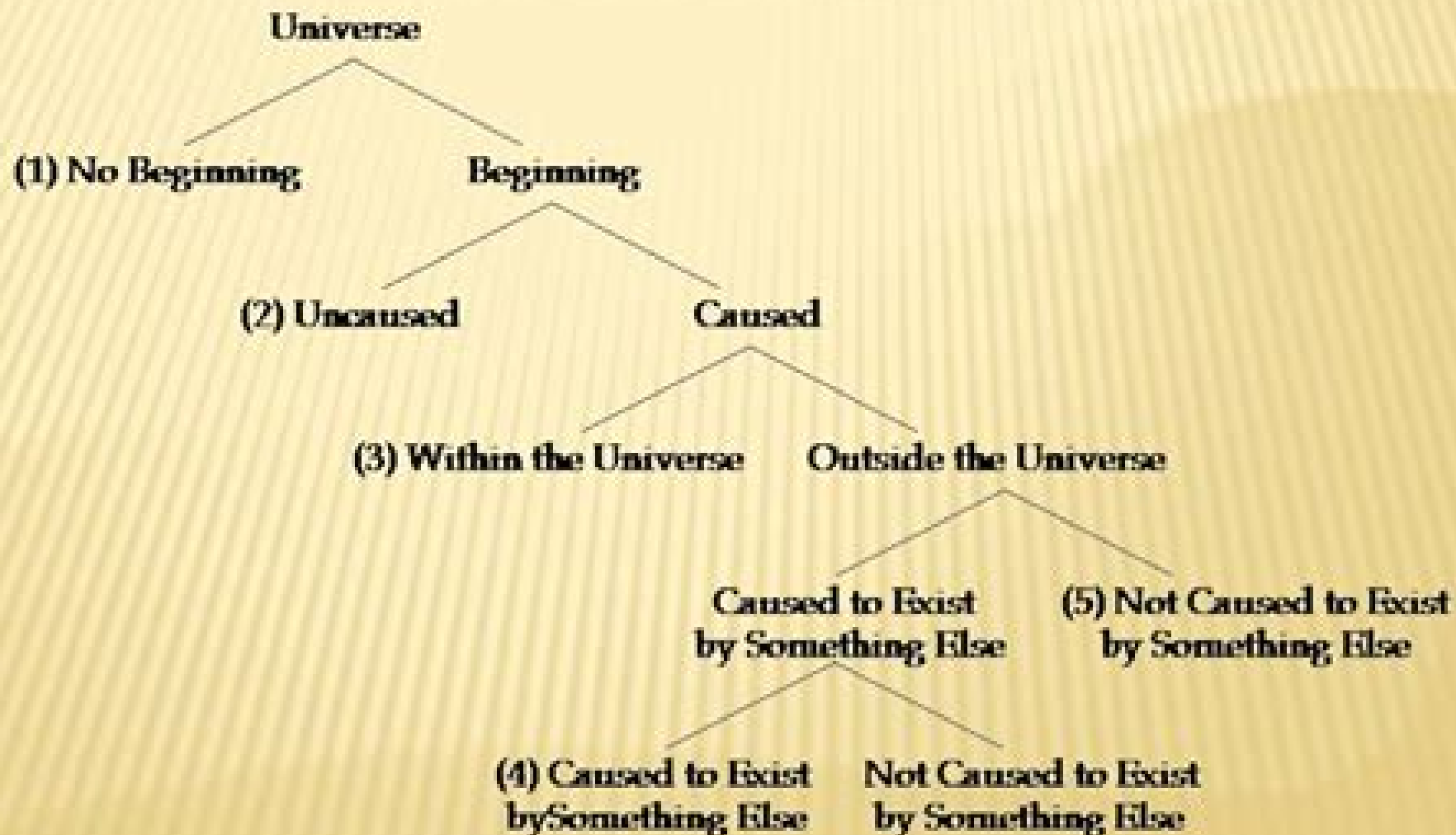


THE KALAM COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT



The Kalam Cosmological Argument

Paul Copan, William Lane Craig



The Kalam Cosmological Argument:

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The Kalām Cosmological Argument Paul Copan, William Lane Craig, 2017 Pt 1 Whatever begins to exist has a cause pt 2 The universe began to exist The Kalam Cosmological Argument, Volume 2 Paul Copan, William Lane Craig, 2017-11-16 The ancient kalam cosmological argument maintains that the series of past events is finite and that therefore the universe began to exist Two recent scientific discoveries have yielded plausible prima facie physical evidence for the beginning of the universe The expansion of the universe points to its beginning to a Big Bang as one retraces the universe's expansion in time And the second law of thermodynamics which implies that the universe's energy is progressively degrading suggests that the universe began with an initial low entropy condition The kalam cosmological argument perhaps the most discussed philosophical argument for God's existence in recent decades maintains that whatever begins to exist must have a cause And since the universe began to exist there must be a transcendent cause of its beginning a conclusion which is confirmatory of theism So this medieval argument for the finitude of the past has received fresh wind in its sails from recent scientific discoveries This collection reviews and assesses the merits of the latest scientific evidences for the universe's beginning It ends with the kalam argument's conclusion that the universe has a cause a personal cause with properties of theological significance On The "Kalam" Cosmological Argument Michael Rasmussen, 2009 A Defense of the Kalam Cosmological Argument and the B-theory of Time Curtis John Metcalfe, 2013 William Lane Craig is the most recognizable contemporary defender of the kalam cosmological argument The argument in its simplest form is that i Whatever begins to exist has a cause of its existence ii The universe began to exist and iii Therefore the universe has a cause of its existence In defending this argument he claims that it presupposes the theory of time commonly referred to as the A theory of time which is roughly the view that time really does flow from the nonexistent future into the present and then out of existence into the past

Though this may be the commonsense view of time it is not the view held by many philosophers and physicists Because Craig s argument relies on a controversial view of time the argument in my view carries an unnecessary burden of proof on behalf of the A theory My thesis then is to argue in support of the kalam cosmological argument but also to argue against Craig s claim that it must be dependent on the A theory of time the result of which will be a more general yet stronger version of the kalam cosmological argument for the existence of God

The Kalām Cosmological Argument: A Reassessment Jacobus Erasmus,2018-01-08 This book offers a discussion of the kal m cosmological argument and presents a defence of a version of that argument after critically evaluating three of the most important versions of the argument It argues that since the versions of the kal m cosmological argument defended by Philoponus c 490 c 570 al Ghaz l 1058 1111 and the contemporary philosopher William Lane Craig all deny the possibility of the existence of an actual infinite these arguments are incompatible with Platonism and the view that God foreknows an endless future This conclusion however is not a problem for the proponents of the kal m cosmological argument for the book shows how the argument can be defended without denying the possibility of the actual infinite In order to offer a comprehensive analysis of Philoponus and al Ghaz l s cosmological arguments the book draws on recent English translations of some of their works Next the book advances a detailed argument against the popular argument based on the impossibility of an actual infinite Finally the book offers a unique defence of the kal m cosmological argument by defending philosophical arguments for a beginning of time that do not deny the actual infinite evaluating which hypothesis best explains the discoveries of modern cosmology and offering an argument in support of the premise that if the universe came into existence then God brought it into existence

On The Kalam Cosmological Argument Michael Rasmussen,2009

The Kalam Cosmological Argument, Volume 1 Paul Copan,William Lane Craig,2017-11-16 Did the universe begin to exist If so did it have a cause Or could it have come into existence uncaused from nothing These questions are taken up by the medieval though recently revived kalam cosmological argument which has arguably been the most discussed philosophical argument for God s existence in recent decades The kalam s line of reasoning maintains that the series of past events cannot be infinite but rather is finite Since the universe could not have come into being uncaused there must be a transcendent cause of the universe s beginning a conclusion supportive of theism This anthology on the philosophical arguments for the finitude of the past asks Is an infinite series of past events metaphysically possible Should actual infinities be restricted to theoretical mathematics or can an actual infinite exist in the concrete world These essays by kalam proponents and detractors engage in lively debate about the nature of infinity and its conundrums about frequently used kalam argument paradoxes of Tristram Shandy the Grim Reaper and Hilbert s Hotel and about the infinity of the future

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