



Worksheet 2

Here, J.L. Mackie considers Aquinas' argument that there must be a being that is 'necessary', which provides the reason for the existence of all 'contingent' things. Mackie argues that there could be another explanation for all the matter in the Universe:

Miracle of Theism, J.L. Mackie (OUP, New York, 1982), p. 91

There could be a non-necessary impersonal block of matter (i.e. not God) which is responsible for the matter that we see around us.

What do you think?

1. What do you think of Mackie's argument against Aquinas' Third Way?

2. What do you think of Aquinas' Third Way? Do you have any objections of your own? Or responses to possible objections?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.