

FAST FACTS[™] ON FALSE TEACHINGS

Ron Carlson
& Ed Decker



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CONTENTS

Why Defend the Faith?	7
1. Atheism	17
2. Buddhism	23
3. The Character of God	33
4. Evolution: The Incredible Theory	53
5. Freemasonry and the Masonic Lodge	71
6. Hinduism, Yoga, and Reincarnation	91
7. Islam	101
8. Jehovah's Witnesses: The Watchtower Bible and Tract Society	117
9. Jesus and the Cults	133
10. The Korean Messiah: Sun Myung Moon and the Unification Church	147
11. Mormonism: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	165
12. The New Age Movement	183
13. Prosperity Theology	195
14. Roman Catholicism	213
15. Satanism and the Occult Explosion	235
16. Transcendental Meditation	253

ATHEISM

IT IS PHILOSOPHICALLY IMPOSSIBLE to be an atheist, since to be an atheist you must have infinite knowledge in order to know absolutely that there is no God. But to have infinite knowledge, you would have to be God yourself. It's hard to be God yourself and an atheist at the same time! The Bible says in Psalm 14:1, "The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'"

The apostle Paul says in Romans 1:18-23,25:

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

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. 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....

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

God has clearly revealed Himself in four major ways, so that man is without excuse when it comes to the knowledge of God.

Revealed Through Creation

First, God has revealed Himself to us through what He has created. The Bible begins with the words “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Psalm 19:1 says, “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.”

While Ron was speaking at a university on the scientific evidence for creation, a student of physics said to him, “I don’t care what you say, I’m still going to believe in evolution!” Ron pulled up his shirtsleeve and showed him his wristwatch. Ron said, “You see this watch? I went down to a junkyard and found some rusty, twisted pieces of metal and threw them into a shoebox and began to shake it. I shook it for two weeks, two months, six months, twelve months, and all of a sudden, ‘bang!’ It began to tick off 60 seconds a minute, 60 minutes an hour, 24 hours a day; it tells the day and date all by chance. Amazing!”

The student laughed and said, “That’s impossible!” Ron replied, “You mean to tell me that this watch being created by chance is impossible, yet you tell me that my eyes, which see in 3-D and color, or my brain, which has 120 billion cells and 130 trillion electronic/chemical connections, are just a product of chance?”

We submit to you that it takes far more faith to believe in impersonal chance evolution than it does to believe in a divine Designer, who designed and created this incredible and intricate world we live in.

The Desire to Know God

We also know there is a God because God has put into the heart of every person a desire to know Him. Romans 1:18-25 makes it

clear that all people have an innate knowledge of God, but many have turned their backs to this knowledge and have rejected the revelation of God to follow *other gods*.

The fallacy of atheism is shown in the fact that when people declare “There is no God,” instead of worshiping nothing, they always find something to worship. Man has a spiritual desire for God which he will fill either with the true God or with false gods. This is universally observable, whether it is the wooden idols of primitive societies or the gods of success, money, and material possessions of so-called sophisticated civilizations.

God in Human History

We also know there is a God because God has broken into human history. God split history into B.C. and A.D. and has personally revealed Himself to us. “History” is literally “His story.”

Ron has had the privilege as a lecturer of traveling and speaking in over 75 countries of the world on six continents. One illustration that he uses is easily understood around the world in every culture. He tells the story of a father and son walking down a dirt path one day. They come upon an anthill that had been recently stepped on by another person in front of them. The little boy, who was only five years old, looked up to his daddy and said, “Daddy, wouldn’t it be great if we could go down and tell those ants we love them! Tell those ants we care about them and help them with their sick and wounded!”

The father put his arm around his son and said, “Son, the only way we could tell those ants that we love them, that we care for them, and that we want to help them with their sick and wounded would be to become an ant! We would have to live like an ant and talk like an ant, and then by our lives they would know what we are like!”

Two thousand years ago, God looked down on a world that He had created and that He loved. He said, “I want to tell you how much I love you!” How was God going to do this? God said, “I will become a man. I will live like a man and talk like a man, and by My

life they will know what I am like!” Two thousand years ago, the greatest event in human history took place: God became a man. His name was Jesus Christ! If you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus Christ. The Bible says in Colossians 1:15 that He is the visible image of the invisible God.

Jesus Christ is the “television set of God.” Right now as you read these words, there are actual television waves bouncing all around you! You cannot see them or hear them, but they are there. They are invisible, yet real. If you take a box called a television set and turn it on next to you, those invisible waves will become visible. You will see a picture and hear sound.

Two thousand years ago, God, who is invisible Spirit (John 4:24), became visible in the person of Jesus Christ! God the Creator of the universe took on human flesh and became a man so that we could both know what He is like and know Him personally. The greatest truth of history is that God has personally revealed Himself to us. He did not leave us alone in the universe, but has personally communicated to us, His creation!

Revealed in the Book

God has also revealed Himself to us through His Word, the Bible. Second Timothy 3:16 says, “All Scripture is God-breathed.” Second Peter 1:21 says, “Men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” The Bible has been translated into over 1800 languages and is consistently the number-one bestseller every year for a very good reason: It is recognized as a supernatural book, divinely inspired by the Creator and Redeemer of the universe. The supernatural imprint of God is evident to anyone who will truly examine this remarkable book.

First is the incredible unity and harmony of what is more than just one book. The Bible is actually the collection of 66 different books written by 40 different authors over a period of 1500 years. Yet we find that from Genesis to Revelation, God has given us a revelation of Himself and His desire for mankind that is a perfect unity and harmony. We challenge anyone who does not believe the

Bible to be a supernatural book to bring together any other 66 books of your choosing which were written by 40 different authors over 1500 years and find the consistency and unity of theme and purpose that you have in the Holy Bible.

The Bible's integrity is also verified by its historical, geographical, and archaeological accuracy. One of the truly awe-inspiring evidences that it is God's book is demonstrated by the hundreds of fulfilled prophecies given through the inspired prophets.

The Bible is God's love letter to you. God has taken the initiative to tell you that He loves you and wants to have a personal relationship with you! The message of the Bible and God's revelation to mankind is summed up in the best-known verses of the Bible, John 3:16,17:

For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world through Him might be saved (NKJV).

Atheism is not a valid philosophy. It is intellectually bankrupt and demonstrates a willful denial of all that God has revealed. It is the very denial of the world around us and all the stars in the heavens.