

Why I'm NOT ...

Atheist

Agnostic

Hindu

Muslim

Buddhist

Jewish/
Christian



Why I'm NOT ...



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Agnostics don't believe in God, but aren't ready to say they are certain there is no God.



Dr. Bob and the importance of a fair jury

Here are the instructions for answering the questions.

1. Do not let bias, prejudice, or sympathy play any part in your decision.



SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS

Misc. Docket No. 11-9047

AMENDMENTS TO TEXAS RULES OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 281 AND 284 AND TO THE JURY INSTRUCTIONS UNDER TEXAS RULE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 226A

ORDERED that:

1. Pursuant to Section 22.004 of the Texas Government Code, the Supreme Court of Texas amends Texas Rules of Civil Procedure 281 and 284, as follows.
2. The Supreme Court of Texas also amends the jury instructions that are prescribed by Order of this Court under Texas Rule of Civil Procedure 226a, as follows.
3. By Order dated December 13, 2010, in Misc. Docket No. 10-9210, the Court proposed amendments to Rules 281 and 284 and to the Rule 226a jury instructions and invited public comment. Following public comment, the Court made additional revisions to the rules and jury instructions. This Order contains the final version of the amended rules and jury instructions that take effect April 1, 2011.
4. The Clerk is directed to:
 - a. file a copy of this Order with the Secretary of State;
 - b. cause a copy of this Order to be mailed to each registered member of the State Bar of Texas by

Rule 281. Papers Taken to Jury Room

With the court's permission, the jury may take with them to the jury room any notes they took during the trial. In addition, the jury may, and on request shall, take with them in their retirement the charges and instructions, general or special, which were given and read to them, and any written evidence, except the depositions of witnesses, but shall not take with them any special charges which have been refused. Where only part only of a paper has been read in evidence, the jury shall not take the same with them, unless the part so read to them is detached from that which was excluded.

* * * *

Rule 284. Judge to Caution Jury

Immediately after jurors are selected for a case, the court must instruct them to turn off their phones and other electronic devices and not to communicate with anyone through any electronic device while they are in the courtroom or while they are deliberating. The court must also instruct them that, while they are serving as jurors, they must not post any information about the case on the Internet or search for any information outside of the courtroom, including on the Internet, to try to learn more about the case.

If jurors are permitted to separate before they are released from jury duty, either during the trial or after the case is submitted to them, the jury shall be admonished by the court must instruct them that it is their duty not to communicate converse with, or

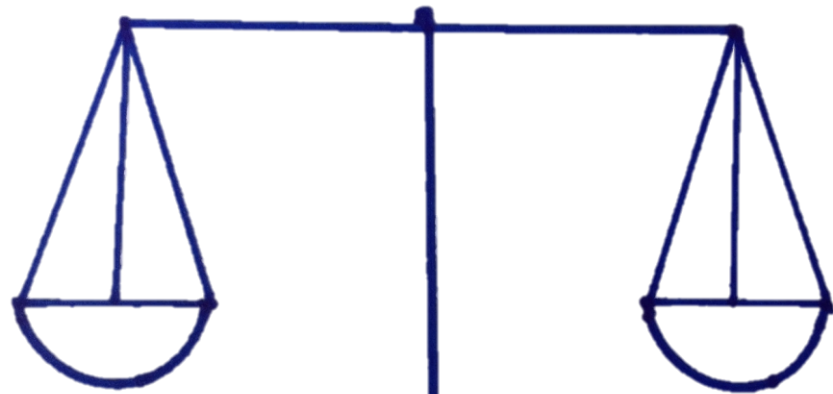
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[Jury Panel]:

Thank you for being here. We are here to select a jury. Twelve (six) of you will be chosen for the jury. Even if you are not chosen for the jury, you are performing a valuable service that is your right and duty as a citizen of a free country.

Weighing the Evidence



Evidence for
God

Evidence against
God

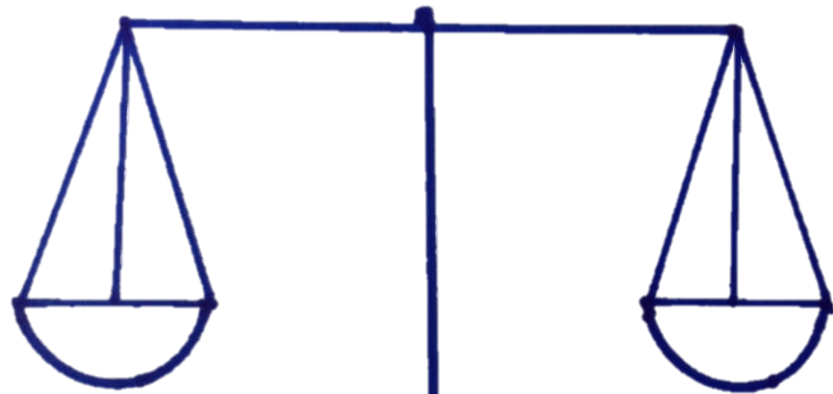
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5. Why do we uniquely value humanity?
6. Why is there meaning and significance in life?
7. Why do my actions fail to meet my standards?

Negative perceptions and questions

1. Why is there suffering?
2. Why can't we see God?
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Weighing the Evidence



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God

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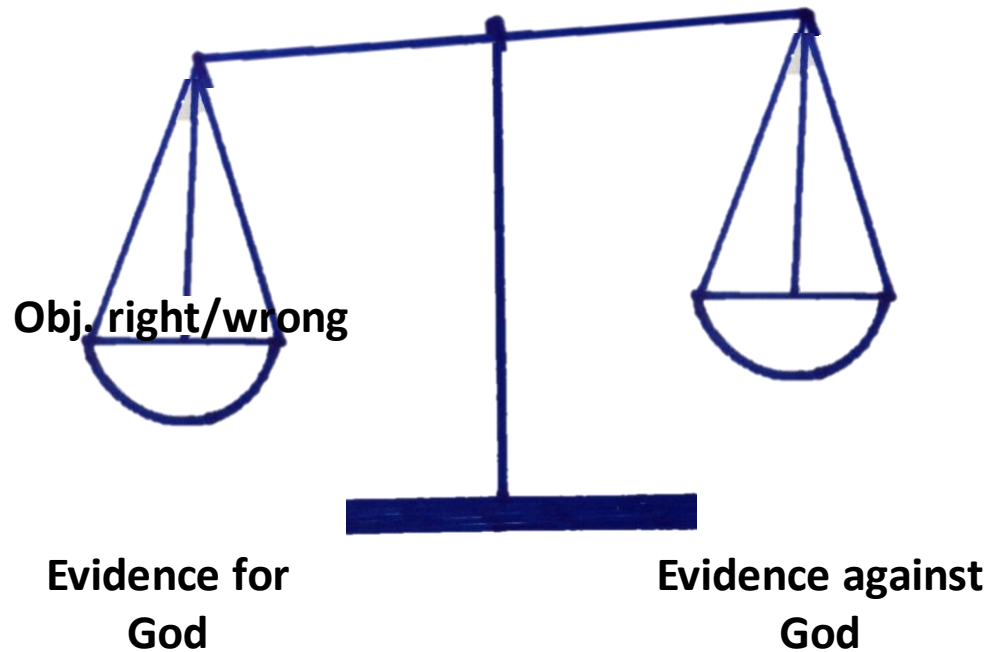
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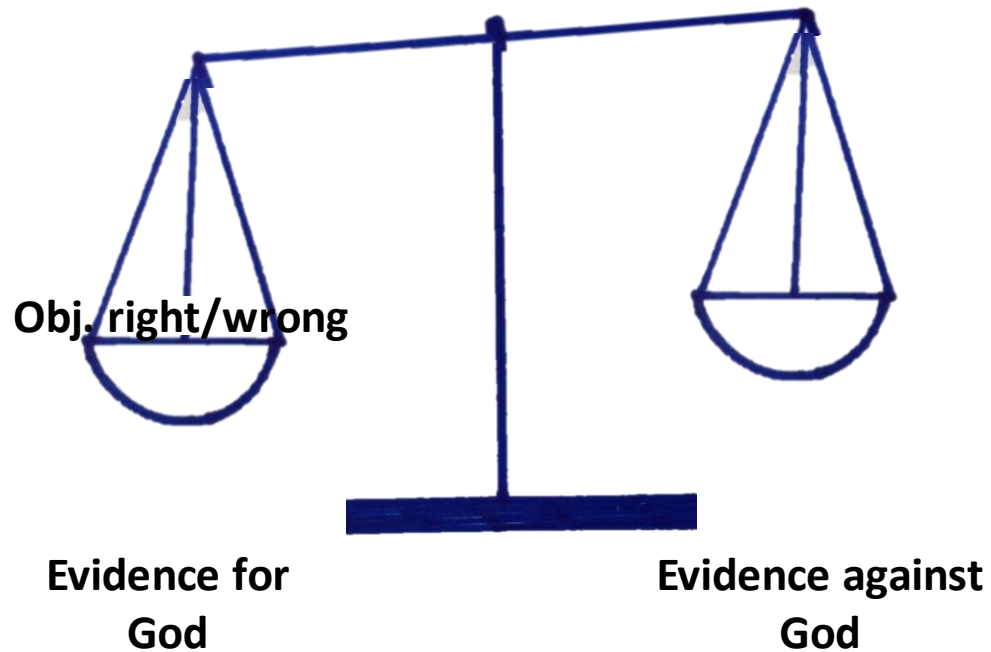
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Why is there beauty?


Why is there beauty?



Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?





Why is there beauty?


Does this prove God?

**“The randomness of
evolution should
produce ugliness”**

Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?





Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?

**“Beauty is objective,
so there must be
something that
defines beauty”**



Augustine
(354-430)

Why is there beauty?





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(354-430)

Why is there beauty?

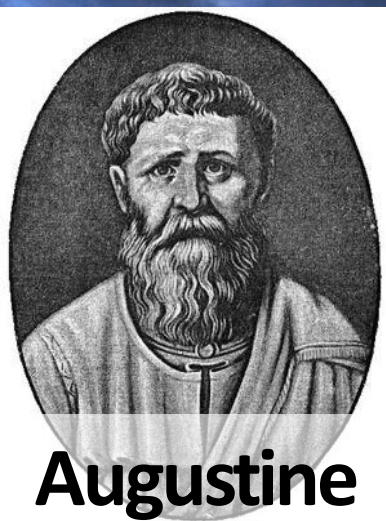
Physical beauty . . . can be appreciated only by the mind. This would be impossible, if this 'idea' of beauty were not found in the mind in a more perfect form . . . But even here, if this 'idea' of beauty were not subject to change, one person would not be a better judge of sensible beauty than another . . . This consideration has readily persuaded men of ability and learning . . . that the original 'idea' is not to be found in this sphere, where it is shown to be subject to change . . .



Augustine
(354-430)

Why is there beauty?






Augustine
(354-430)

Why is there beauty?

And so they saw that there must be some being in which the original form [of beauty] resides, unchangeable, and therefore incomparable. And they rightly believed that it is there that the origin of things is to be found, in the uncreated, which is the source of all creation.


- Augustine, *The City of God*



Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?

**“The randomness of
evolution should
produce ugliness”**




Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?

“The randomness of evolution should produce ugliness”

Non-sequitur




Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?

“The randomness of evolution should produce ugliness”

Non-sequitur


Consider the peacock



Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?

**“Beauty is objective,
so there must be
something that
defines beauty”**

A scenic landscape photograph of a calm lake at sunset. The sky is filled with dramatic, colorful clouds in shades of orange, yellow, and blue. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow over the scene. In the background, there are snow-capped mountains and a dense forest of evergreen trees. The lake's surface is still, reflecting the vibrant colors of the sky and the silhouettes of the trees. On the right side, there are some bushes with autumn-colored leaves. The overall mood is peaceful and majestic.

Why is there beauty?

Does this prove God?

**“Beauty is objective,
so there must be
something that
defines beauty”**

Is beauty “objective”?

Is beauty “objective”?

Is beauty “objective”?

Beautiful

Is beauty “objective”?

Beautiful

Not Beautiful

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Beautiful

Not Beautiful



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Not Beautiful

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Not Beautiful



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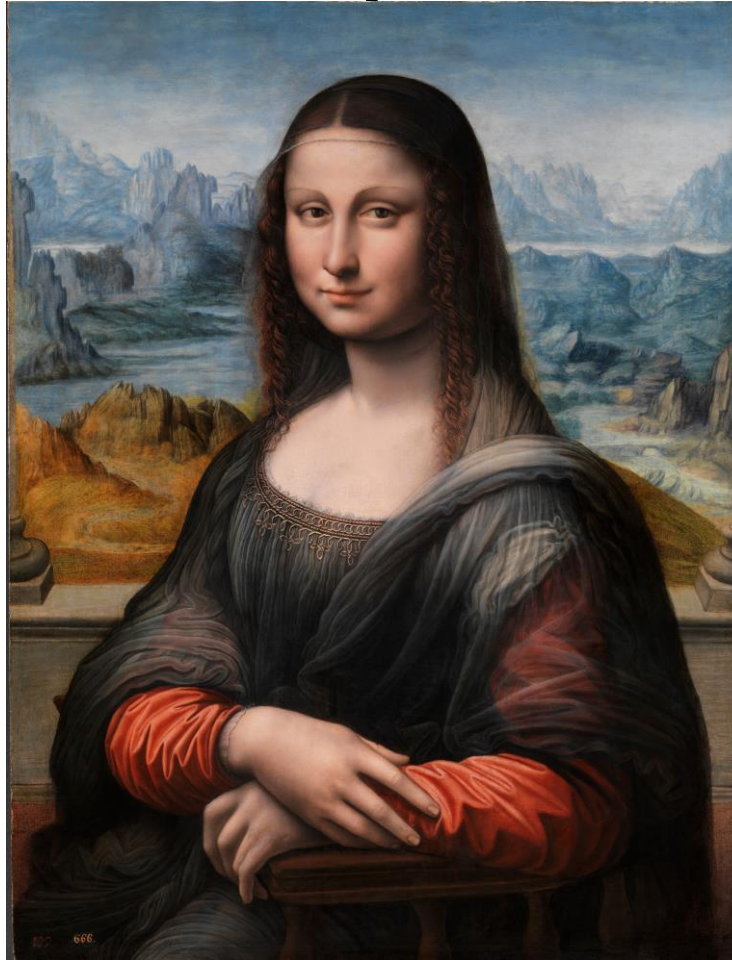
Not Beautiful

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Beautiful

Not Beautiful



Page 1 of 12

Toccata und Fuge

D-Dur / Ré majeur / D major

Neuausgabe nach dem Urtext
von Alfred Kreutz

Johann Sebastian Bach



The image displays the first 12 measures of the Toccata und Fuge in D major by Johann Sebastian Bach. The score is written for piano and features a complex, fast-paced melody in the right hand and a more rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is common time (C). The piece is marked 'Allegro' and 'staccato'.

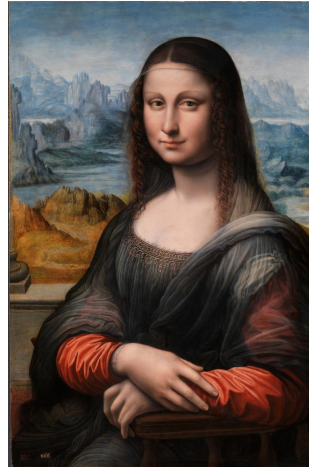
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Is beauty “objective”?

Beautiful

Not Beautiful



Page 1 of 12

Toccata und Fuge

D-Dur / Ré majeur / D major

Johann Sebastian Bach

Neuausgabe nach dem Urtext
von Alfred Kreutz

A page of a musical score for the Toccata und Fuge by Johann Sebastian Bach. The score is written for piano and features complex, fast-moving passages. It includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, key signatures, time signatures, and dynamic markings. The score is divided into measures and includes a section marked 'Allegro'.

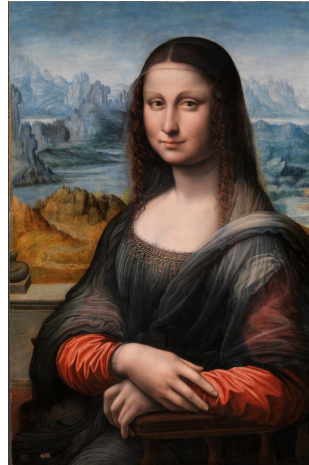
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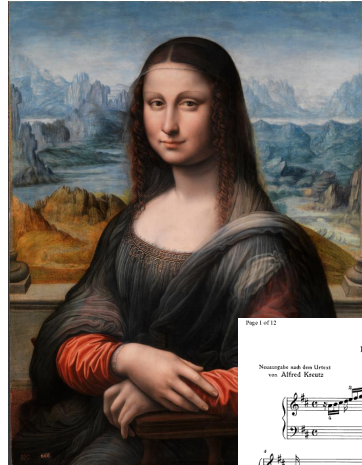
A page of a musical score for 'Toccata und Fuge' by Johann Sebastian Bach. The score is written for piano and features complex, fast-moving passages. A large, stylized white arrow points from the left towards the middle of the score. The score is divided into measures, with some measures containing multiple notes and rests. The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is 4/4.

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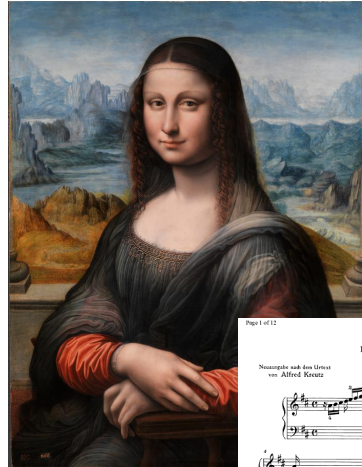
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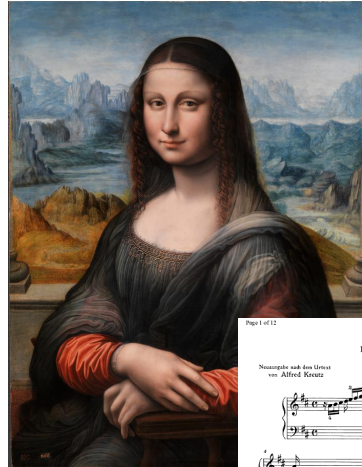
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Is beauty “objective”?

History

Is beauty “objective”?

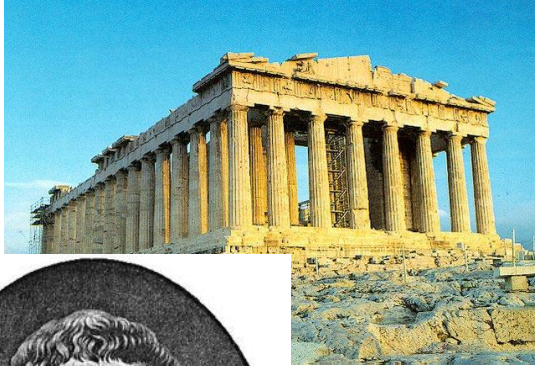
History



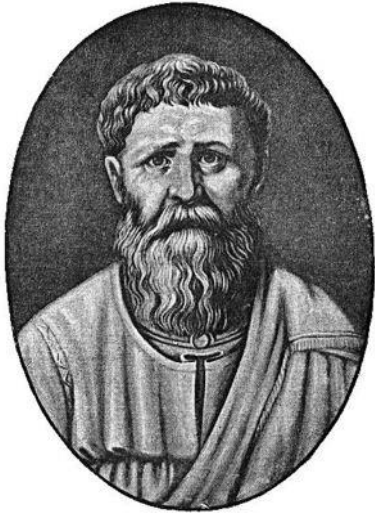
Objective

Is beauty “objective”?

History



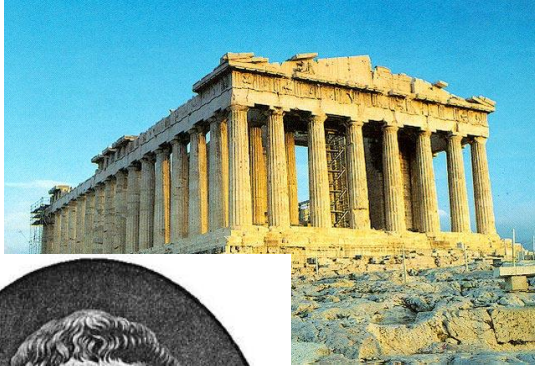
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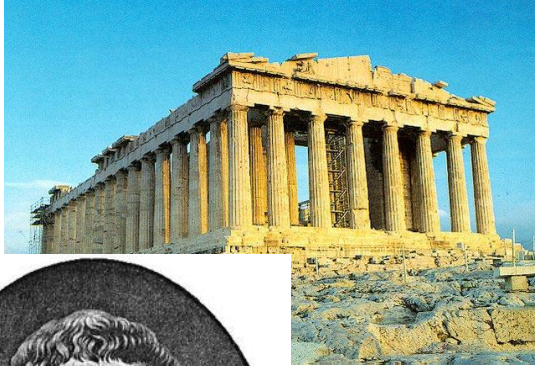
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Objective

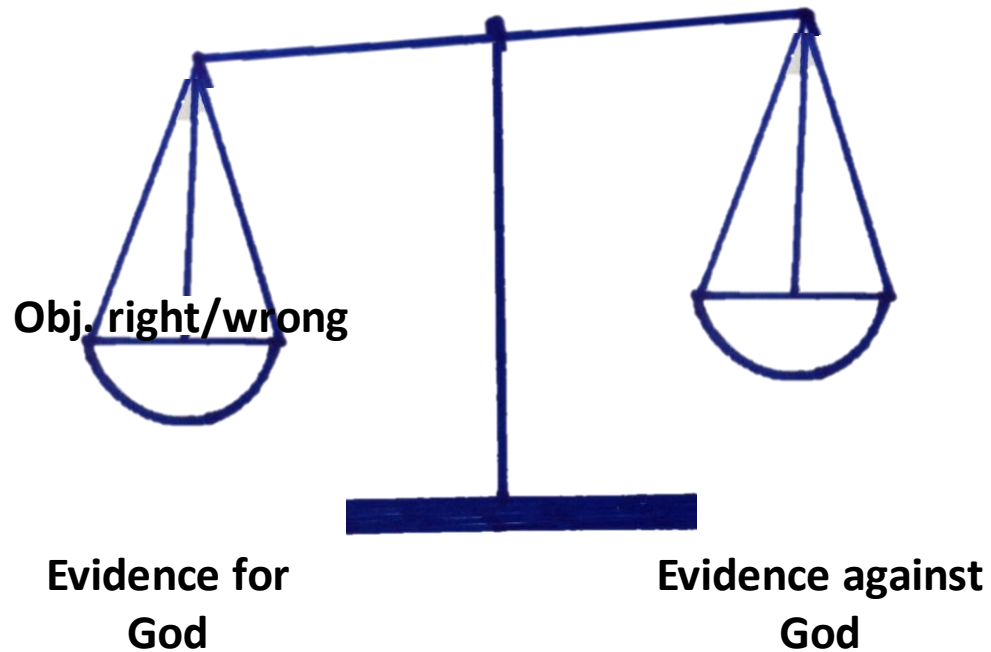
Objective

Subjective

Beauty is no quality in things themselves: It exists merely in the mind which contemplates them; and each mind perceives a different beauty. One person may even perceive deformity, where another is sensible of beauty; and every individual ought to acquiesce in his own sentiment, without pretending to regulate those of others

- David Hume

Weighing the Evidence



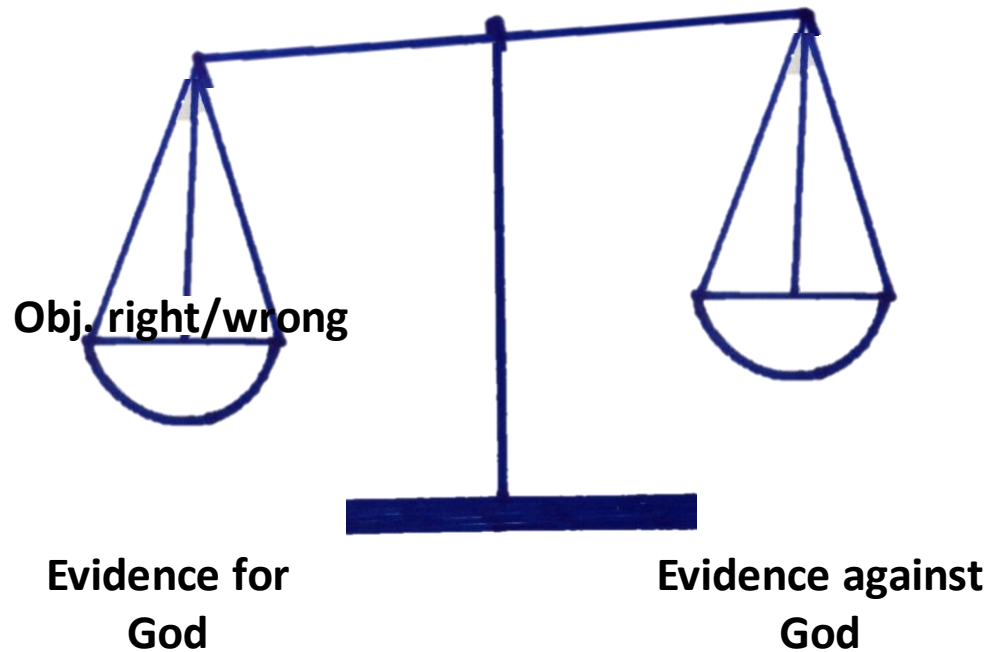
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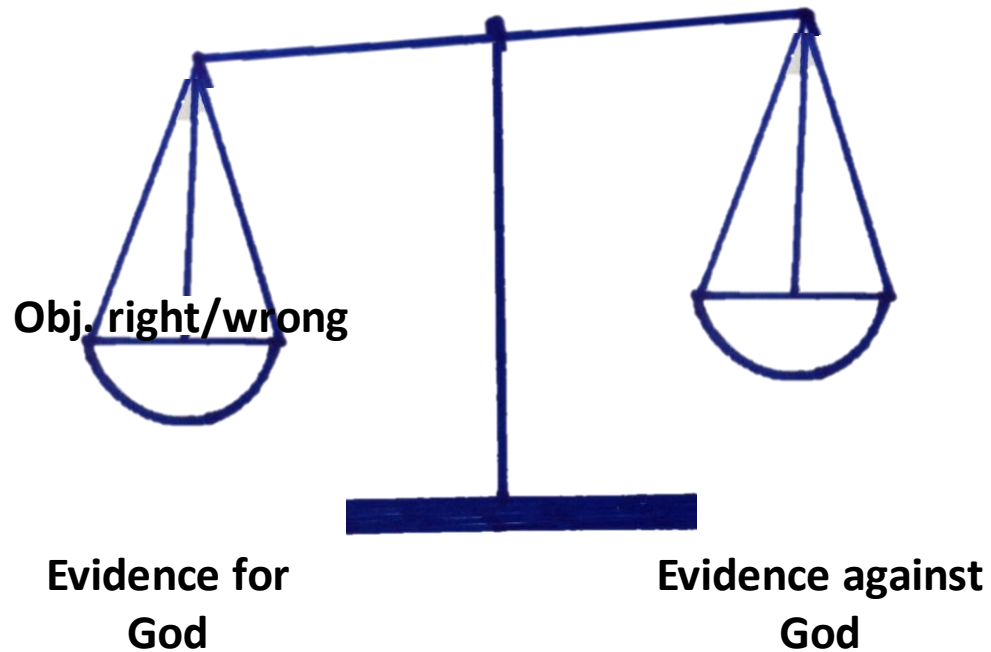
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Stephen Fry



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FAITH

Outspoken Atheist Asked What He'd Say to God After Death, Discovering 'It's All True.' His Answer Throws the Interviewer for a Loop.



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I'd say, "Bone cancer in children? What's that about? How dare you? How dare you create a world to which there is such misery that is not our fault? It's not right, it's utterly, utterly evil. Why should I respect a capricious, mean-minded, stupid God who creates a world which is so full of injustice and pain?" That's what I would say."



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The host, a bit taken aback, asked, “And you think you are going to get in, like that?”

“No, but I wouldn't want to,” Fry countered. “I wouldn't want to get in on his terms. They are wrong.”



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“justice” come from?**



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“justice” come from?**

Ditto for “fairness”



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**The Judeo-Christian
God hard-wired it
into humans?**



Stephen Fry

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**Natural selection gave
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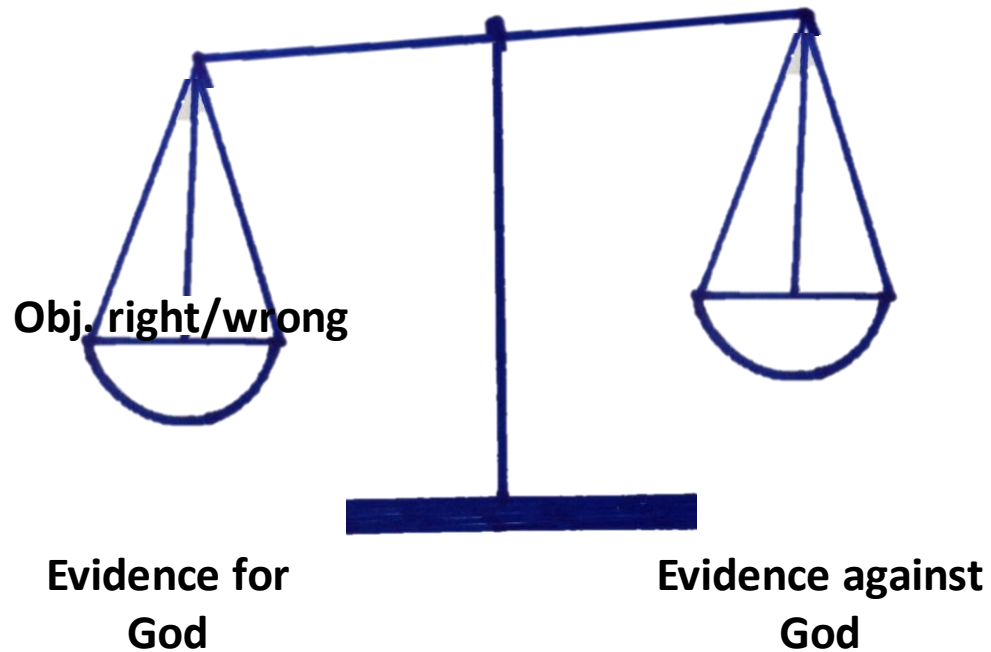


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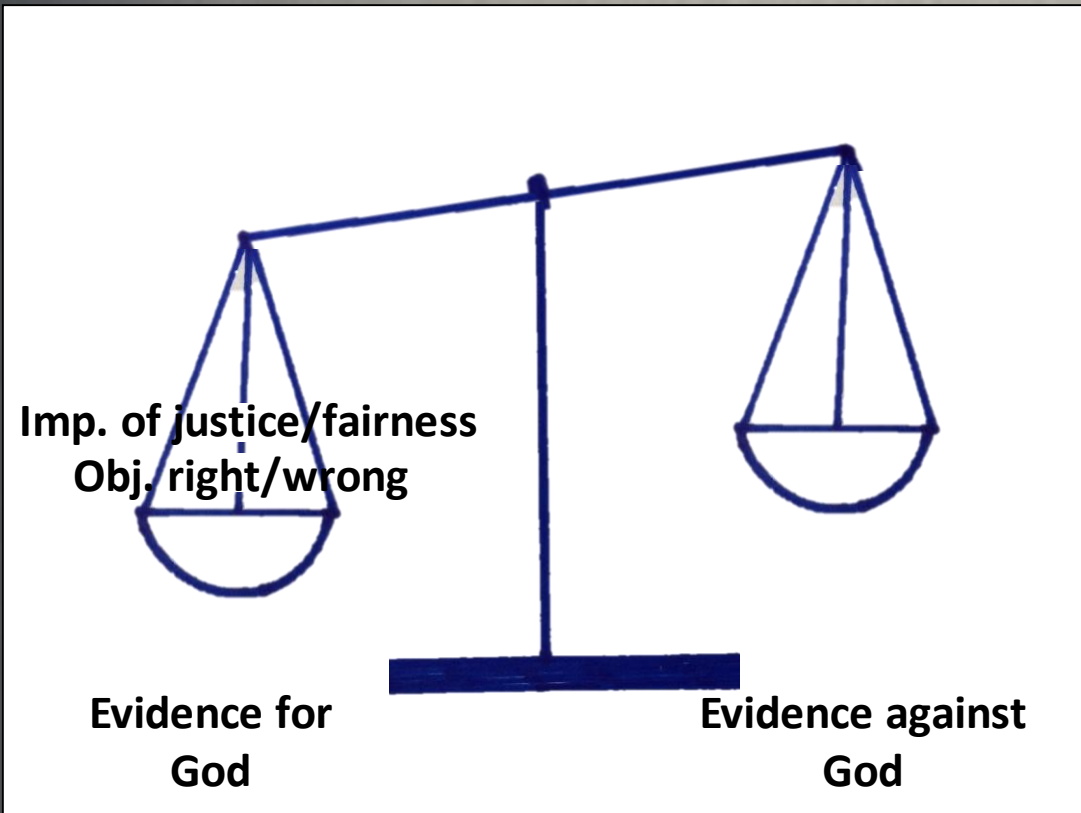
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Points for home



Points for home



*“Shall not the Judge of all the
earth do what is just?”
(Gen. 18:25)*

Points for home



*“Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?”
(Gen. 18:25)*

Justice is one of God's
requirements for his followers

Points for home



*“One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD to inquire in his temple ”
(Ps. 27:4)*

Points for home



*“One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD to inquire in his temple ”
(Ps. 27:4)*

**Beholding the beauty of God
is a worthy pursuit**

Points for home



*“In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect”
(1 Pet. 3:15)*

Points for home



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These are important questions

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