



Stuff to Talk About with a Religious Friend Ignoring Science

7/5/15

Stuff to Do

See the notes and listen to the mp3 of *The Art of Persuasion* (ten things to do from Acts 15-17) from 6/21/15 (these can be found on our website) and check out this passage:

1 Peter 3:13 And who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good?

¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, **you are blessed**.

And **do not fear** their intimidation, and do not be troubled,

¹⁵ but **sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts**,

always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with **gentleness and reverence**;

¹⁶ and **keep a good conscience** so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

Stuff to Remember

1. I am just reminding them of what they know

Romans 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who **suppress the truth** in unrighteousness,

¹⁹ because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.

²⁰ For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse.

²¹ For even though they knew God, they did not honor Him as God, or give thanks; but they became futile in their speculations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

2. Everyone lives by faith

²² Professing to be wise, they became fools,

²³ and **exchanged the glory of the incorruptible God** for an image in the form of corruptible man and of birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures.

3. Distrust of God is a moral choice (not an intellectual problem)

²⁴ Therefore **God gave them over in the lusts of their hearts to impurity**, that their bodies might be dishonored among them.

4. Everyone worships

²⁵ For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and **worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator**, who is blessed forever. Amen

Stuff we Learned Last Week from our Journey through Acts

Acts 17:16 Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, **his spirit was being provoked** within him as he was beholding the city full of idols.

¹⁷ So **he was reasoning** in the synagogue with the Jews and the God-fearing *Gentiles*, and in the market place every day with those who happened to be present

Acts 17:22 And Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects.

²³ "For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, 'TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.' What therefore you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.

²⁴ "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;

²⁵ neither is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all life and breath and all things;

²⁶ and He made from one, every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times, and the boundaries of their habitation,

²⁷ that they should seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

²⁸ for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His offspring.'

²⁹ "Being then the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

³⁰ "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all everywhere should repent,

³¹ because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

Stuff to Talk About

10. **Time** (an infinite succession of moments)

a timeless creator

9. **Stuff** (matter, energy and space)

a timeless, supernatural creator

8. **Tweaked Stuff** (the fine tuning of the universe)

a timeless, supernatural, intelligent creator

7. **Life** (a cell with it's hardware and software programs)

a timeless, supernatural, intelligent, living creator

6. **Organs** (the development of organs without new genetic information / fossils)

a timeless, supernatural, intelligent, living creative creator

5. **The image of God** (personality, morality and the innate knowledge of God)

a timeless, supernatural, intelligent, living, creative, personal creator

4. **Jesus** (prophesies, life, sinlessness, sacrificial character, resurrection)

a timeless, supernatural, intelligent, living, creative, personal, sacrificial creator

3. **The explosion of the early church** (the sacrificial lives of eye witnesses;
began at the empty tomb; no time for legends to develop)

2. **The Bible** General and prophetic accuracy
Claims inspiration and condemns lying
The lives of the writers
The unity of the writings
The internal witness of the image of God

1. **My transformed life** (my testimony)

More Stuff to Talk About

The great apologetic: the love of the church

Jesus said: "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35)

The goal of the conversation: Share the gospel using gospel passages (John 3, Romans 3, Corinthians 15, Galatians 3, Ephesians 2, Philippians 3, etc. Help in using these passages is found on our website and hard copies in the lobby)

Share websites like these where they can get further help with their questions:

ReasonableFaith.org

Apologetics315.com

Once they trust Jesus do life with them and **help them grow using, *How to Grow***, found on our website and hard copies in the lobby.

Some Objections to Talk About

- 1. The existence of evil** (a good, all powerful God)
- 2. The evils done in the name of Christianity** (crusades, child abuse, materialism, hypocrisy)
- 3. Miracles** (doesn't science disprove miracles?)
- 4. The accuracy and transmission of the Bible**
- 5. "The Bible teaches digressive, offensive, politically incorrect things"**