

Why would Peter expect his readers to be asked about the hope that is in them?

Because they were bearing up under persecution

What exactly is that hope?

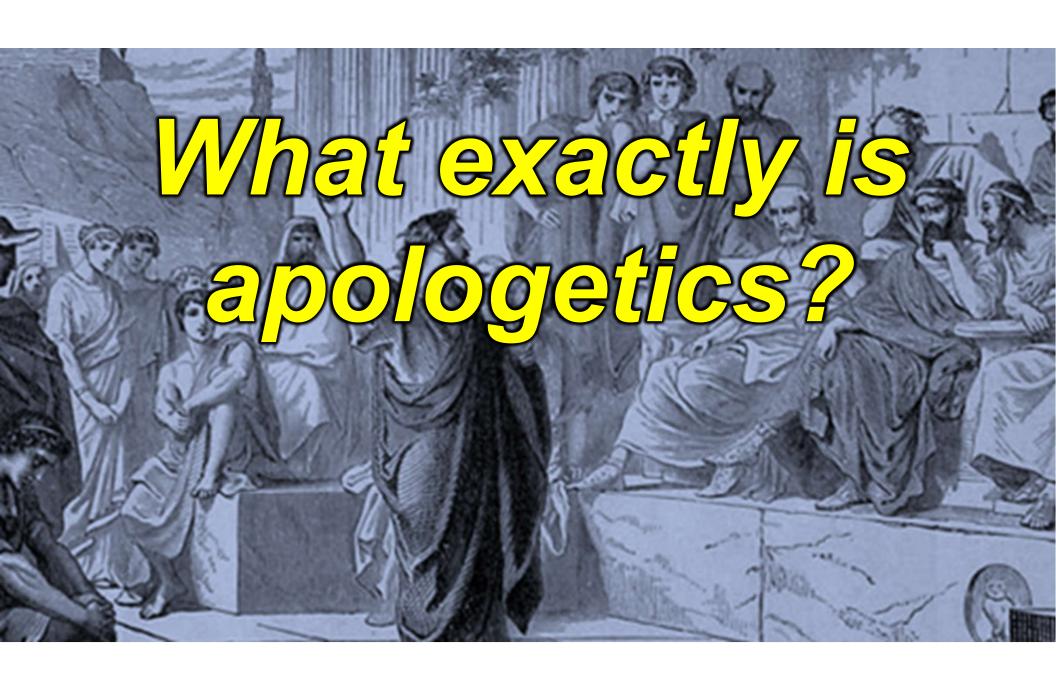
❖ The hope of the resurrection and eternal life

What is their reason for that hope?

❖ God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that our sins are forgiven by His grace through our faith.

What is the defense of that reason?

 → 1 Peter 3:15 "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear,"



Apologetics means "the defense of the faith."

Apologetics is putting forth evidence and arguments demonstrating that Christianity is true.

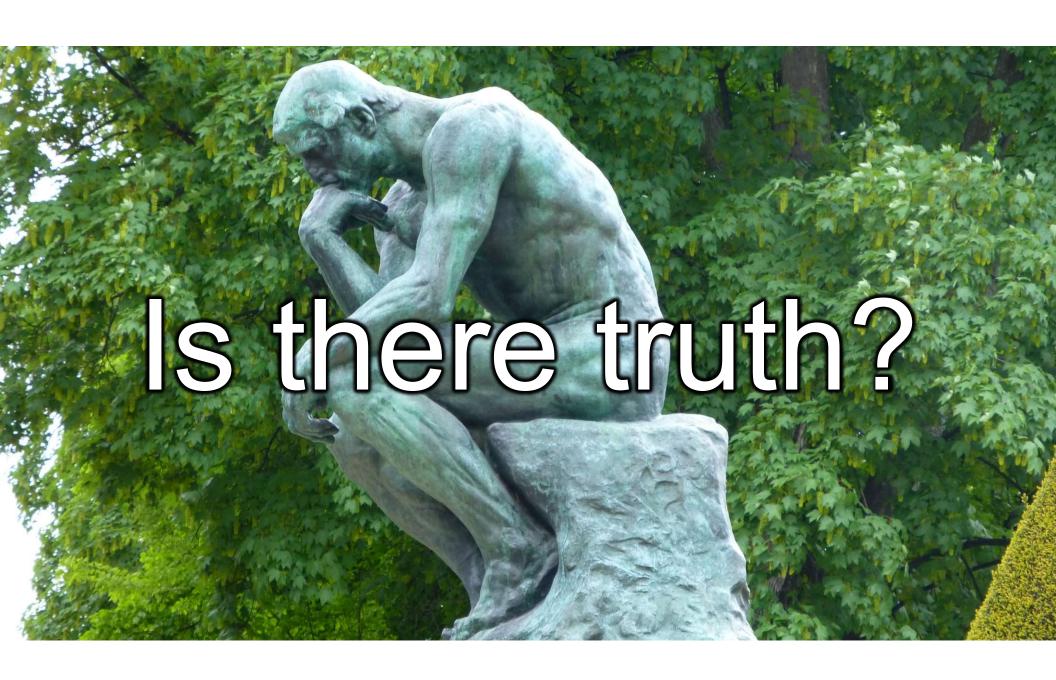
Apologetics is knowing and showing why you believe that Christianity is true.

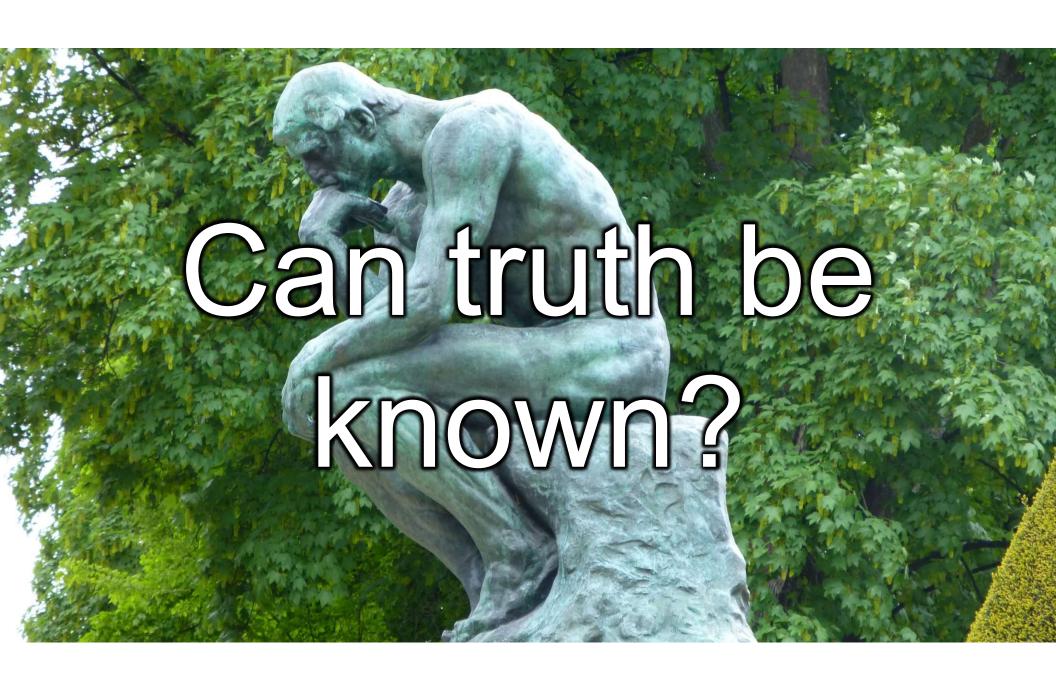
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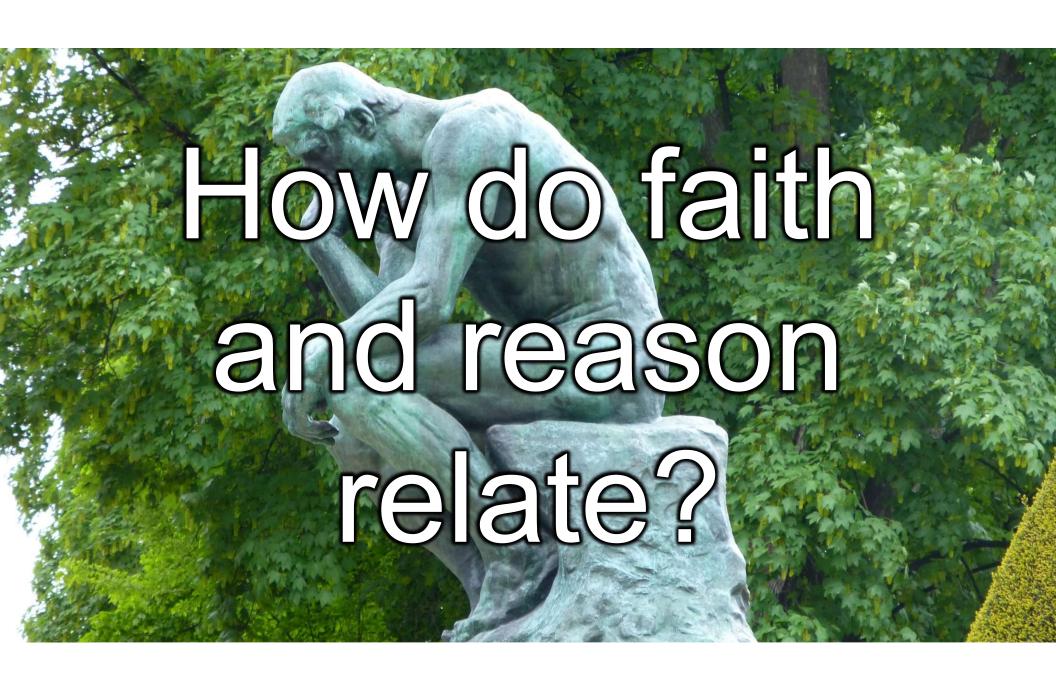
demonstrating to yourself that Christianity is true

demonstrating to others that Christianity is true



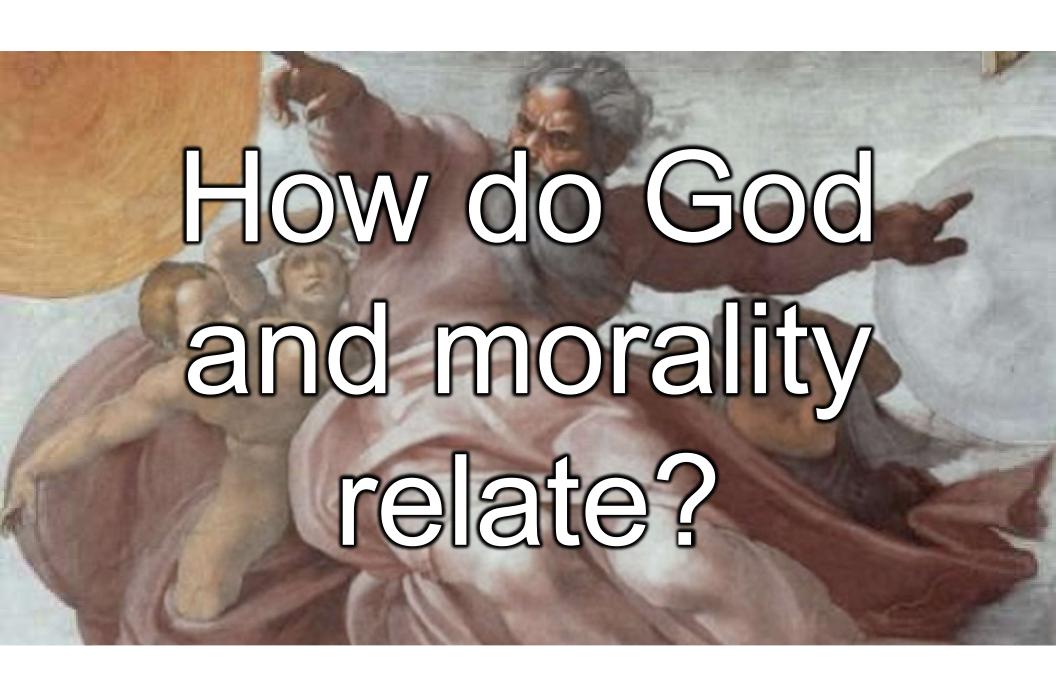






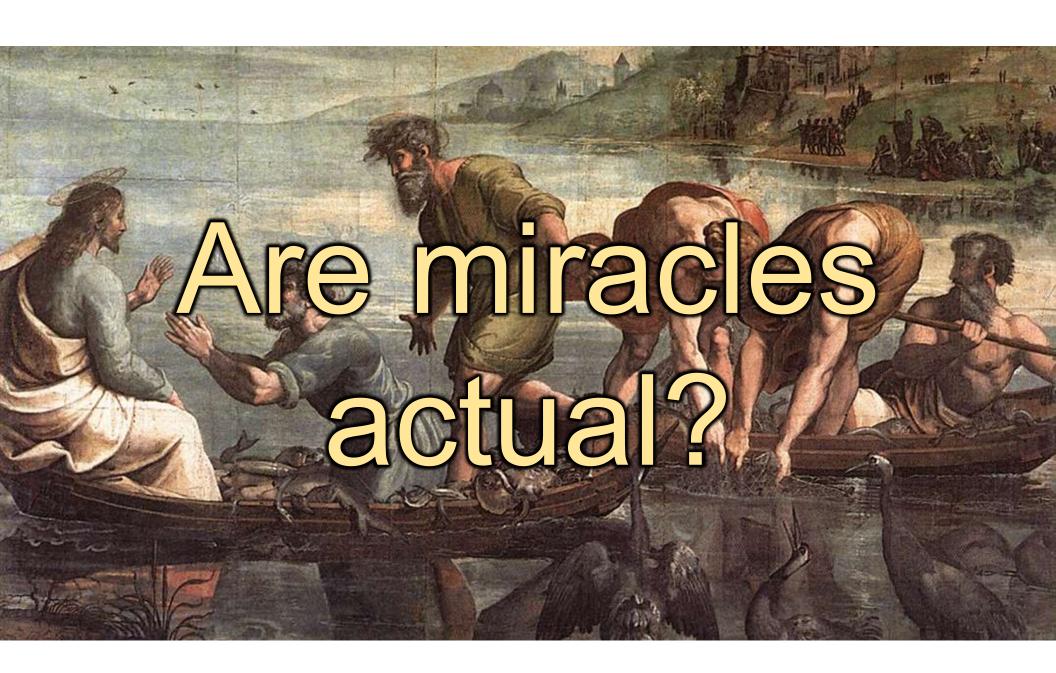


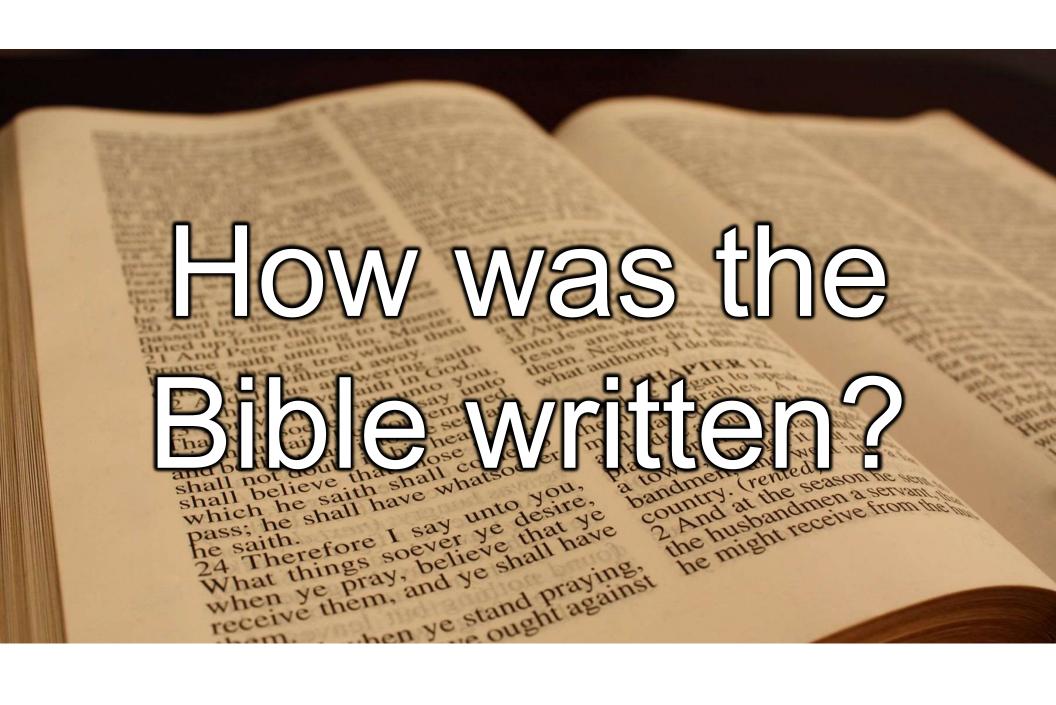


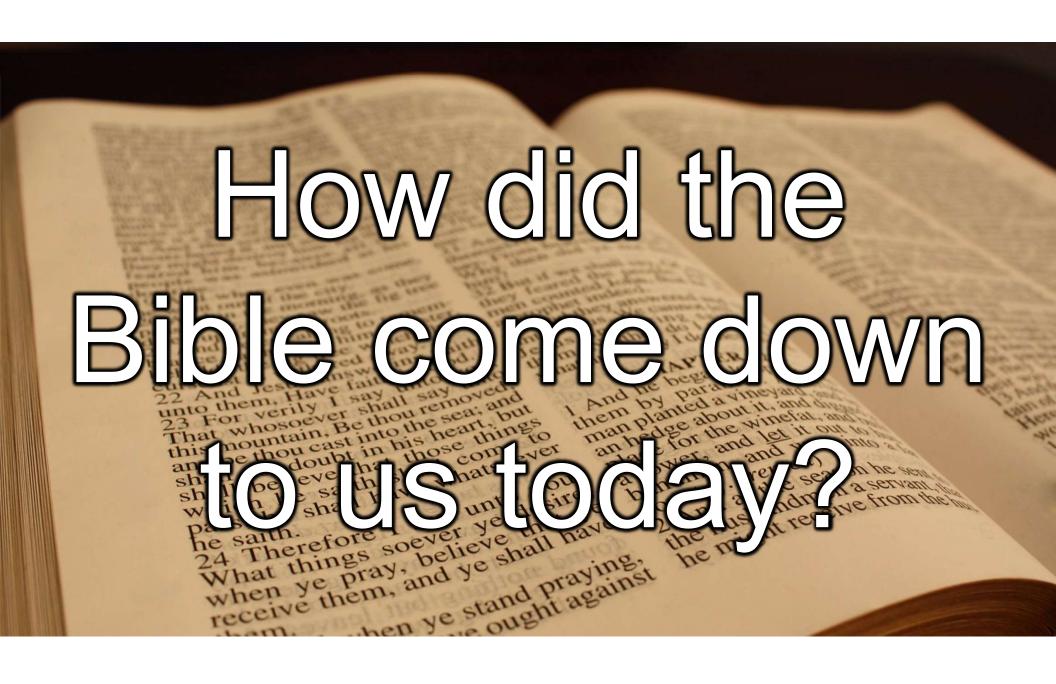


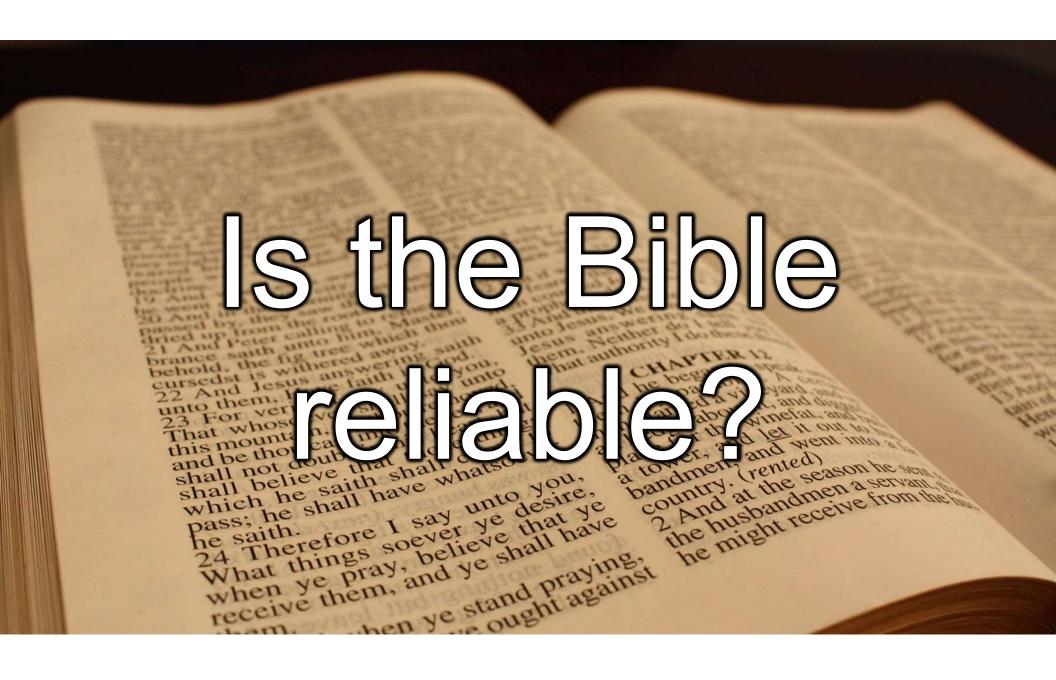


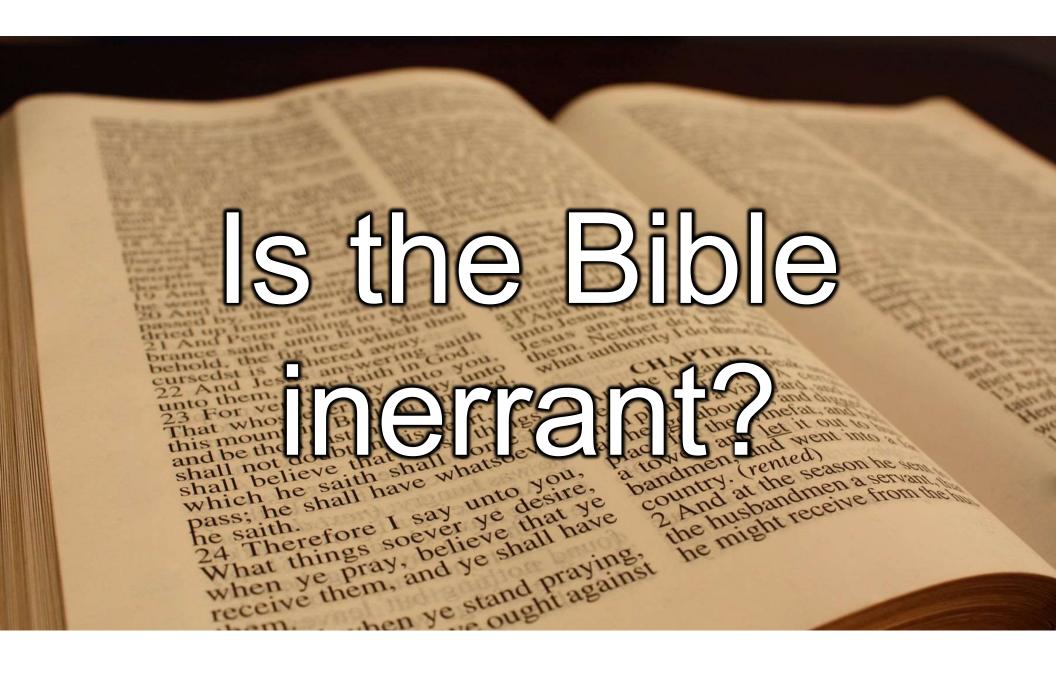


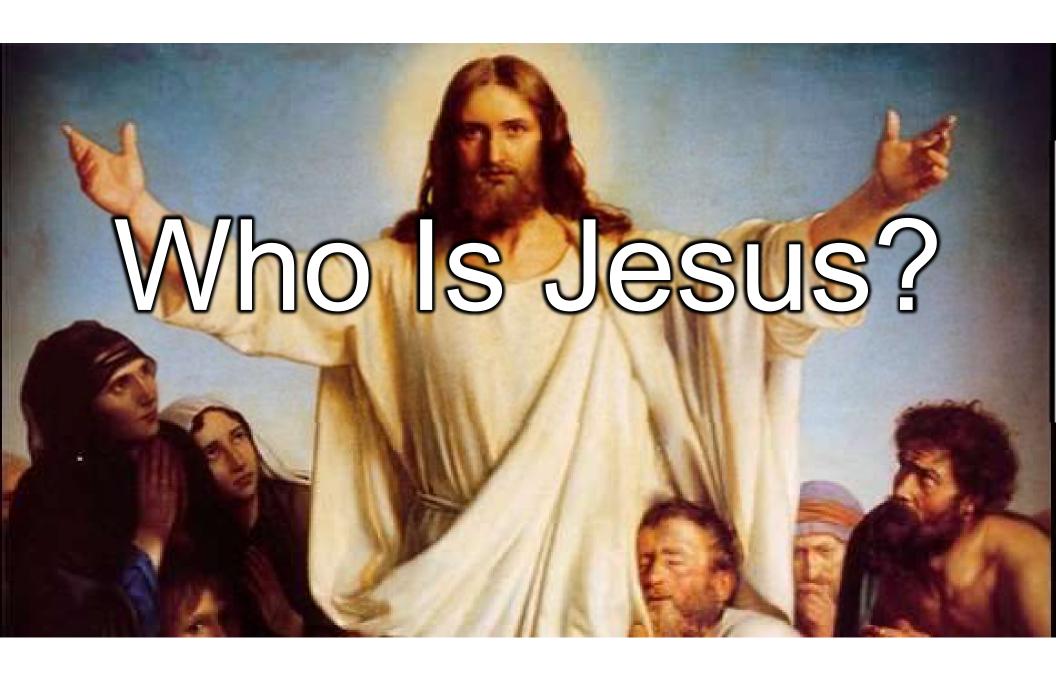


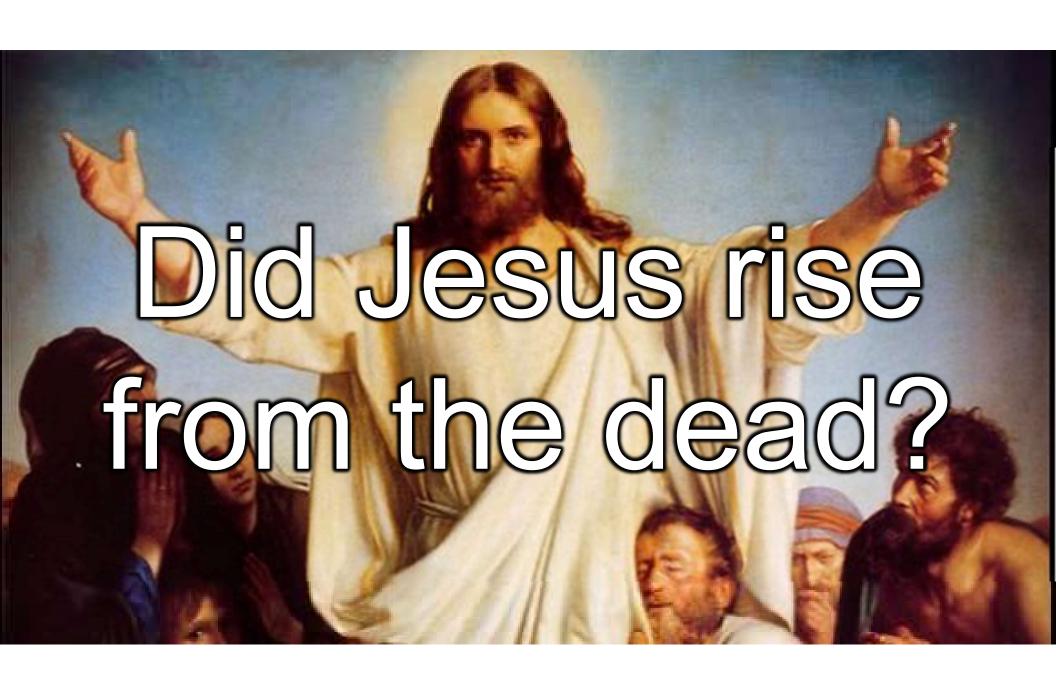




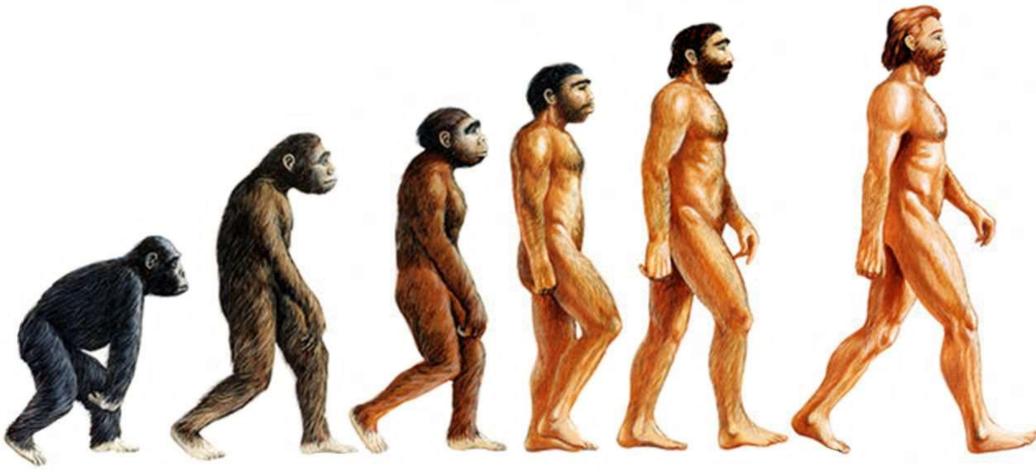






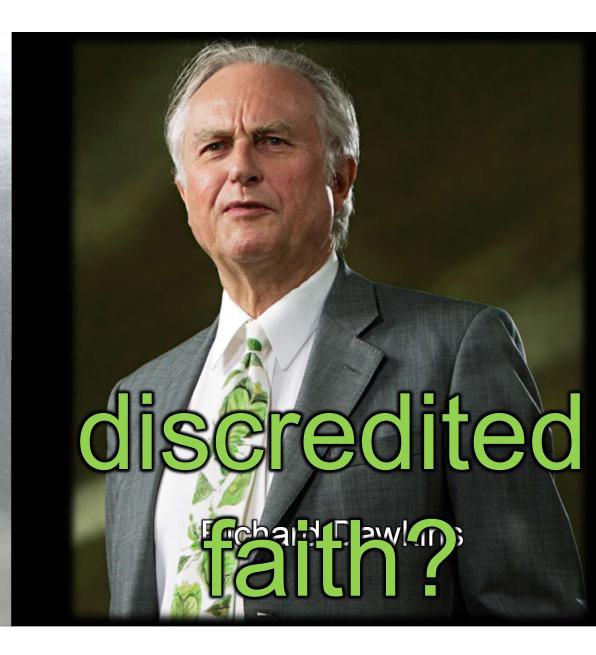


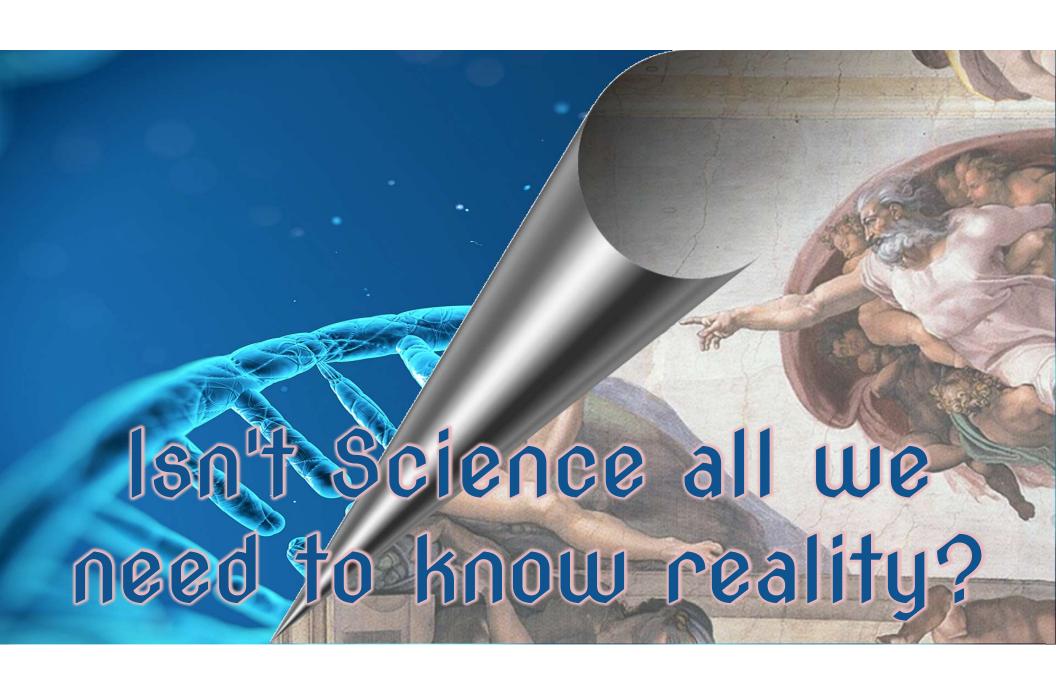
What about evolution?

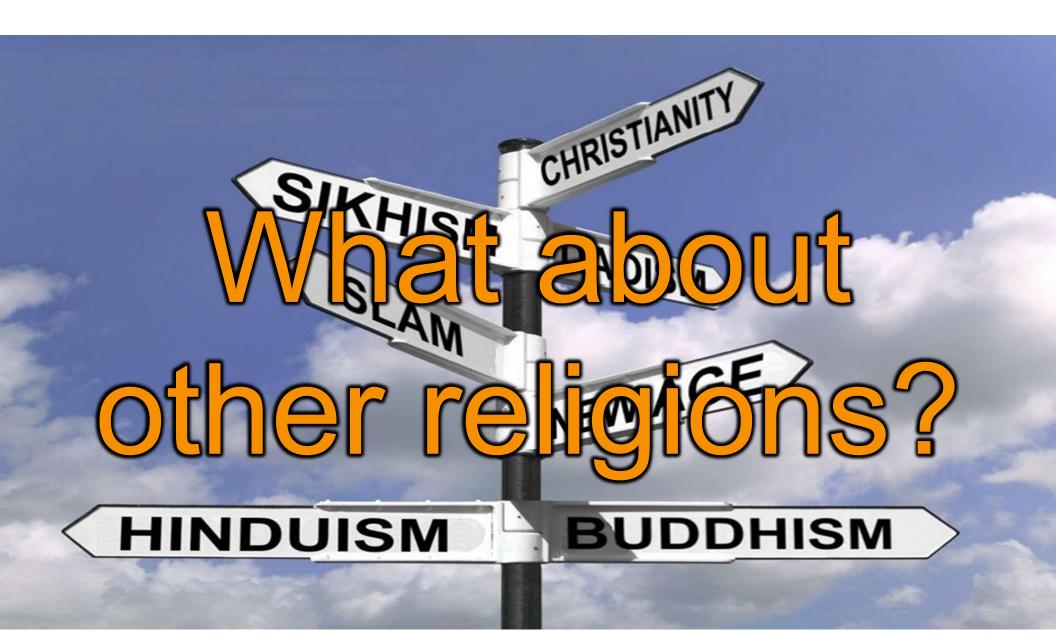


Hasn't Science
The GOD Delusion

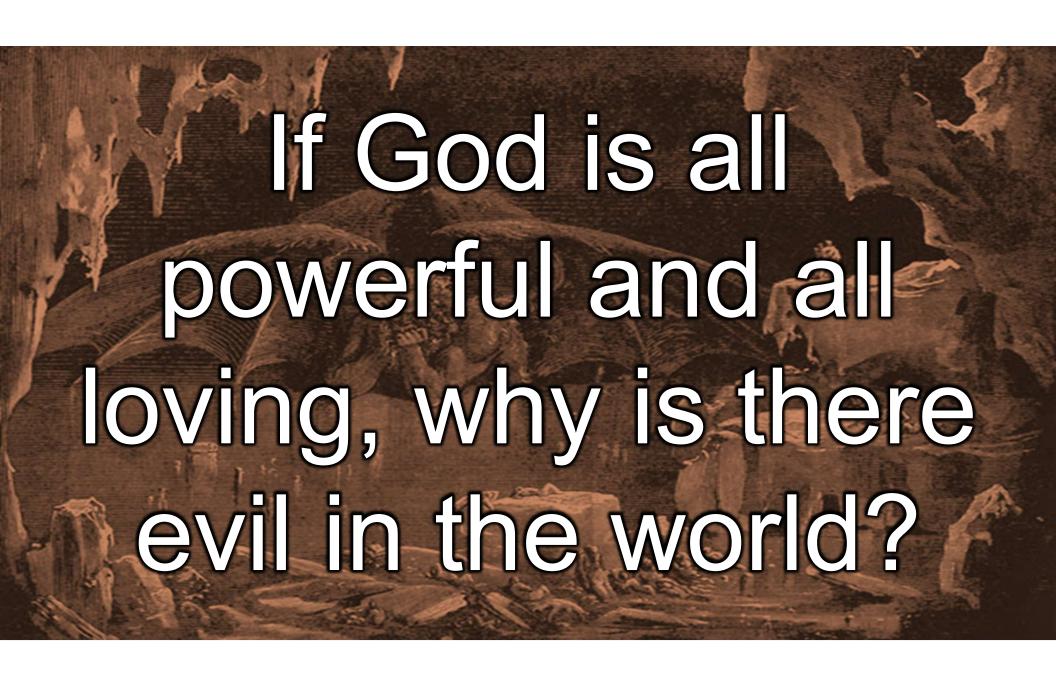
Richard Dawkins













The Bible is clear about defending the faith.

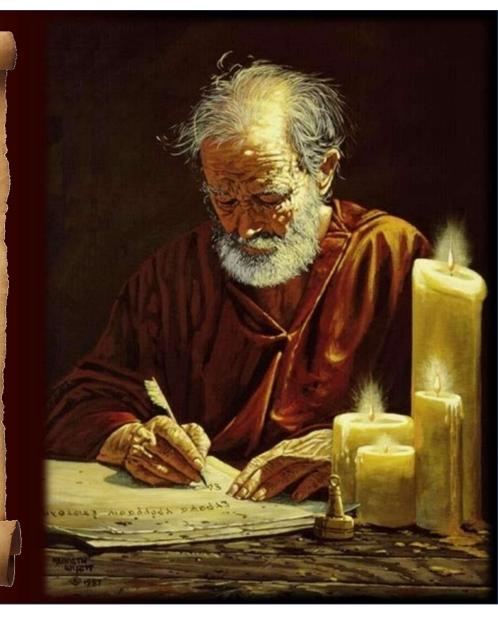
The apostles engaged in defending the faith.

The evidence is strong for defending the faith.

The Bible is clear about defending the faith.

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Jude 3





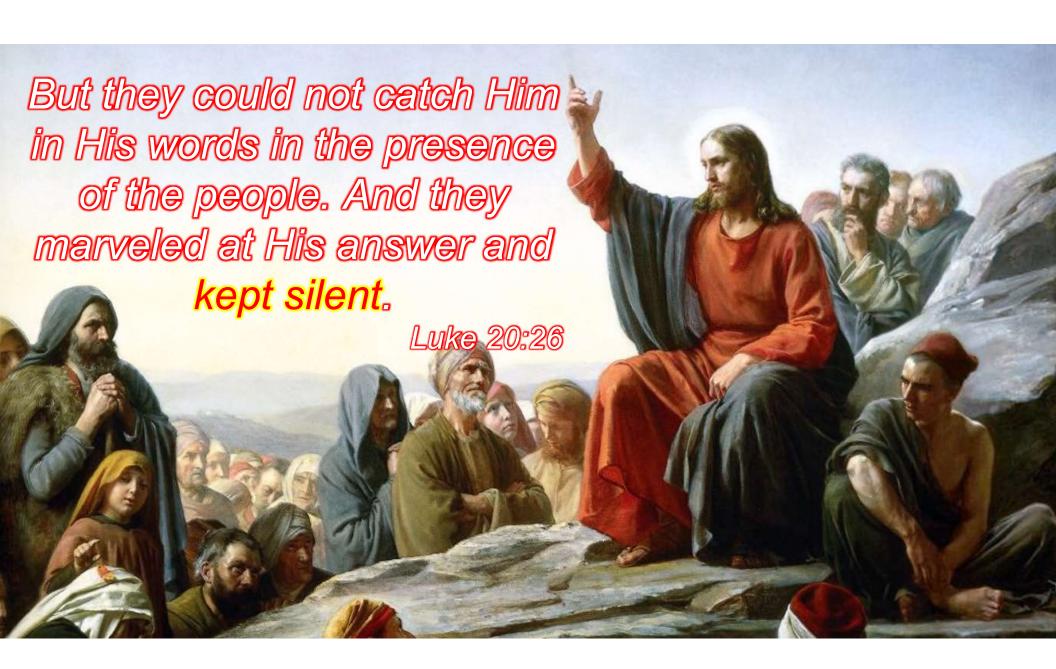
"For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped,"

Titus 1:10-11a (cf. Matthew 22:29-34)

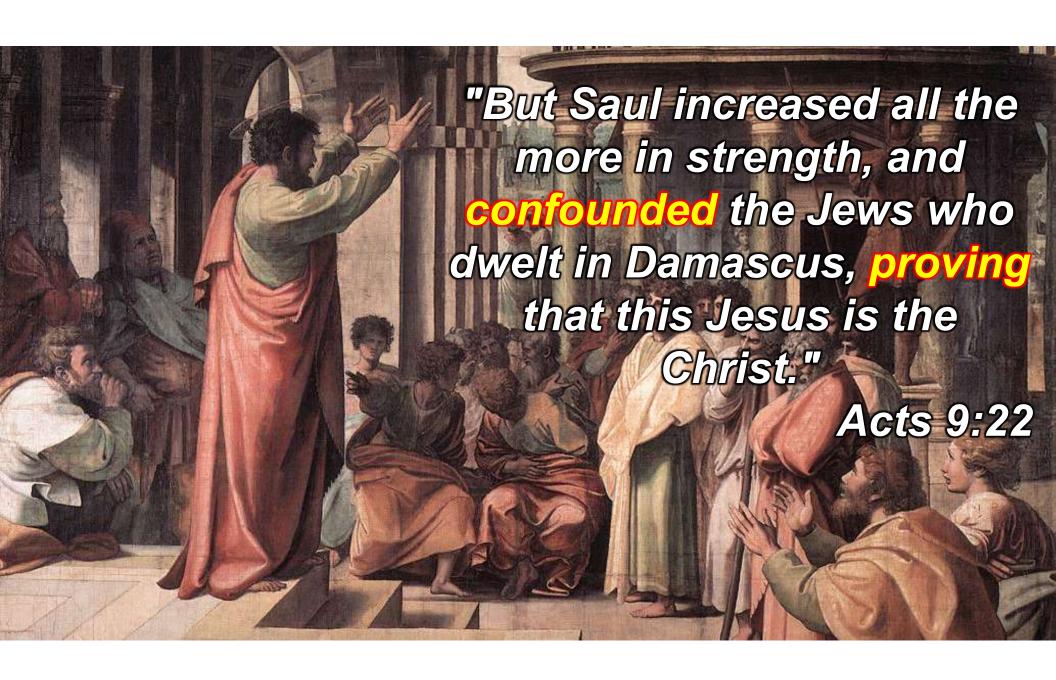
Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven.

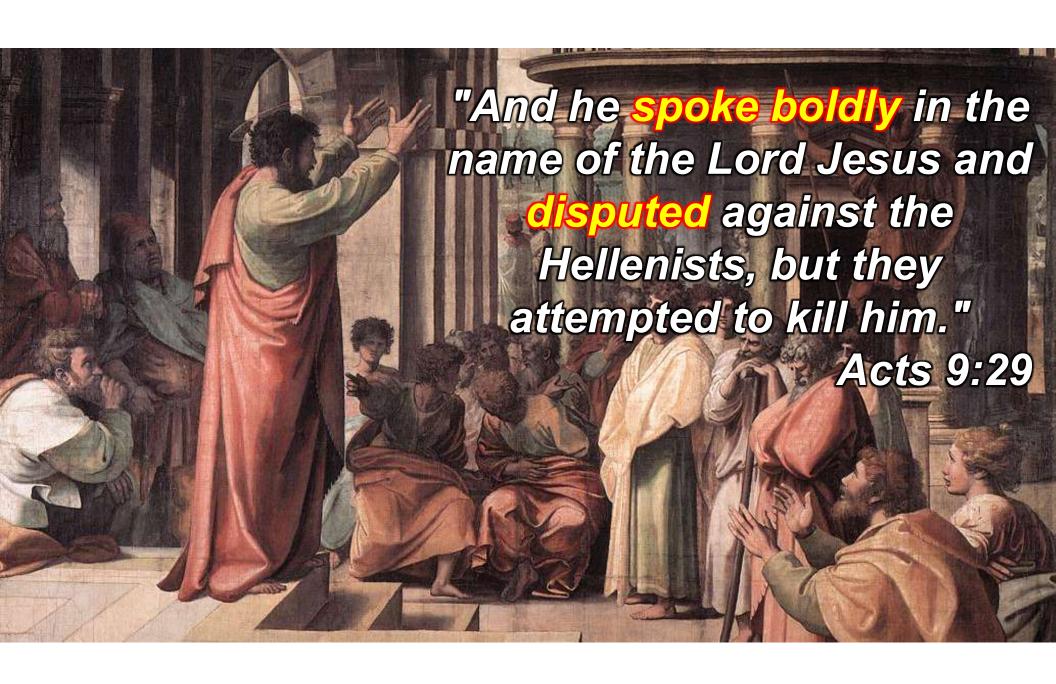
"But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

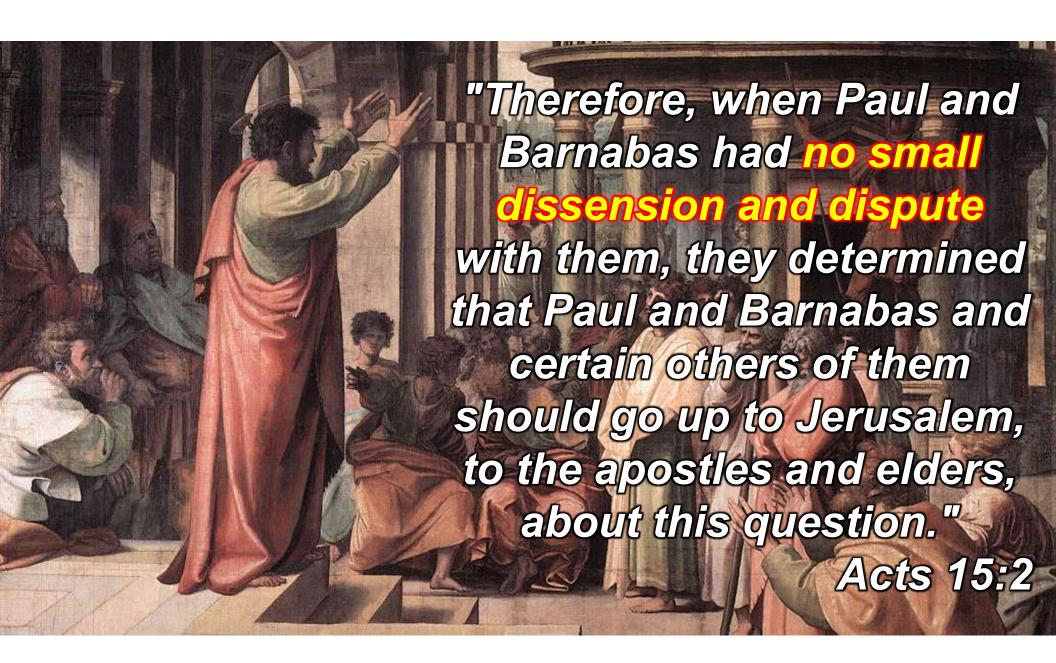
And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching. But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together.

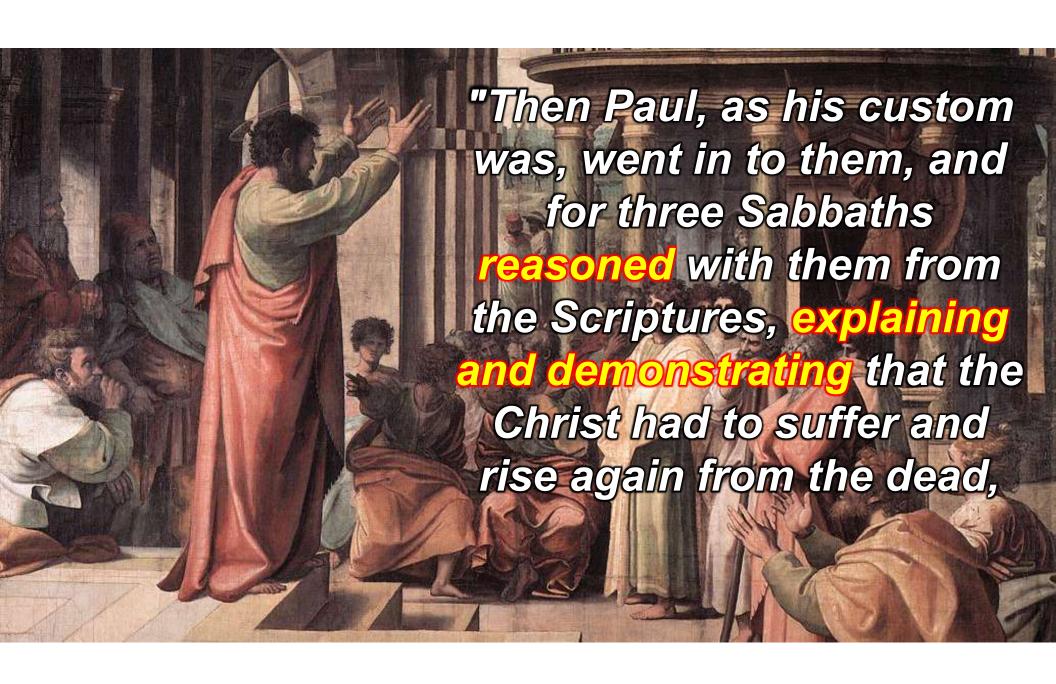


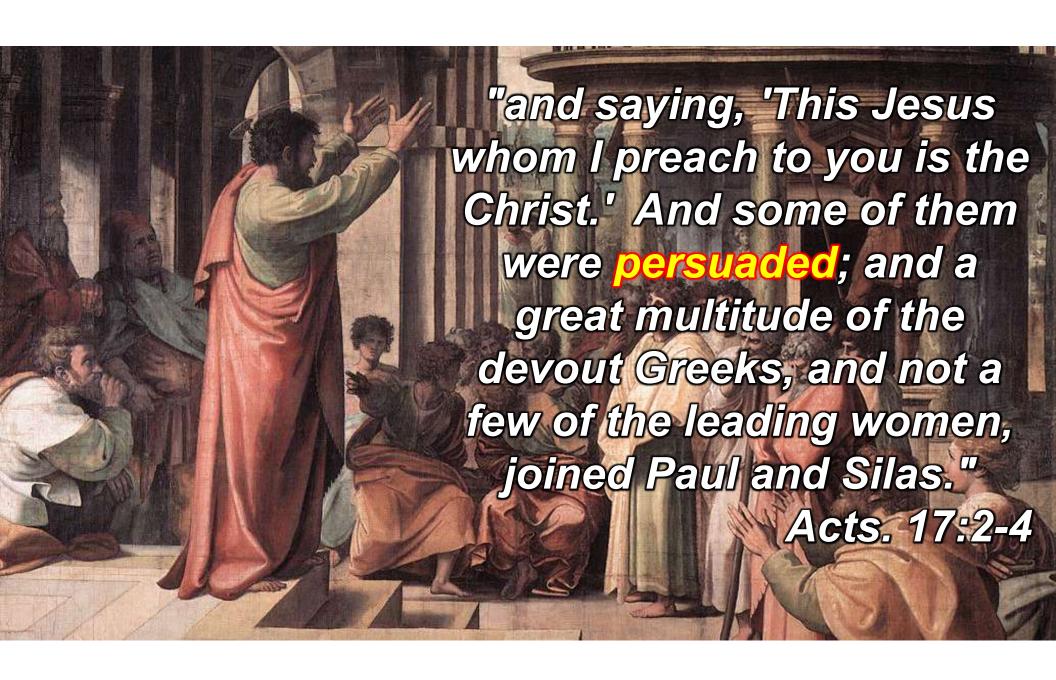
The apostles engaged in defending the faith.

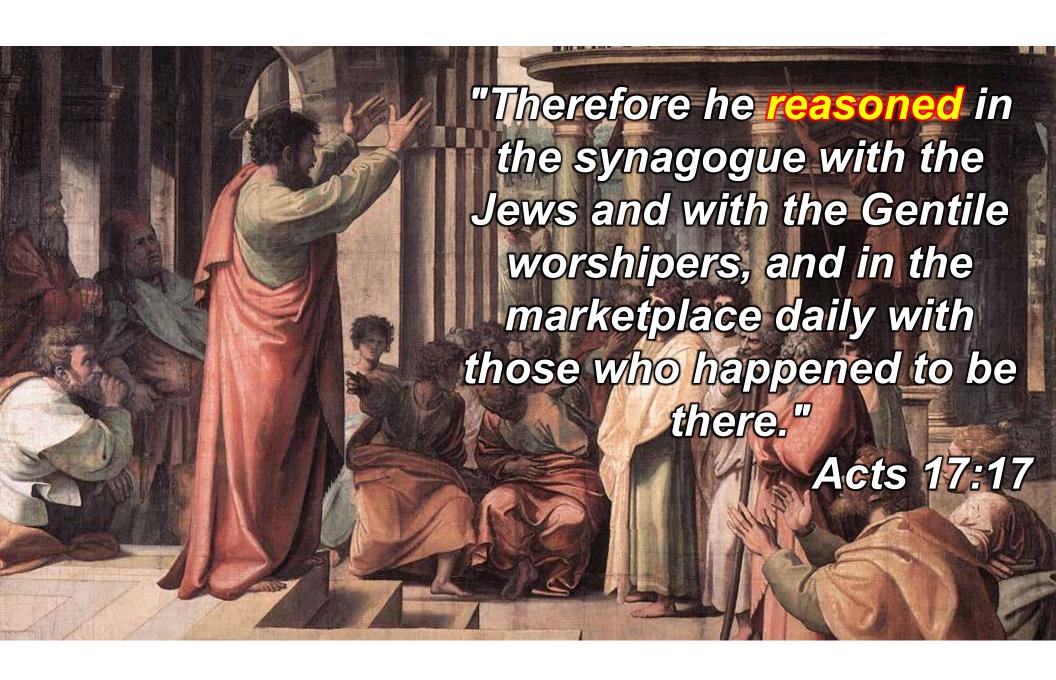


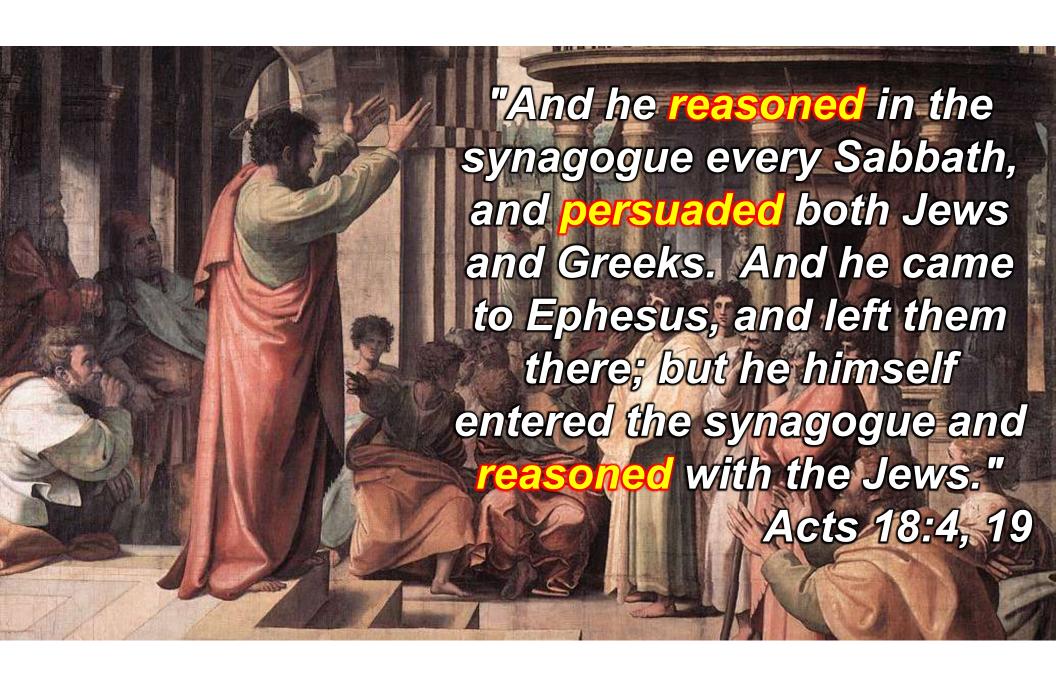


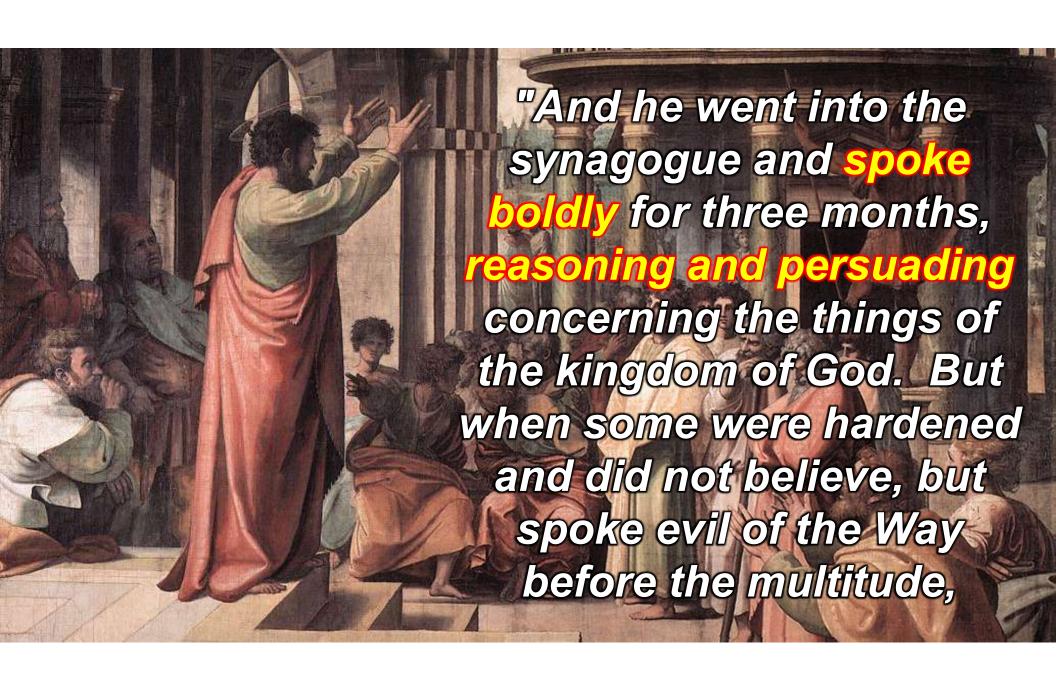


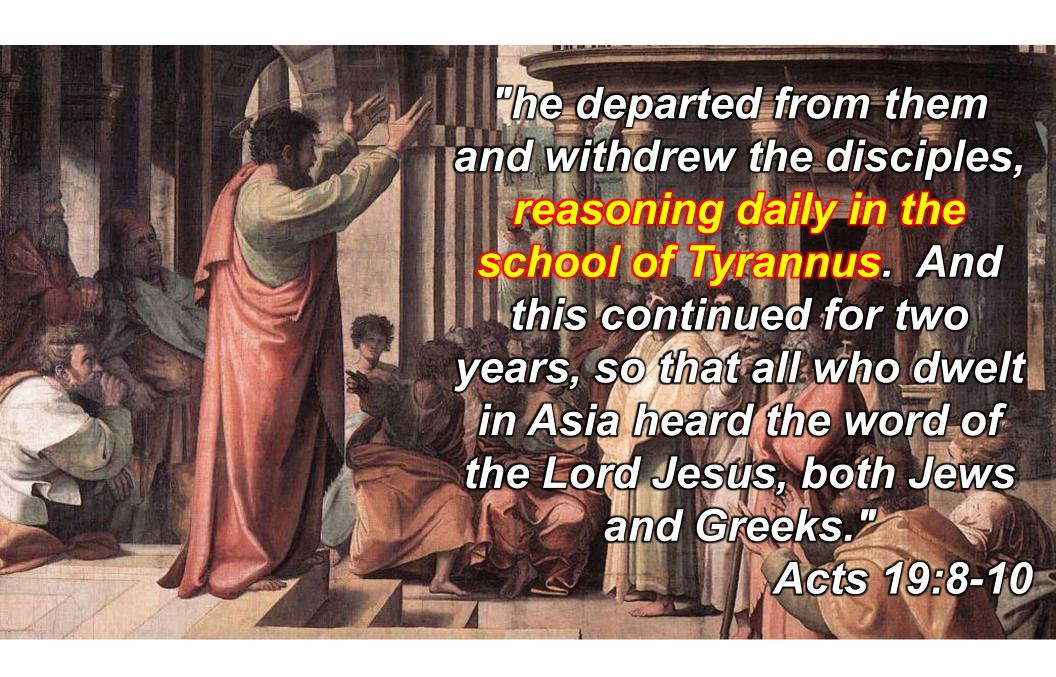


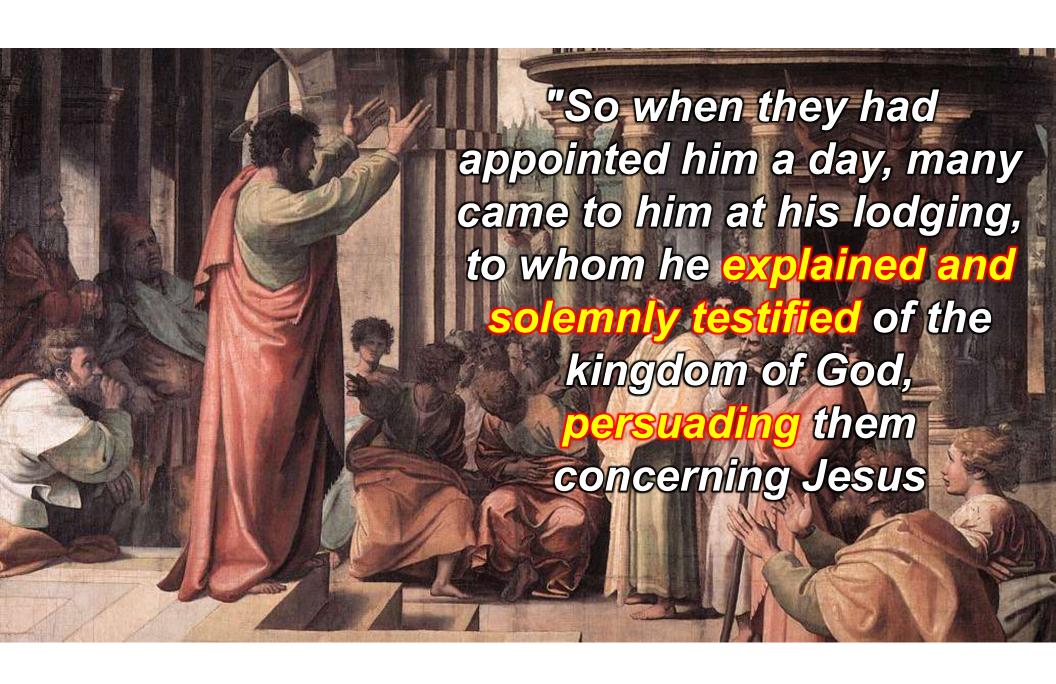


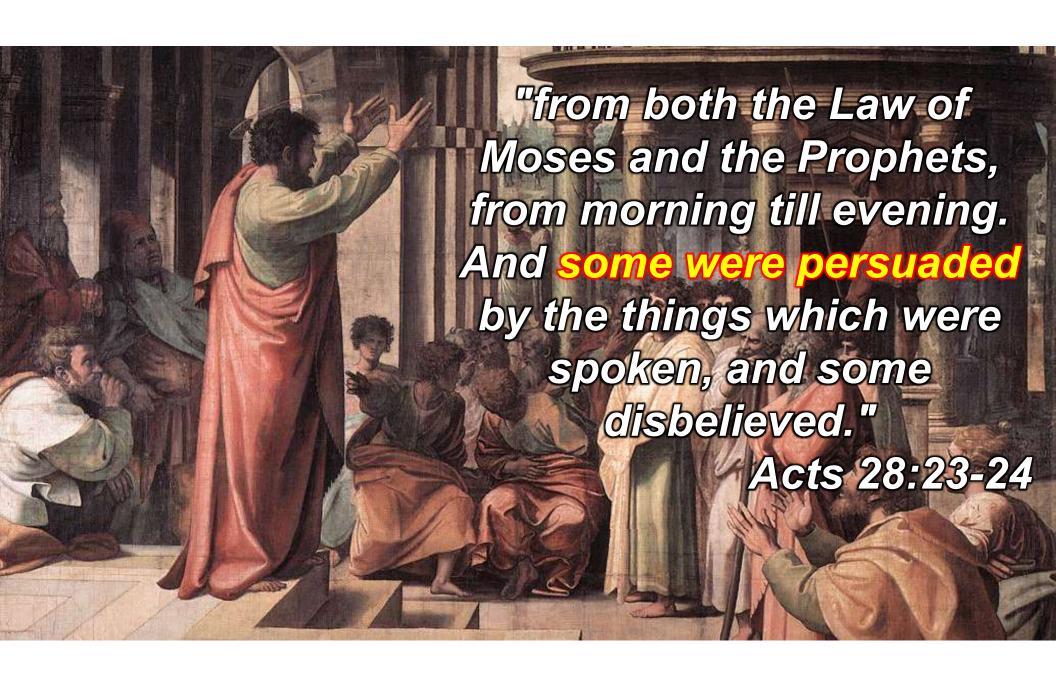


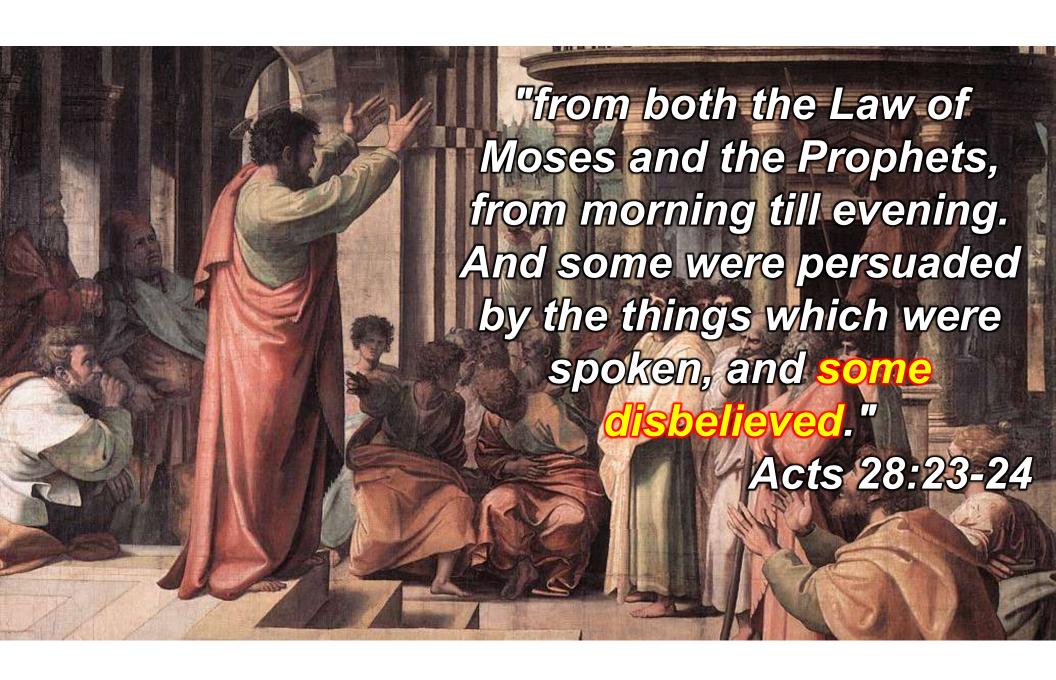


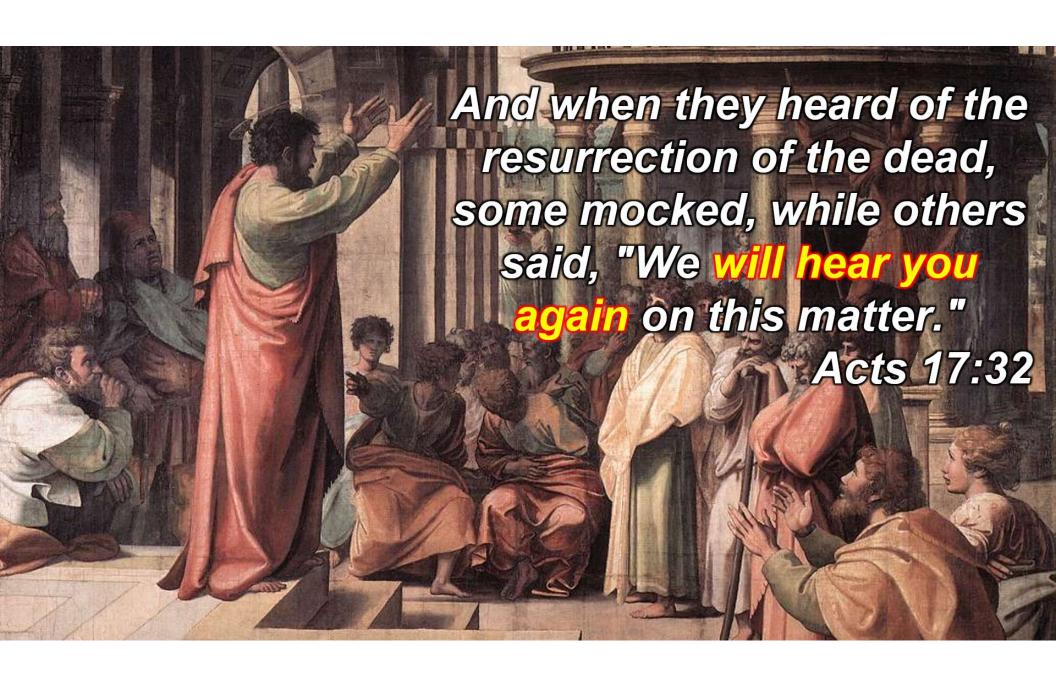


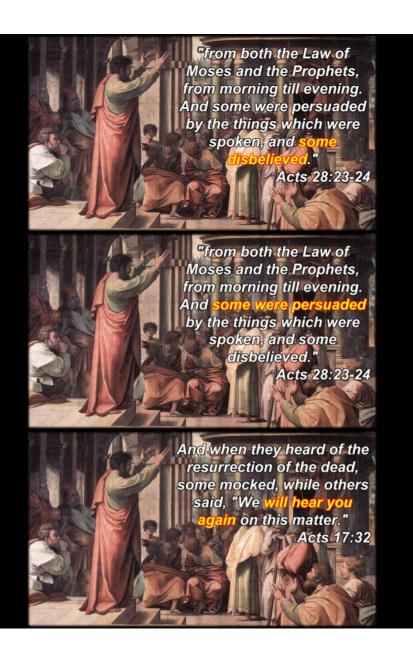












Notice the three different responses to Paul preaching and apologetics.

I submit that we should expect the same responses.

In other words, we will not win every argument!

The evidence is strong for defending the faith.

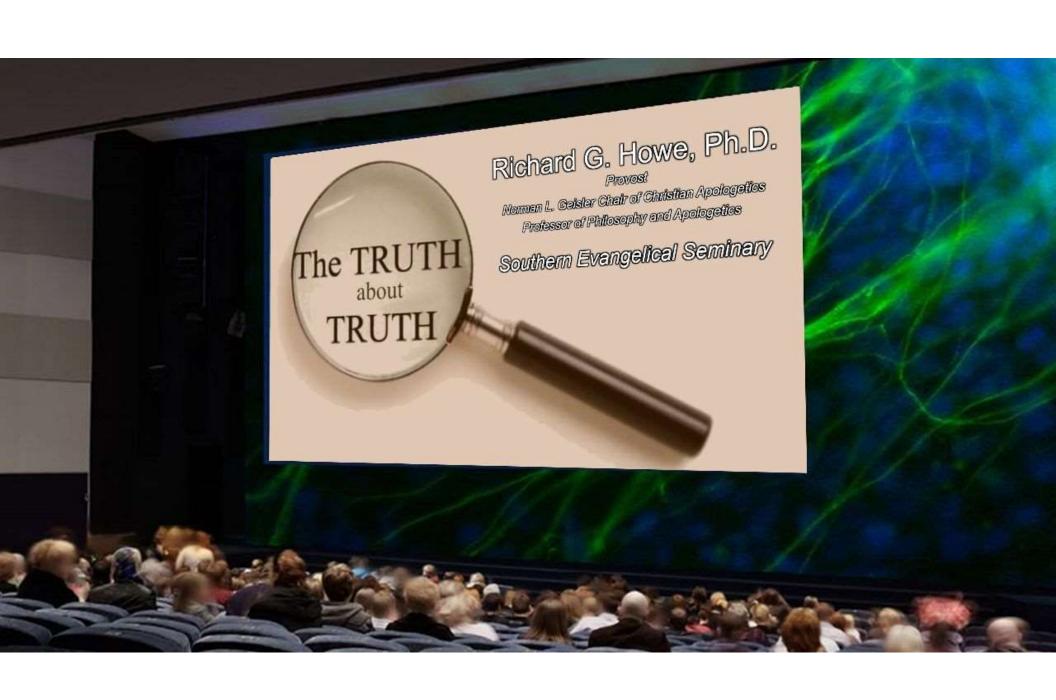
Christianity is supported by philosophy.

Christianity is grounded in history.

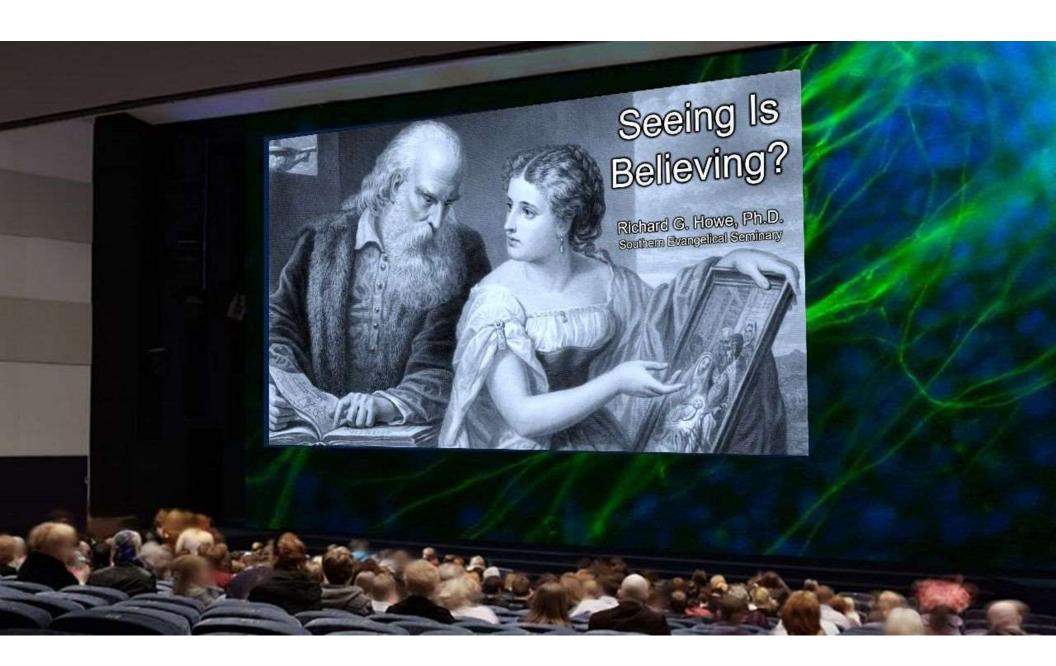
Christianity is corroborated by science.

Christianity is supported by philosophy.

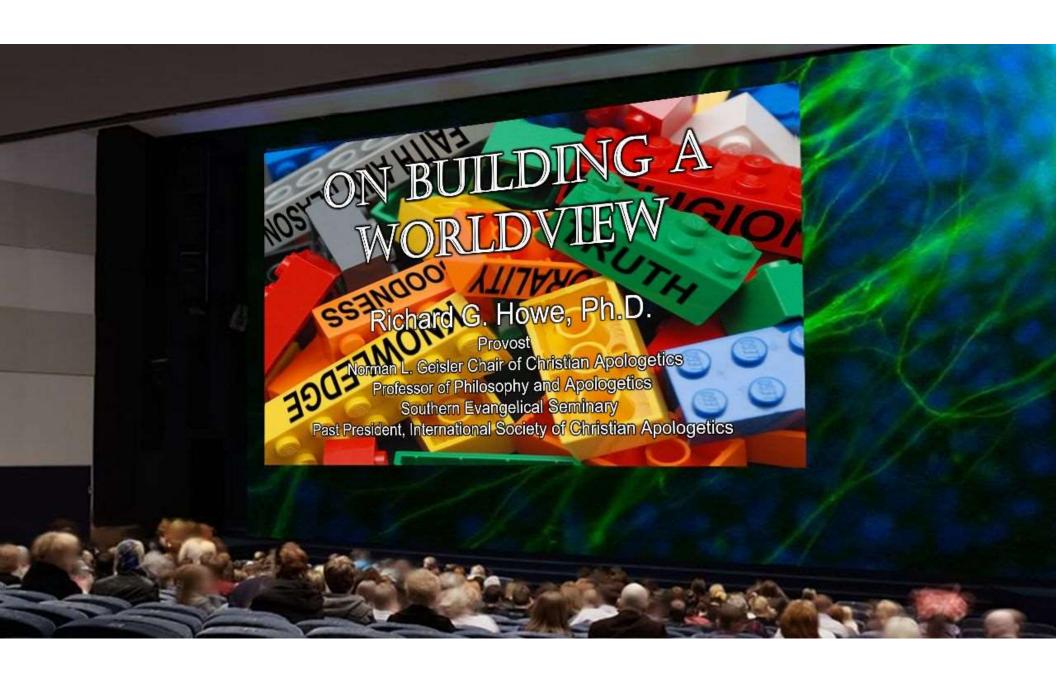
& Truth &

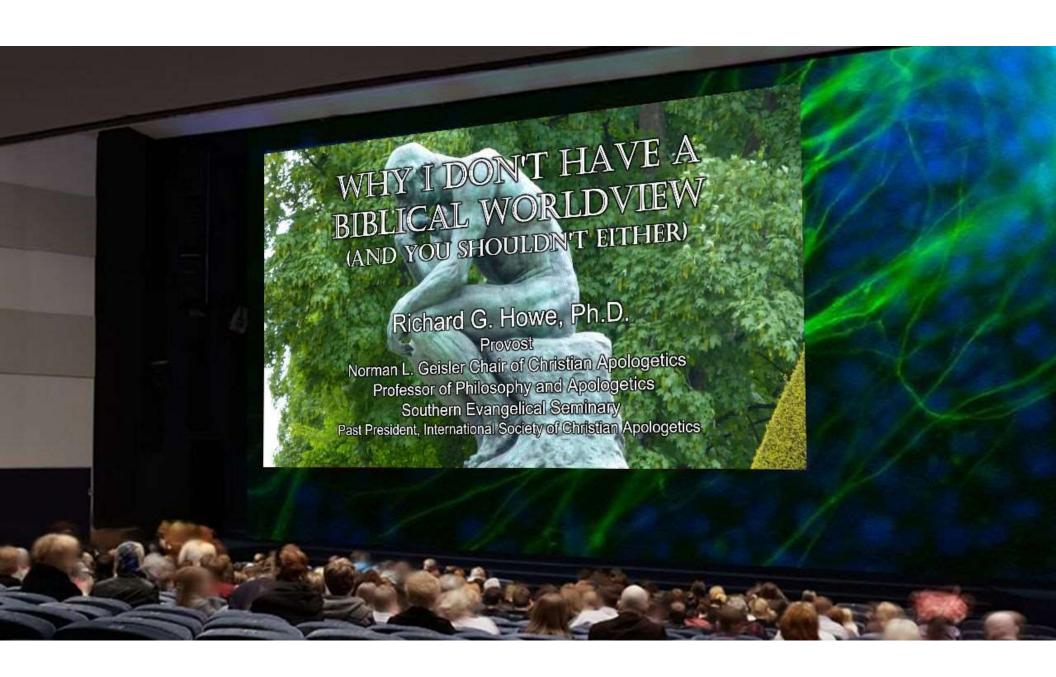


& Knowledge &

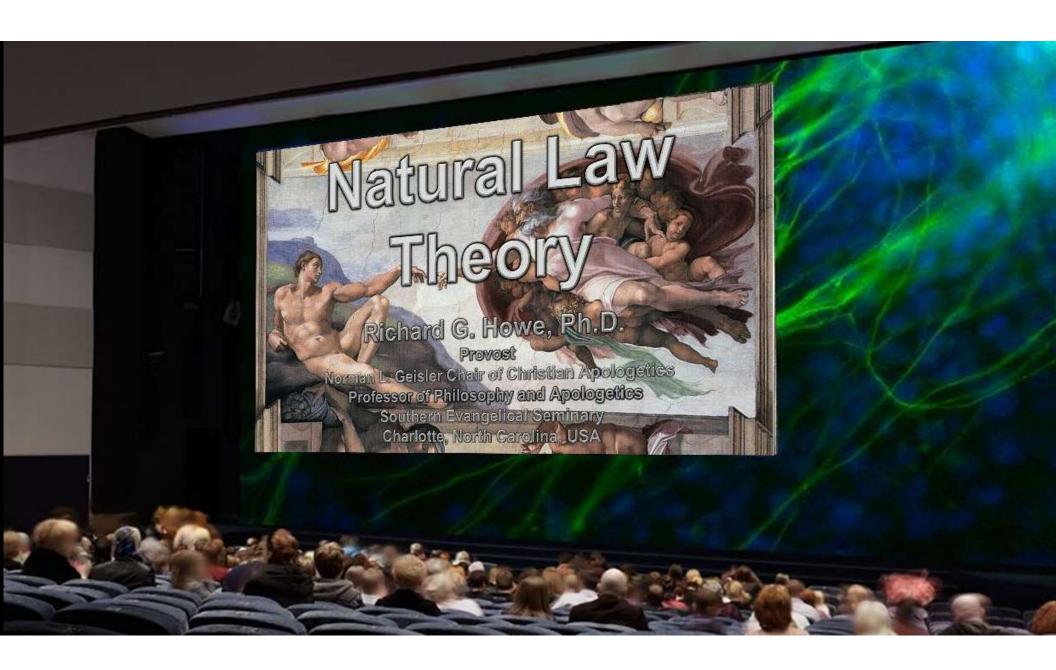


& Worldview &

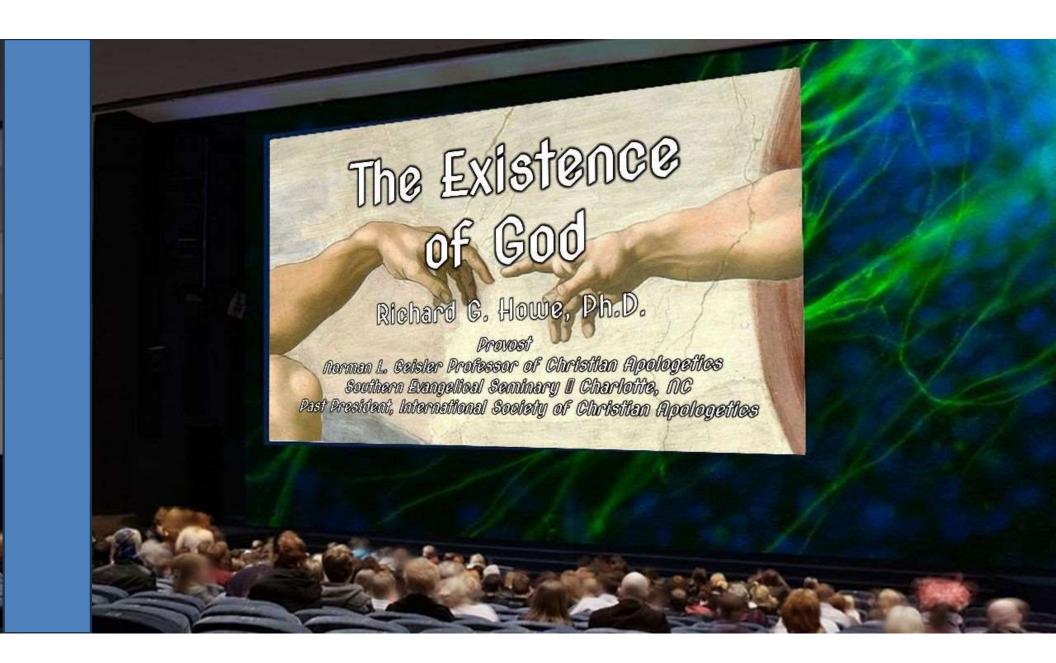


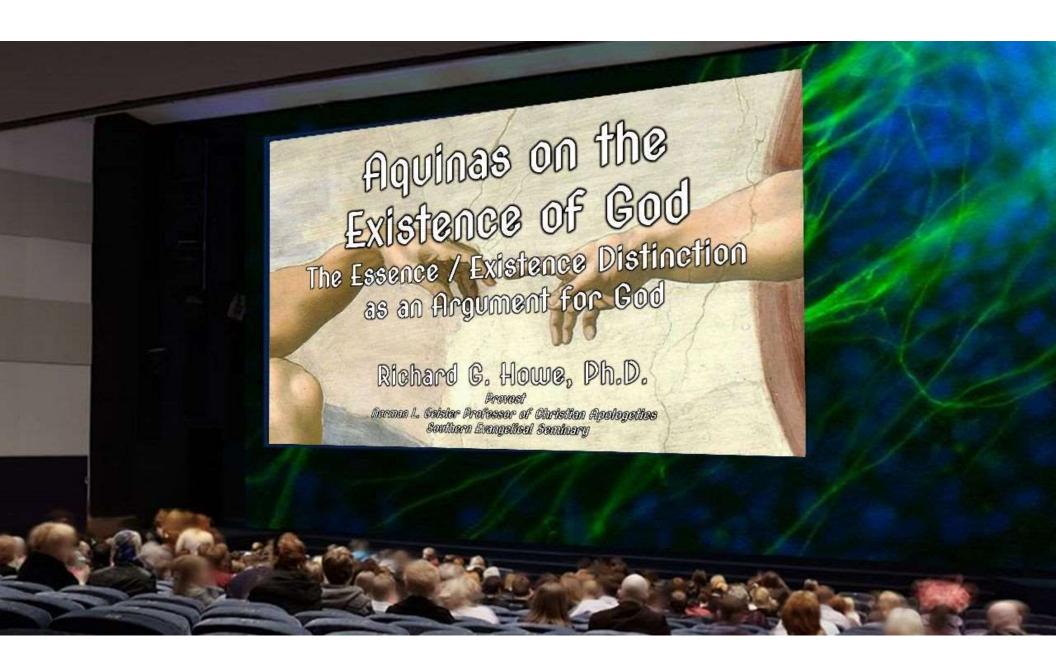


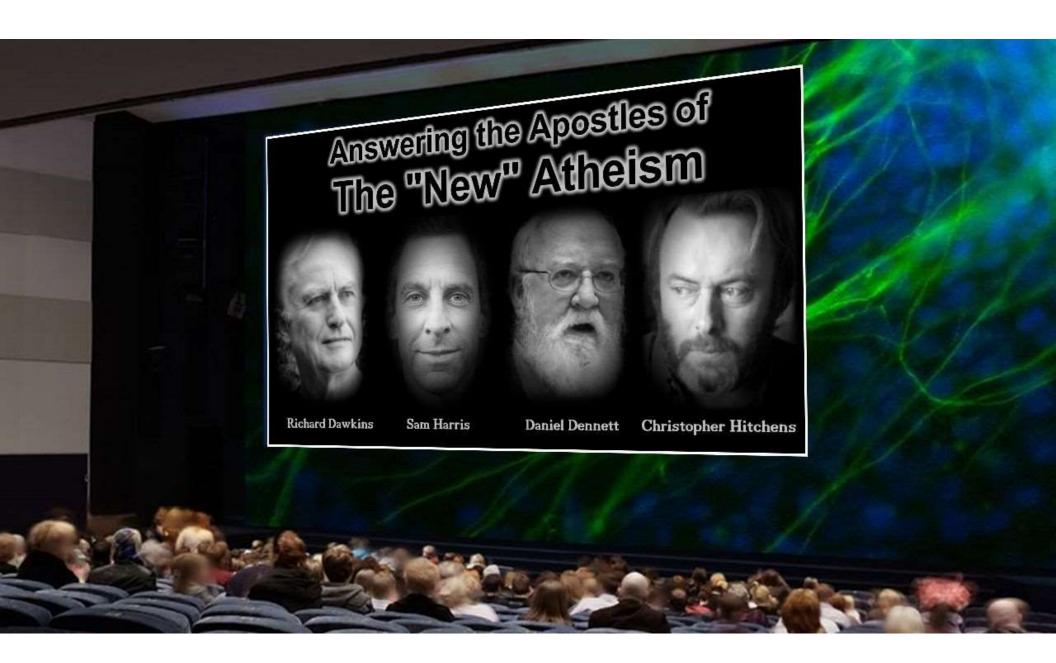
& Morality &

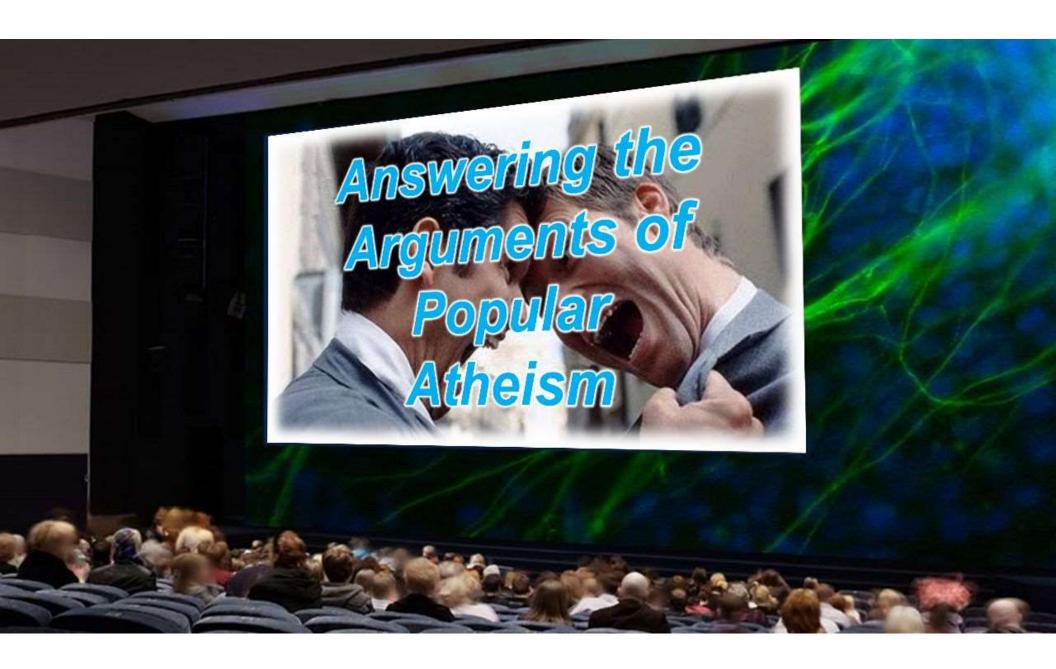


& Existence of God &

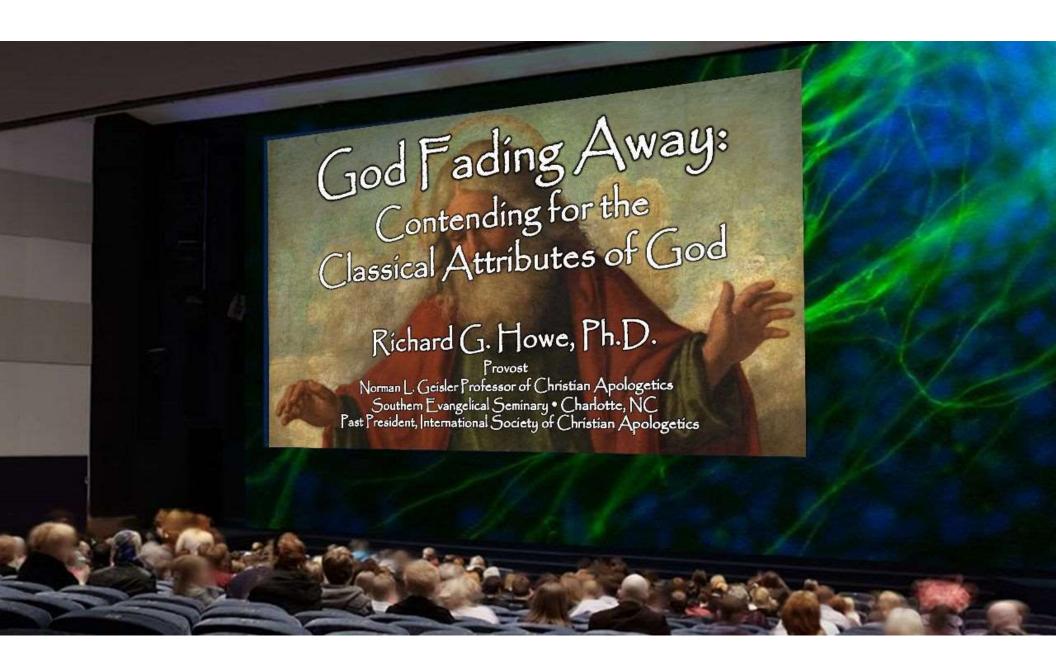


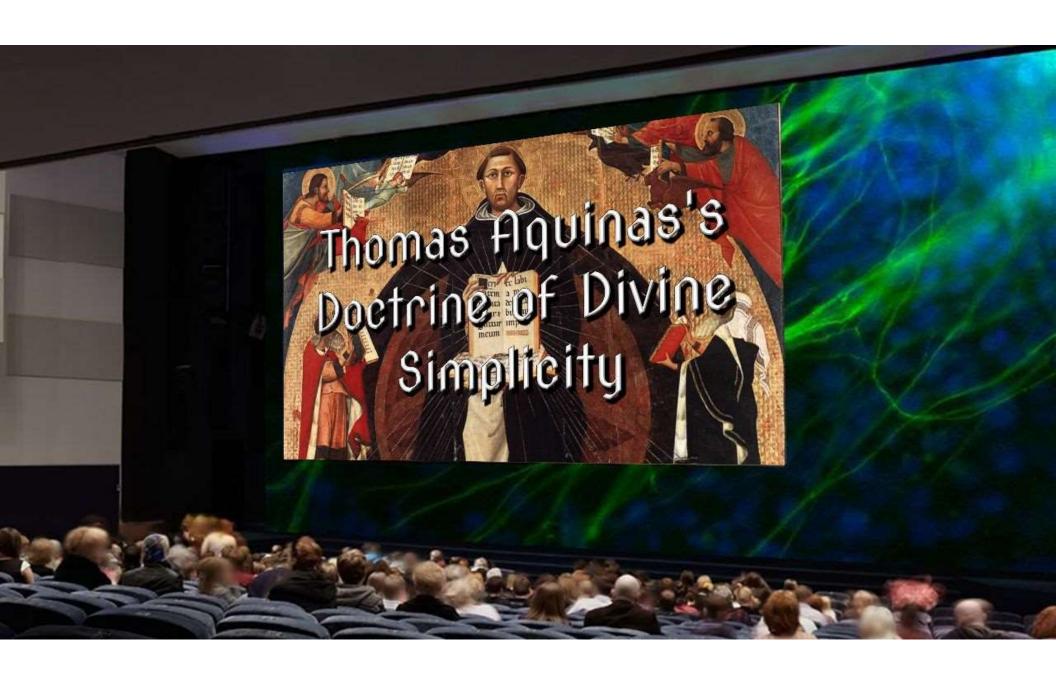




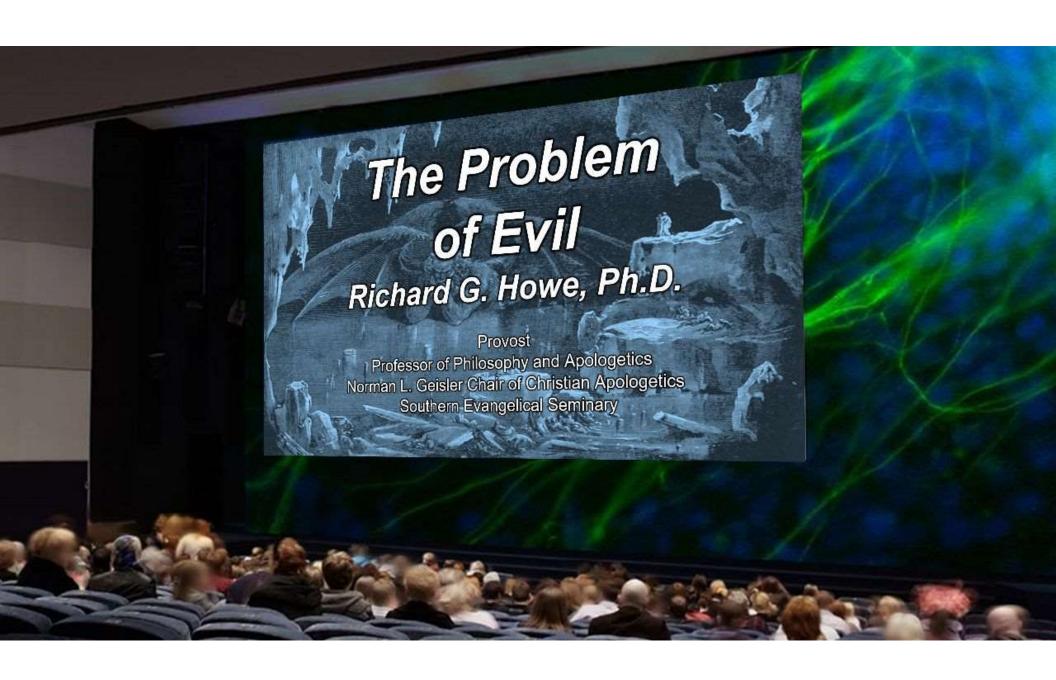


& Attributes of God &

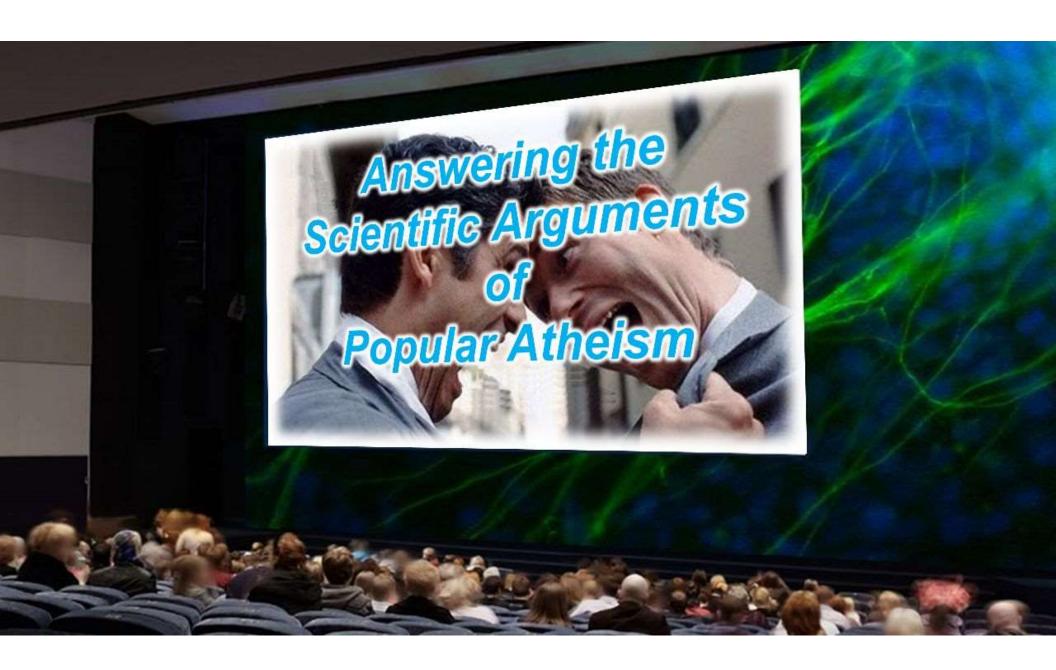


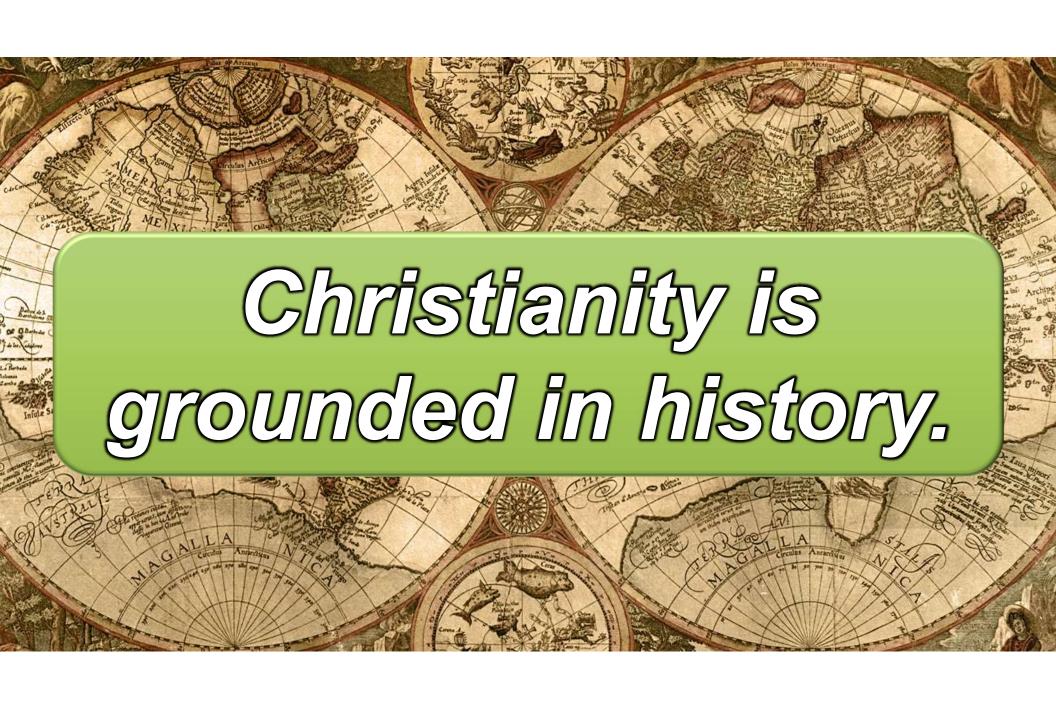






& Science &





Eyewitness Testimony

"For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty."

2 Peter 1:16



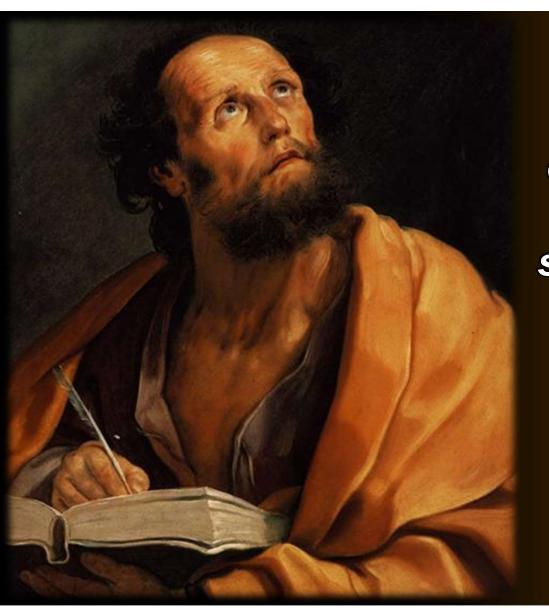


"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life; the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness,



"and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us; that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ."

1 John 1:1-3

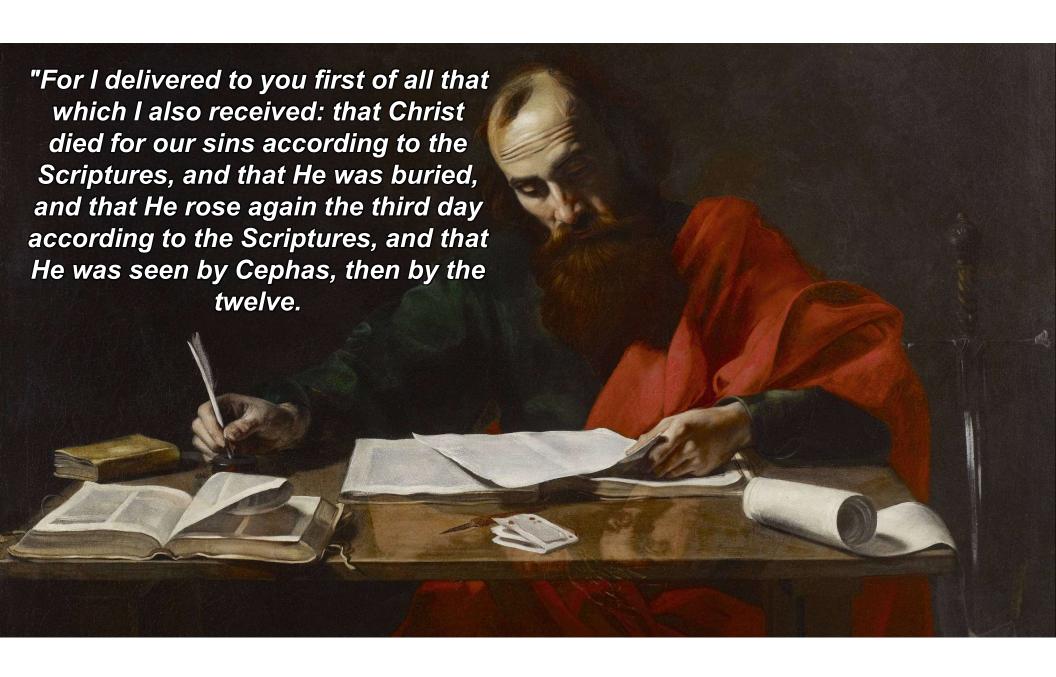


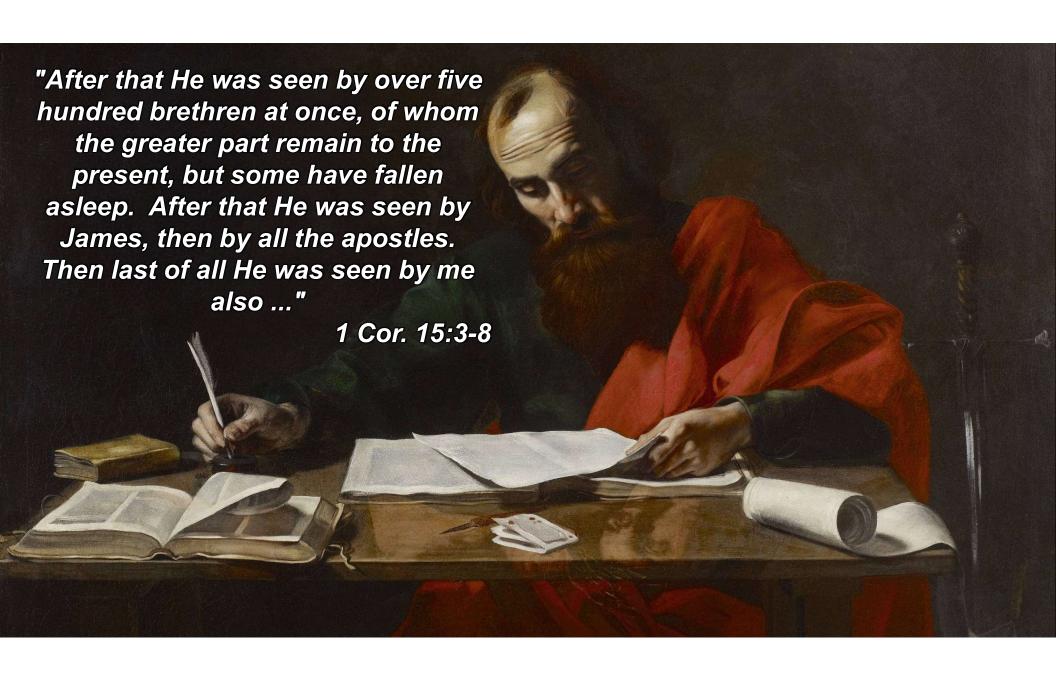
"Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which are most surely believed among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us,



"it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed."

Luke 1:1-4



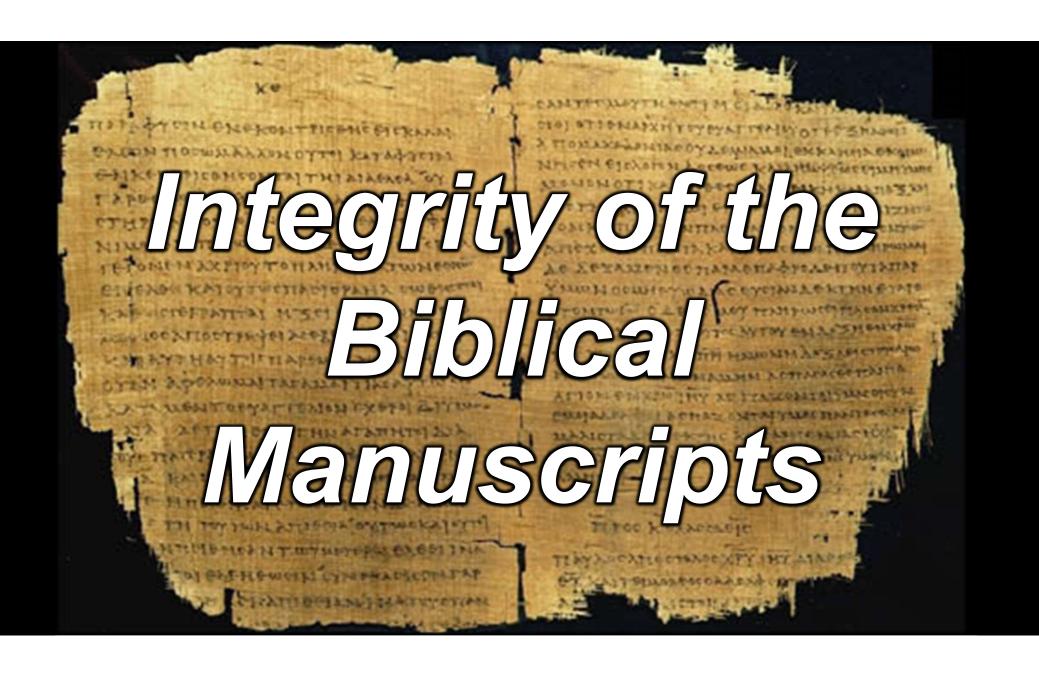


Notice the Argument of 1 Cor. 15

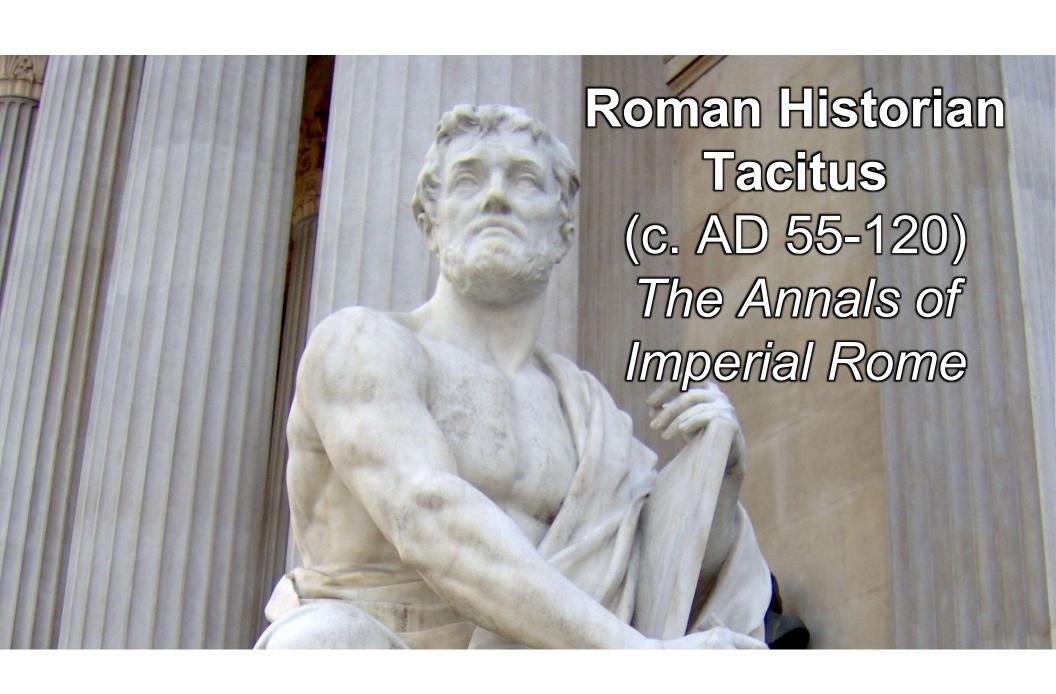
"... Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen ..."

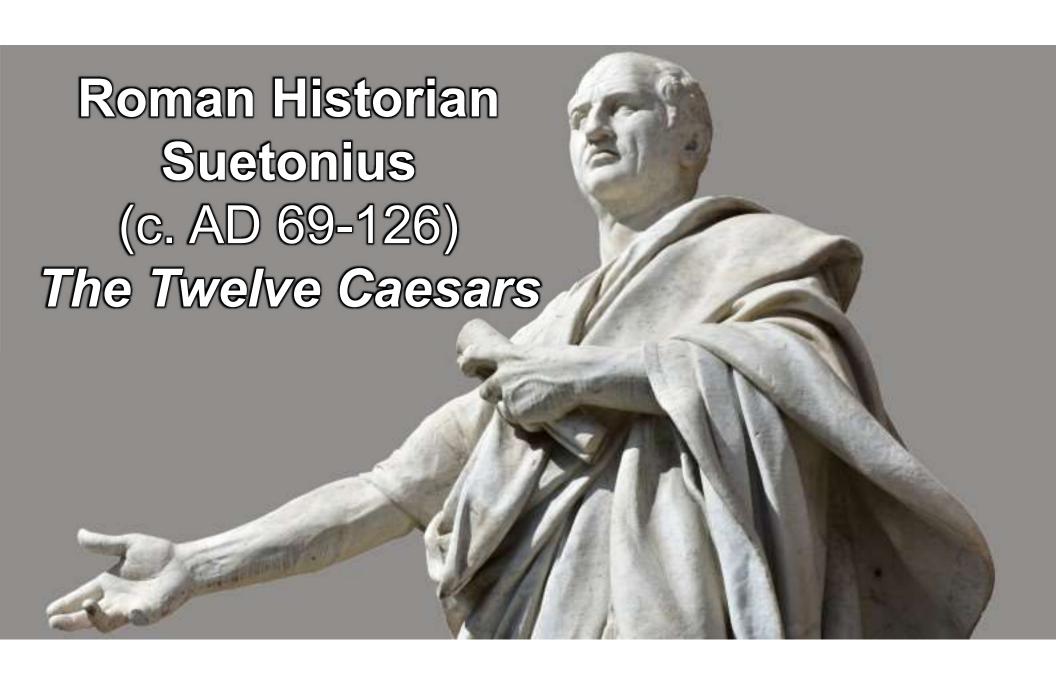
Christ Died

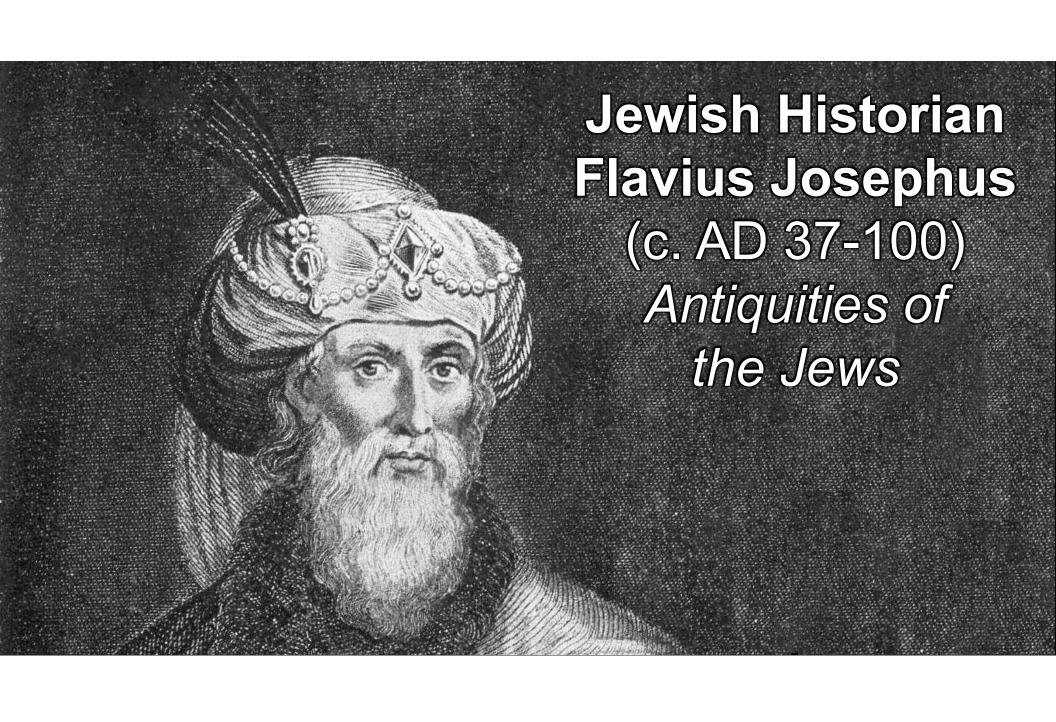
- >according to the Scriptures
- >and was buried
- Christ Rose
 - >according to the Scriptures
 - >and was seen

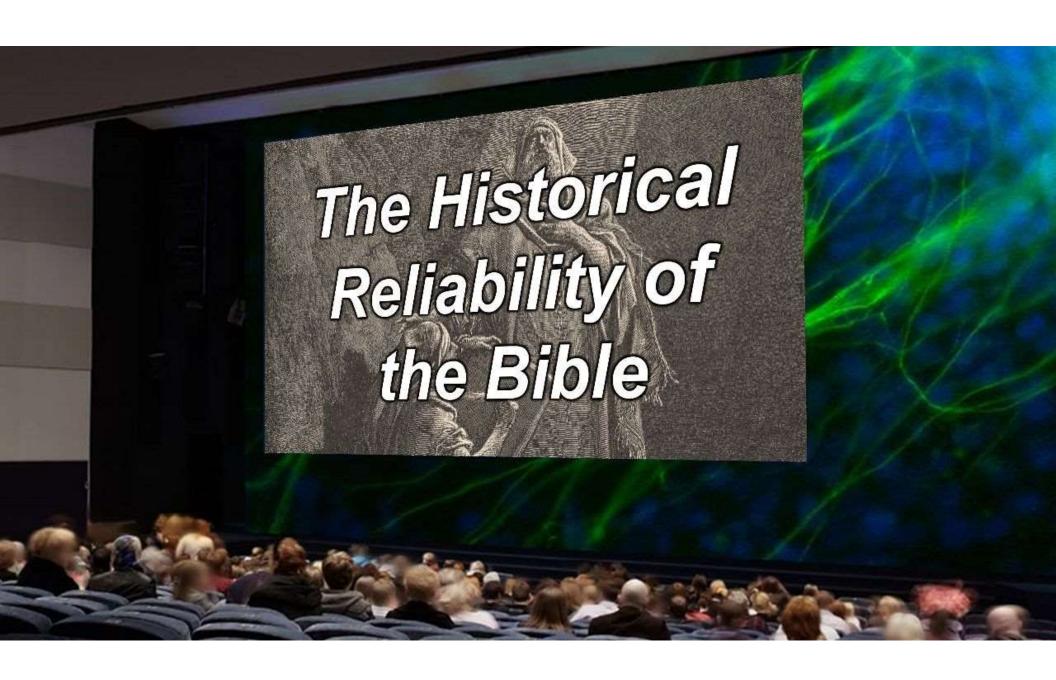


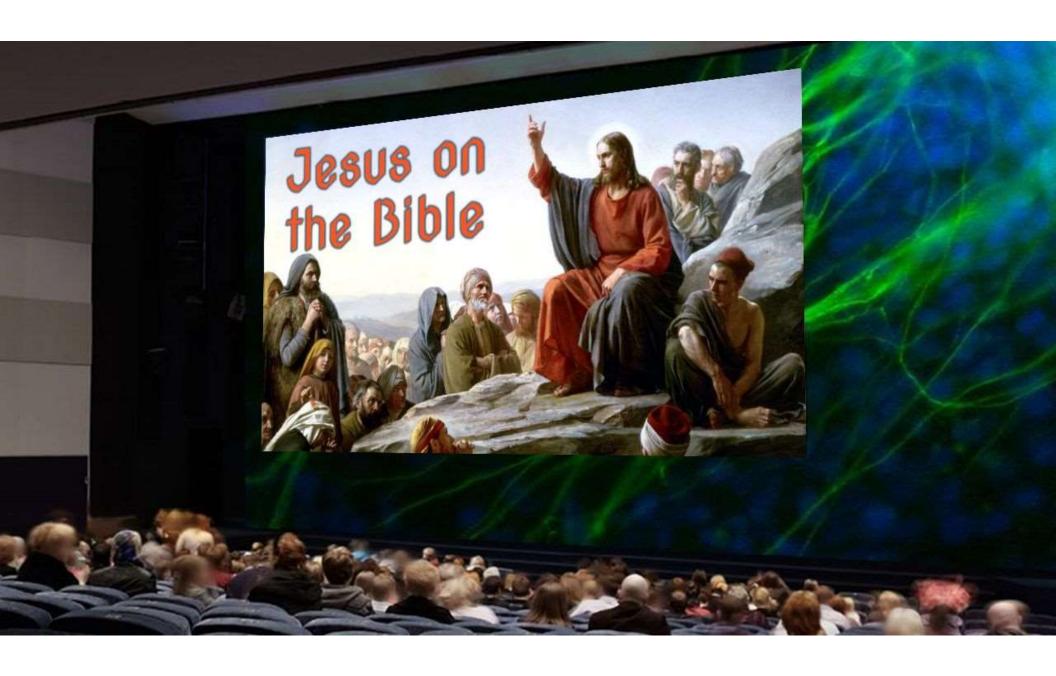
References Outside the Bible to Biblical People, Places, and Events



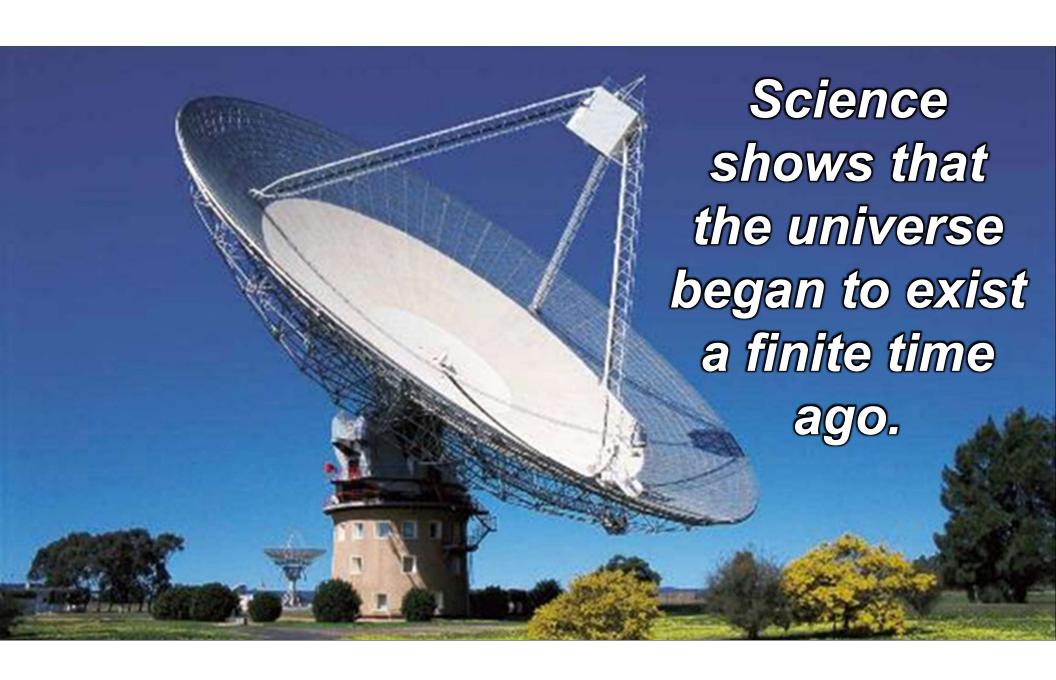


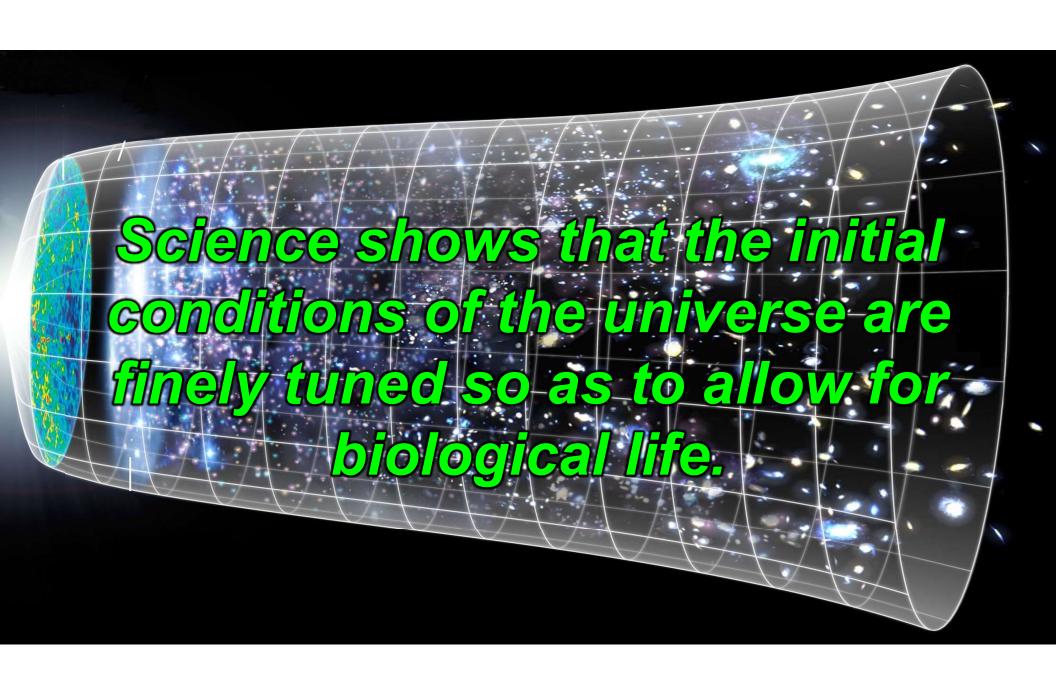




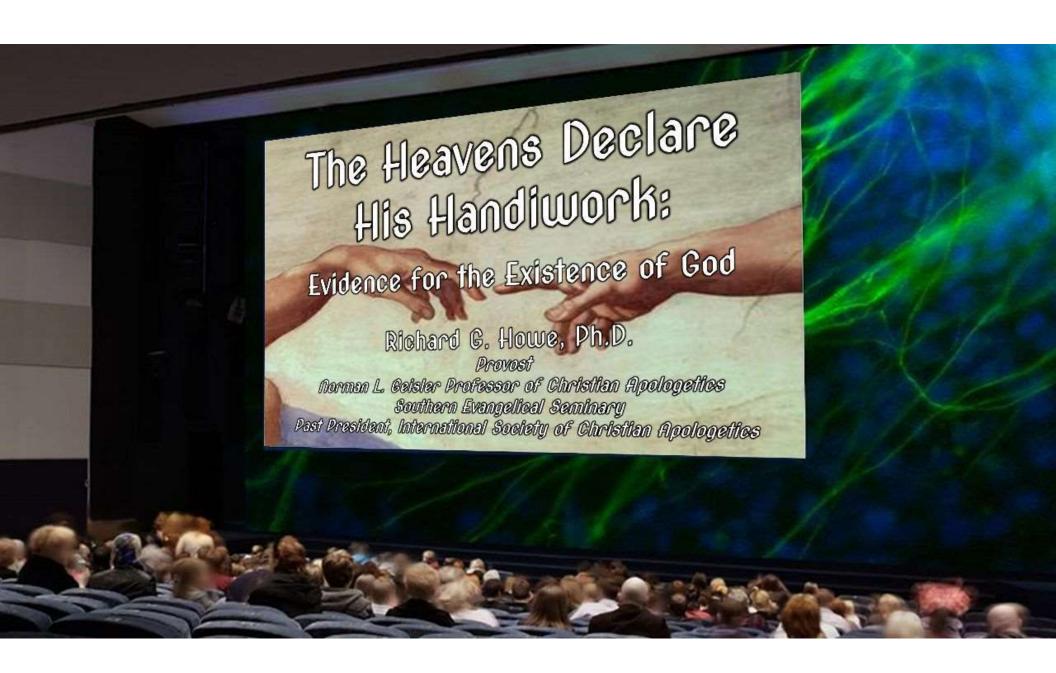


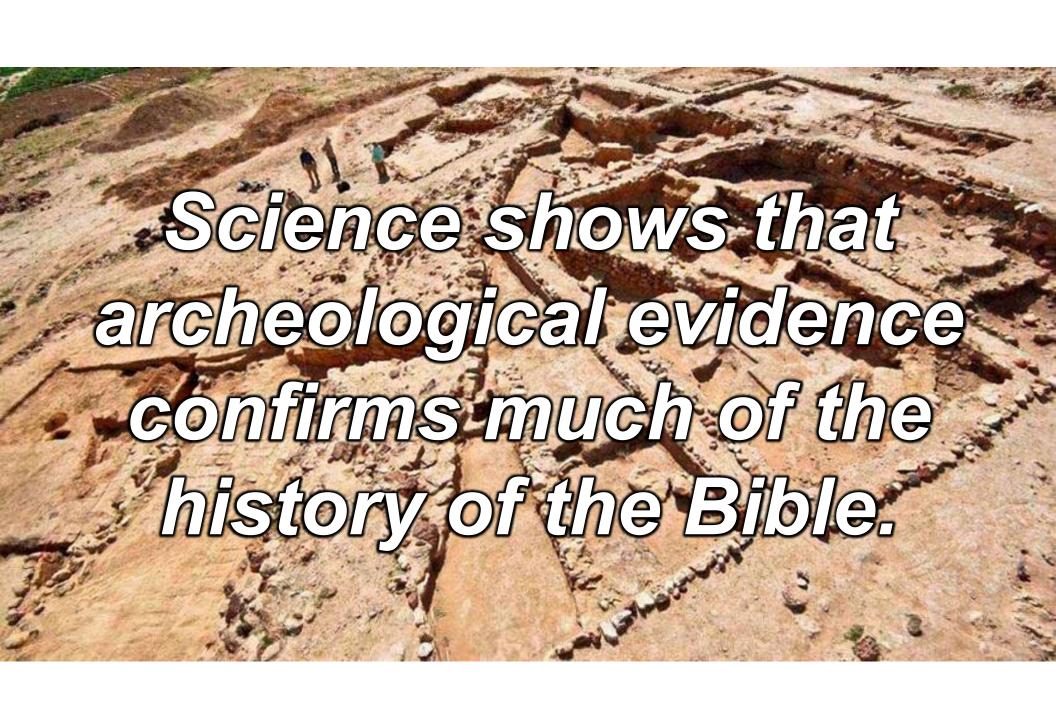
Christianity is corroborated by science.

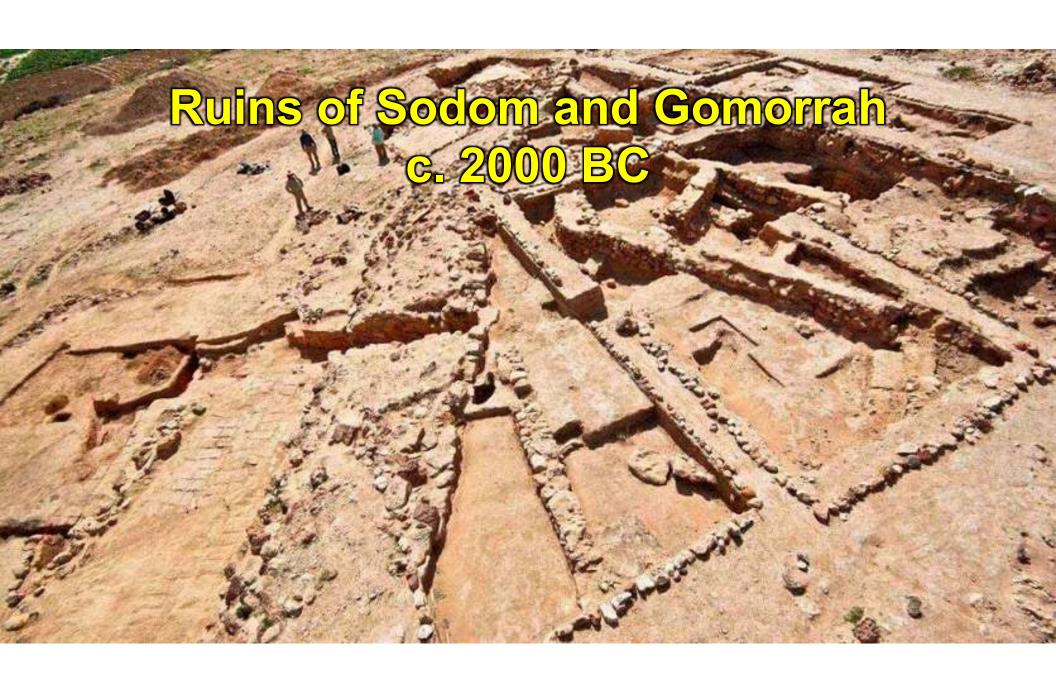


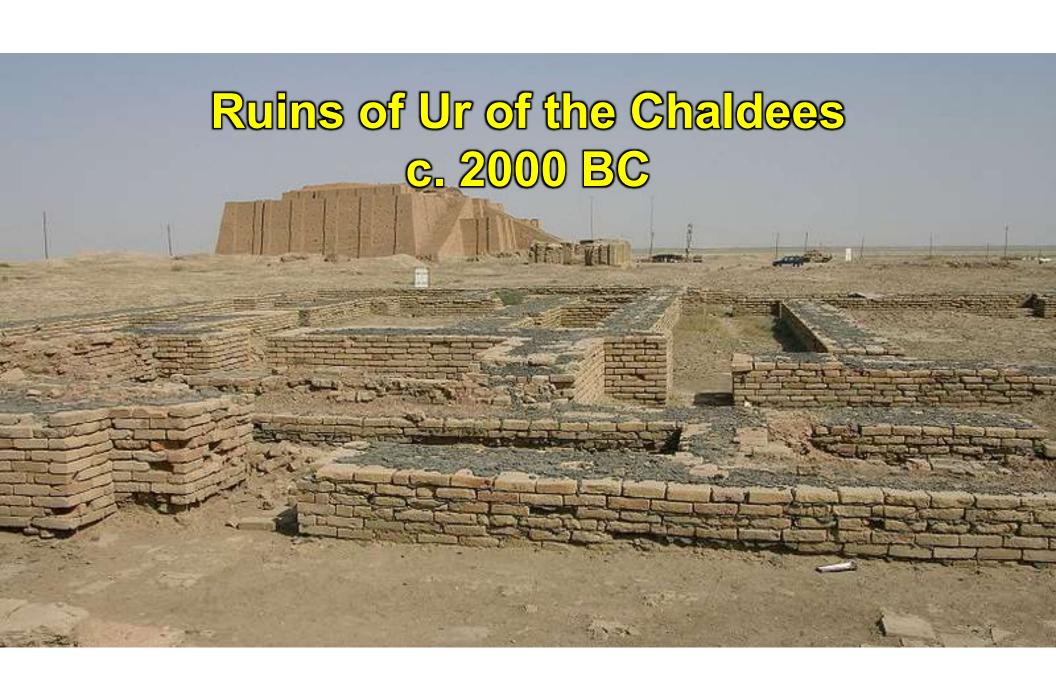


Science shows that the DNA molecule contains information, pointing to intelligent design.













Ossuary of Caiaphas the High Priest

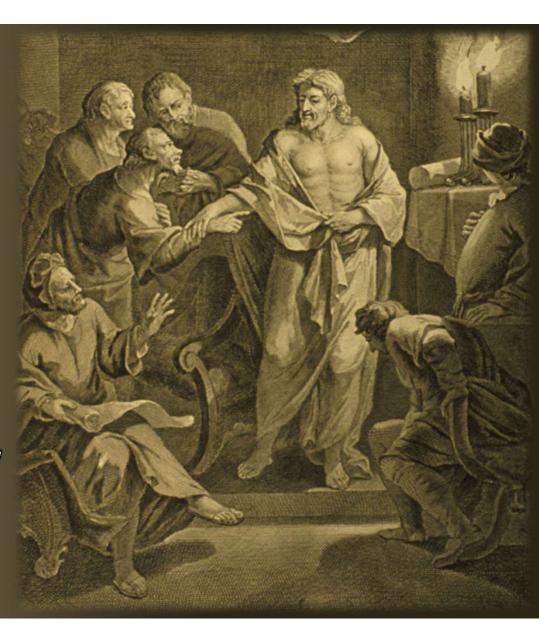




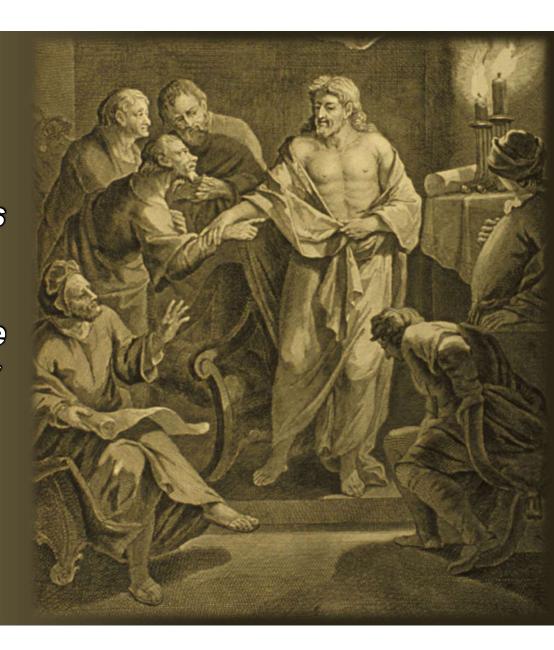


Apologetics can answer honest intellectual questions.

Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."



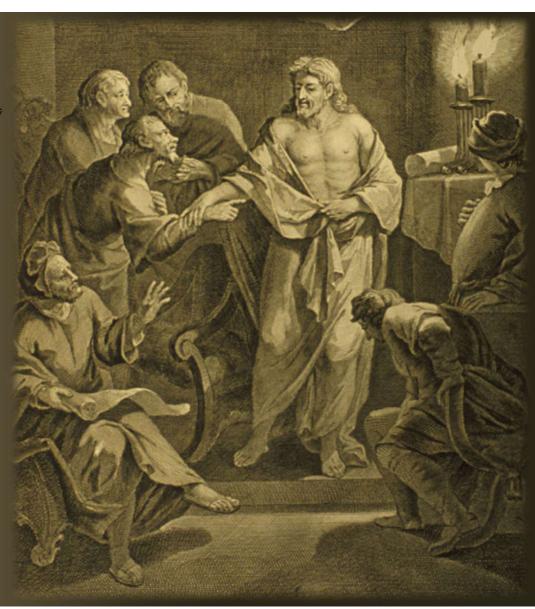
And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

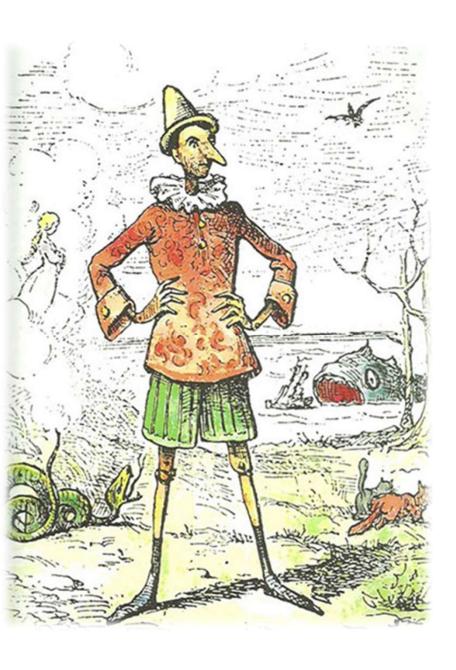


And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



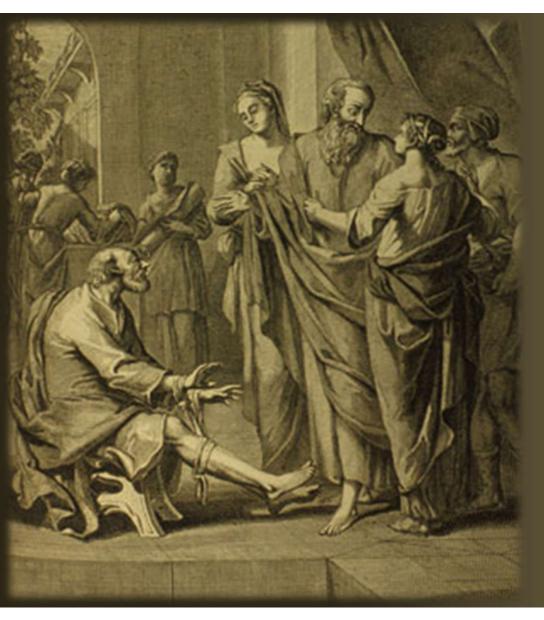


Apologetics
can expose
dishonest
questions.

Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." {25} Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. {26} But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.





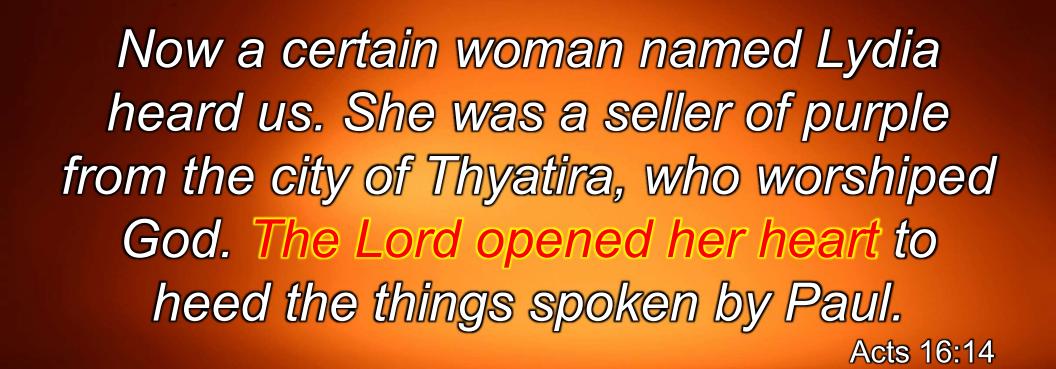


"And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ."

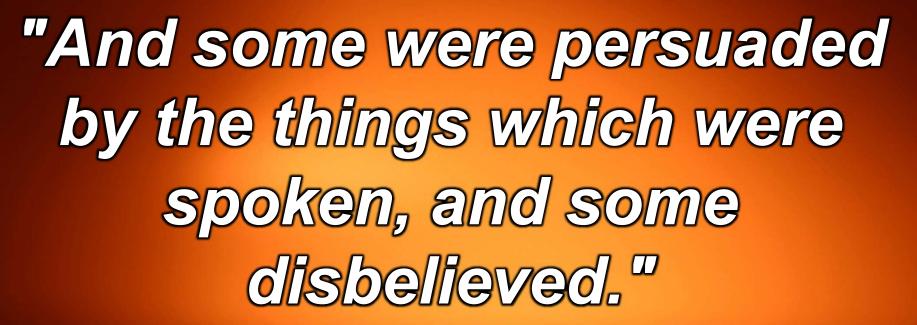
But why should we accept the Bible as authoritative?



> Apologetics can't change the heart.

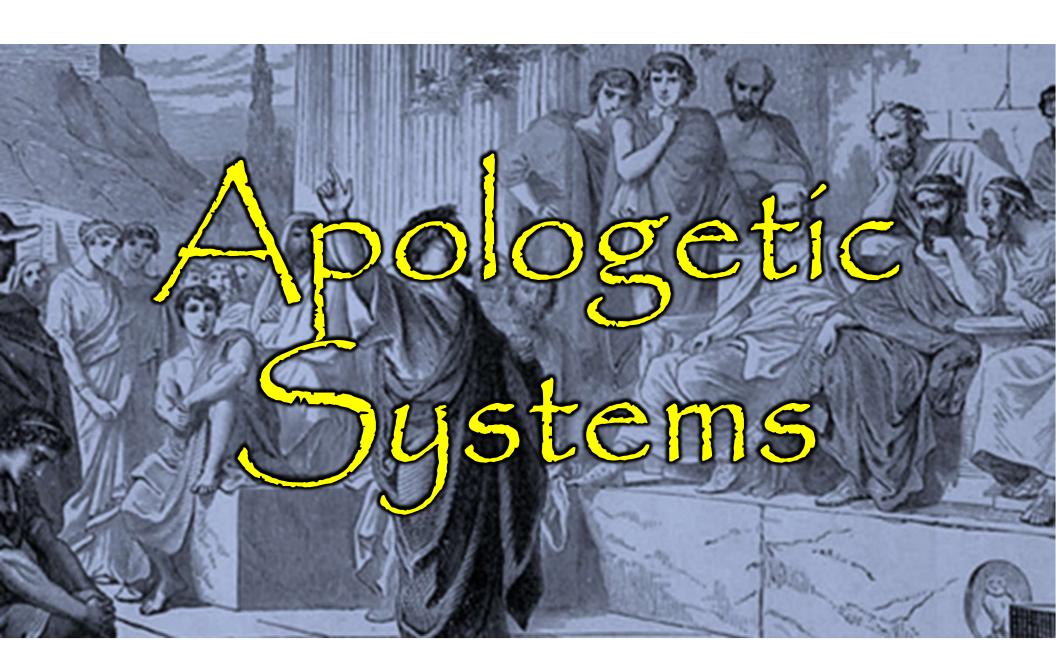


- > Apologetics can't change the heart.
- > Apologetics can't make everyone believe.



Acts 28:24

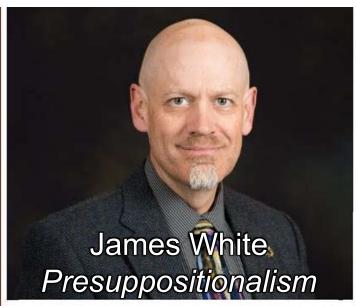
- > Apologetics can't change the heart.
- Apologetics can't make everyone believe.
- > Apologetics can't settle every doctrinal issue.

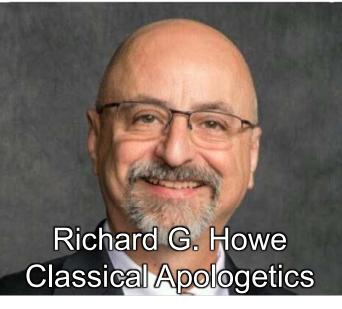


Classical Apologetics Evidentialism Presuppositionalism Reformed Epistemology

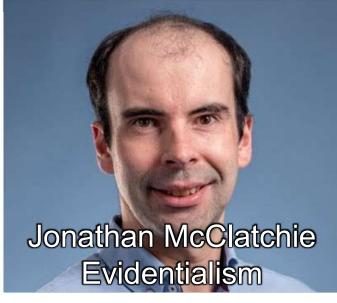
APOLOGETICS



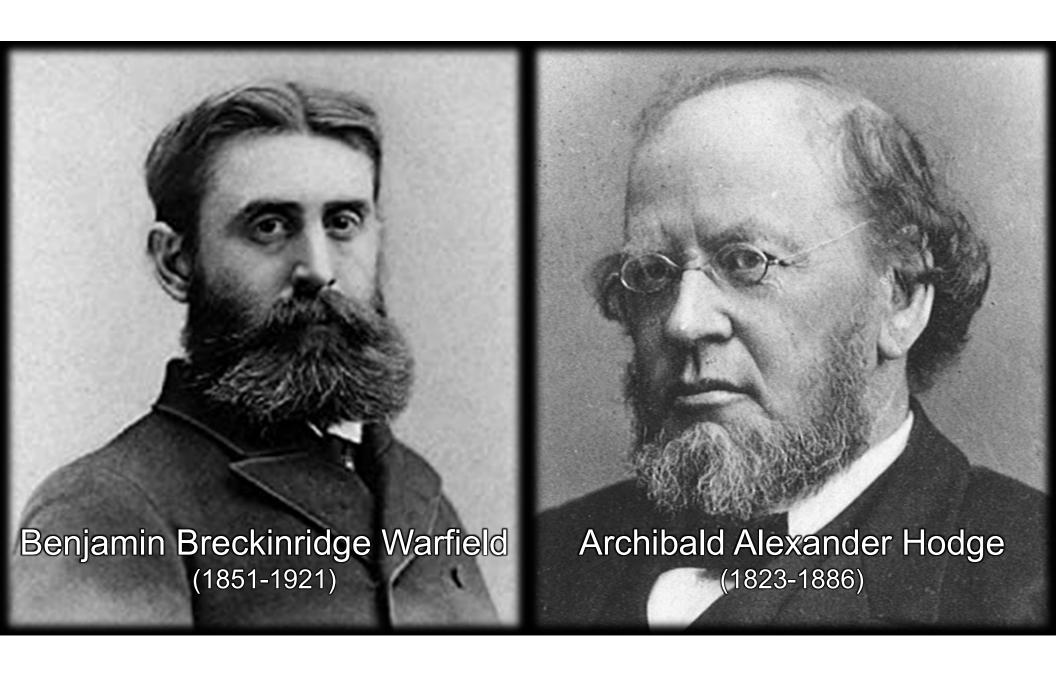


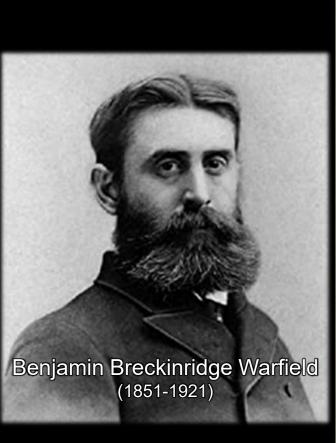


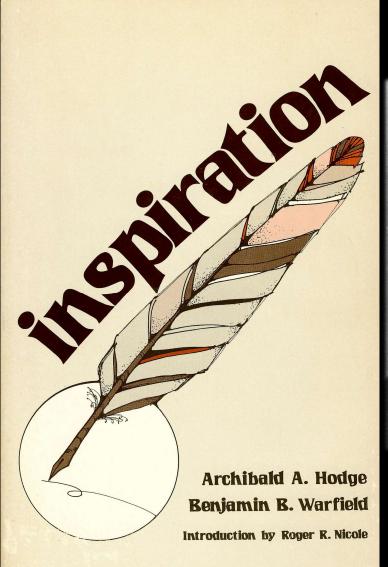


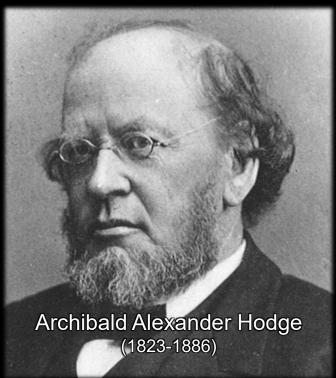


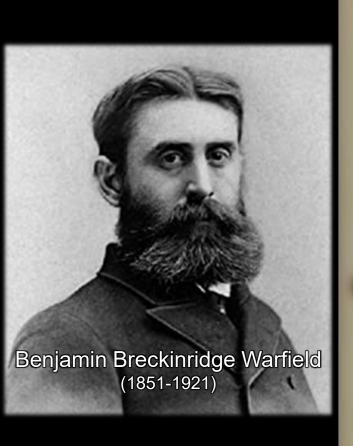






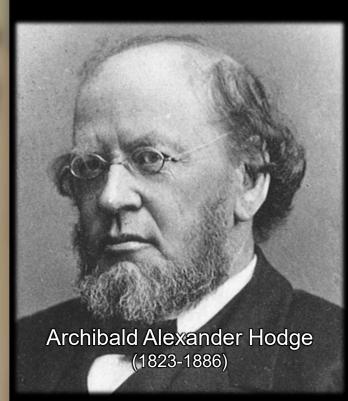


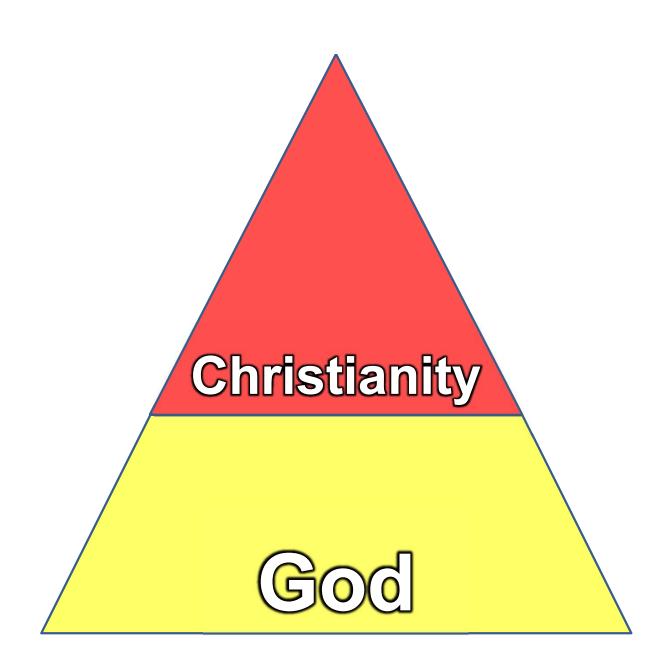




"In dealing with skeptics it is not proper to begin with the evidence which immediately establishes inspiration, but we should first establish theism, then the historical credibility of the Scriptures, and then the divine origin of Christianity."

[Archibald A. Hodge and Benjamin B. Warfield, *Inspiration* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979, published from the Presbyterian Board of Publication, n.c., 1881), 8]





Historicity and inspiration of the Bible Uniqueness of Christ

Christianity

Arguments for God's existence
Nature, Possibility and
Actuality of miracles

God

First principles of metaphysics
First principles of rationality
The nature and knowledge of truth
The nature of meaning and language

Foundation

III. The Truth of Christianity

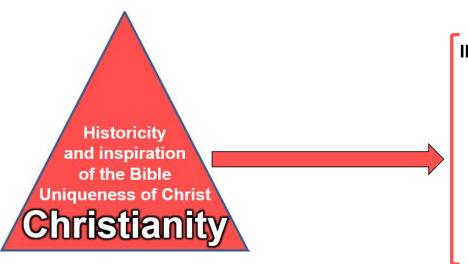
- A. The Historicity of the Bible
 - 1. Do We Have What They Wrote?
 - 2. Did What They Write Happen?
- B. What Does the Bible Say About Jesus?
 - 1. Messianic Prophecies
 - 2. Life of miracles/Resurrection
 - 3. Lord, Liar, Lunatic
- C. What Does Jesus Say About the Bible?
 - 1. What Jesus Affirmed About the OT
 - 2. Jesus Pre-authenticates the NT

II. The Existence and Attributes of God

- A. Theistic Arguments
 - 1. Cosmological
 - 2. Teleological (Design)
- B. Philosophical Theology
 - 1. Nature of God
 - 2. God and Creation

I. Philosophical Foundation

- A. Classical Empiricism
- B. Nature of Reality (Metaphysics)
- C. Reality and Knowability of Truth
- D. Laws of Logic
- E. Types of Arguments



III. The Truth of Christianity

A. The Historicity of the Bible

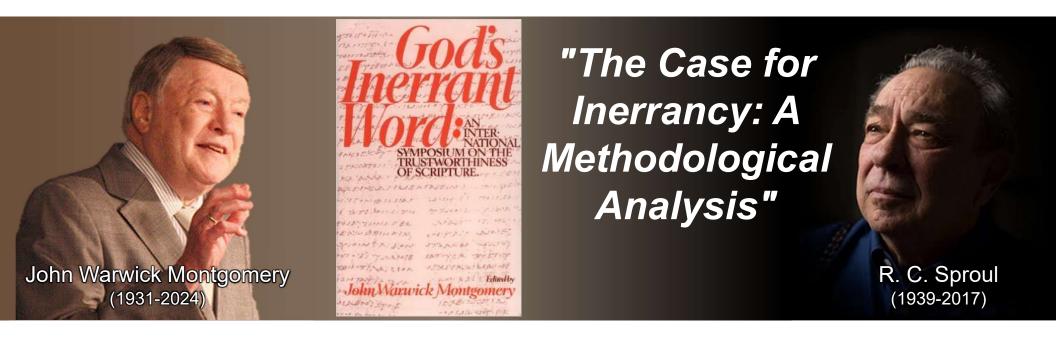
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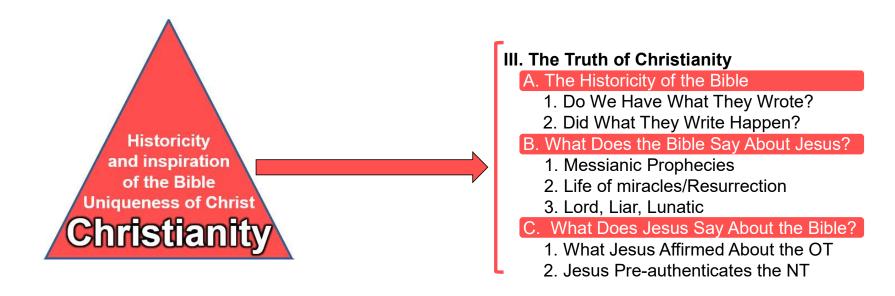
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- 3. Lord, Liar, Lunatic

C. What Does Jesus Say About the Bible?

- 1. What Jesus Affirmed About the OT
- 2. Jesus Pre-authenticates the NT

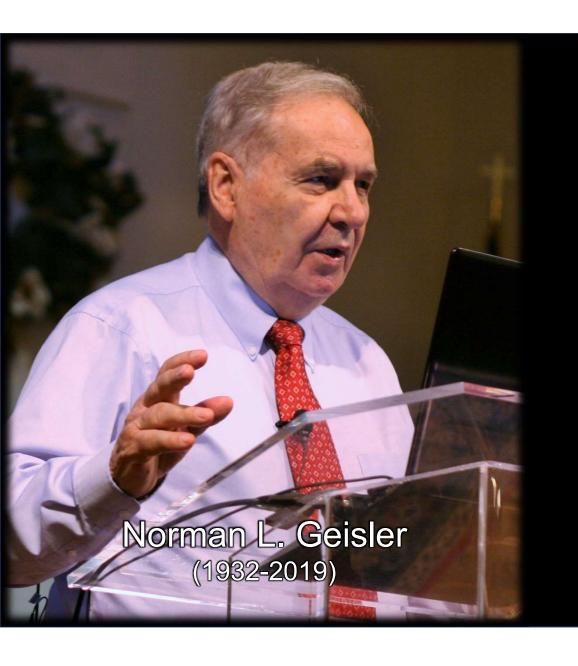


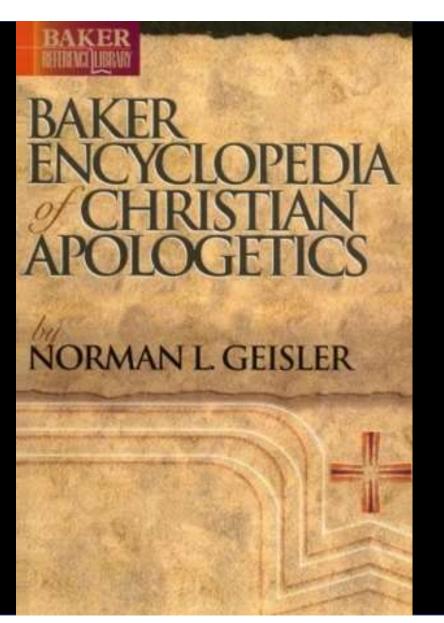


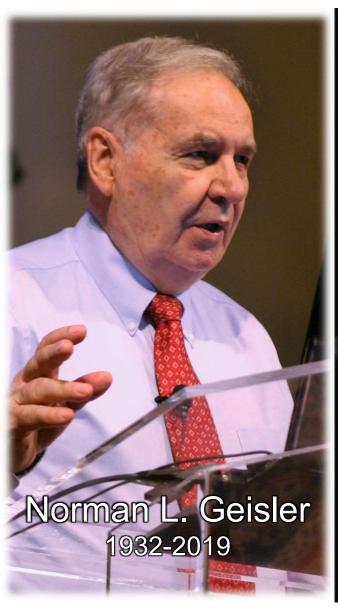
It should be observed that this third step in the Classical Model is hardly distinguishable from the Evidentialist Model.

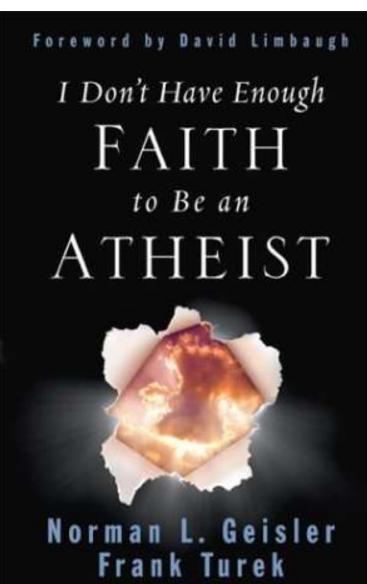














"The pages ahead will inform . . . and inspire."

RAVI ZACHARIAS

from the Foreword

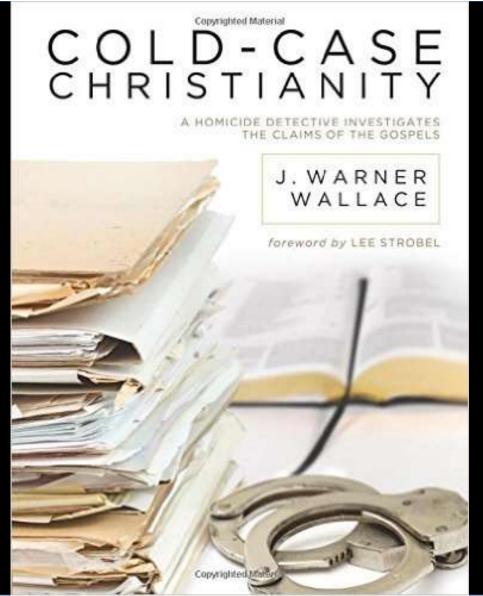
STEALING from

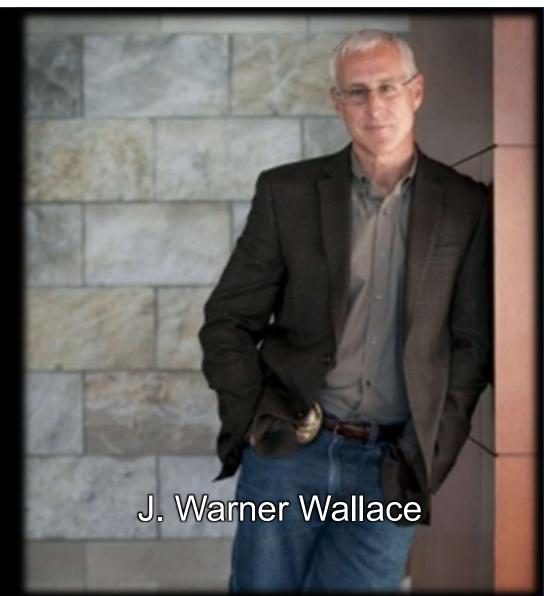
Why atheists need God to make their case

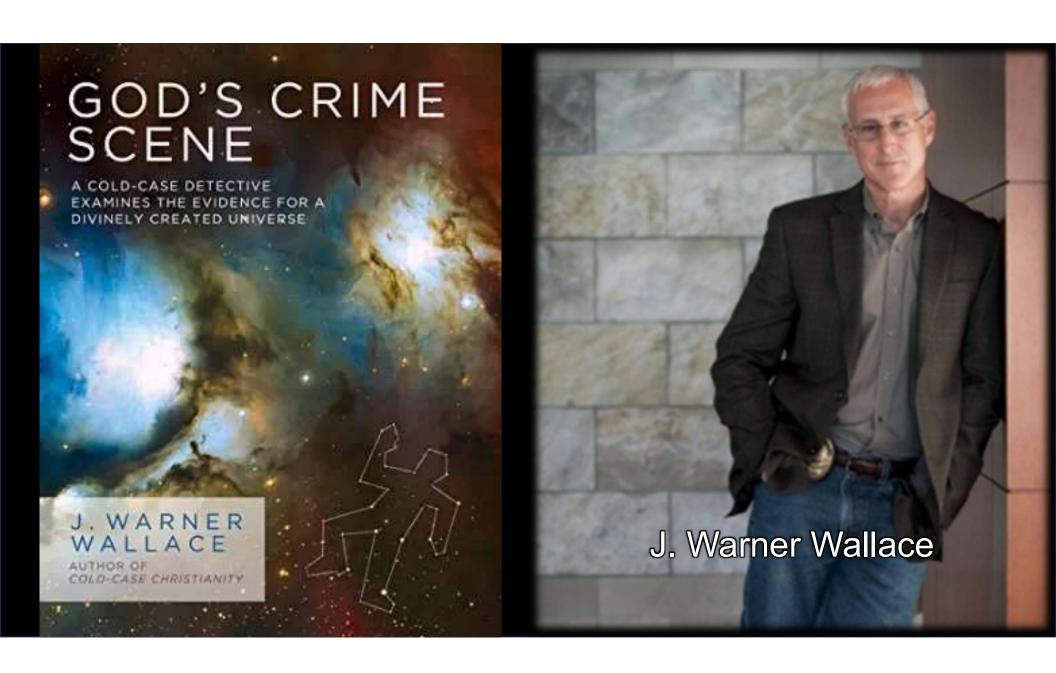
Frank Turek

coauthor of I Don't Have Enough Faith to Be an Atheist

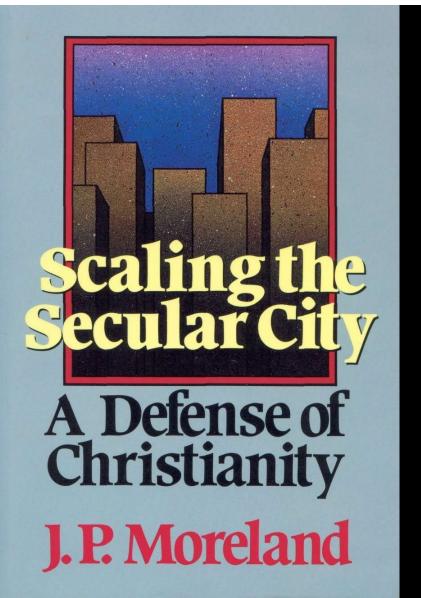












PAUL E. LITTLE

Author of How to Give Away Your Faith

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