

This Is Philosophy - Chapter 3 : 3.11 Summary

Faith

Faith as Confidence

Faith - an explanation of belief, confidence.

Faith presupposes existence and does so without providing any evidence.

Faith as Belief without Reason

Faith - belief with out evidence or reason.

"Faith is more like wishful thinking than a path to knowledge."

On Faith:

"One may certainly argue that there are limits to human understanding, or that there are truths beyond our capacity to know them. However, it's a bit peculiar to argue that there are matters beyond the reach of reason and then turn around and claim to know the truth about these very matters."

Natural Theory - using reason to evaluate claims of the divine .

The Attributes of God

Why These are Important to Know:

"Before we can begin examining whether there is a God, we must first have some conception of what God is. If we have no idea who or what God could be, then we'll have no idea if we actually run across him, her, or it ... whether God truly exists is independent from the issue of what God's qualities or properties are."

God is Said to Be:

Omnipotent - all powerful

Omniscient - all knowing

Omnibenevolent - morally perfect or perfectly good

"If we can demonstrate the existence of any being that is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnibenevolent, then we have proven the existence of God."

Otherwise we have proven that God does not exist.