

There is a God!

*"I determined to follow the evidence wherever it may lead."* Anthony Flew

Do you remember this astonishing headline from the Associated Press: "There is a God! How the world's most notorious atheist changed his mind." Anthony Flew announced that based on scientific evidence and by approaching new criterion with an open mind, he is now finding overwhelming evidence for belief in an intelligent Creator God.

For over five decades, this professor at Oxford, Keele and Reeding had been mentor and hero to fellow atheists around the world. Now Dr. Flew acknowledges that his former arguments to support atheism are "obsolete and out of date and I must go where the evidence leads." New knowledge of cell complexity and genetic DNA coding has provided an "enormously powerful argument for Intelligent design." To even suggest that lifeless matter could produce the mind of man, that blind chance produce an orderly universe takes a greater leap of faith than to believe an intelligent being planned and created it – one with wisdom and power far beyond human comprehension.

Along with his fellow atheists Dr. Flew was persuaded that, "Darwinian Naturalism could no longer explain the complexities of life's origins." Their best answer for how life began– "It was a lucky accident!" was not good enough for his mind to accept. To make matter eternal, with the claim that bits of matter can create a new reality that bears no resemblance to matter, leads to intellectual suicide. Could blind chance produce something it did not process?

Dr. Flew wanted to be totally open to new rational arguments about life's origins. He went on to face another basic question over consciousness (perhaps the hottest question in neuroscience today). He asked, "On what rational grounds can we say that extraordinary human attributes such as personality and consciousness stem from a cause that lacks these attributes?"

Materialism reduces humanity to a mere collection of atoms and cells in a living organism. It cannot explain how and why we can ponder profound questions about ourselves. Who am I? Where did I come from? Is there any purpose or meaning in life? The very fact that we can ask such questions reveals our uniqueness among other life forms.

His conclusion: "Life, consciousness, mind and the self can only come from a source that is living, conscious and thinking." This involves a mind –a WHO instead of a what! The cause may be supra-personal, but it cannot be impersonal!\*

Dr. Flew affirms, "The journey to my discovery of the Divine has thus far been a pilgrimage of reason. I have followed the argument where it has led me. And it has led me to accept the existence of a self – existent, immutable, immaterial, omnipotent and omniscient Being." \*\*

\* Flew, Antony, *There Is A God* (New York: Harper Collins, 2007), p.183.

\*\* Ibid., p.155.

