

# Episode 275 - TD05 - Does Motion Provide Evidence For The Existence of God And Divinity Of The Soul?

Post by "Cassius" of April 4, 2025 at 4:57 PM

This will relate to the argument given by Thomas Paine here:

Thread

[Thomas Paine's Article: "On The Existence of God"](#)

My late reading into the Matthew Stewart book. combined with the fact that @Joshua and I are about to pick up on the topic of "motion" in the podcast (via Tusculun Disputations) reminded me of [this article - "On The Existence of God"](#) by Thomas Paine. It's an example of the disappointment I feel in the deists not going all the way back to Epicurus, and I have to think that their failure to do so was a major part of what doomed their entire "deist" enterprise.

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Cassius

April 2, 2025 at 10:56 AM

And the difference in presentation by Paine and Cicero probably affords a good clue on how to respond to it.

Paine states a key premise in question (that motion is not an inherent property of matter) as if it were a fact: *"The universe is composed of matter, and, as a system, is sustained by motion. Motion is not a property of matter, and without this motion, the solar system could not exist. Were motion a property of matter, that undiscovered and undiscoverable thing called perpetual motion would establish itself."*

While Cicero (at least in this excerpt) does not go so far as to directly state that matter does not move itself - he just implies it.

Epicurus states that atoms have properties of "weight," shape, and size, with weight apparently the motion aspect.