



# AREOPAGUS PROCLAMATION

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knowledge itself, or about whether you even actually exist? **7)** Is it possible that your skepticism is based on pride or on a lack of effort to resolve it?

**18)** Have you ever considered the fact that Christianity is the only religion whose leader is reported to have risen from the dead? **19)** How do you explain the empty tomb of Jesus given the fact that credentialed scholars have countered every single attempt to refute it, e.g. the swoon theory, hallucination theory, stolen body hypothesis, etc.? **20)** How can one realistically discount the eyewitness testimony of over 500 witnesses to a living Jesus following His crucifixion (see 1 Corinthians 15:6)? **21)** How do you explain David's graphic portrayal of Jesus' death by crucifixion in Psalm 22, written 600 years or more previous to crucifixion ever even being used as a form of capital punishment?

**22)** Why does the Bible alone, of all of the world's sacred literature, contain hundreds and hundreds of meticulously fulfilled prophecies? **23)** How did 40 men of many varied professions, over a period of 1,500 years, and living on three separate continents, ever manage to author one unified message, i.e. the Bible? **24)** How is it reasonable to doubt the reliability of Scripture considering the fact that the number of copies of Bible manuscripts and their proximity to the original manuscripts far exceeds that of all other ancient literature? **25)** How do you account for the vast ongoing archaeological documentation of the accuracy of Bible stories, places, and people?

**26)** Why were/are so many brilliant scientists, dead and alive, men and women of strong Christian faith?

**27)** Because earth and life origins are observable, verifiable, or falsifiable, how does so-called historical science amount to anything more than just another faith system? **28)** How is the Second Law of Thermodynamics reconcilable with modern progressive naturalistic evolutionary theory? **29)** If you are nothing more than the random assembly of molecules over vast eons of time, and if you will therefore soon cease to exist, why care about anything? Why go on?

## Twenty-Nine Questions for Sincere Skeptics

by Daryl E. Witmer

*It's not only Christians who have an obligation to defend their belief system. Skeptics of the Christian worldview also have some questions to answer. In fact, considering all of the evidence, it very well might require more faith to stand outside the circle of Christian belief. So in this revised version of two previous issues published in July & August of 1999, we challenge those of you who are not yet convinced of the truth of Christianity, to thoughtfully respond to the following 29 questions.*

- 1)** What would it take to persuade you to become a believer? **2)** If you could be persuaded that Christianity is true, would you become a Christian?
- 3)** Do you believe that it's absolutely true that all truth is relative, or that it's only relatively true that absolute truth exists? **4)** On what ground do you (or anyone else) stand to objectively answer the previous question?
- 5)** Would you agree that one can be legitimately persuaded about what is true on the basis of a preponderance of evidence, not just on the basis of 100% empirical proof? **6)** Are you only skeptical about Christianity, or are you unsure about just how many gods you doubt, about the reality of

your unbelief in a perfect God is the result of some negative experience that you've had with imperfect Christians?

- 9)** If every effect has a cause, who or what caused the cosmos? **10)** From whence derives humanity's universal moral sense? **11)** Please explain how personality could have evolved from impersonal matter, or how order and the irreducibly complex components of life could have resulted from chaos. **12)** Are you able to live consistently and happily with every aspect of your present worldview and skepticism?

**"I spent a long time trying to come to grips with my doubts, and suddenly I realized that I had better come to grips with what I believe. I have since moved from the agony of questions that I can not answer to the reality of answers that I cannot escape. And it is a great relief."**  
—former NYC gang leader Tom Skinner

**13)** Wouldn't it make better sense to live as though the God of the Bible exists rather than to live as though He doesn't, just in case He does?

**14)** In what sense was Jesus a 'Good Man' if He was lying in His claims to be God? **15)** Most people are unwilling to write off Jesus' claims to be God as mere self-delusion, pathological lying, early-on rumors that got out of hand, or the idea that He was an alien first-century avatar. But if none of those postulates are realistic, how *would* you explain His claims? **16)** How do you explain how one man with no formal education, who was virtually untraveled, and died at age 33, is still today radically affecting lives and society?

**17)** If Jesus' resurrection was faked, why would 11 intelligent middle-aged men (Jesus' disciples) have willingly died for what they knew to be a lie?

**More Evidence in Defense and Confirmation of the Christian Faith**