

12 Points That Show Christianity Is True

- *Truth exists*
- *The opposite of true is false*
- *It is true that the Theistic God exists*
- *If God exists, **MIRACLES ARE POSSIBLE.***
- ***Miracles performed in connection with a truth claim confirm the truth of God through a messenger from God.***
- ***The New Testament is Historically Reliable.***
- ***Jesus claimed To Be God***
- ***Jesus proved To Be God by:***
 - ...living a sinless and miraculous life.***
 - ...fulfilling prophecy written hundreds of years before he was ever born.***
 - dying on the cross and rose from the dead.***
- ***Therefore Jesus is God***
- ***Whatever Jesus (who is God) says is True***
- ***Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God***
- ***Therefore the Bible is the Word of God and everything opposed to it is false***

12 Points That Show...

- *Therefore Jesus is God*
- *Whatever Jesus (who is God) says is true.*
- *Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God.*
- *Therefore the Bible is the Word of God and everything opposed to it is false.*

Challenge # 9

- Is The Bible the only True Religious Book?
- Is there Truth in other religious books?

Consider

- God cannot lie; He keeps His own moral law.
- Jesus both claimed and proved to be God.
- Whatever Jesus teaches must be true.
- Jesus taught that the Bible is God's Word.
- Therefore, the Bible is God's Word.

Implication

- anything in any other religious book cannot be true *IF IT CONTRADICTS THE BIBLE.*

What Did Jesus Teach About the OT?

Jesus referred to the Old Testament as:

- *Scripture, Word of God, Law and Prophets.*

Jesus Quoted...

the OT as Having **DIVINE AUTHORITY**:

Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" **Matthew 4:4 (NIV)**

Jesus said...

the Scriptures Are **UNBREAKABLE**:

- “Scripture” cannot not be broken (John 10:35).
- **Psalm 119:89 (NIV)** Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it **stands firm** in the heavens.

Jesus said...

the Bible Is **IMPERISHABLE**:

Matthew 5:18 (NIV)

I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Jesus said...

the Old Testament Is **TRUE**:

Matthew 22:29 (NIV)

Jesus replied, "You are in error because you do not know the Scriptures or the power of God.

John 17:17 (NIV)

Sanctify them by the truth; Your Word is truth.

Psalms 119:160 (NIV)

All Your Words are true; all your righteous laws are eternal.

Jesus said...

OT Accounts Are **HISTORICALLY RELIABLE**:

Creation

Mark 10:6 (NIV)

"But at the beginning of creation God 'made them male and female.'

Flood

Matthew 24:38-39 (NIV)

For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

Jesus taught...

the Bible Is SCIENTIFICALLY ACCURATE

Job 26:7 (TLB)

God stretches out heaven over empty space and hangs the earth upon nothing.

Jesus said...

the Bible Is ULTIMATELY SUPREME

Matthew 15:3 (NIV)

Jesus replied, "And why do you break the command of God for the sake of your tradition?"

Mark 7:13 (NIV)

Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down..."

Jesus said...

He Came to Fulfil the Old Testament PROPHECIES

John 5:39-40 (NIV)

You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about Me, yet you refuse to come to Me to have life.

Jesus said...

He Came to Fulfil the Old Testament PROPHECIES

Jesus took the Twelve aside and told them, "We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be handed over to the Gentiles. They will mock Him, insult Him, spit on Him, flog him and kill Him. On the third day He will rise again."

Luke 18:31-33 (NIV)

Other Evidence Confirming the OT

- **ANCIENT MANUSCRIPTS** Demonstrate That the Old Testament Has Been copied accurately
 1. Jewish Scribes
 2. Dead Sea Scrolls

Other Evidence Confirming the OT

ARCHAEOLOGY Supports the OT's Reliability

- Tomb of Abraham in Machpelah
- City of Jericho with its fallen walls
- Destroyed cities of Sodom and Gomorrah
- Hezekiah's Tunnel
- Temple in Jerusalem / King David

Other Evidence Confirming the OT

Archaeology Supports the OT's Reliability

- “In extraordinary ways, modern archaeology has affirmed the historical core of the Old and New Testaments—corroborating key portions of the stories of Israel’s patriarchs, the Exodus, the Davidic monarchy, and the life and times of Jesus.” *U.S. News & World Report*

What Jesus Taught about NT

1. The Holy Spirit Would teach them ALL THINGS

John 14:26 (NIV)

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

What Jesus Taught about NT

2. the Holy Spirit Would GUIDE THEM INTO
“ALL TRUTH”

John 16:13 (NIV)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth.

What Jesus Taught about NT

3. the Holy Spirit Would REMIND THEM of Everything He Had Said to Them

John 14:26 (NIV)

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

What Jesus Taught about NT

4. the Holy Spirit Would Tell Them WHAT IS YET TO COME

John 16:13b (NIV)

...He will tell you what is yet to come.

1. The apostles and NT prophets were given revelation from God.

John 14:26 (NIV)

But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.

John 16:13 (NIV)

But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all truth.

1. The apostles and NT prophets were given revelation from God.

Eph. 2:20: The church is “built on the foundation of the apostles and [NT] prophets, Christ Jesus being the cornerstone” (cf. Eph. 3:5).

Acts 2:42: “And they devoted themselves to the apostles teaching....”

2. To be an apostle one must be an eyewitness of the resurrection

Acts 1:22: *“So one of the men who accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us ... **must become with us a witness to his resurrection.**”*

1 Cor. 9:1: *“Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord?”* (1 Cor. 15:4-8).

3. Apostles and their associates were confirmed by miracles

2 Cor. 12:12: “**The signs of an apostle** were performed among you...with signs and wonders and mighty works.”

Acts 6:6: “These [deacons] they set before the apostles, and they prayed and **laid their hands on them.**”

Acts 8:6: “Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. Now...Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands....”

2 Tim. 1:6: “I remind you [Timothy] to fan into flame **the gift of God,** which is in you through the laying on of my hands.”

4. When the apostles died, the special revelation and miraculous confirmation associated with their apostleship passed away also.

- a. After Pentecost, the special sign gifts were given only to and through the apostles.
- b. When the apostles died, so did the miraculous signs of an apostle die with them.
- c. When apostles died, they were not replaced with other apostles (Acts 12: 2).
- d. Rather, elders were appointed in each church to carry on the ministry (Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5).

5. But Jesus promised to guide them into “all truth” and bring “all things” to their remembrance (see #1 above).

1. Thus, the apostles (with their associates) were responsible by the guidance of the Spirit to produce and preserve the whole of Jesus’ teaching for the faith and practice of all future generations of believers.
2. This teaching was the basis of the church until Jesus returns (Acts 2:42; Eph. 2:20).
3. There is an unbroken chain of testimony after the time of the apostles accepting the 27 books of the NT.

The Overall Argument for the extent of the NT Canon:

1. The apostles and NT prophets were given revelation from God (Jn. 14:26; 16:13; Eph. 2:20).
2. To be an apostle one must have been an eyewitness of the resurrection (Acts 1:22; 1 Cor. 9:1).
3. Apostles and their associates were confirmed by miracles (2 Cor. 12:12; Acts 6:6; 2 Tim. 1:6).
4. But Jesus promised to guide them into “all truth” and bring “all things” to their remembrance.
5. Hence, the NT revelation was completed by the time the apostles died.
6. The only record we have from the time of the apostles is the 27 books of the NT (by apostles & associates).
7. Hence, God’s revelation was complete with the NT.

NT is

- the ONLY Contemporary Record of What Jesus Taught
- COMPLETE

Conclusion

Jesus

- Confirmed the RELIABILITY OF THE OT and PROMISED the New Testament

Jesus Promised the New Testament

- Peter acknowledged all Paul's writings as "scriptures" (2 Peter 3:15-16).
- Paul says in 1 Thes. 2:4 that "we" are entrusted with the gospel.
- Paul quoted from the Gospel of Luke (Luke 10:7) and refers to it as scripture. (1 Tim. 5:18)
- Luke claims to give an accurate account of what "Jesus began to do and teach."
- Therefore only books and letters that were associated with an apostle or associate were considered acceptable into the New Testament Cannon.

Conclusion

Jesus

- Confirmed the RELIABILITY OF THE OT and PROMISED the New Testament
- Whatever Jesus (God) teaches IS TRUE.
- Jesus taught that the BIBLE is the Word Of God
- Therefore, the Bible is the Word of God

Can't Other Religious Books Also Contain Truth?

- Contradictory truth claims **CANNOT** both be true
- We have seen:
 - the Bible is true
 - therefore
 - any other book that CONTRADICTS it is FALSE

What Do Other Religions Teach About God?

The Bible	Pantheism	Polytheism	Buddhism
one knowable, personal God exists—a theistic God.	a god-force, flows through <u>everything</u>	<u>many</u> different gods	<u>denies</u> the existence of one personal, knowable God

What Do Other Religions Teach About **Jesus**?

The Bible	Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, and Muslims	Pantheists , Polytheists, Mormons	JW's
Is uniquely and eternally God	Deny	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• He was a man who became God.• all people can become or realize that they are 'god'	Jesus was Michael the archangel (a created being)

What Do Other Religions Teach About Jesus' Resurrection?

The Bible	Judaism, Buddhism, and Islam	Pantheists , Polytheists, Atheism	JW's
Is uniquely and eternally God	Deny	Deny	Jesus was Michael the archangel (a created being)

What Do Other Religions Teach About How We Are Saved?

Christianity	Other Religions' Claims
1. All men are sinners	1. Men are just weak, or bad. If they try hard enough, they can be good.
2. Sin separates us from God, and we cannot do anything to find or reach God on our own. Men cannot get to heaven by doing good deeds	2. If we are sincere, do good deeds, and try hard to be better, we will find God and go to heaven.
3. God is the only one who could fix the problem of sin. He did it by sending Jesus to die for our sins.	3. God does not fix us; he does not save us. We must save ourselves by trying hard to be good.

What Do Other Religions Teach About How We Are Saved?

Christianity	Other Religions' Claims
4. Jesus died for us; he took our place; he was our substitute and paid the penalty for sin (death).	4. No one can take our place. We must pay for our own bad deeds, for our own weak nature, by becoming better people.
5. We must put our faith in Jesus to be saved and go to heaven.	5. We put our faith in some kind of god and our good works
6. Jesus is the only source of eternal life	6. Jesus does not give us eternal life. We must earn it.

What Do Other Religions Teach About How We Are Saved?

Christianity	Other Religions' Claims
7. Jesus is the only way to God	7. There are many paths to God. Just be sincere, try hard, and be good

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

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

Comparing Leaders: According to Islam and the Qur'an

MUHAMMAD

Not Virgin Born

Not Sinless *Sura 40:55;48:1-2*

Not Called Messiah

No Miracles *Sura 17:90-93*

Not Called Word of God

Body in Grave in Medina

JESUS

Virgin Born *Sura 3:47*

Sinless *Sura 3:45-6;19:17-21*

Called Messiah *Sura 3:45*

Did Many Miracles *Sura 3:49; 5:110)*

Called Word of God *Surah 4:171*

Body in Heaven *Surah 4:157-158*

Head Bridges

Died and was buried

Rose and His tomb is empty (Muslims reject)

Allah alone declares what is truth and is the best of judges (Sura 6:57)

Jesus will return to judge (Sura 3:55; 4:159)

Adapted from *Den of Infidels* from VOM



Muhammad

Did not have the ability to know what was hidden (Surah 6:50)

Only Allah can know what is hidden (Surah 27:65)

Jesus

Christ possessed supernatural powers to know what was hidden (Surah 3:49)

Adapted from *Den of Infidels* from VOM



Muhammad

Did not have the ability to create (Surah 6:102)

None but Allah can create even a fly (Surah 22:73)

God did not give Muhammad the ability to make the deaf hear (Surah 27:80)

Jesus

Jesus created a bird by Allah's command (Surah 5:110)

Jesus heals those born blind and lepers (Surah 3:49)

Adapted from *Den of Infidels* from VOM



Comparing Great Religious Leaders

Characteristics	Jesus	Muhammed	Buddha	Confucius
Virgin Born	Yes	No	No	No
Sinless	Yes	No	No	No
Prophecy	Yes	No	No	No
Did Miracles	Yes	No	No	No
Resurrection	Yes	No	No	No
Ethic	Highest	Not	Not	Not
Following	Greatest	Not	Not	Not

Not Everything Other Religions Teach Is Wrong

- Moral Code

What we've learned

- Jesus is God, and God cannot lie, so
 - whatever **Jesus teaches is true.**
- Jesus taught that the Bible is God's Word, thus
 - the **Bible is the Word of God.**
- Because the Bible is the Word of God,
 - nothing that contradicts it can be true.

What we've learned

- There can be truth in other faiths
 - God has left evidence of who He is in our conscience
- Contradictory truth claims can't both be true
- People cannot be saved by “Good” works
- People are free to choose to accept Jesus or to reject His gracious offer

Is Jesus the Only Way to God?

Challenge:

“Christianity Is Too Narrow. There Are Many Ways to God Besides Jesus!”

John 14:6 (NIV)

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

Consider...

John 10:1 (NIV)

"I tell you the truth, the man who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber.

John 10:9 (NIV)

I am the gate; whoever enters through Me will be saved. He will come in and go out, and find pasture.

Consider...

Acts 4:12 (NIV)

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

1 John 5:12 (NIV)

He who has **the Son** has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

1 Timothy 2:5 (NIV)

For there is one God and **one mediator** between God and men, the man **Christ Jesus**,

Only Jesus

DIED ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS

John 1:29 (NIV)

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

John 10:11 (NIV)

"I Am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

Only Jesus

Died on the Cross for Our Sins

Romans 5:8 (NIV)

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

1 Corinthians 15:3b (NIV)

Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

Only Jesus

Died on the Cross for Our Sins

1 John 2:2 (NIV)

He is the **atoning sacrifice for our sins**, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 Peter 2:24 (NIV)

He **Himself bore our sins** in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed.

Only Jesus

- SAVES

Romans 3:23-24 (NIV)

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are **justified freely** by His grace through the redemption that came by **Christ Jesus**

Only Jesus

- **SAVES**

Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV)

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

Titus 3:5a (NIV)

[Jesus] saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but **because of His mercy**.

Only Jesus

- Promises Us ETERNAL LIFE AS A FREE GIFT

John 3:16 (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.

John 6:40 (NIV)

For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in Him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

Only Jesus

- Promises Us Eternal Life as a Free Gift

Romans 6:23 (NIV)

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Only Jesus

- **Asks Us to Put All Our Faith in Him**

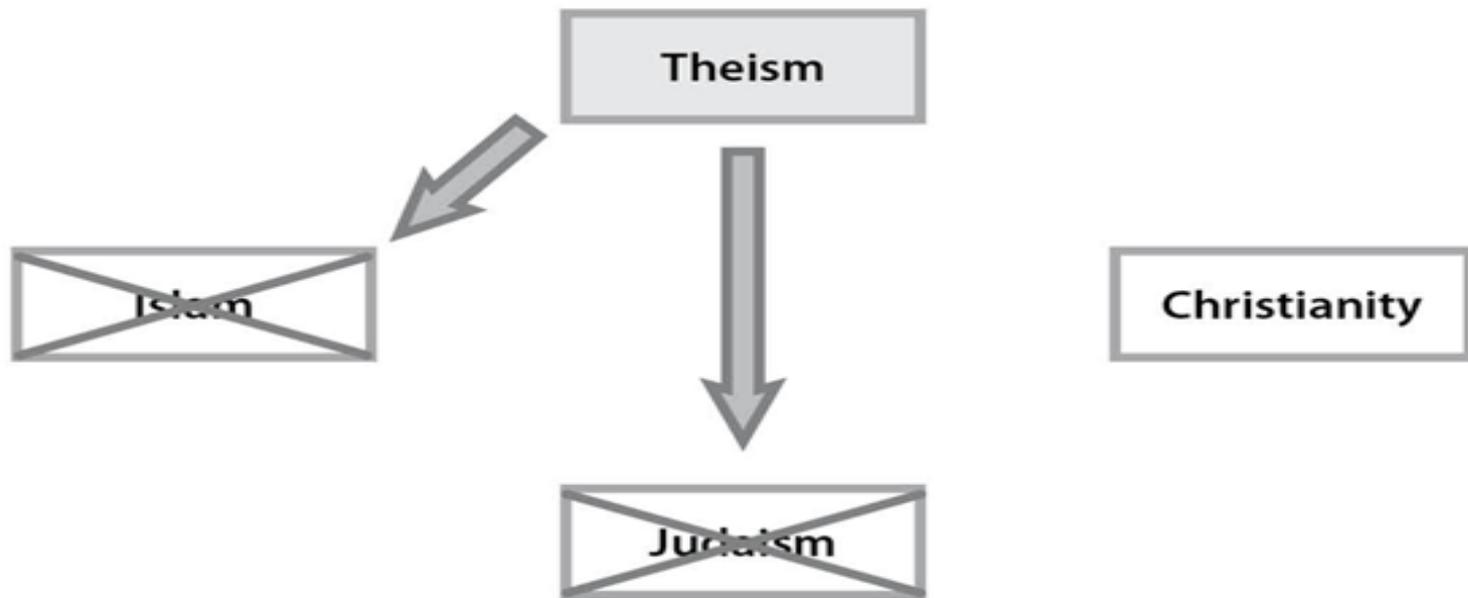
John 3:36 (NIV)

Whoever **believes in the Son** has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him."

John 8:24 (NIV)

I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am [the one I claim to be], you will indeed die in your sins."

Ruling out Islam and Judaism



Too Narrow?

Isn't It Narrow-Minded to Say Jesus Is the Only Way to God?

John 14:6 (NIV)

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

Too Narrow?

Isn't It Narrow-Minded to Say Jesus Is the Only Way to God?

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1 John 5:12 (NIV)

He who has the **Son** has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.

Choice

“You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon, or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.”

C. S. Lewis

What About People Who Have Never Heard of Jesus?

Romans 1:20 (NIV)

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

Psalms 50:6 (NIV)

And the heavens proclaim his righteousness, for God Himself is judge.

People who seek Him

Acts 17:26-27 (NIV)

From one man He made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and He determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live. *God did this so that men would seek Him and perhaps reach out for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.*

Hebrews 11:6 (NIV)

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

Remember

1. God knows ALL THINGS & THE HEARTS OF PEOPLE

Psalm 44:21b (NIV)

[God] *knows* the secrets of the heart

- God knows ANYONE WHO IS SEEKING HIM

Psalm 14:2 (NIV)

The LORD looks down from heaven on the sons of men to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

Remember

2. God is all-powerful, able to REACH ALL PEOPLE

Jeremiah 32:27 (NIV)

"I am the LORD, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?"

Matthew 19:26b (NIV)

...with God all things are possible."

Remember

3. God is all-loving; He wants ALL PEOPLE TO BE SAVED

Ezekiel 33:11 (NIV)

'As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that they turn from their ways and live.

Turn! Turn from your evil ways! Why will you die, O house of Israel?'

Remember

- Jesus invites EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, to come to Him

John 6:37 (ESV)

All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and whoever comes to Me I will never cast out.

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

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

Notice

Revelation 7:9a (NIV)

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. ...

ETERNITY IN THEIR HEARTS



*Startling Evidence of Belief in the One True God
in Hundreds of Cultures Throughout the World*

**DON
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Practical Steps

1. IDENTIFY where do you need to GROW in your understanding of Christianity's CORE BELIEFS.
2. PRIORITIZE your list of questions
3. Access RESOURCES www.gotquestions.org

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QUESTION OF THE WEEK

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[#647 Why Don't Professional Historians Come to Believe in Jesus' Resurrection?](#)
[#646 Genesis 2-3: Anthropomorphism or Theophany?](#)

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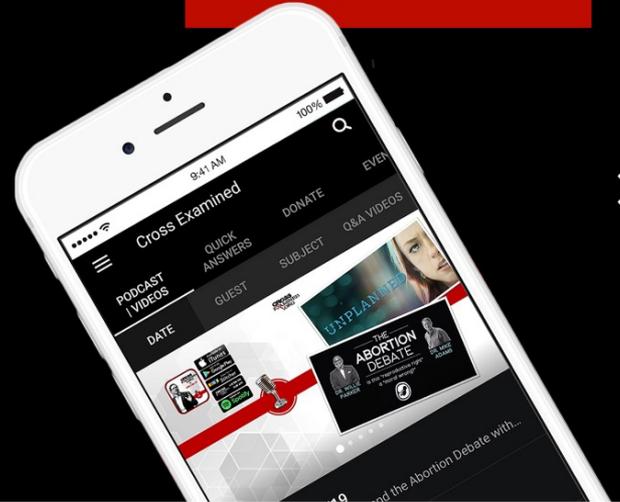
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I'm Not a Christian For Any of These Good Reasons



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Why Your Work ID Isn't All That Important (Podcast)



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Bridging the Thin Blue Line Pt 6
– How Does the Gospel SAVE Us
from Our Racial Divide? (Video)



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Why Your Work ID Isn't All That Important

Practical Steps

1. IDENTIFY where do you need to GROW in your understanding of Christianity's CORE BELIEFS.
2. PRIORITIZE your list of questions
3. Access RESOURCES www.gotquestions.org
4. RECORD an answer to your questions

Practical Question

- How many **NONBELIEVING FRIENDS** do you have?

Matthew 5:14 (NIV)

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden.

Romans 2:19b (NIV)

...you are a guide for the blind, a light for those who are in the dark...

How Should the Truth Impact My Daily Life?

Mark 12:30 (NIV)

Love the Lord your God with all your **heart** and
with all your **soul** and with all your **mind** and
with all your **strength**.'

Why Does the Catholic Bible Have Some Books That The Protestant Bible Does Not Have?

- They included those books called the Apocrypha (Hidden)
- These were Jewish Apocrypha and listed between the Old Testament and the New Testament.
- These documents were respected by Jews for historical significance but never considered by them to be inspired.
- When the Hebrew O.T. was translated into Greek in Alexandria Egypt, the Apocrypha was translated and included into the Greek OT (Septuagint)
- When the Catholic Church translated the Old Testament into Latin (Vulgate), they use the Greek Septuagint rather than the Hebrew O.T. As a result the Apocrypha was also included
- Protestants believe that since the O.T. was originally written in Hebrew it is probably more reliable than the Greek O.T. since it was the original language and since the Jews would have a much better idea as to what books were considered authoritative in the O.T.
- This is why the English translation does not include the Apocrypha

What about the Apocrypha?

- There are books that were not considered canonical (by a large majority of the church) yet were a part of the religious literature quoted by the Fathers and sometimes appeared in local ecclesiastical canons and bible translations. At best they had local canonicity or books that had canonicity of something very like it in a particular church for a particular period but were afterward dropped. Final canonical decisions reveal however that their partial and local judgment was faulty.

What Should We Conclude About The "Other" Books
That Were Not Included?

The Gospel of Thomas

The Gospel of Peter

Apocalypse of Peter

The Gospel of Hebrews

The Gospel of Barnabas

The Gospel of Phillip

The Gospel of Mary

And many others...

What Should We Conclude About The "Other" Books That Were Not Included?

- The only book thought to exist prior to the middle of the 2nd century is the Gospel of Thomas. (All the others were written at least 100 years after Jesus)
- Their Teachings differ from the four gospels.
- They were never read in Christian assemblies.
- Not included in the list of accepted books and letters.
- Not the subject of commentaries.
- Some were specifically rejected by the church from being in the New Testament Canon.

Principles for Discovering Canonicity

Canonicity is determined by God and discovered by man (Principles taken from Norman Geisler, *From God to Us*, p.67-71)

Criteria:

1. Is the book authoritative - does it claim to be of God?
 - Does it say “Thus says the Lord
 - Unless they were convinced of Divine authorship, the book was rejected

Principles for Discovering Canonicity

Canonicity is determined by God and discovered by man

Criteria:

2. Is it prophetic- was it written by a servant of God? (2 Pet. 1:20-21; Heb. 1:1)
 - Inspired books came only through Spirit-moved men known as prophets
 - Paul argued in Galatians that his book should be accepted because he was in fact an apostle “not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father.” (Gal. 1:1)
 - 2 Peter was questioned because it was written in a different style than 1 Peter until it was accepted that he dictated his letter to someone else who recorded what he said. All 2 Peter was claimed to have been written by Simon Peter (2 Pet. 1:1)

Principles for Discovering Canonicity

Canonicity is determined by God and discovered by man

Criteria:

3. Is it authentic-does it tell the truth about God, man, etc.? (Acts 17:11)
 - The Apostle Paul considered the Bereans more noble because they searched the Scripture to see whether what Paul taught them was consistent with God's revelation in the Old Testament. (Acts 17:11)
 - The letter of James was questioned because it seemed to contradict Paul's teaching on justification by faith not by works.
 - Others questioned Jude because of its citation of an Pseudepigraphal book which was rejected by virtually all (Vv. 9, 14)

Principles for Discovering Canonicity

4. Is the book dynamic-does it possess the life-transforming power of God? (Heb. 4:12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17)
5. Is this book received or accepted by the people of God for whom it was originally written - is it recognized as being from God?
 - Since communication and transportation was what it was in ancient times, sometime it too much time and effort on the part of the later church fathers to determine this.

12 Points That Show Christianity Is True

- *Truth exists*
- *The opposite of true is false*
- *It is true that the Theistic God exists*
- *If God exists, **MIRACLES ARE POSSIBLE.***
- ***Miracles performed in connection with a truth claim confirm the truth of God through a messenger from God.***
- ***The New Testament is Historically Reliable.***
- ***Jesus claimed To Be God***
- ***Jesus proved To Be God by:***
 - ...living a sinless and miraculous life.*
 - ...fulfilling prophecy written hundreds of years before he was ever born.*
 - dying on the cross and rose from the dead.*
- ***Therefore Jesus is God***
- ***Whatever Jesus (who is God) says is True***
- ***Jesus taught that the Bible is the Word of God***
- ***Therefore the Bible is the Word of God and everything opposed to it is false***