

td76's outline

Post by "td76" of April 5, 2018 at 2:43 PM

I think I'm off to a good start, but I'm still thinking about some things.

1. Nature/Physics

- * The universe is only comprised of matter/energy (elemental particles) and space/time (void).
- * Elemental particles combine to form compounds which make up the different substances found in the universe, to include the building blocks of life.
- * Elemental particles act in accordance to natural laws that govern them.
- * Nothing can come from nothing. We do not observe things popping into existence.
- * Nothing can be destroyed to nothing (Law of Conservation of Energy).
- * Higher beings who are deathless likely exist in the universe, but are not supernatural. They are not aware of humans and would not care about us if they were aware.
- * Our world isn't the only one with life on it. (Doctrine of innumerable worlds)
- * The "soul" is not a separate entity from our body. It formed with the body and did not exist before birth, and perishes with the body when we die. I view it as our perceived individual consciousness.
- * Free will.
- * The universe is infinite. There is no observable boundary and the universe is continuing to expand.
- * The universe is eternal. It didn't just pop into existence (Nothing comes from nothing, no creator).

2. Knowledge/Truth

- * The five senses.
- * Nature provides us with the faculty of pleasure (beneficial actions) and pain (detrimental actions). Both mental and physical.

* Anticipations.

3. Ethics/How to live

* Pleasure is the telos of life.

* Natural and necessary desires, which result in pain when not fulfilled, must be satisfied. These desires are simple

foods, water, shelter, clothing, friendship, security, exercise, etc.

* Arrange your life so that the necessary desires can be acquired with little trouble and expense.

* Natural and unnecessary desires, that do not result in pain if not fulfilled must be moderated. These desires are exotic

food and drink, sex, marriage, children, hobbies etc.

* Unnatural and unnecessary desires which are not limited by nature must be avoided. These things are status, extreme wealth,

fame, etc.

* Not all pleasures are to be pursued and not all pains are to be avoided.

* Live unknown.

* Avoid politics.