

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

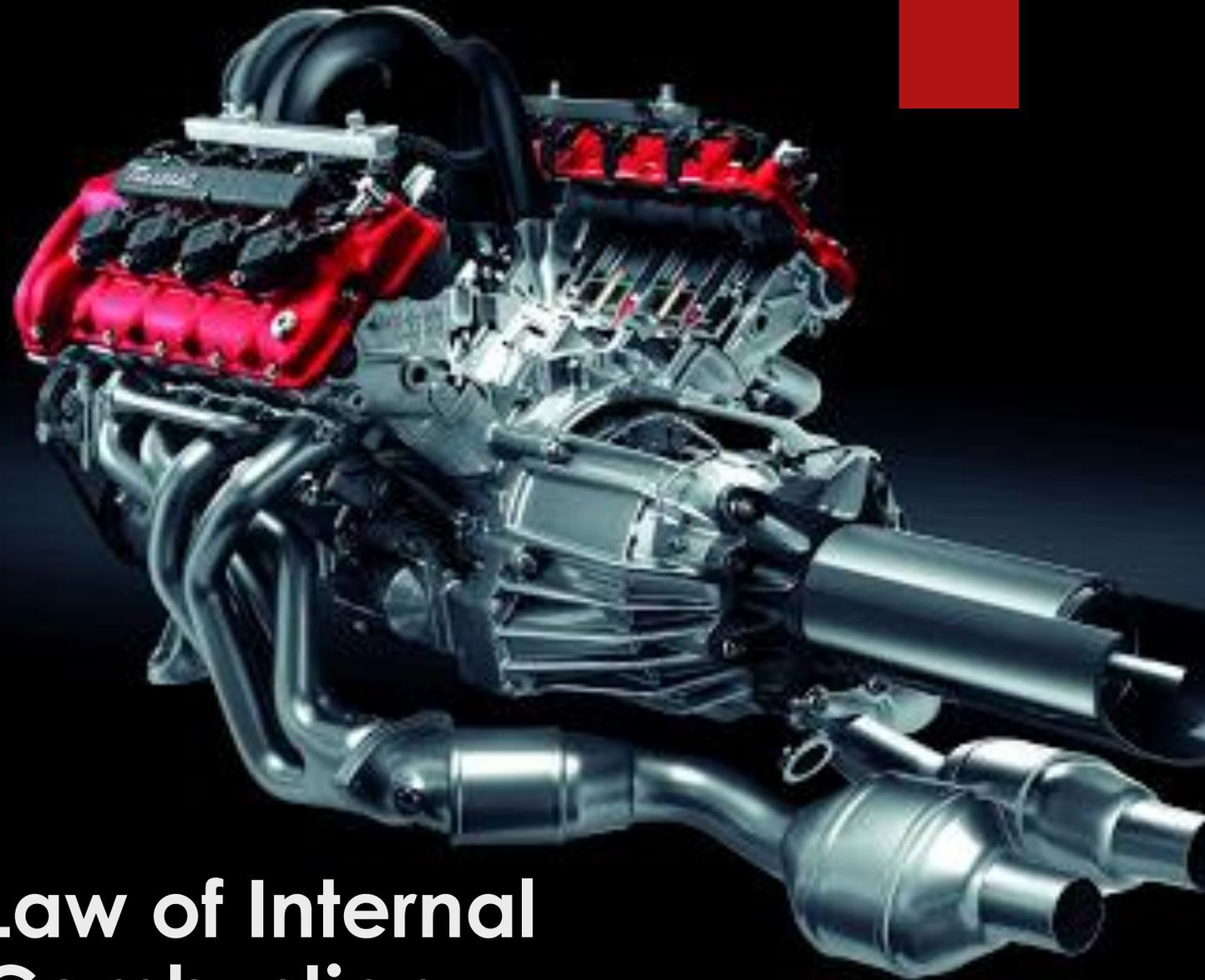
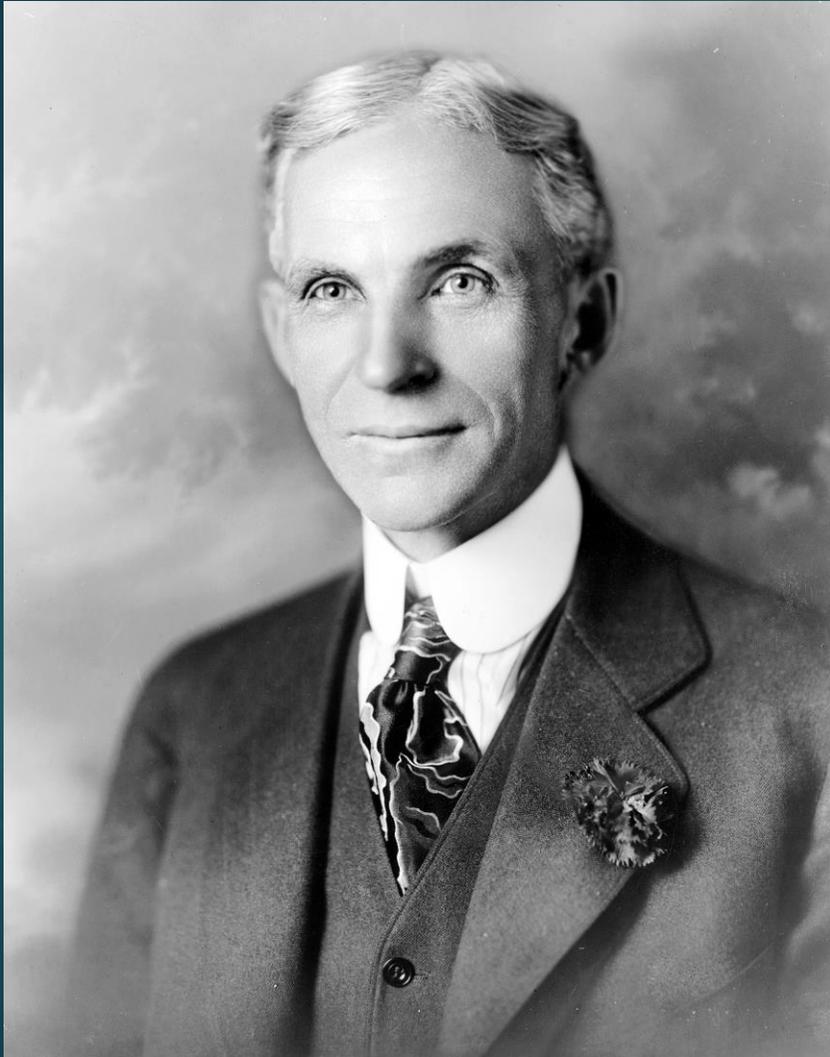


**Mechanism** (the how)

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  $Q$

$$2 \times 10^{-5}$$

Baryon, dark matter mass per photon

$$0.57 \text{ eV}, 3 \text{ eV}$$

Entropy of the Universe

$$4 \times 10^{81} \text{ J/K}$$

Number of spacetime dimensions

$$3 \text{ (space)} + 1 \text{ (time)}$$



# 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.