

Is Belief in
God


Irrational?

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**What's the tallest mountain
in the world?**



How many moons does
Earth have?



**How many nostrils do
humans have?**



What do Christians mean by
“belief in God” or “faith in God?”

Faith = Trust

Oxford University, Professor of Mathematics, John Lennox

“Faith is not a leap in the dark; it’s the exact opposite. It’s a commitment based on evidence... It is irrational to reduce all faith to blind faith and then subject it to ridicule. That provides a very anti-intellectual and convenient way of avoiding intelligent discussion.”

The Nature of Explanation

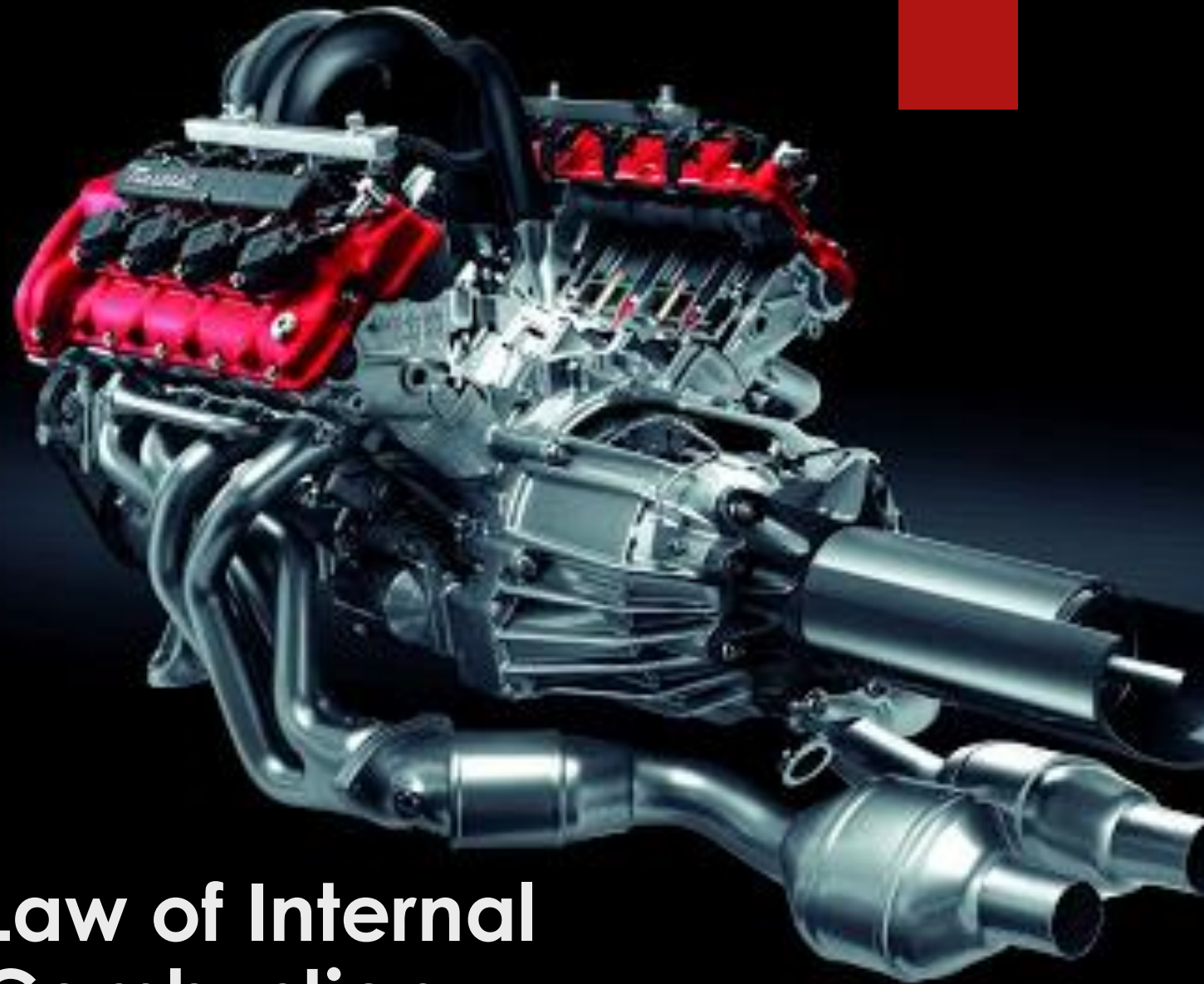
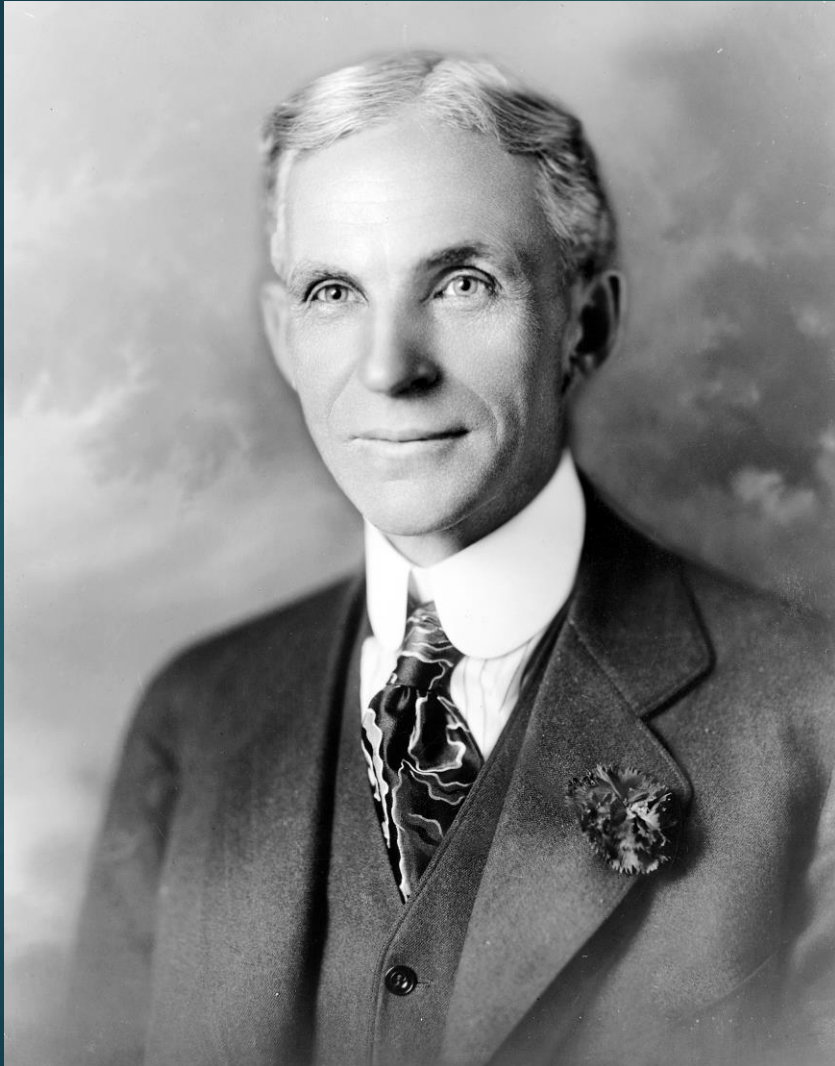


Mechanism (the how)

vs.

Agency (the why)

Henry Ford



**Law of Internal
Combustion**

Aunt Priscilla's Cake




Nobel Prize Winner Sir Peter Medawar

“The existence of a limit to science” is, however, made clear by its inability to answer childlike elementary questions having to do with first and last things – questions such as “How did everything begin?” “What are we all here for?” “What is the point of living?”



Is there any evidence to support a rational belief in God?

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- ▶ **Between 1901 and 2000; over 60% of Nobel Laureates were Christian.**
 - ▶ **Overall Christians have won a total of 78.3% of all the Nobel Prizes in Peace**
 - ▶ **72.5% in Chemistry**
 - ▶ **65.3% in Physics**
 - ▶ **62% in Medicine**
 - ▶ **54% in Economics**
 - ▶ **And 49.5% of all Literature awards**



Reasons & Evidence for God's Existence

1. The Origin of the Universe
2. The Fine-Tuning of the Universe
3. The life of Jesus of Nazareth
4. God can be personally experienced



The **Origin** of the Universe



1. Everything that begins to exist has a cause.

2. The Universe Began to exist.

Therefore,

3. The Universe has a Cause.

The
Fine-Tuning
of the
Universe



The Constants and Quantities

Scalar fluctuation amplitude Q

2×10^{-5}

Baryon, dark matter mass per photon

0.57 eV, 3 eV

Entropy of the Universe

4×10^{81} J/K

Number of spacetime dimensions

3 (space) + 1 (time)



The Life of **Jesus** of Nazareth

The Life of **Jesus** of Nazareth

Jesus literally existed in history.

That **Jesus** claimed to be the Son of God.

That we still possess accurate credible accounts of **Jesus'** teachings and His miraculous actions.

That **Jesus** died on a Cross for the world and rose from the grave three days later.

Oxford University, New Testament Scholar, N.T Wright

“I have examined all the alternative explanations, the ancient and the modern, for the rise of the early church, and I have to say that the best historical explanation is that Jesus of Nazareth really was raised to life.”



Oxford University, Science Professor, Alister McGrath

“The most radical question which anyone can be asked is not how much their possessions cost, but whether they have found something of value - that is, something that makes living worthwhile.”



God can be personally experienced.