

Does God Play Design

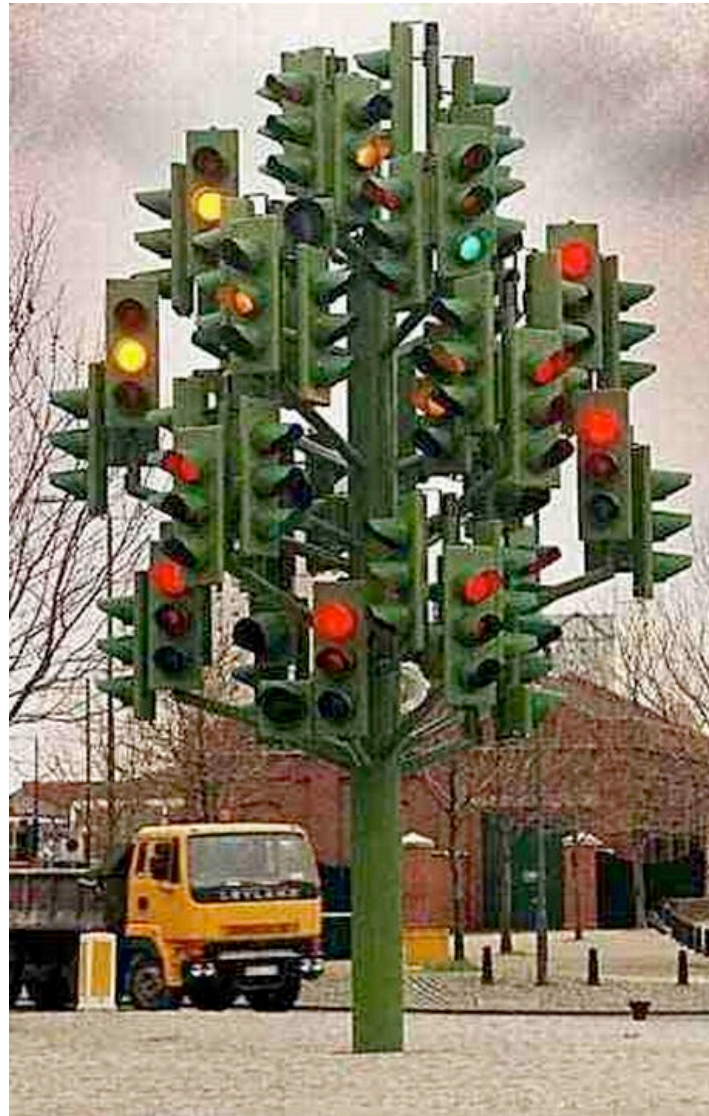


Peter Adams

Summary

- Notion of God
- Darwin
- Notion of Truth
- Galileo
- Notion of Design

The Notion of Red



Who made God?

“Positing a God merely invites the question of how such a highly adaptive and well-designed thing could in its turn have come into existence.”

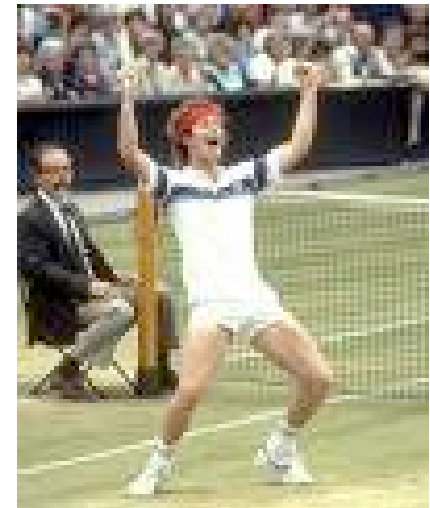
EVOLUTION by Mark Ridley

God

- Unmoved Mover
- Uncreated Creator
- Does God actually exist?

Who made God?

- ‘The God Delusion’ by Richard Dawkins
- “You cannot be SERIOUS...” by John McEnroe

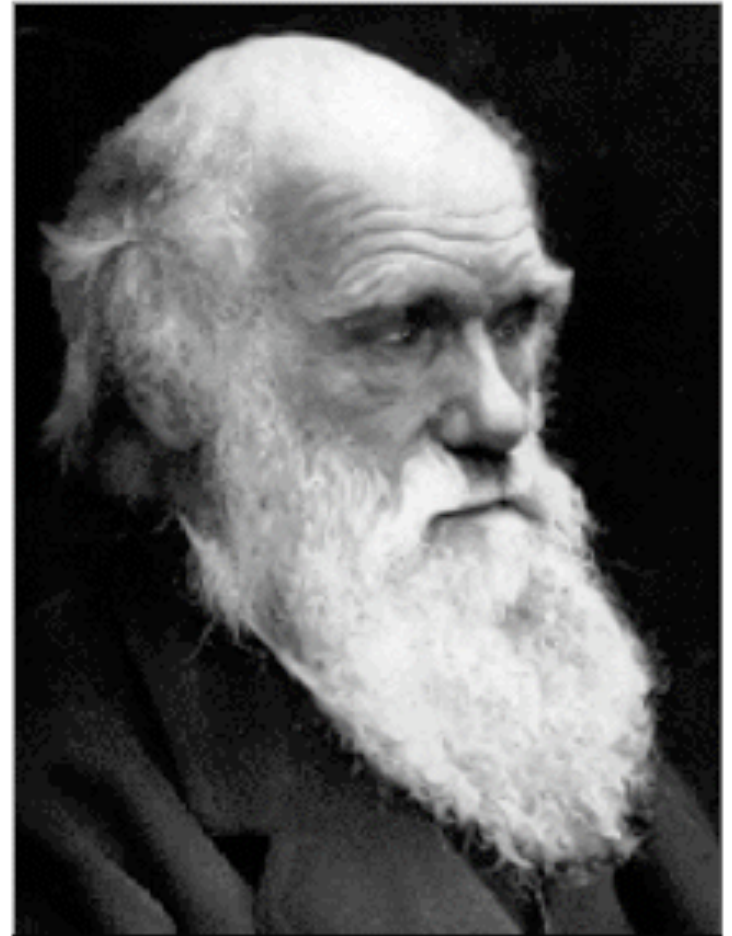


'One Minute' Darwin

a stable, reproducing population

random mutation (inherited)

natural selection



Charles Darwin
British Naturalist

1809 -1882

How science works

Observation

evolution

planets under gravity

particles & light

expanding universe

Explanation

darwinism

Newton's theory

quantum theory

big bang theory

Darwinism

- Cannot explain the origin of life
- Predicts a (binary) tree with no cross linking
- Successful framework for understanding the development of life

Truth

- Scientists use a realist notion of truth
- compare what's in head with what's out there
- Many philosophers have a different notion
 - which is more like 'certainty' - subjective truth
- Truths become 'facts'

Galileo

- *A Very Short Introduction to Galileo* by Stillman Drake
- ‘new science’
- Final Causality ‘out the window’
- Seek ‘laws of nature’
- Use mathematics

Consider - forensic science

- victim
- bullet
- gun
- blood
- hole in window pane
- angle of flight

Consider - forensic science

This approach is never going to tell you why the victim was shot dead.

The reason the victim died was two-fold. On the level of science: high velocity lead poisoning. On the level of causality: he had stolen £1 M from the Mafia.

Cloning

- Therapeutic cloning
- Reproductive cloning
- The difference is in the Intention of the cloner - Final Causality

What's wrong with ID

- Weak - based on ignorance, viz. not being able to find a way to explain....
- It has jumped out of the 'science' box into philosophy - design, purpose...
- Irreducible complexity - science ?

Design



- Are Design and Evolution opposed?

Car Factory



- Aston Martin DB9

Final Thoughts

- Physical systems seek an energy minimum. Do living things do the same?
- Royal Society website podcast
- Darwinian mountain climbing

Final Thoughts

- God will remain hidden, and not reveal Himself easily to science
- Question 110 of the Summa of St Thomas deals with the action of Angels on living bodies

Thank You