



Philosophie, Ethik für Sek II

Filosofix

4. Teapot

2:45 Minuten

- 00:04** Just imagine, your neighbour is a nice guy, but he has a few strange beliefs.
- 00:11** Like this one: he believes that a teapot orbits the sun between the earth and Mars. To date, nobody has seen this teapot because it is too small to be observed through a telescope, but its existence has never been disproven, either.
- 00:40** Your neighbour – let's call him the 'teaist' – claims: *as long as nobody can disprove what I think, I will continue to believe. What can't be disproven can be believed.*
- 00:55** And yet, is that true?
- 00:58** The fact is that there are all sorts of bizarre theories that can't be disproven. Such as the one that the world was created by a flying spaghetti monster, or that wherever people aren't looking, at any given time there are little pink elephants that disappear into thin air as soon as we turn in their direction.
- 01:26** These presumptions cannot be confirmed. But anyone who believes, that something exists, needs good reasons for it. It is not enough that it cannot be disproven. Otherwise any number of absurd assumptions would be possible.
- 01:42** We just know that there are no such things as little pink elephants! But what does that mean for our neighbour and his teapot? Who's right?
- 01:51** (1) Is it the teaist, who believes in the existence of the teapot, (2) the ateaist, who believes in its non-existence, or (3) the sceptic, who believes in neither its existence nor its non-existence, because we simply do not know?
- 02:16** And what about the belief in the existence of God? Is that as irrational as believing in a flying spaghetti monster?
- 02:27** Does it make sense to believe in something as long as it hasn't been disproven?