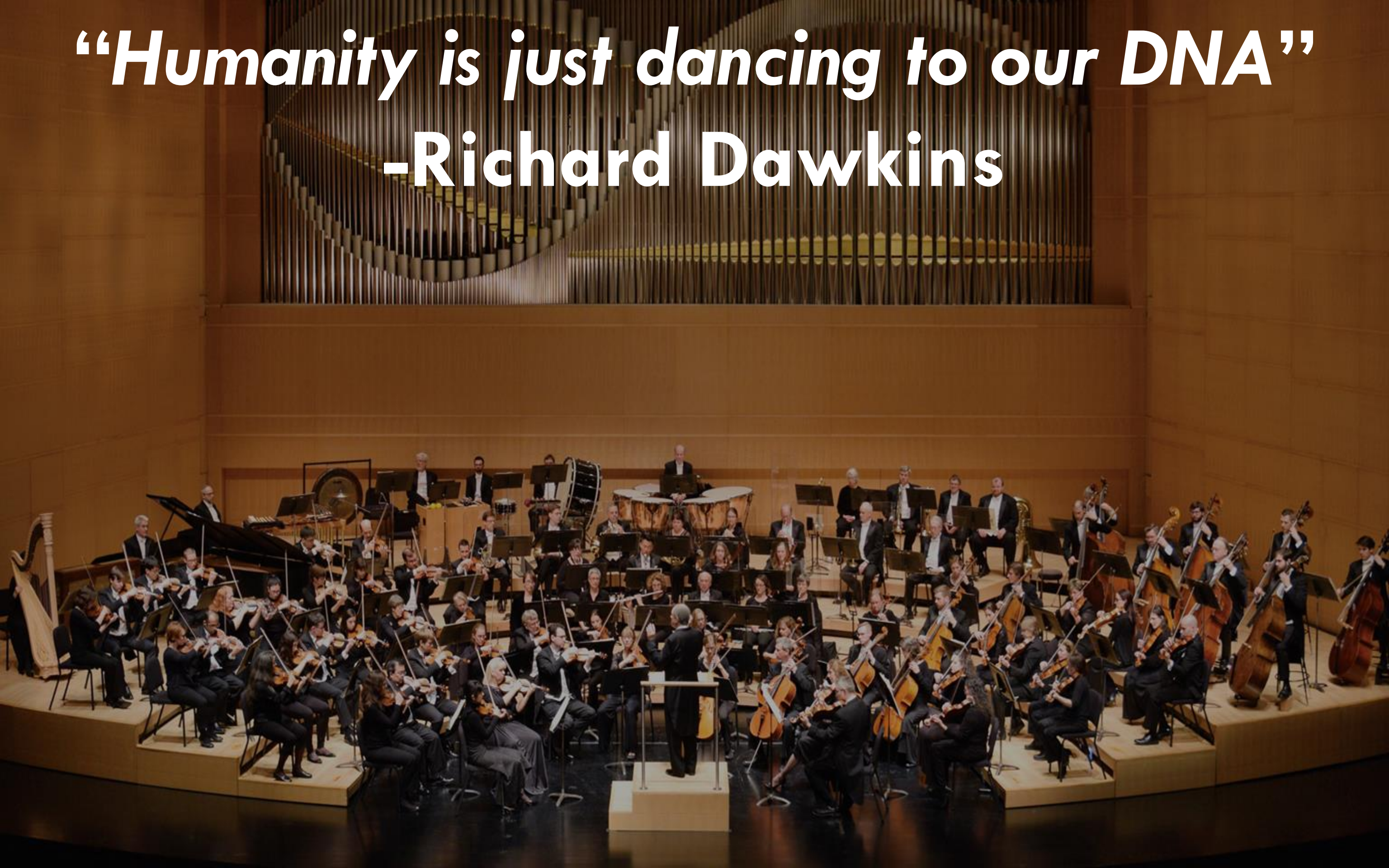


***“A neurologically  
hardwired response  
to data, inherited  
from ancestors who  
survived because this  
trait helped them  
survive.”***

**Christopher Hitchens**



***“Humanity is just dancing to our DNA”***  
**-Richard Dawkins**





PHILOSOPHICAL

**REASON #3**

**Transcendent**

**Beauty, Desire**

**and Meaning**



VERTICAL

*“...all signify that we  
want something that  
nothing in this world can  
ultimately fulfill...”*

**-St. Augustine**



***“Sophisticated moderns have not renounced transcendence but rather replaced it with weak substitutes. Unlike past generations, many are unsure about God and an invisible world. Even so, we feel the longings for something more. A society that denies the supernatural usually ends up elevating the natural to supernatural status.”***

***-Philip Yancey***

**KEPTICAL**



# THE BIBLICAL QUESTION

Romans 1:25

*They exchanged the truth about  
God for a lie, and worshiped  
and served created  
things rather than the  
Creator—who is forever  
praised.*



**CRITICAL**

# **REASON #4**

## **An Anchor for Morality**



***“People who laugh at the claim that there is a transcendent moral order do not think that racial genocide is just impractical or self-defeated, but that it is actually wrong. We do not only have moral feelings, but we also have an ineradicable belief that moral standards exist, outside of us, by which our internal moral feelings are evaluated.”***

***-Tim Keller***

**NEPTICAT**



# KEP ETHICAL

*“I cannot live as though ethical values were simply a matter of personal taste, I do not know the solution to this.”*

*-Bertrand Russell*



# REFLECTIONS

*“When there is a choice between defending human rights and defending cultural relativism, anthropologists should choose to protect and promote human rights. We cannot just be bystanders.”*

*-Carolyn Fluehr-Lobban*



# SCAL TIP KEY

*“If you insist on a secular view of the world and yet you continue to pronounce some things right and some things wrong, then I hope you see the deep disharmony between the world your intellect has devised and the real world that your heart knows exists.”*

**-Tim Keller**



**KEP TICAL  
S**

**Atheism not only has to  
deny moral absolutes, it  
must deny even the  
concept of GOOD and  
EVIL.**



KEP TICAL  
S

**Morality is anchored in  
a transcendent, moral  
God who created us in  
his image and stitched it  
in our conscience.**



## SUMMARY

**#1 The Big God behind the  
“Big Bang”**

**#2 A Fine-Tuned Universe**

**#3 Transcendent Beauty,**

**Desire and Meaning**

**#4 The Anchor of Morality**



**SCPTICAL**

**Unbelief in God is  
suppression of truth  
in our hearts.**



# KEPTICAL

Romans 1:25

*For although they knew  
God, they neither glorified  
Him or gave thanks to  
Him.*



# CRITICAL REFLECTIONS

*“I experience fear of religion. I want atheism to be true. I hope there is no God because I don’t want the universe to be like that. And I can’t imagine anyone who isn’t subjective about that.”*

**-Thomas Nagel**



**KEPTICAL**

**Unbelief in God is  
suppression of truth  
in our hearts.**



**SCIENTIFIC**

**Ultimate Evidence of  
God's existence is  
JESUS!**



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