

Outline – August 8, 2021
Psalm 19:1-4; John 1:1-4; Romans 1:18-25
Reason To Believe In God

Think Like A Detective

I. How does one become an atheist?

- A. Lack of knowledge
 - 1. Misinformation
 - 2. No investigation
 - 3. No cross examination
- B. Lack of love from family or community of faith
 - 1. Many atheists – poor paternal parents
 - 2. Abuse
 - 3. Abandonment
 - 4. Anger
 - 5. Addiction
- C. Not embracing what is real
 - 1. Feeling it was all an illusion
- D. Depression/burn out
- E. Disappointment
 - 1. In others
 - 2. In self
 - 3. In church
- F. Disillusioned
 - 1. Making claims Bible never made
 - 2. Focusing on a person more than Jesus
- G. Bored, lacking joy
- H. Suppressing the truth
 - 1. Wanting to believe the lie
 - 2. Not wanting facts
- I. Rebellious
 - 1. “I do what I want”
 - 2. “It’s all about me”
- J. The narcissistic disorder

II. What difference does it make if God is there or not?

- A. Just biological organisms doomed to die and go extinct
- B. The “threat of non-being” (what if)
 - 1. Meteor coming to earth
 - 2. Your response

- C. No ultimate significance to life
 - 1. Hitler or Mother Theresa
 - 2. Stalin or Billy Graham
- D. No moral accountability
 - 1. Reward
 - 2. Judgement
- E. No purpose or goal
 - 1. No consistency
 - 2. No hope
 - 3. No joy
- F. No ultimate moral of right or wrong, good or evil
 - 1. If law, must be a law giver
- G. Life becomes a living hell when 10 commandments are reversed
 - 2. Rabbi at Auschwitz
 - 3. Without God, the world becomes Auschwitz

III. Two conditions necessary for purpose in life

- A. God
- B. Immortality

IV. Reasons to believe

- A. Cosmological argument
 - 1. Research in astrophysics
 - 2. Expanding universe – a beginning
 - 3. Space time theorems
- B. A causal agent
 - 1. Nonphysical
 - 2. Powerful
 - 3. External
 - 4. Changeless
 - 5. Personal
- C. Teleological argument
 - 1. Complex order
 - 2. Fine tuned
 - 3. Anthropic principle
- D. Other explanations fall short
 - 1. DNA
 - 2. No fossil record validity
 - 3. Extinction faster than evolution
 - 4. Making “life” in lab
 - 5. No “primordial soup”
 - 6. Cambrian explosion (no ape-men)
 - 7. Darwin’s many failed predictions

V. How has God revealed himself?

- A. Creation
- B. Conscience
 - 1. Right – wrong
 - 2. Good – evil
- C. Israel
 - 1. Laws
 - 2. Covenants
 - 3. Prophets
- D. Jesus

VI. How you can know Him

- A. Draw near
- B. Call on Him
- C. Receive His gift
- D. Worship Him
- E. Share His grace and love

**There Is Reason To Believe
If Thinkers Believe And If Believers Think**