

Fundamentals of Philosophical Theology

The Argument from Meteorology

1. The surf thunders, the tides go in and out, and the wind blows.
2. If the surf thunders, the tides go in and out, and the wind blows, then there is a great source of energy in the universe.
3. If there is a great source of energy in the universe, then God exists.
4. Therefore, God exists.

God as the Supreme Being

D1: x is *God* =df. x is the supreme being.

D2: x is *supreme* =df. x has all perfections.

D3: F is a *perfection* =df. F is the highest degree of a property that (a) comes in degrees, and (b) is [intrinsically] good to have.

Some Alleged Perfections

D4: x is omnipotent =df. x can bring about any state of affairs that is metaphysically possible.

D5: x is omniscient =df. x knows everything that is true.

D6: x is omnibenevolent =df. x always prefers the better to the worse.

D7: x is a necessary existent =df. necessarily, for any time, t, x exists at t.

Some Other Properties

D8: x is creative =df. all contingent things are ontologically dependent on x.

D9: x is incorporeal =df. x is not a physical object.

A Principle about God

G: x is God if and only if x is the omniscient, omnipotent, omnibenevolent, necessarily existent, creative, and [incorporeal] being.