

# **Apologetics 101**



## **A Reasonable Foundation For Biblical Faith**

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## **1 Corinthians 2:9**

*However, as it is written:*

*No eye has seen, no ear has heard,  
no mind has conceived what God has prepared  
for those who love him.*

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### **Introduction:**

## **Apologetics: Defined and Why?**

Three Big Reasons Why Christians  
Need To Have Reasonable Answers For Their Faith

### **"Apologetics... defined and why God commands it."**

Apologetics... just what are we talking about here?

Apologetics is the discipline that deals with a rational defense of Christian faith. It comes from the Greek word 'apologia' which means "to give a reason or rational defense" for what we believe in.

But, why should we take 'apologetics' seriously?  
Our first reason is because God Commands It!

The most important reason to do apologetics is God's instruction to do so. In 1 Peter 3:15, we read this clear command,

***"But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks***

***you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”***

This verse tells us to ‘always be ready’. It may not occur everyday that someone asks you tough questions about your faith, but we should still be ready to respond if someone does. Being ‘ready’ is not just a matter of having the right information available, it is also an attitude of readiness and eagerness to share the truth of what we believe. For more information on “Why God Command’s” apologetics see 2 Cor. 10:5; Phil. 1:7; Jude 1:3; Titus 1:9; 2 Tim. 2:24-25.

### **"Apologetics... reason demands it"**

Apologetics... the rational and reasonable defense of Christianity.

But, why should we take ‘apologetics’ seriously and endeavor to defend our faith among those of our generation? Well, because God Commands It! But also because Reason Demands It!

God created humans to make use of reason as part of his image (Genesis 1:27; Colossians 3:10). Indeed, it is by reasoning that humans are distinguished from “*brute beasts*” (Jude 1:10). God calls upon his people to use reason (Isaiah 1:18) to discern truth from error (1 John 4:6) and right from wrong.

A fundamental principle of reason is that it should give sufficient grounds for belief. An unjustified belief is just that-- unjustified.

Socrates taught, "*The unexamined life is not worth living.*" He surely would have been willing to add that the unexamined belief is not worth believing. Therefore, it is incumbent upon Christians to give a reason for their hope. This is part of the great command to love God with all our mind, as well as our heart and soul (Matthew 22:36-37).

**"Apologetics... the world needs it"**

We give defense and reasons  
for Christianity through apologetics.

We seek to be faithful in our apologetics for three reasons

... because God Commands It!

... Reason Demands It!

... and The World Needs It!

People rightly refuse to believe without evidence. Since God created humans as rational beings, he expects them to live rationally, to look before they leap. This does not mean there is no room for faith. But, God wants us to take a step of faith in the light of the evidence, rather than a leap into the dark.

Evidence of truth should precede faith.

No rational person steps in a elevator without some reason to believe it will hold him up.

No reasonable person gets on an airplane that is missing part of one wing and smells of smoke in the cabin.

**The rational 'seeker' wants evidence that God exists before he places his faith in Him.**

**They also want evidence that Jesus is the Son of God before they place their trust in him.**

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## Preface

# Apologetics 101

### A Reasonable Foundation For Biblical Faith

It was the greek philosopher, Socrates (5c. B.C), who was quoted as saying that... *“the unexamined life is not worth living,”* apparently admonishing his students that serious ‘soul searching’ was to be an intricate part of human existence. Our updated proposal encourages a similar pursuit in that we should pursue an *‘examined life that is worth living’*.

**We too should be 'thinking' people,  
with a willingness to explore the foundations  
of what we claim to believe.**

**To this endeavor we begin our journey  
in building a foundation of unshakeable faith.**

#### Hebrews 11:6

*And without faith it is impossible to please God,  
because anyone who comes to him  
**must believe that he exists** and that he rewards those  
who earnestly seek him.*

Within the pages of this book we will explore the multitude of ‘sufficient evidences’ for the existence of God and rationality of Biblical faith.

Our proposal will be that there are three core areas of evidential “signs” discovered within...

1. The observable **creation** and through the basic laws of applied science,

2. Mankind's universal sense of **conscience** (as revealed in our applied moral/ethical reasoning) and,
3. The verifiable historical proofs related to the unique life, death, and resurrection of **Christ**.

It is from this three-fold foundation that we begin our journey as we explore the rational evidences for both the existence of God, as well as the meaning and purpose our life itself.

### **Genesis 1:1**

*In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.*

### **Psalm 19:1-3**

*The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display knowledge.  
There is no speech or language  
where their voice is not heard.*

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**Part One**  
**"The Existence of God"**  
**Exploring The Laws and Evidences**  
**Observed In The Created Order**

**The Anthropic Principle**

In the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century a whole new area of scientific endeavor was developed. The principles of Anthropic's are stated in various facts regarding how our planet Earth gives immense evidence of being specifically designed to support human life and that the universal laws of science are indicators of purpose and intelligence. This 'master plan' for earth and humankind leads to the logical conclusion of a masterful Creator, who is identified as God, the One who is behind it all.

**Robert Jastrow**, Agnostic astronomer, author of *"God and the Astronomers"...*

"If the universe had not been made with the most exacting precision we could never have come into existence. It is my view that these circumstances indicate the universe was created for man to live in."

*Anthropic* means "relating to human beings or their existence." *Principle* means "law." The Anthropic Principle is observed through the necessary laws in nature for the perpetuation of human existence. It is well known that our presence in this universe depends on numerous cosmological constants and parameters whose numerical

values must fall within a very narrow range. If even a single variable were off, even slightly, we would not experience viability. The extreme improbability that these many variables would align so auspiciously in our favor merely by chance has led many scientists and philosophers to propose that all this came about by design. It is this Designer-God who has providentially engineered the universe to suit our specific needs. This is the Anthropic Principle: that the universe appears to have been fine-tuned for our existence.

Consider protons, for example. Protons are the positively charged subatomic particles which (along with neutrons) form the nucleus of an atom (around which negatively charged electrons orbit). Whether by providence or fortuitous luck (depending on your perspective), protons just happen to be 1,836 times larger than electrons. If they were a little bigger or a little smaller, we would not be able to exist (because atoms could not form the molecules we require). So how did protons end up being 1,836 times larger than electrons? Why not 100 times larger or 100,000 times? Why not smaller? Of all the possible variables, how did protons end up being just the right size? Was it luck or contrivance? Or how is it that protons carry a positive electrical charge equal to that of the negatively charged electrons? If protons did not balance electrons and vice versa, we would not exist. They are not comparable in size, yet they are perfectly balanced. Did

nature just stumble upon such a propitious relationship, or did God ordain it for our sakes?

## **Examples of the Anthropic Principle Specific to Earth:**

- A.) The earth's rotation cycle and axis tilt along with,**
- B.) The earth's water/land mass ratio.**

Both of these factors allow for the necessary balance of within our atmosphere, producing our seasons and effective climate variation necessary for life to exist.

**The earth's magnetic field.** This 'field' is vital to many aspects of life on earth (primarily because of its relationship with how we use electricity to produce and harness electrical currents). Also, it helps to screen out the most harmful types of cosmic radiation and by deflecting the stream of charged particles (solar wind) that would destroy of ozone layer (which protects from harmful ultraviolet radiation).

**The size/type of our sun and... and it's precise distance from earth.** At 93,000,000 miles away earth is within a specific 'inhabitable zone' within our solar system. Just a little closer or farther in distance and no life could exist. If our sun were much redder, on the one hand, or bluer, on the other, photosynthesis would be impeded. Photosynthesis is a natural biochemical process crucial to life on Earth.

**The size of our moon, its specific distance from, and gravitational relationship with the earth.** This allows for the tidal changes that are required to cleanse our atmosphere (which allows for life to exist).

**The unique properties of water.** Every known life form depends on water. Thankfully, unlike every other substance known to man, water's solid form (ice) is less dense than its liquid form. This causes ice to float. If ice did not float, our planet would experience runaway freezing. Other important properties of water include its solvency, cohesiveness, adhesiveness and other thermal properties.

**Earth's atmosphere.** If there were too much of just one of the many gases which make up our atmosphere, our planet would suffer a runaway greenhouse effect. On the other hand, if there were not enough of these gases, life on this planet would be devastated by cosmic radiation.

**Earth's reflectivity or "albedo".** This is a total amount of light reflected off the planet versus the total amount of light absorbed. If Earth's albedo were much greater than it is now, we would experience runaway freezing. If it were much less than it is, we would experience a runaway greenhouse effect.

**Earth's place in the solar system.** If we were much further from the sun, our planet's water would freeze. If we were much closer, it would boil. This is just one of

numerous examples of how our privileged place in the solar system allows for life on Earth.

**The precise balance of atmospheric gases** (Nitrogen – 78%; Oxygen – 21%; Argon – 0.93%; Carbon dioxide – 0.038%). This symmetry makes life possible here on earth.

**The protective ozone layer of the earth.** The ozone belt shields and filters the Earth from excessive ultraviolet (UV) radiation generated by the sun. Scientists predict that a diminished or depleted ozone layer could lead to increased health problems for humans, such as skin cancer, cataracts, and weakened immune systems. Increased UV can also lead to reduced crop yields and disruption of aquatic ecosystems, including the marine food chain. While beneficial in the stratosphere, near ground level it is a pollutant that helps form photochemical smog and acid rain.

**The beneficial effect of the planet Jupiter.** Our large gas giant neighbor acts as a protective shield for planet earth from asteroids and comets.

**Our solar system's place in the galaxy.** If our solar system were too close to the center of our galaxy, or to any of the spiral arms at its edge, or any cluster of stars, for that matter, our planet would be devastated by cosmic radiation.

The above list is by no means exhaustive. It is just a small sample of the many factors which must be just right in order for life to exist on Earth. We are very fortunate to live on a privileged planet, in a privileged solar system, in a privileged galaxy... in a privileged universe.

**Francis Crick**, Biochemist and spiritual skeptic, shared the Nobel Prize for discovering the molecular structure of DNA...

“An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense, the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have had to have been satisfied to get it going.”

The question for us now is, with so many universal constants and cosmological parameters defining our universe, and with so many possible variables for each one, how did they all just happen to fall within the extremely narrow range of values and parameters required for our existence? The general consensus is that we are either here by fortuitous luck against tremendous odds, or by the purposeful design of an Intelligent Agent.

Some proponents of the ‘here-by-chance perspective’ have sought to level the odds against fortuitous luck by hypothesizing a scenario whereby our universe is just one among many in what has come to be termed the

“multiverse theory.” This gives nature many more chances to “get it right,” bringing the odds against its success down significantly.

Imagine innumerable lifeless universes in which one or more of the necessary variables fail to fall within the specific range of values required for life, as we know it, to exist. The idea is that nature would eventually ‘get it right’, and apparently has done so as evidenced by the fact that we exist (or so the argument goes). We are the lucky ones whose universe stumbled upon the right combination of cosmological values and constants. The Anthropic Principle is often cited as empirical grounds for the otherwise mathematically hypothetical multiverse... i.e., these principles had to come about somewhere, right?

### **A more reasonable theory...**

Intelligent Design theorists hail the Anthropic Principle as further evidence in support of their thesis that life was engineered by a transcendent Mastermind. Not only do biological systems bear the hallmarks of design (e.g., the ‘signature’ information content of DNA, along with specified complexity, irreducible complexity, etc.), but the universe which supports and provides a context for life appears to have been designed as a means to that end.

(The online data resources of **GotQuestions.org** has provided some of the references for the above regarding the ‘fine-tuning’ factors of the universe.)

The 'mystery' of the universe captures both the mind and imagination of the unbiased observer. It is through the rigors of the scientific endeavor that man is drawn into the awe of the One who set in motion the magnificent set of parameters that allow for our existence. In reflection upon this deep sense of purpose, we each curiously search out a destiny which embraces both a substantial hope and meaning to life itself.

Unfortunately, many in our world today subjectively reason that everything, including people, is merely an accident of what is called 'nature'. Contrary to this pessimistic philosophy of life, the heart of observational science actually leads us to see that we truly are significant in the vastness of all creation.

**Paul Davies**, Astrophysicist and an internationally recognized author...

“There is for me powerful evidence that there is something going on behind it all.... it seems as though somebody has fine-tuned nature's numbers to make the universe... the impression of design is overwhelming.”

**John Polkinghorne**, Theoretical Physicist...

“When you realize that the laws of nature must be incredibly finely tuned to produce the universe we see, that conspires to plant the idea that the universe did not just happen, but that there must be a purpose behind it.”



**Allan Sandage**, Astronomer/Cosmologist;  
Crafoord Prize awardee...

“It was my science that drove me to the conclusion that the world is much more complicated than can be explained by science, it is only through the supernatural that I can understand the mystery of existence.”

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### **Summary:**

The fine-tuning argument for life in the universe presents a reasonable case for the existence of God.

Here are just three of these most elemental scientific laws that govern space, matter, and time for consideration:

**1. The Law of Gravity:** If Gravity was not in the exact relationship with matter there would be no stars, no planets, no life.

**2. The Law of Electromagnetic Force:** If the EMF was not in the exact relationship with matter, there would be no atoms, no chemical bonding, no light, and no life.

**3. The Law of Strong Nuclear Force:** If the SNF was not in the exact relationship with matter, there would be no atoms, thus no life.

The evidence of these scientific laws and principles, which are of absolute necessity for our universe to exist, leads to a powerful and rational conclusion... a Creator/Designer is behind it all.

## **Some final thoughts to ponder...**

**Fred Hoyle**, Astronomer; awarded the Noble Prize for his scientific research...

“A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature. The numbers one calculates from the facts seem to me so overwhelming as to put this conclusion almost beyond question.”

**Dr. Walter Bradley**, Professor Emeritus, Mechanical Engineering at Texas A & M University...

“Discoveries of the last half of the 20th century have brought the scientific community to the realization that our universe and our planet in the universe are so remarkably unique that it is almost impossible to imagine how this could have happened accidentally, causing many agnostic scientists to concede that indeed some intelligent creative force may be required to account for it.”

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## The Law of Biogenesis:

The scientific principle known as the “Law of Biogenesis” provides proof that organic (self replicating) life can only come from prior life forms (‘life begets life’).

### Biogenesis: Scientifically Defined

Spontaneous generation (the emergence of life from nonliving matter) has never been observed. All observations have shown that life comes only from life. This has been observed so consistently it is called *the law of biogenesis*. The theory of evolution directly opposes and conflicts with this scientific law when claiming that life came from nonliving matter through natural processes.

#### Center for Scientific Creation...

“Evolutionary scientists reluctantly accept the law of biogenesis. However, some say that future studies may show how life could come from lifeless matter, despite virtually impossible odds. Others say that their theory of evolution doesn’t begin until the first life *somehow* arose. Still others say the first life was created, then evolution occurred. All evolutionists recognize that, based on scientific observations, *life comes only from life.*”

The unscientific and antiquated ‘theory’ of **spontaneous generation** (i.e., life arriving from from non-life) has been totally discredited in our modern age.

Laws of Statistical Probability related to the emergence of life have concluded, 'beyond a reasonable doubt' that life, as we know it, could never have evolved by time and chance (random processes).

**Dr. George Wald**, Harvard University biochemist, awarded the Nobel Prize in science...

"One has only to contemplate the magnitude of this task to concede that the spontaneous generation of a living organism is impossible. Yet here we are -- as a result, I believe, of spontaneous generation. When it comes to the origin of life on this earth, there are only two possibilities: creation or spontaneous generation (evolution). There is no third way. Spontaneous generation was disproved 100 years ago, but that leads us only to one other conclusion: that of supernatural creation. We cannot accept that on philosophical grounds (personal reasons); therefore we choose to believe the impossible: that life arose spontaneously by chance."

The following is a summary of the Law of Biogenesis argument for the supernatural origin of life. This first syllogism presents a proactive axiom regarding the premise of special creation, the second a critical analysis of evolutionary doctrine.

## **Supportive Special Creation Premise**

1. Law of Biogenesis: 'Living cells come from pre-existing living cells.'
2. Living cells have never been observed to come from lifeless molecules.
3. All attempts to create life in the laboratory have failed.
4. Therefore, initial living cells must have originated supernaturally.

## **Non-supportive Evolution Premise**

1. Evolution proposes that life originated by means of the natural properties of molecules.
2. Evolutionary abiogenesis contradicts known scientific law.
3. Models that contradict scientific laws are unscientific.
4. Therefore, evolutionary abiogenesis as a model of origins is unscientific.

Regardless of any speculation and conjecture, the **evidence** that science has found consistently is clear. In nature, life comes only from life of its own kind.

All scientific evidence confirms this well-established principle of science. There are no known exceptions. Thus, biogenesis is a law. **Abiogenesis is a scientific impossibility.**

Perhaps there is no more convincing evidence that abiogenesis has been proven to be scientifically D.O.A. than the honest admittance of those evolutionist's who merely speak the truth of their own dilemma:

**Martin Moe**, prominent marine biologist and evolutionist...

“A century of sensational discoveries in the biological sciences has taught us that life arises only from life”

**George G. Simpson**, evolutionist and perhaps the most influential paleontologist of the 20<sup>th</sup> century...

“There is no serious doubt that biogenesis is **the rule**, that life comes only from other life, that a cell, the unit of life, is **always** and **exclusively** the product or offspring of another cell”

***“Biology: A Search for Order in Complexity,”***

Moore and Slusher: 1974, p. 74...

“Historically the point of view that **life comes only from life** has been so well established through the facts revealed by experiment that it is called the *Law of Biogenesis*”

**J.D. Bernal**, evolutionist/prominent molecular biologist...

“Life could not have spontaneously generated, but I refuse to accept the only alternative. The arguments must be bent to explain everything without the need of that alternative.”

**Quoted from the ApologeticPress.org web site...**

“Such a rationale (if it can be deemed rationale at all) is hardly scientific. What does the scientific evidence indicate about the origin of life? Life creates life. The evolutionists themselves begrudgingly admit this, and yet refuse to accept its implications. If atheistic evolution is true, abiogenesis must be true. Belief in abiogenesis is a stubborn refusal to accept the scientific evidence, choosing in turn to give credence to evolutionary superstition, myths, and fables.”

**Summary:**

**Regarding the Law of Biogenesis**

The only logical and reasonable conclusion (regarding the origination of life) is that a Creator God is responsible.

This conclusion can be framed by the following syllogism:

1. Something brought the universe into existence.
2. This being must be non-contingent (i.e., not dependent upon) in relation to the universe.
3. This being must be prior to and outside the space/time/matter continuum.
4. Therefore, the evidence concludes that an eternal, powerful intelligence must have been the originator (Creator) of all life forms... that being is commonly called God.

## **The Cosmological Argument:**

A brief examination of cosmological principles  
and the origin of the universe

This 'argument', which is a rational reasoning of the evidence, builds upon the two previous rationales (i.e., anthropic principle and law of biogenesis). It simply proposes that the universe had a beginning (therefore is limited and not eternal) and that its beginning was caused by something beyond the known universe (which is not contingent upon any aspect within this universe).

### **The Cosmological Argument**

can be stated in two distinct but related ways:

#### **Proof #1:**

**Regarding the initial cause for time, space, and matter  
(Primary Contingency):**

1. Everything that begins to exist, has a cause.
2. The universe began to exist.
3. Therefore, the universe has a cause.

This primary uncaused 'first cause' must be, of necessity, non-contingent and transcend the universe of time, space and matter.

So why does the universe exist instead of just nothing? Where did it come from? There must have been a 'cause' which brought the universe into being. And from the very nature of the case, this 'cause' must necessarily be an



uncaused, changeless, timeless, and immaterial being which brought forth the known universe.

- This being must be uncaused because there cannot be an infinite regress of causes-- that is to say, there cannot logically be a series of cause and effects extending backwards in time to infinity past.
- This being must be timeless and therefore changeless, existing prior to the universe.
- This 'First Cause' being must transcend space as well, therefore being immaterial, and not contingent upon anything other than itself.

### **Proof #2:**

#### **Regarding the sustaining cause for existence (Preserving Contingency):**

1. Finite, changing things exist.
2. Every finite, changing thing must be caused by something.
3. There can not be an infinite regress of causes.
4. Therefore, there must be a primal uncaused cause of every finite, changing thing that exists.

#### **Some intellectual considerations...**

"Nothing" by definition cannot do anything.

We never experience something coming from nothing.

Every instance of change requires a cause (all of our experience verifies this) and something coming from nothing would in fact be an instance of change.

There cannot be an actual infinite amount of "quantitative" events. An actual eternal universe would have reached

maximum entropy eons ago. The 'big bang' (regardless of how it is understood or defined) shows that the universe ultimately began to exist sometime in the finite past

- The cause of the universe would have to be a sentient (conscious and living) being... possessing volitional capacity.
- The 'information' observed (with overwhelming order, complexity and design characteristics) from the facts of our known universe indicate both intentionality and purpose.
- These factors logically lead to the conclusion that the actual 'cause' of time, space, matter and energy would ultimately have to be an eternal state of being.

**Allan Sandage**, Astronomer; cosmologist...

"I find it quite improbable that such order came out of chaos. There has to be some organizing principle. God to me is a mystery but is the explanation for the miracle of existence, why there is something instead of nothing." Stephen Hawking adds, "Why does the universe go to all the bother of existing?"

The weight of the evidence is clearly revealing that life was specially and uniquely created by a 'supreme intelligence.' This Creator-architect and 'prime mover' of the observed creation has commonly been understood, throughout known human history, and among all people in our world, to be "God".

# **The Teleological Argument**

A brief examination of the design principles  
observed throughout creation

## **Primary Premise: Version One**

**This argument reasons from design  
to an Intelligent Designer:**

1. All designs imply a designer.
2. There is great design in the universe.
3. Therefore, there must be a 'Great Designer' of the universe.

**George Ellis**, Astrophysicist and collaborator on the  
Hawking-Penrose Singularity Theorems...

A. Amazing fine tuning occurs in the laws that make  
this [complexity] possible. Realization of the  
complexity of what is accomplished makes it very  
difficult not to use the word 'miraculous' without  
taking a stand as to the ontological status of the word.

B. God is the creator and sustainer of the universe  
and of humankind, transcending the universe but  
immanent in it;

C. God's nature embodies justice and holiness,  
but is also a personal and loving God who cares  
for each creature (so the name "father" is indeed  
appropriate);

D. God's nature is revealed most perfectly in the  
life and teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, as  
recorded in the New Testament of the Bible, who

was sent by God to reveal the divine nature,  
summarized in "God is Love;"

E. God has an active presence in the world that  
still touches the lives of the faithful today.

**Primary Premise: Version Two**  
**This argument reasons from fine-tuning**  
**to an intelligent Designer:**

1. The fine-tuning of the universe is due to either physical necessity, chance, or design.
2. It is not due to physical necessity or chance.
3. Therefore, it is due to design (intimating a 'Great Designer' of the universe).

**Some intellectual considerations...**

The more complex something is, the more likely it is a product of design. Biological complexity is more complex than any man-made design or technology. Therefore, biological complexity is a product of design. To deny it would be tantamount to saying the more complex something is, the less it requires an intelligence, which would go against our everyday reasoning and basic commonsense.

Note: The simplest possible cell would be immensely more complex than our most advanced super computer... and nobody would believe that such a computer designed and built itself (i.e., was 'self-created').

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## **A Case For A Creator/Designer: The Fine-Tuning the Universe for Life**

For physical life to be possible in the universe, a multitude of extremely precise characteristics must take within a very specific narrow set of values or parameters, thus indication of divine “fine-tuning” compelling.

Here are just a few of the many ‘fine-tuning’ elements necessary for the universe, and life itself, to exist:

1. Strong nuclear force constant
2. Weak nuclear force constant
3. Gravitational force constant
4. Electromagnetic force constant
5. Ratio of electromagnetic force constant to gravitational force constant
6. Ratio of proton to electron mass
7. Ratio of number of protons to number of electrons
8. Ratio of proton to electron charge
9. Expansion rate of the universe
10. Mass density of the universe

In all living beings and nature itself, as well as throughout the known universe there is immense and amazing evidence of both design and complexity (this study is called ‘Teleology’). The compelling and logical implication is that there is a “grand designer” of creation.

**Charles Darwin**, “On The Origin of Species”, Ch. 6...  
“To suppose that the eye with all its inimitable contrivances for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light,

and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest degree.”

Note: Though Charles Darwin pronounced his perceived "absurdity" of the eye developing through progressive mutations, he still maintained faith in the macro-evolutionary ideology, believing it must have occur in some distant past. This gives persuasive evidence of a case where science and reason was overcome by one's 'blind' faith and preconceptions.

**Thomas Aquinas**, influential philosopher and theologian in the tradition of scholasticism...

“Something causes in all other things their being, their goodness, perfections... and this is what we call God.”

**Isaac Newton**, physicist and mathematician...

“Rational reflection on the orderliness of nature is convincing (evidence) that there must be a: ‘being, incorporeal, living, intelligent, omnipresent.’”

**Richard Swinburne**, Emeritus Professor of Philosophy at the University of Oxford...

“Regularities of co-presence and succession‘ that he had seen in nature, e.g. where all parts of plants combine to enable the plant to function and reproduce itself, seem to suggest that it is not all a cosmic accident.”

## **The Issue of Mutations:** **The proposed Darwinian mechanism to explain the 'molecules-to-man' macro-evolutionary theory.**

Perhaps a proper definition will help to clarify this issue of just what is meant by 'mutations':

**Dr. John Sanford**, PhD, Cornell University  
geneticist and inventor of the 'Gene Gun'...

- Mutations are word-processing errors in the cell's instruction manual.
- Mutations systematically destroy genetic information—even as word processing errors destroy written information.
- While there are some 'potentially' rare beneficial mutations (even as there are rare beneficial misspellings), bad mutations outnumber them—perhaps by a million to one.
- So even allowing for beneficial mutations, the net effect of mutation is overwhelmingly deleterious.
- The more the mutations, the less the information.  
This is fundamental to the mutation process.'

### **Update: A Historical Perspective**

Since the formative work of Charles Darwin, "On the Origin of Species" in 1859, mutations have come to be understood as the proposed scientific means or mechanism allowing for the transversing of species over supposed long ages of time (through 'natural selection').

### **An important consideration...**

Darwin's primary instrument used in his research was his achromatic microscope, made by James Smith in 1846. It allowed Darwin to achieve a maximum magnification of about 1300x. The resolution and image quality at this magnification would have been quite poor, by today's understanding. From the measurements he made it can be estimated that Darwin carried out most of his high-power work at magnifications up to about 850x.

Again, by contemporary standards, what Charles Darwin had available to do his research would be both crude and archaic. Our modern scientific knowledge related to the observed issues of complexity and design in all life, especially pertaining to the human cell, was simply unknowable in the Darwin's time.

Since the invention of the Electron Microscope in 1933 a whole new 'unseen' world has been revealed to mankind, much of which Darwin could not have even imagined (as related to the enormous complexity found in the cell).

Beginning with the Transmission Electron Microscope (TEM)... to the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM)... to the Reflection Electron Microscope (REM)... and now to the Scanning Transmission Electron Microscope (STEM), we now have the ability to see the cell's inner workings with its interwoven complexity and design at the sub-atomic level, with a 10,000,000x magnification!



These scientific advancements have completely demolished all the naive and immature conceptions proposed by Darwin and those of his age.

### **Conclusion Regarding Mutations:**

Our competence to understand the inner working of the human cell, as well as the almost incomprehensible co-dependent factors necessary for life to exist, provide a distinct vantage point regarding mutations. The fact that mutations can not (and never will) provide any new information into the genetic 'pool' leads conclusively to the understanding that macro-evolution is an erroneous theory, lacking explanatory meaning and scope regarding the origins of life.

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# **The Entropy Principle**

## **A brief examination of the Second Law of Thermodynamics**

The “Law of Entropy”, is one of the most fundamental laws of science. This law reveals that the universe is in the process of decay and is ‘running down’.

### **The Law of Entropy can be summarized by the following syllogism:**

1. The universe is in the constant process of decay and is ‘running down’.
2. The universe therefore is not eternal and must have had a beginning.
3. Therefore, the universe must have been brought into existence by such a ‘being’ who is not subject to entropy (decay) and who exists outside time itself.

The obvious implication is that the universe had a beginning point in time (a singularity or solo event), intimating a Creator (who does not decay or degenerate) who initiated the ‘creation event’ and rests outside of the boundaries of time, space and matter.

**Albert Einstein**, “Thermodynamics in Einstein's Universe”, pg.157 (1967), p. 509...

“A law is more impressive the greater the simplicity of its premises, the more different are the kinds of things it relates, and the more extended its range

of applicability. Therefore, the deep impression which classical thermodynamics made on me. It is the only physical theory of universal content, which I am convinced, that within the framework of applicability of its basic concepts will never be overthrown.”

The Bible supports the universal entropy conclusion.

**Psalm 102:25-26**

*In the beginning  
you laid the foundations of the earth,  
and the heavens are the work of your hands.  
They will perish, but you remain;  
they will all wear out like a garment.  
Like clothing you will change them  
and they will be discarded.*

**Sir Arthur Eddington**, Gifford Lectures (1927),  
The Nature of the Physical World (1928), pg. 74...  
“If your theory is found to be against the second  
law of thermodynamics I can give you no hope;  
there is nothing for it but to collapse in deepest  
humiliation.”

**Isaiah 51:6**

*Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
And look on the earth beneath.  
For the heavens will vanish away like smoke,  
The earth will grow old like a garment,*

*And those who dwell in it will die in like manner;  
But My salvation will be forever,  
And My righteousness will not be abolished.*

The second law of thermodynamics is, without a doubt, one of the most perfect laws in physics. Any *reproducible* violation of it, however small, would bring the discoverer great riches as well as a trip to Stockholm...

**Ivan P. Bazarov**, awarded the Nobel Prize for his research in Thermodynamics...

“Not even Maxwell’s laws of electricity or Newton’s law of gravitation are so sacrosanct, for each has measurable corrections coming from quantum effects or general relativity. The law has caught the attention of poets and philosophers and has been called the greatest scientific achievement of the nineteenth century.”

A principled and honest assessment regarding how the Law of Entropy can be reconciled with the much touted Darwinian evolutionary ‘theory’ is essential to the issue of origins. Here are two considerations one should weigh in assessing this belief system:

1. Evolution requires a definitive ‘upward’ progression in order to be rationally sustainable, but the Law of Entropy unquestionably will not allow for such.

2. Modern science has thoroughly examined this law of entropy. The obvious implication is that entropy is both counterintuitive and and contrary (therefore non-supportive) to the basic tenets of skeptical atheism.

### **Something to consider...**

A common sense appraisal of where we stand today:

**Phillip E. Johnson**, “How to Sink a Battleship: A Call to Separate Materialist Philosophy From Empirical Science”...

“These are exciting times. When I finished the Epilogue to *Darwin on Trial* in 1993, I compared evolutionary naturalism to a great battleship afloat on the Ocean of Reality. The ship's sides are heavily armored with philosophical and legal barriers to criticism, and its decks are stacked with 16-inch rhetorical guns to intimidate would-be attackers. In appearance, it is as impregnable as the Soviet Union seemed a few years ago. But the ship has sprung a metaphysical leak, and that leak widens as more and more people understand it and draw attention to the conflict between empirical science and materialist philosophy. The more perceptive of the ship's officers know that the ship is doomed if the leak cannot be plugged. The struggle to save the ship will go on for a while, and meanwhile there will even be academic wine-and-cheese parties on the deck. In the end, the ship's great firepower and ponderous armor will only help drag it to the bottom. Reality will win.”

## **Entropy: A quick summary**

The Second Law can be stated in many different ways...

**Jonathan Sarfati**, [creation.com/the-second-law-of-thermodynamics-answers-to-critics...](http://creation.com/the-second-law-of-thermodynamics-answers-to-critics...)

1. That the *entropy* of the universe tends towards a maximum
  2. Usable energy is running out
  3. Information tends to get scrambled
  4. Order tends towards disorder
  5. A random jumble won't organize itself
-

**Part Two**  
**"The Existence of God"**  
**An appeal to mankind's conscience**  
**and moral reasoning observed in history**

**The Moral Argument:**

The conscience and moral predisposition of mankind can be understood to be the result of a primal First 'Cause'... which itself must therefore be a moral being (in addition to possessing both supreme power and intelligence):

**The Moral Argument - Version 1**

1. All men are conscious of an objective moral law.
2. Moral laws imply a moral Lawgiver.
3. Therefore, there must be a supreme moral Lawgiver.

**The Moral Argument - Version 2**

1. Every law has a lawgiver.
2. There is an objective moral law.
3. Therefore, there is an objective moral lawgiver.

Each person, regardless of cultural background, has an inner sense or awareness in their heart of good and evil, right and wrong thought/behavior. The Bible gives the internal justification and source (i.e., conscience) for such intuition, and the reason why this has been universal throughout mankind's history.

**Romans 2:15**

*Who show the work of the law written in their hearts,  
their conscience also bearing witness, and between  
themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them.*

The prevalent belief of many in our secular, 'post-modern' culture is that moral absolutes are not only impractical to daily life, but relics of a bygone era.

This would appear to be in direct conflict with common moral sensibilities that "act" within, as if certain behaviors are immoral. For example rarely is there such a callous response in the negative when people are asked "is rape wrong" or is it "wrong to torture or sacrifice babies?"

Perhaps the conscience of man is still 'alive' and sensitive to such innate internal convictions? Great thinkers of the nations of men throughout the centuries have always sought to make sense of their own moral compass and longing for justice...

**C.S. Lewis**, from "Mere Christianity"...

"My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I gotten this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust? If the whole show was bad and senseless from A to Z, so to speak, why did I, who was supposed to be part of the show, find myself in such violent reaction against it? A man feels wet when he falls into water, because man is not a water animal: a fish would not feel wet. Of course I could have given up my idea of justice by saying it was nothing but a private idea of my own. But if I did that, then my argument against God



collapsed too — for the argument depended on saying that the world was really unjust, not simply that it did not happen to please my private fancies. Thus in the very act of trying to prove that God did not exist — in other words, that the whole of reality was senseless I found I was forced to assume that one part of reality — namely my idea of justice — was full of sense. Consequently, atheism turns out to be too simple. If the whole universe has no meaning, we should never have found out that it has no meaning: just as, if there were no light in the universe and therefore no creatures with eyes, we should never know it was dark. Dark would be without meaning.”

The problem of evil and suffering has been a stumbling block for many throughout the centuries but, the question remains... is God the one responsible for mankind's dire and desperate predicament, or may there be substantial reasoning to think that there are better explanations related to this reality of evil?

**Paul Copan**, PhD, Philosopher...

“John Rist is right; there is "widely admitted to be a crisis in contemporary Western debate about ethical foundations." It seems that, ultimately, the crisis is the result of approaching ethics without reference to God. When morality is severed from its theological roots, secular ethics cannot sustain itself - it withers and dies.”

A candid appraisal of any attempt to seek a pragmatic ethic or morality without a primal universal ground for right or wrong will lead both the individual and society to the void called 'dead end'. In other words, without a Creator God, there can exist no absolute and universal moral ground for beliefs that apply to all men, at all times.

### **The Moral Argument - Version 3**

1. If God does not exist, 'objective' moral values and duties do not exist.
2. Objective moral values do exist.
3. Therefore, God exists.

\*Objective means independent of subjective human opinion.

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### **A Concluding Concern:**

The following quote tells of what life is like when people abandon moral absolutes, thus silencing the conscience:

**Richard Dawkins**, outspoken anti-theist and author of infamous book, "The God Delusion"...

"In a universe of electrons and selfish genes, blind physical forces and genetic replication... Some people are going to get hurt, other people are going to get lucky and you won't find any rhyme or reason in it, nor any justice. The universe that we observe has precisely the properties we should expect if there is at bottom no design, no purpose, no evil, no good; nothing but pitiless indifference."

# **The Principle of Universal Spirituality**

Mankind universally exhibits a 'natural' intuition regarding the presence of the Creator. The personal application of our spiritual nature emerges from the observed truth of the creation all about us. Logically, a common source for this awareness must exist... the presence of the living God.

Unfortunately, we also have the seeming innate ability to both ignore and suppress this gift of spiritual intuition. Many simply do not give attention to the wonder all about us, as well as within each and every soul... this being the sad assessment of our contemporary society.

**Martin Luther King Jr.**, Civil Rights leader...

“Rarely do we find men who willingly engage in hard, solid thinking. There is an almost universal quest for easy answers and half-baked solutions. Nothing pains some people more than having to think.”

## **Ecclesiastes 3:11**

*He has made everything beautiful in its time.*

*Also He has put eternity in their hearts,  
except that no one can find out the work  
that God does from beginning to end.*

**C. S Lewis**, Theologian, novelist, apologist...

“You never know how much you really believe anything until its truth or falsehood become a matter of life and death to you.”

Again, throughout recorded history, it is evidential and intrinsic for mankind to be “religious” or spiritually seeking, which is directly related to our knowledge of God as the Creator and the giver of all life.

**Acts 17:22-24**

*Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus  
and said: "Men of Athens!*

*I see that in every way you are very religious.*

*For as I walked around and looked carefully  
at your objects of worship,*

*I even found an altar with this inscription:*

*to an unknown god.*

*Now what you worship as something unknown*

*I am going to proclaim to you.*

*The God who made the world and everything in it*

*is the Lord of heaven and earth*

*and does not live in temples built by hands.*

For multitudes in our world today, there is a keen awareness of this “unknown God”... they ‘hear’ the knocking at the door, but so many refuse to take the time and effort to go and open it.

Throughout the ages, those of brilliant and intellectual genius, as well as as the common man, have made concerted effort to ponder and muse this ‘voice’ of creation... with many becoming supremely drawn to such a Being, while others are adamantly offended by such a concept and the related implications of personal accountability. Perhaps this aversion is in anticipation of

an ultimate encounter where each will face veracious justice for the beliefs and actions live out in this life?

**Psalm 19:1-4**

*The heavens declare the glory of God;  
the skies proclaim the work of his hands.  
Day after day they pour forth speech;  
night after night they display knowledge.  
There is no speech or language  
where their voice is not heard.  
Their voice goes out into all the earth,  
their words to the ends of the world.*

Often, the populace chooses the ‘broad road’ that is well travelled. They simply submit themselves to the temptation to ‘coast’ in life, sedating their conscience, becoming preoccupied with the mundane, rather taking the thoughtful path and actually giving heed to that precious “still small voice” from within to think!

Before they realize it, they will have completed their journey here on earth. At that time revelational truth will suddenly encompass all of their being, along with a full comprehension of whose “voice” was speaking to them.

**Romans 1:20**

*For since the creation of the world His attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse.*

# **A Brief Defense For Biblical Christianity**

A three-fold framework for understanding  
the nature of ultimate reality.

**Reality Premise #1:  
Christianity provides a truthful and  
realistic psychology  
in which to explain human nature and behavior.**

- The Christian faith presents the human condition  
"as is," in true reality, experienced by all people.
- Many want to believe that our problems are rooted in ignorance, poverty and bad government.
  - But Jesus, as well as all of scripture, pointed to the 'core' issue of our problems, the sin nature in each one of our hearts.

## **Matthew 15:19-20**

*For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery,  
sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.*

*These are what make a man 'unclean';  
but eating with unwashed hands  
does not make him 'unclean.'*

As we examine the panorama of our modern world we can witness the fractures our rebellion and sin nature everywhere... even within the core of our own being.

## **2 Timothy 3:1-5**

*But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.*

*People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money,  
boastful, proud, abusive,  
disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy,  
without love, unforgiving, slanderous,  
without self-control, brutal,  
not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited,  
lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God--  
having a form of godliness but denying its power.*

We are each challenged to confront our inherent “sin nature”, and its corresponding self-defeating behaviors. As we recognize that the war within can only be overcome through the Spirit of God, we then come to terms with surrendering our life to the one who gives life and victory.

### **Galatians 5:16-21**

*But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law.  
The acts of the sinful nature are obvious:  
sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery;  
idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy,  
fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions,  
factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like.  
I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this  
will not inherit the kingdom of God.*

It is a healthy reminder that we all have been subjected to the curse of this fallen nature, each of us victim of sin, but with potential victory in Christ.

## **Ephesians 2:1-4**

*As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,  
in which you used to live  
when you followed the ways of this world  
and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air,  
the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.  
All of us also lived among them at one time,  
gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature  
and following its desires and thoughts.  
Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.  
But because of his great love for us,  
God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ  
even when we were dead in transgressions  
--it is by grace you have been saved.*

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## **Reality Premise #2:**

**Christianity integrates an authentic and practical  
understanding of operational science  
within a holistic life philosophy.**

Authentic scientific inquiry emanates from the thoughts and ideas of a rational philosophy of life. This worldview is rooted in the common experiences of individuals throughout all cultures.

The evidences of creation not only reveal the handiwork of our creator, but also speak of the impossibility of life originating by merely chance and chaos.



Therefore, the quest of mankind to discover a pragmatic philosophy of life that leads to peace, joy, and purpose can only be found in the genuine God who is there.

This truth is revealed throughout His revelation  
discovered in the Bible.

**Psalm 139:13-14, 17-18**

*For you created my inmost being;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;  
your works are wonderful, I know that full well.  
How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
Were I to count them, they would outnumber  
the grains of sand.  
When I awake, I am still with you.*

Any philosophy of life that purposely suppresses and excludes the evidence that points to the reality of the Creator (e.g., naturalism) is without excuse. This intolerance can only be understood as an expression of the stubbornness of the human heart and thus provides further evidence for the core issue of human depravity.

**Romans 1:18-25**

*The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven  
against all the godlessness  
and wickedness of men who suppress the truth  
by their wickedness,  
since what may be known about God is plain to them,  
because God has made it plain to them.*

*For since the creation of the world  
God's invisible qualities--his eternal power  
and divine nature--have been clearly seen,  
being understood from what has been made,  
so that men are without excuse.*

*For although they knew God,  
they neither glorified him as God  
nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile  
and their foolish hearts were darkened.*

*Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools  
and exchanged the glory of the immortal God  
for images made to look like mortal man  
and birds and animals and reptiles.*

*Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires  
of their hearts to sexual impurity  
for the degrading of their bodies with one another.*

*They exchanged the truth of God for a lie,  
and worshiped and served created things  
rather than the Creator-- who is forever praised. Amen.*

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### **Reality Premise #3:**

**Christianity provides the authentic power to transform  
both individual and society through the grace of God:**

Authentic Christianity presents a faith in action that rest,  
not on individual self-will or religious performance or duty,  
but on an inner transformation  
that is totally dependent upon God.

Christianity offers complete forgiveness as a gift from God  
(that can not be earned by good works and religious acts).

**This invitation is absolutely unique  
among the faith systems of our world!**

Only the God found within the scriptures offers the power  
to take any individual, regardless of their past, and  
reshape them, in thought and deed, into a new creation.

**Christianity is complete faith in Christ...  
thus leading to a total life transformation.**

**2 Corinthians 5:17**

*Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;  
the old has gone, the new has come!*

**Christianity is captured in the single word, grace!  
It is the ultimate gift of our Maker.**

**Ephesians 2:8-9**

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith  
--and this not from yourselves,  
it is the gift of God-- not by works,  
so that no one can boast.*

**Christianity provides the “power” to live  
a revolutionary life that truly honor God  
and serves our fellow man.**

**Acts 1:8**

*But you will receive power  
when the Holy Spirit comes on you;  
and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem,  
and in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the ends of the earth.*

**Christianity provides absolute mercy,  
with a full redemption from the sin nature.**

**Titus 3:5**

*He saved us, not because of righteous things  
we had done, but because of his mercy.  
He saved us through the washing of rebirth  
and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

**Christianity provides eternal hope  
for those who would believe.**

**Ephesians 1:18-19**

*I pray also that the eyes of your heart  
may be enlightened in order that  
you may know the hope to which he has called you,  
the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints  
and his incomparably great power for us who believe.  
That power is like the working of his mighty strength.*

**Christianity is the explicit and unmistakable  
expression of the love of God  
for all who are willing to receive.**

**John 1:12; 3:16 (NIV)**

*Yet to all who received him,  
to those who believed in his name,  
he gave the right to become children of God--  
For God so loved the world  
that he gave his one and only Son,  
that whoever believes in him shall not perish  
but have eternal life.*

**Christianity is authenticated, with sufficient evidence,  
giving reasons to believe in the existence  
of the Creator God,  
who has been revealed throughout history,  
as well as through the affairs of men,  
and that His central attribute is that of love.**

**Romans 5:8**

*But God demonstrates his own love for us in this:  
While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*

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## Part Three

# "The Existence of God"

An appeal to the Bible and for the supernatural evidences of historic Christianity

## Biblical Prophecy

(Special Revelation):

**Isaiah 42:9**

*Behold, the former things have come to pass,  
And new things I declare;  
Before they spring forth I tell you of them.*

**Ron J. Bigalke**, Author of "The Importance of Bible Prophecy" ...

"The issues in Bible prophecy are important because they deal with the whole counsel of God's Word and the eschatological hope of the Christian. The world today wants to make sense of the events currently transpiring, and Bible prophecy reveals that the only hope for mankind is to be found in Jesus Christ."

**Isaiah 46:9-10**

*Remember the former things of old,  
For I am God, and there is no other;  
I am God, and there is none like Me,  
Declaring the end from the beginning,  
And from ancient times things that are not yet done,  
Saying, My counsel shall stand,  
And I will do all My pleasure.*

**Dr. Charlie Dyer**, author and professor at MBI...

“God gave prophecy to change our hearts, not to fill our heads with knowledge. God never predicted the future events just to satisfy our curiosity about the future. Every time God announces events that are future, He includes with His predictions practical applications to life. God’s pronouncements about the future carry with them specific advice for the ‘here and now.’”

Of all the sacred texts of the various religions of the world, or prophetic claims of the myriad of self proclaimed prophets throughout human history, only the God of the Bible has provided irrefutable evidence of true and accurate prophecy being fulfilled.

Multitudes of specific prophecies, written hundreds of years in advance, and their fulfillment, give a clear confirmation that the Bible alone is trustworthy and true.

**The Messiah Had Two Specific and Unique Missions**

At his first coming...the ‘Suffering Servant’ of Isaiah 53,  
offering healing and redemption to all mankind  
(also see Isaiah 61:1-3)

**His First mission was completed** (Luke 4:16-21)

**His Second mission... is to be fulfilled when he returns**

(Hebrews 9:28; Revelation 1:7; 17:14; Col. 3:4)

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## **Messiah's First Coming: Prophecy Fulfilled**

The following are just forty of the multitude of Old Testament scriptures that prophetically describe the coming Messiah, all written from 1450 BC (Moses) to 430 BC (Malachi) with their exact fulfillment in the life and ministry of Jesus' as recorded in the New Testament (written between 45 and 95 AD):

**1. The Messiah will be the offspring (descendant) of the woman Eve)...** Genesis 3:15 cf. Galatians 4:4

**2. The Messiah will be a descendant of Abraham, through whom everyone on earth will be blessed...** Genesis 12:3; 18:18 cf. Acts 3:25,26

**3. The Messiah will be a descendant of the tribe of Judah...** Genesis 49:10 cf. Matthew 1:2 and Luke 3:33

**4. The Messiah will be a prophet like Moses (i.e., working miracles in validating his ministry)...**

Deuteronomy 18:15-19 cf. Acts 3:22-23

**5. The Messiah will be the Son of God...** Psalm 2:7 cf. Matthew 3:17; Mark 1:11; Luke 3:22

**6. The Messiah will be raised from the dead (i.e., not merely 'spiritual' but a physical resurrected)...** Psalm 16:10-11cf. Matthew 28:5-9; Mark 16:6; Luke 24:4-7; John 20:11-16; Acts 1:3; 2:32

**7. The Messiah's crucifixion experience...** Psalm 22 (with 11 specific prophecies!) cf. Matthew 27:34-50 and John 19:17-30



**8. The Messiah will be sneered at and mocked...** Psalm 22:7 cf. Luke 23:11, 35-39

**9. The Messiah will be pierced through hands and feet...** Psalm 22:16 cf. Luke 23:33 and 24:36-39; John 19:18 and 20:19-20,24-27

**10. The Messiah's bones will not be broken (a person's legs were usually broken after being crucified to speed up their death)...** Psalm 22:17; 34:20 cf. John 19:31-33,36

**11. Men will gamble for the Messiah's clothing...** Psalm 22:18 cf. Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:34; John 19:23-24

**12. The Messiah will be given vinegar and gall to drink...** Psalm 69:21cf. Matthew 27:34; Mark 15:23; John 19:29, 30

**13. The Messiah will be accused by false witnesses...** Psalm 35:11cf. Matthew 26:59-60; Mark 14:56-57

**14. The Messiah will be hated without a cause...** Psalm 35:19; 69:4 cf. John 15:23-25

**15. The Messiah will be betrayed by a friend...** Psalm 41:9 cf. John 13:18,21

**16. The Messiah will ascend to heaven (at the right hand of God)...** Psalm 68:18 cf. Luke 24:51; Acts 1:9; 2:33-35; 3:20-21; 5:31,32; 7:55-56; Rom. 8:34; Ephesians 1:20-21; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3; 8:1; 10:12; 12:2; 1 Peter 3:22

- 17. Great kings will pay homage and tribute to the Messiah...** Psalm 72:10-11 cf. Matthew 2:1-11
- 18. The Messiah is a “stone the builders rejected” who will become the “head cornerstone” ...** Psalm 118:22-23; Isaiah 28:16 cf. Matt. 21:42-43; Acts 4:11; Ephesians 2:20; 1 Peter 2:6-8
- 19. The Messiah will be a descendant of David...** Psalm 132:11 and Jeremiah 23:5,6; 33:15,16 cf. Luke 1:32,33
- 20. The Messiah will be a born of a virgin...** Isaiah 7:14 cf. Matthew 1:18-25 and Luke 1:26-35
- 21. The Messiah will make the blind see, the deaf hear (miracles)...** Isaiah 35:5-6 cf. Matthew 11:3-6; John 11:47
- 22. The Messiah will be beaten, mocked, and spat upon...** Isaiah 50:6 cf. Matthew 26:67; 27:26-31
- 23. The “Gospel according to Isaiah” revealed in the Messiah work...** Isaiah 52:13-53:12 cf. see Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
- 24. Many people will hear and believe the “arm of the LORD” (i.e. Messiah)...** Isaiah 53:1 cf. John 12:37,38
- 25. The Messiah will be rejected...** Isaiah 53:3 cf. Matthew 27:20-25; Mark 15:8-14; Luke 23:18-23; John 19:14,15
- 26. The Messiah will be killed...** Isaiah 53:5-9 cf. Matthew 27:50; Mark 15:37-39; Luke 23:46; John 19:30
- 27. The Messiah will be silent in front of his accusers...** Isaiah 53:7 cf. Matthew 26:62,63 and 27:12-14

**28. The Messiah will be buried with the rich...** Isaiah 53:9 cf. Matthew 27:59,60; Mark 15:46; Luke 23:52,53; John 19:38-42

**29. The Messiah will be crucified with criminals...** Isaiah 53:12 cf. Matthew 27:38; Mark 15:27; Luke 23:32,33

**30 The Messiah is part of the new and everlasting covenant...** Isaiah 55:3-4; Jeremiah 31:31-34 cf. Matt. 26:28; Mark 14:24; Luke 22:20; Hebrews 8:6-13

**31. The Messiah will be our intercessor (intervene on our behalf)...** Isaiah 59:16 cf. Hebrews 9:15

**32. The Messiah will come at a specific time...** Daniel 9:25-26 cf. Galatians 4:4; Ephesians 1:10

**33. The Messiah will be born in Bethlehem...** Micah 5:2 cf. Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:4-7

**34. The Messiah will enter Jerusalem riding a donkey...** Zechariah 9:9 cf. Matthew 21:1-11

**35. The Messiah will be sold for 30 pieces of silver...** Zechariah 11:12,13 cf. Matthew 26:15; Matthew 27:3-10

**36. The Messiah will forsaken by His disciples...** Zechariah 13:7 cf. Matthew 26:31,56

**37. The Messiah will enter the Temple with authority...** Malachi 3:1 cf. Matthew 21:12 and Luke 19:45

**38. The Messiah would pre-exist his earthly ministry...** Micah 5:2 cf. John 8:56-59

**39. The Messiah would be deity incarnated (i.e., 'God is the flesh')... Isaiah 9:6-7 cf. John 1:1, 14; 10:30-33**

**40. The Messiah would be rejected for a long time, but finally be accepted by his own people... Zechariah 12:10 cf. Romans 11:25-32**

### **Summary Regarding Messianic Prophecy:**

The multitude of specific prophecies regarding the identity of the Messiah throughout the Old Testament, and their exclusive fulfillment in the life of Jesus Christ, provide conclusive historical verification of God's existence (since only an omniscient Being could declare this futuristic information in advance).

These truths regarding the unique person and credibility of Jesus lead us to conclude that there has never been another individual who has walked the face of our world like Jesus. His uniqueness is evident by these and many other testable factors, especially His Resurrection (see section on the "**Resurrection Evidence**").

---

# Messiah's Second Coming: Prophecy In Action

The Bible also provides us a significant prophetic scenario that can be attested to in our present day.

'End Time" prophecy, and its fulfillment, is another additional factor that leads us to believe that the God of the Bible exists beyond any reasonable doubt.

---

## A Prophetic Overview: Signs of Our Times

### Matthew 24:3

*Now as He sat on the Mount of Olives,  
the disciples came to Him privately, saying,  
"Tell us, when will these things be?  
And what will be the sign of Your coming,  
and of the end of the age?"*

The Bible provides us prophetic "signs" that would occur just prior to the return of Jesus Christ to planet earth. Jesus said that when **all these signs come together**, he will be "right at the door", ready to return...

### Matthew 24:33-35

*So you also, when you see all these things,  
**know** that it is near—at the doors!  
Assuredly, I say to you, \*this generation will by no means  
pass away till all these things take place.  
Heaven and earth will pass away,  
but My words will by no means pass away.*

\* When Jesus spoke of “this generation” he was clearly referring to the people who would be alive on planet earth as his second coming draws near.

### **Matthew 24:8**

*All these are the beginning of \*sorrows.*

\* The word “sorrows” literally means “birth pangs”, and is referring to the eventual culmination (or ‘birth’) being the glorious return of Jesus Christ to our world!

Jesus strongly encouraged his disciples (the Church) to be aware of the myriad of indicators, or ‘signs’, regarding the period of time when His return would be imminent...

**The end times ‘signs’ that the scripture identifies are the very ones our generation is now experiencing!**

### **Luke 21:28**

*Now when these things begin to happen,  
look up and lift up your heads,  
because your redemption draws near.*

---

# **Spiritual Signs: The 'Works' of God**

## **Understanding of Bible prophecy**

**Daniel 12:4, 8-9**

*But you, Daniel, shut up the words,  
and seal the book until the time of the end;  
many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase...*

*Although I heard, I did not understand.*

*Then I said, "My lord,  
what shall be the end of these things?"*

*And he said, "Go your way, Daniel,  
for the words are closed up  
and sealed till the time of the end.*

---

## **Worldwide evangelism and the gospel having universal impact**

**Matthew 24:14**

*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached  
in the whole world as a testimony to all nations,  
and then the end will come.*

**Mark 13:10**

*And the gospel must first be preached to all nations.*

---

## **Outpouring of the Holy Spirit (authentic revival)**

**Joel 2:28-29, 32**

*I will pour out my Spirit on all people... And everyone  
who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved.*

# Spiritual Signs: The 'Works' of Darkness

## **False Christ's; False prophets; pseudo-christian cults/religions**

**Matthew 24:5,11,24**

*For many will come in my name,  
claiming, 'I am the Christ,'  
and will deceive many.*

*... and many false prophets will appear  
and deceive many people.*

*For false christ's and false prophets  
will appear and perform great signs  
and miracles to deceive even the elect--  
if that were possible.*

**(see also Mark 13:6, 21-22)**

**Luke 21:8**

*He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived.*

*For many will come in my name,  
claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.'  
Do not follow them.*

---

## **Apostasy in the 'professing' church**

**2 Thessalonians 2:3**

*Let no one deceive you by any means;  
for that Day (referring to the 2nd Coming of Christ)  
will not come unless  
the falling away (lit. 'apostasy') comes first  
and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition.*



### **1 Timothy 4:1**

*Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.*

### **2 Timothy 3:1-5**

*But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days. People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God-- having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.*

## **Widespread heresy in the church**

### **2 Timothy 4:1-4**

*In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage-- with great patience and careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear.*

*They will turn their ears away from the truth  
and turn aside to myths.*

---

## **Movement toward a one-world religion**

### **Revelation 13:7-8**

*It was granted to him (i.e., the Antichrist) to make war  
with the saints and to overcome them.*

*And authority was given him over  
every tribe, tongue, and nation.*

*All who dwell on the earth will worship him,  
whose names have not been written in the Book of Life...  
(cf. "Mystery Babylon the Great" Revelation 17)*

---

## **Persecution of true believers**

### **Matthew 24:9-10**

*Then you will be handed over to be persecuted  
and put to death,  
and you will be hated by all nations because of me.  
At that time many will turn away from the faith  
and will betray and hate each other.*

### **Mark 13:9,11-13**

*You must be on your guard.  
You will be handed over to the local councils  
and flogged in the synagogues.  
On account of me you will stand before governors  
and kings as witnesses to them...  
Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial,  
do not worry beforehand about what to say.*

*Just say whatever is given you at the time,  
for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.  
Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child.  
Children will rebel against their parents  
and have them put to death.  
All men will hate you because of me,  
but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.  
(see also Luke 21:12-19)*

---

## **Outbreak of demonic and occultic activity**

### **1 Timothy 4:1**

*The Spirit clearly says that in later times  
some will abandon the faith and follow  
deceiving spirits and things taught by demons.*

---

## **World Political Signs Re-establishment of Israel**

### **Matthew 24:32-34**

*Now learn this lesson from the fig tree (i.e., Israel):  
As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out,  
you know that summer is near.  
Even so, when you see all these things,  
you know that it is near, right at the door.  
I tell you the truth, this generation  
will certainly not pass away  
until all these things have happened.  
(cf. Jeremiah 24:4-7)*

### **Ezekiel 36:26-28 (cf. v. 21)**

*I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you  
I will remove from you your heart of stone  
and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit in you  
and move you to follow my decrees  
and be careful to keep my laws.  
You will live in the land I gave your forefathers;  
you will be my people, and I will be your God.*

### **Zechariah 12:2-3**

*Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness  
to all the surrounding peoples,  
when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem.  
And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem  
a very heavy stone for all peoples;  
all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces,  
though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.*

---

## **Russia as a menacing power to Israel**

### **Ezekiel 38:1-6, 14-16, 18-23**

*Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying,  
Son of man, set your face against \*Gog,  
of the land of Magog,  
the prince of \*Rosh, \*Meshech, and Tubal,  
and prophesy against him, and say, '  
Thus says the Lord God:  
"Behold, I am against you, O Gog, the prince of Rosh,  
Meshech, and \*Tubal.*

*I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws,  
and lead you out, with all your army, horses,  
and horsemen, all splendidly clothed,  
a great company with bucklers and shields,  
all of them handling swords.*

*\*Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them,  
all of them with shield and helmet;  
Gomer and all its troops; the house of Togarmah  
from the far north and all its troops  
-- many people are with you.*

Note: The names “Gog”, “Rosh”, “Meshech” and “Tubal” all have direct historical connections with the nation and people of modern day Russia. Also, “Persia” (modern day Iran) and other countries noted in this prophecy are all aligned militarily with Russia at this time, for the first and only time in recorded history.

### **Ezekiel 38:14-16**

*Therefore, son of man, prophesy and say to Gog,  
Thus says the Lord God: On that day  
when My people Israel dwell safely, will you not know it?  
Then you will come from your place out of the far north,  
you and many peoples with you,  
all of them riding on horses,  
a great company and a mighty army.  
You will come up against My people Israel like a cloud,  
to cover the land.*

*It will be in the latter days that I will bring you against  
My land, so that the nations may know Me,  
when I am hallowed in you, O Gog, before their eyes.*

cf. Ezekiel 38:18-23; and Ezekiel 36:1-7  
... regarding the religious hostility toward Israel,  
especially as it pertains to the actual land.

---

## **Regarding One World Systems Reunification of Europe**

**Daniel 2:41-44**

*And as you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay  
and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom,  
but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it,  
just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay.  
And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay,  
so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle.  
As you saw the iron mixed with soft clay,  
so they will mix with one another in marriage,  
but they will not hold together,  
just as iron does not mix with clay.  
And in the days of those kings the God of heaven  
will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed,  
nor shall the kingdom be left to another people.  
It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms  
and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever.*

---

## **Movement towards a one-world economy**

**Revelation 13:16-18**

*He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor,  
free and slave, to receive a mark  
on their right hand or on their foreheads,*

*and that no one may buy or sell  
except one who has the mark or the name of the beast,  
or the number of his name.*

*Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding  
calculate the number of the beast,  
for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.*

---

**Regarding The Nations At War  
Wars and rumors of wars multiplied  
Kingdom against kingdom (ethnic wars)**

**Mark 13:7-8**

*But when you hear of wars and rumors of wars,  
do not be troubled;  
for such things must happen, but the end is not yet.*

*For nation will rise against nation,  
and kingdom against kingdom.*

*And there will be earthquakes in various places,  
and there will be famines and troubles.*

*These are the beginnings of sorrows.*

**(also see Matthew 24:6-7; and Luke 21:10)**

**Nations of the “East”  
fielding an army of 200 million**

**Revelation 9:15-16; 16:12**

*So the four angels, who had been prepared for the hour  
and day and month and year,*

*were released to kill a third of mankind.*

*Now the number of the army of the horsemen*

*was two hundred million; I heard the number of them.  
Then the sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river  
Euphrates, and its water was dried up, so that  
the way of the kings from the east might be prepared.*

---

## **Signs of Society**

**Lawlessness; Violence; Immorality; Greed;  
Selfishness; Hedonism; Rebellion; Despair**

### **2 Timothy 3:1-4**

*Know this, that in the last days perilous times will come:*

*For men will be lovers of themselves,  
lovers of money, boasters, proud,  
blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful,  
unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers,  
without self-control, brutal, despisers of good,  
traitors, headstrong, haughty,  
lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,*

### **Matthew 24:12, 37-39**

*And because lawlessness will abound,  
the love of many will grow cold.  
But as the days of Noah were,  
so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.  
For as in the days before the flood, they were  
eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage,  
until the day that Noah entered the ark,  
and did not know until the flood came  
and took them all away,  
so also will the coming of the Son of Man be.*



---

## **Signs of Nature**

### **Famine; Earthquakes; Plagues; 'Signs' in the Heavens**

UFO's phenomenon, unusual weather patterns,  
new discoveries in space, etc.

#### **Luke 21:11**

*And there will be great earthquakes in various places,  
and famines and pestilences; and there will be  
fearful sights and great signs from heaven.*

**(also see Matthew 24:7; Mark 13:8)**

## **Technological Signs**

### **High-speed transportation and knowledge explosion**

#### **Daniel 12:4**

*But you, Daniel, shut up the words,  
and seal the book until the time of the end;  
many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase.*

## **Computer and laser technology**

### **Revelation 13:16-18**

*He causes all, both small and great, rich and poor,  
free and slave, to receive a mark on their right hand  
or on their foreheads,  
and that no one may buy or sell except  
one who has the mark or the name of the beast,  
or the number of his name.*

*Here is wisdom. Let him who has understanding calculate  
the number of the beast,  
for it is the number of a man: His number is 666.*

## **Television/satellite transmission**

### **Revelation 11:3-12**

*And I will give power to my two witnesses,  
and they will prophesy  
one thousand two hundred and sixty days,  
clothed in sackcloth.*

*These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands  
standing before the God of the earth...*

*When they finish their testimony, the beast that ascends  
out of the bottomless pit*

*will make war against them, overcome them, and kill them.  
And their dead bodies will lie in the street of the great city  
which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also  
our Lord was crucified.*

*Then those from the **peoples, tribes, tongues, and  
nations will see their dead bodies  
three-and-a-half days,***

*and not allow their dead bodies to be put into graves.*

*And those who dwell on the earth  
will rejoice over them, make merry,  
and send gifts to one another,  
because these two prophets  
tormented those who dwell on the earth.*

*Now after the three-and-a-half days  
the breath of life from God entered them,*

*and they stood on their feet,  
and **great fear fell on those who saw them.**  
And they heard a loud voice from heaven saying to them,  
"Come up here."  
And **they ascended to heaven in a cloud,**  
**and their enemies saw them.***

---

## **Nuclear weapons**

### **Zechariah 14:12**

*And this shall be the plague with which the Lord will strike  
all the people who fought against Jerusalem:  
Their flesh shall dissolve while they stand on their feet,  
Their eyes shall dissolve in their sockets, And their  
tongues shall dissolve in their mouths.*

### **Matthew 24:22**

*And unless those days were shortened,  
no flesh would be saved;  
but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened.  
**(also see Luke 21:25-26; Revelation 8:7; 16:2-21)***

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# **Ten Reasons Why Bible Prophecy Is Important**

This section on the significance of Bible prophecy was primarily taken from the writings and lectures in Dr. Mark Hitchcock.

## **#1.**

### **Prophecy is a major part of divine revelation:**

Many people are surprised to learn that 28% of the Bible was prophecy at the time it was given.

## **#2.**

### **God promises a special blessing to those who study Bible prophecy.**

#### **Revelation 1:3**

*Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near.*

## **#3.**

### **Jesus Christ is the subject of prophecy:**

#### **Revelation 19:10**

*...hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God!  
For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*

## **#4.**

### **Prophecy gives us a proper perspective in life:**

Bible prophecy is important because it tells us the end of the story.

It tells us where we're going.

It reveals that just as our world had a definite beginning

in Genesis 1:1, it will also have an ending.  
This world will not continue on forever  
through infinite cycles of history.

### **#5.**

#### **Prophecy is a powerful tool for evangelism:**

Everyone wonders what is going to happen to this world.

There's no doubt that people are fascinated  
with the future.

Psychic hotlines, tabloid newspapers and astrologers  
make a living preying upon  
man's innate interest in the future.

### **#6.**

#### **Prophecy can help insulate people from heresy:**

All the pseudo-christian cults deceptively appeal  
to Bible prophecies of the future to gain a listening ear.

### **#7.**

#### **Prophecy helps us understand our world today:**

The rapidly increasing tempo of change in modern life  
has given the entire world a sense of impending crisis.

Modern man is asking questions about the future  
as never before.

These are solemn and searching questions.

The Bible is certainly the best place to look for answers  
regarding what's going on in our world today...  
and prophecy spells it out in 'black and white'.

## **#8.**

### **Prophecy reveals the sovereignty of God over history:**

#### **Isaiah 42:9**

*Everything I prophesied has come true,  
and now I will prophesy again.*

*I will tell you the future before it happens.*

Bible prophecy proves beyond any shadow of a doubt  
that God is the true God  
who alone rules over time and history!  
He not only rules the ages, but He is also in total control  
over the events of the life of every person.  
What a comfort and encouragement it is  
to know that God is in control!

## **#9.**

### **Prophecy proves the truth of God's Word:**

Just as Bible prophecy establishes that  
the God of the Bible is the True God,  
it also proves that God's Word is the true Word.  
Only the Bible authenticates itself through 100% accurate  
prophetic utterances, proving both  
its relevance and authority for all of mankind.

## **#10.**

### **Prophecy helps us understand the whole Bible:**

Understanding God's prophetic program for this world  
gives a person the best overall framework possible  
for understanding the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

---

# **Bible Prophecy, Ignored?**

Why Is There Such Great Avoidance  
Regarding Bible Prophecy Today?

## **Four Main Reasons...**

**First, many (including pastors) don't teach prophecy because they have a lack of belief in the power of God's Word.**

Sadly, many in the 'church' today don't really believe the Bible is the inspired, infallible, authoritative Word of God.

- The Lord Jesus once denounced the Pharisees because they were misinterpreting Scripture, thus devaluing its authority (**see Matthew 22:29**).
- Too many today are the same way. They are not carefully studying and believing the whole Bible (**see Acts 20:17-38**).

**Second, many don't teach prophecy because they have a lack of knowledge of (or sound training in) in what the Bible says prophetically.**

There are many, of course, who do believe that the Bible is the Word of God. However, for a variety of reasons they have never taken the time to study prophecy carefully on their own, and/or weren't taught it in any detail or depth in seminary or Bible college. Thus, they understandably feel unprepared and inadequate to help people unpack the truths of these Scriptures.

- Some prophecies are, of course, complicated and confusing at first. Some of the names mentioned in prophecies (like “Gog” and “Magog” and “Gomer” and “Put” in Ezekiel 38-39) are strange and obscure.
- It takes some historical detective work to determine what these things mean, and some pastors/leaders decide they neither have the interest, nor the time, to do the research and teach others clearly and accurately, so they avoid teaching prophecy all together.

The Bible is clear that God will bless those who study and teach others with regards to ‘End Times’ prophecy, and we should be faithful in doing just that.

### **Revelation 1:3**

*“Blessed is he who reads and those who hear  
the words of the prophecy,  
and heed the things which are written in it,  
for the time is near.”*

**Third, many don’t teach prophecy because they have a fear of being lumped in with “prophecy nuts” and those who peddle sensationalism.**

Admittedly, there are many false teachers who claim to teach Bible prophecy, but have been proven to be in error.

Example: Harold Camping’s prediction of the Rapture on May 21, 2011 (as he did the same in September 1994).

Example: 88 Reasons Why Jesus Is Coming In 1988...



We are right to avoid such false teachers, and to avoid creating an appearance of cheapening the Word of God in these ways. But just because some teach Bible prophecy wrongly, or badly, it is no reason for credible teachers to avoid the topic. To the contrary, we should be teaching cogently on prophecy all the more because of the false teachers out there. We shouldn't concede the battle for hearts, minds and souls to those who proclaim the scriptures fraudulently.

### **2 Timothy 4:2-3**

*“Preach the word: be ready in season and out of season;  
reprove, rebuke, exhort,  
with great patience and instruction.  
For the time will come  
when they will not endure sound doctrine.”*

**Fourth, many pastors and church leaders don't teach prophecy because they have a lack of understanding of the times in which we live and the increasingly close return of Christ.**

Sadly, many who are sincere, are asleep to the times in which we live. Somehow they are not gripped by the remarkable moment of history that we're in, and the urgent need to prepare for the return of the Lord Jesus Christ for His Church.

Like the Pharisees of old, Jesus is saying to them, “Why do you not analyze this present time?” More than ever, we need to be people who do analyze and understand the

times in light of Bible prophecy. Like the sons of Issachar, *“men who understood the times and knew what Israel should do.”* (1 Chronicles 12:32),

### **In conclusion:**

We need men and women ready, willing and able to rediscover the purpose and power of Bible prophecy. How can we best accomplish this...

- The best way is not to berate or belittle others who aren't listening or taking heed to prophecy being fulfilled before our 'eyes'...
  - The Biblical model is to do what Jesus did, urging others to... *“Come, follow me.”* (Mark 10:21)
-

# The Greatest Prophecy Ever Foretold

Daniel 9:24-27 (Dateline: 500 BC)

## v. 24

***"Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy.***

- A. A specific time period of “seventy sevens” or 490 years ( $70 \times 7 = 490$ ) is given to Daniel for the completion of this prophecy. (Note: Hebrew ‘shabua’ simply means ‘seven’).
- B. The reference to “your people” in this prophecy is specifically the Jewish nation (cf. v.16).
- C. Jerusalem is “your holy city” at the epicenter of this prophecy is Jerusalem (cf. v.16).
- D. Also, take note that this prophecy is clearly referring to a future event that would be understood as the unprecedented culmination of world history.

## v. 25

***"Know and understand this:  
From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One (Heb. Messiah), the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.***

- A. We are commanded (as Daniel was) to “know and understand” the words of this very important prophecy from the Lord.
- B. The prophetic launch begins with a certain “decree”: This prophecy of the coming Messiah is both remarkable and extremely precise.
- C. There were other orders to rebuild the Temple, but, there was only one commandment to restore Jerusalem and its wall.
- D. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, 445 BC, as confirmed by modern archaeology, King Artaxerxes I of Persia issued the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem and specifically included its wall (see Nehemiah 2:2-9 ... the book of Nehemiah records this account of rebuilding the *city and its wall.*)
- E. This portion of Daniel’s prophecy totals 69 ‘weeks’ or sevens (‘shabua’) of years... chronologically this totals **173,880 days.**
- F. The long-awaited Messiah/Savior would arrive and publicly be received by His people on this date.
- G. On April 1, 32 AD (10 Nissan Hebrew calendar)... Jesus was declared and proclaimed for the first time in a public setting to be the Messiah... exactly as foretold! (This is our ‘Palm Sunday’ remembrance.)

**v. 26**

***After the sixty-two 'sevens,'  
the Anointed One will be cut off***

***and will have nothing.  
The people of the ruler who will come  
will destroy the city and the sanctuary.  
The end will come like a flood:  
War will continue until the end,  
and desolations have been decreed.***

- A. Immediately following this fulfillment of the Messiah's arrival He would be "cut off" (Hebrew "karath", literally means "executed").
- B This would be seen as absolute defeat (i.e., "have nothing") at the time of fulfillment.
- C. The "people of the ruler who will come" refers to the Roman empire and its leaders. In 70 AD general Titus brought in the armies of Rome and completely destroyed Jerusalem.
- D. The Jewish nation was crushed and the people were either killed or scattered throughout the world.

**v. 27**

***He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.'  
In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to  
sacrifice and offering.  
And on a wing [of the temple] he will set up an  
abomination that causes desolation,  
until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."***

- A. The "He" in v. 27 is the "ruler who will come" of v. 26... this "ruler" (aka, 'the Anti-christ') who would bring a "covenant" or peace treaty to a re-founded nation of Israel in the last days.

- B. This final completion of Daniel's prophecy is referring to the missing "seven" or 7 years (cf. v. 24). This is often spoken of as the "70th week of Daniel."
  - C. Notice that this "ruler" is also identified as the "*man of lawlessness*" (2 Thess. 2:1,3) and he breaks this peace "covenant" mid-way (after 3.5 years) into this final 7 year period (called the 'Great Tribulation').
  - D. It is at the end of this time (with the completion of Daniel's prophecy) that Jesus returns to this earth to bring in His "*everlasting righteousness*" (see v. 24)...
-

# The Case For The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ

The significance of creditable and verifiable eyewitness accounts of the miraculous works of Jesus, especially his Resurrection, reveals God's factual and personal intervention in human history.

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of the Christian faith.

As the apostle Paul said...

*"If Christ has not been raised, your faith is worthless; you are still in your sins."*

(1 Corinthians 15:17)

But Christianity is not a 'blind faith.'  
God has given us *"many infallible proofs"*  
of Jesus' resurrection (Acts 1:3)  
and invites He us to examine the evidence.

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## **His Resurrection Was Foretold:**

Jesus Himself said that he would be killed  
and on the third day rise again.

The risen Jesus spoke to two disciples  
on the road to Emmaus...

**Luke 24:47**

*These are My words that I spoke to you  
while I was still with you--  
that everything written about Me*

*in the Law of Moses, the, and Prophets,  
and the Psalms must be fulfilled.*

The suffering and death of the Savior was foretold  
in numerous Old Testament prophecies,  
down to the minute details,  
all of which were precisely fulfilled.

### **Jesus Died:**

Some skeptics have proposed the 'swoon theory'--  
that Jesus didn't really die on the cross  
and instead passed out and later revived in the tomb.

But He was brutally beaten,  
flogged with a cat-o-nine-tails tearing His flesh,  
hung on a cross with thick spikes driven  
through His hands and feet,  
then, to ensure that He was dead,  
He was pierced in the side with a spear.

Roman soldiers were professional executioners  
who knew how to do a thorough job.

No one in His condition could have survived,  
then awakened to roll away a two-ton stone  
and slipped by the Romans guards  
posted at the sealed tomb.

Jesus died and was buried is reported even  
in a multitude of secular sources of the 1st century.



## **The Tomb Was Empty:**

Even Jesus' enemies did not dispute  
that the tomb was empty.

Instead, they claimed that the body was stolen  
while the guards slept--

even though the guards faced execution  
if they fell asleep on the job.

It would have been impossible for the cowardly disciples,  
who fled upon Jesus' arrest,

to overpower a squadron of professional soldiers.

And why would they?

They each faced the severest of persecution  
and received horrific deaths for their eyewitness testimony,  
fully convinced that Jesus Christ rose from the grave.

What would they gain by dying for a known lie?

Jewish leaders certainly wouldn't have stolen the body.

Their goal was to completely stop  
the spread of Christianity.

If the body could have been found,

they surely would have searched

until they produced it and put the 'new' religion to rest.

## **He Was Seen Alive After The Resurrection:**

These were not 'hallucinations' or brief sightings--

Jesus ate, drank, and spoke at length with His disciples.

Jesus appeared at least 11 times over a 40 day period,

and to over 500 witnesses!

In writing of this amazing eyewitness testimony,  
the apostle Paul  
noted that *“most of them remain to the present.”*  
With witnesses still alive for cross-examination,  
the skeptics could have easily  
verified the truth of this claim.

Dr. Simon Greenleaf, founder of the Harvard Law School,  
was one of the greatest legal in our nations history.

He concluded that the resurrection of Christ  
was one of the best supported events of history,  
according to the laws of legal evidence used in court.  
In fact, Dr. Greenleaf was so convinced by the over-  
whelming evidence, he committed his life to Christ.

### **Lives Radically Transformed:**

Overnight, the fearful disciples became bold,  
fearless witnesses,  
proclaiming the resurrection of Jesus Christ.  
After seeing the ultimate proof of Jesus' deity  
thousands of Jews abandoned centuries-old  
religious rituals to follow the Messiah.  
Truly the Son of God has power over life and death  
and He is alive to transform lives today.

**This transformation is reality...**  
for all who repent and place their trust in Jesus will  
*“know Him and the power of His resurrection”*--  
encountering the risen Lord and be given  
the gift of eternal life.

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## **Some Final Considerations Concerning Our Primary Source Document**

The truth regarding the historicity  
and reliability of the Bible:

The Bible presents firsthand accounts  
of real historical events,

and the historical records, as well as archeology,  
have supported this claim 100%.

In addition, the Bible has been proven to be accurate  
in its transmission of its source documents  
(both Old and New Testaments) with perfection

Note: No other ancient recording has thousands of early  
manuscripts as the Bible. In addition, the Dead Sea  
Scrolls discovery in 1948 gave, as if needed,  
insurmountable evidence that what we have today  
in our scriptures are true and accurate.

(2 Tim. 3:16; 2 Pet. 1:19-21; Mt. 5:18; Ex. 17:14; Jer. 30:2)

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## **A Most Reasonable Conclusion:**

In examining the preponderance of evidence  
for the existence of God  
the logical and rational response would be ...  
to put one's faith in the God who is there!

**The 'invitation' is still open to all to seek...**

**Isaiah 1:18**

*"Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord,  
"Though your sins are like scarlet,  
They shall be as white as snow;  
Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.*

---

**Jesus Christ came to this earth  
2000 years ago to be our Savior, and  
His Second Coming is on the horizon:**

**2 Peter 3:9**

*The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise,  
as some understand slowness.  
He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish,  
but everyone to come to repentance.*

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# **Biblical Apologetics: A Brief Sermon Outline**

## **1 Peter 3:15**

*But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.  
Always be prepared to give an answer  
to everyone who asks you  
to give the reason for the hope that you have.  
But do this with gentleness and respect.*

In order for someone to provide an “*answer*” (gr. apologia) to multitude of questions from this generation scripture provides four key and necessary components:

### ***"In your hearts set apart Christ as Lord."***

You must actually be a Christian, spiritually ‘born again’ through faith in the finished work of salvation that was made complete by Jesus Christ at Calvary.

### ***"Always be prepared to give an answer."***

You must make the effort and take the time to study the issues at hand, preparing yourself to give both rational and reasonable answers to questions that weigh heavy on the hearts of todays skeptics.

### ***"The reason for the hope that you have."***

You are called to give others “*hope*”

that relates to the predicament and plight of modern man  
who is struggling in the sea of dismay  
and potential self annihilation.

***“Do this with gentleness and respect.”***

You are always to make every effort  
to communicate your reasons for faith in Christ  
with a humble spirit, treating others with the same respect  
and decency that you would expect them to give to you.

### **Colossians 4:2-6**

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.  
And pray for us, too, that God may open a door  
for our message,  
so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ,  
for which I am in chains.  
Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.  
Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders;  
make the most of every opportunity.  
Let your conversation be always full of grace,  
seasoned with salt,  
so that you may know how to answer everyone.*

We should always remember to  
*“devote ourselves to prayer”*  
as the apologetic endeavor is never to be taken lightly.  
Knowing, as scripture so clearly gives us warning,  
that we are engaged in a spiritual struggle  
for the hearts and minds of men,  
and eternal destinies weigh in the balance...

## **Ephesians 6:12**

*For our struggle is not against flesh and blood,  
but against the rulers, against the authorities,  
against the powers of this dark world  
and against the spiritual forces of evil  
in the heavenly realms.*

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# **Addendum Resources**

## **12 Questions of the Common Man**

So many Christians struggle with how to answer the questions presented by this generation.

The following is a “Crash Course” on how to speak to others about the pressing questions of life, while clearly give guidance to the only One who can answer the deepest issues of everyman's heart, Jesus Christ.

Question #1: "Is There Absolute Truth"

Question #2: "Can You Prove That God Exists?"

Question #3: "How Can There Be A God When There Is So Much Evil and Suffering In The World?"

Question #4: "How Do You Know The Bible Is True?"

Question #5: "Doesn't Evolution Prove the Bible False?"

Question #6: "How Can Jesus Be the Only Way to God?"  
"Aren't There Many Paths to Heaven?"

Question #7: "I Don't Believe in Hell,  
So There Can't Be One, Right?"

Question #8: "Doesn't the Bible Say We Are Reincarnated  
When We Die?"

Question #9: "When I Get Old, I Can Get Right With God,  
Right?"

Question #10: "What Will Happen To People  
Who Have Not Heard the Gospel?  
Are They Condemned To Hell?"

Question #11: "The Church is Just Full of Hypocrites, Right?"

Question #12: "There Are So Many Religions,  
How Do I Know Which One (if any)  
Is the Right One?"



## **Question #1: "Is there absolute truth?"**

Many skeptics in today's post-modern world believe that "*there is no absolute truth*" but, is that statement absolutely true?

Everywhere we look in our world, and through personal experience, we live in the realm of absolute truth.

For example, in mathematics, we have the absolute truth that  $2 + 2$  will always equal 4. And, in all areas of operational science we implicitly accept the absolute truth of universal laws that make scientific inquiry even possible. Also, in the realm of personal ethics and morality, everyone lives life assuming in absolute truth... e.g., all people believe in the truth that "no one should steal from me" and "murder is always wrong"... these principles are commonly accepted as absolute truth.

To be reasonable, it doesn't matter what people believe, what really matters is what's true... e.g., if someone says "I believe the earth is flat" or "I believe I can fly"... just because someone believes something doesn't make it true.

People sometimes say that as long as they believe 'in their heart' something's true, then it is. Does that really make sense?... what about Adolph Hitler, he believed "in his heart" that 6 million Jews should be killed. So, did his belief actually make his insanity the truth?"

Now, what about those who defiantly say “there is no absolute truth?” Then we should ask them some probing questions, such as... “In what situation is rape of another human being o.k.?” or “In what situation is torturing a young child o.k.?” The obvious truth regarding these moral questions is that it is never OK”, with no exceptions! There must be some consistent and universal basis for our innate sensibility regarding absolute truth. The consistency of our human conscience and, common life experience, speaks loudly that absolute truth is God-given.

**Blaise Pascal**, the famous 17th c. french philosopher, mathematician, and physicist shared some insightful wisdom regarding this issue, he said...

*“Truth is so obscured nowadays and lies [are] so well established that unless we love the truth we shall never recognize it.”*

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## **Question #2:**

### **"Can you prove that God exists?"**

Many propose the challenging question, "Can You Prove That God exists?", often inferring that to believe in God “you have to have blind faith”... but what about the evidence... is there really a God?

Throughout creation we see overwhelming design, order, and complexity, and thus signifying a Creator...

Every time you see a watch,  
you know it has a designer/maker.

Every time you see a painting,  
you know there is an artist.

Every time you see order  
(e.g., a note written in the beach sand saying “I love you!”)  
you know there’s an intelligence indicated here  
and this is not a random or chance happening.

If the seeker actually seeks, and makes use of both logic and reason, he will find abundant ‘evidence’ throughout the universe for a Creator/Designer/Orderer of the Cosmos.

So, then we ask... why do so many strive against such reason when it comes to God’s existence? What would motivate such a conclusion that is so contrary and opposed to commonsense? The Bible provides clarity to answer this dilemma.

### **Romans 1:18-20**

*“Men suppress the truth in unrighteousness”...*

*“Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--  
his eternal power and divine nature--  
have been clearly seen, being understood  
from what has been made,  
so that men are without excuse.”*

**Galileo**, the famous Italian astronomer/ mathematician, spoke eloquently regarding the God question, saying...  
“I do not feel obliged to believe that the same God who endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect had intended for us to forgo their use.”

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### **Question #3:**

**“How can there be a God when there is so much evil and suffering in the world?”**

The presence of abject evil and suffering throughout mankind’s history appears to be a significant block to faith in God... but is really necessary?

#### **Response:**

Love, by definition, demands a choice. Evil exists because people chose not to love and obey God.

**Ravi Zacharias** says...

“Let us remember that every worldview— not just Christianity's— must give an explanation or an answer for evil and suffering... this is not just a problem distinctive to Christianity. It will not do for the challenger just to raise the question. This problem of evil is one to which we all must offer an answer, regardless of the belief system to which we subscribe.”

This question is often rooted in some past experience of personal pain or hurt (even pain caused by a church).

1. Christians are to minister to others in their suffering.
2. It is important to remember that death came because of our sin... (and sin came through the deception of Satan).
3. The promise of the Bible is that someday death (and suffering) will be done away with, and a renewed universe (where righteousness dwells) will be the norm.

#### **Some thoughts to ponder:**

Professor **Peter Kreeft** explained...

“God created the possibility of evil; people actualized that potentiality. The source of evil is not God's power but mankind's freedom. Even an all-powerful God could not have created a world in which people had genuine freedom and yet there was no potentiality for sin, because our freedom includes the possibility of sin within its own meaning.”

**C. S. Lewis** wrote...

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.”

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#### **Question #4:**

### **"How do you know the Bible is true?"**

We should note that the Bible is the worlds all-time best-selling book. For sure, this doesn't prove that it's true, but that the thinking person should at least read it for themselves and find out what it really says.

Also, we should give serious consideration to the fact that the Bible claims to be written by inspiration of God, through men (this is called the 'dual authorship' of the scriptures). This issue is crucial in that many people think man alone must have wrote the Bible, but note that over 3600x in the Bible we read the claim that God is the One speaking... “thus saith the Lord.”

This is clearly expressed in such passages as 2 Timothy 3:16 were it tells us that “All Scripture is God-breathed...

and in 2 Peter 1:21 where we read that “prophecy (i.e., the writings of the Biblical prophets) never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”

Now, here are three significant external proofs that validate the Bible as truth.

First, **historical evidence supports the Bible**. Though the Bible is mankind’s most scrutinized book, no one has ever identified even a single historical mistake in it.

Secondly, **archaeological evidence provides 100% support for accuracy of the Bible**. There have been over 25,000 archeological finds regarding the people, places, and events that are recorded in Bible. Nothing in this massive research has ever proven the Bible to be in error, and all that the Bible records has been proven true.

And thirdly, literally **hundreds of fulfilled prophecies** have provided supernatural validation for the authentication and truthfulness of the Bible.

Now, because the Bible can be shown to be true prophetically, as well as historically and archeologically, it therefore is reasonable to believe that it can be trusted for its revealed spiritual truth too.

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### **Question #5:**

**"Doesn't evolution prove the Bible false?"**

The answer to this question is crucial! The reason that many don’t believe in God, in our world today, is directly

related to the conflict between evolution and the Bible...  
so, what is the evidence?

**Michael Denton**, PhD Biochemistry, and author of the ground breaking book "Evolution: A Theory In Crisis," challenges us with this statement...

“Is it really credible that random processes could have constructed a reality...which excels, in every sense, anything produced by the intelligence of man?”

**Linus Pauling**, Nobel Prize winner for his scientific research, makes this assessment with regards to the evidence of complexity and design observed in the most basic form of life...

“Just one living cell in the human body is, more complex than New York City.” Honestly, his analysis is actually a phenomenal understatement.

Consider these two foundational truths regarding the impossibility of macro-evolution to explain the origin of life question:

1. The solitary mechanism put forth by the proponents of evolution for allowing change or transversing from one species to another is mutations. By definition, mutations is the break down or loss of genetic information from one generation to the next. It has no possibility or potential to add new information that would be required if evolution were to be a 'possible' explanation for the history of life on our planet.

2. The fossil record indicates no bona fide (i.e., "proven to be true") transitional forms ... all fossils discovered indicate only complete fully formed kinds. The so called "missing links" that would validate evolution are altogether absent from the fossil record. In fact, many of presumed "missing links," that have been touted as breakthrough discoveries for evolutionary support, have subsequently been proven to be the outright frauds of the over zealous. Also we should ask the reasonable question, "Why are there no living "missing links" being observed in the world today (for example, no half cows, no half dogs, half cats, etc.)

### **Genesis 1:25**

*God made the wild animals according to their kinds,  
the livestock according to their kinds,  
and all the creatures that move along the ground  
according to their kinds.  
And God saw that it was good.*

### **1 Corinthians 15:39**

*All flesh is not the same: Men have one kind of flesh,  
animals have another, birds another and fish another.*

### **A thought to ponder:**

**Charles Darwin**, the famous author of "On The Origin of Species", may have spoken prophetically when he made the following statement...

"Why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate (i.e. transitional) links? Geology assuredly does not reveal any such finely graduated organic chain, and this, perhaps, is the most



obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory.”

Now, with the hindsight of many years and, the advancement of modern science, what Darwin said regarding the absence of these "missing links" we have heard the truth so eloquently spoken!

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### **Question #6:**

#### **“How can Jesus be the only way to God? Aren’t there many paths to Heaven?”**

We’re certainly living in a very pluralistic culture today, and many actually believe that all ‘faiths’ are equal, and that "all roads lead to the same destination"... as the saying goes, just believe whatever you want and follow the path of your personal liking.

For example, we have the ‘gospel’ according to Oprah which is expressed as... “God is on the top of a mountain, with many paths to the top". In other words, there is the Jewish path, the Christian path, the Muslim path, the Buddhist path, the Mormon path and, most importantly, the well-travelled self-made path of 'good works'.

Now here's a question... If there are many paths, did Jesus Christ, the Son of God, have to die on the cross for the sins of the world? If we are made right or righteous by what we do (i.e., our religious deeds and our good works) then the answer to the Jesus question would be “no”... In

fact, his death would be understood as the most senseless idiotic act in the history of the world... but Jesus Christ was anything but a fool!

So what did Jesus actually claim about himself and his identity?

**John 14:6**

*Jesus answered, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*

And in **Acts 4:12** we read this declaration of truth regarding Jesus...

*Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.*

Listen to the insights of men who spoke in wonder with regards to the verifiable, historical Jesus:

**Napoleon Bonaparte** expounded about his amazement with Jesus Christ when he wrote...

"Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires; but upon what foundation did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon (brute) force! But Jesus Christ founded His upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him."

**C. S. Lewis**, the well known Oxford scholar and one of the great minds of the 20th c. gave his perspective of the historical Jesus and his claims...

"A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would

either be a lunatic-- on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg-- or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

**A thought to ponder:**

**Dr. Norm Geisler**, the prolific philosopher/apologist of our day gave this perspective with regards to the authentic Jesus...

“So I cast my lot with Him—not the one who claimed wisdom, Confucius; or the one who claimed enlightenment, Buddha; or the one who claimed to be a prophet, Muhammad, but with the one who claimed to be God in human flesh. The one who declared, 'Before Abraham was born, I am'—and proved it.” We too, would be wise to follow this One who is called ‘Lord’.

---

**Question #7:**

**"I don't believe in Hell,  
so there can't be one, right?"**

Well, the truth is that it doesn't matter what we believe...  
what matters is what's true!

What if I believe poison doesn't kill?

What if I believe gravity doesn't apply to me?  
What if I believe that the lion in the zoo needs a hug?  
Again, it really doesn't matter what I believe  
and to deny this fact will bring a certain reality... death!

It is important to note that Jesus Christ spoke of the truth of hell more often and with more stern warning than anyone ever. In **Matthew 23:15** we can hear his astonishing admonition...

*Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees,  
you hypocrites!  
You travel over land and sea to win a single convert,  
and when he becomes one,  
you make him twice as much a son of hell as you are.*

**C. S. Lewis** gave us the clearest description of how denial of hell can actually lead one to such an ultimate disaster in the end, he wrote...

"The search for truth should be a serious life endeavor, and the Bible says hell is a real place, which Jesus repeatedly warned about! The safest road to hell is the gradual one - the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts."

**Here are some urgent more warnings of wisdom to consider from three contemporary voices of reason...**

**Adrian Rogers**, Pastor/author, wrote...

"I believe that a great number of people are going to die and go to hell because they're counting on their religiosity in the church instead of their relationship with Jesus to get

them to heaven. They give lip service to repentance and faith, but they've never been born again."

**Josh McDowell**, Prolific author/apologist shared his concern in saying...

"A lot of people say, well how can a loving God send anyone to hell? First of all God doesn't send anyone to hell. If we go to hell, it's by our own choice. But when somebody says to me, how can a loving God allow anyone to go to hell, I'll turn around and say, "Well how can a holy, just, righteous God allow sin into His presence?"

**Lee Strobel**, Author of "The Case for Faith" shared this important perspective regarding the issue of ultimate destiny...

"Hell was not part of the original creation. Hell is God's fall-back position. Hell is something God was forced to make because people chose to rebel against him and turn against what was best for them and the purpose for which they were created."

**A thought to ponder:**

The greatest misconception about hell is that it doesn't exist. Just as we believe scientists when they tell us there is such a thing as gravity, so should we believe God when he tells us there is such a place as hell. Many people wonder how a merciful and caring God could send people to such a terrible place. The truth is that God doesn't send anyone to hell; people choose to go there by their own rebellion, and God simply honors their choice.

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**Question #8:**  
**“Doesn’t the Bible say  
we are reincarnated when we die?”**

Actually, no! It does says we must be “born again”, and obviously (in the context of John 3:1-7) this a spiritual birth, not physical rebirth.

The Bible clearly speaks of one death, but two destinies.

**Hebrews 9:27**

*Just as man is destined to die once,  
and after that to face judgment.*

Each of us live once and face the judgment. There are no second chances to come back.

**Mike Oppenheimer**, of “Let Us Reason” wrote...

"The incarnation of the God/man is better than trusting the reincarnation of man. Christ died for our faults, our shortcomings, our sins. It works because it's the truth and it's the truth that will set you free. It's by God's grace and mercy, a gift given to us freely, not by our own hands. As for me, I'll choose mercy, I need it and I certainly appreciate God's free gift."

**2 Corinthians 5:8**

*We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be  
away from the body and at home with the Lord.*

The Bible presents the case for Resurrection, Jesus' first, thus validating all his claims of Deity and Savior.

Author and apologist, **Dave Hunt** wrote...

“They [the disciples] were testifying to the resurrection, a question of fact, not merely of faith. They were convinced of an event. And their willingness to die for attesting to that event is far more convincing than the willingness of others to die for a mere belief or because of loyalty to a religion or religious leader.”

At death the believer immediately goes into the presence of the Lord to rest from his labors. I think if one were to choose either of these alternatives, even if reincarnation were true, certainly, only once is enough and to be accepted into paradise with the architect of the universe is a grander offer than the enlightenment that false Hinduism offers. Why try to perfect yourself through your own handiwork when the truth is, Christ did it all?

**A thought to ponder:**

**Thomas Arnold**, historian and Oxford professor wrote...

“I have been used for many years to study the histories of other times and to examine and weight the evidence of those who have written about them, and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort, to the understanding of a fair inquirer, than the great sign which God hath given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead.”

---

**Question #9:**

**“When I get old, I will have time  
to turn back to God, right?”**

Can you guarantee you'll wake up tomorrow morning?  
No... So before you put your head to the pillow tonight,  
shouldn't you know for sure where you'll spend eternity?"

Whether you are old or young isn't determined by your  
age... it's determined by when you die (e.g.; if a 17 year-  
old is going to die next week, then relative to his life span,  
he's already very old, correct?).

### **James 4:13-14**

*Now listen, you who say,  
"Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city,  
spend a year there, carry on business  
and make money."*

*Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow.  
What is your life? You are a mist that appears  
for a little while and then vanishes.*

### **2 Corinthians 6:2**

*For he says, "In the time of my favor I heard you,  
and in the day of salvation I helped you." I tell you,  
now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.*

### **Joel 3:14**

*Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!  
For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.*

### **A thought to ponder:**

**William Lane Craig**, *Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth  
and Apologetics*, p. 35-36...

"Therefore, when a person refuses to come to Christ it is  
never just because of lack of evidence or because of  
intellectual difficulties: at root, he refuses to come because



he willingly ignores and rejects the drawing of God's Spirit on his heart. No one in the final analysis really fails to become a Christian because of lack of arguments; he fails to become a Christian because he loves darkness rather than light and wants nothing to do with God.”

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**Question #10:**

**“What will happen to people who have never heard the gospel? Are they condemned to Hell?”**

**Response:**

First, if you are really concerned regarding this dilemma you should repent and believe the gospel, and then go out into the world (beginning with your local community) with the redemption and love of Jesus!

**Reflection:**

People don't go to hell because they haven't heard of Jesus, but because they have broken God's law and sinned... willfully making the choice to not seek Him.

**1 John 3:4**

*Everyone who sins breaks the law;  
in fact, sin is lawlessness.*

**Titus 2:11**

*For the grace of God that brings salvation  
has appeared to all men.*

**Romans 1:20**

*For since the creation of the world God's invisible  
qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--*

*have been clearly seen, being understood from  
what has been made,  
so that men are without excuse.*

**Another consideration...** If someone who never heard of Jesus stood in front of God, he may be able to say he never knew of this Jesus, or of his need to respond in faith. But you... will you be able to?"

**A thought to ponder:**

**Raymond Clements, philosopher,** wrote...

"Only God knows how individuals will fare on the day of Judgment. Such matters are no proper concern of ours. 'Vengeance is mine, says the Lord, 'I will repay' (Romans 12:19). Yet we have every reason to believe that God will do what is right."

A. Everyone has enough knowledge of God in order to seek after him but the general situation is that men do not, even though their consciences condemn them.

B. Hence we are called to proclaim the Gospel and urge that men and women be reconciled to God (2 Cor. 5:20).

C. Certainly, those who have heard the Gospel and rejected God's offer of forgiveness will be judged on a totally different basis from those who while remaining in substantial darkness earnestly seek the truth, confess their sins and cast themselves on the mercy of God."

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**Question #11:**  
**"The Church is full of hypocrites, right?"**

**John Milton**, from his seminal book, "Paradise Lost" wrote...

"For neither man nor angel can discern hypocrisy, the only evil that walks, invisible, except to God alone."

**Blaise Pascal** spoke of our propensity to self deceive...

"We are only falsehood, duplicity, contradiction; we both conceal and disguise ourselves from ourselves. The Bible describes all men as 'hypocrites' (including church-going folk) in that we each pretend to be something that we are not. Whenever we assume the position of seeing ourselves as basically 'good' we have stepped into a fair tale land of make believe... we are playing the hypocrite and we know it! Not only are we each aware of our own propensity towards sin, our "conscience bearing witness" (Romans 2:15), but the factual history of humankind proves beyond a reasonable doubt that man has a inescapable sin nature."

Jesus often identified this issue of hypocrisy, especially in relation to those who are merely religious on the 'outside' but remain unconverted.

**God alone knows even the intent of our hearts...**

**Matthew 6:1-4**

*Be careful not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by men.*

*I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.*

**A thought to ponder:**

There are hypocrites in this place (i.e., café/mall/school, and even church), and that didn't stop you from coming here. Why in the world would you let hypocrites stop you from encountering the one true God who exist, who loves you, and who has done everything possible to forgive all your sins, and thus redeem you forevermore!

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**Question #12:**

**"There are so many religions,  
how do I know which is the right one?"**

**Response:**

The resurrection of Jesus Christ...the only one in all of human history who rose from the grave! This fact alone distinguishes Christianity from every other belief system or religion of man.

**Augustine** said...

“Because God has made us for Himself, our hearts are restless until they rest in Him.” In other words, mere religiousness will never satisfy the longing of the human soul. Spiritual transformation is accomplished via an 'inside job' and this is the domain of God alone.

The Bible has been proven to be reliable and accurate in all that it says about the two key issues of life...

A. God, our Maker, is perfect in power and love.

B. Man, with his central problem being sin (breaking God's commandments), has fallen from grace.

Christianity alone among the religions of the world presents the 'cure' for the sin problem and how anyone can be reconciled and made right (righteous) before this absolutely holy God to whom we'll give account someday. This is the result of His work in our hearts and mind.

### **Titus 3:4-6**

*But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior.*

Biblical Christianity is all about grace! Unlike the religions of the world it runs contrary to the belief that 'good works' has any potential to appease the Lord of all creation.

### **Ephesians 2:8-9**

*For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

**A thought to ponder:**

**C.S. Lewis wrote...** "I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else."

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**A final word for the wise...**

Make sure of your true repentance (turning from your sin), and surrender yourself before your Maker, placing all your hope and trust in Jesus Christ, the risen Savior of all who would believe.

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# Reason and Faith...

## Following The Evidence Where it Leads

### 9 Compelling Reasons For The Theistic Worldview

Isaiah 1:18

*Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord.*

#### **Defining of Terms:**

Reason: a basis/cause for some belief, action, fact, event.

Faith: confidence or trust in a person or thing.

Evidence: that which proves or disproves something.

#### **The Core Premise:**

Our worldview understanding should be built upon a reasonable faith! We each must face the challenge of following the evidence, wherever it may lead!

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#### **Part 1:**

#### **Evidence Based Upon Modern Scientific Inquiry**

1. The Law of Biogenesis is non-violable and life, i.e., organic, complex, and self replicating, can not come from non-life through time, chance and unknown random processes. Therefore, observational science provides conclusive evidence that humanity is the direct result of an ultimate Life-Giver.

2. There is a primary and necessary 'First Cause' for the origin of space, matter and time (Cosmological Argument), a 'Lawgiver' of the fine-tuning laws (i.e., Anthropic Principle) observed throughout our universe. Therefore, it

is not reasonable to believe that “nothing created everything” or that these observed laws related to nature and cosmology are merely illusionary.

3. It is not reasonable to believe that mankind has been merely 'tricked' into perceiving the design, order and complexity (Teleological Argument) observed throughout nature. Therefore, since these scientific observations can not be explained as an accidental coincidence or merely illusionary, they thus reveal a Grand Designer of creation.

4. DNA, as proven by contemporary scientific inquiry, provides an immensely coded genetic blueprint of information for life, thus revealing the super-natural intelligence of a masterful Creator. Therefore, to believe this overwhelming evidence is merely the contrived misperception of man's wishful thinking is unreasonable on all accounts.

5. The mechanism of 'random' mutations (i.e., copying errors in the genetic code), provides no possibility for creatures to change (i.e., transition) into something totally new in kind. Therefore, it is not logical or credible to believe that mutations can bring forth any necessary new genetic information required for transversing of species.

## **Part 2: Corroboration of Philosophical, Moral and Ethical Reasoning**



6. History and anthropology reveal that humanity possesses a consistent aspiration for authentic purpose and meaning. It is both counter intuitive and unsatisfying to live as if life is purely a series of accidental events and ultimately meaningless coincidences.

7. It is reasonable to believe that objective moral values and duties do exist, therefore indicating a foundational source for these beliefs in a objective moral Lawgiver (The Moral Argument). To assert that such truth claims are subjective or just a reflection of situational cultural mores is logically ungrounded.

8. Mankind, regardless of culture or religious ideology, exhibits a universal sense of spiritual reality. Naturalistic philosophy and materialistic modalities lack explanatory power in regards to this consistent observation of man's pervasive search for spirituality.

9. The pragmatic life application of the laws logic and mankind's reasoning capacities can not be the result of purely naturalistic or biochemical processes that have somehow develop over time. This observation of a significant non-materialistic reality is evident through human consciousness, self-awareness, ethics, esthetics and expression of rational thought and inquiry.

### **The Core Premise Summary:**

If you follow the evidence, it will lead to a reasonable faith... and the God who is there!

# Quotable Quotes About What Matters Most

## AGNOSTICISM

“Merely having an open mind is nothing; the object of opening the mind, as of opening the mouth, is to shut it again on something solid.” –**G.K. Chesterton**

“Now if the religious skeptic is right, we can know nothing about God. And if we can know nothing about God, how can we know God so well that we can know that he cannot be known? How can we know that God cannot and did not reveal himself—and perhaps even through human reason?” –**Peter Kreeft and Ronald Tacelli**, *Handbook of Christian Apologetics*, p. 371.

“To say that we cannot know anything about God is to say something about God; it is to say that if there is a God, he is unknowable. But in that case, he is not entirely unknowable, for the agnostic certainly thinks that we can know one thing about him: That nothing else can be known about him.” In the end, agnosticism is an illogical position to hold to. –**J. Budziszewski**, Quoted in Ron Rhodes, *Answering the Objections of Atheists, Agnostics & Skeptics*, p. 25.

"Jesus said that one of the ways to find out whether He was speaking the truth was by first choosing to do God's will. He said, "If anyone is willing to do His will, he will know of the teaching, whether it is of God or whether I speak from Myself" (John 7:17). One of the reasons some people aren't sure about the truthfulness of Jesus' words is because they're not concerned at all with pleasing God. They are living for themselves. If they were to purpose in their hearts to live a life pleasing to God and then pick up the New Testament and read it, I'm convinced many of

them would come to the realization that Jesus spoke utter words of truth." –**Charlie Campbell**

## **ANTHROPIC PRINCIPLE**

“If the universe had not been made with the most exacting precision we could never have come into existence. It is my view that these circumstances indicate the universe was created for man to live in.” –**Robert Jastrow**, agnostic astronomer, author of *God and the Astronomers*

“An honest man, armed with all the knowledge available to us now, could only state that in some sense, the origin of life appears at the moment to be almost a miracle, so many are the conditions which would have had to have been satisfied to get it going.” – **Francis Crick**, biochemist and spiritual skeptic, shared the Nobel Prize for discovering the molecular structure of DNA

“There is for me powerful evidence that there is something going on behind it all....It seems as though somebody has fine-tuned nature's numbers to make the universe....The impression of design is overwhelming.” – **Paul Davies**, an internationally known British astrophysicist and author

“When you realize that the laws of nature must be incredibly finely tuned to produce the universe we see, that conspires to plant the idea that the universe did not just happen, but that there must be a purpose behind it.” – **John Polkinghorne**

“It was my science that drove me to the conclusion that the world is much more complicated than can be explained by science, it is only through the supernatural that I can understand the mystery of existence.” – **Allan Sandage**

“Many have a feeling that somehow intelligence must have been involved in the laws of the universe....I strongly sense the presence and actions of a creative being far beyond myself and yet always personal and close by.” – **Charles Townes**

“There is for me powerful evidence that there is something going on behind it all....It seems as though somebody has fine tuned nature's numbers to make the Universe....The impression of design is overwhelming.” –**Paul Davies**

“A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature. The numbers one calculates from the facts seem to me so overwhelming as to put this conclusion almost beyond question.” –**Fred Hoyle**

“Discoveries of the last half of the 20th century have brought the scientific community to the realization that our universe and our planet in the universe are so remarkably unique that it is almost impossible to imagine how this could have happened accidentally, causing many agnostic scientists to concede that indeed some intelligent creative force may be required to account for it.” –**Dr. Walter Bradley**, Professor Emeritus of Mechanical Engineering at Texas A & M University, as quoted by Jimmy Williams in “**Does God Exist.**”

## **APOCRYPHAL BOOKS**

“Now there were many attempts made by Satan to infiltrate the Old Testament Canon with uninspired books. At least 14 of them have been accumulated and together they are called the Apocrypha. You find them in a Roman Catholic Bible. They are not a part of our Bible. They are not inspired books....They were clearly fakes. How do we know they were fakes? They were

written long after the canon was completed and they lacked the prophetic quality and authorship to stamp them as inspired Scripture. None of their writers claimed divine inspiration and some openly disclaimed it. And Apocrypha books contained errors of facts, errors of ethics, errors of doctrine. For example, some of the Apocrypha books advocate suicide. Some of them advocate assassination and some of them teach praying for dead people. Therein lies one of the reasons you find them in a Catholic Bible.”

–**John MacArthur**

## **APOLOGETICS**

"If Christians could be trained to to provide solid evidence for what they believe and good answers to unbelievers' questions and objections, then the perception of Christians would slowly change. Christians would be seen as thoughtful people to be taken seriously rather than as emotional fanatics or buffoons. The gospel would be a real alternative for people to embrace." –

**William Lane Craig**, *On Guard: Defending Your Faith with Reason and Precision*, p. 18

“Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important.” –

**C. S. Lewis**

“A dog barks when his master is attacked. I would be a coward if I saw that God's truth is attacked and yet would remain silent.” –

**John Calvin**

“If the Bible is not the Word of God and inspired, the whole of Christendom for 1800 years has been under an immense delusion; half the human race has been cheated and deceived, and churches are monuments of folly. If the Bible is the Word of God and inspired, all who refuse to believe it are in fearful danger; they are living on the brink of eternal misery. No man, in his sober

senses, can fail to see that the whole subject demands most serious attention.” –**J.C. Ryle** (1816-1900)

“Can you imagine being an ambassador for your country and neglecting to prepare yourself for the common questions that people ask about your homeland? That would be irresponsible. You’d be without a job very quickly. God tells us that we are His ambassadors (2 Cor. 5:20). Seeing that that is the case, I think it is important that every Christian consider the following question: Am I ready to answer the common questions people ask about God? Am I ready to explain to someone why I believe the Bible is trustworthy? 1 Peter 3:15 says that we are to be *ready* to give a defense of our faith. Are you ready? Sadly, many Christians watch more TV in a week than they’ll spend in a year preparing themselves to answer questions about God and the Bible. Don’t leave defending the faith to your pastor. The church needs an army of saints who are able to articulate the truth persuasively and graciously. We are all called to “contend earnestly for the faith” (Jude 3). ” –**Charlie Campbell**

“If the truth offends, then let it offend. People have been living their whole lives in offense to God; let them be offended for a while.” –**John MacArthur**, *Found: God’s Will*, p. 52.

“To be ignorant and simple now-not to be able to meet the enemies on their own ground-would be to throw down our weapons and to betray our uneducated brethren who have, under God, no defense but us against the intellectual attacks of the heathen. Good philosophy must exist, if for no other reason, because bad philosophy needs to be answered.” –**C. S. Lewis**

“Christianity is...rarely understood by those outside its bounds. In fact, this is probably one of the greatest tasks confronting the

apologist—to rescue Christianity from its understandings.” —**Alister E. McGrath**

“If I profess with the loudest voice and clearest exposition every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christ. Where the battle rages, there the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady on all the battlefield besides, is mere flight and disgrace if he flinches at that point.” —**Martin Luther**

“There was a time when only specialized Christian missionaries needed to be able to defend the gospel of Jesus Christ against the attacks of Islam. Today every Christian has an opportunity and obligation to present the gospel effectively and in Christian love to the Muslims who have permeated our Western society. When your neighbor, your mechanic, your favorite basketball player, your employer or employee, or even your children's friends could very well be Muslims, the need for proper understanding and an effective Christian witness is abundantly clear.” —**Josh McDowell**

“For my own part, I believe that in dealing with skeptics, and unbelievers, and enemies of the Bible, Christians are too apt to stand only on the defensive. They are too often content with answering this or that little objection, or discussing this or that little difficulty, which is picked out of Scripture and thrown in their teeth. I believe we ought to act on the aggressive far more than we do, and to press home on the adversaries of [Biblical] inspiration the enormous difficulties of their own position.” —**J.C. Ryle**  
(1816-1900)

“As vital as it is for us to enlist in the Truth War and do battle for our faith, it is even more important to remember why we are fighting—not merely for the thrill of vanquishing some foe or

winning some argument, but out of a genuine love for Christ, who is the living, breathing embodiment of all that we hold true and worth fighting for.” —**John MacArthur**, *The Truth War*, p. xxvi-xxvii

“Christianity today is in conflict; in conflict against the secular world; in conflict with world religions—which are hostile to us—in conflict against the Kingdom of the Cults—and the Occult; in conflict against corrupt theology in our theological seminaries—and oftentimes in our pulpits; in conflict against all forms of evil surrounding us on all sides. And it is a foolish person indeed, who does not recognize that the Church was born in conflict; lives in conflict, and will triumph in conflict. We have been called to be soldiers of the cross. And if we’re going to be soldiers of the cross that means that we have to be attired to fight. That’s why Paul could say here in 2 Timothy, chapter 4 — I have fought the good fight [v. 7]. He did not say, “I have taken the long vacation.” I have fought the good fight, I finished the course, I kept the faith. But the problem we are facing today in Christianity—and one of the reasons why we are in crisis—is this: A large section of the Christian Church simply will not come into conflict with the world. And that, is one of our greatest drawbacks.” —**Walter Martin**

“Unless I am convinced by Scripture and plain reason-I do not accept the authority of the popes and councils, for they have contradicted each other-my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not recant anything for to go against conscience is neither right nor safe. Here I stand. I can do no other. God help me. Amen.” —**Martin Luther**

“It is generally the man who is not ready to argue, who is ready to sneer.” —**G.K. Chesterton**, as quoted in *The Christian Research Journal*, Vol. 32, No. 1, 2009, p. 44.



“In Jeremiah 1:9-10, God tells Jeremiah, "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.....to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant." To root out? To pull down? To destroy? What is God talking about? There are times for God's ambassadors when preaching the gospel is not enough. God's ambassadors are to preach the gospel and to make disciples ("to build and to plant") but sometimes before an unsaved person will embrace the gospel, we must be involved in what we might call "spiritual demolition." That is, demolishing lies and misconceptions that are keeping a person back from embracing the gospel. God wants to use us, His church, yes for the proclamation of the gospel, but also to attack error (sounds kind of strong, but notice again the verse in Jeremiah 1) with truth. He wants us to root out and pull down ideas, philosophies, and lies that keep people back from truly knowing God. This was something that Paul and Timothy did. Paul wrote, "We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God" (2 Cor. 10:5). Of course, this attack on error is to be done with great humility, love and patience for the person (1 Ptr. 3:15, 2 Tim. 2:24-26).” –**Charlie Campbell**

“We are called to be earnest contenders for the faith. This is not a call to be contentious, mean-spirited, or looking for an argument. "And the servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God will perhaps grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth" (2 Timothy 2:24-25). We must speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Harsh, unloving use of the truth of God is not edifying to man or glorifying to God.” –**Bob Hoekstra**

“Just as bank tellers need a thorough knowledge of legitimate currency in order to spot counterfeit bills, so Christians need a thorough knowledge of the Bible in order to spot bogus religious teachings. How grounded are you in the Scriptures? How deep

are your theological roots? How capable are you of detecting false teachings?” –**Charles Swindoll**

## **ARCHAEOLOGY**

“It may be stated categorically that no archaeological discovery has ever controverted a Biblical reference. Scores of archaeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or exact detail historical statements in the Bible. And, by the same token, proper evaluation of Biblical descriptions has often led to amazing discoveries.” –**Nelson Glueck**

“Archaeological work has unquestionably strengthened confidence in the reliability of the Scriptural record. More than one archaeologist has found his respect for the Bible increased by the experience of excavation in Palestine.” –**Millar Burrows**, former Yale University professor

“Where the data of the Gospels can be tested, they consistently have proven to be remarkably accurate, especially in John. Archaeologists have unearthed the five porticoes of the pool of Bethesda by the Sheep Gate (John 5:2), the pool of Siloam (9:1-7), Jacob's well at Sychar (4:5), the "Pavement" (Gabbatha) where Pilate tried Jesus (19:13), and Solomon's porch in the temple precincts (10:22-23). As recently as 1961 an inscription was discovered in Caesarea, providing for the first time extrabiblical corroboration of Pilate as Judea's prefect during the time of Christ. Since the discovery of an ossuary (bone-box) of a crucified man named Johanan from first-century Palestine confirms that nails were driven in his ankles, as in Christ's; previously some skeptics thought that that Romans used only ropes to affix the legs of condemned men to their crosses....In 1990, the burial grounds of Caiaphas, the Jewish high priest, and his family were uncovered in Jerusalem. These and numerous

other details create a favorable impression of the Gospels' trustworthiness in the areas in which they can be tested.” –**Craig L. Blomberg**

“Archaeologists and other scholars have long probed the hemisphere's past, and the Society does not know of anything found so far that has substantiated the Book of Mormon.” –**The National Geographic Society**

“It is not too much to say that it was the rise of the science of archeology that broke the deadlock between historians and the orthodox Christian. Little by little, one city after another, one civilization after another, one culture after another, whose memories were enshrined only in the Bible, were restored to their proper place in ancient history by the studies of archeologists... The over-all result is indisputable. Forgotten cities have been found, the handiwork of vanished peoples has reappeared, contemporary records of Biblical events have been unearthed and the uniqueness of biblical revelation has been emphasized by contrast and comparison to the newly understood religions of ancient peoples. Nowhere has archaeological discovery refuted the Bible as history.” –**John Elder**, archaeologist (Quoted in Don Stewart, *The Ten Wonders of the Bible*, 1990, p. 58)

“While many have doubted the accuracy of the Bible, time and continued research have consistently demonstrated that the Word of God is better informed than its critics. In fact, while thousands of finds from the ancient world support in broad outline and often in detail the biblical picture, not one incontrovertible find has ever contradicted the Bible.” –**Norman Geisler**, *Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics*

## **ATHEISM**

“Science itself is steadily nailing the lid on atheism's coffin.” –**Lee Strobel**

“I am persuaded that men think there is no God because they wish there were none. They find it hard to believe in God, and to go on in sin, so they try to get an easy conscience by denying his existence.” –**Charles Spurgeon**

“I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how he could look up into the heavens and say that there is no God.” –**Abraham Lincoln** said, (from booklet inside the *Expelled* DVD)

“Everyone worships—even an atheist. He worships himself. When men reject God they worship false gods. That, of course, is what God forbids in the first commandment.” –**John MacArthur**

“I heard the story of a man, a blasphemer...an atheist, who was converted singularly by a sinful action of his. He had written on a piece of paper, "God is nowhere," and ordered his child to read it, for he would make him an atheist too. The child spelled it, "God is n-o-w h-e-r-e. God is now here." It was a truth instead of a lie, and the arrow pierced the man's own heart.” –**Charles Spurgeon**

“Religion used to be the opium of the people. To those suffering humiliation, pain, illness, and serfdom, religion promised the reward of an after life. But now, we are witnessing a transformation, a true opium of the people is the belief in nothingness after death, the huge solace, the huge comfort of thinking that for our betrayals, our greed, our cowardice, our murders, we are not going to be judged.” –**Czeslaw Milosz**, "Discreet Charm of Nihilism" (The New York Review of Books, November 19, 1998)

"If it were true that Christianity and science were incompatible, there would be no Christians who were respected scientists. In fact, about forty percent of professional natural scientists are practicing Christians, and many others are theists of other kinds. Fewer than thirty percent are atheists." –**Jeffrey Burton Russell**, Ph.D., professor emeritus of history at the University of California, Santa Barbara, *Exposing Myths About Christianity*, IVP Books (2012), p. 147.

"Nothing, absolutely nothing, has a more direct bearing on the moral choices made by individuals or the purposes pursued by society than belief or disbelief in God." – **Ravi Zacharias**, *The Real Face of Atheism* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2004), p. 21.

"Atheism is so senseless. When I look at the solar system. I see the earth at the right distance from the sun to receive the proper amounts of heat and light. This did not happen by chance." –**Sir Isaac Newton**, [http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm\\_author.cfm?AuthorID=11](http://www.blueletterbible.org/commentaries/comm_author.cfm?AuthorID=11)

"A proponent of the big bang theory, at least if he is an atheist, must believe that the matter of the universe came from nothing and by nothing." –**Anthony Kenny**

"I myself find it hard to accept the notion of self-creation from nothing, even given unrestricted chance." –**J. L. Mackie**

"Therefore, when a person refuses to come to Christ it is never just because of lack of evidence or because of intellectual difficulties: at root, he refuses to come because he willingly ignores and rejects the drawing of God's Spirit on his heart. No one in the final analysis really fails to become a Christian because of lack of arguments; he fails to become a Christian because he loves darkness rather than light and wants nothing to do with

God.” –**William Lane Craig**, *Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics*, p. 35-36.

“One by one the great prophets of materialism have been shown to be false prophets and have fallen aside. Marx and Freud have lost their scientific standing. Now Darwin is on the block. Some of us saw a clip of Richard Dawkins being interviewed on public television about his reaction to Michael Behe’s book. You can see how insecure that man is behind his bluster, and how much he has to rely on not having Mike Behe on the program with him, or even a lesser figure like Phil Johnson. Darwinists have to rely on confining their critics in a stereotype. They have learned to keep their own philosophy on the stage with no rivals allowed, and now they have to rely almost exclusively on that cultural power.” – **Phillip E. Johnson** in an article, “How to Sink a Battleship: A call to separate materialist philosophy from empirical science.”

“To be an atheist you must have infinite knowledge in order to know absolutely that there is no God. But to have infinite knowledge, you would have to be God yourself. It's hard to be God yourself and an atheist at the same time! The Bible says in Psalm 14:1, “The fool says in his heart, ‘There is not God.’” –**Ron Carlson and Ed Decker**, *Fast Facts on False Teachings*, p. 17.

“Some say Christianity is just a crutch. But let's turn the question on its edge for a moment. Is atheism an emotional crutch, wishful thinking? The ax cuts both ways. Perhaps atheists are rejecting God because they've had a bad relationship with their father. Instead of inventing God, have atheists invented non-God? Have they invented atheism to escape some of the frightening implications of God's existence? Think about it.” –**Greg Koukl**

## **BIBLE**

“After more than two centuries of facing the heaviest scientific guns that could be brought to bear, the Bible has survived—and is perhaps the better for the siege. Even on the critics' own terms—historical fact—the Scriptures seem more acceptable now than they did when the rationalists began the attack.” –***TIME Magazine***, December 30, 1974.

“There are more sure marks of authenticity in the Bible than in any profane [secular] history.” –**Sir Isaac Newton**

“I must say, that having for many years made the evidences of Christianity the subject of close study, the result has been a firm and increasing conviction of the authenticity and plenary [complete] inspiration of the Bible. It is indeed the Word of God.” –**Simon Greenleaf**, (1783-1853), Founder of Harvard Law School

“Today there survives more than 25,000 partial and complete, ancient handwritten manuscript copies of the New Testament. These hand written manuscripts have allowed scholars and textual critics to go back and verify that the Bible we have in our possession today is the same Bible that the early church possessed 2,000 years ago.” –**Charlie Campbell**

“I am glad there are things in the Bible I do not understand. If I could take that book up and read it as I would any other book, I might think I could write a book like that.” –**Dwight L. Moody**

“The evidence for our New Testament writings is ever so much greater than the evidence for many writings of classical authors, the authenticity of which no one dreams of questioning. And if the New Testament were a collection of secular writings, their authenticity would generally be regarded as beyond all doubt.” –**F.F. Bruce**

“The Bible is like a telescope. If a man looks through his telescope, then he sees the worlds beyond; but if he looks at his telescope, then he does not see anything but that. The Bible is a thing to be looked through, to see that which is beyond; but most people only look at it; and so they see only the dead letter.” – **Phillips Brooks**

“Many people are being persuaded that they cannot be considered intelligent or well educated if they insist on the doctrine of the verbal inspiration of the Book. Let me say to you that truth has always lived with the minority; what the majority says at a given moment is usually wrong. The crowd one day cried, “Crucify him,” and the whole world united to murder the Son of God, because in their ignorance they knew Him not.” –**Alan Redpath**, *Victorious Christian Service: Studies in the Book of Nehemiah*, p. 113.

“There are dozens of writings outside of the Bible that verify the historical accuracy of many of the names of people, places, and events mentioned in the Bible. In fact, external sources verify that at least eighty persons mentioned in the Bible were actual historical figures. Fifty people from the Old Testament, and thirty people from the New Testament.” –**Charlie Campbell**

“I have a fundamental belief in the Bible as the Word of God, written by those who were inspired. I study the Bible daily.” –**Sir Isaac Newton**

“The Bible's historical accuracy is a reminder that while “the heavens declare the glory of God,” there’s also plenty of evidence among the rubble and ruins.” –**Charles Colson**

“All I am in private life is a literary critic and historian, that's my job...And I'm prepared to say on that basis if anyone thinks the Gospels are either legends or novels, then that person is simply



showing his incompetence as a literary critic. I've read a great many novels and I know a fair amount about the legends that grew up among early people, and I know perfectly well the Gospels are not that kind of stuff.” –**C. S. Lewis**

“Holy Scripture could never lie or err...its decrees are of absolute and unavoidable truth.” –**Galileo Galilei**

“To talk of comparing the Bible with other "sacred books" so called, such as the Koran...or the book of Mormon, is positively absurd. You might as well compare the sun with a rushlight, or Skiddaw with a molehill, or St. Paul's with an Irish hovel, or the Portland vase with a garden pot, or the Kohinoor diamond with a bit of glass. God seems to have allowed the existence of these pretended revelations, in order to prove the immeasurable superiority of His own Word.” –**J.C. Ryle** (1816-1900)

“I was brought up to believe that the Bible was the Word of God. In early life I accepted it as such upon the authority of my parents, and never gave the question any serious thought. But later in life my faith in the Bible was utterly shattered through the influence of the writings of a very celebrated, scholarly and brilliant skeptic. I found myself face to face with the question, *Why* do you believe the Bible is the Word of God? I had no satisfactory answer. I determined to go to the bottom of this question. If satisfactory proof could not be found that the Bible was God's Word I would give the whole thing up, cost what it might. If satisfactory proof could be found that the Bible was God's Word I would take my stand upon it, cost what it might. I doubtless had many friends who could have answered the question satisfactorily, but I was unwilling to confide to them the struggle that was going on in my own heart; so I sought help from God and from books, and after much painful study and thought came out of the darkness of

skepticism into the broad daylight of faith and certainty that the Bible from beginning to end is God's Word." –**R. A. Torrey**

"The Bible towers in content above all earlier religious literature; and it towers just as impressively over all subsequent literature in the direct simplicity of its message and...its appeal to men of all lands and times." –**W. F. Albright** (Quoted by Don Stewart, *The Ten Wonders of the Bible*, 1990, p. 24)

"Born in the East and clothed in Oriental form and imagery, the Bible walks the ways of all the world with familiar feet and enters land after land to find its own everywhere. It has learned to speak in hundreds of languages to the heart of man. Children listen to its stories with wonder and delight, and wise men at its warnings, but to the wounded and penitent it has a mother's voice. It has woven itself into our dearest dreams; so that love, friendship, sympathy, devotion, memory, hope, put on the beautiful garments of its treasured speech. No man is poor or desolate who has this treasure for his own. When the landscape darkens, and the trembling pilgrim comes to the Valley of the Shadow, he is not afraid to enter; he takes the rod and staff of Scripture in his hand; he says to friend and comrade, 'Goodbye; we shall meet again'; and confronted by that support, he goes toward the lonely pass as one who walks through darkness into light." –**Henry Van Dyke** (Quoted by Don Stewart, *The Ten Wonders of the Bible*, 1990, p. 9)

"It's natural to be skeptical of a story like Noah. However, the greatest miracle in the Bible is not Noah and the flood. The greatest miracle in the Bible is recorded in the first verse: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." If that miracle is true, then every miracle in the Bible is at least possible (including Noah's Ark). If God created the universe, then He can do whatever He wants inside it." –**Frank Turek**

“Is the Bible the Word of God? Then let us all resolve from this day forward to prize the Bible more. Let us not fear being idolaters of this blessed book. Men may easily make an idol of the Church, of ministers, of sacraments, or of intellect. Men cannot make an idol of the Word. Let us regard all who would damage the authority of the Bible, or impugn its credit, as spiritual robbers. We are traveling through a wilderness: they rob us of our only guide. We are voyaging over a stormy sea: they rob us of our only compass. We are toiling over a weary road: they pluck our staff out of our hands. And what do these spiritual robbers give us in place of the Bible? What do they offer as a safer guide and better provision for our souls? Nothing! absolutely nothing! Big swelling words! Empty promises of new light! High sounding jargon; but nothing substantial and real! They would fain take from us the bread of life, and they do not give us in its place so much as a stone. Let us turn a deaf ear to them. Let us firmly grasp and prize the Bible more and more, the more it is assaulted....God has given us the Bible to be a light to guide us to everlasting life. Let us not neglect this precious gift. Let us read it diligently, walk in its light, and we shall be saved.” –**J.C. Ryle** (1816-1900)

“There are six women with that name “Mary” in the pages of the New Testament. There are so many Mary's in the New Testament, it can be challenging keeping them all straight. By the way, this is another somewhat odd indicator that the authors of the New Testament were not making up a fictional story. Who in their right mind, if they were writing a work of fiction, would use the same first name for six different characters? That would be ludicrous. No one would do that. The disciples, because they were writing a non-fictional historical account, recorded the way things really were. They were dealing with cold, honest facts. So they said, ‘There are six Mary's, and so that is what we're going to call them. “Mary.”’ Confusing? Somewhat. True? Yes.” –**Charlie Campbell**, in response to the *The Jesus Family Tomb*.

## **BIBLE, ALLEGED ERRORS & CONTRADICTIONS**

"Men do not reject the Bible because it contradicts itself, but because it contradicts them." –**E. Paul Hovey**

"I have said many times that if you want to look very wise in the world's eyes and are willing to risk looking foolish years from now, you can make a reputation for yourself by pointing out the "errors" in the Bible. There are always facts we do not know and things we fail to understand, so it will always be possible to point to certain items and say that they are errors. But these things tend to become explained. As time passes and the data from archaeology, historical investigations, numismatics, and other disciplines accumulate, these alleged "errors" tend to explode in the faces of those who propound them, and the position of those who have taken their stand upon the historical accuracy and inerrancy of this book is vindicated. The Bible is seen to be more reliable, not less reliable, as time passes." –**James Montgomery Boice**, *Daniel: An Expository Commentary* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2003), 60.

"While many have doubted the accuracy of the Bible, time and continued research have consistently demonstrated that the Word of God is better informed than its critics. In fact, while thousands of finds from the ancient world support in broad outline and often in detail the biblical picture, not one incontrovertible find has ever contradicted the Bible." –**Norman Geisler**, *Baker Encyclopedia of Christian Apologetics*

"In my experience when critics raise these objections, they invariably violate one of seventeen principles for interpreting the Scriptures....For example, assuming the unexplained is unexplainable....failing to understand the context of the passage....assuming a partial report is a false report...neglecting

to interpret difficult passages in light of clear ones; basing a teaching on an obscure passage; forgetting that the Bible uses nontechnical, everyday language; failing to remember the Bible uses different literary devices...” –**Norman Geisler**

## **BIBLE, EXTRA-BIBLICAL TESTIMONY**

“According to some of the church fathers, the supernatural darkness that accompanied the crucifixion was noticed throughout the world at the time. Tertullian mentioned this event in his *Apologeticum*, a defense of Christianity written to pagan skeptics: “At the moment of Christ's death, the light departed from the sun, and the land was darkened at noonday, which wonder is related in your own annals and is preserved in your archives to this day.” – **John MacArthur**

“There exists no document from the ancient world witnessed by so excellent a set of textual and historical testimonies, and offering so superb an array of historical data on which the intelligent decision may be made. An honest [person] cannot dismiss a source of this kind. Skepticism regarding the historical credentials of Christianity is based upon an irrational bias.” –**Dr. Clark Pinnock**, *Skeptics Who Demanded a Verdict*, Josh McDowell, p. 84

## **BIBLE, FULFILLED PROPHECIES**

“The Old Testament contains over 300 references to the Messiah that were fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Computations using the science of probability on just 8 of these prophecies show the chance that someone could have fulfilled all 8 prophecies is 10 (to the 17th power), or 1 in 100 quadrillion.” –**Fritz Ridenour**, *So What's the Difference?*, p. 28.

## **BIBLE, MANUSCRIPT EVIDENCE FOR**

“There is more than sufficient evidence to establish the fact that the Old Testament we have today is an accurate copy of the original. The Jewish men who copied the scriptures knew exactly how many letters were in every line of every book and how many times each word occurred in each book. This enabled them to check for errors. The first century Roman historian, Flavius Josephus, who was also a Jew, stated: “We have given practical proof of our reverence for our own Scriptures. For although such long ages have now passed, no one has ventured either to add, or to remove, or to alter a syllable; and it is an instinct with every Jew, from the day of his birth, to regard them as the decrees of God, to abide by them, and, if need be, cheerfully to die for them” (*Against Apion*, Book I, sec., 8, p. 158). –**Charlie Campbell**

## **BIBLE, POWER TO CHANGE LIVES**

“The simple record of these three short years of active life has done more to regenerate and soften mankind than all the discourses of philosophers and all the exhortations of moralists.”  
–**William Lecky**, one of Great Britain’s most noted historians and a dedicated opponent of organized Christianity writing about Jesus’ ministry, *Skeptics Who Demanded a Verdict*, Josh McDowell, p. 87

“My father’s life was changed right before my eyes [when he trusted Christ]. It was like someone reached down and switched on a light inside him. He touched alcohol only once after that. He got the drink only as far as his lips and that was it—after forty years of drinking! He didn’t need it any more. Fourteen months later, he died from complications of his alcoholism. But in that fourteen-month period over a hundred people in the area around my tiny hometown committed their lives to Jesus Christ because

of the change they saw in the town drunk, my dad.” –**Josh McDowell**, *The New Evidence that Demands a Verdict*, xxvii.

## **BIBLE, SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY AND FORESIGHT**

“One of the things that sets the Bible apart from all other ancient religious writings is its scientific accuracy. Without exception, every other ancient religious writing contains certain scientific errors. For example, Muhammad taught in the Qur’an that the sun descends down into a muddy spring. The Hindu Vedas state that the Earth is flat and triangular, that earthquakes are caused by elephants shaking themselves under it, and that the moon is 150,000 miles higher than the sun and shines with its own light. You’ll never read absurd statements like those in the Bible.” – **Charlie Campbell**

“It’s ironic that Isaac Newton, discoverer of the laws of motion that were later used by others to attempt to contradict parts of the Bible, was one of its greatest defenders. He wrote several papers supporting the accuracy of the text and spoke out against the Biblical critics of his day.” –**Ralph O. Muncaster**, *The Bible: Scientific Insights*, p. 20.

“A well-known scientist, a very decorated scientist named Herbert Spencer died in 1903. In his scientific career he had become noted for one great discovery, it was a categorical contribution that he made. He discovered that all reality, all reality, all that exists in the universe can be contained in five categories: time, force, action, space and matter. Herbert Spencer said everything that exists, exists in one of those categories: time, force, action, space and matter. Nothing exists outside of those categories. That was a very astute discovery and didn’t come until the nineteenth century. Now think about that. Spencer even listed them in that order: time, force, action, space and matter. That is a

logical sequence. And then with that in your mind, listen to Genesis 1:1. "In the beginning [that's time], God [that's force] created [that's action] the heavens [that's space] and the earth [that's matter]." In the first verse of the Bible God said plainly what man didn't catalog until the nineteenth century. Everything that could be said about everything that exists is said in that first verse." –**John MacArthur**

“For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries.” –**Robert Jastrow**, a confirmed agnostic, and founder of NASA's Goddard institute for Space Studies

## **BIBLE, SON OF GOD’S TESTIMONY**

“Our Lord [Jesus] used historical incidents in the Old Testament in a manner that showed His total confidence in their factual historicity. He acknowledged that Adam and Eve were created by God, that they were two living human beings, not merely symbols of man and woman (Matt. 19:3-5; Mark 10:6-8)...He verified events connected with the flood of Noah’s day (Matt. 24:38-39, Luke 17:26-27)...He authenticated God's destruction of Sodom and the historicity of Lot and his wife (Matt. 10:15; Luke 17:28-29). He accepted as true the story of Jonah and the great fish (Matt. 12:40)...Christ did not merely allude to these stories, but authenticated the events in them as factual history to be completely trusted. These events include many of the controversial passages of the Old Testament, such as Creation, the Flood, and major miracles including Jonah and the fish. Obviously, our Lord felt He had a reliable Bible, historically true,



with every word trustworthy.” –**Charles Ryrie**, *Basic Theology*, p. 99.

“Jesus accepted the plenary [i.e., complete, extending to all its parts] inspiration of the Bible; when first approached by the devil to turn stones into bread, our Lord replied that man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4 quoting Deut. 8:3). He did not say, “some words” but “every word.” If Scripture is breathed out from God (2 Tim. 3:16), then Scripture must be included in what sustains man, not only parts of Scripture but all of it.” –**Charles Ryrie**, *Basic Theology*, p. 98.

## **BIBLE, SPIRIT’S TESTIMONY TO ITS TRUTHFULNESS**

“The Holy Spirit sets His seal in the soul of every believer to the Divine authority of the Bible. It is possible to get to a place where we need no argument to prove that the Bible is God’s Word. Christ says, “My sheep know my voice,” and God’s children know His voice, and I know that the voice that speaks to me from the pages of that Book is the voice of my Father. You will sometimes meet a pious old lady, who tells you that she knows that the Bible is God’s Word, and when you ask her for a reason for believing that it is God’s Word she can give you none, She simply says: “I know it is God’s Word.” You say: “That is mere superstition.” Not at all. She is one of Christ’s sheep, and recognizes her Shepherd’s voice from every other voice. She is one of God’s children, and knows the voice which speaks to her from the Bible is the voice of God.” –**R. A. Torrey**, in an article “Ten Reasons I Believe the Bible is the Word of God.”

## **BIBLE, SURVIVAL**

“After more than two centuries of facing the heaviest scientific guns that could be brought to bear, the Bible has survived—and is perhaps the better for the siege. Even on the critics' own terms—

historical fact—the Scriptures seem more acceptable now than they did when the rationalists began the attack.” –**TIME Magazine**, December 30, 1974.

“For eighteen centuries every engine of destruction that human science, philosophy, wit, reasoning or brutality could bring to bear against a book has been brought to bear against that book to stamp it out of the world, but it has a mightier hold on the world today than ever before. If that were man's book it would have been annihilated and forgotten hundreds of years ago...” –**R. A. Torrey**

## **BOOK OF MORMON**

“One of the most modern pretenders to inspiration is the Book of Mormon. I could not blame you should you laugh outright while I read aloud a page from that farrago.” –**Charles Spurgeon**

“Not one piece of evidence has ever been found to support the Book of Mormon—not a trace of the large cities it names, no ruins, no coins, no letters or documents or monuments, nothing in writing. Not even one of the rivers or mountains or any of the topography it mentions has ever been identified.” – **Dave Hunt**

“When a Mormon says, "The Bible's inspired insofar as it has been properly translated," your first question should be, "Do you mean to say that if the Bible has been changed, it shouldn't be trusted?" They're going to say, "Of course it shouldn't be trusted if it's been changed." Then ask this question, "How many times has the Book of Mormon been changed?" The Book of Mormon has been changed hundreds of times, as a point in fact. This is very well documented. We do have the original documents of the Book of Mormon and we have the current ones and there are hundreds of changes. So even by their own rule, the Book of Mormon is a fraud.” –**Greg Koukl**

## **CULTS**

“Cults use our vocabulary, but they don't use our dictionary.” –  
**Charles Swindoll**

“If Christianity was something we were making up, of course we could make it easier. But it is not. We cannot compete, in simplicity, with people who are inventing religions. How could we? We are dealing with Fact. Of course anyone can be simple if he has no facts to bother about.” –**C. S. Lewis**

“The Devil can cite Scripture for his purpose.” –**William Shakespeare** (1564-1616)

The rise of the cults is “directly proportional to the fluctuating emphasis which the Christian church has placed on the teaching of biblical doctrine to Christian laymen. To be sure, a few pastors, teachers, and evangelists defend adequately their beliefs, but most of them—and most of the average Christian laymen—are hard put to confront and refute a well-trained cultist of almost any variety.” –**Walter Martin**

“The psychological profile of many individuals who are sucked into cults is not flattering. All too often, though not always, people who join cults are highly gullible. Sometimes they are even psychologically vulnerable. But above all, the cultic mentality is characterized by an unhealthy compartmentalization (that is, they "compartmentalize" conflicting facts and ignore anything that contradicts their claims). Many Mormons have a "burning in the bosom" which makes it nearly impossible to reason with them about their faith. Cultists often accept teachings by a kind of blind faith that is impervious to sound reasoning. One Mormon missionary said he would believe the Book of Mormon even if it said there were square circles.” –**Norman Geisler and Ron Rhodes**

## **DEITY OF CHRIST: See Jesus, Deity**

### **EVIL & SUFFERING**

"While Western atheists turn from belief in God because a tsunami in another part of the world caused great suffering, many brokenhearted survivors of that same tsunami found faith in God. This is one of the great paradoxes of suffering. Those who don't suffer much think suffering should keep people from God, while many who suffer a great deal turn to God, not from him." –**Randy Alcorn**, *If God is Good*, p. 102

“Today, people continue to rebel against God. We curse Him, ignore Him, and flaunt our disobedience. Motivated by pride, greed, and selfishness, people destroy one another and willfully abuse and pollute God's earth...it's amazing God has not lost His patience and destroyed all of us. Rather than condemning God for allowing evil, we should be thankful that He withholds the punishment we deserve.” –**Dan Story**, *Defending Your Faith*, p. 176.

“God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pains. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.” –**C. S. Lewis**

“Supposing you eliminated suffering, what a dreadful place the world would be! I would almost rather eliminate happiness. The world would be the most ghastly place because everything that corrects the tendency of this unspeakable little creature, man, to feel over-important and over-pleased with himself would disappear. He's bad enough now, but he would be absolutely intolerable if he never suffered.” –**Malcolm Muggeridge**

“Let us remember that every worldview—not just Christianity's—must give an explanation or an answer for evil and suffering...this

is not just a problem distinctive to Christianity. It will not do for the challenger just to raise the question. This problem of evil is one to which we all must offer an answer, regardless of the belief system to which we subscribe.” –**Ravi Zacharias**

“I saw a young sister, just before this service; and I said to her, "When did you find the Lord?" She replied, "It was when I was very ill." Yes, it is often so; God makes us ill in body that we may have time to think of Him, and turn to Him....What would become of some people if they were always in good health, or if they were always prospering? But tribulation is the black dog that goes after the stray sheep, and barks them back to the Good Shepherd. I thank God that there are such things as the visitations of correction and of holy discipline, to preserve our spirit, and bring us to Christ.” –**Charles Spurgeon**

“God created the possibility of evil; people actualized that potentiality. The source of evil is not God's power but mankind's freedom. Even an all-powerful God could not have created a world in which people had genuine freedom and yet there was no potentiality for sin, because our freedom includes the possibility of sin within its own meaning.” – **Peter Kreeft**

“The Biblical world-view is the only one that accepts the reality of evil and suffering while giving both the cause and the purpose, while offering God-given strength and sustenance in the midst of it.” –**Ravi Zacharias**

“I said, “Can I ask you a question? On every university campus I visit, somebody stands up and says that God is an evil God to allow all this evil into our world. This person typically says, ‘A plane crashes: Thirty people die, and twenty people live. What kind of a God would arbitrarily choose some to live and some to die?’” I continued, “but when we play God and determine whether

a child within a mother's womb should live, we argue for that as a moral right. So when human beings are given the privilege of playing God, it's called a moral right. When God plays God, we call it an immoral act. Can you justify this for me?" That was the end of the conversation." –**Ravi Zacharias**

"Does that not sound odd to you? When God decides who should live or die, he is immoral, When you decide who should live or die, it's your moral right. There was a pin-drop silence." –**Ravi Zacharias**, *The End of Reason*, p. 60.

"Sometimes detractors to Christianity object to the idea of God's existence because of the occurrence of "evil" natural disasters like earthquakes and floods, etc. God created a natural world that is good in that it accomplishes certain things. In order for plants to grow and to continue to nourish humans, the crust of the earth must be replenished. Plate tectonics is one thing that accomplishes this. The incidental by-products are things like earthquakes. It is because there is an ecosystem that God made in the physical universe that has necessary contingencies, and sometimes people get in the way of those things and get killed. That is tragic, but it doesn't mean that the earthquake itself is immoral. It is only tragic because it destroys human beings who have value. If human beings didn't have value, there would be no tragedy. The real question for the atheist is, "Where do human beings derive transcendent value?" The value comes from the God who created them in His image." –**Greg Koukl**

Someone once asked Billy Graham, "If Christianity is valid, why is there so much evil in the world?" To this the famous preacher replied, "With so much soap, why are there so many dirty people in the world? Christianity, like soap, must be personally applied if it is to make a difference in our lives." –**Billy Graham**

“God has reserved to Himself the right to determine the end of life, because He alone knows the goal to which it is His will to lead it. It is for Him alone to justify a life or to cast it away.” –**Dietrich Bonhoeffer**

## **EVOLUTION**

“The extreme rarity of transitional forms in the fossil record persists as the trade secret of paleontology. The evolutionary trees that adorn our textbooks have data only at the tips and nodes of their branches; the rest is inference, however reasonable, not the evidence of fossils.” –**Stephen Jay Gould**

“Is it really credible that random processes could have constructed a reality...which excels in every sense anything produced by the intelligence of man?” –**Michael Denton**

“If Darwinism is true, then there is no purpose or meaning to life, there is no morality, there's no qualitative difference between humans and animals, there's no life after death, and there's no purpose to human history. Now, are you trying to tell me that it doesn't really matter if people believe we evolved or not?” –**Greg Koukl**

“Just one living cell in the human body is, more complex than New York City.” –**Linus Pauling**, Nobel Prize winner

“The extreme rarity of transitional forms in the fossil record persists as the trade secret of paleontology. The evolutionary trees that adorn our textbooks have data only at the tips and nodes of their branches; the rest is inference, however reasonable, not the evidence of fossils.” –**Stephen Jay Gould**

“Why then is not every geological formation and every stratum full of such intermediate links? Geology assuredly does not reveal

any such finely graduated organic chain, and this, perhaps, is the most obvious and gravest objection which can be urged against my theory.” –**Charles Darwin**

“To suppose that the eye, with all its inimitable [matchless] contrivances [plans] for adjusting the focus to different distances, for admitting different amounts of light, and for the correction of spherical and chromatic aberration, could have been formed by natural selection, seems, I freely confess, absurd in the highest possible degree.” –**Charles Darwin**

“There is enough information capacity in a single human cell to store the Encyclopedia Britannica, all 30 volumes of it, three or four times over.” –**Richard Dawkins**

“DNA is like a computer program, but far, far more advanced than any software we've ever created.” –**Bill Gates**, founder of Microsoft

“The positive evidence for Darwinism is confined to small-scale evolutionary changes like insects developing insecticide resistance....Evidence like that for insecticide resistance confirms the Darwinian selection mechanism for small-scale changes, but hardly warrants the grand extrapolation that Darwinists want. It is a huge leap going from insects developing insecticide resistance via the Darwinian mechanism of natural selection and random variation to the very emergence of insects in the first place by that same mechanism.” –**William Dembski**, Ph.D., author of *The Design Revolution*

“The temptation to believe that the Universe is the product of some sort of design, a manifestation of subtle aesthetic and mathematical judgment, is overwhelming. The belief that there is “something behind it all” is one that I personally share with, I



suspect, a majority of physicists.” –**Paul Davies**, internationally known British astrophysicist and author

“Human DNA contains more organized information than the Encyclopedia Britannica. If the full text of the encyclopedia were to arrive in computer code from outer space, most people would regard this as proof of the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence. But when seen in nature, it is explained [by Darwinists] as the workings of random forces.” –**Dr. George Sim Johnston**

“Even if all the data points to an intelligent designer, such an hypothesis is excluded from science because it is not naturalistic.” –**Dr. Scott Todd**, Kansas State University

“We have no acceptable theory of evolution at the present time. There is none; and I cannot accept the theory that I teach to my students each year. Let me explain. I teach the synthetic theory known as the neo-Darwinian one, for one reason only; not because it's good, we know that it is bad, but because there isn't any other. Whilst waiting to find something better you are taught something which is known to be inexact.” –**Professor Jerome Lejeune**, in a lecture given in Paris on March 17, 1985

“Scientists who utterly reject evolution may be one of our fastest-growing controversial minorities...Many of the scientists supporting this position hold impressive credentials in science.” –**Larry Hatfield**

“It never ceases to amaze us that when we were in kindergarten they taught us that a frog turning into a prince was a nursery fairy tale, but when we got to college they told us that a frog turning into a prince was science.” –**Ron Carlson & Ed Decker**

“It now seems to me that the findings of more than fifty years of DNA research have provided materials for a new and enormously powerful argument to design.” –**Antony Flew**

“Neanderthal man turned out to be not an ape-man but rather truly human. Java man turned out to be an arboreal ape. Piltdown man turned out to be a colossal hoax. Peking man turned out to be a monkey. Nebraska man turned out to be a wild pig. Lucy was apparently a chimpanzee. Yet, in each case, when these discoveries were made, the popular media reported them as hard proof for evolutionary theory.” –**Ron Rhodes**, *The Ten Things You Should Know About the Creation vs. Evolution Debate*, p. 86-87

“One by one the great prophets of materialism have been shown to be false prophets and have fallen aside. Marx and Freud have lost their scientific standing. Now Darwin is on the block. Some of us saw a clip of Richard Dawkins being interviewed on public television about his reaction to Michael Behe’s book. You can see how insecure that man is behind his bluster, and how much he has to rely on not having Mike Behe on the program with him, or even a lesser figure like Phil Johnson. Darwinists have to rely on confining their critics in a stereotype. They have learned to keep their own philosophy on the stage with no rivals allowed, and now they have to rely almost exclusively on that cultural power.” – **Phillip E. Johnson** in an article, “How to Sink a Battleship: A call to separate materialist philosophy from empirical science.”

“A Chinese paleontologist lectures around the world saying that recent fossil finds in his country are inconsistent with the Darwinian theory of evolution. His reason: The major animal groups appear abruptly in the rocks over a relatively short time, rather than evolving gradually from a common ancestor as Darwin’s theory predicts. When this conclusion upsets American scientists, he wryly comments: “In China we can criticize Darwin

but not the government. In America you can criticize the government but not Darwin.” –**Phillip E. Johnson** in an article, “The Church of Darwin.”

“One of the reasons I started taking this anti-evolutionary view, or let's call it non-evolutionary view, was last year I had a sudden realization that for over twenty years I had thought I was working on evolution in some way. One morning I woke up and something had happened in the night and it struck me that I had been working on this stuff for twenty years and there was not one thing I knew about it. That's quite a shock to learn that one can be misled so long....For the last few weeks I've tried putting a simple question to various people and groups of people. The question is this: Can you tell me anything you know about evolution, any one thing, any one thing that you think is true? I tried that question on the geology staff at the Field Museum of Natural History and the only answer I got was silence. I tried it on the members of the Evolutionary Morphology Seminar at the University of Chicago, a very prestigious body of evolutionists, and all I got there was silence for a long time and eventually one person said, "I do know one thing-it ought not to be taught in high school."...The level of knowledge about evolution is remarkably shallow. We know it ought not to be taught in the high school and that's all we know about it.” –**Colin Patterson**, former Senior Paleontologist at the British Museum of Natural History in London and editor of its journal, in a speech given at the American Museum of Natural History, New York, November 5, 1981.

## **EVOLUTION’S COMING DEMISE**

“These are exciting times. When I finished the Epilogue to *Darwin on Trial* in 1993, I compared evolutionary naturalism to a great battleship afloat on the Ocean of Reality. The ship's sides are heavily armored with philosophical and legal barriers to criticism,

and its decks are stacked with 16-inch rhetorical guns to intimidate would-be attackers. In appearance, it is as impregnable as the Soviet Union seemed a few years ago. But the ship has sprung a metaphysical leak, and that leak widens as more and more people understand it and draw attention to the conflict between empirical science and materialist philosophy. The more perceptive of the ship's officers know that the ship is doomed if the leak cannot be plugged. The struggle to save the ship will go on for a while, and meanwhile there will even be academic wine-and-cheese parties on the deck. In the end, the ship's great firepower and ponderous armor will only help drag it to the bottom. Reality will win.” –**Phillip E. Johnson** in an article, “How to Sink a Battleship: A call to separate materialist philosophy from empirical science.”

“According to Darwinists, there is such overwhelming evidence for their view that it should be considered a fact. Yet to the Darwinists' dismay, at least three-quarters of the American people - citizens of the most scientifically advanced country in history - reject it....The truth is Darwinism is not a scientific theory, but a materialistic creation myth masquerading as science. It is first and foremost a weapon against religion - especially traditional Christianity. Evidence is brought in afterwards, as window dressing. This is becoming increasingly obvious to the American people, who are not the ignorant backwoods religious dogmatists that Darwinists make them out to be. Darwinists insult the intelligence of American taxpayers and at the same time depend on them for support. This is an inherently unstable situation, and it cannot last. If I were a Darwinist, I would be afraid. Very afraid.” – **Jonathan Wells**

## FALSE TEACHING IN THE CHURCH

“I think that it is so important to know this. In a time like this of tolerance, listen, false teaching will always cry intolerance. It will always say you are being divisive, you are being unloving, you are being ungracious, because it can only survive when it doesn’t get scrutinized. So it cries against any intolerance. It cries against any examination, any scrutiny—just let’s embrace each other; let’s love each other; let’s put all that behind us. False doctrine cries the loudest about unity. Listen carefully when you hear the cry for unity, because it may be the cover of false doctrine encroaching. If ever we should follow 1 Thessalonians 5, and examine everything carefully, it’s when somebody is crying unity, love, and acceptance.” —**John MacArthur**

“Truth is never determined by looking at God’s Word and asking, “What does this mean to me?” Whenever I hear someone talk like that, I’m inclined to ask, “What did the Bible mean before you existed? What does *God* mean by what He says?” Those are the proper questions to be asking. Truth and meaning are not determined by our intuition, experience, or desire. The true meaning of Scripture—or anything else, for that matter—has already been determined and fixed by the mind of God. The task of the interpreter is to discern *that* meaning. And proper interpretation must precede application.” —**John MacArthur**, *The Truth War*, p. xx-xxi

“Indifference, timidity, compromise, and nonresistance are all ruled out as options for Christians when the gospel is under attack.” —**John MacArthur**, *The Truth War*, p. xxv

“Remember, the apostle Paul called the church “the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15). We have a duty to uphold the truth and to wield the sword of God’s Word against every

human speculation and every worldly hypothesis raised up against the knowledge of God.” —**John MacArthur**, *The Truth War*, p. 39

“Apostasy can have far-reaching and disastrous effects on an entire congregation’s spiritual health. When false teaching goes unchallenged, it breeds more confusion and draws still more shallow and insincere people into the fold. If not vigorously resisted, apostasy will spread like leaven through seminaries, denominations, missions agencies, and other Christian institutions. False teaching thus attacks the church like a parasite, affecting our corporate testimony, inoculating people against the real truth of the gospel, proliferating false and halfhearted “disciples,” and filling the church with people who are actually unbelievers. By such means, entire churches and denominations have been taken over by apostasy...Whole denominations (even many where the gospel was once proclaimed clearly) have been left spiritually bankrupt because error and unbelief were tolerated rather than being opposed.” —**John MacArthur**, *The Truth War*, p. 45

“If your creed and Scripture do not agree, cut your creed to pieces, but make it agree with this book. If there be anything in the church to which you belong which is contrary to the inspired Word, leave that church.” —**Charles Spurgeon**

“The Bible constantly exhorts believers to beware of false prophets (Matt. 7:15), to test the spirits (1 John 4:1), and to watch out for the doctrines of demons (1 Timothy 4:1). But there is no way to recognize error unless we know the truth; counterfeits cannot be detected unless we know the genuine article. Likewise, there is no way to determine what is false about God unless we know what is true about him. Jesus said, “You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free” (John 8:32). A study of the

attributes of the true God is essential to the fulfillment of the apologetic task of defending the faith (Philippians 1:7; 1 Peter 3:15; Jude 3).” –**Norman Geisler**, *Systematic Theology*, Vol. 2, p. 18.

## **FLOOD, EVIDENCE FOR**

“If the Flood were local, why did Noah have to build an Ark? He could have walked to the other side of the mountains and escaped. Traveling just 20 km per day, Noah and his family could have traveled over 3,000 km in six months. God could have simply warned Noah to flee, as He did for Lot in Sodom....If the Flood were local, why did God send the animals to the Ark to escape death? There would have been other animals to reproduce those kinds even if they had all died in the local area. Or He could have sent them to a non-flooded region. If the Flood were local, why would birds have been sent on board? These could simply have winged across to a nearby mountain range. Birds can fly several hundred kilometers in one day....If the Flood were local, how could the waters rise to 15 cubits (8 meters) above the mountains (Gen. 7:20)? Water seeks its own level. It could not rise to cover the local mountains while leaving the rest of the world untouched.” –**Ken Ham**, *The New Answers Book*

## **GOD, EVIDENCE FOR**

"We have only to see a few letters of the alphabet spelling our name in the sand to recognize at once the work of an intelligent agent. How much more likely, then is the existence of an intelligent Creator behind human DNA, the colossal biological database that contains no fewer than 3.5 billion "letters" - the longest "word" yet discovered?" –**John Lennox**, *God and Stephen Hawking: Whose Design Is It Anyway?*, p. 75.

“The most beautiful system of the sun, planets and comets could only proceed from the counsel and dominion of an intelligent and powerful being.” –**Sir Isaac Newton**

“God maintains a delicate balance between keeping his existence sufficiently evident so people will know he's there and yet hiding his presence enough so that people who want to choose to ignore him can do it. This way, their choice of destiny is really free.” –**J.P. Moreland**

“As Christians we accept one big miracle: God, and everything else makes sense. An atheist denies God and has to have a miracle for every other thing.” –**John MacArthur**

Scholar and apologist R.C. Sproul was once asked, “What is the difference between the Christian God, and the gods of the other religions?” He simply, yet profoundly answered, “The main difference is this: The God of Christianity exists.” –**R.C. Sproul**, *Now That's A Good Question*, p. 14.

“When you analyze all of the most current affirmative evidence from cosmology, physics, astronomy, biology, and so forth...the positive case for an intelligent designer becomes absolutely compelling.” –**Jonathan Wells**

"Either God exists, or he does not...Let us weigh the gain and the loss in betting that God exists...If you win, you win everything; if you lose, you lose nothing. Do not hesitate then, to gamble on His existence." –**Blaise Pascal**, French scientist and theologian, quoted in Harold Sala, *Why You Can Have Confidence in the Bible*, p. 159

“I confess that when I have to argue about the truth of divine things it is a dreary task to me....while they are wanting me to argue about this point or that it seems to me like asking a man to



prove that there is a sun in yonder sky. I bask in His beams, I swoon under His heat, I see by His light; and yet they ask me to prove His existence! Are the men mad? What do they want me to prove? That God hears prayer? I pray and receive answers every day. That God pardons sin? I was in my own esteem the blackest of sinners, and sunk in the depths of despair, yet I believed, and by that faith I leaped into a fulness of light and liberty at once. Why do they not try it themselves?” –**Charles Spurgeon**

“I never asserted such an absurd thing as that things arise without a cause.” –**David Hume**

“The most astounding thing God has ever done to show His existence to us is when He passed through the veil between heaven and earth and came to live among us as a man.” –**Sue Bohlin** in an article, “Evidence for the Existence of God.”

## **GOSPELS, ALLEGED PARALLELS**

“Many Christian college students have encountered criticisms of Christianity based on claims that early Christianity and the New Testament borrowed important beliefs and practices from a number of pagan mystery religions. Since these claims undermine such central Christian doctrines as Christ's death and resurrection, the charges are serious. But the evidence for such claims, when it even exists, often lies in sources several centuries older than the New Testament. Moreover, the alleged parallels often result from liberal scholars uncritically describing pagan beliefs and practices in Christian language and then marveling at the striking parallels they think they've discovered.” –**Ronald Nash**

## HEALTH & WEALTH HERESY

“There are those who teach that health and wealth are available from God virtually upon demand. If you are a Christian and you are suffering either physically or financially, the implication of this false doctrine is that you are in sin or you lack faith. Such religious condemnation toward man and attempted manipulation of God is contrary to God's word. Even the Apostle Paul had to endure a great physical affliction, "a thorn in the flesh." This mighty man of faith earnestly sought the Lord three times for relief. Paul had often witnessed God's healing grace. On this occasion, he was to learn of God's sustaining grace. "And He said to me, My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness" (2 Corinthians 12:9). Many times the Lord works in and through our lives more powerfully in sustaining us through difficulties than He does by removing them. The financial promises of the 'Health and Wealth Gospel' represent a further perversion of the Scriptures. If we heeded the warnings of 1 Timothy 6:6-10, these enticing and seductive deceptions regarding wealth would lose their appeal. "Now godliness with contentment is great gain . . . And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content...but those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare...for the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness.” –**Bob Hoekstra**

## HELL

“Despite Hell's unpopularity these days, there are numerous references in the New Testament that warn of hell and the judgment that await the unrighteous. The Bible describes "Hell" as a place of outer darkness (Matt. 25:30), weeping (Matt. 8:12), wailing (Matt. 13:42), gnashing of teeth (Matt. 13:50), flames (Luke 16:24), everlasting fire (Matt. 25:46), a furnace of fire (Matt. 13:42), separation from the righteous (Matt. 25:46), eternal

destruction, away from the presence of the Lord (2 Thess. 1:9), torment (Luke 16:23), everlasting punishment (Matt. 25:46), and as the lake of fire burning with brimstone (Rev. 19:20). The Bible seems to exhaust the human language describing just how awful of a place Hell will be. Who said these things about Hell? Peter? No. Luke? No. All but two of these descriptions were uttered by Jesus Himself.” –**Charlie Campbell**

## **HERMENEUTICS**

“No one statement wrested from its context is a sufficient warrant for actions that plainly controvert other commands. How excellent a thing it would be if the whole Church of Christ had learned that no law of life may be based upon an isolated text. Every false teacher who has divided the Church, has had, "it is written" on which to hang his doctrine.” –**G. Campbell Morgan**

## **INTELLIGENT FAITH**

“The Bible encourages people to put their faith in God. Unfortunately, many people equate faith with a blind leap in the dark or wishful thinking. But the faith that the Bible requires is intelligent faith. It is neither blind nor irrational. Biblical faith is a committing trust with an object (God) who is worthy of our faith. No one is asked to sacrifice his intellect when he puts his faith in the God of the Bible.” –**Don Stewart**, *The Ten Wonders of the Bible*, 1990, p. 13.

“The Christian faith does not call for us to put our minds on the shelf, to fly in the face of common sense and history, or to make a leap of faith into the dark. The rational person, fully apprised of the evidence, can confidently believe...” –**William Lane Craig**

“I have noticed that whenever a person gives up his belief in the Word of God because it requires that he should believe a good

deal, his unbelief requires him to believe a great deal more. If there be any difficulties in the faith of Christ, they are not one-tenth as great as the absurdities in any system of unbelief which seeks to take its place.” –**Charles Spurgeon**

“Many people are being persuaded that they cannot be considered intelligent or well educated if they insist on the doctrine of the verbal inspiration of the Book. Let me say to you that truth has always lived with the minority; what the majority says at a given moment is usually wrong. The crowd one day cried, “Crucify him,” and the whole world united to murder the Son of God, because in their ignorance they knew Him not.” –**Alan Redpath**, *Victorious Christian Service: Studies in the Book of Nehemiah*, p. 113.

## **JESUS**

“I am an historian, I am not a believer, but I must confess as a historian that this penniless preacher from Nazareth is irrevocably the very center of history. Jesus Christ is easily the most dominant figure in all history.” –**H. G. Wells**

“Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires; but upon what foundation did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force! But Jesus Christ founded His upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him.” –**Napoleon Bonaparte I**

“As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene...No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life.” –**Albert Einstein**

“Fundamentally, our Lord's message was Himself. He did not come merely to preach a Gospel; He himself is that Gospel. He

did not come merely to give bread; He said, "I am the bread." He did not come merely to shed light; He said, "I am the light." He did not come merely to show the door; He said, "I am the door." He did not come merely to name a shepherd; He said, "I am the shepherd." He did not come merely to point the way; He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." –**J. Sidlow Baxter**

“The most astounding thing God has ever done to show His existence to us is when He passed through the veil between heaven and earth and came to live among us as a man.” –**Sue Bohlin** in an article, “Evidence for the Existence of God.”

“If God became incarnate, what kind of man would He be?...We would expect Him to be sinless; we would expect him to be holy; we would expect His words to be the greatest words ever spoken; we would expect Him to exert a profound power over human personality; we would expect Him to perform supernatural doings; and we would expect Him to manifest the love of God. Of all human beings who have ever lived, Jesus Christ alone met all of those criteria.” –**John MacArthur** (summarizing a teaching by Bernard Ramm)

“Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, He shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and schools combined; without the eloquence of schools, He spoke words of life such as never were spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of any orator or poet; without writing a single line, He has set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art and sweet songs of praise, than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.” –**Philip Schaff**

“Christ remains the most influential figure in history. Any list of world-transforming individuals would no doubt include Moses, Buddha, and Muhammad. Moses, Buddha, and Muhammad, however occupy totally different places in Judaism, Buddhism, and Islam than Christ occupies in Christianity. Moses, Buddha, and Muhammad never professed to perform miracles; indeed they never claimed to be anything more than men. They viewed themselves simply as God’s messengers. Christ is the only person in history who has defined a whole religion around his person.” –**Dinesh D’Souza**, *What’s So Great About Christianity*, p. 295.

“Here is a man [Jesus] who was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman. He grew up in another village. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty. Then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never owned a home. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself...While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against him. His friends ran away. One of them denied Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed upon a cross between two thieves. While He was dying His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth - His coat. When He was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Nineteen long centuries have come and gone, and today He is a centerpiece of the human race and leader of the column of progress. I am far within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, all the navies that were ever built; all the parliaments that ever sat and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of

man upon this earth as powerfully as has that one solitary life.” –  
**“One Solitary Life” Author Unknown**

“At this time there was a wise man who was called Jesus. And his conduct was good, and he was known to be virtuous. And many people from among the Jews and the other nations became his disciples. Pilate condemned Him to be crucified to die. And those who had become his disciples did not abandon his discipleship. They reported that He had appeared to them three days after his crucifixion and that He was alive.” –**Flavius Josephus**

“He [Jesus] was the greatest human being who has ever lived. He was a moral genius. His ethical sense was unique. He was the intrinsically wisest person that I've ever encountered in my life or in my reading. His commitment was total and led to his own death, much to the detriment of the world...” – **Charles Templeton**

“A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic-on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg-or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.” –**C. S. Lewis**

“If there were even one spark of evidence from antiquity that Jesus even may have gotten married, then as a historian, I would have to weigh this evidence against the total absence of such information in either Scripture or the early church traditions. But there is no such spark-not a scintilla of evidence-anywhere in

historical sources. Even where one might expect to find such claims in the bizarre, second-century, apocryphal gospels...there is no reference that Jesus ever got married.” –**Paul Maier**, professor of ancient history at Western Michigan University

“That a few simple men should in one generation have invented so powerful and appealing a personality, so lofty an ethic, and so inspiring a vision of human brotherhood, would be a miracle far more incredible than any recorded in the Gospels. After two centuries of Higher Criticism the outlines of life, character, and teaching of Christ remain reasonably clear, and constitute the most fascinating feature in the history of Western man” –**Will Durant**, renowned historian who devoted his life to the study of records of antiquity, *Caesar and Christ*, in *The Story of Civilization*, vol. 3, 1944, p. 557.

“If you had gone to Buddha and asked him: ‘Are you the son of Brahma?’ he would have said, ‘My son, you are still in the vale of illusion.’ If you had gone to Socrates and asked, ‘Are you Zeus?’ he would have laughed at you. If you had gone to Mohammed and asked, ‘Are you Allah?’ he would first have rent his clothes and then cut your head off. If you had asked Confucius, ‘Are you Heaven?’ I think he would have probably replied, ‘Remarks which are not in accordance with nature are in bad taste.’ The idea of a great moral teacher saying what Christ said is out of the question. In my opinion, the only person who can say that sort of thing is either God or a complete lunatic...” –**C. S. Lewis**

“Instinctively we do not class Him with others. When one reads His name in a list beginning with Confucius and ending with Goethe we feel it is an offense less against orthodoxy than against decency. Jesus is not one of the group of the world’s great. Talk about Alexander the Great and Charles the Great and Napoleon the Great if you will...Jesus is apart. He is not the



Great; He is the Only. He is simply Jesus....He confounds our canons of human nature.” –**Carnegie Simpson** (Quoted by Don Stewart, *The Ten Wonders of the Bible*, 1990, p. 113)

## **JESUS, DEITY**

“The Jehovah’s Witnesses, having been misled and misinformed by their leaders, continue to persuade people that the deity of Christ was a late invention by false teachers in the fourth century at the Council of Nicaea. Nothing could be further from the truth. In addition to the testimony of the Old Testament prophets (e.g., Isaiah 9:6), the disciples (e.g. John 20:28), and Christ Himself (John 8:58)—all who affirmed the deity of the Messiah—there is also the testimony of the church fathers in the second century, long before the fourth century Council of Nicaea. Men like Ignatius (A.D. 30 – 98 or 117), Justin Martyr (A.D. 100 - 165), Irenaeus (A.D. 120-202), and Clement of Alexandria (A.D. 150 - 215), over and over in their writings, affirm that Jesus was God incarnate.” – **Charlie Campbell**

## **JESUS, HISTORICITY OF**

“Do you believe in the existence of Socrates? Alexander the Great? Julius Caesar? If historicity is established by written records in multiple copies that date originally from near contemporaneous sources, there is far more proof for Christ’s existence than for any of theirs.” –**Dinesh D’Souza**, *What’s So Great About Christianity*, p. 296.

“The “Encyclopedia Britannica, fifteenth edition, devotes 20,000 words to the person of Jesus Christ and never once hints that He didn’t exist.” –**John Ankerberg**

## MIRACLES

“As Paul stood on trial for preaching the resurrection of Jesus Christ, he asked those present a pointed question: "Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead (Acts 26:8)?" Many unbelievers find it too difficult, too incredible, that God would or could raise a dead man (Jesus) back to life. And yet, many of these same people have no problem believing that God exists and that He created the heavens and the earth. This is astonishing to me! Think this through with me. If God can create the universe with all of its billions of galaxies, and millions of kinds of living creatures from nothing, it certainly seems within the bounds of reason to believe that He could raise Jesus' body back to life. As it has often been said, if you can believe Genesis 1:1, you should have no problem believing Matthew 28:6: ‘He has risen, just as he said.’” –**Charlie Campbell**

## MISCELLANEOUS

“There are those who hate Christianity and call their hatred an all-embracing love for all religions.” –**G. K. Chesterton**

“There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, ‘Thy will be done,’ and those to whom God says, in the end, ‘Thy will be done.’” –**C. S. Lewis**

"One key and defining attribute of God that does not appear in any other world religion or system is the biblical use of the term "Father." Over 70 times in the New Testament alone, God is described as "Father" to His children. No major world religion describes the relationship between its creator and its adherents in terms of a father." –**Ergun Caner**, *The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics*, p. 254.

“Idolatry is not simply worshiping a stone image; idolatry is any concept of God that reduces Him to less than who He really is.” – **Ron Carlson and Ed Decker**, *Fast Facts on False Teachings*, p. 196.

“Lots of people today would never consider themselves guilty of idolatry as far as it is spelled out in the Ten Commandments, but by reducing God to some benevolent "man upstairs" whose only attributes are love and tolerance, and who could not care less about sin, they truly have transgressed God's commandment. They have created a god in their mind who does not actually exist and will on the day of judgment, not be able to offer them any help.” –**Charlie Campbell**

“I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.” – **C.S. Lewis**

“Eighty and six years have I served Him, and He hath done me no wrong. How can I speak evil of my King who saved Me?” – **Polycarp**, a disciple of the apostle John just before being burned alive for his faith at age 86

“I always tried to be open-minded, but not so open-minded that my brains would fall out. As G. K. Chesterton says, "The purpose of opening the mind, as of opening the mouth, is to close it again on something solid." I opened my mind, and I finally closed it on the most solid reality I had ever experienced. On December 19, 1959, at 8:30PM, during my second year at the university, I became a Christian.” –**Josh McDowell**

“The unattended garden will soon be overrun with weeds; the heart that fails to cultivate truth and root out error will shortly be a theological wilderness.” –**A. W. Tozer**

"The future of this nation depends on the Christian training of our youth." –**George Washington**, Quoted by Alison Thomas in Ravi Zacharias, Gen. Ed, *Beyond Opinion*, p. 58

## **POSTMODERNISM**

"Postmodernism is a form of intellectual pacifism that, at the end of the day, recommends backgammon while the barbarians are at the gate. It is the easy, cowardly way out that removes the pressure to...be different, to risk ridicule, to take a stand outside the gate. But it is precisely as disciples of Christ, even more, as officers in His army, that the pacifist way out is simply not an option. However comforting it may be, postmodernism is the cure that kills the patient, the military strategy that concedes defeat before the first shot is fired, the ideology that undermines its own claims to allegiance. And it is an immoral, coward's way out that is not worthy of a movement born out of the martyrs' blood." – **J. P. Moreland**, "Truth, Contemporary Philosophy, and the Postmodern Turn," delivered at the Evangelical Theological Society, November 18, 2004.

## **QURAN, THE**

"Even were the Qur'an a perfect word-for-word copy of the original as given by Muhammad, it would not prove the original was inspired of God. All it would demonstrate is that today's Qur'an is a carbon copy of whatever Muhammad said. It would say or prove nothing about the truth of what he said. The Muslim claim that they have the true religion, because they have the only perfectly copied holy book, is as logically fallacious as someone preferring a perfectly printed counterfeit \$1000 bill over a slightly imperfect genuine one. The crucial question, which Muslim apologists beg by this argument, is whether the original is God's

Word, not whether they possess a perfect copy of it.” –**Dr. Norman Geisler**

## **REASONS PEOPLE REJECT CHRIST**

“Therefore, when a person refuses to come to Christ it is never just because of lack of evidence or because of intellectual difficulties: at root, he refuses to come because he willingly ignores and rejects the drawing of God's Spirit on his heart. No one in the final analysis really fails to become a Christian because of lack of arguments; he fails to become a Christian because he loves darkness rather than light and wants nothing to do with God.” –**William Lane Craig**, *Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics*, p. 35-36.

“One response was given by the innkeeper when Mary and Joseph wanted to find a room where the Child could be born. The innkeeper was not hostile; he was not opposed to them, but his inn was crowded; his hands were full; his mind was preoccupied. This is the answer that millions are giving today. Like a Bethlehem innkeeper, they cannot find room for Christ. All the accommodations in their hearts are already taken up by other crowding interests. Their response is not atheism. It is not defiance. It is preoccupation and the feeling of being able to get on reasonably well without Christianity.” –**Billy Graham**

## **RELATIVISM**

"Relativism poses as freedom but it is just another form of tyranny: You must believe that all religions are equal because we say they are. You must agree with us that everything is relative, or we will punish you." –**Jeffrey Burton Russell**, *Exposing Myths About Christianity*, p. 144

## RESURRECTION, JESUS'

“The Canadian scientist G. B. Hardy one time said, "When I looked at religion I said, I have two questions. One, has anybody ever conquered death, and two, if they have, did they make a way for me to conquer death? I checked the tomb of Buddha, and it was occupied, and I checked the tomb of Confucius and it was occupied, and I checked the tomb of Mohammed and it was occupied, and I came to the tomb of Jesus and it was empty. And I said, There is one who conquered death. And I asked the second question, Did He make a way for me to do it? And I opened the Bible and discovered that He said, 'Because I live ye shall live also.'" – **John MacArthur**, (from *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary*, (c) Moody Press and John MacArthur, Jr., 1983-2002)

“I have been used for many years to study the histories of other times and to examine and weigh the evidence of those who have written about them, and I know of no one fact in the history of mankind which is proved by better and fuller evidence of every sort, to the understanding of a fair inquirer, than the great sign which God hath given us that Christ died and rose again from the dead.” –**Thomas Arnold**, historian and Oxford professor

“Even if the disciples had believed in the resurrection of Jesus, it is doubtful they would have generated any following. So long as the body was interred in the tomb, a Christian movement founded on belief in the resurrection of the dead man would have been an impossible folly.” –**William Lane Craig**

“If all the evidence is weighed carefully and fairly, it is indeed justifiable, according to the canons of historical research, to conclude that the sepulcher of Joseph of Arimathea, in which Jesus was buried, was actually empty on the morning of the first

Easter. And no shred of evidence has yet been discovered in literary sources, epigraphy, or archaeology that would disprove this statement.” –**Paul Maier**

“They [the disciples] were testifying to the resurrection, a question of fact, not merely of faith. They were convinced of an event. And their willingness to die for attesting to that event is far more convincing than the willingness of others to die for a mere belief or because of loyalty to a religion or religious leader.” –**Dave Hunt**

“I claim to be an historian. My approach to Classics is historical. And I tell you that the evidence for the life, the death, and the resurrection of Christ is better authenticated than most of the facts of ancient history...” – **E. M. Blaiklock**, Professor of Classics at Auckland University

“Raking all the evidence together, it is not too much to say that there is no historic incident better or more variously supported than the resurrection of Christ. Nothing but the antecedent assumption that it must be false could have suggested the idea of deficiency in the proof of it.” –**Brooke Foss Westcott**

“As Paul stood on trial for preaching the resurrection of Jesus Christ, he asked those present a pointed question: "Why should any of you consider it incredible that God raises the dead (Acts 26:8)?" Many unbelievers find it too difficult, too incredible, that God would or could raise a dead man (Jesus) back to life. And yet, many of these same people have no problem believing that God exists and that He created the heavens and the earth. This is astonishing to me! Think this through with me. If God can create the universe with all of its billions of galaxies, and millions of kinds of living creatures from nothing, it certainly seems within the bounds of reason to believe that He could raise Jesus' body back to life. As it has often been said, if you can believe Genesis 1:1,

you should have no problem believing Matthew 28:6: 'He has risen, just as he said.'" –**Charlie Campbell**

"If Jesus remained dead, how can you explain the reality of the Christian church and its phenomenal growth in the first three centuries of the Christian era? Christ's church covered the Western world by the fourth century. A religious movement built on a lie could not have accomplished that....All the power of Rome and of the religious establishment in Jerusalem was geared to stop the Christian faith. All they had to do was to dig up the grave and to present the corpse. They didn't." –**Henry Schaefer III**

"In 56 A.D. [the apostle] Paul wrote that over 500 people had seen the risen Jesus and that most of them were still alive (1 Corinthians 15:6ff.). It passes the bounds of credibility that the early Christians could have manufactured such a tale and then preached it among those who might easily have refuted it simply by producing the body of Jesus." –**John Warwick Montgomery**

"If the Resurrection had not occurred, why would the apostle Paul give such a list of supposed eyewitnesses? He would immediately lose all credibility with his Corinthian readers by lying so blatantly." –**Norman Geisler and Frank Turek**

"I know the resurrection is a fact, and Watergate proved it to me. How? Because 12 men testified they had seen Jesus raised from the dead, then they proclaimed that truth for 40 years, never once denying it. Every one was beaten, tortured, stoned and put in prison. They would not have endured that if it weren't true. Watergate embroiled 12 of the most powerful men in the world- and they couldn't keep a lie for three weeks. You're telling me 12 apostles could keep a lie for 40 years? Absolutely impossible." –**Charles Colson**



“The evidence for the resurrection is better than for claimed miracles in any other religion. It's outstandingly different in quality and quantity.” –**Antony Flew**

“Why would the apostles lie?....Liars always lie for selfish reasons. If they lied, what was their motive, what did they get out of it? What they got out of it was misunderstanding, rejection, persecution, torture, and martyrdom. Hardly a list of perks!” – **Peter Kreeft**, in Geisler & Hoffman, *Why I Am a Christian*, 2001, p. 232.

“The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the single greatest event in the history of the world. It is so foundational to Christianity that no one who denies it can be a true Christian. Without resurrection there is no Christian faith, no salvation, and no hope. “If there is no resurrection of the dead,” Paul explains, “not even Christ has been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain, your faith also is vain” (1 Cor 15:13-14). A person who believes in a Christ who was not raised believes in a powerless Christ, a dead Christ. If Christ did not rise from the dead, then no redemption was accomplished at the cross and “your faith is worthless,” Paul goes on to say; “you are still in your sins” (v. 17).” –**John MacArthur**

“The fact that the Christian fellowship, founded on belief in Jesus’ resurrection, could come into existence and flourish in the very city where he was executed and buried seems to be compelling evidence for the historicity of the empty tomb.” –**William Lane Craig**

“If you were going to make up a religion and base it on the resurrection of the founder, you wouldn't bury his body in the very city that he was put to death in, put his name on the outside of his ossuary and then also bury other members of his family in the

same grave as *The Jesus Family Tomb* says. That would be foolish. No, you would get rid of the body, burn it, bury it, etc. Then you could more safely move about the city telling people, "Ah, our leader has risen!" And then if you were found out, you certainly wouldn't persist with your story under the threat of death; you would come clean to save your life by admitting that the whole thing was a poorly thought out attempt at deception. Jesus' disciples were not foolish enough to do any of these things. Their leader, Jesus, really had risen from the grave. They knew that, and they laid down their lives testifying to that fact. Their willingness to die at the hands of skeptics is compelling evidence that they were telling the truth." –**Charlie Campbell**

## **TACTICS**

"If you are drawn into controversy, use very hard arguments and very soft words. Frequently you cannot convince a man by tugging at his reason, but you can persuade him by winning his affections." –**Charles Spurgeon**, *Lectures to My Students*, p. 173

"If you're placed in a situation where you suspect your convictions will be labeled intolerant, bigoted, narrow-minded, and judgmental, turn the tables. When someone asks for your personal views about a moral issue-homosexuality, for example-preface your remarks with a question. You say: "You know, this is actually a very personal question you're asking, and I'd be glad to answer. But before I do, I want to know if you consider yourself a tolerant person or an intolerant person. Is it safe to give my opinion, or are you going to judge me for my point of view? Do you respect diverse ideas, or do you condemn others for convictions that differ from yours?" Let them answer. If they say they're tolerant (which they probably will), then when you give your point of view it's going to be very difficult for them to call you intolerant or judgmental without looking guilty, too. This response

capitalizes on the fact that there's no morally neutral ground. Everybody has a point of view they think is right and everybody judges at some point or another. The Christian gets pigeon-holed as the judgmental one, but everyone else is judging, too. It's an inescapable consequence of believing in any kind of morality." – **Greg Koukl**

## **TRINITY**

"The doctrine of the Trinity...is truth for the heart. The fact that it can not be satisfactorily explained, instead of being against it, is in its favor. Such a truth had to be revealed; no one could imagine it." –**A.W. Tozer**

## **TRUTH**

"Truth is so obscured nowadays and lies [are] so well established that unless we love the truth we shall never recognize it." –**Blaise Pascal**

## Napoleon: Reflections On Jesus

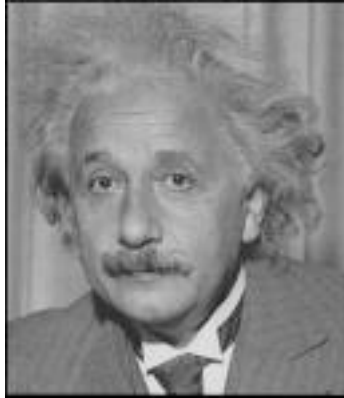


Napoleon expressed the following thoughts while he was exiled on the rock of St. Helena (1815-1821). There, the conqueror of civilized Europe had time to reflect on the measure of his accomplishments. He called Count Montholon to his side and asked him, "**Can you tell me who Jesus Christ was?**" The count declined to respond. Napoleon countered:

*"Well then, I will tell you. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne and I myself have founded great empires; but upon what did these creations of our genius depend? Upon force. Jesus alone founded His empire upon love, and to this very day millions would die for Him... I think I understand something of human nature; and I tell you, all these were men, and I am a man; none else is like Him: Jesus Christ was more than a man... I have inspired multitudes with such an enthusiastic devotion that they would have died for me... but to do this it was necessary that I should be visibly present with the electric influence of my looks, my words, of my voice. When I saw men and*

*spoke to them, I lightened up the flame of self-devotion in their hearts... Christ alone has succeeded in so raising the mind of man toward the unseen, that it becomes insensible to the barriers of time and space. Across a chasm of eighteen hundred years, Jesus Christ makes a demand which is beyond all others difficult to satisfy; He asks for that which a philosopher may often seek in vain at the hands of his friends, or a father of his children, or a bride of her spouse, or a man of his brother. He asks for the human heart; He will have it entirely to Himself. He demands it unconditionally; and forthwith His demand is granted. Wonderful! In defiance of time and space, the soul of man, with all its powers and faculties, becomes an annexation to the empire of Christ. All who sincerely believe in Him, experience that remarkable, supernatural love toward Him. This phenomenon is unaccountable; it is altogether beyond the scope of man's creative powers. Time, the great destroyer, is powerless to extinguish this sacred flame; time can neither exhaust its strength nor put a limit to its range. This is it, which strikes me most; I have often thought of it. This it is which proves to me quite convincingly the Divinity of Jesus Christ."*

## \*Albert Einstein Quotes on Spirituality



1. I want to know how God created this world. I am not interested in this or that phenomenon, in the spectrum of this or that element. I want to know His thoughts; the rest are details.
2. Science without religion is lame. Religion without science is blind.
3. My religion consists of a humble admiration of the illimitable superior spirit who reveals himself in the slight details we are able to perceive with our frail and feeble mind.
4. The further the spiritual evolution of mankind advances, the more certain it seems to me that the path to genuine religiosity does not lie through the fear of life, and the fear of death, and blind faith, but through striving after rational knowledge.
5. Every one who is seriously involved in the pursuit of science becomes convinced that a spirit is manifest in the laws of the Universe-- a spirit vastly superior to that of man, and one in

the face of which we with our modest powers must feel humble.

6. The scientists' religious feeling takes the form of a rapturous amazement at the harmony of natural law, which reveals an intelligence of such superiority that, compared with it, all the systematic thinking and acting of human beings is an utterly insignificant reflection.
7. There is no logical way to the discovery of elemental laws. There is only the way of intuition, which is helped by a feeling for the order lying behind the appearance.
8. The intuitive mind is a sacred gift and the rational mind is a faithful servant. We have created a society that honors the servant and has forgotten the gift.
9. The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious; It is the source of all true art and science.
10. We should take care not to make the intellect our god; it has, of course, powerful muscles, but no personality.
11. Whoever undertakes to set himself up as a judge of Truth and Knowledge is shipwrecked by the laughter of the Gods.
12. When the solution is simple, God is answering.
13. God does not play dice with the universe.
14. God is subtle but he is not malicious.

15. A human being is a part of the whole, called by us Universe, a part limited in time and space. He experiences himself, his thoughts and feelings as something separated from the rest—a kind of optical delusion of his consciousness. This delusion is a kind of prison, restricting us to our personal desires and to affection for a few persons nearest to us. Our task must be to free from this prison by widening our circle of compassion to embrace all living creatures and the whole nature in its beauty.
16. The man who regards his own life and that of his fellow creatures as meaningless is not merely unfortunate but almost disqualified for life.
17. Peace cannot be kept by force. It can only be achieved by understanding.
18. Only a life lived for others is a life worth while.
19. The human mind is not capable of grasping the Universe. We are like a little child entering a huge library. The walls are covered to the ceilings with books in many different tongues. The child knows that someone must have written these books. It does not know who or how. It does not understand the languages in which they are written. But the child notes a definite plan in the arrangement of the books—a mysterious order which it does not comprehend, but only dimly suspects.



20. The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing. One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day. Never lose a holy curiosity.
21. What I see in Nature is a magnificent structure that we can comprehend only very imperfectly, and that must fill a thinking person with a feeling of humility. This is a genuinely religious feeling that has nothing to do with mysticism.
22. To know that what is impenetrable for us really exists and manifests itself as the highest wisdom and the most radiant beauty, whose gross forms alone are intelligible to our poor faculties - this knowledge, this feeling... that is the core of the true religious sentiment. In this sense, and in this sense alone, I rank myself among profoundly religious men.
23. The real problem is in the hearts and minds of men. It is easier to denature plutonium than to denature the evil spirit of man.
24. True religion is real living; living with all one's soul, with all one's goodness and righteousness.

\* All the above quotes are taken from the following source:  
[www.simpletoremember.com/articles/a/einstein/](http://www.simpletoremember.com/articles/a/einstein/)

## Did Albert Einstein Believe in a Personal God?

Einstein spoke of religion as a all encompassing spirituality, which certainly was directly evident within the realm of the sciences...

**Albert Einstein**, "Science, Philosophy and Religion: a Symposium"...

*"Science without religion is lame, religion without science is blind."*

Even though Einstein exhibited a consistent intuitive awareness of a Creator he remained lifelong noncommittal as a confirmed 'agnostic'.

**Albert Einstein** in a letter to M. Berkowitz, October 25, 1950; Einstein Archive 59–215; from Alice Calaprice, ed., *"The New Quotable Einstein"*, Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 2005, p. 206...

*"My position concerning God is that of an agnostic. I am convinced that a vivid consciousness of the primary importance of moral principles for the betterment and ennoblement of life does not need the idea of a law-giver, especially a law-giver who works on the basis of reward and punishment."*

He unwaveringly spoke of his belief that his 'god' was not a personal God, such as revealed in the Bible.

**Albert Einstein**, "*Albert Einstein, The Human Side*". Princeton University Press. p. 43., Helen Dukas and Banesh Hoffman, editors...

*"It was, of course, a lie what you read about my religious convictions, a lie which is being systematically repeated. I do not believe in a personal God and I have never denied this but have expressed it clearly."*

With regards to Albert Einstein's understanding of the nature of God, he did *not* believe in a personal God. However, it is interesting how he arrived at that conclusion. In developing the theory of relativity, Einstein realized that the equations led to the conclusion that the universe had a beginning. He didn't like the idea of a beginning, because he thought one would have to conclude that the universe was created by God. So, he added a cosmological constant to the equation to attempt to get rid of the beginning. He said this was one of the worst mistakes of his life. Of course, the scientific results of Edwin Hubble observations confirmed that the universe was expanding and had a beginning at some point in the past. So, Einstein became a pseudo-deist, a believer in an impersonal creator God:

*"I believe in Spinoza's God who reveals himself in the orderly harmony of what exists, not in a God who concerns himself with fates and actions of human beings."*

Cable reply to Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein's (Institutional Synagogue in New York) question to Einstein, "Do you believe in God?".

However, it would also seem that Einstein was certainly not an atheist, since he also complained about being put into that camp:

*"In view of such harmony in the cosmos which I, with my limited human mind, am able to recognize, there are yet people who say there is no God. But what really makes me angry is that they quote me for the support of such views."*

Prinz Hubertus zu Lowenstein, *"Towards the Further Shore: An Autobiography"* (Victor Gollancz, London, 1968), p. 156.

*"I'm not an atheist  
and I don't think I can call myself a pantheist.  
We are in the position of a little child  
entering a huge library filled with books  
in many languages.*

*The child knows someone must have written those books.  
It does not know how.*

*It does not understand the languages  
in which they are written.*

*The child dimly suspects a mysterious order  
in the arrangements of the books,  
but doesn't know what it is.*

*That, it seems to me, is the attitude of even  
the most intelligent human being toward God."*

G. S. Viereck, *Glimpses of the Great* (Macaulay, New York, 1930), quoted by D. Brian, "*Einstein: A Life*", p. 186.

### **Einstein on Jesus**

Albert Einstein received instruction in both Christianity (at a Roman Catholic school) and Judaism (his family of origin). When interviewed by the Saturday Evening Post in 1929, Einstein was asked what he thought of Christianity.

#### **Question:**

*"To what extent are you influenced by Christianity?"*

#### **Answer:**

*"As a child I received instruction both in the Bible and in the Talmud. I am a Jew, but I am enthralled by the luminous figure of the Nazarene."*

#### **Question:**

*"Have you read Emil Ludwig's book on Jesus?"*

#### **Answer:**

*"Emil Ludwig's Jesus is shallow. Jesus is too colossal for the pen of phrase mongers, however artful. No man can dispose of Christianity with a bon mot!"*

#### **Question:**

*"You accept the historical existence of Jesus?"*

#### **Answer:**

*"Unquestionably! No one can read the Gospels without feeling the actual presence of Jesus. His personality pulsates in every word. No myth is filled with such life."*

S. Viereck, "What Life Means to Einstein," Saturday Evening Post, 26 October 1929; p. 60;

So, although Einstein was not a Christian, he had great respect for Jesus, and recognized that He was an amazing figure in history.

*Personally having grown up as an atheist  
in a non-religious home,*

*I initially saw Jesus as a brilliant teacher when I read  
the gospels for the first time at age 32.”*

“Glimpses of the Great” (Macauley, New York, 1930), pp. 373-374.

### **Why no personal God?**

So, what was the reason Einstein rejected the existence of a *personal* God? Einstein recognized the remarkable design and order of the cosmos, but could not reconcile those characteristics with the evil and suffering he found in human existence. How could an all-powerful God allow the suffering that exists on earth?

### **Einstein's error**

Einstein's failure to understand the motives of God are the result of his incorrect assumption that God intended this universe as His ultimate perfect creation. Einstein could not get past the moral problems that are present in our universe. He assumed, as most atheists do, that a personal God would only create a universe which is both good morally and perfect physically. Where Einstein erred was in that thinking that there was a god who designed the universe, but designed it in such a way as to allow evil without a purpose. If the universe were designed and it included evil, then there *must* have been a purpose for

that evil. However, according to Christianity, the purpose of the universe is not to be morally or physically perfect, but to provide a place where spiritual creatures can choose to love or reject God - to live with Him forever in a new, perfect universe, or reject Him and live apart from Him for eternity. It would not be possible to make this choice in a universe in which all moral choices are restricted to only good ones. Einstein didn't seem to understand that one could not choose between good and bad if bad did not exist. It's amazing that such a brilliant man could not understand such a simple logical principle.

## **Conclusion**

No, Albert Einstein was not a Christian or even a theist (one who believes in a personal God), probably because he failed to understand why evil existed. These days, those who fail to understand the purpose of evil not only reject the concept of a personal God, but also reject the concept of God's existence altogether. If you are an agnostic or atheist, my goal for you would be to recognize what Albert Einstein understood about the universe - that its amazing design demands the existence of a creator God. Then, go beyond Einstein's faulty understanding of the purpose of the universe and consider the Christian explanation for the purpose of human life and why evil *must* exist in this world, for a 'season'.

## Perspectives On The Teleological (Design) Argument

**Fred Hoyle (British astrophysicist):** "A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a super-intellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature. The numbers one calculates from the facts seem to me so overwhelming as to put this conclusion almost beyond question." (1)

**George Ellis (British astrophysicist):** "Amazing fine tuning occurs in the laws that make this [complexity] possible. Realization of the complexity of what is accomplished makes it very difficult not to use the word 'miraculous' without taking a stand as to the ontological status of the word." (2)

**Paul Davies (British astrophysicist):** "There is for me powerful evidence that there is something going on behind it all....It seems as though somebody has fine-tuned nature's numbers to make the Universe....The impression of design is overwhelming". (3)

**Paul Davies:** "The laws [of physics] ... seem to be the product of exceedingly ingenious design... The universe must have a purpose". (4)

**Alan Sandage (winner of the Crawford prize in astronomy):** "I find it quite improbable that such order came out of chaos. There has to be some organizing



principle. God to me is a mystery but is the explanation for the miracle of existence, why there is something instead of nothing." (5)

**John O'Keefe (astronomer at NASA):** "We are, by astronomical standards, a pampered, cosseted, cherished group of creatures... .. If the Universe had not been made with the most exacting precision we could never have come into existence. It is my view that these circumstances indicate the universe was created for man to live in." (6)

**George Greenstein (astronomer):** "As we survey all the evidence, the thought insistently arises that some supernatural agency - or, rather, Agency - must be involved. Is it possible that suddenly, without intending to, we have stumbled upon scientific proof of the existence of a Supreme Being? Was it God who stepped in and so providentially crafted the cosmos for our benefit?" (7)

**Arthur Eddington (astrophysicist):** "The idea of a universal mind or Logos would be, I think, a fairly plausible inference from the present state of scientific theory." (8)

**Arno Penzias (Nobel prize in physics):** "Astronomy leads us to a unique event, a universe which was created out of nothing, one with the very delicate balance needed to provide exactly the conditions required to permit life, and one which has an underlying (one might say 'supernatural') plan." (9)

**Roger Penrose (mathematician and author):** "I would say the universe has a purpose. It's not there just somehow by chance." (10)

**Tony Rothman (physicist):** "When confronted with the order and beauty of the universe and the strange coincidences of nature, it's very tempting to take the leap of faith from science into religion. I am sure many physicists want to. I only wish they would admit it." (11)

**Vera Kistiakowsky (MIT physicist):** "The exquisite order displayed by our scientific understanding of the physical world calls for the divine." (12)

**Robert Jastrow (self-proclaimed agnostic):** "For the scientist who has lived by his faith in the power of reason, the story ends like a bad dream. He has scaled the mountains of ignorance; he is about to conquer the highest peak; as he pulls himself over the final rock, he is greeted by a band of theologians who have been sitting there for centuries." (13)

**Stephen Hawking (British astrophysicist):** "Then we shall... be able to take part in the discussion of the question of why it is that we and the universe exist. If we find the answer to that, it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason - for then we would know the mind of God." (14)

**Frank Tipler (Professor of Mathematical Physics):**  
"When I began my career as a cosmologist some twenty

years ago, I was a convinced atheist. I never in my wildest dreams imagined that one day I would be writing a book purporting to show that the central claims of Judeo-Christian theology are in fact true, that these claims are straightforward deductions of the laws of physics as we now understand them. I have been forced into these conclusions by the inexorable logic of my own special branch of physics." (15).

**Alexander Polyakov (Soviet mathematician):** "We know that nature is described by the best of all possible mathematics because God created it."(16)

**Ed Harrison (cosmologist):** "Here is the cosmological proof of the existence of God – the design argument of Paley – updated and refurbished. The fine tuning of the universe provides prima facie evidence of deistic design. Take your choice: blind chance that requires multitudes of universes or design that requires only one.... Many scientists, when they admit their views, incline toward the teleological or design argument." (17)

**Edward Milne (British cosmologist):** "As to the cause of the Universe, in context of expansion, that is left for the reader to insert, but our picture is incomplete without Him [God]." (18)

**Barry Parker (cosmologist):** "Who created these laws? There is no question but that a God will always be needed." (19)

**Drs. Zehavi, and Dekel (cosmologists):** "This type of universe, however, seems to require a degree of fine tuning of the initial conditions that is in apparent conflict with 'common wisdom'." (20)

**Arthur L. Schawlow (Professor of Physics at Stanford University, 1981 Nobel Prize in physics):** "It seems to me that when confronted with the marvels of life and the universe, one must ask why and not just how. The only possible answers are religious. . . . I find a need for God in the universe and in my own life." (21)

**Henry "Fritz" Schaefer (Graham Perdue Professor of Chemistry and director of the Center for Computational Quantum Chemistry at the University of Georgia):** "The significance and joy in my science comes in those occasional moments of discovering something new and saying to myself, 'So that's how God did it.' My goal is to understand a little corner of God's plan." (22)

**Wernher von Braun (Pioneer rocket engineer):** "I find it as difficult to understand a scientist who does not acknowledge the presence of a superior rationality behind the existence of the universe as it is to comprehend a theologian who would deny the advances of science." (23)

**Carl Woese (microbiologist from the University of Illinois):** "Life in Universe - rare or unique? I walk both sides of that street. One day I can say that given the 100 billion stars in our galaxy and the 100 billion or more

galaxies, there have to be some planets that formed and evolved in ways very, very like the Earth has, and so would contain microbial life at least. There are other days when I say that the anthropic principal, which makes this universe a special one out of an uncountably large number of universes, may not apply only to that aspect of nature we define in the realm of physics, but may extend to chemistry and biology. In that case life on Earth could be entirely unique." (24)

**Antony Flew (Professor of Philosophy, former atheist, author, and debater):** "It now seems to me that the findings of more than fifty years of DNA research have provided materials for a new and enormously powerful argument to design." (25)


**Frank Tipler (Professor of Mathematical Physics):** "From the perspective of the latest physical theories, Christianity is not a mere religion, but an experimentally testable science." (26)

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# **Apologetics...**

## **Some Final Personal Reflections**

As authentic Christians, we are called to give rational and reasonable explanations to others for why we believe in the proclaimed truths of Christianity. This premise is found in 1 Peter 3:15 where the greek word “apologia” is translated “to answer” or “give a defense”.

\* This same word (*apologia*, gr.) can be found in Acts 22:1, 25:16; 1 Corinthians 9:3; 2 Corinthians 7:11; Philippians 1:7, 17; 2 Timothy 4:16.

In order to fulfill this command we each need to be trained in knowing what we believe, and well grounded regarding why we believe. This involves more than mere knowledge, but also includes the befitting heart attitude for communicating with others as Christ’ representatives to our generation.

**William Lane Craig**, Philosopher, PhD...

"If Christians could be trained to provide solid evidence for what they believe and good answers to unbelievers’ questions and objections, then the perception of Christians would slowly change. Christians would be seen as thoughtful people to be taken seriously rather than as emotional fanatics or buffoons. The gospel would be a real alternative for people to embrace."



We must also come to terms with understanding that Biblical Christianity has, at various times, been misrepresented throughout the centuries by many competing religious factions, all who would claim to be the so called 'faithful'. The depth of this confusion has been significantly expanded over the past 200 years with a plethora pseudo-christian sects and cults that have come into existence. Waves of heresies have grown with each passing decade, and the multitudes of those who exhibit "*a zeal without knowledge*" (Proverbs 19:2) has allowed for skeptics and others to reshape of Christianity in ways that Jesus would never have encouraged or endorsed. This also has provided the modern atheistic movement much fanatical fodder which to draw from these wells of doctrinal mayhem and confusion.

**Alister E. McGrath**, PhD, Professor, Science and Religion at Oxford University...

"Christianity is... rarely understood by those outside its bounds. In fact, this is probably one of the greatest tasks confronting the apologist – to rescue Christianity from misunderstandings."

It would also be of grave error to not address the historical circumstance we find ourselves in today's world... this being that the 'Kingdom of God' continues to be in conflict with the 'Kingdom of Darkness' to this present moment. Evil runs rampant in all corners of our world and the evidence of man's fallen sinful nature is the overwhelming testimony of known human history. The emphatic truth of

our fallen nature is witnessed right before our eyes daily, as well as within each one of our own hearts.

**Dr. Walter Martin,** Theologian/Apologist...

“Christianity today is in conflict; in conflict against the secular world; in conflict with world religions—which are hostile to us—in conflict against the Kingdom of the Cults—and the Occult; in conflict against corrupt theology in our theological seminaries—and oftentimes in our pulpits; in conflict against all forms of evil surrounding us on all sides. And it is a foolish person indeed, who does not recognize that the Church was born in conflict; lives in conflict, and will triumph in conflict. We have been called to be soldiers of the cross. And if we’re going to be soldiers of the cross that means that we have to be attired to fight. That’s why Paul could say here in 2 Timothy, chapter 4 — I have fought the good fight [v. 7]. He did not say, “I have taken the long vacation”, but “I have fought the good fight, I finished the course, I kept the faith.” But the problem we are facing today in Christianity—and one of the reasons why we are in crisis—is this: A large section of the Christian Church simply will not come into conflict with the world. And that, is one of our greatest drawbacks.”

As an apologist' who desires to build an effectual bridge with those who are outside the faith, we stand firmly on the foundation of truth and love, with Jesus being our primary role-model. It is His example alone we should seek to emulate, thus drawing wisdom for how we are to live in this rebellious age where anti-god humanism and scientific naturalism has captured the hearts and minds of many in our culture. Our purpose must remain firm, even through the senseless morass and confusion that drives so much of our mass media and academic strongholds. We must courageously face these 'world-views in conflict' with a deep and abiding conviction that our cause has eternal worth. Though it appears that the flow of our society exhibits a strident 'running away' from its roots, we must be ever vigilant to present the wondrous gospel of Jesus, which offers love, redemption, and life eternal to all.

**Bob Hoekstra, Pastor/Author...**

“We are called to be earnest contenders for the faith. This is not a call to be contentious, mean-spirited, or looking for an argument. "And the servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God will perhaps grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth" (2 Timothy 2:24-25). We must speak the truth in love (Ephesians 4:15). Harsh, unloving use of the truth of God is not edifying to man or glorifying to God.”

My prayer, for all who have humbly “called upon the name of the Lord,” is that the church of Jesus Christ would rise up with much vigor and passion, and by all means seek to answer the questions and quest of both the seekers and skeptics that live in our midst... and, that we each finish our ‘race of life’ well.

**Hebrews 12:1**

*Therefore, since we are surrounded  
by such a great cloud of witnesses,  
let us throw off everything that hinders  
and the sin that so easily entangles,  
and let us run with perseverance  
the race marked out for us.*

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### **Dedication and Acknowledgements:**

The notes and quotes contained in “Apologetics 101” is a reflection of my journey to discovery, as I have sought to find the reason, meaning and purpose of life.

It was God's generous patience with me, especially during my many prodigal years, that has led to this writing. Now, for over three decades I have never ceased to be amazed that the Lord of all creation would fill my life daily with His presence, giving abundant hope and encouragement, even through the most difficult trials of my life.

I unashamedly confess my love for the graciousness I have received from my Savior, Jesus Christ. I passionately believe that the assurance and hope I have found can be fully realized by anyone who will simply admit their greatest need, i.e., God’s forgiveness for their sin. This redemption is freely offered to all who would place their trust in Jesus. He is the only One who gave His life, to pay our sin debt, so that we could be set free to live life in perfect fellowship with our Creator.



