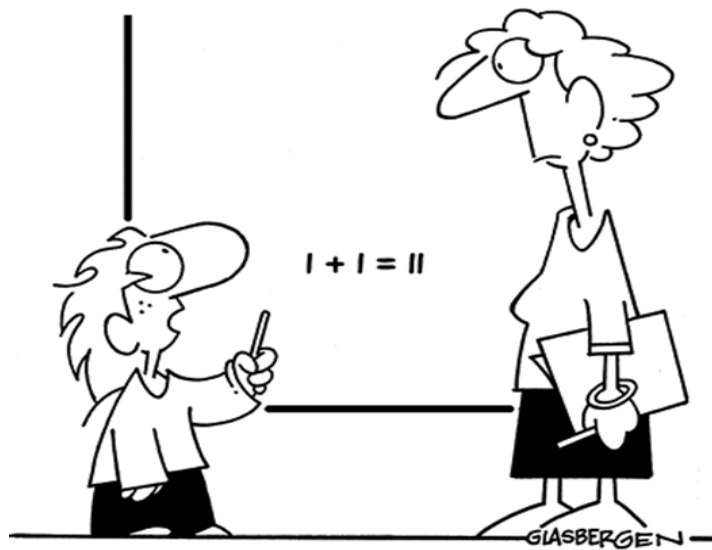


## The Only DUMB Question Is One Not Asked

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"If you want a better answer, ask a better question!"

## **HOW DO WE KNOW THAT GOD REALLY EXISTS?**

The belief that God truly does exist goes beyond faith, and beyond all understanding. It goes all the way to evidential. When we trace anything back to its origin, and when one reaches the point of unexplainable circumstances as to how all things began, one often stops and wonders what happens beyond that? When this point is reached, then the only logical explanation is a higher power, or in other words God. For example:

If we wanted to trace back our ancestors to see where we come from, we can use computers today and programs like "Ancestry.com". But this doesn't solve the final mystery of how did we begin. For example, everyone came from the mutual love of their father and mother.

There was no creation here because the two cells which eventually became us, the sperm cell from our father, and the egg cell from our mother, were already "living" cells. And when they came together in a process we call fertilization, we were co-authored, but not created. The definition of creation is loosely stated as taking absolute nothing, and making something. So since every human being was co-authored, the mystery still exists as to how the first human life began.

If it were possible to trace every living thing back to its origin, we would find that everything began "from" something else.

However, there has to be something that started the process. When we understand this, it means that whatever

that something was, had to have had an origin also. UNLESS, whatever that something is, came about by absolute creation. Or in other words, something that never existed before and now it does because it was CREATED by God.

Finding the source is the secret to understanding how and where all things came about. And when we give up as to how the original source came about, when we can trace it back no further yet we know it does exist, then, we are left with only one explanation. That first thing, didn't have a source, it was created. **And only God can create.**

EXAMPLE:

1. Mathematically, we know that absolute zero(0) exists. But it is impossible to reach it mathematically. Take any number and divide it in half, or in other words by two, then repeat this process as many times as you want. You will never reach absolute zero. It's impossible. This tells us that it can't be reached by mathematics, but it still exists.

2. The BIG BANG is the accepted theory as to how the universe began. But what happened before that? Where did the "whatever" come from that exploded making the big bang?

3. Without a source, without proof of a source, then the only logical explanation is that "whatever" had to have come about by creation; absolute nothing becoming something.

**AND ONLY GOD CAN CREATE!**

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## *Do we really have Free Will?*

There are people who believe that we as human beings do NOT have free will. Instead we are governed by a higher power (or something else), who knows all, even our every move and thought that we make, and every move we will make. So to them, this means, we are controlled, and all our actions and all our thoughts are “pre-determined”.

The major flaw in this thinking is simple. Since every human being can think, it is that very action that makes us human and that ability puts us above all other creatures. The mere fact that anyone can think, and totally free to ask the question, says that we ARE free to think and act as we want, and not determined. If we were pre-wired, totally determined in our thinking, then we could not even think about asking this question. If we are making a truth claim in this belief, that one is pre-determined, then one rises above that claim of total subjectivity, and in that very moment you claim it to be true, that we are predetermined, then you violate determinism, due to one’s own ability to think.

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## ***Did Jesus actually have “brothers” as the Gospel states?***

The Gospel of [Matthew 12:46](#) states, “While **Jesus** was still talking to the crowd, his mother and **brothers** stood outside, wanting to speak to him.” So did Jesus have brothers? One of the most common answers to this age old question is YES according to the Gospel of Matthew. Also, there are some Christian denominations that believe the brothers of Jesus were of Mary and Joseph. The Catholic view on this is of course that our Blessed Mother, Mary, was ever virgin, before and after the birth of Jesus. So how is this all explained?

Two explanations are currently accepted:

1. The Hebrew word for BROTHERS translated into English has multiple meanings including, siblings, brotherly, kindred, and actually any male.
2. There are documents (Gospel of James) that didn't make it into the bible, that actually states that St. Joseph had sons from a previous marriage before he married Mary, and that Mary kept her virginity even after the birth of Jesus.

So the people in Jesus' day wouldn't have thought anything about this at all. It all seems to go against whether or not our blessed mother Mary was a virgin her entire life, all of which has no bearing on our salvation.

So it is possible that Jesus had “STEP” brothers from Joseph, or the Gospel of Matthew was simply stating “Other men”. In either acceptance, we are still saved by the love and mercy of Jesus Christ.

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## [Why can't women be ordained Catholic Deacons /Priests?](#)

The Vatican has made an announcement about women becoming ORDAINED Deacons. So this directive comes right from Rome. Yes, there were deaconess' who were servants of the people, similar to what a Deacon is today, shortly after the resurrection of our Lord (Paul's letter to the Romans, Chapter 16:1-2.). But there is NO evidence of "Laying on of hands" to these women, and ordaining them, as there is for men. Unfortunately, it is the "LAYING ON OF HANDS", that is required for ordination.

However, the POPE and any successors can change this at any time. It's almost the same thing in the circumstance and argument for MARRIED priests in the Catholic Church. And since Jesus chose 12 MEN to be his Apostles and the first priests, He gave women other roles such as the first to see the risen Christ, etc.

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