

WHY I BELIEVE:

THE RATIONALITY OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF

Session II: Arguments for the Existence of God





THE KALAM COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

1. Whatever begins to exist has a cause
2. The universe began to exist
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause

2. THE UNIVERSE BEGAN TO EXIST

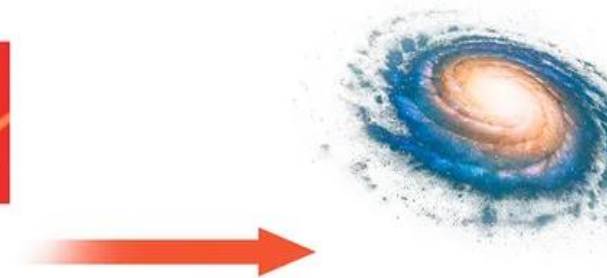
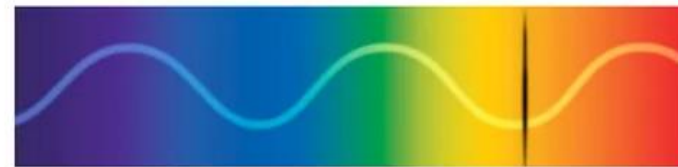
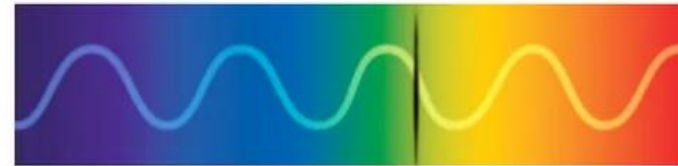
The world's largest library, the Library of Congress, has 36 million books. But imagine it contains an infinite number of books and there are an infinite number of red books and an infinite number of black books. For every red book, there is a black book and vice versa. If you asked the librarian how many red books they have? They'll respond an infinite amount. If you asked them how many total books they have (red and black) they'll say an infinite amount. Shouldn't the red books be a smaller number compared to the red and black books? Yes, but with an actual infinite you have as many red books as there are red and black books.



2. THE UNIVERSE BEGAN TO EXIST

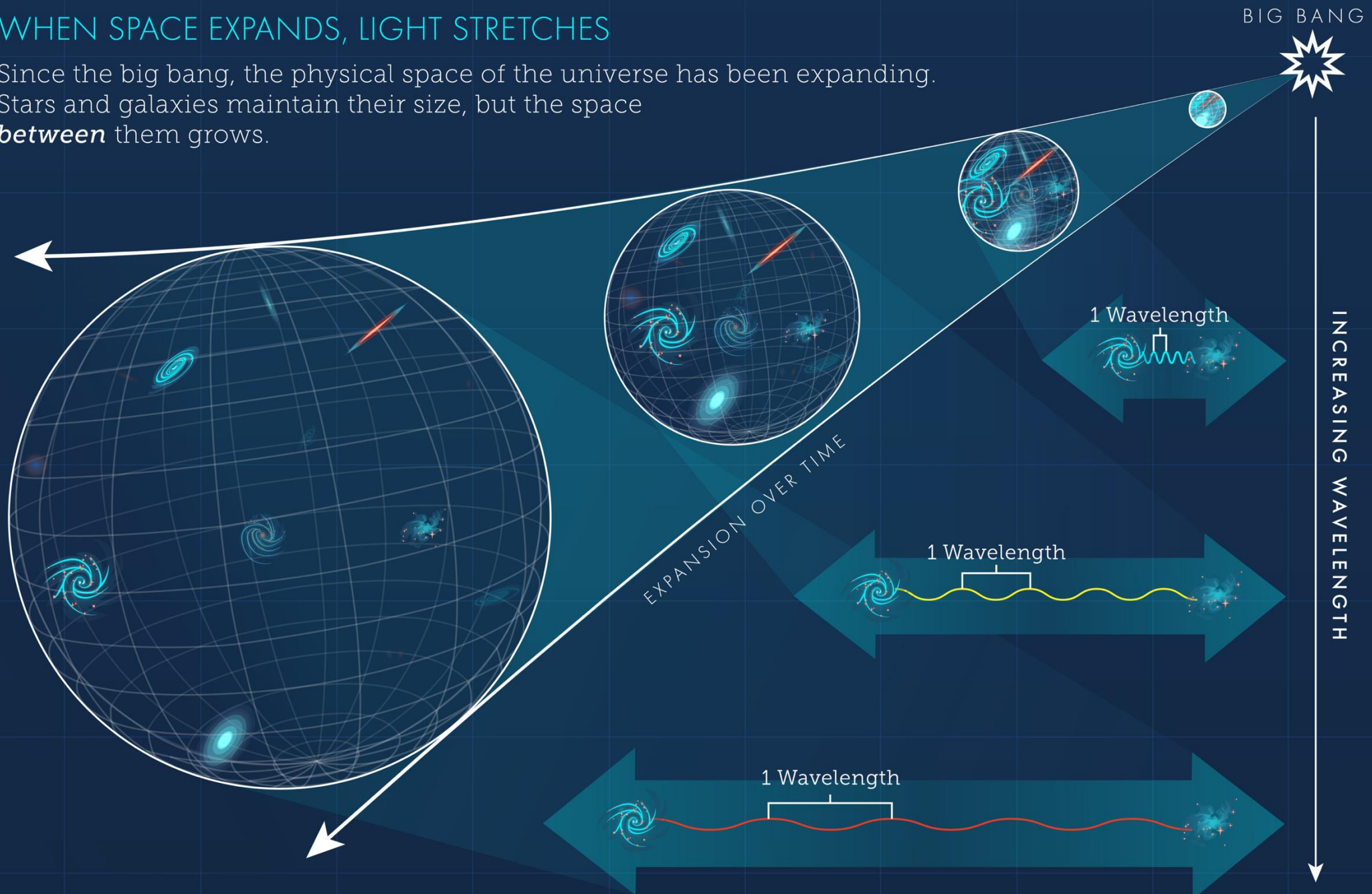
In 1929 Edwin Hubble discovered evidence that galaxies are moving away from us based from the fact they emitted a redlight signature.

Stars and galaxies closer to us emit a cooler light signature but those farther away emit a redder signature.



WHEN SPACE EXPANDS, LIGHT STRETCHES

Since the big bang, the physical space of the universe has been expanding. Stars and galaxies maintain their size, but the space **between** them grows.



As light travels through expanding space, it is stretched to longer wavelengths.

HOW SHOULD THE FIRST CAUSE BE DESCRIBED?

THE UNIVERSE

- Caused
- Matter
- Space
- Time
- Dependent
- Changing
- Begins

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HOW SHOULD THE FIRST CAUSE BE DESCRIBED?

THE UNIVERSE

- Caused
- Matter
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THE FIRST CAUSE

- Uncaused
- Immaterial
- Spaceless
- Timeless
- Independent
- Unchanging
- Eternal



God,
are you
there?

The **Cosmological** Argument





THE TELEOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

1. The fine-tuning of the universe is due to either physical necessity, chance, or design
2. The fine-tuning is not due to physical necessity or chance
3. Therefore, it is due to design

PHYSICAL CONSTANTS

Cosmological constant: the force that acts against gravity to cause the universe to expand

Approximate value: $\Lambda \approx 1.1 \times 10^{-52} \text{m}^{-2}$

Probability: 10^{120}

2. THE FINE-TUNING IS NOT DUE TO PHYSICAL NECESSITY OR CHANCE

- Physical Necessity
- Chance

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- Physical Necessity
- Chance
- Multiverse

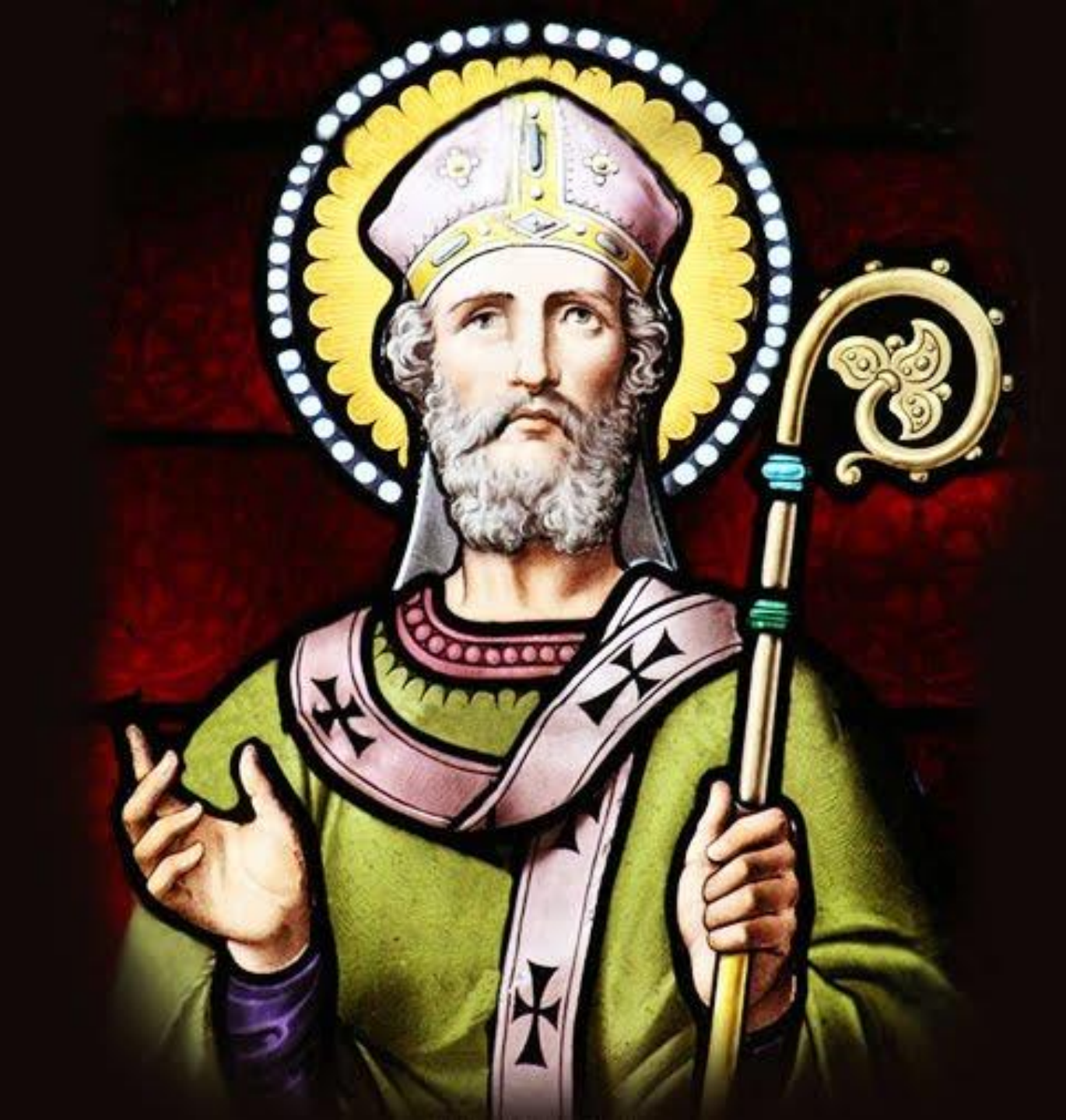


THE TELEOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

1. The fine-tuning of the universe is due to either physical necessity, chance, or design
2. The fine-tuning is not due to physical necessity or chance
3. Therefore, it is due to design



The
Fine Tuning
of the Universe



THE ONTOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

“A being than
which none
greater can be
conceived”

ANSELM'S ARGUMENT

1. God is the greatest conceivable being

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ANSELM'S ARGUMENT

1. God is the greatest conceivable being
2. God exists as an idea in the mind
3. A God that exists in the mind and in reality, is better than a God that exists only in the mind
4. If God exists in the mind only, then we can conceive of a greater being than God

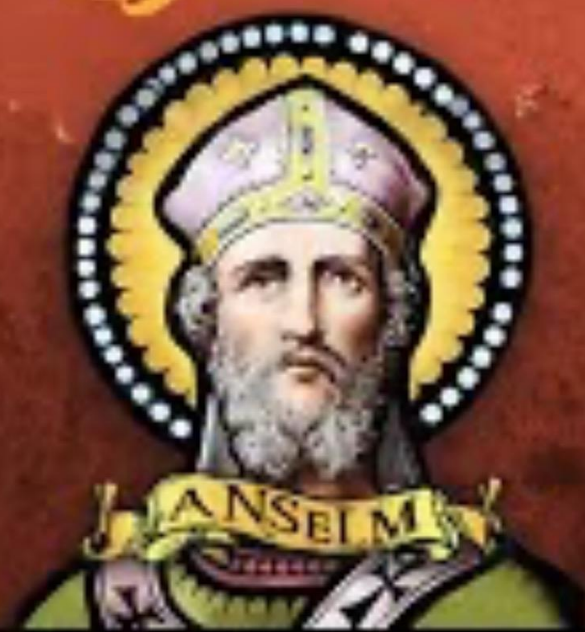
ANSELM'S ARGUMENT

1. God is the greatest conceivable being
2. God exists as an idea in the mind
3. A God that exists in the mind and in reality, is better than a God that exists only in the mind
4. If God exists in the mind only, then we can conceive of a greater being than God
5. But we cannot imagine a being greater than God

ANSELM'S ARGUMENT

1. God is the greatest conceivable being
2. God exists as an idea in the mind
3. A God that exists in the mind and in reality, is better than a God that exists only in the mind
4. If God exists in the mind only, then we can conceive of a greater being than God
5. But we cannot imagine a being greater than God
6. Therefore, God exists (in reality)

The
ONTOLOGICAL
Argument



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