

Human Conscience Testifies

Open-Book Review

Use this week's ThinkCube to answer the following questions. The purpose isn't to test your memory, but to help you understand how the human conscience, objective morality, and mankind's awareness of transcendence point toward God.

PREMISE 1

The Human Conscience Exists Because God Exists

Open-Book Review

1. What is the conscience?

- A. An inner awareness of the moral goodness or wrongness of our conduct
- B. A physical organ located in the brain
- C. A learned skill found only in religious cultures
- D. An instinct concerned only with physical survival

2. According to Romans 2:14–15, what does the conscience demonstrate?

- A. That God's moral law is written on the human heart
- B. That morality is created entirely by governments
- C. That only people with the Bible know right from wrong
- D. That guilt is merely a social custom

3. Which is one purpose of the God-given conscience described in the ThinkCube?

- A. To act as a moral compass that guides us toward good and away from evil
- B. To eliminate human freedom
- C. To guarantee that people never do wrong
- D. To replace the need for moral responsibility

4. Why is the universality of conscience significant?

- A. Similar basic moral judgments appear across widely different cultures
- B. Every culture has identical customs
- C. All societies have identical legal codes
- D. Conscience exists only where Christianity is taught

Be Prepared to Share

1. How would you explain the difference between learning a particular cultural custom and possessing an inner sense that some actions are truly right or wrong?
2. If conscience were only a survival mechanism, how would you explain guilt or moral obligation when doing the right thing brings no personal advantage?

PREMISE 2

Objective Morality Points to God

Open-Book Review

1. What does 'objective morality' mean?

- A. Some moral truths are real regardless of individual opinion or cultural preference
- B. Whatever most people currently approve
- C. Whatever benefits the strongest person
- D. Rules that change completely from society to society

2. Which moral values does the ThinkCube note are widely recognized across cultures?

- A. Honesty, fidelity, protection of life and property, fairness, and justice
- B. Only dietary preferences
- C. Only styles of government
- D. Only religious ceremonies

3. What is the central difficulty with grounding objective morality in materialism alone?

- A. Natural processes can describe what is, but do not by themselves establish what people morally ought to do
- B. Matter cannot exist
- C. Humans cannot cooperate
- D. Cultures never disagree

4. What does the moral argument conclude if objective moral values exist and require a transcendent foundation?

- A. They point to a personal moral Lawgiver
- B. They prove morality is merely preference
- C. They eliminate moral accountability
- D. They show that survival defines goodness

Be Prepared to Share

1. If there is no moral standard above individuals and societies, on what basis could anyone say that an entire society was morally wrong?
2. If morality is only a product of biology or social preference, why should anyone be morally obligated to do what is right when doing wrong would benefit them?

PREMISE 3

Man's Spirit Points Beyond the Material World

Open-Book Review

1. What does 'transcendent' mean?

- A. Beyond or above merely physical human experience
- B. Limited entirely to matter
- C. Identical to instinct
- D. Concerned only with immediate survival

2. According to Ecclesiastes 3:11, what has God placed in the human heart?

- A. A sense of eternity
- B. A complete knowledge of science
- C. Freedom from death
- D. A written copy of Scripture

3. What does the ThinkCube identify as one of mankind's most important distinctions from animals?

- A. The ability to perceive God, eternity, purpose, and spiritual reality
- B. Physical strength
- C. Speed
- D. Instinctive migration

4. What three witnesses are summarized near the end of the ThinkCube?

- A. Special cognition, moral conscience, and transcendent spirituality
- B. Strength, speed, and survival
- C. Culture, technology, and government
- D. Instinct, appetite, and reproduction

Be Prepared to Share

1. Why do human beings across history continually ask about God, eternity, ultimate meaning, judgment, and life after death?

2. If the material world is all that exists, where do you think humanity's persistent intuition that there is something beyond this life comes from?