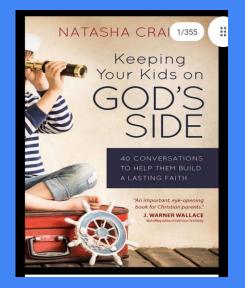
### Keeping Your Kids On God's Side



40 Conversations To Help Them Build A Lasting Faith

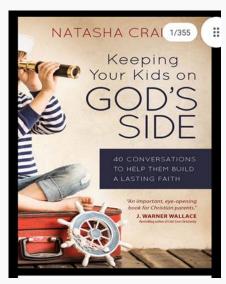


### **REMINDER**

#### OBJECTIVES

- Encourage the Church to equip themselves with answers to the difficult faith questions
  - AND
- Encourage parents to talk to their children about these topics to prepare them for the world

#### **SOURCE MATERIAL**



### Grassroots Apologetics/Answers for Parents

#### What is Apologetics?

- But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect - <u>1 Peter 3:15 NIV</u>
- We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ, - <u>2 Corinthians 10:5 (ESV)</u>

#### What is this program?

- 40 Hot Topic conversations
- Short overview of Answers to the difficult questions

#### What this is NOT

- Scripted final full answers
- Continued self education is needed

## PART 2 - Conversations About Jesus - Question Seventeen

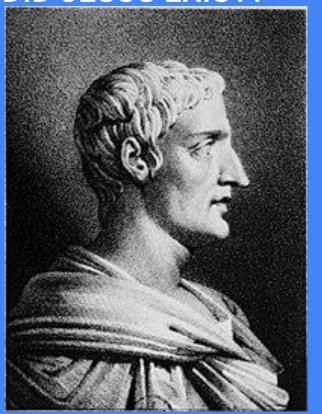
17. HOW DO WE KNOW JESUS EXISTED?

1) THE CLAIM

- NOT REALY CONSIDERED TAKEN FOR GRANTED
- THE MYTHICISTS (RICHARD CARRIER)
- JUST A MYTH. THERE IS NO RELIABLE EVIDENCE THAT
  JESUS EVEN EXISTED, AND SIGNIFICANT EVIDENCE THAT HE
  DIDN'T. THE EVIDENCE IS IN THE BIBLE, THE OTHER
  RELIGIONS OF THE TIME, THE LACK OF WRITINGS ABOUT
  JESUS BY ANY HISTORIANS OF THE 1ST CENTURY (NONCHRISTIAN SOURCES), AND THE LACK OF WRITINGS ABOUT
  JESUS BY ANYONE UNTIL A DECADE OR MORE AFTER HIS
  SUPPOSED LIFE (CHRISTIAN SOURCES).
- A COPYCAT RELIGION
- MOST SCHOLARS REJECT THIS POSITION
- GAINING TRACTION THANK YOU INTERNET?



- FLAVIUS JOSEPHUS (AD 37-100)
- JEWISH HISTORIAN NOT A BELIEVER
- BEST KNOWN WORK ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS
- SO HE ASSEMBLED THE SANHEDRIN OF JUDGES AND BROUGHT BEFORE THEM THE BROTHER OF <u>JESUS</u>, <u>WHO WAS CALLED CHRIST</u>, WHOSE NAME WAS JAMES.



- CORNELIUS TACITUS (AD 56-117)
- FIRST CENTURY ROMAN SENATOR
- HISTORY OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE THE ANNALS (AD 14-68)
- HENCE TO SUPPRESS THE RUMOR, HE (NERO) FALSELY CHARGED WITH THE GUILT, AND PUNISHED CHRISTIANS, WHO WERE HATED FOR THEIR ENORMITIES (OUTRAGEOUS, **EXTREME WICKEDNESS).** CHRISTUS, THE FOUNDER OF THE NAME, WAS PUT TO DEATH BY PONTIUS PILATE, PROCURATOR OF JUDEA IN THE REIGN OF TIBERIUS: BUT THE PERNICIOUS (GRADUALLY HARMFUL EFFECT) SUPERSTITION, REPRESSED FOR A TIME BROKE OUT AGAIN, NOT ONLY THROUGH JUDEA, WHERE THE MISCHIEF ORIGINATED, BUT THROUGH THE CITY OF ROME ALSO, WHERE ALL THINGS HIDEOUS AND SHAMEFUL FROM EVERY PART OF THE WORLD FIND THEIR CENTER AND BECOME POPULAR.



- PLINY THE YOUNGER (AD 61-112)
- ROMAN GOVERNOR PROLIFIC LETTER WRITER
- LETTER TO EMPEROR TRAJAN (AD 112)
- SUBJECT: CHRISTIANS AND THEIR CRIMES?
- THEY WERE IN THE HABIT OF MEETING ON A CERTAIN FIXED DAY BEFORE IT WAS LIGHT, WHEN THEY SANG IN ALTERNATE VERSES A HYMN TO CHRIST, AS TO A GOD, AND BOUND THEMSELVES BY A SOLEMN OATH, NOT TO ANY WICKED DEEDS, BUT NEVER TO COMMIT ANY FRAUD, THEFT OR ADULTERY, NEVER TO FALSIFY THEIR WORD, NOR DENY A TRUST WHEN THEY SHOULD BE CALLED UPON TO DELIVER IT UP; AFTER WHICH IT WAS THEIR CUSTOM TO SEPARATE, AND THEN REASSEMBLE TO PARTAKE OF FOOD—BUT FOOD OF AN ORDINARY AND INNOCENT KIND."
- TRAJAN'S RESPONSE CLEAR THAT BEING A "CHRISTIAN" SUFFICIENT FOR JUDICIAL ACTION.

### Phlegon Phlegon

Predicted the Future

Jesus Rose After Death

Showed Signs of Crucifixion

DID JES

1) THE CL 2) NON-C Bar-Serapion

Wise King Jews Wanted Dead Teachings Remain

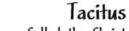


Suetonius Jesus A Real Man

Called the Christ
Caused Jewish Disturbance

#### Celsus

Allegedly Born of a Virgin Father a Carpenter Had Miraculous Power



Called the Christ Followers Christians Executed Under Pilate



Pliny the Younger Followers Thought He Was God

#### Josephus

Wise Man His Followers Reported Resurrection

### Thallus

Jesus lived Jesus was Crucified Darkness and Earthquake



#### Talmud

Executed the Day Before the Passover Had Magical Power

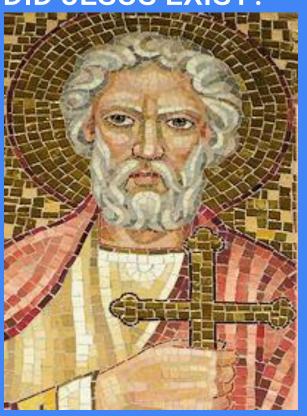
Testimony Related to Jesus

- 1) THE CLAIM
- 2) NON-CHRISTIAN SOURCES
- 3) CHRISTIAN SOURCES

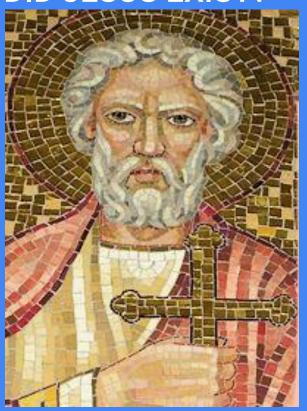
- THE NEW TESTAMENT
- ALL 29 BOOKS
- o 4 GOSPELS
- BOOK OF ACTS
- ONE APOCALYPTIC
- o 23 LETTERS



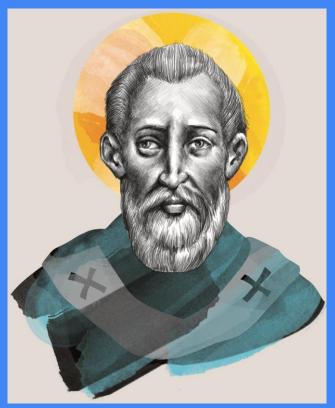
- CLEMENT OF ROME (AD 96)
- WROTE A LETTER TO THE CORINTHIANS (1 CLEMENT)
- ADDRESSES A DISPUTE OVER CHURCH LEADERSHIP
- URGED READERS TO REMEMBER THE WORDS OF JESUS



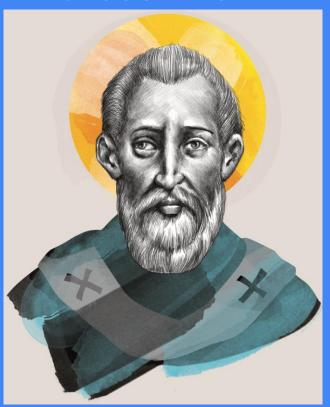
- IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH
- A DISCIPLE OF JOHN, BISHOP OF ANTIOCH
- (ANTIOCH: SEE ACTS 11-19-26)
- WAS MARTYRED IN ROME
- SERIES OF LETTERS



- IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH
- A DISCIPLE OF JOHN, BISHOP OF ANTIOCH
- (ANTIOCH: SEE ACTS 11-19-26)
- WAS MARTYRED IN ROME
- WROTE A SERIES OF LETTERS ON HIS WAY TO ROME
- IT IS NOT THAT I WANT MERELY TO BE CALLED A CHRISTIAN, BUT TO ACTUALLY BE ONE. YES, IF I PROVE TO BE ONE, THEN I CAN HAVE THE NAME... COME FIRE, CROSS, BATTLING WITH WILD BEASTS, WRENCHING OF BONES, MANGLING OF LIMBS, CRUSHING OF MY WHOLE BODY, CRUEL TORTURES OF THE DEVIL—ONLY LET ME GET TO JESUS CHRIST!



- POLYCARP OF SMYRNA (AD69 155)
- LAST SURVIVING PERSON TO KNOW AN APOSTLE
- WAS A DISCIPLE OF JOHN
- LETTER: EPISTLE OF POLYCARP TO THE PHILIPPIANS
- BEFORE HIS MARTYRDOM AT AGE AT LEAST 86



- POLYCARP OF SMYRNA (AD69 155)
- LAST SURVIVING PERSON TO KNOW AN APOSTLE
- WAS A DISCIPLE OF JOHN
- LETTER: EPISTLE OF POLYCARP TO THE PHILIPPIANS
- BEFORE HIS MARTYRDOM AT AGE AT LEAST 86
- FATHER, I BLESS YOU THAT YOU HAVE DEEMED ME WORTHY OF THIS DAY AND HOUR, THAT I MIGHT TAKE A PORTION OF THE MARTYRS IN THE CUP OF CHRIST... AMONG THESE MAY I TODAY BE WELCOME BEFORE THY FACE AS A RICH AND ACCEPTABLE SACRIFICE.

- 1) THE CLAIM
- 2) NON-CHRISTIAN SOURCES
- 3) CHRISTIAN SOURCES
- 4) CONCUSION

- LIFE OF JESUS AN HISTORICAL FACT
- https://chab123.wordpress.com/2012/03/28/quotes-on-theexistence-jesus/



- LIFE OF JESUS AN HISTORICAL FACT
- https://chab123.wordpress.com/2012/03/28/quotes-on-theexistence-jesus/
- Denying the existence of Jesus doesn't make him go away. It merely proves that no amount of evidence will convince you.
   LEE STROBEL

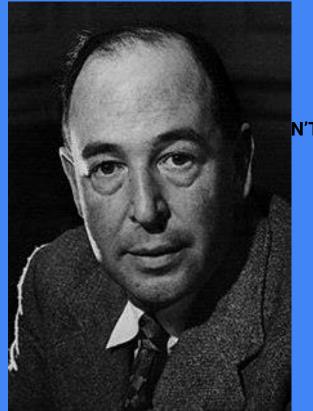
## PART 2 - Conversations About Jesus - Question Eighteen

17. HOW DO WE KNOW JESUS EXISTED?

18. DID JESUS REALLY CLAIM TO BE GOD?

1) SURVEY

- 2008 SURVEY OF 3,000 AMERICAN TEENAGERS:
- A GOD EXISTS WHO CREATED AND ORDERED THE WORLD AND WATCHES OVER HUMAN LIFE ON EARTH.
- GOD WANTS PEOPLE TO BE GOOD, NICE, AND FAIR TO EACH OTHER, AS TAUGHT IN THE BIBLE AND BY MOST WORLD RELIGIONS.
- THE CENTRAL GOAL OF LIFE IS TO BE HAPPY AND TO FEEL GOOD ABOUT ONESELF.
- GOD DOES NOT NEED TO BE PARTICULARLY INVOLVED IN ONE'S LIFE EXCEPT WHEN HE IS NEEDED TO RESOLVE A PROBLEM.
- GOOD PEOPLE GO TO HEAVEN WHEN THEY DIE
  - MORALISTIC THERAPEUTIC DEISM



- WHAT IS THE CAUSE?
- EITHER JESUS WAS GOD OR HE WASN'T
- IF HE WAS, CHRISTIANITY IS TRUE
- CHRISTIANITY, IF FALSE, IS OF NO IMPORTANCE, AND IF TRUE, OF INFINITE IMPORTANCE. THE ONLY THING IT CANNOT BE IS MODERATELY IMPORTANT.

  C.S. LEWIS
- LACKED CONVICTION JESUS IS GOD
- FUNDAMENTAL BUILDING BLOCK

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 1. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE YAHWEH
- EXODUS 3:14: MOSES ASKED GOD HIS NAME, AND GOD REPLIED, "I AM WHO I AM"
- JOHN 8:58: "TRULY, TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, BEFORE ABRAHAM WAS, I AM."
- THERE ARE TWO CLAIMS
- EXISTED BEFORE ABRAHAM
- SAID I AM (YAHWEH)
- VERSE 59 STONE HIM FOR BLASPHEMY
- SEE ALSO MARK 14;62 & JOHN 18:5-6

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 1. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE YAHWEH
- 2. JESUS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE SAME UNIQUE RIGHTS AS GOD

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 2. JESUS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE SAME UNIQUE RIGHTS AS GOD
- THE RIGHT TO FORGIVE SINS (MARK 2:5)
- THE RIGHT TO RAISE AND JUDGE THE DEAD JOHN (5:25-27)
- THE RIGHT TO BE HONOURED LIKE GOD (JOHN 5:23)
- GIVE ABUNDANT AND ETERNAL LIFE (JOHN 10:10; 17:4)

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 1. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE YAHWEH
- 2. JESUS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE SAME UNIQUE RIGHTS AS GOD
- 3. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE MESSIAH

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE MESSIAH
- CLAIMED TO BE THE SON OF MAN, USED IN DANIEL 7.
- MARK 14:61-64, JESUS TRIAL HE IS ASKED BY THE HIGH PRIEST, "ARE YOU THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE BLESSED?" JESUS ANSWERED, "I AM, AND YOU WILL SEE THE SON OF MAN SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, AND COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN." AND THE HIGH PRIEST TORE HIS GARMENTS AND SAID, "WHAT FURTHER WITNESSES DO WE NEED? YOU HAVE HEARD HIS BLASPHEMY. WHAT IS YOUR DECISION?" AND THEY ALL CONDEMNED HIM AS DESERVING DEATH

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 1. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE YAHWEH
- 2. JESUS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE SAME UNIQUE RIGHTS AS GOD
- 3. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE MESSIAH
- 4. JESUS CLAIMED HIS WORDS HAD AS MUCH AUTHORITY AS GOD'S WORD

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 4. JESUS CLAIMED HIS WORDS HAD AS MUCH AUTHORITY AS GOD'S WORD
- "YOU HAVE HEARD THAT IT WAS SAID... BUT I SAY TO YOU..." IS REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES IN SCRIPTURE (FOR EXAMPLE, SEE MATTHEW 5:21-22).
- MATTHEW 5:18 "TRULY, I SAY TO YOU, UNTIL HEAVEN AND EARTH PASS AWAY, NOT AN IOTA, NOT A DOT, WILL PASS FROM THE LAW UNTIL ALL IS ACCOMPLISHED."
- "HEAVEN AND EARTH WILL PASS AWAY, BUT MY WORDS WILL NOT PASS AWAY" (MATTHEW 24:35).
- HE HAD ALL AUTHORITY MATTHEW 28:18-19

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 1. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE YAHWEH
- 2. JESUS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE SAME UNIQUE RIGHTS AS GOD
- 3. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE MESSIAH
- 4. JESUS CLAIMED HIS WORDS HAD AS MUCH AUTHORITY AS GOD'S WORD
- 5. JESUS ACCEPTED WORSHIP

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 5. JESUS ACCEPTED WORSHIP
- OT WORSHIP ONLY GOD AND HIM ALONE
- (SEE EXODUS 20:1-5; DEUT 5:6-9)
- THE MAGI WORSHIPPED HIM (MATTHEW 2:11)
- THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY (MATTHEW 21:9; JOHN 12:13)
- AFTER JESUS WALKED ON WATER, THE DISCIPLES WORSHIPPED HIM. (MATTHEW 14:33)
- AFTER HIS RESURRECTION (MATTHEW 28:8-9; MARK 16:1; LUKE 24:10)
- DOUBTING THOMAS (JOHN 20:28)
- OTHER SCRIPTURES: MATTHEW 8:2; 9:18; 15:25; 20:20; JOHN 9:38)

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

- 1. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE YAHWEH
- 2. JESUS CLAIMED TO HAVE THE SAME UNIQUE RIGHTS AS GOD
- 3. JESUS CLAIMED TO BE THE MESSIAH
- 4. JESUS CLAIMED HIS WORDS HAD AS MUCH AUTHORITY AS GOD'S WORD
- 5. JESUS ACCEPTED WORSHIP
- 6. JESUS ACCEPTED PRAYER IN HIS NAME

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS

#### 6. JESUS ACCEPTED PRAYER IN HIS NAME

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it" (John 14:13-14)

"If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you" (John 15:7)

"I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6)

- 1) SURVEY
- 2) EITHER HE WAS OR HE WASN'T
- 3) SIX POINTS
- 4) CONCLUSION

- HE DIDN'T SAY I AM GOD
- THESE SIX POINTS CLAIM THROUGH ACTION
- DID THE DISCIPLES BELIEVE HE WAS GOD?

## PART 2 - Conversations About Jesus - Question Nineteen

17. HOW DO WE KNOW JESUS EXISTED?

18. DID JESUS REALLY CLAIM TO BE GOD?

19. DID JESUS' FOLLOWERS REALLY BELIEVE HE WAS GOD?



- GROWING IN GRACE MINISTRY IN MIAMI FLORIDA
- JOSE LUIS DE JESUS MIRANDA
- CLAIM HE WAS "JESUS CHRIST THE MAN
- EMBODIED THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

- 1) FALSE CHRIST
- 2) LIFE AND MINISTRY

- 1. DURING JESUS' LIFE AND MINISTRY
- CALMED THE SEA (MATTHEW 8)
- "WHAT MAN IS THIS THAT THE WINDS AND SEA OBEY HIM?"
- PETER CALLED HIM "THE CHRIST" (MARK 8)
- PETER REBUKED JESUS FOR SAYING HE WOULD DIE
- PHILIP: "SHOW US THE FATHER AND THEN IT WILL BE ENOUGH"
- SEE JESUS SEE GOD
- BUT THE RESURRECTION CHANGED EVERYTHING

- 1) FALSE CHRIST
- 2) LIFE AND MINISTRY
- 3) THE RESURRECTION

- 2. AFTER THE RESURRECTION
- JOHN: CREATOR OF THE UNIVERSE (JOHN 1:1, 3, 14)
- THOMAS: "MY LORD AND MY GOD" (JOHN 20:28)
- PAUL /APOSTLES: JESUS FORGIVER OF SINS (COLOSSIANS 3:13; 1 JOHN 1:9; ACTS 2:38)
- DISCIPLES CLAIMED JESUS WAS GOD
- THEY HAD SEEN HIM AFTER HIS RESURRECTION,
- MARTYRED MOST OF THEM
- NOT ONE EVER RECANTED THEIR BELIEF.

- 1) FALSE CHRIST
- 2) LIFE AND MINISTRY
- 3) THE RESURRECTION
- 4) **CONCLUSION**

IF ANYTHING THE FACT THAT THE DISCIPLES WERE UNCLEAR OF WHO JESUS WAS DURING HIS MINISTRY AND THEN RADICALLY PROCLAIMED HIM AS GOD AFTER THE RESURRECTION IS PROOF FOR WHAT HAPPENED, NOT EVIDENCE AGAINST IT.

## PART 2 - Conversations About Jesus - Question Twenty

17. HOW DO WE KNOW JESUS EXISTED?

18. DID JESUS REALLY CLAIM TO BE GOD?

19. DID JESUS' FOLLOWERS REALLY BELIEVE HE WAS GOD?

20. WHY DID JESUS NEED TO DIE ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS?

1) THE CLAIM



WE WOULD AGREE THAT A TRIBE THAT TOOK A VIRGIN AND TOSSED HER INTO A VOLCANO TO APPEASE THE WRATH OF THE GODS AND BRING BLESSING IS ABSOLUTELY RIDICULOUS AND CRUEL. YET CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE A PURE HEARTED VIRGIN BEATEN TO AN INCH OF DEATH AND THEN NAILED TO A CROSS AS A BLOOD SACRIFICE TO APPEASE THEIR GOD'S WRATH, WHICH HAPPEN TO ALSO BE THE FATHER OF THIS INNOCENT MAN. THIS IS COSMIC CHILD ABUSE!

- 1) THE CLAIM
- 2) THREE POINTS

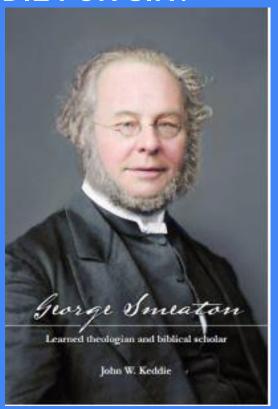
- 1. SIN IS REAL AND IS A MAJOR PROBLEM
- a. SIN IS REAL: IT IS A TRANSGRESSION AGAINST DIVINE LAW
- b. SIN IS A PROBLEM THAT NEEDS A SOLUTION: WHEN WE SIN IT CUTS US OFF FROM GOD.



- 1. SIN IS REAL AND IS A MAJOR PROBLEM
- 2. GOD IS JUST

IF GOD IS SO LOVING AND WANTS TO FORGIVE US, WHY DOESN'T HE SIMPLY FORGIVE US LIKE WE CAN FORGIVE OUR CHILDREN FOR THEIR MISTAKES WITHOUT TORTURED EXECUTION?

- RICHARD DAWKINS
- ANSWER: GOD IS PERFECTLY JUST



- 1. SIN IS REAL AND IS A MAJOR PROBLEM
- 2. GOD IS JUST

THE ONLY POSITION WHICH CAN BE LAID DOWN AS TO THE CRIMINALITY OF SIN IS THIS: THE GUILT OF THE OFFENCE IS PROPORTIONED TO THE GREATNESS, THE MORAL EXCELLENCE, AND GLORY OF HIM AGAINST WHOM THE OFFENCE IS COMMITTED, AND WHO MADE US FOR LOYAL OBEDIENCE TO HIMSELF. NOTHING ELSE THEREFORE COMES INTO CONSIDERATION IN ESTIMATING THE ENORMITY OF SIN BUT THE INFINITE MAJESTY, GLORY, AND CLAIMS OF HIM AGAINST WHOM WE SIN.

- CHRIST'S DOCTRINE OF THE ATONEMENT GEORGE SMEATON

- 1) THE CLAIM
- 2) TO ANSWER

- 1. SIN IS REAL AND IS A MAJOR PROBLEM
- 2. GOD IS JUST
- 3. GOD HAS CHOSENT TO JUSTLY FOGIVE
- UNIQUE POSITION
- OFFENDED PARTY AND THE JUDGE
- UNIQUE POSITION TO ABSOLVE OF GUILT
- JESUS AND GOD WORKED TOGETHER
- MARK 8:31; MARK 10:45; JOHN 10:18; JOHN12:27

- 1) THE CLAIM
- 2) TO ANSWER
- 3) WHY A BLOOD SACRIFICE?

IF WE ACKNOWLEDGE SIN FOR THE PROBLEM THAT IT IS (CUTTING US OFF FROM GOD), AND WE KNOW THE PENALTY FROM A JUST GOD FOR OUR SIN IS DEATH, WE BEGIN TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE SACRIFICE OF JESUS (GOD HIMSELF PAYING THE PENALTY) IS MORE THAN A OLD TRIBALISTIC BLOOD THIRST. IT WAS THE ULTIMATE ACT OF LOVE TO THOSE WHO ACCEPT IT.

- 1) THE CLAIM
- 2) TO ANSWER
- 3) WHY A BLOOD SACRIFICE?



deconstructiongirl There are no comebacks for this one.

I imagine some of you may say "Well, no, because Jesus and God are one. So it wasn't child sacrifice." Okay. Then why did Jesus have to die?

In Christ God was reconciling the world to himself. (2 cor. 5:19)  Jesus is God the Son, not a biological son.

"Though he was in the form of God . . he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross."

(Phil. 2:6-8)

 Jesus was a willing participant, not a passive victim.

"No one takes it from me, but(1) lay it down of my own accord."

(John 10:18)

 Jesus' sacrifice shows his self-sacrificial love.

"God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

(Rom. 5:8)

Jesus' death is an act of self-sacrifice, not child sacrifice.

-Mr. B