

Defending and Building Your Faith Christian Apologetics – Worksheet 09

Week 9 – Atheism

The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. (Psalm 14:1 & 53:1)

This week in our apologetics studies we will examine a non-belief, atheism. Our topics for this lesson include:

- Atheism Defined & Examined
- Answers to Atheist Positions
- The Existence of God

Atheism Defined & Examined

Defining Atheism

The word 'atheism' comes from the Greek negative, 'a', which means 'no' and '_____' which means '_____.' Hence, atheism in the most basic terms means 'no god.' **Basically, atheism is the lack of belief in a god and/or the belief that there is no god.** By contrast, theism is the belief that there is a God and that He is knowable. Most atheists do not consider themselves _____-theists. Most consider themselves as _____-theists. ^{SMJ1}

Many atheists claim that atheism is not a belief system while others say it is. Since there is no official atheist organization, nailing down which definition of atheism to use can be difficult. Following are some definitions offered by atheists themselves. ^{SMJ1}

- "An atheist is someone who believes and/or knows there is no god."
- "An atheist lacks belief in a god."
- "An atheist exercises no faith in the concept of god at all."
- "An atheist is someone who is free from religious oppression and bigotry."
- "An atheist is someone who is a free-thinker, free from religion and its ideas."

The American Atheist website defines an atheist as follows.

"An Atheist _____ and his fellow man instead of a god. An Atheist accepts that heaven is something for which we should work now – here on earth – for all men together to enjoy. An Atheist accepts that he can get no help through prayer, but that he must find in himself the inner conviction and strength to meet life, to grapple with it, to subdue it and to enjoy it. An Atheist accepts that only in a knowledge of himself and a knowledge of his fellow man can he find the understanding that will help lead to a life of fulfillment." – American Atheists (<http://www.atheists.org/about>)

Whichever definition you go by, atheism _____ God. But, in discussions with atheists it is very important to know what "kind" of atheist they are. Ask

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questions and see if they lack belief in God or actively believe there is no God. This way, you can better answer them according to their position. ^{SMJ1}

There are ___ main categories of atheists: _____ and _____, with variations in between. A strong atheist actively believes and states that no God exists. They expressly denounce the Christian God along with any other god. Strong atheists are usually more _____ in their conversations with theists and try to destroy pro-theistic arguments. They like to use logic and anti-biblical evidences to denounce God's existence. ^{SMJ1}

Weak atheists simply exercise no _____ in God. The weak atheist might be better explained as a person who lacks belief in God the way a person might lack belief that there is a green lizard in a rocking chair on the moon; the subject simply isn't an issue and they don't believe or not believe it. ^{SMJ1} This atheist states that he sees no evidence for God's existence and so does not believe in God and is even sometimes rather _____ about God, not knowing if God does or does not exist. ^{SMJ2}

Two Main Types of Atheistic Arguments

Atheist arguments seem to fall into ___ main categories. The first is the lack of evidence category where atheists assert that the supporting evidence isn't good enough for them to affirm God's existence. The second is the category where they believe that the idea of God existing is illogical and contrary to the evidence at hand. To simplify, one says there isn't enough evidence to decide and the other says there is evidence contrary to God's existence. For those atheists who simply lack belief and exercise no energy in the discussion, neither category applies because they are not involved in the debate. ^{SMJ1}

A typical argument posed by an atheist to show why God does not exist is as follows: God is supposed to be all good and all powerful. _____ and _____ exist in the world. If God is all good He would not want evil and suffering to exist. If He is all powerful then He is able to remove all evil and suffering. Since evil and suffering exist, God is either not all good (which means He is not perfect and not God), or He is not all powerful (and limited in abilities and scope). Since either case shows God is not all good and powerful, then He does not exist. ^{SMJ1}

The above example is typical, and answerable. First of all, God is also _____ and has given us the freedom to act on our own. If God is also just and has given us freedom, then we are responsible for our actions. If God is to stop all evil, then He would have to remove individual freedom. Therefore, it is not logical to conclude that God does not exist because there is evil in the world. ^{SMJ1}

There are other arguments answering the problem of evil (theodicy) answered in the section titled "Answers to Atheist Positions." ^{SMJ1}

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Some Basic Tenets of Atheism

_____ are important to us all. We look at the world through them. The atheist has a set of presuppositions, too. Though there is no definitive atheist organization that defines the absolutes of atheism, there are basic principles that atheists, as a whole, tend to adopt. They are listed below. Please note however, that not all atheists assert all of these tenets. The only absolute common one they hold to is that they do not believe in a God or gods. ^{SMJ1}

1. There is no God or devil.
2. There is no supernatural realm.
3. Miracles cannot occur.
4. There is no such thing as sin as a violation of God's will.
5. Generally, the universe is materialistic and measurable.
6. Man is material.
7. Generally, evolution is considered a scientific fact.
8. Ethics and morals are relative

For the Christian, atheism clashes with many aspects of our faith. Some atheists openly attack Christianity citing apparent contradictions in the Bible, perceived philosophical difficulties related to God, and what they consider as logical evidences against God's existence. But the atheists' criticisms are not without answers. Hopefully, the information in this lesson will help answer some of their claims and give reasons for believing in God. ^{SMJ1}

Answers to Atheist Positions

Atheists offer many _____ for denying God's existence and/or not believing in Him. Following is a list of many of their arguments with possible responses after each one. The answers are basic, yet to the point. These responses have been used in actual dialogues with atheists and they have proven effective. However, do not expect atheists to acknowledge that their position is illogical once you have demonstrated flaws in their thinking. You must remember that atheists are unsaved and, therefore, not regenerate. This means that sin has affected their minds. In theology we call this the noetic affect of sin. ^{SMJ1} (Noetic effect is simply the effect of sin on the mind.)

Your responsibility as a defender of the Christian faith is to give rational and biblical reasons in support of Christianity. This is not always easy and it does not always go very smoothly. But, if you have answers that you have studied for various objections, then you will be more likely to be able to refute their errors and adequately give a reason for your faith. ^{SMJ1}

1. There is no God
 - a. This is not a logical position to hold since "to know there is no God" means the person would have to know all things to know there is no God. Since he cannot know all things (if he did he would be God), then he cannot logically say there is no God. (See excerpt from "God Doesn't Believe in Atheists" below.)
2. I believe there is no God
 - a. To say "I believe there is no God" is a conscious choice. Then, on what do you base your choice: lack of evidence for God's existence, logic, faith, or a combination of the three?
 - i. If lack of evidence for God, then

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1. At best all you can say is that you have not seen sufficient evidence so far. It may very well be that there is evidence to demonstrate God's existence since you have not examined all evidence. Therefore, logically you must be agnostic in that you do not know if there is or is not sufficient evidence for God. (An agnostic does not know if there is or is not a God.)
2. What positive evidence is there that disproves God's existence?
 - a. This is not the best response because it is asking the atheist to prove that there is no God. This is equivalent to proving a negative which is almost impossible to do. In other words, how you prove that there are no invisible screaming blue ants ruling the planet Venus? You can't.
 - b. Nevertheless, sometimes I will ask the atheists for evidence of his position. My request is mainly for me to discover the intellectual depth of the atheists and I'm speaking with.
3. There can be no such evidence since evidence is physical in nature (evidence is an effect and/or result of something in reality). How could evidence disprove God's existence who is, by definition, the creator of reality and separate from it? (I am defending the Christian God as revealed in the Bible).
4. Please tell me what would be sufficient evidence?
 - a. Note that this is a very good request. A lot of times atheists will negate Christian evidences outright, without even examining them fairly. So, I ask them to tell me what would qualify as sufficient evidence. If the atheists cannot give me an answer to the question, then he has not thought through his atheism sufficiently. If he gives me an answer, then I cross examine his answer. Oftentimes, an atheist will say something like "if God parted the ocean" or "if God came down out of heaven and revealed himself to me," or "if God did something miraculous that could not explain," etc. My response is always the same. I challenge the atheist's objectivity. If there were such miraculous occurrences, wouldn't the atheist's presuppositions disallow them? If the ocean parted would he not say that it was a quirk of nature or a hallucination? If God revealed Himself from heaven to the atheist, how would the atheist know it was God? How would the atheist know that he is not, again, hallucinating? The atheists could easily deny miracles as being magical tricks. So, I attack the atheist's presupposition of naturalism (that all things occur due to natural laws of nature) and try and show him that he has stacked the deck against the evidence for God and that this is a choice made by him.
- ii. If logic then what logical proof do you have that negates God's existence?
 1. Logic can only disprove theistic proofs that are presented and negating such proofs is not a refutation of all possible proofs since no one can know or present all possible proofs of God's existence. Therefore, negation of proofs does not disprove God's existence.
 2. If there were a logical argument that proved that God did not exist, it has not yet been made known. If it were known then it would be in use by atheists. But since no proof of God's non-

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existence has been successfully defended by atheists, we can conclude that thus far, that there are no logical proofs that negate God's existence.

- iii. If by faith, then the position is not held by logic or evidence and is an arbitrary position which is something the atheists like to accuse Christians of.
 1. If by a combination of evidence, logic, and/or faith, then according to the above analysis, neither is sufficient to validate atheism.
- b. For someone to believe there is no God is to hold that belief by faith since there is no evidence that positively supports atheism and there are no logical proofs that God does not exist. Also, the atheists must negate evidences for God, but since he cannot know all evidences for God, then he must, by faith, conclude that no evidences exist.
 - i. This is done by induction. In other words, he has not experienced sufficient evidence for God's existence. Therefore he concludes that there is none. He has taken a very small portion of existence, namely his own, and tried to assert that in the whole of existence, there is no God. this is not a logical inference on his part.
 - ii. At best, all the atheist can do is say he has not seen sufficient evidence for God's existence and that he must logically remain agnostic since it is possible that such evidence exists and he simply has not discovered it yet.
3. There is no evidence for God
 - a. This is not a logical position to hold since to know there is no evidence for God's existence necessitates that the person knows all possible evidences for God's existence. Since he cannot do this (if he did he would be God), then he cannot logically say there is no evidence for God.
 - i. Note that this response is identical to the first one above.
4. I have not seen sufficient evidence for God's existence.
 - a. To say you haven't seen sufficient evidence for God's existence is a more intellectually honest position, but it is really a form of agnosticism which maintains that God is not known or knowable while admitting the possibility of God's existence.
 - b. If a person has not seen sufficient evidence for God, then it means he has not yet seen all evidence and there might be sufficient evidence. This would mean that God may indeed exist and the person really is an agnostic concerning God and his atheist position is inconsistent with his statement.
5. I lack belief in God.
 - a. To lack belief in God appears to be a defensive position since the assertive atheist positions are wrought with logical problems (shown above). If the atheist says he "lacks belief" in God, then it appears his goal is to maintain a position that is "unattackable" since by lacking belief, he lacks a position and has no position to attack.
 - i. The problem is that "lacking belief" in God is an intellectual position made by a choice to "lack belief." Therefore, it is a position since it is the result of a choice. Any position held, must have reasons or it is not a position. It would be nothing. The atheist who asserts that he lacks belief is asserting a position of lack of belief.
 - b. After a person has been exposed to a concept, he invariably categorizes the concept. He might accept it, rejected, or determine that he needs to learn more. Either way, a person once exposed to the concept does something with that concept. Therefore, to lack belief in God is actually a position that has been chosen by the atheist who uses this excuse.

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- c. My cat lacks belief in God as does my computer. Are they also atheists? Therefore, simply lacking belief is not a sufficient statement to describe the atheist position since it can include animals and inanimate objects.
 - d. If you say that "lacking belief" refers only to yourself as a human being, then see point A.
6. I don't believe in God.
 - a. Is this a choice you have made? If so, why? What made you not believe in God?
 - b. Is there a logical reason that you do not believe in God? Can you please tell me what it is?
 - i. This is a very good question to ask an atheist. His response could take you into many different directions. Be ready to listen well, think clearly, and respond politely to what he says.
7. Naturalism is true; therefore, there is no need for God.
 - a. Naturalism is the belief that all phenomena can be explained in terms of natural causes and laws. If all things were explainable through natural laws, it does not mean God does not exist since God is, by definition, outside of natural laws since He is the creator of those laws.
 - b. Some might say that if all things can be explained via natural laws, then it means there is no evidence for God.
 - i. But, can all things be explained by naturalism? No, because naturalism has not explained all phenomena known today, nor can we assert that all things in the future will be explained via naturalism because we do not know all phenomena that can and will occur. Therefore, it is not a fact that naturalism can explain all things. To say it can, is a statement of faith. Therefore, God is not negated via naturalism.
8. Evil is in the world, therefore God does not exist.
 - a. Aside from the discussion of what constitutes evil and what justifies an atheist to have a standard of morality, that which is called evil in the world may very well have a purpose. For example, the evil of sending Jesus to the cross resulted in the redemption of Christians. Therefore, we could see an example of an evil that has led to greater good. Furthermore, many philosophers and theologians have discussed this through the centuries and the common consensus is that to say that God does not exist because evil in the world is an invalid argument.
 - b. If evil in the world means that God does not exist, then does the existence of good in the world mean that God does exist?
 - c. By what criteria do you, an atheist, judge what is evil? At best, your atheism can only provide a relativistic moral system. You have no objective standard by which you can judge what is right or wrong. All you can do is say that you think something is evil or that you believe it is evil. At this point it becomes nothing more than your opinion of what evil is and why God does not exist because of what you define as evil.
 - i. Atheists often will raise such issues as murder, child-abuse, etc., as examples of evil in the world. At this point, it is best to admit that such things are evil but that you know they are evil because God, in the Bible, declares them to be such. Again, point out to the atheist that he has no standard by which to judge the morality of either the Bible or society.
9. I believe in one less God can you do.
 - a. Since I believe in only one God, and you believe in none, then that is a true statement. Nevertheless, it does not validate your atheism any more than me believing in one more God than you do.

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Consider items 1 and 3 above while you read Ray Comfort's words below from his book, "God Doesn't Believe in Atheists."

If I were to make an absolute statement such as, "There is no gold in China," what is needed for that statement to be proven true? I need absolute or total knowledge. I need to know that there is no gold in any rock, in any river, in the ground, in any store, in any ring, or in any filling in any mouth in China. If there is one speck of gold in China, then my statement is false and I have no basis for it. I need absolute knowledge before I can make an absolute statement. Conversely, for me to say, "There is gold in China," does not require that I have all knowledge. I just need to have seen a speck of gold in the country, and the statement is true.

To say categorically, "There is no God," is to make an _____ statement. For the statement to be true, I must know for certain that there is no God in the entire universe. No human being has all knowledge. Therefore, none of us is able to truthfully make this assertion.

The Existence of God

The Bible does not attempt to _____ the existence of God. Genesis begins by recognizing that He is: "In the beginning God..." Psalm 14:1 declares, "The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'" Hebrews 11:6 states emphatically that "anyone who comes to him [God] must believe that he exists." The Scriptures affirm what is universally experienced by people everywhere: There is a God. To say there is no Supreme Being – or to live that way – is to deny what is intuitively _____ by all (see John 1:9; Romans 1:19). The existence of God is so fundamental to human thinking that to abandon this conception is to embark upon a wild sea of irrationality that leaves us without meaning or purpose. ^{HSM1}

Although the Bible does not attempt to argue a case for God's existence, there are implications that support such arguments. Several classical _____ have been put forth from medieval days which, although limited in themselves, together provide intellectual confirmation and support to the truth of the Bible. They serve as "pointers." ^{HSM1}

Several of the classical arguments for the existence of God are listed below and discussed in more detail in this part of the lesson.

- Ontological (Being) Argument
- Universal Belief (or Common Consent) Argument
- Historical Argument
- Cosmological (Creation/Uncaused-cause) Argument
- Teleological (Design) Argument
- Aesthetic (Beauty) Argument
- Anthropological (Moral) Argument

We'll begin with an examination of the ontological argument.

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Ontological (Being) Argument

The word ontological is derived from the Greek word “ontos,” meaning “_____.”

This argument, briefly stated, is that the conception of a Perfect Being requires that Being to have a real existence, since if the idea of a Perfect Being does not have a genuine manifestation in actuality, it is less than perfect. Therefore, to conceive of a Perfect Being, namely God, it is a contradiction in terms not to believe that he truly exists.^{HSM1}

Be aware that this argument is often criticized as committing a bare assertion fallacy because it offers no supportive premise other than qualities inherent to the unproven statement.

Universal Belief (Common Consent) Argument

Belief in the _____ of God is practically as widespread as the race, although it is often found in perverted and grotesque form and overlaid with superstitious ideas. This position has been challenged by some who contend that there are some races absolutely devoid of the idea of God. But Jevons, an expert on the subject of races and comparative religions, says that this view, “as every anthropologist knows, has gone to the limbo of dead controversies ... all agree that there are no races however crude, which are destitute of all idea of religion.”^{PM1}

How did this universal belief originate? Most atheists seem to imagine that a group of clever theologians met in secret session, _____ the idea of God and then presented it to the people. But the theologians did not invent God any more than the astronomers invented stars, or the botanists flowers. To be sure, the ancients had wrong ideas about the heavenly bodies, but that did not disprove the existence of heavenly bodies. And if mankind has held distorted ideas about God, it implies that there was a God about whom they could have wrong ideas.^{PM1}

This universal knowledge did not necessarily come through _____ for there are reasoning men who deny God’s existence. But it is evident that the same God who made Nature with its beauties and wonders made man capable of looking through Nature and seeing its Creator. “Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead.” Rom. 1:19-20. God did not make the world without leaving hints, suggestions and tell-tale _____ of His handiwork. But “then they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.” Rom. 1:21. Sin marred their vision, they lost sight of God, and instead of seeing God through the creature they ignored Him and worshipped the creature; and so began idolatry. But even this proved that man was a worshipping creature who must have some object to worship.^{PM1}

What does the universal belief in God prove? That man’s nature is so constituted as to understand and appreciate that idea. As one writer has expressed it: “Man

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is incurably religious.” This deep-seated belief has produced “religion,” which in its broadest meaning includes: (1) The acceptance of the fact of the existence of a Being over and above the forces of nature. (2) A feeling of dependence upon God as controlling man’s destiny, this feeling of dependence being awakened by the thought of his own weakness and littleness and the mightiness of the universe. (3) The conviction that friendly intercourse can be effected and that in this union he will find security and happiness. Thus we see that man is naturally constituted to believe in God’s existence, to trust in His goodness and to worship in His presence. ^{PM1}

This “religious sense” is not found in the _____ creatures. For example, it would be vain to attempt to teach religion to the highest type of ape. But the lowest type of man may be taught about God. And why? The animal lacks a religious nature – is not made in God’s image; man has a religious nature and must have some object to worship. ^{PM1}

Historical Argument

The march of events in the world’s history gives evidence of an overruling Power and Providence. All the history of the Bible was written to _____ God in history, that is, to illustrate God’s workings in human affairs. “The principles of God’s moral government are exhibited in the history of nations as well as in the experience of men,” writes D.S. Clarke. (Psalm 75:7; Dan 2:21; 5:21.) “English Protestantism looks upon the defeat of the Spanish Armada as a Divine intervention. The settlement of America by Protestant immigrants saved it from the fate of South America and thereby saved the world for democracy. Who will deny that God’s hand is in all this?” “The history of mankind, the rise and fall of nations, like Babylon and Rome, show that progress accompanies the use of God-given faculties and obedience to God’s law, and that national decline and decay follow disobedience.” (D. L. Pierson.) A. T. Pierson, in his book, the New Acts of the Apostles, sets forth evidences of God’s overruling providence in modern missions. ^{PM1}

Cosmological (Creation/Uncaused-cause) Argument

The word cosmological is derived from the Greek word “cosmos,” meaning “_____.” ^{PM1}

The universe, as you might guess, is not self-existent. All events of which we are aware are dependent on some cause beyond the events themselves. If you push the causes back far enough, you will eventually come to a First Cause, a self-existent Being not dependent on anything else at all. ^{HSM1} Basically this argument states that there must be a final uncaused-cause of all things and this uncaused-cause is asserted to be God. ^{SMJ1}

Thomas Aquinas (1224-1274) had a version of the Cosmological Argument called the Argument from Motion. He stated that things in motion could not have brought themselves into motion but must be caused to move. There cannot be an infinite regression of movers. Therefore, there must be an Unmoved Mover. This Unmoved Mover is God. ^{SMJ1}

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Teleological (Design) Argument

The word teleological is derived from the Greek word “teleos,” meaning “_____ or _____.” ^{PM1}

The teleological argument uses the analogy of design; that is, the universe and life exhibit marks of design. Therefore, there must be a Designer. Other times, strict evidence is used to establish Christianity's validity. ^{SMJ1}

The amazing world uncovered by scientific inquiry discloses a remarkable, breathtaking orderliness in nature. The mathematical improbability of the marvels of living and nonliving structures just having occurred by chance drives the serious thinking person to a sense of awe and wonder at the Designer responsible for this amazing display. We can join our voices to the Psalmist who said: “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands” (Ps. 19:1). ^{HSM1}

Aesthetic (Beauty) Argument

This argument flows naturally from the cosmological argument and especially the teleological argument. The argument based on aesthetics or beauty asserts that people have a conception of relative values regarding beauty and an appreciation of it (however widely the standards may vary). This points in the direction of One who himself is the giver of beauty, and who is altogether lovely. (portions HSM1)

Design and beauty are _____ in the universe; but design and beauty imply a designer; therefore the universe is the work of a Designer of sufficient intelligence and wisdom to account for them. The great clock at Strasbourg, has, in addition to the regular features of a clock, a combination of moons and planets moving through the days and months with the accuracy of the heavenly bodies, with its groups of figures that appear and disappear with equal regularity as the great clock strikes the hour. To suggest that there was no designer and that this “just happened,” is to insult intelligence and reason. It is just as foolish to assume that the universe “just happened,” or, in scientific language, that it was due “to the fortuitous concourse of atoms.” ^{PM1}

Supposing the composition of Pilgrim's Progress were to be described as follows: the author took a carload of printer's type and with a shovel threw it into the air. When it fell to the ground it naturally and gradually resolved itself into Bunyan's famous story. The most pronounced unbeliever would say, “Ridiculous!” And so say we to the assumptions of atheism. ^{PM1}

Anthropological (Moral) Argument

The word anthropological is derived from the Greek word “anthropos,” meaning “_____.” ^{PM1}

The moral argument arises out of the innate sense of _____ and _____ with which every person is equipped. The existence of a great Lawgiver in the universe is the logical consequence of the awareness of morality. Even though

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standards of morality vary widely from culture to culture, there remains nonetheless the consciousness of moral values. ^{HSM1}

Man has a moral nature, that is, his life is regulated by conceptions of right and wrong. He knows there is a right course of action to be followed and a wrong course to be avoided. That knowledge is called “_____.” When he does right, conscience approves; when he does wrong, conscience condemns. Whether obeyed or not, conscience speaks with authority. Said Butler of the conscience: “Had it power as it has manifest authority it would govern the world; that is, if conscience had the power to enforce what it commands it would revolutionize the world.” But alas! Man has free will and therefore the power to disobey the inner voice. Even when misguided and unenlightened, conscience nevertheless speaks with authority, and makes man feel that he is a responsible being. “Two things fill my soul with awe,” declared Kant the great German philosopher. “The starry heavens above me, and the moral law within me.” ^{PM1}

What conclusion is drawn from this universal consciousness of right and wrong? That there is a Lawgiver who has designed a standard of conduct for man and has made man’s nature capable of understanding that standard. Conscience does not create the standard; it simply testifies to it, and registers either conformity or non-conformity. Who originally created those two mighty conceptions of Right and Wrong? God the Righteous Lawgiver! Sin has darkened the conscience and well nigh obliterated the law of man’s being, but at Sinai God engraved that law in stone that man might have a perfect law wherewith to direct his life. The fact that man understands this law and feels a responsibility, argues the existence of a Lawgiver who created him that way. ^{PM1}

And what conclusion may be drawn from the feeling of responsibility? That the Lawgiver is also a Judge who will reward the good and punish the wicked. He who imposed the law will finally vindicate that law. ^{PM1}

Week 9 Conclusion and Challenge

Some Christians have labeled atheists as evil, stupid, or morally void. Though there may be some atheists who fit these categories (as would many in the general population), atheists are not evil, stupid, degenerates with no morals. Many of them are fine citizens, honest, caring, loving, and patient. For a Christian, or anyone, to make a blanket statement about atheists in a derogatory manner is wrong. It is the same thing atheists sometimes do when they accuse Christians of being irrational, psychotic, or stupid. Such accusations have no place on either side of the argument of truth. ^{SMJ1}

As has been stated before, do not do apologetics for the purpose of winning an argument. You do apologetics out of obedience to God's command with the goal of leading someone to Christ. ^{SMJ1}

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Week 9 Challenge

The challenge for this week is to write down your answers to the review questions and bring them with you next week. Show me your answered review questions sheet next week and you will receive a nice award! I hope to see you all next week. Until then, I pray you have a blessed week.

Week 9 Review Questions

What is the basic definition of atheism?

What are the two main categories of atheists and what are their basic beliefs?

Name at least three of the basic principles that atheists, as a whole, tend to adopt.

Can a person confidently state that there is no God? Why or why not?

Name and describe at least three of the seven proofs (or strong indicators) of the existence of God.