**Sep. 29 – Week 4 – Cosmological Argument: Chapter 1b, pages 31 – 44**

The Cause (Author) of the World: Could the universe exist on its own?

**Last Week:** There is a beginning to all space, time, matter, and energy.

**Options for the cause of the universe:**

1. The universe doesn’t need a cause.
2. The universe created itself.
3. The universe has been eternally oscillating (expanding & contracting).
4. The universe has been eternally expanding and is part of a multiverse; we are bubble universe that came out of another expanding universe because of a quantum fluctuation.
5. We are just one universe in a String Theory multiverse.
6. Hawking & Hartle “No Boundary” proposal.
7. Hawking & Mlodinow: The Law of Gravity can create the universe from nothing.
8. Krauss: Energy fluctuation creation from nothing.
9. A powerful, personal being that exists outside of time and space.

**Which option is the most reasonable?**

**The *Kalam* Cosmological Argument**

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause of its beginning.

2. The universe began to exist.

3. Therefore, the universe has a cause of its beginning.

**Next Week:** pages 45-55

**Remaining Schedule**

**Oct. 6 - Week 5 – Cosmological Argument: Chapter 1c, pages 45 – 55**

The Cause (Author) of the World: Implications of a Beginning to the Universe

**Oct. 13 - Week 6 – Teleological Argument: Chapter 2a, pages 57-70**

**(**Romans 1:20, Hebrews 11:3, Genesis 1:1, Psalm 19:1, Romans 1:1-32)

The Meaning of the World: Fine-Tuning. T**heism is more plausible & more elegant and meaningful: infinite meaning!**

**Oct. 20 - Week 7 – Teleological Argument: Chapter 2b, pages 71-87**

The Meaning of the World: Math

**Oct. 27- Week 8 – Teleological Argument: Chapter 2c, pages 87 – 112**

The Meaning of the World: Music & Love

**Nov. 3 - Week 9 – Moral Argument: Chapter 3a, pages 113-138**

(Isaiah 5:20, Romans 13, John 14:6, 2 Timothy 3:16, Romans 12:2, John 14:15, Luke 16:13, 1 Peter 1:23, 1 Corinthians 6:19, John 6:63, Ecclesiastes 10:19, Titus 2:5, Titus 2:1, 2 Corinthians 5:10, Romans 6:23, Romans 2:14-15, John 8:44, Ecclesiastes 12:13, Genesis 2:17)

The Conflict of the World: Objective Moral Values. T**heism is more plausible & more desirable – dignifies humans**

**Nov. 10 - Week 10 – Moral Argument: Chapter 3b, pages 138-161**

The Conflict of the World: Explanations of Morality

**Nov. 17 & Nov. 24 - Week 11 & 12 – The Problem of Evil: Chapter 4a, pages 163 - 175**

**Dec. 1 - Week 13 - Christological Argument: Chapter 4b, pages 175 – 182**

The Hope of the World: Reliability of the Gospels. **Theism is more plausible & more hopeful**

**Dec. 8 – Week 14 - Christological Argument: Chapter 4c, pages 175 – 182, continued**

The Hope of the World: Reliability of the Gospels, continued

**Dec. 15 – Week 15 - Christological Argument: Chapter 4d, pages 182 – 207**

The Hope of the World: Evidence for the Resurrection

**Dec. 22 – Week 16 – Conclusion:** Moving Forward with Possibilities