

# The Force

by Ernest O'Neill

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*The sermon presents circumstantial evidence for the existence of a personal Creator, including the order and design of the universe, the universal sense of moral obligation, and the historical evidence of a supreme being.*

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:1, Psalm 19:1, Proverbs 3:19, Romans 1:20, Hebrews 3:4

**Topics:** "Creation Science", "Intelligent Design"

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## Description

Ernest O'Neill discusses the origins of life, exploring the clues that point towards a Creator rather than chance. He delves into the order and design in the universe, quoting Einstein's view on the illimitable Spirit behind creation. O'Neill reflects on the concept of a personal Creator versus an impersonal force, highlighting the logical assumption that a greater form of life is behind human existence. He also touches on the universal sense of conscience and moral obligation, suggesting that these feelings may stem from a Supreme Being with higher standards.

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## Transcript

Where do you think life came from? Perhaps you reply that you haven't a clue. But there do seem to be some clues. If summer came one year in January and the next year in July, if some people fell off Australia while others managed to stay on, then one would be tempted to say the whole universe resulted from chance. But instead of this kind of chaos we are surrounded by a world of so much order and design that one of our greatest geniuses, Einstein, said that his religion "consists of a humble admiration of the illimitable Spirit who reveals Himself in the slight details we are able to perceive with our frail and feeble minds."

Many of us admit that there must be a first cause but we hesitate to go as far as Einstein when he refers to the first cause as HE. Why can all existence not be attributed to an impersonal force of some kind? One of the obvious reasons is that you cannot imagine a dog making a man: a lesser form of life cannot make a greater form of life. Human life is superior in its analytical and reasoning powers to inanimate life so it is logical to assume that the probable cause of the universe is at least as personal as we are.

If this were the case it would also help to explain the existence of conscience and the sense of moral obligation that is felt universally by us human beings. Wherever you travel you find that even the most uneducated and primitive tribes think it's wrong to be cowardly or to double-cross your friends. Even though we find it easier to hate than to love, to lose our temper than to keep it, to be selfish than to be unselfish, yet we persist in feeling guilty and continue to feel that we ought to be loving, even-tempered

and unselfish. It's difficult to explain such a strong sense of moral obligation unless it comes from outside this selfish, squabbling, assertive human race. On the other hand, if there is a personal being greater than ourselves with higher standards than we live by, then this mysterious feeling of "I ought" may come from that Supreme Being.

So there is circumstantial evidence to support the intuitive belief in a creator that men have had for centuries. Wherever anthropologists research the beginnings of the human race they find that man has always believed in the existence of a supreme being. Not only does every corner of the earth yield its store of temples for worship but it also is filled with all kinds of sacrificial altars where man expressed his sense of guilt. Though these facts of design and personality and conscience are not proofs that a Supreme Being exists, they are strong circumstantial evidence for the reasonableness of believing in such a Supreme Being.

Is there any empirical evidence for believing that there is a personal Creator behind this universe? Let's examine this question in the next article.

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