

QUEST

Sunday, April 27 at 9:15am in Dobkin Hall
Childcare Provided

How to Think About God's Existence with Jimmy Reeves

This Sunday we are going to take on one of the more challenging yet ever intriguing topics - How to Think about God's Existence. To prepare for the discussion I am asking everyone to review the 3 viewpoints of Phillip Clayton, Victor Stenger, and Robert John Russell. Our source will be the link below from an episode of "Closer to Truth with Robert Lawrence Kuhn.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WTjQkGQno6g>

Please note that this contains ads which can easily be “skipped” almost immediately after they appear. We’ll concentrate on just the first three interviews

Philip Clayton

- Clayton argues that the nature of God preoccupies us, in part because we are aware of our own death.
- Did the nature of God preoccupy you?
- Did your belief change over time?
- How did you come to your current belief about God?
- Do you find the knowledge of your inevitable death an impetus for asking “could there be a deeper dimension of reality”?
- Clayton asks us to see if we find “intimation of transcendence” in human dimensions.
- Do you find any examples in science? In ethics or morality, in music, in poetry or other aesthetics?

Victor Stenger

- Stenger contends that there is no evidence of God.
- Do you believe that if God exists there should be material evidence of God's existence?

- Are you convinced that because the “evidence” for God (the God of the gaps) has been consistently refuted by scientific discoveries, it follows that God is an illusion?

Robert John Russell

- What do you think of the argument that “the existence of the universe itself is evidence for God”?
- Einstein wrote “The eternal mystery of the world is its comprehensibility...The fact that it is comprehensible is a miracle.” Do you believe that our ability to comprehend as much as we do about the universe is evidence for God?
- Did God set the universe up so there was “epistemic distance” between God and us so we were free to choose, love, and learn as a path to God?