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Religion in RPGs

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Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #351

"*Thus, we expect that a cup will be there when we see it, even though it may not be.*"

If there were no definites, then it would be a 50-50 chance that it would be

there. But instead, it's a 99.999999999... to .0000...1 chance that it will be there. Like I said, the mere fact that we can even **begin** to make predictions about the universe suggests the existence of definites.

I also won't agree that we just aren't smart enough to accept gods logic. If god wanted us to live by his word, then he would have made it clearly understandable by us lowely humans. If not, it's just another game to me.

Hm, I guess our difference of beliefs then comes down to a difference of opinions. I am willing to think that I'm merely too dumb to understand, whereas you believe that everything should be clearly understandable. (*Shrug*)

mikel
Prime Member

Joined: Jul 5, 2001
Messages: 2,708

Remember me as: The Nobody

mikel, Apr 27, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #352

If there were no definites, then it would be a 50-50 chance that it would be there. But instead, it's a 99.999999999... to .0000...1 chance that it will be there.

That logic is completely flawed. A doorknob is not "definitely" sterile, but that doesn't mean that I have a 50% chance of contracting a disease if I touch it. You acknowledge right there, that there's a chance, however infinitesimal, that the cup might *not* be there. That's not definite.

SephirothXVIII
Noob

Joined: Sep 7, 2002
Messages: 3,891

~R|D~
Challenge me on the Nurburgring!
Gamertag: Rusty Gunns
FFXI name: Mystoval
Server: Ragnarok

SephirothXVIII, Apr 27, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #353

Ah, how many atheists I must have heard use that argument by now- if God is good, why didn't he make us perfect? Why does he allow evil to exist at all? Because he gave us free will. Yes, God could have made us unable to commit any acts of evil, but then it wouldn't really be our choice, would it? Could God have made us wiser, more angelic, less ignorant? Yes, but would it have made a difference? Satan was an angelic being and yet, for reasons incomprehensible to us, he still chose evil. Who's to say that even if we were semi-divine then we are we still wouldn't be making the same choices we are now? If anything, having that much power and knowledge would only cause us to destroy ourselves to a much worse degree then we're doing now, just as Satan was, through his won will, condemned.

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Two misconceptions about Christianity are that we believe that all humans are inherently evil and that we believe in a jealous, wrathful, condemning God. Nothing could be further from the truth. We as Christians believe that people are born with good in them, yet through their choices, thoughts, and actions may be tempted in life to succumb to evil. Again, this is not the fault of God, as he gives us the gift of free will and a choice to do good and not evil. If we choose evil, then it is our choice and our fault, not God's. Also, God does not condemn people to the fiery pits of Hell in some kind of vicious vengenance, as even some Christians seem to believe he does- God wants us to join him in Heaven. Heaven and Hell are not even physical places, so much as they are states of being. Heaven is simply the state of being with God, who is ultimatly not just some omnipotent judge but rather is the essence of good, of love, of justice. Those who have these things in their heart have God in their heart, and therefore will be in a state of unity with God- which is what Heaven truly is- upon losing their bodies. Those who have hatred, jealously, and anger in their hearts exist in a state without love or goodness- ultimatly, without God, and without happiness- and it is this state, rather then a sterotypical cave filled with fire, that is what we call Hell.

"The damned are, in a way, successful, rebels {against God} even unto the very end- the doors of Hell are locked from the inside." - C.S. Lewis

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #354

Meh. I'm tired of religious folk using "Hell" in convincing. Honestly. I've said it before, but those types are only doing more to prove that they're only in the boat they're in because of fear.

Fear of a name increases fear of the object.

Those in charge of Churches surely know that if I do.

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 27, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #355

Once upon a time I was somewhat religious. I think i've gone to church about 15 times in my entire life (every easter till like 12, and a few other

-Lenin-
Noob

Joined: Apr 24, 2002
Messages: 18,711

times).

I was even in a religious boy scout organization called "Royal Rangers".

Well, as boy scouts we went on trips, went camping, etc. I was 12 at the time, and we went on a trip out somewhere (I forget now) during the middle of winter.

We stayed in wood cabins, and did various things such as making our own sleds for a sled race, first aid and search&rescue stuff, and general education of the outdoors as we usually did.

One night we all went down to the main lodge, and did some bible study I think.. something like that. Anyway, after awhile they started talking about speaking in tongues and a few people even started doing it and everybody there was all excited and crap as if someone was casting some kind of magic spell .. lol .

I sat there and watched awhile, and it was pretty much then (after a combonation of a lot of events and things) that I decided organized religion was a falsehood. I changed on that day.

I changed, in respect to my way of percieving the world. I changed because I was no longer a normal person in this world, who readily accepted their life, their fate, and their beliefs.

I became different from that group, though at the time I really didn't know much about the world. I was only 12, and I still hadn't even realized this change, only that I now saw religion as a crutch for the weak minded, one giant lie.

I never saw god, I never heard him speak to me. Yet these others told me they did, and a few of them even later told me they just faked everything so they'd gain some attention, or that they felt out of place and did it so they would be accepted as normal. I felt totally out of place everytime anything like that had happened anyway, it just all came to a point that night.

I've continued to grow and learn, and now continuously question even my own beliefs all of the time, refining them, looking for new perspectives.

Never satisfied with anything.

These arguments from both sides are entertaining to watch, and read. They not only provide that entertainment factor, but they provide a deep insight into the minds of those that participate in them. You can tell how intelligent a person is sometimes, simply from what they believe in and how confident they are in that belief. REGARDLESS of whether or not that belief is true or false.

'Eve

Re:Any legit use for 3127? (Score:5, Funny)
by nmoog (701216) on Monday February 09, @09:45PM (#8234397)
Yeah, port 3127 is used for DoS attacks on Microsoft. Its best to leave it open.
[Reply to This | Parent]

-Lenin-, Apr 27, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #356

well I wasn't saying that god should have made us perfect. I don't know who is to say what that is though but i'll use it in a christian sense. I meant that he shouldn't condem us for they way he made us. If God made us one way, then how can he send people to hell for acting in the way he himself programed us to be. It doesn't make sense. The whole thing is stupid. God says don't be jealous. He is jealous by his own words. Don't be vengeful. He is vengeful by his own words. Why does he need to be worshiped? Sounds...I don't know. Pretty human if you will. Well not human. I have no desire to be worshiped. I have no desire to send people to hell either. I guess i'm a better person than god. It's the biggest organized hypocricy i've ever seen. I don't accept that we just aren't smart enough to understand gods logic. If he wanted us to seriously belive in him and live by what he says, things would be clearly understandable. My personal belief on why things in religion don't always add up is because it was man made thousands of years ago.

Edit: If god is so perfect, why does he have so many negative traits?

legacyAccount, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #357

"well I wasn't saying that god should have made us perfect. I don't know who is to say what that is though but i'll use it in a christian sense. I meant that he shouldn't condem us for they way he made us. If God made us one way, then how can he send people to hell for acting in the way he himself programed us to be. It doesn't make sense. The whole thing is stupid. God says don't be jealous. He is jealous by his own words. Don't be vengeful. He is vengeful by his own words. Why does he need to be worshiped? Sounds...I don't know. Pretty human if you will. Well not human. I have no desire to be worshiped. I have no desire to send people to hell either. I guess i'm a better person than god. It's the biggest organized hypocricy i've ever seen. I don't accept that we just aren't smart enough to understand gods logic. If he wanted us to seriously belive in him and live by what he says, things would be clearly understandable. My personal belief on why things in religion don't always add up is because it was man made thousands of years ago."

Did you even read my post? God is not jealous, he is not vengeful, and he does not condemn people to Hell. People condemn themselves to Hell, in

a literal sense. If someone has nothing but hatred and apathy and anger in their hearts, how can they ever become one with a being of love like God is?

Things would be clearly understandable? They are clearly understandable, people just choose not to understand. If you keep telling yourself "why does God allow so much bad stuff to happen it doesn't make sense", then naturally it won't make sense to you. But if you step away for a moment to look at the grander picture, you might see have some perspective (even though our narrow human minds might not be able to percieve this completly) of why things are the way they are.

Fact is, God isn't a jealous God who goes around striking down those who don't believe in him, he's not some wrathful judge who condemns those who he deems 'sinful' to the pits of Hell, and he isn't some lazy and apathetic observer who just sits back and watches terrible stuff happen for laughs. He's a loving, kind, and just God who wants the best for all of his children yet at the same time gives us free will and therefore the choice to turn away against each other and against him, if we foolishly desire to.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

---

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #358

"Fact is, God..."

Bwahahahahahaha

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 27, 2003 Report

---

dragonmasteralex4
Noob

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #359

who wrote the bible? some guy thousands of years ago decided to go fast up in the mountains, as several people did. started feeling dizzy and very hungry sohe ate some funny looking mushrooms. then he came down from the mountains and told all of the people that he saw "God". people were stupid a few thousand years ago, so of course they beleived him.
im not going to beleive something just because it was written in a book back when people were stupid. I mean if i beleive that then why not go

Joined: Apr 13, 2003
Messages: 3,015

catch the comet with jamestown.

I am not who I want to be
I probably will not ever be

dragonmasteralex4, Apr 27, 2003 Report

dragonmasteralex4
Noob

Joined: Apr 13, 2003
Messages: 3,015

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #360

god supposedly knows everything. so, hes not only condeming us for being the way he made us but hes condmeming us for the way he knew we'd be.

I am not who I want to be
I probably will not ever be

dragonmasteralex4, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #361

"god supposedly knows everything. so, hes not only condeming us for being the way he made us but hes condmeming us for the way he knew we'd be."

Free will and human choice. God did not make us to be evil, nor does he condemn those who are. This is the same argument you've been presenting the entire time, and yet it's like you don't seem to acknowledge my replies to it...

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #362

Free will cannot possibly exist because God would know exactly what we were going to do anyway.

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #363

That doesn't mean we can't have free will, it just means God knows through his infinite wisdom just what choices we will make. God is a being beyond the boundaries of time, he percieves past and present and future in a vastly different way then we do. So while he knows what choices we are going to make, it doesn't take away from the fact that we have a choice.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #364

Then how do you explain God supposedly having this "plan"? I'm sorry, but there are a lot of holes in your statement.

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #365

Why? Is it so hard to comprehend that we have free will and choices and yet at the same time what choices we make, while still our decision, is known by a timeless being such as God?

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #366

Yes. How can we possibly have a choice if God knows exactly what we're going to do and had it all planned out from the start?

ShadowSora
Guest

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #367

You bring up a good point shadow sora.

I want to get on topic for a second.

CHRONO SPOLIERS

"I think we pretty much all understand that the unnatural human evolution was set in motion by Lavos. End of discussion."

That post made me relize that CT has religious themes in it. But instead as presenting them as corrupt ideals they are represented as actual truths. Evolution is basically an atheist belief. There are no gods or deities in the game, just the aspect of evolution that they incorperated in a good way. Because of the connection between humans and lavos's flame, thier brian was able to grow 3 times it's normal size in three million years. CT was the first game to incorperate religion as a truth, that I know of.

END SPOLIER

So basically I found a game that incorperated religion in a good way.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 27, 2003 Report

-Lenin-
Noob

Joined: Apr 24, 2002
Messages: 18,711

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #368

Yeah actually it is hard to believe.

After being around many religions groups in my life, watching them and listening.. i've come to the conclusion they are doing it because they have nothing else to cling to.

Much like a cult.

Re:Any legit use for 3127? (Score:5, Funny)
by nmoog (701216) on Monday February 09, @09:45PM (#8234397)
Yeah, port 3127 is used for DoS attacks on Microsoft. Its best to leave it open.
[Reply to This | Parent]

-Lenin-, Apr 27, 2003 Report

SephirothXVIII
Noob

Joined: Sep 7, 2002
Messages: 3,891

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #369

Free will cannot possibly exist because God would know exactly what we were going to do anyway.

I don't often side with the religious folk, but this statement is false. It's really hard to explain, but perhaps Angry Rabbit or someone will jump in here and do it for me. If you want to really learn for yourself, I suggest reading John Milton's *Paradise Lost.*

~R|D~
Challenge me on the Nurburgring!
Gamertag: Rusty Gunns
FFXI name: Mystoval
Server: Ragnarok

SephirothXVIII, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #370

Well, the way I see it, everyone has a whole in their heart (and I use the word "heart" as a metaphore of course), made by their sadness and regrets and whatnot. Religion is just one of the ways to fill that whole, by making people feel like they're a part of something. And there's nothing wrong with that, until it gets to the point where extremists are slaughtering and taking innocent lives just because of their beleif.

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

cloud6187
Noob

Joined: Jul 22, 2001
Messages: 7,511

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #371

its how i fral about religion w.o the killing of people. i go to church every week but dont realy see it as something that otgher people do. so it freaks me out when i think aobout ghow games to do
and sorry for my spelling fingers are realy realy rely cold

cloud6187, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #372

"Evolution is basically an atheist belief."

Nothing could be further from the truth. I'm a Catholic and I believe strongly in evolution, as do many members of the parish, clregy, and even the Pope himself. Statements like this show just prove my theory that a lot of people who don't believe in God don't believe due to their own misconceptions about the church. I really wish a lot of people would open their eyes and realize that Catholicism is nowhere near as primitive or legalistic a religion as many people make it out to be. Same with Judaism, Islam, and more or less all branches of Protestantism, for that matter.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #373

Well, the main requirement of being religious is beleiving in God, and some people don't. There are other ways to fill that "hole" than religion.

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #374

Angry Rabbit, if god knows everything that will happen, the everything is preordaned, and if every decision we make is preordaned, there is no free will.

dragonmasteralex4
Noob

Joined: Apr 13, 2003
Messages: 3,015

I am not who I want to be
I probably will not ever be

dragonmasteralex4, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #375

"Well, the main requirement of being religious is beleiving in God, and some people don't. There are other ways to fill that "hole" than religion."

But why is it so hard for you to believe in God? Is it that outrageous to say that there's some kind of creator who designed all of this rather then everything simply being an indescribably unlikely coincedence?

"Angry Rabbit, if god knows everything that will happen, the everything is preordaned, and if every decision we make is preordaned, there is no free will."

No. God knows everything because he is beyond time as we know it, and he knows everything, past, present, and future. Yet just because he knows what choices we will make doesn't mean that we don't choose to make those choices. I realize this is a very hard concept to grasp, but it does make sense, even if I can't explain it that well.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #376

I'm not completely ruling out the idea of God. I just don't beleive in it. And I don't see the universe as a coincidence, but rather just the way things turned out.

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

dragonmasteralex4
Noob

Joined: Apr 13, 2003
Messages: 3,015

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #377

well its udiscribably unlikely that there is this one creator, who came from nowhere and has been around forever, that has us worship him and tells us how to live, it all sounds rediculous.

I am not who I want to be
I probably will not ever be

dragonmasteralex4, Apr 27, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #378

"Nothing could be further from the truth. I'm a Catholic and I believe strongly in evolution, as do many members of the parish, clregy, and even the Pope himself. Statements like this show just prove my theory that a lot of people who don't believe in God don't believe due to their own misconceptions about the church. I really wish a lot of people would open their eyes and realize that Catholicism is nowhere near as primitive or legalistic a religion as many people make it out to be. Same with Judaism, Islam, and more or less all branches of Protestantism, for that matter."

I was under the impression through various religious websites that those who belived in god doesn't believe in evolution. If god supposedly created us in his image then wouldn't we basically evolve away from that image? I do not not believe in him because of my miscenceptions of the church, I don't believe in him because it is what I truly believe.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #379

"And I don't see the universe as a coincidence, but rather just the way things turned out."

Yes, but as I explained above, the conditions that allowed life to form on Earth, for us to evolve into sentient beings, for us to have the resources to build a society, must have all been so precise that it's almost unfeasible that it could have happened without some force driving it.

"I don't believe in him because it is what I truly believe."

There has to be some reason(s) why you don't believe in God, just as there are reasons why I do believe in God.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

dragonmasteralex4
Noob

Joined: Apr 13, 2003
Messages: 3,015

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #380

like i said earlier your idea of how it happenned i unfeasible

I am not who I want to be
I probably will not ever be

dragonmasteralex4, Apr 27, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #381

"Yes, but as I explained above, the conditions that allowed life to form on Earth, for us to evolve into sentient beings, for us to have the resources to build a society, must have all been so precise that it's almost unfeasible that it could have happened without some force driving it."

I already said that conditions were not always right. That's why there is global warming and stuff like that today. Technology is destoying earth, certainly that wouldn't be happening if conditions were just right. There were also things called mass extinctions throughout history. At times 80-90% of all species were wiped out of existance.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 27, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #382

Given enough time and space in the universe, of course it's possible. It could have happened elsewhere and possibly has. "Everything turning out the way it is" is rather vague. On another planet the main life forms might be orange and have six eyes and if they were religious, they would still wonder how it could be a coincidence that things worked out the way they did. That's what thinking will do.

theunentitled
Level 9999

Joined: Feb 21, 2002
Messages: 20,299

Dogs love me cause I'm crazy sniffable

Do you see what happens, Larry, when you find a stranger in the Alps?

FYI, I can be used for snu-snu.

theunentitled, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #383

Why does there always have to be some driving force behind everything? If we can have free will, why can't the universe? And life is the way it is today because of the need to survive, not because the first ameba millions (or however long it was) years ago was striving for some divine future.

The main reason I don't beleive in God is because I don't like feeling like a part of something "bigger". Even if there truelly is a God that created us and has this "plan", existance is still pointless. What could some all powerful being possibly need to create a universe for other than his own entertainment? The only explanation is that God was bored and decided to write this giant novel called "Existance".

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

dragonmasteralex4
Noob

Joined: Apr 13, 2003
Messages: 3,015

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #384

"People beleive in god because they are insecure"- Final Fantasy Tactics

people are afraid of whats next and are scared into religion by things like hell.

I am not who I want to be
I probably will not ever be

dragonmasteralex4, Apr 27, 2003 Report

SephirothXVIII
Noob

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #385

The main reason I don't beleive in God is because I don't like feeling like a part of something "bigger". Even if there truelly is a God that created us and has this "plan", existance is still pointless.

I'm not going to comment on the validity of your beliefs, but that's a pretty bleak outlook. Maybe you need to join a club or something.

Joined: Sep 7, 2002
Messages: 3,891

~R|D~
Challenge me on the Nurburgring!
Gamertag: Rusty Gunns
FFXI name: Mystoval
Server: Ragnarok

SephirothXVIII, Apr 27, 2003 Report

AngryRabbit
Noob

Joined: Aug 24, 2001
Messages: 358

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #386

"I already said that conditions were not always right. That's why there is global warming and stuff like that today. Technology is destoying earth, certainly that wouldn't be happening if conditions were just right. There were also things called mass extinctions throughout history. At times 80-90% of all species were wiped out of existance."

How, exactly, does pointing out that mass extinctions happened on the road to human life evolving differ my argument in any way? Even if there were periods of time where 90% of the Earth's life forms were destroyed, that would just be a part of the incredible series of events that led up to us forming.

And as for technology 'destroying the planet', circumstances were just right, humans just chose to misuse technology. If we could harness solar power and create simpler, more efficient power plants that don't expend almost as much energy as they produce, we wouldn't have to worry about using up all of the energy sources we have here. But that's a totally different debate anyway...

"Why does there always have to be some driving force behind everything? If we can have free will, why can't the universe?"

If you believe that the universe has free will then you believe in a higher power. By saying that you're basically saying that you do believe in the concept of God, just not the name.

With great power must come great responsibility...

AngryRabbit, Apr 27, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #387

Angry rabbit you fail to relize my disproof of your arguement because you hate to see any evidence against your beliefs. It is by no means your fault. It is completly involentary on your part. I'm asking you to understand my difference of your argument not accept it. It doesn't take a coincidence of cosmic porportions for us to exist today because of evolution. We evolved for a reason and that is to help us against the earth. The earth was not always our friend and evolution protects us when it gets too bad. When we need to evolve we will, it is kind of like a defense mechanism. I like the fact

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

that you stick to your beliefs even though there has been evidence put directly to your face. Some people would call it foolish, but I call it comendable.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 27, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 27, 2003 #388

"If you believe that the universe has free will then you believe in a higher power."

That's not what I meant by free will.

ShadowSora, Apr 27, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 28, 2003 #389

-bump-

Angryrabit: I read your post and I understood it. I grew up in church and my grandfather is a preacher. Trust me, I have no misconceptions about christianity. All that stuff I said about god is stuff I learned from church. It's not something I took from you.

As far as the free will thing goes, I agree with everyone saying we have free will but when it comes to the tree of knowlege, God set that situation up so that it would go the way he wanted. Setting rules up is one thing but setting up a situation to go the way you want it is another.

Edit: I'm not quite sure what the global warming argument is at this poing, but I will just throw out that our planet has always gone thru hot and cold phases. It's time for a hotter phase at this point. What we are doing is advancing it and making it worse than it would be on it's own.

legacyAccount, Apr 28, 2003 Report

Date Posted: Apr 28, 2003 #390

The only explanation is that God was bored and decided to write this giant novel called "Existance".

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Actually, he decided to make a game.

legacyAccount, Apr 28, 2003 Report

ShadowSora
Guest

Date Posted: Apr 28, 2003 #391

That's true, since he's in the middle of it.

Anyway, that's one of the reasons I'm not religios.

ShadowSora, Apr 28, 2003 Report

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mikel
Prime Member

Joined: Jul 5, 2001
Messages: 2,708

Date Posted: Apr 28, 2003 #392

Been gone a couple days, I'll do my best to try to catch up.

"*who wrote the bible? some guy thousands of years ago decided to go fast up in the mountains, as several people did. started feeling dizzy and very hungry sohe ate some funny looking mushrooms. then he came down from the mountains and told all of the people that he saw "God". people were stupid a few thousand years ago, so of course they beleived him.*
im not going to beleive something just because it was written in a book back when people were stupid."

Careful, your ignorance is showing. You really should do at least a bit of research before you try to push something off like that. That's why I'm not sitting here trying to refute evolution: I don't know nearly enough about it to do so, and would simply make myself look stupid by doing so.

To state it for... oh, I don't know... the third or fourth time, the Bible was written by many different people over many different time periods. That's why there's different "books" of the Bible- it's actually a compilation of books.

"*That logic is completely flawed. A doorknob is not "definitely" sterile, but that doesn't mean that I have a 50% chance of contracting a disease if I touch it. You acknowledge right there, that there's a chance, however infinitesimal, that the cup might not be there. That's not definite.*"

I still belive that the mere fact that certain things are more likely than others suggests that not everything is completely relative. It makes sense to me, but I can't think up a clever analogy or anything. I don't know, I guess there's no way you can be sure either way. Plus I still maintain that relativism is a "walking contradiction", and I haven't seen anyone refute that yet.

"*I was under the impression through various religious websites that those who belived in god doesn't believe in evolution.*"

Orthodox religions generally teach that evolution is false. Still, belief in God extends far beyond orthodox religions. *Anyone* can believe in God, including main-stream scientists. Plus, there *are* many orthodox religious people who believe in evolution as well.

I'm thinking maybe I should re-post some of my main points once per page. This is getting boring rehashing the same stuff over and over.

Remember me as: The Nobody

mikel, Apr 28, 2003 Report

SephirothXVIII
Noob

Joined: Sep 7, 2002
Messages: 3,891

Date Posted: Apr 28, 2003 #393

I still belive that the mere fact that certain things are more likely than others suggests that not everything is completely relative.

Don't mix up relative and random. Besides, the cup was a poor example (I was just going on what you had mentioned previously.)

Let me fall back on the temperatures example. I say, "It's going to be hot today." That's a relative statement. If I say, "It's 98 degrees," that's a definite statement. 98 degrees doesn't change based on other factors, but "hot" can (for example, 98 degrees is not hot on Venus). But without relative examples, definite statements are useless. That is, 98 degrees in not in and of itself "hot." Only by comparing it with other temperatures can we assign a relative value to it.

So let me explain how this fits into religion. You say there is definite Good and Evil. But what is good? Let's say, helping an old lady. "Helping an old lady" is good relative to, say, "shooting pigeons," (assuming we can all agree on general moral definitions of 'good'). But as a definite action, helping an old lady is helping an old lady. It doesn't have any definite, intrinsic value. It's only when we place it in the context of other actions that

we can ascribe a moral value to it (and, I might add, only when we agree on the same morals.) What's more, there is no way to objectively definitively measure the good act of helping an old lady; there is no thermometer of good deeds. So the *only* value we can ascribe to it is a relative one.

But again, what is the superlative "good"? What is the superlative "evil"? You can say God and Satan, but that isn't really describing anything. It's using God as a cipher to explain something that doesn't really exist.

~R|D~
Challenge me on the Nurburgring!
Gamertag: Rusty Gunns
FFXI name: Mystoval
Server: Ragnarok

SephirothXVIII, Apr 28, 2003 Report

Bucko57
Noob

Joined: Sep 2, 2000
Messages: 2,310

Date Posted: Apr 28, 2003 #394

Love is good.
Hatred is evil.

I am officially done with this thread.

...

Unless I happen to see something that I want to respond to. Otherwise I'm done with this thread.

waves goodbye

http://www.badastronomy.com/

Bucko57, Apr 28, 2003 Report

timmyjoe012345
Noob

Joined: Aug 22, 2002
Messages: 15,764

Date Posted: Apr 29, 2003 #395

Bye bucko. You were one of the driving forces behind this thread, maybe it will die down abit now that your gone.

oh my hero, so far away now. Will I ever see your smile?
Love goes away, like night into day. It's just a fading dream.
I'm the darkness, your the stars. Our love is brighter than the sun.
For eternity, for me there can be, only you my chosen one.-FF6

timmyjoe012345, Apr 29, 2003 Report

joecacola48
Noob

Joined: Sep 26, 2001
Messages: 21,765

Date Posted: Apr 29, 2003 #396

waves

does the wave instead

~R|D~
"In the future, there will be no men or women, just wankers"
The future is now.
In Soviet Russia, board spams you.
Back Again.

joecacola48, Apr 29, 2003 Report

smber2c
Almost Not a Noob

Joined: Oct 30, 2002
Messages: 159

Date Posted: Apr 29, 2003 #397

Hey TimmyJoe, I haven't read much of this thread (a page and a half or so) but I think that your point is an interesting one that many Catholics, or Christians in general, even get confused on.
When the Bible says that we were created in God's image it doesn't mean that God has 2 eyes, a nose, opposable thumbs, ect... Afterall doesn't He assume the form of a Dove in the Bible? God can look like whatever He wants, but there is one thing that the Bible shows that is constant in His persona, He wants goodness to fill the world.
Now I know that many can say the Old Testament disproves this idea, but each argument has an answer if there was time to answer them (or find the answer, since I don't claim to know all). But, I will say this, I have asked all the hard questions about faith since I was in middle school, I fell away from my beliefs for a bit, but after much thinking have found some answers and come back stronger than ever. So, if there are people who seriously have quesions about Christian faith I've made a mail box where you can write to (whataboutgodign@yahoo.com). I would be glad to share with anyone, and I hope this is allowed on the boards.

smber2c, Apr 29, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011

Date Posted: Apr 29, 2003 #398

Let's just hope that doesn't mean we have an evangelist on our hands...

legacyAccount, Apr 29, 2003 Report

Messages: 4,475,527

smber2c
Almost Not a Noob

Joined: Oct 30, 2002
Messages: 159

Date Posted: Apr 29, 2003 #399

I would say that could be true, but I'm not the type to come knocking on your door or hand out flyers infromt of Wal-mart.
No pushiness.
No threats.
No promises of making you happy or changing your life. I'm just hoping that if there are people reading that want to have a person of faith offer thier opinion on a topic and their best answer to a question that they go ahead and ask, I just couldn't not offer b/c it is too important of a thing to me.

smber2c, Apr 29, 2003 Report

legacyAccount
Old Account

Joined: Nov 10, 2011
Messages: 4,475,527

Date Posted: Apr 29, 2003 #400

Yes, the bible was written by many people over the years. Why was it written over so many years? It's supposed to be the guide by which we live so why did it take so long to complete? Nothing about it makes any sense at all. I don't understand how 'faith' and human weakness can be used to justify everything about religion that doesn't make sense. Maybe the common sense answer is the real answer.

legacyAccount, Apr 29, 2003 Report

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