

Summary of Arguments in Anselm's *Proslogium*:

- Something exists in the understanding than which nothing greater can be conceived.
- Something that exists in reality is **greater** than something that exists only in understanding.

Therefore, that which exists in the understanding than which nothing greater can be conceived must also exist in reality.

- It is possible to conceive of a being which **cannot** be conceived not to exist.
- A being which **cannot** be conceived not to exist is **greater** than a being which **can** be conceived not to exist.

Therefore, that being than which nothing greater can be conceived cannot be conceived not to exist.

- A thing may be conceived when the **word** signifying it is conceived and when the **entity itself** is understood.
- When someone understands "God" **in name only**, He **can** be conceived not to exist. But when someone understands the **concept** of "God," He **cannot** be conceived not to exist.

Therefore someone who claims that God can be conceived not to exist does not understand the concept of God.

- The concept of "God" is that than which nothing greater can be conceived.
- That than which nothing greater can be conceived is the highest of all beings.
- The highest of all beings cannot have been created (for that which would have created it would have been greater).

Therefore God has not been created and is thus self-existent.

As the only self-existent (and uncreated) Being, all things must necessarily have been created [ex nihilo] by God.