

*[The student also provided evidence that critically evaluated the key beliefs of Christians and a secular worldview in relation to where we came from and where we are going.]*

Two ultimate questions we can ask ourselves as self-aware human beings, related to the origin of life are where did we come from? Where are we going?

One wider social implication of the key beliefs of some Protestants is that if we are created by a deity then we are linked to this deity whether we choose to believe in a God or not. Therefore, some sort of divine plan may also exist regarding where we are heading, and what behaviour is expected of us, as a parent exercising their role over their children. The bible says that “by this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother”, 1 John 3:10 - NASV. ①

The apostle Paul wrote, “If from human motives I fought with wild beasts at Ephesus, what does it profit me? If the dead are not raised, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” 1Cor 15:32 – NASV. This hedonistic attitude is as prevalent in society today as it was with ancient Epicureans and often leads to purely selfish pursuits, as there is no need to consider or help anyone outside of your immediate circle of family and friends, as there is no designer, no creator to take into consideration. Those who choose to live a good life and help others do so for their own personal, ethical or humane reasons rather than from a belief in God and the resurrection of Christ and his faithful followers. ①

This demonstrates an important similarity, in that both atheists and Protestants as humans can behave in very good ways towards others, showing love and kindness. I think this is the true beauty of free will; we get to choose how we behave as self-aware creatures and can consider the consequences of our behaviour towards others in society and ourselves. ①