

# **A Power in Your Pocket**

By Steven E. Dill, D.V.M.

A Power in Your Pocket

Copyright 2022

Steven E. Dill, D.V.M.

Louisville, Kentucky

This book is adapted from *Nobody Wrote This Book* by Steven E. Dill, D.V.M., Louisville, Kentucky, copyright 2018. Used with permission.

This book is dedicated to Pastor Michael Boehm of Encounter Church, Louisville, Kentucky. Pastor Boehm once expressed the wish that he had me (my Biblical apologetic information, to be more accurate) in his pocket. I wouldn't fit, so I compiled this information into a more convenient form.

#### Permission of Use

The Gospel came freely to me, and freely I give it to you. As author and copyright holder of this book, I give permission for any Christian (anyone willing to profess his or her faith that Jesus died for their sins, and that He is their Lord and Savior) to use my information in any way necessary to defend and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as long as you: 1.) Do not alter the material. 2.) Do not charge a fee for it. 3.) Include the copyright information of this book, including the copyright citations for other sources used in this book if you use them. 4.) Include this Permission of Use statement.—Steven E. Dill, D.V.M., September 20, 2022

In J. R. R. Tolkien's book, *The Hobbit*, there was an episode where the creature Gollum asked Bilbo Baggins, the hero of the story, "What does it have in its pockets?" Gollum always spoke to someone in the third-person, especially if he were about to eat them. Gollum's problem was that he had lost his magic ring of power which enabled him to do such horrible things. More than that, he suspected Bilbo had somehow found the ring, that it was in Bilbo's pocket, and worst of all, that Bilbo might use that power against him. Gollum was right. Bilbo did have the Ring of Power in his pocket. Fortunately for Gollum, Bilbo had pity on Gollum, and didn't use the ring against him. You see, it was a ring of evil power; terribly evil power.

You now have the opportunity to have a power in your pocket as well. But this power is a power of great good; not evil. In fact, with this power you can conquer evil. Not only in your own life, but in the lives of others. The power you can have in your pocket comes in the form of information and facts about the Bible. With the information and facts in this book on your smartphone, you can pull your smartphone out of your pockets, and quickly defend the Bible and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ without fear or intimidation. When faced with questions or challenges about God, Jesus, and the Bible, all you need to do is look at the table of contents to see if the answers are in one of the sixteen chapters listed. This book will not enable you to answer every question or challenge, but these sixteen subjects comprise the vast majority of questions and challenges people will throw at you.

The best part about this power is that the power does not depend on you. It does not depend on me. It does not depend on your pastor. This power comes from the Holy Spirit. So, pray to Him before you use this power in whatever situation you are in, and I think you will be amazed at the power you have in your pocket.

## Table of Contents

Who is Jesus Christ?.....	5
Is Jesus the Only Way to Salvation? .....	26
One Historical Test About The Messiah .....	29
40 Old Testament Prophecies Describing Messiah And Their Fulfillment In Jesus .....	33
Historical Evidence for Christianity and the Bible .....	45
Extra-Biblical Evidence for Christianity .....	48
Scientific Evidence for God.....	52
Biblical Cosmology .....	56
The Importance of TRUE Science in the Defense of Christianity.....	59
Evolutionists' Little Secret .....	67
Scientifically Testing Darwin's Theory of Evolution .....	70
Does the Immaterial Exist?.....	75
Who Created God?.....	78
Can Evil Exist in a Universe Created and Controlled by a Good God?.....	81
Why is there Suffering?.....	86
Do Sinners Deserve Hell?.....	86
Other Resources .....	93
Bible Translations .....	94

## Who is Jesus Christ?

You've probably heard someone say the Bible doesn't teach that Jesus is God, or that it's too vague to say for certain. Many think He was just a good and loving man, a brilliant religious teacher, or a powerful political and social reformer. Believe me, nothing could be more untrue! He was much more than all those things. What does the Bible say about Jesus? Was He just a man? Was He God? I am convinced the Bible tells us that Jesus is none other than God Himself.

(Mark 8:27-29 NIV) "Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, 'Who do people say I am?' {28} They replied, 'Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.' {29} 'But what about you?' he asked. 'Who do you say I am?' Peter answered, 'You are the Christ.'"

Who is Jesus Christ? This question has been asked for nearly two thousand years. IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTION YOU WILL EVER FACE. There is no question more critical than this! There are no issues more profound. There is nothing in life more crucial than your relationship with Christ. **It is your answer to this question that determines the eternal destiny of your soul.** No matter how important other things seem to you, nothing else is of any consequence compared to your thoughts about Jesus. Science, cosmology, and questions about the origin of life are such petty issues compared to the person of Christ, that sometimes I wonder why we worry about them. Who was Jesus? Was He a good teacher with a good message? Was He a mere man who possessed a good lifestyle and a dynamic personality? Surely, He was a great orator, and a man of profound wisdom and keen intellect, but was that all? Was there nothing else behind those piercing eyes than a frail human brain? Are references to His divinity to be understood as symbolic? Did He simply reflect a spark of "deity" that can be possessed by all who live as good a life as He lived? Was He an angel or a lesser god (little "g"), or is there more to Him than that? Is He the eternal God, manifested in the flesh for mankind to see and to hear and especially to touch? Are the words from His mouth words from the mouth of the Almighty God Himself? When Jesus speaks does creation hear the voice of its only God and Creator? Simply asked, is Jesus God? I say He is! I say He made that claim, and I say the Bible makes that claim. I will show this by comparing some names, attributes, and works of God in the Old Testament with the same names, attributes, and works of Jesus in the New Testament. You will see how those names, attributes, and works equally describe both God and Jesus.

But, how do these comparisons prove that Jesus Christ is God? It's simple. Let's say I was coming to visit you, and you were going to pick me up at the airport. To recognize me among all the passengers deboarding the plane, you would need to know something about me. If I had told you I am a man, that would narrow your search by 50%. Not specific enough, is it? You would need to know more. So, if I also told you I am white and that I have white hair, that might eliminate most passengers. Yet, even that might not be enough. You might have to inquire of several white men with white hair coming off the plane. Now, if I had told you my

name is Steven Dill, that I am a veterinarian from Louisville, Kentucky, that my wife's name is Linda, that I have two sons—Thomas and James, and that I attend Encounter Church in Louisville, Kentucky, then once you found someone matching all those facts, you would know you had found me.

Then, six months later you meet a woman who says she knows someone named Steven Dill, who is a veterinarian from Louisville, Kentucky, who has a wife named Linda, who has two sons—Thomas and James, and who attends Encounter Church in Louisville, Kentucky. Instantly you would know that you and she are talking about the same person. In fact, with those names, attributes, and activities alone, you would be 100% certain. But, if I had given you a dozen more indicators of my identity, and the woman you met listed those same indicators about me, then there would be no rational argument for believing you were describing two different people. Those matching names, attributes, and activities would be proof that the man you know, and the man she knows, are the same man. This is how the Old and New Testament descriptions of God and Jesus prove that He is God. The comparisons match. In addition to these comparisons, there are some direct Biblical claims declaring Jesus' deity.

## **1. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE CREATOR**

### God is the Creator

(Genesis 1:1 NKJV) “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

(Nehemiah 9:6 NIV) “You alone are the LORD. You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. You give life to everything, and the multitudes of heaven worship you.”

(2 Kings 19:15 KJV) “And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest *between* the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.”

(Isaiah 37:16 NIV) “O LORD Almighty, God of Israel, enthroned between the cherubim, you alone are God over all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.”

(Isaiah 44:24 NIV) “This is what the LORD says— your Redeemer, who formed you in the womb: I am the LORD, who has made all things, who alone stretched out the heavens, who spread out the earth by myself,”

(Genesis 2:4 NIV) “This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created. When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens—”

(2 Chronicles 2:12 NIV) “And Hiram added: “Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who made heaven and earth! He has given King David a wise son, endowed with intelligence and discernment, who will build a temple for the LORD and a palace for himself.”

(Isaiah 45:18 NIV) “For this is what the LORD says— he who created the heavens, he is God; he who fashioned and made the earth, he founded it; he did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited— he says: “I am the LORD, and there is no other.”

(Jeremiah 32:17 NIV) “Ah, Sovereign LORD, you have made the heavens and the earth by your great power and outstretched arm. Nothing is too hard for you.”

(Jeremiah 33:2 NIV) “This is what the LORD says, he who made the earth, the LORD who formed it and established it— the LORD is his name:”

(Isaiah 40:28 NIV) “Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.”

### Jesus is the Creator

(John 1:1-3 KJV) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. {2} The same was in the beginning with God. {3} All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.”

(John 1:10-11 KJV) “He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. {11} He came unto his own, and his own received him not.”

(1 Corinthians 8:6 KJV) “But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we in him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by him.”

(Ephesians 3:9 KJV) “And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:”

(Colossians 1:16 KJV) “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether *they be* thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:”

(Hebrews 1:2 KJV) “Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;”

(Hebrews 1:10 KJV) “And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands:”

## 2. BOTH GOD AND JESUS SUSTAIN THE UNIVERSE

### God Sustains/Upholds/Preserves/Controls the Universe

(Nehemiah 9:6 KJV) “Thou, *even* thou, *art* LORD alone; thou hast made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth, and all *things* that *are* therein, the seas, and all that *is* therein, and thou preservest them all; and the host of heaven worshippeth thee.”

(1 Chronicles 29:11 ESV) “Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all.”

### Jesus Sustains/Upholds/Preserves/Controls the Universe

(Colossians 1:17 KJV) “And he is before all things, and by him all things consist.”

(Hebrews 1:3 KJV) “Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;”

## 3. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE FIRST AND THE LAST

### God is the First and the Last

(Isaiah 44:6 KJV) “Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.”

(Isaiah 48:12-13 KJV) “Hearken unto me, O Jacob, and Israel, my called; I *am* he; I *am* the first, I also *am* the last. {13} Mine hand also hath laid the foundation of the earth, and my right hand hath spanned the heavens: *when* I call unto them, they stand up together.”

### Jesus is the First and the Last

(Revelation 1:8 KJV) “I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.”

(Revelation 1:17-18 NRSV) “When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he placed his right hand on me, saying, “Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, {18} and the living one. I was dead, and see, I am alive forever and ever; and I have the keys of Death and of Hades.”

(Revelation 22:13-16 NRSV) “‘I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.’ {14} Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they will have the right to the tree of life and may enter the city by the gates. {15} Outside are the dogs and

sorcerers and fornicators and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. {16} ‘It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.’”

#### **4. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE HOLY ONE**

##### God is the Holy One

(Jeremiah 50:29 NIV) “Summon archers against Babylon, all those who draw the bow. Encamp all around her; let no one escape. Repay her for her deeds; do to her as she has done. For she has defied the LORD, the Holy One of Israel.”

(Ezekiel 39:7 NIV) “I will make known my holy name among my people Israel. I will no longer let my holy name be profaned, and the nations will know that I the LORD am the Holy One in Israel.”

(1 Samuel 2:2 NIV) “There is no one holy like the LORD; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.”

##### Jesus is the Holy One

(Acts 3:14 KJV) “But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;”

(Revelation 3:7-8 HCSB) “Write to the angel of the church in Philadelphia: ‘The Holy One, the True One, the One who has the key of David, who opens and no one will close, and closes and no one opens says: {8} I know your works. Because you have limited strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name, look, I have placed before you an open door that no one is able to close.’”

(Revelation 15:4 NIV) “Who will not fear you, O Lord, and bring glory to your name? For you alone are holy.”

#### **5. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

##### God is Holy, Holy, Holy

(Isaiah 6:1-3 KJV) “In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. {2} Above it stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with twain he covered his face, and with twain he covered his feet, and with twain he did fly. {3} And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, *is* the LORD of hosts: the whole earth *is* full of his glory.”

## Jesus is Holy, Holy, Holy

(Revelation 4:6-11 KJV) “And before the throne *there was* a sea of glass like unto crystal: and in the midst of the throne, and round about the throne, *were* four beasts full of eyes before and behind. {7} And the first beast *was* like a lion, and the second beast like a calf, and the third beast had a face as a man, and the fourth beast was like a flying eagle. {8} And the four beasts had each of them six wings about *him*; and *they were* full of eyes within: and they rest not day and night, saying, Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. {9} And when those beasts give glory and honour and thanks to him that sat on the throne, who liveth for ever and ever, {10} The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, {11} Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.”

## **6. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE OMNIPRESENT**

### God is Omnipresent

(Psalms 139:7-10 KJV) “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? {8} If I ascend up into heaven, thou *art* there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou *art there*. {9} *If* I take the wings of the morning, *and* dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; {10} Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me.”

### Jesus is Omnipresent

(Matthew 18:20 KJV) “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

(Matthew 28:19-20 KJV) “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: {20} Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.”

## **7. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE OMNIPOTENT**

### God is Omnipotent

(Genesis 17:1 KJV) “And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I *am* the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.”

(Psalms 99:2 KJV) “The LORD *is* great in Zion; and he *is* high above all the people.”

(Psalms 135:5 KJV) “For I know that the LORD *is* great, and *that* our Lord *is* above all gods.”

(Psalms 145:3 KJV) “Great *is* the LORD, and greatly to be praised; and his greatness *is* unsearchable.”

(Job 42:2 NIV) “I know that you can do all things; no plan of yours can be thwarted.”

### Jesus is Omnipotent

(Matthew 11:27 KJV) “All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.”

(Matthew 28:18 KJV) “And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.”

(Colossians 2:9-10 KJV) “For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. {10} And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:”

(John 16:15 NIV) “All that belongs to the Father is mine,”

## **8. BOTH GOD AND JESUS POSSESS FOREKNOWLEDGE**

### God Possesses Foreknowledge

(Isaiah 46:10 KJV) “Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times *the things* that are not *yet* done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure:”

(Psalms 147:5 KJV) “Great *is* our Lord, and of great power: his understanding *is* infinite.”

### Jesus Possesses Foreknowledge

(John 6:64 KJV) “But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.”

## **9. BOTH GOD AND JESUS KNOW THE THOUGHTS OF MEN**

### God Knows the Thoughts of Men

(1 Kings 8:39 KJV) “Then hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place, and forgive, and do, and give to every man according to his ways, whose heart thou knowest; (for thou, *even* thou only, knowest the hearts of all children of men;)”

(Psalms 139:1-2 NIV) “For the director of music. Of David. A psalm. O LORD, you have searched me and you know me. {2} You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar.”

## Jesus Knows the Thoughts of Men

(John 1:47-48 KJV) “Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile! {48} Nathanael saith unto him, Whence knowest thou me? Jesus answered and said unto him, Before that Philip called thee, when thou wast under the fig tree, I saw thee.”

(John 2:24-25 KJV) “But Jesus did not commit himself unto them because he knew *all* men. {25} And needed not that any should testify of man: for he knew what was in man.”

(John 6:64 KJV) “But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.”

## **10. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE ETERNAL**

### God is Eternal

(Psalms 102:24-27 NIV) “So I said: ‘Do not take me away, O my God, in the midst of my days; your years go on through all generations. {25} In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. {26} 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. {27} But you remain the same, and your years will never end.’”

### Jesus is Eternal

(Hebrews 1:10-12 NIV) “He also says, ‘In the beginning, O Lord, you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. {11} They will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like a garment. {12} You will roll them up like a robe; like a garment they will be changed. But you remain the same, and your years will never end.’”

(Hebrews 13:8 KJV) “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

## **11. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE JUDGE OF SIN**

### God is the Judge of Sin

(Ecclesiastes 12:14 KJV) “For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”

(Psalms 7:11 NIV) “God is a righteous judge, a God who expresses his wrath every day.”

(Psalms 50:6 NIV) “And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for God himself is judge. Selah”

### Jesus is the Judge of Sin

(John 5:22-23 KJV) “For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son: {23} That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.”

(2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV) “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

(2 Timothy 4:1 NIV) “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:”

## **12. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE SHEPHERD**

### God is the Shepherd

(Isaiah 40:10-11 KJV) “Behold, the LORD God will come with strong *hand*, and his arm shall rule for him: behold, his reward *is* with him, and his work before him. {11} He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry *them* in his bosom, *and* shall gently lead those that are with young.”

(Psalms 23:1 NIV) “A psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.”

(Jeremiah 31:10 NIV) “Hear the word of the LORD, O nations; proclaim it in distant coastlands: ‘He who scattered Israel will gather them and will watch over his flock like a shepherd.’”

(Micah 5:2-4 NIV) “But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. {3} Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor gives birth and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. {4} He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth.”

### Jesus is the Shepherd

(Matthew 25:31-32 NIV) “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. {32} All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.”

(Matthew 26:31 NIV) “Then Jesus told them, ‘This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: ‘I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.’””

(John 10:11 NIV) “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.”

(John 10:16 NIV) “I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd.”

(Hebrews 13:20 NIV) “May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep,”

(1 Peter 2:25 NIV) “For you were like sheep going astray, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.”

(1 Peter 5:4 NIV) “And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.”

(Revelation 7:17 NIV) “For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

### **13. BOTH GOD AND JESUS FORGIVE SINS**

#### God Forgives Sin

(Job 14:4 KJV) “Who can bring a clean *thing* out of an unclean? not one.”

(1 Samuel 2:25 KJV) “If one man sin against another, the judge shall judge him: but if a man sin against the LORD, who shall entreat for him?”

(Psalms 51:4 KJV) “Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done *this* evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, *and* be clear when thou judgest.”

(Genesis 20:6 KJV) “And God said unto him in a dream, Yea, I know that thou didst this in the integrity of thy heart; for I also withheld thee from sinning against me: therefore suffered I thee not to touch her.”

(Joshua 7:20 KJV) “And Achan answered Joshua, and said, Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and thus and thus have I done:”

(Jeremiah 3:25 KJV) “We lie down in our shame, and our confusion covereth us: for we have sinned against the LORD our God, we and our fathers, from our youth even unto this day, and have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God.”

(Daniel 9:9 KJV) “To the Lord our God *belong* mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him;”

(Exodus 34:7 KJV) “Keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, and that will by no means clear *the guilty*; visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children, and upon the children’s children, unto the third and to the fourth *generation*.”

(1 Kings 8:34 KJV) “Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy people Israel, and bring them again unto the land which thou gavest unto their fathers.”

(2 Chronicles 7:14 KJV) “If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”

(Psalms 85:2 KJV) “Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah.”

### Jesus Forgives Sin

(Luke 5:20-25 KJV) “And when he saw their faith, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee. {21} And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, Who is this which speaketh blasphemies? Who can forgive sins, but God alone? {22} But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts? {23} Whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Rise up and walk? {24} But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power upon earth to forgive sins, (he said unto the sick of the palsy,) I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy couch, and go into thine house. {25} And immediately he rose up before them, and took up that whereon he lay, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.”

## **14. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE SAVIOR**

### God is the Savior

(Isaiah 43:11 KJV) “I, *even I, am* the LORD; and beside me *there is* no saviour.”

(Isaiah 45:21 KJV) “Tell ye, and bring *them* near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? *who* hath told it from that time? *have* not I the LORD? and *there is* no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; *there is* none beside me.”

(Hosea 13:4 KJV) “Yet I *am* the LORD thy God from the land of Egypt, and thou shalt know no god but me: for *there is* no saviour beside me.”

## Jesus is the Savior

(Luke 2:11 KJV) “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.”

(John 4:42 KJV) “And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard *him* ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world.”

(Titus 2:13 NASB) “looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;”

(2 Peter 3:18 KJV) “But grow in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.”

## **15. BOTH GOD AND JESUS DESTROY DEATH**

### God Destroys Death

(Isaiah 25:8 KJV) “He will swallow up death in victory; and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for the LORD hath spoken *it*.”

(Hosea 13:14 NIV) “I will ransom them from the power of the grave ; I will redeem them from death. Where, O death, are your plagues? Where, O grave, is your destruction? I will have no compassion,”

### Jesus Destroys Death

(2 Timothy 1:10 NIV) “But it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.”

## **16. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE STONE OF STUMBLING AND A ROCK OF OFFENSE**

### God is the Stone of Stumbling and the Rock of Offense

(Isaiah 8:13-14 KJV) “Sanctify the LORD of hosts himself; and *let him be* your fear, and *let him be* your dread. {14} And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem.”

## Jesus is the Stone of Stumbling and the Rock of Offense

(1 Peter 2:8 KJV) “And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, even to them which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed.”

### **17. BOTH GOD AND JESUS HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO CHANGE PEOPLE’S NAMES**

#### God has Authority to Change People’s Names

(Genesis 17:5 KJV) “Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.”

#### Jesus has Authority to Change People’s Names

(Revelation 2:17b NIV) “To him who overcomes, I will give some of the hidden manna. I will also give him a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to him who receives it.”

### **18. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE DAVID’S LORD**

#### God is David’s Lord

(Psalms 110:1 KJV) “A Psalm of David. The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.”

#### Jesus is David’s Lord

(Matthew 22:42-45 KJV) “Saying, What think ye of Christ? whose son is he? They say unto him, *The* son of David. {43} He saith unto them, How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, {44} The Lord said unto my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? {45} If David then call him Lord, how is he his son?”

(Acts 2:34 NIV) “For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, ‘The Lord said to my Lord: ‘Sit at my right hand.’”

### **19. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE WORSHIPPED**

#### God is Worshipped

(Isaiah 45:22-23 KJV) “Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I *am* God, and *there is* none else. {23} I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth *in* righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.”

## Jesus is Worshipped

(Philippians 2:10-11 KJV) “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; {11} And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

### **20. BOTH GOD AND JESUS ARE THE LORD OF THE SABBATH**

#### God is the Lord of the Sabbath

(Deuteronomy 5:12-15 NIV) “Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you. {13} Six days you shall labor and do all your work, {14} but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor the alien within your gates, so that your manservant and maidservant may rest, as you do. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.”

(Jeremiah 17:24 NIV) “But if you are careful to obey me, declares the LORD, and bring no load through the gates of this city on the Sabbath, but keep the Sabbath day holy by not doing any work on it,”

#### Jesus is the Lord of the Sabbath

(Mark 2:28 KJV) “Therefore the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.”

(Luke 6:5 KJV) “And he said unto them, That the Son of man is Lord also of the sabbath.”

### **21. JESUS SHARES GOD’S GLORY**

(Isaiah 42:8 NASB) “I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another...”

(Isaiah 48:11 NASB) “For My own sake, for My own sake, I will act; For how can *My name* be profaned? And My glory I will not give to another.”

(John 17:5 NASB) “And now, glorify Thou Me together with Thyself, Father, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was.”

(Matthew 25:31 KJV) “When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:”

## **22. JESUS SHARES GOD’S HONOR**

(1 Chronicles 16:27 KJV) “Glory and honour *are* in his presence; strength and gladness *are* in his place.”

(Psalms 104:1 KJV) “Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, thou art very great; thou art clothed with honour and majesty.”

(John 5:23 NASB) “in order that all may honor the Son, even as they honor the Father. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.”

## **23. JESUS IS THE LORD OF GLORY**

(1 Corinthians 2:7-8 KJV) “But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: {8} Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.”

## **24. JESUS IS THE LORD, OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS**

(Jeremiah 23:5-6 NASB) “‘Behold, *the* days are coming,’ declares the LORD, ‘When I shall raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land. {6} In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell securely; And this is His name by which He will be called, The LORD our righteousness.’”

## **25. JESUS IS THE LORD FROM HEAVEN**

(2 Chronicles 20:6 KJV) “And said, O LORD God of our fathers, *art* not thou God in heaven? and rulest *not* thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand *is there not* power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?”

(1 Corinthians 15:47 KJV) “The first man is of the earth, earthy: the second man is the Lord from heaven.”

(John 8:23 KJV) “And he said unto them, Ye are from beneath; I am from above: ye are of this world; I am not of this world.”

## **26. JESUS IS THE KING OF HEAVEN**

(John 6:62 KJV) “Ye shall see the Son of man ascend up where he was before?”

(John 18:36 NIV) “Jesus said, ‘My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jews. But now my kingdom is from another place.’”

## **27. JESUS IS EQUAL WITH GOD**

(John 10:30 KJV) “I and my Father are one.”

(John 10:38 KJV) “But if I do, though ye believe not me, believe the works: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.”

(John 12:45 KJV) “And he that seeth me seeth him that sent me.”

(Hebrews 1:3 NIV) “The Son is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.”

(John 14:7-10 KJV) “If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. {8} Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father, and it sufficeth us. {9} Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou *then*, Show us the Father? {10} Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.”

(Philippians 2:6 NIV) “Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,”

## **28. JESUS IS GOD WITH US**

(Isaiah 7:14 KJV) “Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.”

(Isaiah 9:6 KJV) “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.”

(Matthew 1:23 KJV) “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

(Luke 1:35 KJV) “And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.”

## **29. JESUS IS GOD IN THE FLESH**

(John 1:14 KJV) “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”

(1 Timothy 3:16 KJV) “And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.”

### **30. JESUS IS GOD WHOSE THRONE WILL LAST FOREVER**

(Psalms 45:6 NIV) “Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.”

(Hebrews 1:8 NIV) “But about the Son he says, ‘Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever, and righteousness will be the scepter of your kingdom.’”

### **31. “A STRAIGHT PATH FOR GOD” REFERS TO JESUS**

(Isaiah 40:3 KJV) “The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”

(Matthew 3:3 KJV) “For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.”

### **32. JESUS CLAIMED EQUALITY WITH GOD**

(Matthew 26:63-66 NIV) “But Jesus remained silent. The high priest said to him, ‘I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.’ {64} ‘Yes, it is as you say,’ Jesus replied. ‘But I say to all of you: In the future you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.’ {65} Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, ‘He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy. {66} What do you think?’ ‘He is worthy of death,’ they answered.”

(John 5:18 KJV) “Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God.”

(John 10:28-33 KJV) “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand. {29} My Father, which gave *them* me, is greater than all; and no *man* is able to pluck *them* out of my Father’s hand. {30} I and *my* Father are one. {31} Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him. {32} Jesus answered them, Many good works have I showed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me? {33} The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.”

### **33. JESUS WAS WORSHIPPED AS GOD**

(Exodus 34:14 KJV) “For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:”

(Daniel 3:28 NASB) “Nebuchadnezzar responded and said, ‘Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, who has sent His angel and delivered His servants who put their trust in Him, violating the king’s command, and yielded up their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God.’”

(Mark 5:6 KJV) “But when he saw Jesus afar off, he ran and worshipped him,”

(Hebrews 1:6 NASB) “And when He again brings the first-born into the world, He says, ‘AND LET ALL THE ANGELS OF GOD WORSHIP HIM.’”

(Revelation 19:10 NIV) “At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, ‘Do not do it! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.’”

### **34. JESUS RAISES THE DEAD AND IS THE SOURCE OF LIFE**

(John 5:21 KJV) “For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.”

(John 10: 17-18 NIV) “The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life— only to take it up again. {18} No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again...”

(John 10:28 NIV) “I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.”

(John 11:25 NIV) “Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life...’”

(John 14:6 NIV) “Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life...’”

### **35. JESUS EXISTED FROM OLD, FROM EVERLASTING**

(Micah 5:2 KJV) “But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”

(John 6:64 KJV) “But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him.”

(John 8:56-59 KJV) “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw *it*, and was glad. {57} Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? {58} Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am. {59} Then took they up stones to cast at him: but Jesus hid himself, and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.”

(John 17:5 KJV) “And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.”

(John 17:24 KJV) “Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.”

(2 Timothy 1:9 KJV) “Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,”

(Hebrews 13:8 KJV) “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”

(1 John 1:1-2 KJV) “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; {2} (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and show unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)”

### **36. JESUS IS CALLED “GOD” AND LORD” BY MEN**

(John 20:28-29 KJV) “And Thomas answered and said unto him, my LORD and my God. {29} Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed.”

(Acts 10:36 NIV) “You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.”

(Rom 9:5 NIV) “Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of Christ, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.”

### **37. JESUS IS CALLED “GOD” AND “LORD” BY ANGELS**

(Matthew 1:23 KJV) “Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.”

(Luke 2: 8-11 KJV) “And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. {9} And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. {10} And the angel

said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. {11} For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord.”

### **38. JESUS IS CALLED “LORD” AT THE FINAL JUDGMENT**

(Matthew 7:22-23 NASB) “Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ {23} “And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”

### **39. FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT SHARE ONE NAME**

(Matthew 28:19 NASB) “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,”

### **40. JESUS CAN DO ANYTHING THE FATHER CAN DO**

(John 5:19 NIV) “Jesus gave them this answer: ‘I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.’”

### **41. JESUS DECLARES HIMSELF THE LORD GOD**

(Luke 4:12 KJV) “And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.”

Whom had Satan been tempting? It was Jesus; but of whom does this command speak? It says not to tempt the Lord God. Jesus applied this command to Himself, and Satan obeyed. If Jesus was not the Lord God, then Satan hadn’t been violating this command, and Jesus was wrong to apply this to Himself. Because Jesus commanded it, and because Satan obeyed it, we learn that both Jesus and Lucifer knew that Jesus was the Lord God. Whom but the Lord God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth would Satan recognize as the Lord God? Do you really think the most powerful angelic being ever created doesn’t know who Jesus is? Do you know?

Who is Jesus? The Bible has answered:

God, The Lord, The Creator of heaven and earth, The Lord thy God, The First And The Last, The Everlasting Father, The Mighty God, The Righteous Judge, The Holy One, The Lord Of Heaven, God In The Flesh, the Word made flesh, the Everlasting One, One With The Father, equal with God, the forgiver of sins, the Lord of the Sabbath, the One from above, and God Over All.

**The question now is: What do YOU think of Jesus?**

If someone has told you that Jesus was a good man, or a great teacher, or even a great political and social reformer, but that He was not the Lord God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth, then that person has lied to you. Jesus is God with a capital, “G.” He’s not some minor “god.” He’s not a glorified angel. He is not a human being elevated to a high spiritual position. He’s not a warm fuzzy feeling. He is not a mere prophet or holy man. He is God Almighty. He is the Second Person of the Godhead, the only God. He is eternal. He is Sovereign over the universe. He created it and is sustaining it this very second. There is no other God, and there is no other way to salvation than by believing in the name of that God, Jesus Christ.

Friend, now is the time to make your decision. If you believe in Jesus as revealed in the Bible, and have put your trust in Him for salvation, then you are saved from your sins, and will be with Jesus in heaven for all eternity.

**(John 3:16-17 NIV) “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. {17} For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.**

## Is Jesus the Only Way to Salvation?

Many non-Christians hate the claim that faith in Jesus Christ is the only way of being saved; the only way to go to heaven. Even some people who call themselves Christians reject the idea. The world hates the concept because it makes Christianity exclusive. They think it is unfair. They believe that any good religion is capable of getting people into heaven. “All religions lead to God,” they claim. “All you need to do to be saved is to be a good person. Do more good deeds than bad deeds, and you’ll be okay.”

But does the Bible agree with what they say?

(John 14:6 NASB) “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.’”

(Acts 4:12 NASB) “And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

(Mark 16:15-16 NASB) “And He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. (16) He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.’”

(John 3:16-18 NASB) “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. (17) For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. (18) He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”

(1 Timothy 2:5 NASB) “For there is one God, *and* one mediator also between God and men, *the* man Christ Jesus,”

(Acts 10:42-43 NASB) “And He ordered us to preach to the people, and solemnly to testify that this is the One who has been appointed by God as Judge of the living and the dead. (43) Of Him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone who believes in Him receives forgiveness of sins.”

(John 3:36 NASB) “He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”

(1 John 5:10-12 NASB) “The one who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself; the one who does not believe God has made Him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has given concerning His Son. (11) And the testimony is this, that God has

given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (12) He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life.”

It is obvious from Scripture that faith in Jesus is the only way to be saved. Now, some argue that these verses are from the New Testament; not the Old Testament. This would be a good argument if the Old Testament contradicted the New Testament on how sinners are saved. Unfortunately for their argument, the Old Testament reveals that salvation comes from only one person; The Jewish Messiah.

Go back and read the account in Genesis 3 to see what happened. God cursed Adam and Eve, but He gave them no remedy for how they could save themselves. No list of good works is prescribed; no religions are named; no religious practices are mentioned; no rituals, or chants, or prayers, or songs are described. There was nothing they could do to save themselves and be restored to God. This is still true today. **There is nothing we can do to save ourselves and be restored to God.** Only the Seed of the woman (the Messiah) can save us. Genesis 3:15 tells us what God was going to do to save man. God tells Satan that the Seed of the woman would someday bruise/crush/destroy him and his evil works. **Only by Christ can we be saved.**

(Genesis 3:15 NASB) “And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel.”

This is the first of the Messianic Prophecies. The Seed of the woman is an important description because it does not mention Messiah as being the Seed of the Man. **Messiah will have no earthly father.** In other words, Genesis 3:15 reveals the Virgin Birth of Christ. No other person can be Messiah because no one else has been born without an earthly father. No salvation can come from anyone except the Seed of the woman. But, the Bible also tells us that only God can be our Savior.

Only God can save us. Only God can be our Savior.

(Isaiah 43:11 NASB) “I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.”

Since only God can be our Savior, the Messiah born of woman must also be God; and that’s what the Old Testament reveals.

(Isaiah 9:6 NASB) “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”

**The entire Bible, Old Testament and New Testament, reveals that salvation comes from only one person, Jesus the Messiah.**

So why do non-Christians hate the Bible’s claim? They say they hate it because it is exclusive. But is exclusivity necessarily wrong in and of itself? No! There are many exclusive situations that people don’t reject. What if you got infected with a deadly “superbug;” a

bacterial infection resistant to all antibiotics except one? Would you refuse to accept your doctor's prescription of this one life-saving drug because it excluded all other antibiotics? You wouldn't object to this exclusivity at all. In fact, you would be overjoyed there was a cure for your disease. Do you hate driving in only one direction down the freeway? Why can't we all be more inclusive when it comes to driving the direction we want on freeways? If you were in an airplane that was about to crash, and someone handed you a parachute, would you reject the parachute because it is the only way you could survive? Would you reject exclusivity in that situation? Not if you're smart; not if you want to live.

God is not exclusive at all when it comes to the offer of salvation. Christ's salvation is offered to all people. That's why the Bible commands Christians to take the Gospel to all peoples and to all nations. Anyone, anywhere, at any time, in any situation can be saved by trusting Jesus. His work on the Cross is the only work that can save us. That gift of Jesus is offered to you right here; right now. Trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and you WILL be saved... you won't be excluded!

So, do all religions lead to God? Yes, but the difference is what happens once you get there.

**(Matthew 7:22-23 NASB) "On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' (23) And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"**

## One Historical Test About The Messiah

After they sinned, God told Adam and Eve about a coming Savior (The Messiah) for all mankind, but He didn't tell them when in history He would come. We need to see if He has already come. (Or, if we should still be waiting.) We need to see if anyone matches His Biblical descriptions.

One Question: Who in history matches these fifteen statements about Messiah?

1.) "But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from ancient days." (TANAKH)

2.) "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy king cometh unto thee, he is triumphant, and victorious, lowly, and riding upon an ass, even upon a colt the foal of an ass." (TANAKH)

3.) "And I said unto them: 'If ye think good, give me my hire; and if not, forbear.' So they weighed for my hire thirty pieces of silver. And the LORD said unto me: 'Cast it into the treasury, the goodly price that I was prized at of them.' And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them into the treasury, in the house of the LORD." (TANAKH)

4.) "Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me." (TANAKH)

5.) "He was oppressed, though he humbled himself and opened not his mouth; as a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before her shearers is dumb; yea, he opened not his mouth." (TANAKH)

6.) "All they that see me laugh me to scorn; they shoot out the lip, they shake the head: 'Let him commit himself unto the LORD! let Him rescue him; let Him deliver him, seeing He delighteth in him.'" (TANAKH)

7.) "The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away backward. I gave my back to the smiters, and my checks to them that plucked off the hair; I hid not my face from shame and spitting." (TANAKH)

8.) "According as many were appalled at thee - so marred was his visage unlike that of a man, and his form unlike that of the sons of men-." (TANAKH)

9.) "They part my garments among them, and for my vesture do they cast lots." (TANAKH)

10.) “But he was wounded because of our transgressions, he was crushed because of our iniquities: the chastisement of our welfare was upon him, and with his stripes we were healed.” (TANAKH)

11.) “A Psalm of David. My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me, and art far from my help at the words of my cry?” (TANAKH)

12.) “And they made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich his tomb; although he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.” (TANAKH)

13.) “For Thou wilt not abandon my soul to the nether-world; neither wilt Thou suffer Thy godly one to see the pit.” (TANAKH)

14.) “A Psalm of David. The LORD saith unto my lord: ‘Sit thou at My right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.’” (TANAKH)

15.) “... because he bared his soul unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” (TANAKH)

The answer is obvious. These statements describe the birth, life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There is no other person in history who fits these descriptions.

The only problem is that these fifteen statements weren't taken from the New Testament. They are from the Old Testament. These statements were written hundreds of years before Jesus was born. Let me repeat these statements with the Old Testament Scripture references and the dates of writing.

1.) Micah 5:2 “But thou, Bethlehem Ephrathah, which art little to be among the thousands of Judah, out of thee shall one come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth are from of old, from ancient days.” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

2.) Zechariah 9:9 “Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, thy king cometh unto thee, he is triumphant, and victorious, lowly, and riding upon an ass, even upon a colt the foal of an ass.” [6<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

3.) Zechariah 11:12-13 “And I said unto them: ‘If ye think good, give me my hire; and if not, forbear.’ So they weighed for my hire thirty pieces of silver. And the LORD said unto me: ‘Cast it into the treasury, the goodly price that I was prized at of them.’ And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them into the treasury, in the house of the LORD.” [6<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

4.) Psalms 41:9 “Yea, mine own familiar friend, in whom I trusted, who did eat of my bread, hath lifted up his heel against me.” [10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

5.) Isaiah 53:7 “He was oppressed, though he humbled himself and opened not his mouth; as a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and as a sheep that before her shearers is dumb; yea, he opened not his mouth.” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

6.) Psalms 22:7-8 “All they that see me laugh me to scorn; they shoot out the lip, they shake the head: (8) ‘Let him commit himself unto the LORD! let Him rescue him; let Him deliver him, seeing He delighteth in him.’” [10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

7.) Isaiah 50:5-6 “The Lord GOD hath opened mine ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned away backward. (6) I gave my back to the smiters, and my checks to them that plucked off the hair; I hid not my face from shame and spitting.” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

8.) Isaiah 52:14 “According as many were appalled at thee - so marred was his visage unlike that of a man, and his form unlike that of the sons of men—” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

9.) Psalms 22:18 “They part my garments among them, and for my vesture do they cast lots.” [10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

10.) Isaiah 53:5 “But he was wounded because of our transgressions, he was crushed because of our iniquities: the chastisement of our welfare was upon him, and with his stripes we were healed.” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

11.) Psalms 22:1 “A Psalm of David. My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken me, and art far from my help at the words of my cry?” [10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

12.) Isaiah 53:9 “And they made his grave with the wicked, and with the rich his tomb; although he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth.” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

13.) Psalms 16:10 “For Thou wilt not abandon my soul to the nether-world; neither wilt Thou suffer Thy godly one to see the pit.” [10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

14.) Psalms 110:1 “A Psalm of David. The LORD saith unto my lord: ‘Sit thou at My right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool.’” [10<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

15.) Isaiah 53:12 “... because he bared his soul unto death, and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” [8<sup>th</sup> century B.C.] (TANAKH)

Some critics say these verses were written after Christ, and then secretly slipped into the Old Testament to make it look like they were prophecies about Jesus. Of course, there aren't any legitimate historians who say this. They all know the evidence proves these verses were written hundreds of years before Christ. For example: The Septuagint was a Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament written about three hundred years before the birth of Christ. Yet

the Septuagint contains all of these statements. The Dead Sea Scrolls, written over 150 years before Jesus, contain all these prophecies. If humans were the sole authors of Scripture, they could not have accurately predicted these and many other statements about Jesus, hundreds of years before He was born. Even more remarkable is that not one of their prophecies was ever wrong. This means they weren't making wild guesses, hoping they might get some right. Whoever wrote the Old Testament had to know exactly what the future would be. No human can know that. The Bible accurately predicted the birth, life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus.

The Bible accurately predicts **your** future too:

**(John 3:36 KJV) "He who believes in the Son has eternal life, but he who refuses to believe in the Son will not see life; instead, the wrath of God remains on him."**

## **40 Old Testament Prophecies Describing Messiah And Their Fulfillment In Jesus**

(p. = prophecy; f. = fulfillment)

The Old Testament reveals many details concerning the Jewish Messiah. There are so many, and they reveal such clear and precise details about Messiah, that anyone would recognize Him when He arrived.

### **1. MESSIAH WILL BE DESCENDED FROM ABRAHAM.**

- p. Genesis 12:3; Genesis 18:18 [15th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:2; Luke 3:34; Acts 3:25; Galatians 3:16

### **2. MESSIAH WILL BE DESCENDED FROM ISAAC.**

- p. Genesis 17:19 [15th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:2

### **3. MESSIAH WILL BE DESCENDED FROM JACOB.**

- p. Genesis 28:14; Numbers 24:17, 19 [15th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:2; Luke 3:34

### **4. MESSIAH WILL BE DESCENDED FROM JUDAH.**

- p. Genesis 49:10 [15th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:2; Luke 3:33

### **5. MESSIAH WILL BE DESCENDED FROM DAVID.**

- p. Psalm 132:11 [10th century B.C.]; Isaiah 11:1-5, 10 [8th century B.C.]; Jeremiah 23:5; 33:15 [7th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:6; Luke 1:32, 33; Acts 2:30; Romans 1:3

### **6. MESSIAH WILL BE BORN IN BETHLEHEM.**

- p. Micah 5:2 [8th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:4-6

### **7. MESSIAH WILL BE BORN OF A VIRGIN.**

- p. Isaiah 7:14 [8th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-35

### **8. MESSIAH WILL BE CALLED EMMANUEL.**

- p. Isaiah 7:14 [8th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 1:23

### **9. MESSIAH WILL HAVE KINGS 2233 TO WORSHIP AND HONOR HIM.**

- p. Psalm 72:10-11 [10th century B.C.]
- f. Matthew 2:1-11

10. MESSIAH WILL BE IN EGYPT, AND FROM THERE WILL BE CALLED OUT.  
p. Numbers 24:8 [15th century B.C.]; Hosea 11:1 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 2:15
11. MESSIAH WILL FIRST MINISTER IN GALILEE.  
p. Isaiah 9:1-8 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 4:12-16
12. MESSIAH WILL ALSO MINISTER TO THE GENTILES.  
p. Isaiah 11:10; 42:1; 49:1-8 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 12:21
13. MESSIAH WILL BE A PROPHET.  
p. Deuteronomy 18:15, 19 [15th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 21:11; John 1:45; John 6:14; Acts 3:22-23
14. MESSIAH WILL BE MEEK AND MILD.  
p. Isaiah 42:2-3; 53:7 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 12:18-20; Matthew 26:62-63
15. MESSIAH WILL PERFORM MIRACLES.  
p. Isaiah 35:5-6 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 11:3-6; John 11:47
16. MESSIAH WILL ENTER JERUSALEM ON A DONKEY COLT.  
p. Zechariah 9:9 [6th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 21:1-10; John 12:14-15
17. MESSIAH WILL ENTER THE TEMPLE.  
p. Malachi 3:1 [5th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 21:12
18. MESSIAH WILL SPEAK, BUT HIS PEOPLE WILL NOT UNDERSTAND  
p. Isaiah 6:9 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 13:14
19. MESSIAH WILL BE REJECTED BY ISRAEL.  
p. Psalm 118:22-23 [10th century B.C.]; Isaiah 8:14-15; 53:3 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 21:42-43; Luke 17:25; Acts 4:11; Romans 1:32-33; Ephesians 2:20
20. MESSIAH WILL BE DESPISED AND REJECTED BY MEN.  
p. Isaiah 53:1-3 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Mark 15:29-32

21. MESSIAH WILL BE BETRAYED TO THE DEATH BY A CLOSE FRIEND.  
p. Psalm 41:9 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Mark 14:10; John 13:18, 21
22. MESSIAH WILL BE BETRAYED FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER.  
p. Zechariah 11:12-13 [6th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 26:15
23. MESSIAH'S BLOOD-MONEY WILL BE GIVEN TO A POTTER.  
p. Zechariah 11:13 [6th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:3-7
24. MESSIAH WILL BE SURROUNDED BY HIS ENEMIES.  
p. Psalm 22:7-8, 13 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:39-44
25. MESSIAH WILL BE FORSAKEN BY HIS FOLLOWERS.  
p. Zechariah 13:7 [7 [6th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 26:31, 56
26. MESSIAH WILL BE MOCKED DURING HIS TRIAL.  
p. Psalm 22:6-8 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:39-44
27. MESSIAH WILL BE SPIT UPON DURING HIS TRIAL.  
p. Isaiah 50:6 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Mark 14:65
28. MESSIAH WILL HAVE FALSE WITNESSES TESTIFY AGAINST HIM.  
p. Psalm 35:11 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Mark 14:56
29. MESSIAH WILL BE SILENT WHEN ACCUSED.  
p. Isaiah 53:7 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 26:63; Matthew 27:13-14
30. MESSIAH WOULD BE DISFIGURED BY VIOLENCE.  
p. Isaiah 52:14; 53:1-3 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:27-30
31. MESSIAH WOULD BE GIVEN A MIXTURE OF VINEGAR AND GALL.  
p. Psalm 69:21 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:31; John 19:29

32. MESSIAH WOULD BE LOOKED UPON BY THOSE WHO SHOOK THEIR HEADS.  
p. Psalm 109:25 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:39
33. MESSIAH'S CLOTHES WOULD BE TAKEN BY THOSE WHO CAST LOTS.  
p. Psalm 22:18 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:35; Mark 15:24
34. MESSIAH WILL BE "CUT OFF" (KILLED) 483 YEARS AFTER THE COMMAND TO REBUILD JERUSALEM AND THE TEMPLE.  
p. Daniel 9:24-26 [6th century B.C.]  
(Historians' say the command to rebuild Jerusalem was sometime between 539 B.C. and 444 B.C.)  
This means the life and death of Messiah had to fall somewhere between 56 B.C. and A.D. 39.)  
f. Luke 2:1-7; Galatians 4:4; Ephesians 1:10
35. MESSIAH WILL BE AMONG TRANSGRESSORS (CRIMINALS).  
p. Isaiah 53:12 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Mark 15:27-28
36. MESSIAH'S HANDS AND FEET WILL BE PENETRATED.  
p. Psalm 22:16 [10th century B.C.]  
f. John 19:34-37; John 20:25
37. MESSIAH WILL HAVE NONE OF HIS BONES BROKEN.  
p. Psalm 22:17; 34:20 [10th century B.C.]  
f. John 19:33-36
38. MESSIAH WOULD BE PIERCED.  
p. Zechariah 12:10 [6th century B.C.]  
f. John 19:34
39. MESSIAH WILL BE BURIED IN A RICH MAN'S GRAVE.  
p. Isaiah 53:9 [8th century B.C.]  
f. Matthew 27:56-60
40. MESSIAH WILL BE RESURRECTED AFTER BEING BURIED.  
p. Psalm 16:10 [10th century B.C.]  
f. Luke 24:39; Acts 13:35-37

What are the odds that one man could meet all these requirements? To find out, we need to know the odds for each individual prophecy. Then we can wrap them all together into one overall probability figure. Now, I'm not an odds-maker, but I'll try to speculate on these odds as best I can.

1. **DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM:** This prophecy was given to Abraham and Sarah when they were far beyond their reproductive years. It would seem medically impossible for this to be fulfilled. In addition to this, Abraham lived in a dangerous area, and survival for himself and his descendants was tenuous. ODDS: 1 in 10,000
2. **DESCENDANT OF ISAAC:** Given the odds of Messiah already being a descendant of Abraham, being a descendant of Isaac would have been half that since Abraham had two sons. ODDS: 1 in 2
3. **DESCENDANT OF JACOB:** In the same fashion, Isaac had two sons. ODDS: 1 in 2.
4. **DESCENDANT OF JUDAH:** Judah was one of Jacob's twelve sons. ODDS: 1 in 12.
5. **DESCENDANT OF DAVID:** In the three generations from Abraham to Judah, the odds had been diminished by 48 times (2 X 2 X 12). If the same ratio followed in the ten generations from Judah to David, then the odds would be cut down to 1/48th of 1/48th of 1/48th of that. ODDS: 1 in 100,000
6. **BORN IN BETHLEHEM:** I'm sure the world had more than 10,000 cities in the world at the time this prophecy was made. Picking the exact birth city of Jesus would have been difficult; especially since Bethlehem was such a small, out-of-the-way town. ODDS: 1 in 10,000
7. **BORN OF A VIRGIN:** This is a unique event, and the odds are mathematically impossible to determine. Mary is the only woman to have given birth without being impregnated by a man. ODDS: 1 in 1,000,000,000
8. **CALLED EMMANUEL:** "God-With-Us," seems like it would be a fairly unusual name or title for a newborn child. ODDS: 1 in 1,000
9. **KINGS TO WORSHIP HIM:** I find myself having to speculate, but I can't imagine many people having kings worship them. Kings, especially kings in the ancient world, generally aren't the kind of people who humble themselves and worship anyone. ODDS: 1 in 1,000
10. **CALLED OUT OF EGYPT:** International travel wasn't as easy back then as it is today. A poor carpenter's family certainly couldn't afford to travel unless it was absolutely necessary. On top of that, Egypt wasn't exactly the preferred destination for most Jews. ODDS 1 in 1,000

11. MINISTER FIRST IN GALILEE: This is actually three prophecies in one. The first is that He would minister. The second is that He would minister in Galilee. The last is that Galilee would be where He would begin. Still, considering Jesus' location, it's an even chance that He would do this. ODDS: 1 in 2
12. MINISTER TO GENTILES: Not typical behavior for a Jew, but then, He wasn't a typical Jew. ODDS: 1 in 5
13. WILL BE A PROPHET: In spite of Israel's large population, only a few people ever became prophets to God. ODDS: 1 in 100,000
14. WILL BE MEEK AND MILD: What percent of our population would you call meek and mild? Not many. Life was a lot tougher back then, so I doubt many were meek and mild. ODDS: 1 in 10
15. WILL PERFORM MIRACLES: Again, we're dealing with a unique person who performed unique miracles. ODDS: 1 in 1,000,000,000
16. ENTER JERUSALEM ON A DONKEY COLT: There are more than five ways to enter a city; by horse, donkey, camel, on foot, chariot, elephant, wagon, carried in on a litter, etc. I'll not get too picky on this one, however. ODDS: 1 in 5
17. WILL ENTER THE TEMPLE: Considering his reputation among the Jewish priesthood and leaders, there was a good chance that the Jewish leaders would not have let Him enter. ODDS: 1 in 2
18. WILL SPEAK, BUT HIS PEOPLE WILL NOT UNDERSTAND: This seems an odd thing to predict about the coming Messiah. Considering how important Messiah's coming was to the Jews, you wouldn't think a prophet would foretell Israel that they wouldn't understand Him. ODDS: 1 in 100
19. REJECTED BY ISRAEL: His message to Israel was a message of love, grace, and forgiveness. I don't know why, but it seems that many people reject that message still. ODDS: 1 in 2
20. DESPISED BY MEN: Not many people ever become such enemies of society that they become totally despised by men. ODDS: 1 in 1,000
21. BETRAYED TO THE DEATH BY A CLOSE FRIEND: Again, this is prophecy that is three prophecies in one. First, that He would be betrayed. Second, that it would be to the death. Third, that the betrayal would be by a close friend. ODDS: 1 in 1,000

22. **SOLD FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER:** Here are two prophecies. First, that He would be sold. Second, that the price was exactly 30 pieces of silver. Given the economy at the time, I guess that if He were going to be sold, it would be for at least one piece of silver but not more than one hundred pieces. ODDS: 1 in 100
23. **THAT MONEY GIVEN TO A POTTER:** What percentage of the people in the world are potters who own land that is for sale? ODDS: 1 in 100
24. **WILL BE SURROUNDED BY ENEMIES:** Most of us go through life never surrounded by our enemies. They may confront us from time to time. They may annoy us; but few people are we completely surrounded by them. ODDS: 1 in 1000
25. **FORSAKEN BY HIS FOLLOWERS:** Assuming that He was going to be surrounded by His enemies, it seems likely that some of His thousands of followers would have fled, but surely a few would have stood up for him. ODDS: 1 in 10
26. **MOCKED DURING HIS TRIAL:** This is a violation of Jewish law and not very likely to happen in most trials. ODDS: 1 in 10
27. **SPIT ON DURING HIS TRIAL:** A very profound violation of Jewish law which is even less likely to happen in a trial. ODDS: 1 in 50
28. **FALSE WITNESSES TO TESTIFY:** This wasn't supposed to happen, but I'm sure that perjurers were likely to pop up now and again. ODDS: 1 in 5
29. **SILENT WHEN ACCUSED:** Not the customary thing for an accused person to do. Most people would try to defend their innocence. ODDS: 1 in 100
30. **DISFIGURED BY VIOLENCE:** Look around you. How many people do you know that have been disfigured by violence? ODDS: 1 in 100
31. **GIVEN VINEGAR AND GALL:** I don't know how many concoctions could be mixed up for drinking, but I'm sure there were many. ODDS: 1 in 20
32. **LOOKED AT BY HEAD SHAKERS:** It's not too difficult to imagine this would happen. ODDS: 1 in 2
33. **CAST LOTS FOR CLOTHES:** I've never had anyone gamble for the possession of my clothes. Have you? ODDS: 1 in 10
34. **TIME OF CRUCIFIXION:** This really pinpoints a specific year, 434 years in the future. ODDS: 1 in 500

35. AMONG CRIMINALS: Since He was going to be crucified, it isn't too hard to imagine that there were criminals being crucified that very day. ODDS 1 in 2
36. HANDS AND FEET PENETRATED: This seems to indicate a very specific type of death. I don't know how many different ways there are to kill people but I'm sure that evil minds can think of many. ODDS: 1 in 100
37. BONES NOT BROKEN: From the context of the Bible, it seems that it was common for the Romans to break the legs of those being crucified to speed up death. It surprised the executioners that He died so quickly that he didn't need to have his bones broken. ODDS: 1 in 50
38. WILL BE PIERCED: I don't know anyone who has been pierced by a spear. I suppose it was more common in those days, but still not a likely thing to happen to a person. ODDS: 1 in 100
39. RICH MAN'S TOMB: Rich men aren't a great percentage of our population. Even fewer still are rich men willing to give up their burial plots. ODDS: 1 in 1,000
40. RESURRECTED AFTER BURIAL: I know there are a few cases of clinically dead people who were revived, but none of them was dead and buried for three days and three nights. Of all who have ever died, Jesus is unique. ODDS: 1 in 1,000,000,000

There's my list. The prophecies are numerous, specific, written long before Jesus was born, and accurately fulfilled 100% of the time. Let's now turn to mathematics to evaluate what this says about Jesus.

<u>Prophecy</u>	<u>Probability</u>
1. DESCENDANT OF ABRAHAM	1 in 10,000
2. DESCENDANT OF ISAAC	1 in 2
3. DESCENDANT OF JACOB	1 in 2
4. DESCENDANT OF JUDAH	1 in 12
5. DESCENDANT OF DAVID	1 in 100,000
6. BORN IN BETHLEHEM	1 in 10,000
7. BORN OF A VIRGIN	1 in 1,000,000,000
8. CALLED EMMANUEL	1 in 1,000
9. KINGS TO WORSHIP HIM	1 in 1,000
10. CALLED OUT OF EGYPT	1 in 1,000
11. MINISTER FIRST IN GALILEE	1 in 2
12. MINISTER TO GENTILES	1 in 5
13. WILL BE A PROPHET	1 in 1,000
14. WILL BE MEEK AND MILD	1 in 10
15. WILL PERFORM MIRACLES	1 in 1,000,000,000
16. ENTER ON A DONKEY COLT	1 in 5
17. WILL ENTER THE TEMPLE	1 in 2
18. NOT UNDERSTOOD	1 in 100
19. REJECTED BY ISRAEL	1 in 2
20. DESPISED BY MEN	1 in 1,000
21. BETRAYED BY A CLOSE FRIEND	1 in 1,000
22. SOLD FOR 30 PIECES OF SILVER	1 in 100
23. MONEY GIVEN TO A POTTER	1 in 100
24. SURROUNDED BY ENEMIES	1 in 1,000
25. FORSAKEN BY HIS FOLLOWERS	1 in 10
26. MOCKED DURING HIS TRIAL	1 in 10
27. SPIT ON DURING HIS TRIAL	1 in 50
28. FALSE WITNESSES TO TESTIFY	1 in 5
29. SILENT WHEN ACCUSED	1 in 100
30. DISFIGURED BY VIOLENCE	1 in 100
31. GIVEN VINEGAR AND GALL	1 in 20
32. LOOKED AT BY HEAD SHAKERS	1 in 2
33. CAST LOTS FOR CLOTHES	1 in 10
34. TIME OF CRUCIFIXION	1 in 500
35. AMONG CRIMINALS	1 in 2
36. HANDS AND FEET PENETRATED	1 in 100
37. BONES NOT BROKEN	1 in 50
38. WILL BE PIERCED	1 in 100
39. RICH MAN'S TOMB	1 in 1,000
40. RESURRECTED AFTER BURIAL	1 in 1,000,000,000
TOTAL ODDS:	1 in 4.8 X 10 <sup>94</sup>







## **Historical Evidence for Christianity and the Bible**

Most people believe there is little historic evidence for what the Bible reveals about Jesus. This idea is taught in our schools, and reinforced by the popular media. But, what happens when you investigate the evidence? Here are some famous atheists who did just that, and they changed their minds about Jesus.

### **Simon Greenleaf (1783-1853) Professor of Law at Harvard.**

Greenleaf was convinced the resurrection of Jesus Christ was a fabricated story. He decided to examine the historical evidence from a legal perspective to show how it would prove that Jesus remained dead. As he studied the evidence, his mind was changed, and he gave his life to Christ. What he once thought was a myth, he now proclaimed that it was impossible for Jesus not to have risen from the tomb.

### **Sir William Ramsay (1851-1939) British historian and archaeologist, Professor of Archaeology at Oxford University.**

Ramsay initially believed the Bible was historically inaccurate and set out to prove the Bible was wrong. After decades of archeological digs and painstaking studies of ancient documents he concluded that the Bible was historically true. The evidence proved that Jesus was crucified, buried, and rose again to life three days later. Based on the overwhelming archaeological and historical evidence, William Ramsay put his faith in Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior. Regarding the Bible, he said:

“I began with a mind unfavorable to it...but more recently I found myself brought into contact with the Book of Acts as an authority for the topography, antiquities, and society of Asia Minor. It was gradually borne upon me that in various details the narrative showed marvelous truth.”  
(*St. Paul The Traveller And The Roman Citizen*, 1895, London: Hodder and Stoughton)

### **Frank Morison (1881-1950)**

**(This was his penname; his real name was Albert Henry Ross) English journalist.**

Morison decided to write a book proving the resurrection of Jesus Christ was a hoax. His mind was made up that no one can be killed, be dead for three days, and then come back to life and free himself from a tomb sealed by a stone so large that it would take three or four men to move it aside. However, after investigating the historical documents and archaeological evidence for himself, he realized he had been wrong. His research showed that the four Gospels recorded the actual historical events of Christ's Resurrection. Morison's book, originally intended to prove that Jesus remained dead and buried, instead became one of the world's best-loved defenses for Christianity. He named his book, *Who Moved the Stone?* (1930)

**C. S. Lewis (1898-1963) Irish born scholar, writer, and Oxford University professor.**

He wrote numerous books including *The Chronicles of Narnia* series. He rejected his family's Christian beliefs at the age of fifteen and became an atheist. During World-War I he served in the Royal Army and fought in France where he was wounded. After the war, he returned to his studies but remained an atheist until a close friend, J. R. R. Tolkien (Later author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*) began to persuade him with the evidence from history that Christianity was true. He did not want to believe it, but he became convinced. He accepted Christ as his Lord, rather than the liar or lunatic he had once thought. He laughingly stated that he had to be dragged, "kicking and struggling," into Christianity. Declaring himself, "the most reluctant convert in all England," he later became its most prominent defender of the deity of Jesus Christ. (From his autobiography, *Surprised by Joy: The Shape of My Early Life*, 1955)

**Josh McDowell (Born 1939) He initially planned to become a lawyer and enter politics, but his life was changed when he set out to disprove the Bible.**

While at school he started writing a paper that would show how the historical records disproved Jesus and Christianity. As he studied, he became repeatedly frustrated by the evidence that seemed to be against him. He continued to search for evidence against the Bible, but eventually realized he had been wrong about Jesus. The evidence convinced him to change the purpose of his paper. He no longer rejected Jesus and the Bible; instead, he accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord. He is the author of over 80 books that defend the Bible, the greatest of which is *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*. This monumental work records the fact that there is vastly more historical evidence for the Jesus of the Bible than for all other ancient persons **combined**. For example, McDowell points out that the second-most documented book of ancient history is Homer's *Iliad*. Historians have no doubt that Homer lived, and that he wrote the *Iliad*, because 643 copies and fragments of the *Iliad* from ancient times have been discovered. This withers into historical insignificance when compared to the number of copies and fragments of the New Testament that have been discovered from ancient times. That number is 24,970. (*The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, copyright 1999, Josh D. McDowell. Published by Thomas Nelson, Inc., page 34.)

**Lee Strobel (Born 1952) After earning a degree in Journalism at the University of Missouri-Columbia, and a Master of Studies in Law at Yale Law School, he became the legal editor of the Chicago Tribune.**

As an atheist, Lee Strobel became concerned when his agnostic wife began going to church. His concern turned to shock when she announced she had accepted Jesus Christ as her Savior. In order to prove that the Bible was a bunch of nonsense, he turned his investigative-journalistic skills and his trained legal mind to the task of disproving Christianity. He was not one who could be fooled by false arguments, weak evidence, and debaters' tricks. After two years of intense investigation of the historical evidence, he realized his wife had been right. He not only put his faith in Christ, but he turned his skills and knowledge over to the task of defending the very things he once rejected. His book, *The Case for Christ*, (Copyright 1998, Published by Zondervan Publishing Company) has become one of today's best books on Biblical apologetics.

## Conclusion:

It was fashionable among atheistic historians of the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to claim that the Bible was historically false. Event after event, person after person, place after place, were all declared untrue because no evidence had been found outside the Bible to confirm them. This, of course, was before archaeology became a science. There was no proof for the things of the Bible because no one had ever looked for proof. As archaeologists uncovered more and more evidence, it became apparent that the Bible was an accurate record of history. One anti-biblical claim after another fell by the wayside as the historical evidence proved them wrong.

**“It may be stated categorically that no archeological discovery has ever controverted a single biblical reference. Scores of archeological findings have been made which confirm in clear outline or in exact detail historical statements in the Bible.”**—Nelson Glueck. (*Rivers in the Desert*, copyright 1960, page 31. Published by The Jewish Publication Society of America.)

**(John 3:18 KJV) “He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”**

## Extra-Biblical Evidence for Christianity

Some people say the Books of the New Testament, and its teachings that Jesus is God, were not accepted by the early Church until the Council of Nicaea in A.D. 325. This claim is very popular in our modern culture, but it is contrary to the historical evidence. (The following historic information taken from: *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict*, copyright 1999, Josh D. McDowell. Published by Thomas Nelson, Inc.)

### Christian Testimony

- 1.) **Clement of Rome** (A.D. 30-100) A fellow laborer with both Peter and Paul. (Philippians 4:3) Clement described the ministry of church at the turn of the first century as well as the martyrdom of Peter and Paul. Clement considered the New Testament as the authentic writings of the Apostles.
- 2.) **Ignatius** (A.D. 30-107) Succeeded Peter as the leader of the church in Antioch. Ignatius stated that the books of the New Testament were fully inspired by God. He also wrote of the facts of Christ's birth, death, and resurrection. Ignatius defended the deity of Christ by referring to Him as, "Jesus Christ our God," and that He was equal with God.
- 3.) **Polycarp** (A.D. 69-155) A disciple of the Apostle John. He was arrested and asked to denounce Christ or be killed. His reply was, "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?"
- 4.) **Papias** (A.D. 70-163) Papias was also a disciple of the Apostle John. He wrote (A.D. 130), "The Elder (the apostle John) used to say this also: 'Mark, having been the interpreter of Peter, wrote down accurately all that he (Peter) mentioned, whether sayings or doings of Christ not, however, in order. Papias also testified that Matthew had written the Gospel of Matthew.
- 5.) **Justin Martyr** (A.D. 100-165) studied philosophy at Ephesus, and became a Christian after being influenced by the Ephesian Christians. He soon began teaching Christianity there and later went to Rome (A.D. 135) where he defended the historicity of Jesus, including the fact that Jesus was fully God.
- 6.) **Theophilus of Antioch** (A.D. 120-190) was converted from heathenism to Christianity by studying the Scriptures. He wrote three books to Autolycus, an educated heathen friend, to convince him to reject the falsehood of idolatry and accept the truth of Christianity as presented by the Gospels and the Epistles.
- 7.) **Irenaeus** (A.D. 120-202) A student of both Papias and Polycarp. Irenaeus confirmed the entire New Testament. He wrote that the four Gospels were canon. He considered them equal with the Old Testament as Scripture. He also testified of the authenticity of Christ's miracles.

8.) **Quadratus of Athens** (c. A.D. 125) An early Christian apologist. Quadratus defended Christianity before the Roman Emperor, Hadrian, seeking to end the Roman persecution of Christians.

9.) **Aristo of Pella** (c. A.D. 125) A Jewish Christian who taught that the Messianic texts referred to Jesus. Like Quadratus, he also addressed Emperor Hadrian concerning the persecution of Jews and Christians.

10.) **Tertullian** (A.D. 155-245) A resident of Carthage. He was a highly educated man who had practiced law. He became a Christian in his thirties and became one of the most prolific of all Christian writers and apologists. He was the first to use the Latin word Trinitas (Trinity) to refer to the Persons of God.

11.) **Melito of Sardis** (c. A.D. 169) A former Stoic who became a Christian. He pleaded with Emperor Marcus Aurelius (161-180) to make Christianity the official religion of Rome.

12.) **Hippolytus of Rome** (A.D. 170-235) Defended the New Testament and many New Testament doctrines, including the Trinity and the bodily, premillennial return of the resurrected Christ.

13.) **Tatian** (c. A.D. 170) An Assyrian who became a Christian. He was the first to write a “Harmony of the Gospels.” In doing this, he referenced all four Gospels.

14.) **Origen** (A.D. 185-254) Born in Alexandria, Egypt. He became the most widely written defender of Christianity in ancient times. To Origen, Jesus Christ was the central issue of all Scripture. So famous was his writings that even Mamaea, the mother of Emperor Alexander Severus, called him to Antioch to instruct her.

15.) **Julius Africanus** (c. A.D. 200) Born in Jerusalem, he later moved to Emmaus, and then to Rome. He wrote on many subjects, including defending the details about Christ’s life.

### **Non-Christian Testimony**

1.) **Flavius Josephus** (A.D. 37-100) A Pharisee and Jewish historian. Josephus recorded the martyrdom of James, the brother of Jesus and of the death of John the Baptist at the hands of Herod. This Jew, who was no friend of Christians, wrote the following historical account of Jesus: “Now, there was about this time, Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, -- a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was the Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of Christians, so named for him, are not extinct at this day.”

2.) **Tacitus** (A.D. 55-120) A Roman historian considered by many as the most accurate historian of the ancient world. He wrote about Emperor Nero and the burning of Rome. “Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. Christus, from whom the name had its origin, suffered the extreme penalty during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus...”

3.) **Pliny the Younger** (A.D. 62-113) A Roman administrator and author who wrote the following to Emperor Trajan concerning the early Christian practices: “They were in the habit of meeting on a certain fixed day before it was light, when they sang in alternated verses a hymn to Christ, as to a god, and bound themselves by a solemn oath, not to do any wicked deeds, but never to commit any fraud, theft, adultery, never to falsify their word, nor deny a trust when they should be called upon to deliver it up...”

4.) **Emperor Trajan** (A.D. 53-117) Writing this reply to Pliny, Trajan gave the following guidelines for punishing Christians: “No search should be made for these people, when they are denounced and found guilty they must be punished, with this restriction, however, that when the party denies himself to be a Christian, and shall give proof that he is not (that is by adoring our gods) he shall be pardoned on the grounds of repentance even though he may have formerly incurred suspicion.”

5.) **Suetonius** (A.D. 70-130) A Roman historian wrote that Emperor Claudius (in A.D. 49) expelled all the Jews from Rome because of a riot instigated by a certain “Chrestus.” This remark proves that Christianity had already reached Rome by A.D. 49.

6.) **Celsus** (c. A.D. 178) In his book against Christianity, Celsus attacks the four Gospels, yet in doing so, he refers to details of the death of Jesus, including the blood which flowed from the body of Jesus and that Christ “after his death arose and showed the marks of his punishment, and how his hands had been pierced.”

7.) **The Talmud** (A.D. 70-200) The Sanhedrin compiled this historical account of Jesus: “On the eve of Passover Yeshu was hanged. (Crucified) For forty days before the execution took place, a herald went forth and cried, ‘He is going to be stoned because he has practiced sorcery and enticed Israel to apostasy. Any one who can say anything in his favour let him come forward and plead on his behalf.’ But since nothing was brought forward in his favour he was hanged on the eve of Passover!”

8.) **Valentinus** (c. A.D. 135) An anti-Christian Gnostic leader who confirmed that Jesus was a historical person. He wrote that Jesus was crucified and died, and that He arose again, putting on imperishability.

9.) **Mara Bar-Serapion** (2nd century A.D.) A Syrian who referred to the destruction of Jerusalem (A.D. 70) as punishment for the death of Jesus. He equated this act to the plagues and famine that fell on Athens following the death of Socrates and on the city of Samon for the burning of Pythagoras. His testimony proves that Christ was murdered unjustly by the leaders of the city of Jerusalem.

10.) **Porphiry** (born A.D. 234) A Neoplatonist who wrote in opposition to Christianity, yet in his writings revealed that the Book of the Revelation of Jesus Christ was written by John, the Apostle.

**(2 Timothy 3:16 KJV) “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”**



“If the strong nuclear force were very slightly weaker by just one part in 10,000 billion, billion, billion, then protons and neutrons would not stick together, and the only element possible in the universe, would be hydrogen only. There would be no stars, and no planets, or life in the universe.

However, if the strong nuclear force were slightly too strong by the same fraction amount, the protons and neutrons would tend to stick together so much that there would basically only be heavy elements, but no hydrogen at all --If this were the case, then life would also not be possible, because hydrogen is a key element in water and in all life-chemistry.” (Dr. Robin Collins of Messiah College, <http://worldview3.50webs.com/mathprfcosmos.html>)

#### **(4.) The Strength of the Weak Nuclear Force**

The strength of the Weak Nuclear Force could vary by only 1 part in 1 in  $10^{100}$ .

“The nuclear ‘weak force’ is one of the four fundamental forces in the universe and operates inside the nucleus of an atom. It is so finely tuned that an alteration in its value by even one part of 10 to the power of 100 (1 with a hundred zeros) would have prohibited a life permitting universe.” (Goeff Ashton,

[http://somethingpersonal.typepad.com/something\\_personal/2012/08/a-universe-precision-tuned-for-life-by-what-or-by-whom.html](http://somethingpersonal.typepad.com/something_personal/2012/08/a-universe-precision-tuned-for-life-by-what-or-by-whom.html))

If the Weak Nuclear Force were either greater or lesser than what it is, life could not exist.

#### **(5.) The Value of the Cosmological Constant**

“The cosmological constant, which drives the inflation of the universe and is responsible for the recently discovered acceleration of the universe’s expansion, is inexplicably fine-tuned to around one part in  $10^{120}$ .” (William Lane Craig, <http://www.reasonablefaith.org/does-god-exist-1>)

#### **(6.) Ratio of the Strength of the Strong Nuclear Force to the Strength of the Electromagnetic Force**

“Increase it by only 1 part in  $10^{40}$  and only small stars can exist, decrease it by the same amount and there will only be large stars. You must have both large and small stars in the universe. The large ones produce elements in their thermonuclear furnaces, and it is only the small ones that burn long enough to sustain a planet with life.” (Davies, Paul. *God and the New Physics*. London: J. M. Dent and Sons, 1983)



This is equivalent to playing the Powerball® game by choosing one set of numbers each week, and winning for 55 weeks in a row. Those are the same odds the universe was created by chance. The evidence proves we have a powerful, supernatural Creator. Are you willing to bet your eternal soul against these odds? That's what you are doing if you reject what the Bible tells us about Jesus, our Creator and Savior.

**(John 1:1-3 KJV) “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. {2} He was with God in the beginning. {3} All things were created by Him, and apart from Him nothing was created that has been created.”**

## **Biblical Cosmology**

One of the best clues for the supernatural authorship of the Bible is its cosmology. Cosmology is the study of the universe. It differs from astronomy. Astronomy is the study of the celestial objects we see in the sky: the sun, the moon, the stars, the galaxies, *etc.* Cosmology also differs from cosmogony, which is the study of the origin of the universe. Astronomy and cosmogony are two parts of cosmology. Therefore, cosmology can be defined as the study of everything in the universe.

The Bible makes a number of cosmological statements that are today known to be true and are provable beyond question. However, when these statements were first written, no human could have known them. In fact, some of them would have seemed ridiculous at the time. If human authors alone wrote the Bible, they couldn't have known these statements were true. Here is a list of some Bible-revealed facts that predate man's ability to know them. Some of these facts weren't proved until thousands of years later.

### **1. The Earth Is a Circle**

(Isa. 40:22 NIV) “He sits enthroned above **the circle of the earth**, and its people are like grasshoppers. He stretches out the heavens like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.”

### **2. The Earth Hangs from Nothing**

(Job 26:7 KJV) “He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, *and* he **hangeth the earth upon nothing**.”

### **3. The Water Cycle**

(Ecclesiastes 1:7 KJV) “All the rivers run into the sea; yet the sea *is* not full; unto the place **from whence the rivers come, thither they return again**.” (KJV)

### **4. The Wind Cycle**

(Ecclesiastes 1:6 NIV) “The wind blows to the south and turns to the north; **round and round it goes**, ever returning on its course.”

### **5. Air Has Weight**

(Job 28:25 KJV) “To make the **weight for the winds**; and he weigheth the waters by measure.”

## **6. There are Valleys On the Ocean Floor**

(2 Samuel 22:16 NIV) “The **valleys of the sea** were exposed and the foundations of the earth laid bare at the rebuke of the LORD, at the blast of breath from his nostrils.”

## **7. There are Springs On the Ocean Floor**

(Job 38:16 NIV) “Have you journeyed to **the springs of the sea** or walked in the recesses of the deep?”

## **8. The Stars Are Uncountable**

(Genesis 22:17 KJV) “That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed **as the stars of the heaven**, and as the sand which *is* upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess the gate of his enemies;”

Even on the clearest of nights, there are only about 6,000 stars visible to the naked eye. With no telescopes in his day, Moses could not have known there are actually trillions of stars.

## **9. The First Law of Thermodynamics**

(Matter and Energy Cannot Be Physically Created or Destroyed)

(John 1:3 KJV) “All things were made by him; and **without him was not any thing made** that was made.”

(Colossians 1:17 KJV) “And he is before all things, and **by him all things consist.**”

## **10. The Second Law of Thermodynamics**

(The Universe is Irreversibly Moving to Energy-Decay)

(Psalms 102:25-26 NIV) “In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. {26} 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.”

## **11. The Matter-Energy Relationship**

$$(e=mc^2)$$

(2 Peter 3:10 KJV) “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.”

The Greek word translated as “elements” is *stoicheion*, and it means “elemental.” The *stoicheion* were the smallest possible units of matter. The ancient Greeks believed these particles couldn’t be divided, or cut, any further. That’s why they referred to them as,

“*ATOMS*”—“not-cut.” Peter explained, however, that the bond holding the atoms together can be broken; and he shows us what happens when they are. *Luo*, the word translated as “melt,” means to loosen or untie, as when you untied a donkey from a hitching post. The last word is *kausoo*, which means to set on fire with great heat. When you break (untie) the bond holding the atoms together, you unleash tremendous heat. Peter described atomic energy.

## **12. The Universe Is Expanding**

(Isaiah 40:22 NIV) “He sits enthroned above the circle of the earth, and its people are like grasshoppers. **He stretches out the heavens** like a canopy, and spreads them out like a tent to live in.”

## **13. Time Had a Beginning**

(1 Corinthians 2:7 NIV) “No, we speak of God’s secret wisdom, a wisdom that has been hidden and that God destined for our glory **before time began.**”

The Bible is scientifically accurate. In the December 28, 1992 issue of *Time* magazine (*Time*, © New York: Time, Inc., 1992) there was an article on what science revealed about God. This article identified a number of scientists, even atheistic scientists, who began to see the universe as having been designed. Not all of them were convinced there was a personal God who did the designing. Nevertheless, they looked at the universe from the subatomic level all the way up to the intergalactic level, and they saw unquestionable design.

As astrophysicist Robert Jastrow put it:

**“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, *God and the Astronomers*, page 116, © New York: W. W. Norton and Company, Inc., 1978)

Astrophysicist and atheist Fred Hoyle agreed:

**“A common sense interpretation of the facts suggests that a superintellect has monkeyed with physics, as well as with chemistry and biology, and that there are no blind forces worth speaking about in nature.”** (Fred Hoyle, “The Universe: Past and Present Reflections,” *Engineering and Science*, Page 12, © Pasadena: The California Institute of Technology, 1981)

(Psalms 8:3 KJV) **“When I consider thy heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars, which thou hast ordained;”**

## **The Importance of TRUE Science in the Defense of Christianity**

The Bible is 100% true, and it is 100% defensible in both the historical and scientific realms.

History: Historical discoveries, historical documents, historical artifacts, *etc.*, all prove that the Bible reveals the truth about history.

Science: Scientific discoveries, scientific facts, scientific observations, *etc.*, all prove that the Bible reveals the truth about science.

This is why I think science in the area of cosmogony (the study of the ORIGIN of the universe) is so important. TRUE scientific facts reveal the truth about our origin.

**When unbelievers see that the Bible is 100% correct about our origin, they will be better able to believe it is 100% correct about our destiny.**

The problem is that both science and the Bible are often twisted, distorted, misinterpreted, misused, and misapplied to the extent that LIES are presented as TRUTH. Both distortions create a problem for the Gospel.

**(History: If the Bible doesn't tell the truth about the past, how can we believe what it says about the future?)**

**(Science: If the Bible doesn't tell the truth about nature, how can we believe what it says about the supernatural?)**

### Modern Science vs. Historic Science

**Scientists of today have a definition of science that scientists of the past would have rejected.**

Two questions need to be asked:

- 1.) What is the definition of science?
- 2.) Who gets to decide that that is the correct definition?

The English word "science" comes from the Latin word *scientia*, which means "knowledge." At one time, "science" simply meant "knowledge." But, this reveals a philosophical problem. Does ALL knowledge fall under the category of science, or is there a limit to the knowledge we can learn from science? Is there a boundary beyond which science cannot tread?

Here is the definition of “science” from the 1828 edition of Noah Webster’s Dictionary:

“Science—In a general sense, knowledge, or certain knowledge; the comprehension or understanding of truth or facts by the mind. The science of God must be perfect.”

Up until the mid to late 19<sup>th</sup> century, science allowed for the existence of God. In fact, many colleges and universities at the time required students to pass a test in religion to attend their schools. Over 90 of the first 100 colleges and universities in America were founded by churches and religious organizations. These educational establishments did not dedicate themselves to hiding the truth of the Gospel and the truths of the Bible from their students, as their modern counterparts do.

### The Fathers of Modern Science

Nicolaus Copernicus (1473-1543)	Francis Bacon (1561-1626)
Galileo Galilei (1564-1642)	Johannes Kepler (1571-1630)
William Harvey (1578-1657)	Rene Descartes (1596-1650)
Blaise Pascal (1623-1662)	Robert Boyle (1627-1691)
Isaac Newton (1642-1727)	Carolus Linnaeus (1707-1778)
Joseph Priestley (1733-1804)	William Herschel (1738-1822)
Michael Faraday (1791-1867)	Gregor Mendel (1822-1884)
Louis Pasteur (1822-1895)	James Maxwell (1831-1879)

All these men viewed science as **the study of God’s work**. They believed God was a God of order; therefore, His creation would be a work of order. Nature would obey a set of laws established and upheld by His Supernatural Will and Power. Since God was not a God of randomness and confusion, they believed the laws of nature would not be random and confused. Men could systematically observe and test nature without worrying it might be capricious or random.

### Twisted, Distorted, Misused, Misapplied Science by Atheists

The **modern definition** of science says that ONLY time, space, matter, and energy exist. The NATURAL universe is the only thing that exists, has ever existed, and ever will exist. There is no such thing as the SUPERNATURAL. There is no such thing as the immaterial. Since the supernatural and the immaterial do not exist, there is no God. Or, so they claim.

Why is this statement a distortion of science? Because according to the Scientific Method, a phenomenon, an event, or an effect **MUST BE OBSERVABLE, TESTABLE, VERIFIABLE, and FALSIFIABLE**, or else it **IS NOT** a scientific fact. The Scientific Method prohibits their statement that God **DOESN’T** exist, just as much as it prohibits our statement that God **DOES** exist. How?

They cannot SCIENTIFICALLY OBSERVE whether or not God exists.

They cannot SCIENTIFICALLY TEST whether or not God exists.

They cannot SCIENTIFICALLY VERIFY whether or not God exists.

They cannot SCIENTIFICALLY FALSIFY whether or not God exists.

**Therefore, when atheists claim there is no God, they are making a claim they cannot observe, test, verify, or falsify! In other words, they are stating a RELIGIOUS BELIEF, not a SCIENTIFIC FACT.**

### Why is Falsifiability So Important in Science?

A scientific statement MUST BE FALSIFIABLE, or it cannot be accepted as a scientific truth. Now, being falsifiable does not mean it is false. Rather, it means there must be a way it can be proven false if it is false. The Scientific Method demands that any scientific statement (hypotheses, theories, or laws) must be able to be scientifically tested, and proven not-false, before it can be accepted as scientific truth. For example: If I stated that an invisible, non-corporeal, 23<sup>rd</sup> dimensional monkey sat on the top of ever person's head, my statement could never be accepted as a scientific truth. Science can't observe, measure, or test 23<sup>rd</sup> dimensional monkeys, even if they truly exist. Falsifiability differentiates science from science fiction. This applies to all three kinds of scientific statements: Hypotheses, Theories, and Laws.

Don't think of Laws, Theories, and Hypotheses as a hierarchy of truthfulness. It's not that Hypotheses are rarely true, and Theories are sometimes true, and Laws are always true. A true Hypothesis is just as true as a true Law. A false Theory is just as false as a false Law. While it is true to a certain extent that Laws imply a greater deal of certainty than Theories, and Theories more certainty than Hypotheses, these three scientific statements try to explain natural phenomena from a slightly different approach. Rather than being ways for declaring truth, they are ways for discovering truth.

Hypothesis: Hypotheses are used to test **IF** something happens. (They focus more on the OBSERVATIONS.)

Theory: Theories are used to test **HOW** something happens. (They focus more on the CAUSES.)

Law: Laws are used to test **WHAT** happens. (They focus more on the EFFECTS.)

## The Hypothesis, Law, and Theory of Gravity

The Hypothesis of Gravity tries to discover **IF** objects fall to the ground when let go. (Does it really happen?)

The Law of Gravity tries to discover **WHAT** happens. (A one-pound rock falls just as fast as a fifty-pound rock. Objects on earth fall with an accelerating velocity—32 feet/second<sup>2</sup>.)

The Theory of Gravity tries to discover **HOW** it happens, (With Newtonian Physics, it was attributed to a Fundamental Force of Nature. However, within the sciences of RELATIVITY and QUANTUM PHYSICS, Gravity has become a little more elusive in its explanation of Gravitons and Gravity Waves.)

Scientific statements must be shown to be not-false before they can be accepted as true. False hypotheses must be able to be falsified. False theories must be able to be falsified. False laws must be able to be falsified. A “Test-for-Falseness” must exist, or we are not dealing with true science. (And again, this is why the statement that God DOESN’T exist, IS NOT a scientific statement.) **Science must provide tests that can prove false statements are false.** If a proposed statement cannot be tested for falseness, then it cannot be accepted as a scientific truth, **NO MATTER HOW MUCH EVIDENCE SEEMS TO SUPPORT IT.**

### Little Green Apples

Imagine all the apple trees in the world produce only red apples... with one exception. There is a small orchard, on a small hill, in a small valley, on a small island, somewhere out in the middle of the Pacific Ocean that has apple trees which produce green apples. Further imagine this island has never been discovered by man. Because of this, the world’s foremost apple expert, Dr. Red Appleby, makes this scientific statement: “All the apples in the world are red.”

Now, let’s ask this question: Is his statement true? No! Why isn’t it true? It’s because we know there really are green apples. The only problem is no one has ever discovered them. It may seem true, but it is not true. Dr. Appleby and all the Appleologists in the world have observed only red apples, but that does not prove his statement. After millions of observations show that apples are red, it may seem like his statement is true; but you and I know it’s not true. **Evidence that apples are red does not eliminate the possibility that apples might be green.** Finding red apples does not prove the statement. No matter how many red apples you find, you haven’t eliminated the possibility the statement might be false. An experimental test must be done that could falsify his statement if it is not true. If it is not true, then science requires a test to show it is not true. If there are non-red apples in the world, then scientists must be able to provide a test that proves the existence of non-red apples. Only after the “test-for-non-red-apples” proved there were no non-red apples, could scientists say with certainty that all the apples in the world are red. What kind of test would be required to satisfy true science? It would require looking at all the apples in the world, including the ones on that small island in the

Pacific. No matter how many red apples you have observed in the past, it doesn't prove the statement is true; **but once you observe one green apple, it proves the statement is false.**

If you think about this, you can see what tremendous pressure this puts on the Theory of Evolution. **Finding evidence FOR the Theory of Evolution does not PROVE the Theory of Evolution.** It's like finding red apples. Observing red apples doesn't prove there are no green apples. Observing anatomical similarities, biochemical similarities, genetic similarities, and particular sequences of particular fossils in particular geological strata, is like observing red apples. These things may appear to prove the Theory of Evolution, but they don't. They don't falsify the alternative theory that there was a Creator of life. Atheists must prove there is no evidence that falsifies the Theory of Evolution. This means they must be able to devise a test that could falsify it, and then prove it cannot be falsified. But, if they cannot devise such a test, then the Theory of Evolution can never be a scientific truth because it lies outside scientific testability. **Since the Theory of Evolution cannot be scientifically tested for falseness, it is not a scientific statement.** It is not science! Rather than science, it is a philosophy; it is a belief system. In fact, for many, it is a religion-substitute. Most evolutionists never think deeply enough about their beliefs to realize their theory is not even scientific.

### Twisted, Distorted, Misused, Misapplied Science by Christians

Evolutionists aren't the only ones who distort science. Creationists often say the Theory of Evolution is not scientific because evolution was in the past, **and the past is not observable.** Using this line of argument, they infer that nothing about the theoretical process of evolution can be known. Now, I agree the Theory of Evolution is not scientific, but not for this reason. So, where are these creationists going wrong? They are misrepresenting the concept of "observable." Yes, science says natural phenomena must be observable in order for them to be explained. But, when creationists say the past can't be observed, that's not true science. True science says **some things** about the past can't be directly observed, but it doesn't say **nothing** about the past can be directly observed. The past differs from the present in this way:

We can observe **causes and effects** in the present.

We can observe **only effects** in the past.

In other words, we can't directly observe past **causes**, but we can directly observe past **effects**. We can then use past **effects** to logically deduce past **causes**. For example:

### The Domino Universe

Imagine I had a line of a hundred dominoes set up on a table in a classroom. I invite a student from the class to come up and knock down the 1<sup>st</sup> domino. The 1<sup>st</sup> domino knocks down the 2<sup>nd</sup> domino, which knocks down the 3<sup>rd</sup> domino, which knocks down the 4<sup>th</sup> domino, and on and on until the 99<sup>th</sup> domino knocks down the 100<sup>th</sup>. We would be able to observe all one hundred causes and one hundred effects—they are in the present. However, what if you came to class late and didn't see what happened? To you, this would be a past event. You would see the effects of the past, all one hundred dominoes in their present position and arrangement, but you

wouldn't be able to see the causes in the past. You might hypothesize from the way the dominoes are arranged that the 100<sup>th</sup> domino was knocked down by the 99<sup>th</sup>, which was knocked down by the 98<sup>th</sup>, which was knocked down by the 97<sup>th</sup>, all the way back to the 1<sup>st</sup> domino knocking down the 2<sup>nd</sup>. You might be able to experiment with other dominoes in order to provide a Theory of Falling Dominoes. Still, **this wouldn't prove my dominoes were arranged according to your theory.** Plus, you wouldn't be able to tell who knocked down the 1<sup>st</sup> domino. You weren't there to observe the 1<sup>st</sup> cause. You wouldn't know the identity of the "unmoved-mover" of my "domino universe." Whoever moved the 1<sup>st</sup> domino was outside of the "domino universe." Not only couldn't you directly observe the first cause, you couldn't directly observe the other ninety-nine causes. You didn't actually observe each falling-domino cause the next domino to fall. Those causes are in the past and are finished; they aren't still happening; they no longer exist. By using your Falling Domino Theory, you could assume one domino falling was the cause of the next domino falling, but you didn't actually observe my dominoes doing that. Having not been a direct observer of how my one hundred dominoes got to be the way they are, you couldn't rule out (falsify) the possibility I came in and intentionally placed all one hundred dominoes in their exact "fallen down" positions and arrangements. Falling down and hitting each other isn't the only explanation for how they could be arranged as they are. "In the beginning," I could have created my "domino universe" exactly as it is by directly placing the dominoes in their seemingly fallen down positions and arrangements. Since you didn't observe a cause, you couldn't prove a cause. All you could observe of this past event would be the past effects. **While the causes are in the past, the effects continue into the present.** The effects of the past are still observable even if the causes aren't. The lesson is this: **Past effects** are observable in the present, but **past causes** are not. The statement that evolution is false because the past CANNOT be observed, is a distortion of science, and creationists should not use that argument. Instead, evolution is false because the past (past effects) CAN be observed.

### Inference to the Best Explanation

Even though the causes of past phenomena may not be directly observable, it doesn't mean science can't determine past causes. If science couldn't do that, there would be no forensic science, no geology, no archaeology, and no paleontology because these sciences deal exclusively with past events. Scientists look at the **effects of the past** and try to determine the best explanatory causes, based on the known possible **causes in the present.**

For instance, let's say a geologist discovered a layer of pyroclastic ash in a ten-million-year-old geologic stratum. Obviously, no scientists were there to observe what caused this layer. The geologist must infer to the best explanation from all known possible causes. He has some choices. He asks himself, "How do geologic layers form?" He answers himself, "Some layers are water borne, some are wind borne, some are caused by rockslides, some by mudslides, and of course, some are caused by volcanic eruptions." After making his observations he tells himself, "The most obvious cause for this layer of pyroclastic ash is a volcanic eruption."

The reason the geologist selects this cause is because this layer contains all the features found in layers known to be caused by volcanoes **in the present.** The geologist knows that floods, wind, rockslides, mudslides, and other events don't create layers of pyroclastic ash. In other words, the geologist looks at the **effects** of known present-day causes, and matches those

with the **effects** of the layer in question. **Because the effects match, the geologist proposes the causes match.** The geologist properly uses the Scientific Method in that he is comparing **past observable** effects with **present observable** causes. His science IS based on observation. Thus, he properly concludes that this layer of pyroclastic ash was deposited by a volcanic eruption. Here is the formula for how this works:

Is “A” the Cause of “Z” in the past?

IF:

- 1.) Countless observations show that “A” causes “Z” in the present.  
(It’s **verified** that “A” causes “Z.”)
- 2.) Countless experiments show that “Z” is caused only by “A” in the present.  
(It’s **falsified** that anything else causes “Z.”)
- 3.) Both “A” and “Z” are knowable, observable, and testable in the present.

THEN:

It is scientifically logical to believe that “A” is the only cause of “Z” in the past.

Since “A” is the only known, observable, and testable cause of “Z” in the present, it is not scientific to claim that “B” caused “Z” in the past. Why not? Because “B” is unknown, “B” is unobserved, and “B” is untested. If no one has ever seen “B,” and if “B” has never been tested, and if “B” has never been shown to cause “Z,” then it violates the Scientific Method to insist that “B” caused “Z” in the past.

Let’s apply this formula to the cause of the DNA instructions required for life:

(Note: DNA CARRIES the instructions for all life forms, all their anatomical structures, all their physiological functions, and even many of their social behaviors. DNA is NOT the instructions; DNA only carries/conveys/contains the instructions. So, from what or from whom do the instructions come?)

Is an **Intelligent Agent** the Cause of **DNA Instructions** in the Past?

What is the Cause of Instructions in the Present?

- 1.) Countless observations show that **intelligent agents** cause **instructions** in the present.  
(It’s verified that **intelligent agents** cause **instructions**.)
- 2.) Countless experiments show that **instructions** are caused only by **intelligent agents** in the present.  
(It’s **falsified** that **random forces** cause **instructions**.)
- 3.) Both **instructions** and **intelligent agents** are knowable, observable, and testable in the present.

Therefore, it is scientifically logical to believe that an **intelligent agent** was the only cause of **instructions** in the past. Since **intelligent agents** are the only known, observable, and testable cause of **instructions** in the present, it is not scientific to believe **random forces** caused **DNA instructions** in the past.

Science proves the only cause of DNA instructions is an intelligent agent. Now, consider this: Although science can prove this is **HOW** DNA instructions were created, science can't prove **WHY** DNA instructions were created. Why did an Intelligent Agent create DNA instructions? The intelligent creation of intelligent creatures by an Intelligent Creator, ought to make an intelligent person consider the possibility that the Creator created creatures for an intelligent **PURPOSE**. An intelligent person ought to consider the purpose of his creation, his existence, and his future. Is there a purpose for your life? Is there a purpose for your life after death? Since the Bible is 100% correct about our origin, I believe the intelligent thing to do with the Bible is to believe it is 100% correct about our destiny. Here are your intelligent instructions:

**(2 Timothy 3:16 KJV) “All scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:”**

## Evolutionists' Little Secret

Charles Darwin proposed a theory that life got to be the way it is, by a process called Natural Selection. His theory stated that the changes between species were so slow and so gradual that the fossil record would contain **innumerable transitions**, revealing **insensibly fine gradations** between each species. Darwin knew his theory didn't fit the scientific data. He hoped that someday it would. Here is what he said:

“Firstly, why, if species have descended from other species by **insensibly fine gradations**, do we not everywhere see **innumerable transitional forms**? Why is not all nature **in confusion** instead of the species being, as we see them, well defined?” (Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*, First Edition, Page 171, London: John Murray, 1859)

Unfortunately, for him (and his theory) the geologic facts destroyed his hopes.

Leo Hickey, Director of Yale Peabody Museum:

“One of the things that also makes it a little more difficult in the fossil record is the rapidity with which evolution acts, in very short bursts. **It doesn't leave many transitional forms behind.**” (*The Evolution Conspiracy, A Quantum Leap Into the New Age* © Jeremiah Films, Inc., 1987)

David Kitts, Professor—School of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Oklahoma:

“Despite the bright promise that paleontology provides a means of ‘seeing’ evolution, it has presented some nasty difficulties for evolutionists, the most notorious of which is the presence of ‘gaps’ in the fossil record. **Evolution requires intermediate forms between species and paleontology does not provide them.**” (David B. Kitts, “Paleontology and Evolutionary Theory,” *Evolution* Vol. 28, Page 466, 1974)

A. H. Clark, Biologist, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C.:

“No matter how far back we go in the fossil record of previous animal life upon earth, **we find no trace of any animal forms which are intermediate** between the various major groups of phyla.” (Austin H. Clark, *The New Evolution; Zoogenesis*, Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore, Page 189, 1930)

Richard B. Goldschmidt, Professor at the University of California, Berkeley:

“The facts of greatest importance are the following. When a new phylum, class, or order appears, there follows a quick explosive (in terms of geological time) diversification so that practically all orders or families known appear suddenly and **without any apparent transitions.**” (Richard B. Goldschmidt, *American Scientist*, Vol. 40, No. 97, 1952)

Lecomte du Nouy, Head of the Biophysics Division, Pasteur Institute:

“In brief, each group, order, or family seems to be born suddenly and **we hardly ever find the forms which link them** to the preceding strain. When we discover them they are already

completely differentiated. Not only do **we find practically no transitional forms**, but in general it is impossible to authentically connect a new group with an ancient one.” (Lecomte du Nouy, *Human Destiny*, The New American Library, New York, Page 63, 1947)

**James W. Valentine**, Professor of Biology at the University of California, Berkeley, and **Cathryn A. Campbell**, Professor, Department of Geology, University of California, Davis:

“The abrupt appearance of higher taxa in the fossil record has been a perennial puzzle. Not only do characteristic and distinctive remains of phyla appear suddenly, without known ancestors, but several classes of a phylum, orders of a class, and so on, commonly appear at approximately the same time **without known intermediates...**” (James W. Valentine and Cathryn A. Campbell, “Genetic Regulation and the Fossil Record,” *American Scientist*, Vol. 63, Page 673, Nov./Dec. 1975)

**Arthur J. Boucot**, Professor, Department of Geology, Oregon State University:

“Since 1859 one of the most vexing properties of the fossil record has been its obvious imperfection. For the evolutionist, this imperfection is most frustrating as it precludes any real possibility for mapping out the path of organic evolution owing to **an infinity of ‘missing links.’**” (Arthur J. Boucot, *Evolution and Extinction Rate Controls*, Elsevier Scientific Publishing Co., Amsterdam, Page 196, 1975)

**Richard Dawkins**, Ethologist, Zoologist, Evolutionary Biologist, Oxford University:

“... the Cambrian strata of rocks, vintage about 600 million years [evolutionists are now dating the beginning of the Cambrian at about 530 million years], are the oldest in which we find most of the major invertebrate groups. And we find many of them already in an advanced state of evolution, the very first time they appear. It is as though they were just planted there, **without any evolutionary history**. Needless to say, this appearance of sudden planting has delighted creationists.” (Richard Dawkins, *The Blind Watchmaker*, W. W. Norton, New York, Page 229, 1987)

**Lewis L. Carroll**, Evolutionary Paleontologist, Cambridge University:

“Unfortunately not a single specimen of an appropriate reptilian ancestor is known prior to the appearance of true reptiles. **The absence of such ancestral forms** leaves many problems of the amphibian-reptilian transition unanswered.” (Lewis L. Carroll, “Problems of the Origin of Reptiles,” *Biological Reviews of the Cambridge Philosophical Society*, Vol. 44, Page 393, 1969)

**Gareth V. Nelson**, American Museum of Natural History:

**“It is a mistake to believe that even one fossil species or fossil ‘group’ can be demonstrated to have been ancestral to another.** The ancestor-descendant relationship may only be assumed to have existed in the absence of evidence indicating otherwise.” (Gareth V. Nelson, “Origin and Diversification of Teleostean Fishes,” *Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences*, Page 22, 1971)

Ronald R. West, Professor of Paleobiology at Kansas State University:

“Contrary to what most scientists write, **the fossil record does not support the Darwinian theory of evolution** because it is this theory (there are several) which we use to interpret the fossil record. By doing so we are guilty of circular reasoning if we then say the fossil record supports this theory.” (Ronald R. West, “Paleoecology and Uniformitarianism,” *Compass*, Vol. 45, Page 216, May 1968)

James A. Hopson, Professor of Paleontology, University of Chicago, and Leonard B. Radinsky, Professor, Department of Anatomy, University of Chicago:

“The oldest known tetrapods, the ichthyostegid amphibians of the Late Devonian, though first reported on in 1932 and represented by numerous specimens, have never been completely described. **No clearly intermediate form** in the fish-tetrapod transition has been discovered....” (James A. Hopson and Leonard B. Radinsky, “Vertebrate Paleontology: New Approaches and New Insights,” *Paleobiology*, Vol. 6, Page 258, Summer 1980)

Thomas S. Kemp, Curator of the Zoological Collections at Oxford:

“**In no single adequately documented case is it possible to trace a transition**, species by species, from one genus to another.” (Thomas S. Kemp, *Mammal-Like Reptiles and the Origin of Mammals*, Academic Press, New York, Page 319, 1982)

Wolfgang Smith, Mathematician and Physicist, Professor of Mathematics at MIT, UCLA, and Oregon State University:

“And yet the fact remains that there exists to this day **not a shred of bona fide scientific evidence in support of the thesis that macroevolutionary transformations have ever occurred**” (Wolfgang Smith, *Teilhardism and the New Religion: A Thorough Analysis of the Teachings of Pierre Teilhard De Chardin*. Tan Books and Publishers, Inc. Rockford, IL, 1988)

George Stuart Carter, Professor, King’s College, London:

“**We do not have any available fossil group which can categorically be claimed to be the ancestor of any other group.**” (George Stuart Carter, *Structure and Habit in Vertebrate Evolution*. University of Washington Press, 1967)

In other words, after more than one-hundred and fifty years of intense study, geology and paleontology show that Darwin’s Theory does not agree with the observable evidence. The fact is this: Science falsifies Darwin’s Theory of Evolution. It isn’t true. Why would anyone believe something they know isn’t true?

**(Romans 1:22 KJV) “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,”**

## Scientifically Testing Darwin's Theory of Evolution

Atheists claim that Charles Darwin's Theory of Evolution explains how the millions of different species of life developed on the earth. It is a very good theory in that it fulfills the requirements of a scientific theory: 1.) It explains how a phenomenon could happen. 2.) It makes predictions of what scientists should discover about the phenomenon as they study it and learn more about it. 3.) It is expressed in such a way that it opens itself up to being falsifiable by scientific observations. However, being a very good theory does not make it a fact. It must first be tested for falseness. So, let's test Darwin's theory for falseness.

Darwin believed biological changes occurred very gradually over very long periods of time. He said new species developed very slowly and gradually from previous species; species by species, organ by organ, tissue by tissue, cell by cell. Since species changed so slowly, he expected the fossil record would reveal millions of intermediate fossils. However, he admitted the fossil record did not support his supposition.

“Firstly, why, if species have descended from other species by **insensibly** fine gradations, do we not everywhere see **innumerable** transitional forms? Why is not all nature **in confusion** instead of the species being, as we see them, well defined?”—Charles Darwin, *On the Origin of Species*, First Edition, Page 171, London: John Murray, 1859. (my emphasis)

When he spoke about **insensibly** fine gradations between species, he believed evolution was so slow and gradual that we wouldn't be able to sense (see, feel, detect, *etc.*) the changes from one generation to the next. When he said there should be **innumerable** transitional forms, he believed the fossil record would reveal so many transitional forms that they would be too numerous to count; not dozens, not hundreds, not thousands, but literally millions. When he spoke about all nature being **in confusion**, he believed that eventually it would be impossible to place the many species into definitive taxonomic groups because the margins of those groups would be too blurred and blended. (Taxonomists should find it extremely difficult to classify organisms accurately.) As you can see, his theory was based on three hypotheses. He hypothesized: 1.) The presence of insensibly fine gradations 2.) The existence of innumerable transitional forms 3.) That taxonomy would be in confusion. As scientists, we need to test his hypotheses to see if they have been verified or falsified by scientific observations.

If Darwin's hypotheses were true, then evolutionary family trees would show hundreds or even thousands of steps (transitions) between each species. Furthermore, the anatomical differences between those individual steps would be so slight that it would be difficult to tell when one step ended, and the next step began. In short, evolutionary family trees should show innumerable transitional steps with insensibly fine gradations between steps, and it should be difficult for taxonomists to classify those steps.

But, go to any science museum, pick up any textbook on evolution, or go to any evolution Internet site, and look at their family trees. Most family trees show only a few steps between species. Some may show as many as eight or nine. None of them show hundreds of steps, as Darwin predicted. (They show you a few steps with lines connecting them, hoping you will assume they actually have hundreds of connecting fossils stored somewhere in their

museums. They don't.) Family trees show organisms with a few similarities (homologies) of anatomical structures, but it is easy to see the anatomical differences from one step to the next. (They never show the **insensibly** fine gradations.) Family trees also show the clearly defined scientific names for all the organisms at each step of the supposed transitions. (There is no confusion in how to classify the organisms.) The family trees don't show what Darwinian Evolution requires. Let's examine each of Darwin's hypotheses.

### **Are There Innumerable Transitional Fossils?**

#### **Stephen Jay Gould, Professor of Biology, Geology, and the History of Science at Harvard University:**

"The **extreme rarity of transitional forms** in the fossil record persist 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, *Natural History*, Vol. 86, No. 5, 1977)

#### **Steven Stanley, Professor of Paleobiology, Johns Hopkins University:**

"Unfortunately, the origins of most higher categories are shrouded in mystery: commonly new higher categories appear abruptly in the fossil record **without evidence of transitional forms.**" (David M. Raup and Steven M. Stanley, *Principles of Paleontology*, W. H. Freeman and Co., San Francisco, Page 306, (1971))

#### **George Gaylord Simpson, Curator of the Museum of Comparative Zoology at Harvard University:**

"This **regular absence of transitional forms** is not confined to mammals, but is an almost universal phenomenon, as has long been noted by paleontologists. It is true of all orders of all classes of animals, both vertebrate and invertebrate." (George Gaylord Simpson, *Tempo and Mode in Evolution*, Columbia University Press, New York, Page 107, 1944)

### **Is There Evidence of Gradual Change?**

#### **Steven Stanley, Professor of Paleobiology, Johns Hopkins University:**

"The known fossil record fails to document a single example of phyletic evolution accomplishing a major morphologic transition and hence offers **no evidence that the gradualistic model can be valid.**" (Steven M. Stanley, *Macroevolution: Pattern and Process*, W. H. Freeman and Co., San Francisco, Page 39, 1979)

#### **Paul D. Krynine, Professor of Geology and Head of the Department of Mineralogy at The Pennsylvania State University:**

"Conventional uniformitarianism, or '**gradualism,**' i.e., the doctrine of unchanging change, is **verily contradicted** by all-post Cambrian sedimentary data and the geotectonic histories of which these sediments are the record." (Paul D. Krynine, "Uniformitarianism Is A Dangerous Doctrine," *Paleontology*, Vol. 30, Page 1004, 1956)

**Niles Eldredge, Curator in the Department of Invertebrates at the American Museum of Natural History:**

“It is, indeed, a very curious state of affairs, I think, that paleontologists have been insisting that their record is consistent with slow, steady, gradual evolution where I think that privately, **they’ve known for over a hundred years that such is not the case....**” (Niles Eldredge, “Did Darwin Get It Wrong?,” *Nova*, Page 6, November 1, 1981)

**Is It Difficult to Arrange/Classify the Organisms?**

“Each taxon represents a definite time unit and so provides an accurate even ‘infallible’ date. If you doubt it, bring in a suite of good index fossils, and the specialist, **without asking where or in what order they were collected, will lay them out on the table in chronological order....**” (J. E. O’Rourke, “Pragmatism versus Materialism in Stratigraphy,” *American Journal of Science*, vol. 276, pp. 51-52, (January 1976)

“Fossils of animals are classified, as are living specimens, by observing the body structures and functions. While there are a few unique challenges in classifying fossils, the basic scheme of organization is the same. Going one step at a time can make **fossil identification possible for anyone.**” ([http://www.fossils-facts-and-finds.com/fossil\\_identification.html](http://www.fossils-facts-and-finds.com/fossil_identification.html))

“Fossils come in many shapes and sizes. Paleontologists classify and identify fossils based on their shapes and appearance. Thousands of different fossils can be found in Kentucky and surrounding states. Identifying all of the types requires experts, however, many of **the most common types can be easily identified.**” (<http://www.uky.edu/KGS/fossils/fossilid2.htm>)

Classifying fossil species is so easy that almost anyone can do it. Even in the few cases where there are challenges, most taxonomists can properly arrange and classify them even if they don’t know the geologic origin or the order of the fossils. In other words, all three of Darwin’s hypotheses have been falsified. This means his theory has been falsified. This means it is not true. It is not a scientific fact. It is science fiction, at best, and should not be taught in the science classes of public schools, colleges, or universities.

**Natural Selection Does Not Cause Evolution**

Darwin proposed that Natural Selection caused evolution. Natural Selection can be summarized by the phrase, “Survival of the Fittest.” Evolutionists believe that two forces were responsible for evolution. The first force produced changes in heritable biological traits. The second force produced changes in the environments. Over very long periods of time, species would very gradually change according to their ability to survive in their very gradually changing environmental niches.

**Charles Darwin:** “The main cause, however, of innumerable intermediate links not now occurring everywhere throughout nature depends on the very process of natural selection, through which new varieties continually take the places of and exterminate their parent-forms.” (Charles Darwin. *On the Origin of Species*, First Edition, Page 279, London: John Murray, 1859)

**Stephen Jay Gould, Professor of Biology, Geology, and the History of Science at Harvard University:** “The essence of Darwinism lies in a single phrase: natural selection is the creative force of evolutionary change.” (Stephen Jay Gould, “The Return of Hopeful Monsters,” *Natural History*, Vol. 86, Page 28, 1977)

**Douglas Futuyma, Professor of Evolution at the State University of New York, Stony Brook:** “The reason that natural selection is important is that it’s the central idea, stemming from Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace, that explains design in nature. It is the one process that is responsible for the evolution of adaptations of organisms to their environment.” (Douglas J. Futuyma, “Natural Selection: How Evolution Works” *ActionBioscience*, December 2004)

The only way for new biological structures to form is if DNA mutations create new and beneficial DNA instructions that promote survival. Natural Selection does not cause DNA changes; it can only select the DNA changes that already exist. Beneficial DNA instructions must already exist before they can promote survival. Likewise, Natural Selection can’t select if beneficial environments don’t already exist. Natural Selection does not cause the environments to change. Without constantly changing environments and constantly changing DNA, the Theory of Evolution cannot explain the origin of species. **Natural Selection neither changes DNA nor changes the environments.** Since the driving forces of evolution were supposedly DNA changes and changes in the environments, we see that Natural Selection cannot be the driving force of evolution; it causes neither. Darwin based his theory on a false premise. Evolution is not a scientific fact; it is science fiction.

**C. Loring Brace, Professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan:** “Readers of *American Scientist* may not realize the extent to which a major part of the field of biology and almost all of paleontology has rejected Darwin’s insights concerning organic evolution. Natural selection is dismissed as contributing nothing more than ‘fine-tuning,’ and adaptation is largely ignored in practice.” (C. Loring Brace, *American Scientist*, Vol. 82, Pages 484-486, September/October 1994)

**Colin Patterson: Senior Paleontologist and Director of the British Museum of Natural History.** “No one has ever produced a [new] species by mechanisms of natural selection. No one has ever got near it and most of the current argument in neo-Darwinism is about this question.” (Colin Patterson, “Cladistics,” *BBC*, Interview with Brian Leek and Peter Franz, 4 March 1982)

**William B. Provine: Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences, Cornell University, New York:** “Natural selection does not act on anything, nor does it select (for, or against), force, maximize, create, modify, shape, operate, drive, favor, maintain, push, or adjust. Natural selection does nothing. Natural selection as a natural force belongs in the insubstantial category already populated by the Necker/Stahl phlogiston or Newton’s ‘ether’... Having natural selection select is nifty because it excuses the necessity of talking about the actual causation of natural selection. Such talk was excusable for Charles Darwin, but is inexcusable for Darwinists now. Creationists have discovered our empty ‘natural selection’ language, and the ‘actions’ of natural selection make huge vulnerable targets.” (William B. Provine, *The Origins of Theoretical Population Genetics*, Pages 199-200, University of Chicago Press, 2001)

According to evolutionists, evolution was caused by Natural Selection. The problem with that belief is that it is non-explanatory. What is Natural Selection? Natural Selection is Survival of the Fittest. What are the Fittest? The Fittest are the ones that survive. Thus, Natural Selection means the survival of the survivors. But, this explains nothing; the mechanics are never revealed. Are they survivors because they survived? Or did they survive because they are survivors? In reality, they are saying that evolution is the gradual change of species over time, and that the gradual change of species over time is what causes evolution. In short, their belief is that evolution is what causes evolution. It is equivalent to me saying the moon is made of green cheese because green cheese is what makes the moon. It might fool a five-year old, but it isn’t science.

**(Psalms 111:2 KJV) “Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.”**

## Does the Immaterial Exist?

Atheists insist that only physical matter and energy exist. They reject the existence of anything immaterial or supernatural. Since God is supernatural, according to Christians, atheists feel they are correct to deny the existence of God—they say that nothing immaterial exists!

For thousands of years, philosophers, theologians, and scientists have debated whether anything immaterial exists. At the center of these debates are two key questions:

- 1.) Does an immaterial God exist?
- 2.) Is the human mind/soul/essence immaterial?

If the human mind/soul/essence is immaterial, then it doesn't necessarily cease to exist at physical death. That was why many cultures believed in some form of an afterlife—heaven, nirvana, paradise, hell, hades, reincarnation, *etc.* They believed that humans continued to exist after death in an immaterial form.

Xenophanes, a 6<sup>th</sup> Century B.C. Greek philosopher and theologian, believed in the immaterial. He wrote about a supreme God who was immaterial. Other Greek scholars, such as Thales of Miletus, also a 6<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Greek philosopher and theologian, believed differently. Thales believed God was strictly material. Otherwise, God would have been outside time, space, matter, and energy. Since humans are limited to time and space, there would be no way we could access an immaterial God. In fact, the majority of Greek scholars believed that **an immaterial God would be unknown and unknowable from a human perspective.** Although they didn't like the idea, they didn't want to risk angering such a God if He existed. So, they set up a shrine to the Unknown God. Paul, the Apostle spoke to them about the Unknown God.

Acts 17:22-33

**[KJV WITH ADDED COMMENTS IN BOLD PRINT]**

“So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: ‘Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. {23} For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription, “To the unknown god.” **[TRANSCENDENT]** What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. {24} The God who made **[CREATOR]** the world and everything in it, **[OMNIPOTENT]** being Lord of heaven and earth, **[SOVEREIGN OVER THE UNIVERSE]** does not live in temples made by man, **[OUTSIDE OF SPACE AND TIME]** {25} nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, **[SELF-EXISTENT]** since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath **[SOURCE OF LIFE]** and everything. {26} And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods **[CONTROLS TIME]** and the boundaries **[CONTROLS SPACE]** of their dwelling place, {27} that they should seek God, **[CALLS ALL MEN TO HIMSELF]** in the hope **[MERCIFUL]** that they might feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, **[OMNIPRESENT]** {28} for ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; **[IMMINENT]** as

even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are indeed his offspring.’ [HEAVENLY FATHER] {29} Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, [SUPERNATURAL] an image formed by the art and imagination of man. {30} The times of ignorance God [OMNISCIENT] overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere [LORD OVER ALL MEN] to repent, [FORGIVING] {31} because he has fixed a day on which he will judge [JUSTICE] the world in righteousness [HOLY] by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all [SALVATION IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WHO TRULY SEEK HIM] by raising him from the dead.’ [SOVEREIGN OVER THE AFTERLIFE] {32} Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, ‘We will hear you again about this.’ {33} So Paul went out from their midst.” (*English Standard Version*)

Paul showed them that the God of the Hebrews was the Unknown God who revealed Himself by raising Christ from the dead. He was the Sovereign Creator, who was omnipotent, omniscient, eternal, imminent yet transcendent, the source of life, needing nothing from men, yet sought all men to be in fellowship with Him.

### But, How About the Human Mind?

Can thoughts, ideas, information, or instructions exist independently of matter and energy? Can information exist in a form that can’t be materially measured? If it can, then it is not material! Compare these two sentences:

**“For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.”**

**“hserl moroh hibtnh gwg vdsl eitev sF nevte wnoI tduat hlaar hveis oleoey aveGs leun tv.eh endlh ngdot oeo ebioht poios hiht etrao bf rSeti”**

These two sentences are absolutely identical in terms of the specific letters used and the number of spaces they contain. You could reproduce these sentences with any material you wanted; paper and pencil, chalk on a chalkboard, or huge stone letters the size of the blocks at Stonehenge.

The quantity of matter and energy required would be the same for each sentence in its respective material. Sentence One in paper and pencil would have the same amount of energy and matter as Sentence Two in paper and pencil. It would take the same amount of chalk to write Sentence One as it would take to write Sentence Two. Sentence One in Stonehenge-sized letters would have the same amount of energy and matter as Sentence Two in Stonehenge-sized letters.

In spite of this, Sentence One contains something not found in Sentence Two. Sentence One contains instructions. Sentence Two doesn’t contain instructions; it doesn’t tell you how to have everlasting life. If you wrote Sentence One on a slip of paper, and Sentence Two on another slip of paper, you couldn’t determine if either contained instructions simply by measuring their matter and energy. You could measure their physical mass by weighing them

on a scale, but that wouldn't tell you if they contained instructions. You could measure their physical energy by burning them in a Bomb Calorimeter, but that wouldn't tell you if they contained instructions.

In addition, the amount of matter and energy used to convey the instructions, doesn't change the instructions. Reproducing John 3:16 in Stonehenge Blocks would require much more matter and energy than reproducing John 3:16 on a slip of paper using a pencil. Yet, the quantity and quality of the instructions are the same for both systems. The heavy stones would convey no more instructions than the fine graphite lines on paper. This means:

- 1.) Instructions are independent of matter and energy.
- 2.) Instructions are immaterial.
- 3.) Instructions are an immaterial component of the immaterial human mind.

This brings up three disturbing thoughts for atheists to ponder.

- 1.) If instructions are immaterial, how can they reject the notion that the immaterial exists?
- 2.) If the immaterial exists, how can they disprove the existence of an immaterial God?
- 3.) If the human mind is immaterial, how can they insist it is limited by, or restricted to, the natural realm of time and space?

What happens to it when the material part of man dies?

**(2 Corinthians 5:10 KJV) "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil."**

## Who Created God?

Atheists think they can disprove the existence of God by asking Christians questions that seem (to them) impossible to answer. They think that if they can stump us, it proves they are right. They fool themselves when they think this. Why?

Because, even if you can't answer a question about a belief, that doesn't disprove the belief. I believe photons exist in states that are both particles and waves at the same time, as defined by Quantum Physics. Now, can I explain Quantum States? No! Does that make Quantum Physics wrong? No! **Just because I can't answer a question about my belief in Quantum Physics, that doesn't make my belief false.**

Atheists ask, "Who created God?" Since we Christians believe the universe needed to be created, atheists think God needed to be created. They think that if we can't explain how God got here, then Christianity falls apart. It's a foolish question that is easily answered if you apply a little logic. The simple answer is this:

**God wasn't created because God didn't begin to exist.**

Science reveals that the universe came into existence approximately fourteen billion years ago, in a spectacular eruption of nothingness commonly called the Big Bang. "Prior" to that, nothing physical existed. (And I say "prior" in quotation marks because there was no such thing as "prior" in the temporal sense—there was no such thing as "time" before the Big Bang. All Time, Space, Matter, and Energy began to exist at the instant of the Big Bang.)

The Bible reveals that God existed eternally and was never created. Atheists object to that answer. They say nothing can exist eternally. That's why they say God needs a creator. Their objection is foolish for two reasons:

1.) For thousands of years, atheists claimed the universe was eternal. Atheists had no problem believing the universe was eternal, but as soon as science proved the universe couldn't be eternal, they began to object to the idea that God was eternal. **They believed that something could be eternal, only as long as that belief helped their cause.**

2.) Atheists try to apply the Laws of Nature to eliminate the supernatural. They insist that only the natural exists. (This is called, "Strict-Materialism.") They say God cannot exist because God is not material. They argue that since science can't observe, measure, detect, or experiment on anything immaterial, science proves that God doesn't exist.

They delude themselves and try to delude others by saying this. **By their own definition, science applies only to the Natural Realm**—the universe of Time, Space, Matter, and Energy. Anything "outside-of," or "beyond," or "other-than" the Natural Realm is not defined, restricted, limited, or controlled by the Laws of Nature. Their own definition of science

prohibits them from making “scientific” claims about the supernatural. **When they say, “God doesn’t exist,” they are making a statement about something they can’t observe, measure, detect, or experiment on.** (In other words, it is a religious belief.)

So, what is the answer to their question? Like I said, God needs no creator because God was never created. **Their question is as ridiculous and self-defeating as if I asked, “When did eternity begin?”** If eternity ever began, then it is not eternity. In the same fashion, if God was ever created, then He is not God. Let me show you why their “intellectual” objection fails.

If something exists, it exists because of one of two reasons:

- 1.) It began to exist.
- 2.) It has eternally existed.

There are no other options.

We know from scientific observation that everything that begins to exist, was caused to come into existence. This is a universe of causes and effects. Things are caused, and those causes have causes, and those causes have causes before them... all the way back to the Big Bang. A cause must exist before the effect in order to cause the effect.

According to science, if something natural exists, something natural caused it. But then, something else had to cause that cause. What caused that cause? It had to be something before that cause. What caused that cause? Something had to cause that cause before that cause. What caused that cause? Something had to cause that cause before that cause... This means there had to be an eternal chain of natural causes and effects, or else nothing would exist. (This is what they believed for thousands of years.) However, science now proves the chain of natural causes and effects can go back only fourteen billion years; **it can’t be eternal.** Science and logic now eliminate all natural causes as a first cause. **The First Cause had to be a Supernatural, Uncaused-Cause.**

The cause of nature had to be “outside-of,” “beyond,” or “other-than,” nature; it existed before nature. Since all physical causes are finite and have come into existence within the last fourteen billion years, the First Cause was not physical or temporal. It existed “prior” to time and space. It was supernatural and eternal. Since atheists cannot use science to define, disprove, limit, restrict, categorize, or explain anything supernatural or anything eternal, **they cannot use their belief to disprove our belief.** The instant they try to do that, they become Cosmic Hypocrites. We Christians simply define the “Supernatural and Eternal First Cause” as God, and atheists can offer no scientific evidence to prove otherwise.

In the end, the only explanation for how the natural universe began, is a supernatural explanation. So, which supernatural explanation makes an inference to the best possible cause?

There are lots of religious explanations, but all are insufficient explanations except for the Bible's explanation. Of all the ancient world religions and beliefs, The Hebrew Bible was the only one that said the universe (time-space-matter-energy) was created from nothing. All the Greek, Roman, Chinese, Babylonian, and Egyptian religions, as well as all the Eastern religions, and all the Pagan Philosophies believed the universe (nature) was infinite and eternal. The Book of Genesis was the only ancient text that described an *ex nihilo* creation of time, space, matter, and energy. As it turns out, the Book of Genesis was the only ancient text that agreed with modern science—the universe had an absolute beginning. This means that all religions not derived from the Hebrew Bible are foundationally wrong.

**Since the Bible provides the only truth about our origin, I propose that the Bible provides the only truth about our destiny.**

What is the truth about your destiny?

**(Acts 17:31 KJV) “Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by *that* man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all *men*, in that he hath raised him from the dead.”**

## Can Evil Exist in a Universe Created and Controlled by a Good God?

### The Atheist's Challenge

Atheists believe the presence of evil is proof that God doesn't exist. They think they have an ironclad argument that proves it. This is their argument:

- 1.) If God is all-good and all-powerful, then He would prevent all evil and all suffering.
- 2.) Evil and suffering exist.
- 3.) Therefore:

- A.) God does not exist, or
- B.) God is not all-good, and/or
- C.) God is not all-powerful

### The Christian's Response

Atheists say the presence of evil is incompatible with an all-good/all-powerful God, but how do they know? **How do they know that an all-good and all-powerful God MUST prevent all evil and all suffering in the universe?** In order for their argument to stand, they must first prove that the presence of evil and the existence of God are absolutely mutually exclusive. (If one exists, the other doesn't.) But, if the presence of evil and the existence of God **ARE NOT** mutually exclusive, then their argument falls apart.

They make an assumption that God doesn't exist, and then "justify" their assumption by concluding that the presence of evil "proves" their point. In other words, they make an assumption to reach a conclusion, and then use that conclusion to "prove" their assumption. In logic, this is known as Cyclic Reasoning, and by itself it proves nothing. They first need to prove that the presence of evil and the existence of God are absolutely mutually exclusive. But how can they prove that? They need evidence, not just assumptions, don't they? Where do they find their evidence?

There are only two sources of evidence that can answer this:

The first evidence is what God reveals about Himself. The Bible says that God is all-good and all-powerful, yet the Bible affirms that evil exists. The Bible sees no incompatibility between the existence of God and the existence of evil... **FOR THE TIME-BEING.**

According to the Bible, the universe didn't start out evil, and it won't end up evil. Yes, God hates evil, and will not tolerate it in His presence. But the sad truth is this: **God has removed His presence from the universe because of sin.** He no longer walks with us as He once did with Adam and Eve before the Fall. We do not have full fellowship with Him now, as we will have in the future. **Evil can exist in the universe only because God's presence is no**

**longer in the universe as it once was.** But it won't be that way forever. A day is coming when God will remove all evil from the universe.

(Matthew 13:41-42 KJV) “The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity{42} And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.”

Ironically, the atheist who brings up this challenge brings judgment down upon his own head. **Since he recognizes that evil cannot exist in the presence of an all-good/all-powerful God, he damns himself to eternal separation from the presence of that all-good/all-powerful God, because he, the atheist, is evil by virtue of his rejection of God.** If atheists insist that an all-good and all-powerful God COULD NOT/SHOULD NOT/WOULD NOT tolerate the presence of evil, then they have just condemned themselves to eternal separation from the presence of God because THEY are evil. (So am I. So are you... all have sinned.) Be thankful, at least in this life, that God tolerates evil. If God didn't tolerate evil, we wouldn't be here. As it is, they risk absolute and eternal separation from God, **based on their own judgment.** They believe God couldn't, shouldn't, and wouldn't tolerate them in His presence.

IF GOD DOES NOT TOLERATE EVIL IN THE UNIVERSE,  
THEN ATHEISTS WOULDN'T BE HERE.

Since atheists reject the Bible as a source of truth, their only evidence about God must come from science. But this creates another self-condemning argument. Science demands observation and testing. **How many universes have they observed? How many Gods have they tested? How many times have they verified that the presence of evil negates the existence of God?** The scientific method requires them to observe and test a large number of all-good/all-powerful Gods in a large number of universes. If they have observed and tested 999,999 all-good/all-powerful Gods in 999,999 universes, and have discovered that evil doesn't exist in any of those universes, then they have evidence (but still not proof) that an all-good and all-powerful God does not exist in our universe. But since atheists have not made those observations and tests, their belief is not based on science. They have no scientific basis for their argument. Their belief is based solely on their own opinions. They have elevated themselves to the place of being God's judge, telling Him that He does not meet THEIR standards of perfection. They tell God what He can or cannot allow. **They judge God now, but one day God will judge them.** When they stand before God, they will not be able to use scientific evidence as the reason they rejected God—they have none.

Now, even if the existence of evil disproves the existence of a benevolent God, how does the existence of evil disprove the existence of a malevolent god?

**The atheist's argument doesn't disprove the possibility that some kind of God might exist.**

Pagan mythologies are filled with evil gods who committed horrible acts. The presence of evil in the universe could be evidence for a malevolent god. If a malevolent god exists, then it seems reasonable to believe there would be evil and suffering in the universe. Those are the kinds of things a malevolent god would do. But, if this were true, then the atheist condemns himself for not believing in the malevolent god. The atheist is a fool for not devoting his life trying to appease that malevolent god. By rejecting ANY kind of God, atheists risk the anger of a malevolent god if such a god exists.

You can show them how their argument fails, by turning their own logic against them.

- 1.) If God is malevolent, then He would cause evil and all suffering.
- 2.) Evil and suffering exist.
- 3.) Therefore:
  - A.) God exists, and
  - B.) God is malevolent, and
  - C.) They are in big trouble for rejecting that malevolent God.

**Logic tells you that you will be in much worse trouble for angering a malevolent, vengeful, unforgiving god, than you would be for angering a loving, merciful, forgiving God.**

The servants of a wicked and cruel master have much more to fear by angering him. The servants of a loving and forgiving master have less to fear—they've got a loving and forgiving master. **If you believe God is not loving and forgiving, then your own belief will be the very basis for Him excluding you from His Love and Forgiveness.** Again; self-condemnation.

This very line of argument was used by the evil servant in the Parable of the Talents. (Matthew 25:14-30) He claimed the master was a cruel taskmaster. The master pointed out to him that if he truly believed the master was a cruel taskmaster, then he would have done something to avoid the master's anger. He would have, at least, invested the master's money in a bank in order to draw a small profit without the risk of losing it. (The master had given him several thousand dollars in current-day value.) Since the evil servant didn't even do that, it proved he had no interest in obeying or pleasing the master regardless of whether the master was good or evil.

**Atheists have no desire to obey God whether He is good and loving or not.**

Now, consider this. If the presence of evil is evidence that a benevolent God DOES NOT exist, then the very same logic implies that the presence of good is evidence that a benevolent God DOES exist. It's the exact same argument, turned around against the atheists. If you attribute evil to the non-existence of God, then you cannot change your argument in mid-stream and attribute goodness to anything else except the existence of God. They think the existence of evil poses a problem for Christians. It doesn't. However, the existence of goodness poses a big

problem for atheists. Since there is so much more GOOD in our world than EVIL, there is much more evidence that God exists.

**Christians don't have a problem of explaining the origin of evil.** The Bible reveals the cause of evil. It is caused by the rejection of God's moral standards. **It is the atheists who have the problem of explaining the origin of goodness.** Science cannot explain the origin of goodness. Science cannot even define goodness because there is no such thing as goodness in scientific terms. Goodness is not a material object. Goodness is not scientifically testable. Goodness has no mass, no energy, and it doesn't occupy space. How long and how wide is goodness? How much does it weigh? What color is it? What temperature is it? Is the sun good when it causes plants to grow nourishing food? Is it evil when it causes skin cancer? It can't be both.

If atheists are correct, then the universe is nothing more than the motions and interactions of  $10^{81}$  Fundamental Physical Particles. None of these particles has a moral standard of good and evil. Carbon is neither good nor evil. Hydrogen is not more moral than oxygen. Nitrogen is mindless and cannot decide to do good one day and evil the next. "Good" and "evil" are nonsense words without the existence of an Absolute Moral Agent. "Good" and "evil" mean nothing unless there is an Absolute Moral Standard by which they can be defined and measured. But an Absolute Moral Standard is not an inherent quality of the physical universe; it is an eternal quality of God. If there is no God, then suffering and evil are just part of what makes the universe, the universe. If evil is caused by the fundamental physical forces and particles of nature, then evil is inherent in the universe and can't be prevented. Why get mad about it? And if you do get mad, to whom or to what is your anger aimed? Mindless particles and forces? Why would people who don't believe in God, get mad at God, for something inherent to a strictly material universe? It would be like getting mad at Santa Claus because you didn't get the shiny red wagon you wanted as a kid. If you don't believe in Santa, how can you blame Santa? They try to use the presence of suffering and evil as evidence against God. But, by their own belief system, (there is no God) they believe that suffering and evil in the universe are caused by the universe, not by any kind of God. By their own belief system, suffering and evil have nothing to do with God. Their argument defeats itself.

God hates evil more than we do, and the Bible commands us to oppose it. As Christians, we are told to help the widows and orphans, feed the hungry, and minister to the sick. How many schools, hospitals, orphanages, nursing homes, and other care facilities are built, operated, and funded by atheist groups **in the name of atheism?** There are secular (non-religious) organizations that do these things, but they don't do them as a means of promoting atheism. In this, atheists condemn themselves again. They say they hate evil and suffering, but compared to Christians, they do almost nothing to alleviate those problems. Atheists have little desire to eliminate or reduce suffering and evil in the world. Compared to the number of Christians over the centuries, how many atheists have given their lives and their fortunes to the cause of eliminating suffering and evil? How many atheist groups send aid to earthquake-ravaged villages, as compared to Christian groups? After a flood or hurricane, who shows up with more aid? Christians or atheists? Who did more to end suffering in the world: Mother Teresa or

Madeline Murray O'Hare? If atheists do little or nothing to alleviate suffering and evil, then why do they complain about God allowing it?

**(Proverbs 14:32 KJV) "The wicked is driven away in his wickedness: but the righteous hath hope in his death."**

## Why is there Suffering?

If God is all-good and all-powerful, then why doesn't He do something to relieve the world of suffering? This question has been asked for centuries. And atheists aren't the only ones who have asked it. Plenty of Christians have struggled with this problem. The Bible provides some answers, of course, but the specific answer depends on the intent of the questioner. The intent in the heart of the questioner should determine how you answer. You **MUST** take the time and make the effort to learn the needs of the questioner before you answer. Let me give you a quick hint: Is their question hate-filled, or hurt-filled?

When someone expresses a really hate-filled attitude toward God, the Bible, or the Church, it is very likely that person has experienced a really bad situation with a Christian or with a church. Some of the hate toward God is linked to verbal, mental, physical, or sexual abuse by people who claim to be representatives of God. When you encounter someone with this type of hate/hurt, you need to convince them to switch the blame from God to the person or persons actually responsible. Assure them that these people are not following the commands or the will of God. You can further assure them that they will be judged by a much higher standard.

(Matthew 7:21-23 ESV) "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. {22} On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' {23} And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'"

On the other hand, some of the hate toward God is linked to personal tragedies that may have nothing to do with Christians or the Church, but are linked to God in the mind of the one who suffered those tragedies. If someone's baby died because of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or whose spouse was killed by a drunk driver, or who is suffering through cancer asks you this question, you **MUST NOT** give them the same answer you would give an antagonistic atheist jerk who just wants to argue. **You must have an answer that fits that person in that situation.**

### Two Imperatives Before You Answer

- A. You must determine the intent and the needs of the questioner before you answer.
- B. You must pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you the right answer for THIS questioner.

I'm not going to say much about how to answer the person who has lost a loved one. You probably already know how to answer that better than I do. Your best answer is love, compassion, heart-felt sympathy, true friendship, and a genuine willingness to be there for them

if you are needed. Maybe all you can do is sit down and weep with them... and that's okay. That might be what they need most. So, while I cannot tell you how to answer, I can tell you how NOT to answer.

Unless you have lost a child, or had a spouse who was killed, or experienced cancer yourself, don't say, "Oh, I know what you're going through; I know just how you feel." Unless you have experienced these things, there is a near-100% chance your friend will see this as the empty platitude it is, and will be hurt by your comments more than helped.

In addition, you should say nothing that hints or could be misconstrued that their doubts are equivalent to not having faith. ("If you truly believed the Bible, you wouldn't have these doubts." "If you loved Jesus, you wouldn't question Him.") We all have doubts at one time or another. One of the worst responses can be to quote Romans 8:28:

(Romans 8:28 KJV) "And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose."

Yes, it is true that God works all things for the good of those who love Him, but this verse can be misunderstood by the questioner. The questioner might rationalize that since God works all things for the good of those who love Him, and since all things aren't seemingly working out for my good, (my baby died, my spouse died, *etc.*) then God must think I don't love Him, or else that I am not called to His purpose. This answer can make the situation worse if its meaning is not clearly explained. Furthermore, unless you are God and know exactly **HOW** this situation is going to work out for their good, it is much better to remain silent. We are not God, and we cannot know the future. Instead of saying something that discourages their faith, say something that encourages their faith; something that gives them hope. You might say something like, "We cannot always explain the past, but we can always hope for the future. In this situation, that's what I want. I want to keep hoping for your future, and I want you to keep hoping for your future too."

You see, **if we lose the hope of the future, then we have lost the joy of the past.** If you have lost a child, and if you have lost the hope of being reunited with your child, then the memory of your child can only rekindle sorrow and grief. You will only be able to look back at the suffering of the past. You will never be able to look forward to the joy you will have with your child in the future. David and Bathsheba's first son died in infancy, but David did not give up hope of seeing him again in heaven.

(2 Samuel 12:23 KJV) "...I will go to him, but he will not return to me."

David kept hoping, and he was later rewarded for that hope. He was reunited with his son. Encourage your friend to keep hoping, too! If not for their own sake, then for the sake of honoring the memory of their loved one they will later rejoin.

**Have you ever wondered WHY God tolerates suffering in the universe?**

The atheist is right when he recognizes a conflict between God's existence and the presence of suffering in the universe. (This is part of the General Revelation that God has given to all people. People instinctively recognize something is wrong when they suffer.) Suffering makes no sense to atheists, so they assume it makes no sense at all; even to God, if He exists. Therefore, they use suffering as "proof" that God doesn't exist.

Instead of being proof against God's existence, might not the presence of suffering be proof we don't understand God? There are many things we don't understand, but still believe. Physicists do not fully understand light because it can be detected as both a particle and a wave. Those two states seem incompatible. Do physicists reject the existence of light because they don't fully understand it? No, it makes them want to study light even more. Do scientists fully understand gravity? No, but name me a scientist who says gravity doesn't exist. Do physicians reject the existence of diseases just because they don't fully understand them? No, they seek to learn more about them so they can eliminate the death, pain, and suffering they cause.

The Bible teaches that God has an ultimate purpose for all this. Some of those purposes are revealed in the Bible. Most of those purposes aren't revealed in the Bible. Sometimes life reveals them **through the process of suffering**. I can think of examples in my life where something bad happened to me, but in the end, it wound up being better for me than if the bad thing had never happened. That was God's purpose.

Rather than causing us to reject God, the presence of suffering should cause us to seek God all the more! Wouldn't it be better to study the Bible and find out how God wants you to be part of the solution to suffering? Wouldn't it be wiser to find out how you can restore your relationship with God so that you can help eliminate suffering in your own life and in the lives of those around you?

The Bible teaches that the universe hasn't always experienced suffering and evil, and the Bible teaches that the universe won't always experience suffering and evil. The universe started without sin and evil, and it will end when God removes all sin and evil in the future. The evil and suffering we now experience are being used by God **FOR A PURPOSE** we can't necessarily understand. If I were an atheist, rather than complaining about sin and suffering, I would want to know how I could escape sin and suffering. (If I were sinking in a pool of quicksand, rather than just complaining about being in the pool of quicksand, I would much rather want to find out how I could escape the pool of quicksand.) Instead of asking, "Why is there sin and evil," the atheist ought to be asking, "How can I escape sin and evil? How can I make sure I don't get removed when God removes all sin and evil from the universe?"

Again, God has a purpose for creation. In fact, I believe each member of the Godhead has unique purposes for creation. I don't know all the purposes, of course, but I believe one purpose the Father has for creation, is that He wants us to be His gift to the Son. I believe He wants us to love the Son with the maximum love possible, and we don't have that much love yet. Yes, those of us who have put our trust in Jesus love Him now, but we do not love Him now as much as

we will when we experience Him in eternity. Today we know Him partially, but when we are with Him in eternity, we will know Him much more; therefore, we will love Him much more.

(1 Corinthians 13:12 ESV) “For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.”

When we fully know Him, we will fully love Him. The Bible reveals that the more we learn about Jesus, the more we will love Jesus. What do we need to learn about Jesus so we can love Jesus with the maximum love the Father planned from the beginning? There is something in life the Father wants us to learn. **God wanted our lives to be a learning process.** What does God want us to learn? Suffering has a purpose.

Too often, we think only about our own suffering and its effects on us. The message of the Gospel is that we need to think about the suffering of Jesus and its effects on us. Yes, we suffer from our own sins and the sins of others, but that suffering is temporal. It will end when we (believers) stand before the throne of Jesus. The truth about Jesus is this: He suffered the eternal death that all of us should suffer. He suffered all the pain, for all the sins, of all who have ever lived. What the Father wants us to learn, but won't force us to learn, is that **suffering in the universe is meant to be a teaching-tool so we could learn how much Jesus loves us.**

(Psalms 119:71 KJV) “*It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.*”

If God didn't allow suffering, we would never learn as much about God as we could. Worse, if suffering weren't possible, then Jesus could never have suffered and paid for our sins. We could never be saved. **Suffering opened the only door to the Father, but not our suffering; Jesus' suffering.** Why is Christ the only way to God? No one else could have suffered that much. When we learn how much Jesus suffered for us, we will understand how much Jesus loves us. When we understand how much He loves us, our own suffering will pale in comparison. In heaven, we will never look back at our suffering in anger. Sin caused Adam and Eve to hide from Jesus. Suffering causes us to run into His arms. What Adam and Eve never learned from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, we can learn from the Cross.

**(Romans 5:19 KJV) “For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous.”**

## Do Sinners Deserve Hell?

(Revelation 20:15 KJV) “And if anyone was not found written in the Book of Life, he was thrown into the Lake of Fire.”

Atheists argue that an eternity of conscious suffering and torment is too great a punishment for sin. They say God is unfair for sending a person who sinned during his lifetime of seventy, eighty, or even ninety years, to an eternity of hell. They judge God according to **their** opinions about fairness... and they have some pretty distorted opinions about fairness. For one thing, the amount of time it takes to commit a crime has no bearing on the sentence for that crime. A man might brutally rape and murder a little six-year old girl within twenty minutes. Should he be sent to prison for no more than twenty minutes?

Here is my counter-argument:

God is Fair/Just/Right in punishing us **IF**:

- 1.) We really are guilty of sinning/rebelling against Him.
- 2.) We really know our sins/rebellions violate His commands.
- 3.) He thoroughly warns us in advance about His judgment.
- 4.) We know there is no way we can escape His Justice.
- 5.) He repeatedly gives us opportunities to repent/change our ways so that He won't have to punish us.
- 6.) He mercifully offers us an iron-clad, guaranteed way of avoiding ALL punishment.
- 7.) He graciously lets us choose our own destiny by letting us either accept or reject His offer of mercy.

Because there isn't enough space in this book to go into detail, I will give just one reference for each of the first six points. I encourage you to use these as a beginning for your own studies of this subject.

- 1.) Romans 3:23 KJV “For all have sinned, and fall short of the glory of God;”
- 2.) Romans 1:32 KJV “Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.”

3.) Jeremiah 25:4 KJV “You have neither listened nor inclined your ears to hear, although the LORD persistently sent to you all his servants the prophets,”

4.) Hebrews 12:25 KJV “See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.”

5.) Isaiah 55:7 KJV “Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.”

6.) Romans 8:1 KJV “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”

We ALL deserve eternity in the Lake of Fire, but I’m not going to focus on that. My argument centers around the seventh point: We get to choose our own destiny while here on earth. What could be more fair than that?

I want to emphasize one important point before we go on. Our choice winds up being an eternal choice. Once we enter eternity, we will never change our minds. It is my belief that we Christians do not love Jesus Christ now, as much as we will love Him when we see Him in eternity. It is also my belief that unbelievers do not hate Jesus Christ now, as much as they will hate Him when they see Him in eternity. When atheists stand before the Judgment Seat of Christ, they won’t repent and seek His forgiveness; they will remain as rebellious as they were in life. In fact, they will be even more rebellious. They will hate Him, and they will hate Him forever.

### **The Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31)**

This story centers around what happened to an unrighteous rich man after his death. Lazarus was a poor, but righteous, beggar who died and went to a place of comfort called Abraham’s Bosom. The rich man was evil, and when he died he went to a place of torment and fire. The rich man begged Abraham to let Lazarus bring him just a drop of water for his tongue. The request was refused. The rich man then begged Abraham to send Lazarus back to warn his five brothers, so they wouldn’t perish. That was also denied.

This is a description of the man’s attitude AFTER he died. He asked for relief, but he never asked for forgiveness. He asked Abraham to send Lazarus to change his brothers’ minds about God, but he never changed his own mind about God. The rich man never sought God or God’s forgiveness. His attitude toward God is eternal and unchanging.

## **The Parables of the Talents and the Minas (Matthew 25:14-30 and Luke 19:12-27)**

These are essentially the same story given by Jesus at two different times to two different audiences. The lessons are identical. A certain landowner is going away on a journey and entrusts his servants with different amounts of money to manage his estate while he is gone. All the servants are fully aware the master will someday return. This is a picture of Jesus Christ. He has gone out of the world for now, and He has given ALL of us resources, abilities, wealth, gifts, *etc.*, so that we can serve Him while He is gone. To some, He gives more. To others, He gives less. The issue is not how much or how little He gives us, but what we do with what He gives us. What we do with His gifts depends on our attitude toward Christ. Believers use their gifts to advance Christ's Kingdom. Unbelievers do nothing with their gifts. The key to these parables is that they reveal the attitudes of believers and unbelievers, **both in life and after death**. The good servants used their gifts for the Master in time. In eternity, they were willing to give all their gains to the Master. They recognized that in life and in death, Jesus deserves 100% of everything they have. The evil servants do nothing for their Master in life, and remain just as defiant in death. They make the false accusation, "God is unfair." In death, the evil servants accuse the Master of reaping where He didn't sow. Well, if He did that, then He would be unfair. But look at the situation. The Master did sow. He gave the evil servant one talent of silver. (Worth several thousand dollars in today's economy.) Also, notice that the Master didn't reap anything. He let the first servants keep what He gave them, keep the profits they gained, and then He gave them even more. Since the first servants were judged first, the evil servants were eyewitnesses to the fact that the Master is not a harsh taskmaster. **In spite of sowing but not reaping, the evil servants accuse God of reaping but not sowing.** Seeing the truth about God in eternity, they remain steadfast in their rebellion against God. Unbelievers will never change their minds about God after death.

### **Weeping and Gnashing of Teeth**

There are several passages of Scripture that describe the Lake of Fire as a place of, "weeping and gnashing of teeth." "Weeping" certainly speaks of pain, torment, and sorrow. What does, "gnashing the teeth," indicate. The answer is seen in Acts 7:54 where the religious leaders stone Stephen for his testimony:

(Acts 7:54 KJV) "When they heard these things, they became enraged in their hearts, and they gnashed their teeth at him."

"Gnashing of teeth," depicts anger and hatred. For all of eternity, in all the torment of the Lake of Fire, all unbelievers will always hate God. That's why they remain in the Lake of Fire for eternity. They don't want to be in God's presence. They want to be as separated from God as they can possibly be. This is what they wanted in life, and this is what they will want in death. How is God unfair when He gives them what they have always wanted? Be careful what you choose about God. You will get it!

**(Romans 6:23 KJV) "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."**

## Other Resources

### Websites

Apologetis Press-  
[www.apologeticspress.org](http://www.apologeticspress.org)

Cold Case Christianity  
[www.coldcasechristianity.com](http://www.coldcasechristianity.com)

Cross Examined  
[www.crossexamined.org](http://www.crossexamined.org)

Norm Geisler International Ministry  
[www.ngim.org](http://www.ngim.org)

Reasonable Faith  
[www.reasonablefaith.org](http://www.reasonablefaith.org)

Stand To Reason  
[www.str.org](http://www.str.org)

### Free Android Apps for Download From the Google Play Store

Apologetics Press App  
Bible Doctrines Handbook App  
Cold Case Christianity App  
Cross Examined App  
Norm Geisler International Ministry App  
Reasonable Faith App  
Stand To Reason App  
Stand To Reason Quick Reference App

## **Bible Translations**

(HCSB) = Scriptures quoted from the Holy Bible, *HOLMAN CHRISTIAN STANDARD BIBLE*. Copyright ©1999 by Holman Bible Publishers, Nashville, TN. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(KJV) = Scriptures quoted from the Holy Bible, *KING JAMES VERSION*. 1769. Public Domain.

(NASB) = Scriptures quoted from the Holy Bible, *NEW AMERICAN STANDARD BIBLE*, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971 by The Lockman Foundation. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(NIV) = Scriptures quoted from the Holy Bible, *NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION*. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(NKJV) = Scriptures quoted from the Holy Bible, *NEW KING JAMES VERSION*. Copyright © 1979, 1980, 1982 by Thomas Nelson, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(NRSV) = Scriptures quoted from the Holy Bible, *NEW REVISED STANDARD VERSION*. Copyright © 1989 by The Division of Christian Education of The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(TANAKH) = Scriptures taken from the Jewish Publication Society—TANAKH, 1917 (public domain)

**If you would like to know more about Jesus Christ,  
or if you are looking for a church home, please contact us at:**

**Encounter Church  
9105 Galene Drive  
Louisville, Kentucky 40299  
(502) 509-4825  
[www.myencounterchurch.org](http://www.myencounterchurch.org)  
Sunday Worship Service starts at 10:00 AM**