

Sermon Topic: What are some proofs that God exists and there is life after death? – John 11:25 – Matt Cassidy

Introduction: Answering the tough questions. Matt Cassidy and Matt Henke are responding to some of the many questions that were turned in on Easter Sunday. Today's question addresses the question, "What are some proofs that God exists and there is life after death?"

Study Questions:

Matt explained "Naturalism" as the belief that nature could potentially explain all phenomena, and that faith in the empirical, scientific method is the chief means of discovering facts. It includes the conviction that the supreme reality is found in matter. All there is, is what we experience with our senses. There is no spiritual world. Everything we know, we can know because of science.

1. Identify naturalistic views in education, television or movies, music or advertising. How would someone with a naturalistic worldview explain metaphysical or spiritual beliefs? Can you identify people you know that hold a naturalistic worldview?
2. Matt says there are four areas that a naturalistic point of view can't hold up to:
 - a. Origin of Life – How are statistical probabilities raising questions about the naturalistic view of how life started? Why does it matter that these probabilities point to the impossibility of life forming on its own?
 - b. Theistic Arguments – A theistic view would say there must be a "higher power" outside of matter that caused the world to exist, was a part of the design and started it all. It starts with what we know and works backward in a logical inquiry. How have you heard cause, design or origin used as an argument for the existence of God?
 - c. Philosophy of the Mind – There is more to the world than what we experience through our senses. Notice people's fascination with the paranormal. What are books, movies or television shows that focus on the paranormal? Also, part of this category is the testimonies of life after death experiences. What do you think of these types of testimonies? How was John Kenyan's story a testimony of something that could not be explained by naturalism? How does Jesus' resurrection violate a naturalistic worldview?
 - d. Answers to Prayer in very specific ways – When you pray for something that can't happen without external help and it happens, how does that give evidence that God must exist? Do you truly believe that supernatural things can happen through prayer? How does your prayer life demonstrate what you believe?
3. How can you live your life in such a way that it would take a supernatural explanation to explain your life?