

THE DOCTRINE OF GOD

Proofs of God's Existence

- “*a Posteriori*” Arguments: these arguments argue back from present facts to God's existence. These arguments only infer or demonstrate probability.
 - Cosmological Argument: something exists, and that something must have been caused by something greater than itself.
 - Teleological Argument: the universe demonstrates intricate design, which presupposes a Designer
 - Anthropological Argument: man demonstrates a unity of nature and instinctive morality.
- “*a Priori*” Argument: the *a priori* argument is a logical and necessary argument.
 - Ontological argument: For example, Anselm argued that we have an idea of an infinite and perfect being. Existence is an attribute of perfection. Therefore, an absolutely perfect being must exist, or else we could concoct an idea of even greater being.

What is God?

- Essence of God: what is God?

- Nature of God: what kind of being is God?

- Attributes of God: characteristics or Manifestations of God

- Relationships of God: expressions of God with his creation