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**FEATURE: Debate with an Atheist – Henry Schaefer
(Third in Schaefer SERIES)**

- VOICE:** Imagine you were a Christian, and someone invited you to debate an atheist who had won a Nobel Prize. What would you say? And how would you say it?
假如你是一位基督徒，有人邀請你和一位獲得諾貝爾獎的無神論者辯論，你會說些什麼呢？你又會如何辯證呢？
- PROF.:** Dr. Henry F. Schaefer had that opportunity – participating with Dr. Steven Weinberg [WYN-berg], whom many consider the world’s most distinguished physicist. Let’s find out how the exchange of ideas went, during these next fifteen minutes!
薛弗博士 (Henry F. Schaefer) 就會這樣的一次機會，和他辯論的是舉世著名的物理學家 - 溫伯格博士 (Steven Weinberg)。以下十五分鐘我們聽聽他們的如何交換意見。
- TAPE:** THEME AND ANNOUNCEMENT
- VOICE:** Dr. Steven Weinberg shared the 1979 Nobel Prize in Physics for developing a theory unifying two fundamental forces of nature. The Nobel website explains, quote, “Physics, like other sciences, aspires to find common causes¹ for apparently unrelated natural or experimental observations.”
1979年溫伯格博士獲得諾貝爾物理學獎，表揚他將兩個大自然基本力量，縱合成一個新的定律。諾貝爾的官方網頁這樣解釋：「物理學和其他科學一樣，將表面看來不相關的自然現象或實驗結果，找到共同的源頭。」
- VOICE:** That makes sense. One example would be Isaac Newton, reasoning that the force that made an apple fall to the ground, could be the same force that kept the moon in orbit around the Earth. That produced the “unifying idea” of gravitation.
這很合理，牛頓 (Isaac Newton) 就是個好例子，找出令一個蘋果掉在地下的力量，原來也是令月球和地球在軌道上運行的力量，這縱合概念就找出了萬有引力。
- PROF.:** Right.
正是如此。

1 The same cause for two or more effects.

VOICE: What did Dr. Weinberg unify?
溫伯格博士縱合了什麼呢？

PROF.: The Nobel website says Weinberg and two other scientists received their Nobel Prize for, quote, “their contributions to the theory of the unified weak and electromagnetic interaction between elementary particles...” End quote.
Prof. Weinberg sees unity between two forces of nature that scientists had once thought were separate. But he claims to see no unity or agreement between nature and religious belief. He has said, “Religion is an insult to human dignity.” He hopes science can contribute to making, quote, “this long, sad story, this progression of priests and ministers and rabbis...and imams...come to an end.”
溫伯格和另外兩位科學家同獲諾貝爾獎，是表揚他們發表了在基本粒子之間，縱合了微弱和電磁相互作用的理論。
溫伯格教授看到了科學家們一直以爲是兩回事的兩種自然力量之間的一致性，可是他卻認爲大自然和宗教信仰之間，沒有什麼一致性。他說：「宗教是對人類尊嚴的一種羞辱。」他希望科學的貢獻，能令宗教那又長又苦的故事劃上句號。

VOICE: So a debate between that strong an atheist, and a strong Christian like Dr. Schaefer, should be interesting.
看來這回一位強硬的無神論都和一位強硬的基督徒之間的辯論，會是相當有趣！

VOICE: Yes, it certainly was! But technically it wasn't a debate.
When someone invited Weinberg and Schaefer to debate God's existence, both declined,² but agreed to a “non-debate.” Each would make a forty-minute prepared statement, followed by ten minutes of comments. It occurred April 13, 2000, at Baylor [BAY-lur] University in Texas.
這是必然的！可是基本上那次並不是辯論。有人曾邀請溫伯格和薛弗辯論上帝的存在，兩位都拒絕了，但卻同意以非辯論形式作個交流。雙方都會預備 40 分鐘的陳述，和 10 分鐘的評論。這次交流就在 2000 年 4 月 13 日假德州貝勒大學舉行。

VOICE: Let me guess. Weinberg used most of his time claiming science had proved God does not exist. He probably used the same arguments I have heard repeatedly from professors and friends who are atheists.
我猜溫伯格一定用大部份時間宣稱科學可以證明上帝並不存在，他所用的論證，也和我在其他無神論的教授和朋友口中聽到的一樣。

PROF.: Yes. When it was Schaefer's turn, a technical problem injected some humor. He remembers, quote, “My lecture...began quite literally with a bang. The overhead projector exploded rather spectacularly when I turned it on.”

2 Said no.

Although surprised, I was able to turn to Steve Weinberg and ask if he considered this to be an act of God. This did draw a big laugh from Weinberg, while the repair team swung into action.” End quote.

When the projector was working, Dr. Schaefer spent his first several minutes pointing out that most pioneers of the physical sciences were convinced Christians. That included Kepler, Pascal, Boyle, Faraday, Kelvin and many others – plus many contemporary scientists who are Christian believers, including four Nobel Prize winners.

對。到薛弗發言時，投影機突然爆裂，令全場注目，是名副其實由爆炸聲開始。雖然感到意外，但他仍轉向溫伯格，問他是否認為那是天意。溫伯格報以大笑，工作人員也馬上進行維修。

投影機回復操作後，薛弗博士先用數分鐘指出，很多早期的物理學家的都是虔誠基督徒，包括德國天文學家 – 克卜勒 (Kepler)、法國物理學家 – 巴斯卡 (Pascal)、英國物理學家 – 波以耳 (Boyle)、法拉第 (Faraday) 及開爾文 (Kelvin) 等，還有很多當代的科學家和諾貝爾獎得主，均是基督信徒。

VOICE: Those are some of the things we discussed on our previous two programs. 在過去兩次節目中，我們也討論過部份內容。

PROF.: Yes. Next, Schaefer quoted Nobel laureate Eugene Wigner [WIG-ner], saying the universe is too precise to believe it originated without a mathematical mind designing it. Weinberg later admitted this was the one point that bothered him.

Schaefer quoted things Weinberg had written, where he implied that he was not 100 per cent sure of his atheism.

是的。薛弗又引述諾貝爾獎得主威格納 (Eugene Wigner) 的話，認為這宇宙是如此精密，很難令人相信不是由一位有數學才華者所設計的。溫伯格也承認這點也令他感到疑惑。薛弗再引述溫伯格的文章，稱他並非百分之百肯定自己是無神論者。

VOICE: (SURPRISED) Really? What did an atheist write that sounded as if he didn't totally believe in atheism? (驚訝地) 哦？一個無神論者這樣寫，是否代表他不是完全相信無神之論？

PROF.: For one thing, Weinberg admired the beautiful colors of blue jays and red cardinals.³ Dr. Weinberg wrote, quote, “I have to admit that sometimes *nature seems more beautiful than strictly necessary*. ...Although I understand...how brightly colored feathers evolved out of competition for mates, it is almost irresistible to imagine that *all this beauty was somehow laid out for our benefit*.”

³ Two kinds of birds. If these do not exist in your country, mention two other birds that are very colorful.

溫伯格也不得不承認，鸚鵡和各類彩鳥身上繽紛的顏色實在美麗。他寫道：「我也承認大自然中的美麗，很多時候都過於所需要。即使我知道鮮艷繽紛的羽毛，是如何由同類爭奇鬥艷而演化出來，只是更令人俳而所思的是，這一切的美麗最終還是為我們的好處。」

VOICE: So even very vocal atheists sometimes admit that nature contains things that look as if God may have made them for man's enjoyment.
因此即使最高調的無神論者，有時候也會承認，在大自然中有些事物來看，似乎是上帝為人能更享受其中而造的。

PROF.: Yes. Schaefer interpreted that comment by Weinberg to mean, quote, "...all human beings experience the natural impulse that God exists and *has created the universe for a purpose.*" End quote.

Next, Schaefer quoted from another of Weinberg's books, *Dreams of a Final Theory*. Quote, "If the word 'God' is to be of any use, it should be taken to mean an *interested* God, a creator and lawgiver who has established not only the laws of nature and the universe but also *standards of good and evil*. Some personality...concerned with our actions, something...appropriate for us to worship. ...Scientists...sometimes use the word 'God' to mean something so abstract and unengaged⁴ that He is hardly to be distinguished from the laws of nature."

是的，薛弗這樣演繹溫伯格的評論說：「全人類從體驗大自然，看到上帝的存在，並且祂所創造的宇宙是帶著目的的。」其後，薛弗再引用溫伯格的另一本著作《終極理論之夢》(*Dreams of a Final Theory*)。他引述道：「假如要考究『上帝』一詞的用處，應該解釋為一位有趣的上帝，一位創造者和規律的給予者，祂定立了不單是大自然和宇宙的定律，還有善惡的標準；一些關乎我們行為的性格、一些我們應當敬拜的。科學家們有時候用『上帝』這詞指那些很抽象、空範，很難將上帝和自然定律分開來談的事物或現象。」

VOICE: Did Dr. Weinberg say these things when he was on the speaker's platform with Dr. Schaefer?
那麼溫伯格博士在講台上是否有談及以上所提過的呢？

PROF.: No. That's why Schaefer quoted those statements during his response. He said the last Weinberg statement showed a better understanding of the way the Bible describes God, than some theologians have.

Prof. Schaefer responded, "Preach on, Steve!" He added that "a vague impersonal belief in an organizing principle of the universe" was not what motivated people to spend their lives doing unselfish things for the benefit of others. For example, William Wilberforce [WIL-ber-fors] spent fifty years of his life, convincing people to abolish the slave trade in the British Empire. Mother Teresa [tuh-REE-suh] spent her life relieving

4 Not interested in the people He has made.

suffering of the poorest people in Calcutta. And former [American] president Jimmy Carter [KAR-ter] spends several days each year pounding nails to help build houses for poor people.

Wilberforce, Mother Teresa and Carter were all “motivated by love for Jesus Christ and their fellow human beings.”

沒有，所以薛弗在回應的時候，引述他的文章。他認為溫伯格最後的那篇文章顯示，他對聖經中所形容的上帝的理解，更勝於很多神學家。薛弗還補充說：「一個模糊的非個人信仰在一個有原則和組織的宇宙中，並不能推動人付上時間、生命去做一些對人有益的無私行為。舉個例子，英國人威伯福斯 (William Wilberforce) 花了五十年的人生，致力反對買賣黑奴；德蘭修女 (Mother Teresa) 窮她一生在非洲加爾各答幫助當地窮人、前美國總統卡特 (Jimmy Carter) 每年都花幾天時間，幫助窮人建房子。他們都是本著耶穌基督的愛和對人類同胞的愛。」

VOICE: So Weinberg the atheist and Schaefer the Christian agree on one point: *If God exists*, He is not an abstract concept, but a Being who knows and cares what individual humans do.

無神論者溫伯格和基督徒薛弗最後都同意：**假如有上帝**，祂並不是一個抽象的概念，而是個認識並關心每一個人的神。

PROF.: Yes. Dr. Weinberg has also written a chapter entitled “What About God?” In it, he says he doesn’t believe God exists, but he admits an “almost irresistible temptation” to believe that there must be something beyond what we perceive with our eyes and ears. He confirms that human beings are born with the intuition that God exists. That agrees with the Bible’s statement that God has “put eternity in their hearts.” (Ecclesiastes 3:11).⁵ 是，溫伯格博士還寫了一篇題為《上帝又如何？》(What About God?) 當中，他說他不相信上帝的存在，卻承認有一種『幾乎難以抵擋的誘惑』令他相信在我們耳目以外的確存在一些東西，他確認人類生來就直覺相信上帝的存在。這正與聖經所說：「上帝將永生安置在世人心裏。」(傳 3:11) 不謀而合。

VOICE: You said one point in Dr. Schaefer’s lecture bothered Dr. Weinberg. 你剛才說在薛弗博士的演講中的一個論點令溫伯格博士感到疑惑。

PROF.: Yes. He couldn’t answer the idea that the universe is constructed in such an orderly way that it can be analyzed by mathematical physics, and that this orderliness implies an intelligent creator God.

Dr. Schaefer adds, quote, “...contemporary atheism has led some scientists to dubious⁶ pseudo-scientific conclusions.”

5 Ecclesiastes is the Bible book that follows Proverbs.

6 Doubtful, probably not correct.

是的，他不能解釋為什麼宇宙的井然有序，卻又可以用數學物理的方法作分析，這種規律秩序正暗示有一位智慧的造物主。薛弗博士補充說：「當代的無神論者已令科學家們作出令人半信半疑的假科學結論。」

VOICE: For example?
可以舉個例子嗎？

PROF.: Martin Rees recognizes that our universe is built very precisely. He speculates that maybe there are millions of universes, and most of them developed in ways that make them unable to have living creatures on them. He guesses that maybe we live in the one universe that “got lucky” enough to allow life to exist on it.

Frank Tipler [TIP-ler] speculates that God does not exist now, but that “he, she or it” will come into existence in the future as a result of advances in computer technology.

英國天文和宇宙學家芮斯 (Martin Rees) 承認我們的宇宙設計的非常精密準確，他推測可能有上萬個宇宙，可是大部份都不能讓活物存在。他估計我們所居住的宇宙，是屬於『幸運』的一個，讓生命得以存在。

美國物理學家提普勒 (Frank Tipler) 則推測上帝現今並不存在，可是未來當電腦科技更先進的時候，『他、她、或它』就會出現。

VOICE: Strange ideas!
這些說法真令人費解！

PROF.: Dr. Schaefer says, quote, “Atheistic presuppositions⁷ have led some very gifted scientific minds astray.” End quote.

In response to Dr. Weinberg’s comment that the world would be better if “this long, sad story, this progression of priests and ministers” would “come to an end,” Schaefer commented, quote, “Steven Weinberg is obviously a much better scientist than historian. Just three atheists (Hitler, Stalin, and Mao)⁸ were responsible for more deaths in the 20th century alone than recorded in all military conflicts to date.”⁹

薛弗博士說：「無神論的預先假設，已令不少有才華的科學家迷路了。」對於溫伯特博士說：「宗教那又長又苦的故事要劃上句號。」薛弗回應說：「溫伯格博士明顯是一位很出色的科學家，而不是一位歷史學家。希特勒、史達林和毛澤東三位無神論者，單是在二十世紀所奪去的生命，就比有史以來所有軍事衝突所死的人數更多。」

7 Starting with the idea that God doesn’t exist, and trying to make the facts fit around that idea.

8 If listeners in your country would think that mentioning these names is a political statement, please omit some or all of them.

9 In all the centuries before the 20th century (1901-2000).

VOICE: If atheism has produced such bad results, that would make it a bad idea.
如果無神論造成一個如此不好的下場，那麼這並不是一件好事。

PROF.: I agree.

Dr. Schaefer said the emotional crescendo of the conference occurred during Dr. Weinberg's response to Schaefer's lecture. Weinberg said he understood why so many famous chemists and physicists were Christians. He was 67 years old, and he was beginning to recognize the reality of death. He said it was horrifying¹⁰ to believe that we die and won't see our loved ones again.

He paused for several seconds, seeming to be overcome with emotion. Then he admitted that it is hard to resist the comfort that a religious belief in life after death provides.

我同意。當溫伯格博士回應薛弗博士的演講時，全場的情緒逐漸高漲。溫伯格說他明白，為何那麼多著名的化學家和物理學家都是基督徒。他已經 67 歲，開始明白死亡的真實，要相信人要死亡，而且不會再看見自己所愛的人，他感到很可怕。他停頓了一會兒，看來是有點感觸。最後他認為宗教信仰，可能給人死後一個安慰，這是他不得不承認的。

VOICE: That is surprising. A Nobel Prize-winning physicist who calls himself an atheist, admits that he sees enough complexity in nature to give him doubts about whether the universe really built itself. And he sees that people who believe in God and heaven are less worried about death.

真是出人意表，一位諾貝爾獎得主，聲稱自己是無神論的物理學家，看盡大自然的複雜後，竟承認自己懷疑這是宇宙是否真正無中生有；更甚的，是他看到相信上帝的人，對死亡少一些憂慮。

PROF.: Some of the most brilliant minds in the world are seeing the truth that God gave us in the Bible. Quote, "...What may be known of God is obvious in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse." End quote. (Romans 1:19-20).

God provides evidence of Himself through making nature so intricate and beautiful that we recognize it had to have a wise creator who is also an artist. And he provides evidence of Himself in the intuition He has built into our psyches.

世界上不少才華橫溢的人，都明白上帝在聖經中給我們的真理：

「神的事情、人所能知道的、原顯明在人心裏，因為神已經給他們顯明。自從造天地以來，神的永能和神性是明明可知的、雖是眼不能見、但藉著所造之物、就可以曉得、叫人無可推諉。」(羅 1:19-20)

¹⁰ Frightening.

上帝透過創造這如此複雜又美麗的大自然，叫我們知道必是有一位既有智慧的創造者，也是一位藝術家的作品；祂又將直覺放在人心裡，這一切都是上帝向人顯明祂自己的證據。

TAPE: THEME AND ANNOUNCEMENT

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