

# Pastors Perspective, Loon Lake Times

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“Is God Real?”

By Pastor Tim White

Is there a supernatural, all-powerful, all-knowing God? Is there evidence of His existence? And if He does exist, then what kind of God is He? These are crucial questions that need an answer because if we get this wrong, the potential consequences are frightening. On the other hand, if we get this answer right, the potential consequences will be lives driven by divine purpose leading to a confident hope of new and everlasting life.

Some will say things like this: “I don’t believe in some God-like being out there. All that’s here is the product of billions of years of evolution. I’m not religious, just a realist.” Let us start with a question: When did our belief in a person or an object be the determining factor for their existence? Answer: Never. Regardless of what one believes about gravity, when they step off the edge of a 100-foot cliff, the truth about gravity will be what determines their outcome, not their belief.

We all have to get this right because the consequences are real, and I would add, eternal.

Are we expected to simply take it by blind faith that there is a divine being out there called “God” (who has some expectations of us)? Or, is there tangible evidence that He exists? May I add one related question: Do we need to see God before believing that He exists? I want to propose to the reader that it is only logical to believe in God’s existence, as I will attempt to explain.

Wherever you are right now, as you read this, look around and take note of the items that surround you. Look at the home or building you are in, the furniture around you, the clothes you are wearing, the tools, appliances, and utensils you use, and the vehicle(s) in your driveway or garage. Everything that surrounds you at this moment is all the proof you need to believe in the creators, manufacturers, and builders of each and every item. You would consider someone foolish even to suggest these items came into being any other way than by their Creator.

To put it plainly, the created item itself is proof of the existence of its Creator. Furthermore, these items have specific design characteristics that serve their particular purpose. Therefore, the presence of “design” is all that is necessary to prove the existence of a “Designer.” Moreover, this design reveals intelligence in that every part is placed in its proper place, enabling it to function effectively, thereby proving its Creator’s intelligence. Finally, where beauty, style, and color adorn these items, we get a glimpse of the love for the same in the Creator.

Now, look outside and see the design, intelligence, and beauty in nature all around you. Then, please take a close look into the smaller created items in our world, especially the

incredible complexity of a single human cell (my space is limited, so check out the human cell – you will be amazed!). There is undeniable evidence of design, purpose, intelligence, and beauty in the creation surrounding you. In other words, all of nature – Creation – shouts to us that a supernatural supreme being, whom I will call God, must exist. In fact, after seriously considering these realities surrounding us, it would be illogical to deny the Creator’s existence.

“But wait, there’s more!” The Creator of anything will always be much more than their creation. The intelligence in the created item is far less than all of the brilliance of its Creator. The design, beauty, and intricacy of the created thing are only a fraction of the same for its Creator. And, we can say that the greater the complexity, beauty, intelligence, design, and function of the created thing(s), the greater their Creator must be. Please spend some time looking at the stars at night and consider how much greater must be the One who created all of them.

In Romans 1:20 (NIV) it says, “For since the creation of the world, God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.” Missionaries have traveled to secluded tribal villages in parts of Africa and were surprised to discover the tribal people already believed in a divine Creator. They stated that the creation all around them was proof enough to know He existed, that He was good, and wanted them to be the same.

Saving the best for last: God – the Creator of all things – loves His creation (John 3:16-17) and especially those He made in His image – all of humanity. And is deeply grieved when a person rejects His offer of forgiveness and salvation and then dies in their sin (Ezek. 18:23 & 2 Pet. 3:9). What other attributes can you learn about our Creator from His creation? This question could be an excellent project for those with school-aged children at home. I would love to hear what they would say about God after looking at His creation.

If you have questions about believing in God, I would be glad to talk to you. Just send me an email. May God reveal His love, power, wisdom, and grace upon you, your family, and this region.