

Lesson 8

Notes

- At its basic understanding, moral or natural law is grounded in rational human nature.
- **Natural Law**

- Morality is
- Reason helps to keep our emotions and/or passions in check
- Natural law is **teleological**—

- The goal for humans is *eudaimonia* or happiness
- The four fundamental goods are
- An action is right if it brings about or promotes one of these fundamental goods.
- The basic principle is to “do good and avoid evil”

Four Arguments For The Existence of God

1. Cosmological Argument

- The term “cosmological” comes from the Greek word “_____” which means “_____.”
- The cosmological argument for God’s existence goes like this:

- Or put another way, the universe could not just exist on its own—someone or something must have made it. God is the cause of the universe.

2. Teleological Argument

- The teleological argument is also known as “_____”
- The Greek word “telos” means “purpose” or “design.” The teleological argument for God’s existence goes like this:

3. Ontological Argument

- The ontological argument can be stated in this way: “The ontological argument for God’s existence goes like this:

- Or put another way—“The fact that God can be conceived means that he must exist.”

4. Moral Law Argument

- Another argument for God’s existence is the moral law argument. It goes like this: The cosmological argument for God’s existence goes like this:

- A universal moral law cannot exist accidentally. It must have a basis—God.

Human Laws

- Aquinas wrote: “Human law has the aspect of law to the extent to which it is in accord with the correct norm, and from this viewpoint it is evidently derived from the eternal law.”
- Human laws are only binding.
- We cannot take refuge in
- Christian and Jewish natural law look toward a day, in the messianic age, when human law will be in perfect harmony with natural law.

Natural Law Ethics and Religion

- Natural law
- Natural law
- Natural law

Key Claims of Natural Law

- 1.

2.

3.

4.

Four Types of Law

- Eternal Law
- Divine Law-
- Natural (Moral) Law
- Human Law

Civil Disobedience

- Civil disobedience-the refusal on moral grounds to obey certain government laws for the purpose of trying to bring about a change in legislation or government policy
- When laws may be unjust

1.

2.

3.

4.

Criteria for Civil Disobedience

1.

2.

3.

4.

Critique of Natural Law

1.

2.

3.

4.