

## Perfect Meaning

Do you know what the word “perfect” means? Of course you do—but how? Have you ever done anything perfect? Do you know anyone who has? What human construct supplies meaning to perfection? Some especially brilliant people have tried to find one—and have been checkmated by God. I dare you to try.

Three witnesses to perfection were up and running before Adam discovered his first fact. These are logic (the language of reason); math (the language of observable reality), and morality (the language of personal reality). Different cultures use different sounds and symbols to represent the meaning in each, but the facts are the same. They are stable, trustworthy, and true. Simply put, they’re perfect.

The phrase used to describe facts like these is “self-evident.” They are true by definition, self-confirming, and immune to dismissal. Things like “go” not being a synonym for “stop” (logic);  $2+2=4$  (math); and love being the right way to live towards other persons (morality). Each is self-evident. Notice the following very carefully. Perfect self-evidence is really compelling evidence of a Perfect-Self.

## The Perfect-Being

A common refrain among atheists is: “there is no evidence for God.” You be the judge of that. But before you do, consider this. If there’s no such thing as God, then there’s no such thing as evidence either. We point to evidence to ground our knowledge of facts. For thousands of years, humans have looked to something called The Truth. But if we each constructs our “own-truth,” why should you, me, or anyone else care about evidence?

Because talk is cheap. Imagine you’re driving behind me in traffic. In “my-world” the red traffic lights mean “go” and the green ones mean “stop.” Can you honestly promise to stay off your horn and celebrate “my-truth” instead of cursing me out while strangling your steering-wheel—or worse? Because of evidence, I don’t have enough faith to believe that you can. The meaning of go and stop is perfect and well understood by the simple language of a traffic-light. Perfect-Meaning requires a Perfect-Source. Imperfect people like you and me can’t be it. Anselm of Canterbury formed one of the clearest and best ideas of God. He Is “that which nothing greater can be thought.” HE IS Perfection. That’s what “God” means. Who Decides?

**He Does! Only He Can.**

Exodus 3:14 – Psalm 18:30 – John 8:58

## What Does “God” Mean?



**Most people claim to believe in God. So why do we disagree about virtually everything? Because when the word “God” means different things to different people, everything else does too. The question is...**

## Who Decides?

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## The MEANING Beneath Meaning

Where does **meaning** come from? You know it's real because you use it every day. If you survived your latest commute, it's only because meaning saved your life. Had even one driver acted on their belief that meaning is a "personal-construct" and ignored the objective difference between left and right—your life, and the lives of others would have been in jeopardy. Even so, you chose to trust that every other "road-warrior's" will to live is just as strong as yours. Why?

Is a functioning highway-system a rare exception to the claim that "truth is a construct?" No, of course not! What's true on the highway is true everywhere. Because meaning is real, and ignoring it has real consequences.

Consider this carefully. Did you construct the meaning of left and right? What about the meaning within **logic**, **math**, and **morality**? Are these constructs, or do they hold for everyone? Be honest. Does "go" ever mean "stop?" Is  $2+2=4$  objectively true? What about your human dignity and right to life, liberty, and tolerance? Are these constructs? No—they're **facts**.

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## The FACT Beneath Facts

Notice carefully that you can't construct something out of nothing. You didn't invent the difference between left and right. You **discovered** it as a baby, and then **learned** words to describe it later. Same goes for logic, math, and morality. Like learning right from left, these must be discovered. We can learn or invent sounds and symbols to describe facts with a **language**. But for it to make sense, the facts must exist to be described. Meaning has to come before learning.

Science is the project of dispassionately recording and analyzing **information** about physical relationships to better learn how the world works. It's a very noble project. Still, science is "helpless as a baby" when it comes to explaining two foundational facts. The first is the reality of **meaning** itself; and second is the human capacity to respond to meaning with right understanding and right action (**reason**). For science to **function**, these must already be up and running. Since the world began, and functions as a meaningful life-support system for reasoning persons—**Life**, **Meaning**, and **Personhood** had to be up and running before time, the world, and the project of science began. You see, they didn't begin at all. They just are—in **God**.

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## "Who Created God?"

Skeptics often ask: "If God created the universe, who created God?" To explain the existence of a world that began with meaning already up and running—we're stuck with concluding that the **Source** of the world's meaning isn't a part of the world. "He" Is **transcendent**. He must also be **eternal** (without beginning or end); **necessary** (uncaused); **self-existent** (whole & independent); and **personal** (relational, reasonable, and free).

When theists use the word "God," they usually mean much more than that—but they cannot mean anything less. If this doesn't fit with your own ideas, you aren't thinking about God at all. You've constructed something else. "So what?"

Well, think for just a second about **cause** and **effect**. Try to find even one effect that constructed its own cause. A driven nail never swung the hammer that drove it in—let alone forged the nail from nothing at all. Likewise, all **creatures** (created living- things) are effects caused by a **Creator**. You are a construct—God is not. Ever heard the phrase: "the buck stops here?" That's what "**God**" means.