

We Believe in God

Romans 1:18-23; 2:12-16

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

1 Peter 3:15

CALIFORNIA NEEDS JESUS.

And it will take Californians praying fervently, giving generously, and serving courageously...

because it will take all of us to reach our state for Christ.

“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."

Hebrews 11:6

"Is there a God or not?"

1. Atheist, "No, there is no God."
2. Agnostic, "I don't know if there is a God."
3. Humanist, "God doesn't matter. Man is his own solution. What matters is man. We will solve our own problems."

Existentialism

"We know only what we experience. We can't experience a supreme being, but we can experience man, we can experience the present."

4. Theism, "There is a personal God who created us and to whom we must all give an account."

*Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. **Hebrews 11:1***

Three basic reasons why we believe in the God of the Bible.

1. We believe in God because of Creation.

*The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. **Romans 1:18-19***

*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. **Romans 1:20***

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.

Psalm 19:1-2

There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. Psalm 19:3-4

Cosmological Argument

“Why is there something, instead of nothing?”

- The order of the universe demonstrates there must have been a first cause.
- If there is a first cause or beginning, there has to be a “Cause” agent who begins things.
- Therefore, God must exist.

Ontological Argument

The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”

Psalm 14:1 and Psalm 53:1

*I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth. **Psalm 121:1-2***

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was subjected to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who subjected it,

Romans 8:19-20

in hope that the creation itself will be liberated from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in

*the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. **Romans 8:21-22***

2. We believe in God because of the revelation of conscience.

Three basic reasons why we believe in the God of the Bible.

*Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, **Romans 2:15***

since they show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, their consciences also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.)

Romans 2:16

Three Types of Consciences

- Clear Conscience
- Weak Conscience

- Seared Conscience

The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared as with a hot iron. 1 Timothy 4:1-2

A Seared Conscience

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

Romans 1:21

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

Romans 1:22-23

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

Romans 1:24

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

Amen. Romans 1:25

Humanism, Idolatry—an image after themselves

Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.

Romans 1:26

In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with

*lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion. **Romans 1:27***

3. We believe in God because of Jesus Christ.

Three basic reasons why we believe in the God of the Bible.

*This will take place on the day when God will judge men's secrets through Jesus Christ, as my gospel declares. **Romans 2:16***

*In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, **Hebrews 1:1***

but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the

universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being,
Hebrews 1:2-3

But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.
John 20:31