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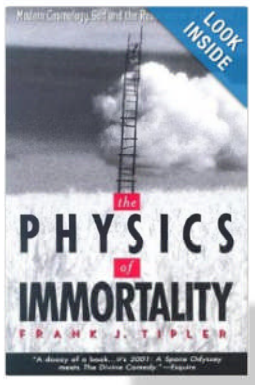
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by [Frank J. Tipler](#) (Author)

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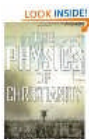
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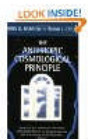
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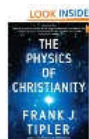
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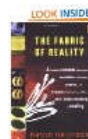
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Editorial Reviews

From Publishers Weekly

Mathematical physicist Tipler attempts to demonstrate via scientific principles the existence of God and the likelihood of reincarnation. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library Journal

Expect to hear a great deal about this book, which will be boosted through major advertising and a 13-city author tour. Tipler, a professor of mathematical physics at Tulane, presents a scientific argument for the existence of God. Copyright 1994 Reed Business Information, Inc. --*This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.*

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3.2 out of 5 stars

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4 star	14
3 star	10
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He does not believe in his Omega Point Theory.

Mark Hammond

The life-born, Godly "Omega Point" will thus create such perfectly accurate simulations of these past lives, that those past lives will in fact be resurrected.

Leonard Zane

This book was filled with premises that "support" the author's conclusion that themselves were hard to swallow.

Ryan

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Circular Argument

By A Customer on December 23, 2002

Format: Paperback

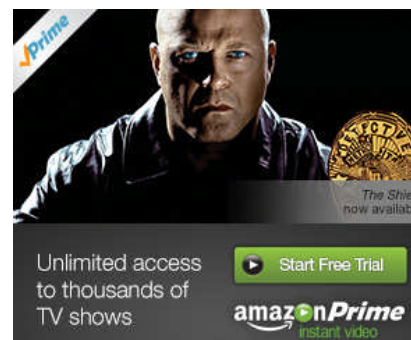
I enjoy having my brain stretched, so, with that goal in mind, I picked up Dr. Frank J. Tipler's "Physics of Immortality."

There are a number of serious problems with this book, logical, scientific, philosophical, and theological, to wit:

1. The argument is completely circular. (The main thrust is that life, broadly defined, will be able to manipulate the physics of a closed universe in the final moments of its existence in such a way that a form of subjective immortality is possible, for all conscious intelligences, including ourselves.) In order to get from point A to point B, Tipler assumes part of his conclusion. He assumes that life must exist forever, and then uses that assumption in his proof, a definite logical no-no. Similarly, Tipler includes a "proof" of his argument, saying, in essence that if certain facts about the Higgs boson and the top quark are true, he's right. His conclusions do not follow from his premises at all.
2. Even if one can accept Tipler's main argument, his subsidiary argument is weak. Tipler assumes that his future god-like intelligences will be beings of infinite compassion, who will grant you and I resurrection and immortality, essentially because they're nice guys. This seems like a very slender reed to lean on. The history of intelligent life on this planet (the only intelligence we know anything about) suggests that greater intelligence is not necessarily correlated with greater compassion.
3. Tipler goes off on a strange theological tangent when he attempts to equate his "omega point" being with the God of the Abrahamic faiths (Judaism, Christianity and Islam).4. Finally, even if we can assume that Tipler's argument is plausible, (a stretch), it looks as though the Universe is not cooperating with him. While some of the boundary conditions listed in his proof are as he predicted, the most recent observations seem to show that the Universe's expansion is increasing, not slowing down. Most cosmologists conclude from this evidence that the Universe is open, not closed...and unless the Universe is closed, the rest of Tipler's case falls apart. It's far too early to conclude that the Universe is open (the observations of supernovae in other galaxies which underly the current consensus can be explained in other ways), but at the same time, even without the latest observations, there doesn't seem to be anywhere near enough mass in the universe to allow gravity to eventually slow the expansion down.

Frank Tipler was a well respected physicist before this book, and is still regarded as an expert in the field of quantum cosmology. He is not the first world-class scientist to take a flyer on an implausible idea. I think it's interesting that in the book he condemns Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, the French Jesuit paleontologist from whom he took the term "omega point" for doing precisely what Tipler does in this book. Teilhard did outstanding work investigating early hominid primates in Asia before he began working on his "omega point" speculations, which attempted to wed evolutionary biology and theology, and then began to believe that his speculations were scientific facts. Tipler has been caught in the same trap.

I give the book two stars, not one, however, because I find the ideas fascinating, and I did spend a considerable amount of time grappling with the physics and philosophy, which is the precise reason I picked up the book. He shouldn't have attempted to present it as a scientific theory, though, at least



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Wonder of Physics and Imagination

Recently got it, but the theme of the book is very familiar to me as it was referred to by many contemporary professionals. Seen for and against! Staying tuned. [Read more](#)

Published 2 months ago by Pravin R. Panchal

ARE THE CENTRAL CLAIMS OF CHRISTIANITY "STRAIGHTFORWARD DEDUCTIONS OF...

Frank Jennings Tipler (born 1947) is a mathematical physicist and cosmologist at Tulane University. He has written other books such as The Physics of Christianity, The Anthropic... [Read more](#)

Published 5 months ago by Steven H. Propp

To bad there isn't a lower rating.

Frank makes it all up!

This books title makes you think that Frank has proven there is a God and that we will all be resurrected. [Read more](#)

Published 5 months ago by George F. Brass

The Escatological Omega Point

in my opinion.}')> [Read more](#) ›

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51 of 63 people found the following review helpful

A Loooonng string of "if's"

By [D. S. Bornus](#) on October 4, 2006

Format: Paperback

The thesis in this book is that God (aka "the Omega Point" - an omniscient entity reminiscent of "Vger" in Star Trek) does not currently exist (but will develop at some point in the future) and will choose to replicate (emulate) exact duplicates of every human who has ever lived, in a virtual-reality Heaven. I made a list of the "if's" mentioned in this book, that all have to happen for this to occur:

IF

*strong (indistinguishable from human) artificial intelligence is possible

AND IF

*we can develop self-replicating interstellar probes

AND IF

*humans can be completely grown/raised/educated from stored DNA

AND IF

*on every planet, these seeded human colonists accept the destiny we assigned to them

AND IF

*nanotechnology is developed

AND IF

*250-gigawatt lasers are feasible

AND IF

*cost of materials relative to wages drops exponentially every 50 years

AND IF

*antimatter exists, can be feasibly manufactured, and harnessed as a means of propulsion

AND IF

*the universe is closed (will eventually contract)

AND IF

*a virtual "emulation" of a person in a computer is the same "consciousness" as the original person

AND IF

*all information in the physical universe can be retrieved without loss or distortion

AND IF

*a simulation of a living being also recreates perfectly its unexpressed internal states

AND IF

*emulations of every person in history can be made without also re-creating their diseases, conflicting ideologies, etc. [Read more](#) ›

2 Comments Was this review helpful to you?

26 of 31 people found the following review helpful

A perversion of science, an insult to faith.

By [B. Sauerwine](#) on June 3, 2008

Format: Paperback

A well-meaning relative saved this book from a box of books destined for a landfill, and she thought that as a physicist I might be interested in reading this book. I usually try to avoid books that try to justify faith through science since demanding proof is itself an insult to faith, but decided to give it a chance while waiting for my carpool one evening, I pulled it out and checked the table of contents. Two things caught my eye that I wanted to see his take on:

Theory

The theological study of eschatology examines the end of time and the ultimate future of the world. In Frank J. [Read more](#)
Published 14 months ago by Xeroxdude52

Imagings within the context of the technology of our age

Tipler imagines a universe of ever-increasing computational ability as the universe approaches what he regards as its inevitable collapse or "big crunch" that is associated with... [Read more](#)
Published on March 5, 2011 by Ulfilas

Physics and Immortality

I cannot recomend it because I have not received this book since I bought it. You have the date... I have been expecting some notes about it. That worries me. [Read more](#)
Published on February 20, 2011 by Carlos Gonzalez

Speeding towards the end/beginning...

I read this book while I was in university in the late 1990's early 2000's. It's ideas made sense qualitatively and quantitatively. [Read more](#)
Published on February 1, 2011 by B-CuZ

Physics and Immortality, Some Thoughts

Dr. Tipler's book on the reality of life after death is curious, to say the least. He writes as a professor of mathematical physics who is trying to make mathematical theory... [Read more](#)
Published on November 11, 2010 by Maurice III

Fascinating work of the imagination

I found this book such a fascinating read that I don't mind if it is complete bunk as science. The author offers several testable predictions, some of which I believe have by now... [Read more](#)
Published on August 7, 2009 by Bardolph

Brilliantly imagined and reasoned vision

Some of the general points Tipler develops and presents are these:

* An intelligent robot probe could seed other star systems with life by coding human and other... [Read more](#)
Published on April 21, 2009 by Leonard Zane

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The first was how he proposed that one solves the Halting problem. The gist of the argument is this: he proposes that one starts with a mechanical Turing machine, then adds energy to the parts until they travel at relativistic speed. He proposes then that one could perform an infinite number of calculations in a finite time, and avoid the halting problem entirely by checking to see if the program was finished.

There are two problems obvious to someone with even an elementary understanding of physics and computation theory: One, this plan requires an infinite amount of energy. More energy than exists in the universe. Two, supposing one was able to do this, it would require one to go on a speed of light voyage and return to the computer later. The problem is that to do this would not actually solve the Halting problem. In fact, it would just allow one to conclude that the computer had or had not stopped for some extremely and possibly even asymptotically large period of time--even if this intractable voyage was possible, it still wouldn't solve the problem. To his credit, the author says that this is merely a proposal and does not say whether it is an actual solution to the Halting problem. [Read more](#) ›

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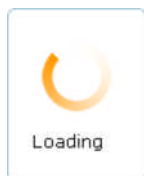
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