

Special Topics

10 Islam, Religion, and Modern Controversies

10.1 **Modern Fallacies about God: where Theists and Atheists Agree**

Word : Tawhīd

Meaning : Unity and oneness of God.

Word : Contingent being

Meaning : A being who depends on something outside of it to exist, like other beings, or space, time and matter.

Word : Gods of mythology

Meaning : The gods in the stories of myths, like Zeus.

10.2 **Tawhīd: The Muslim God according to the Prophet Muhammad and the Ahl al-Bayt (as)**

Word : Contingent being

Meaning : A being that exists dependently, does not exist in and of itself

Word : Necessary being

Meaning : A being that exists independently, exists in and of itself

Word : Objective

Meaning : Pure fact, does not depend on human opinion.

Word : Subjective

Meaning : Depends on human senses, perceptions and opinion. Difficult to know for certain if it is 100% true.

10.3 **God's Existence: The Argument From Being (Wujūd)**

Word : Māhiyah

Meaning : Whatness of things, makeup of things

Word : Wujūd

Meaning : Existence, being

Word : Contingent being

Meaning : exists dependently, does not exist in and of itself

Word : Necessary being

Meaning : exists independently, exists in and of itself

Word : Logical priority

Meaning : Priority in the chain of cause and effect, may be simultaneous or not

Word : Temporal priority

Meaning : Priority in time

Word : Infinite regress

Meaning : Going back in the chain of cause-effect ad infinitum

Word : Logical absurdity

Meaning : Pure impossibility

Word : Objective

Meaning : A pure fact, it does not depend on human opinion.

Word : Subjective

Meaning : Depends on human senses, perceptions and opinion. Difficult to know for certain if it is 100% true.

10.4 **God's Existence: The Kalam Cosmological Argument**

Word : Virtual particles:

Meaning : a disturbance in a quantum field

Word : Quantum mechanics:

Meaning : the branch of mechanics that deals with the mathematical description of the motion and interaction of subatomic particles, incorporating the concepts of quantization of energy, wave-particle duality, the uncertainty principle, and the correspondence principle.

10.5 **God's Existence: The Argument From Design**

Word : Fine-tuning of the universe

Meaning : The idea that the conditions that allow life in the universe can only occur when certain universal fundamental physical constants lie within a very narrow range, so that if any of several fundamental constants were only slightly different, life would not be possible in the universe.

Word : Multiverse

Meaning : The multiverse is the hypothetical set of finite and infinite possible universes, including the universe in which we live.

Word : Cosmology

Meaning : The science of the origin and development of the universe.

Word : Teleological Argument

Meaning : Another term for the argument from design

10.6 The Problem of Evil, Suffering and Pain

Word : The emotional problem of evil

Meaning : People's dislike or even hatred of God who permits suffering in the world. They are angry that God doesn't do anything about it.

Word : The intellectual problem of evil

Meaning : This problem sees God and evil as mutually incompatible from a logical perspective.

10.7 Why did God Create Us? The Purpose of our Creation

Word : Al-Wadud

Meaning : God's characteristic, all-loving

Word : Al-Rahman

Meaning : God's characteristic, all-merciful

Word : Ibadah

Meaning : Worship, servitude to God

10.8 Why Humans Need Religion according to Islam

Word : Deen

Meaning : Religion

Word : Dā'ina

Meaning : Old Persian word for religion, meaning way of life

Word : Īmān

Meaning : faith and trusting relationship with God

10.9 Jahl and Spiritual Ignorance in Islam

Word : Aql

Meaning : intellect

Word : Jahl

Meaning : foolishness

Word : foolishness

Meaning : fool

Word : Safaaha

Meaning : foolishness

Word : Hikmah

Meaning : wisdom

10.11 Do Non-Muslims Go to Hell?

Word : Al-Jāhil al-Muqassir

Meaning : A person who rejects Islam while knowing it is the truth.

Word : Al-Jāhil al-Qāsir

Meaning : A person rejects Islam while not knowing it is the truth.

Word : Musta'daf

Meaning : In the Qur'anic sense, it sometimes refers to someone who is in a weakened position who cannot make proper decisions about the truth.