

are the result of intelligent design. The simplest living organisms (bacteria) contain an information system for making copies of themselves and for running their internal machinery, which is stored in long molecules called DNA. The simplest such system (E. coli) has an information content equal to that stored in over 100,000 books of a human library! An intelligent Creator of life is a reasonable inference from this.

COMPUTERS & MINDS:

Though there are certainly some parallels between electronic computers and human minds, this parallelism collapses when the human computer operator or programmer is removed from the computer side of the equation. It is thus not at all obvious that we will be able to produce consciousness and common sense by building bigger, better, faster computers. As long as we cannot, this suggests that mind may be something more than computing circuits, and that there is something more to humans than just brain cells. If it should turn out that we finally do build a computer that has consciousness, this will still indicate that complex design lies behind such phenomena. Perhaps this is what is meant when the Bible speaks of humans created "in the image of God."

RIGHT & WRONG AS A CLUE:

The presence of closely similar moral standards among the various races, religions and ethnic groups of mankind suggests that this is not merely evolved nor arbitrarily chosen by the societies involved. Otherwise, why would the standards be so similar? The fact that moral standards are less likely to be obeyed when they are viewed as merely a chance result of evolution or the majority vote of a society, and that they are more likely to be obeyed when viewed as having transcendent value, suggests that we are in contact with something objectively real in moral standards. Perhaps this is another thing that is meant when the Bible speaks of humans created "in the image of God."

CONCLUSIONS

We suggest that the argument from causation discussed in Lecture 1 points to an infinite God. A finite god cannot do anything over an infinite period of time.

The presence of "fine-tuning" in inanimate nature and of mind-boggling levels of order in living things points to a God who has intellect.

The presence of consciousness and initiative in mankind as distinct from machines points to a personal Creator who also has these attributes.

The presence of similar moral standards in the diverse human populations of planet Earth points to a personal God who has implanted within us a standard of behavior that reflects his own desires for mankind and something of his own nature.