

Why Science Doesn't Weaken My Faith

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SOUTHERN ADVENTIST

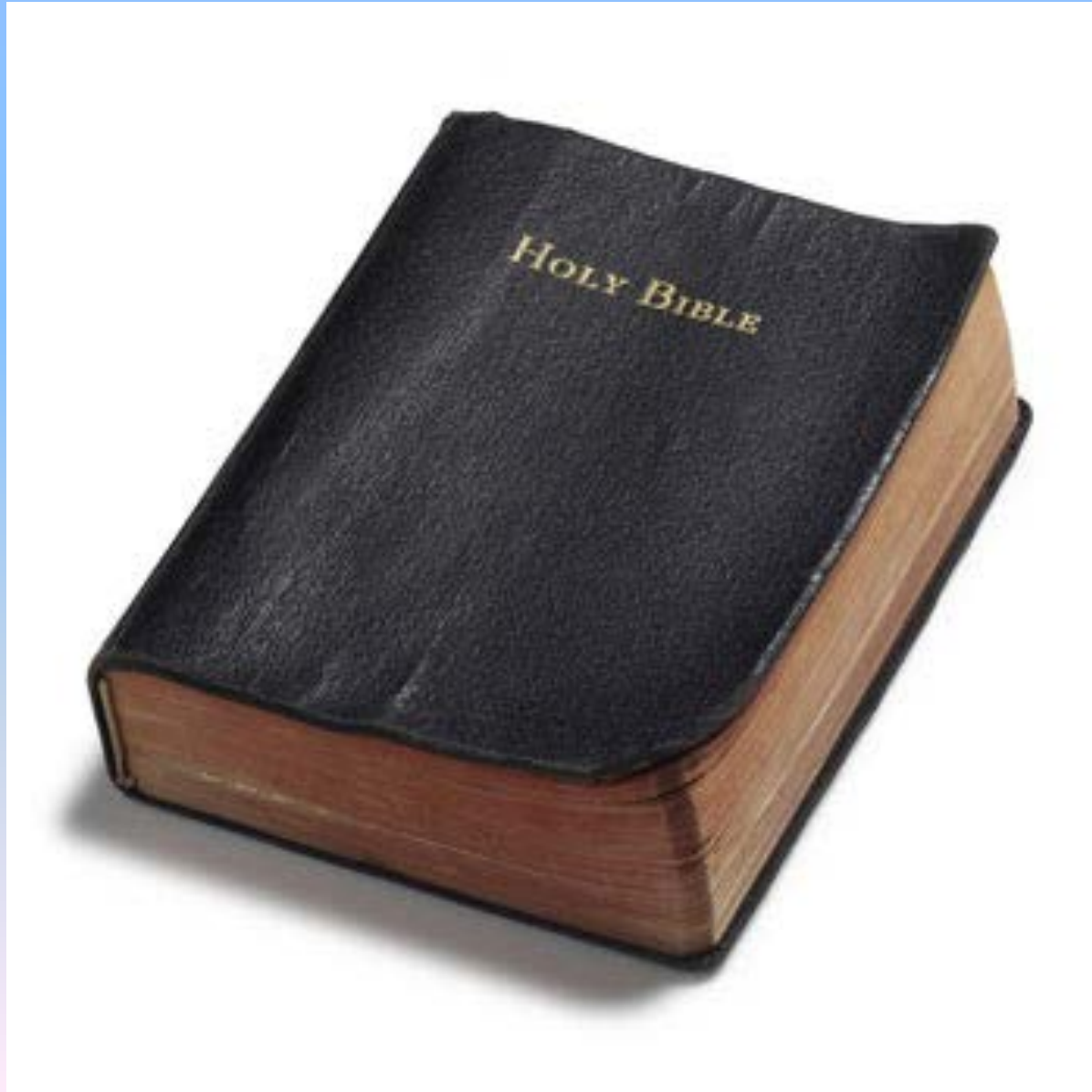
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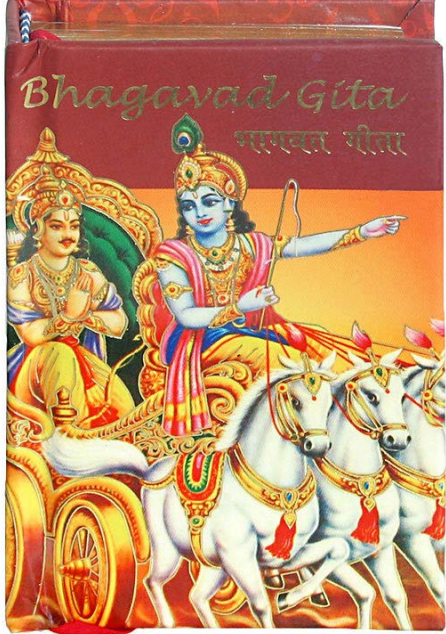
EASEA SYMPOSIUM

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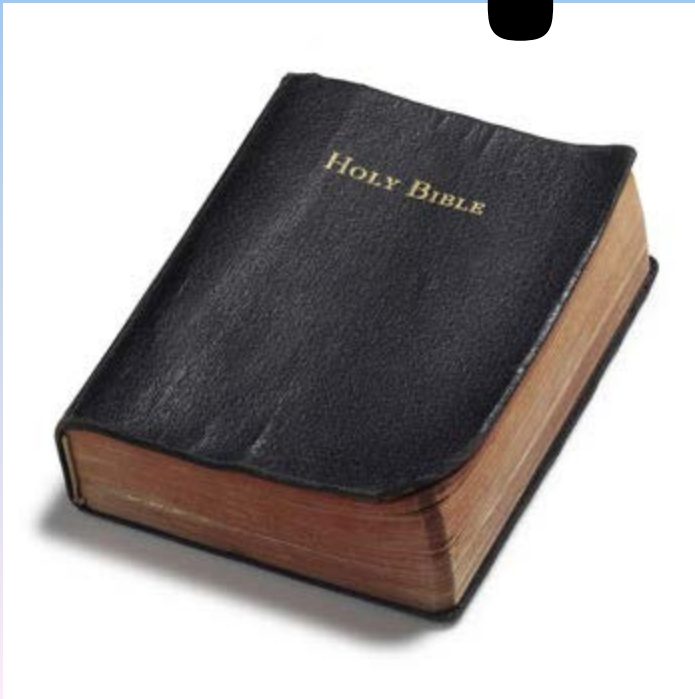
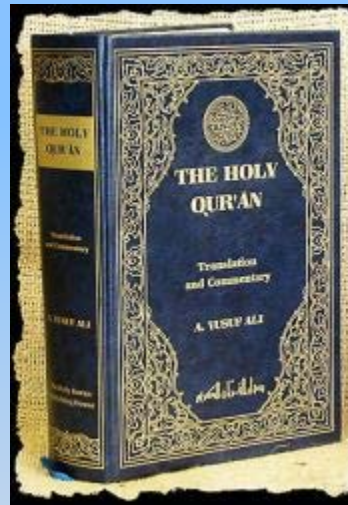
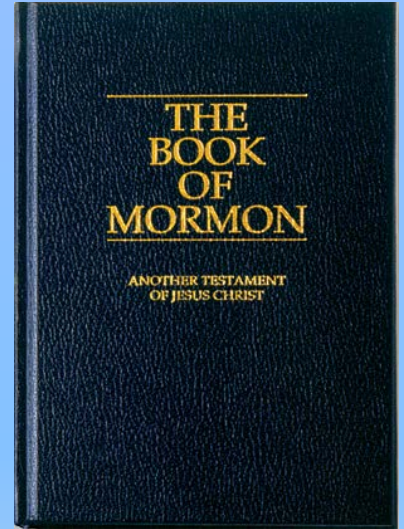
**Confessions
of a former
agnostic**

Proof Texts!

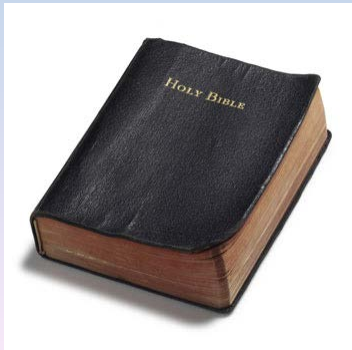
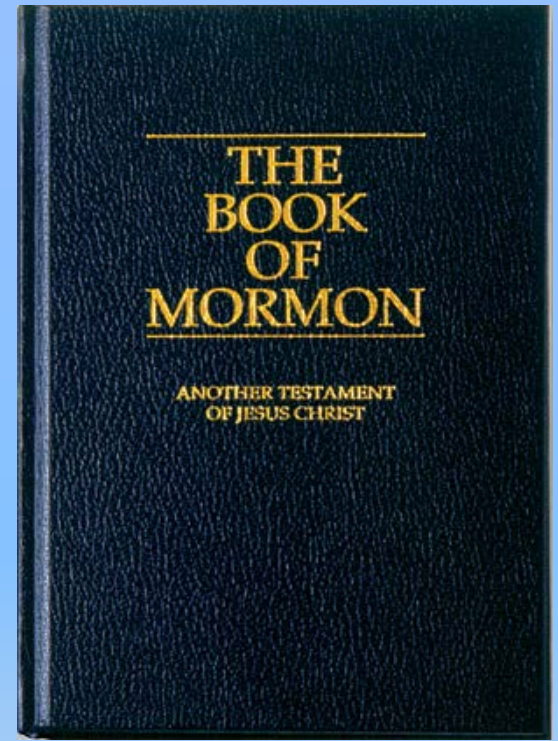
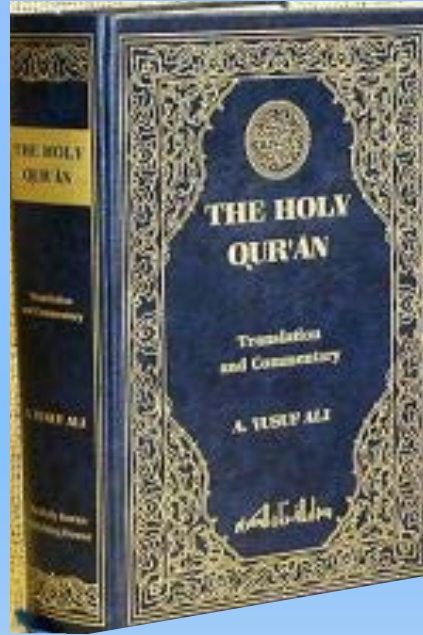
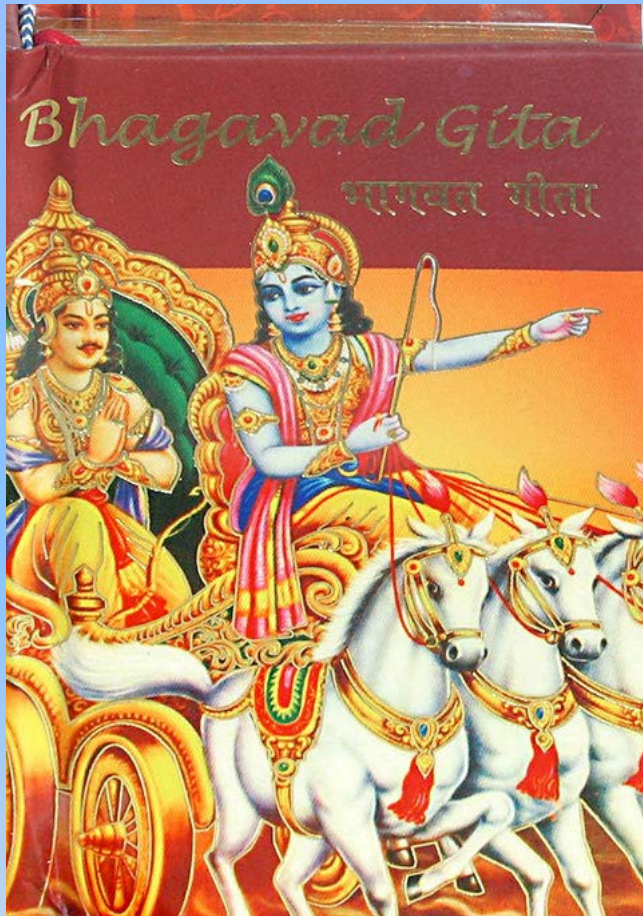




Holy Scriptures?

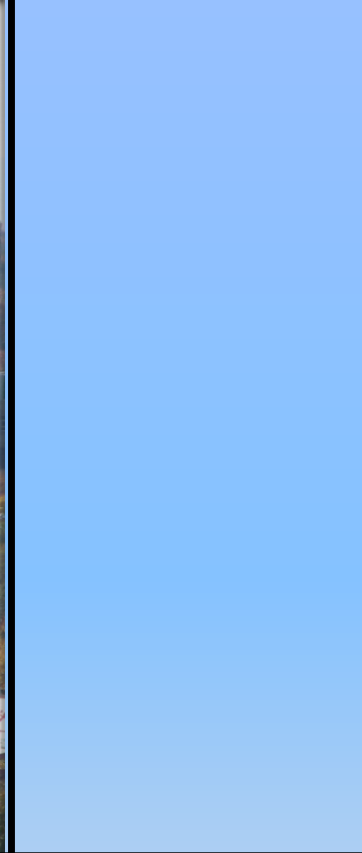


Holy Scriptures?



Proof!





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THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD

HERE ARE THE FACTS. WHAT CONCLUSIONS CAN WE DRAW FROM THEM?

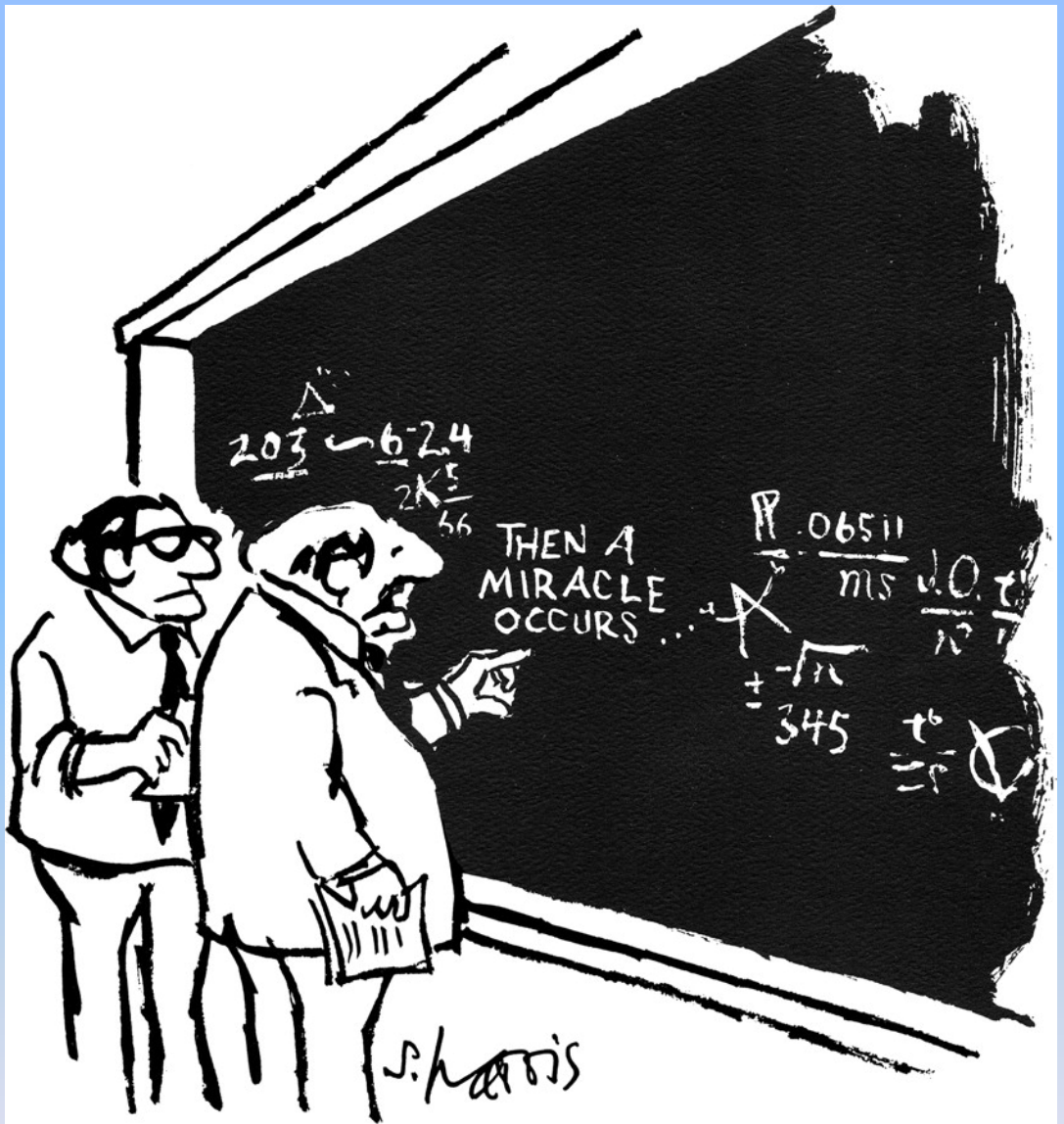


THE CREATIONIST METHOD

HERE'S THE CONCLUSION. WHAT FACTS CAN WE FIND TO SUPPORT IT?



GOD OF THE GAPS

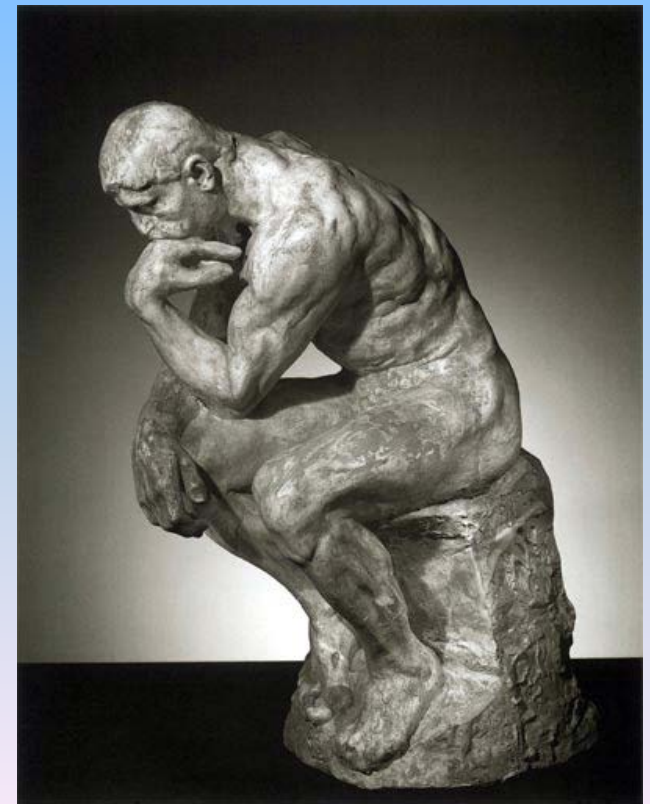


"I THINK YOU SHOULD BE MORE EXPLICIT HERE IN STEP TWO."

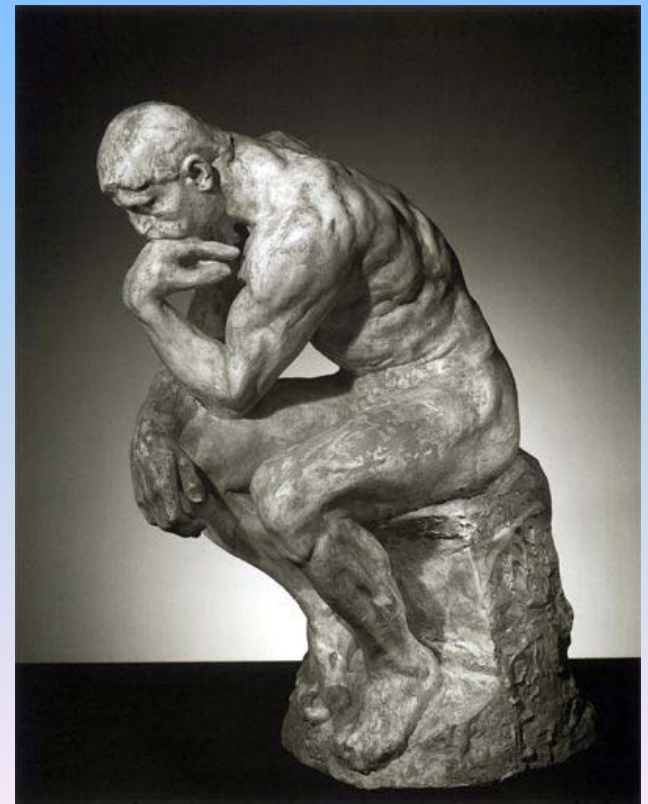
A memory ...



A memory ...

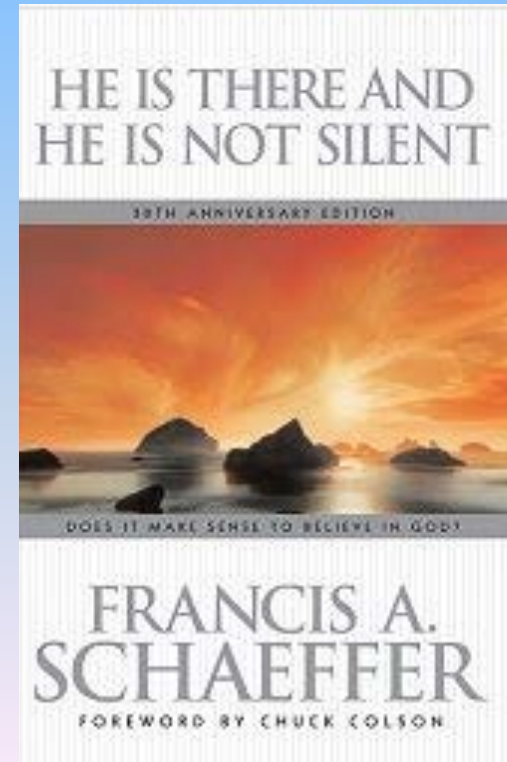
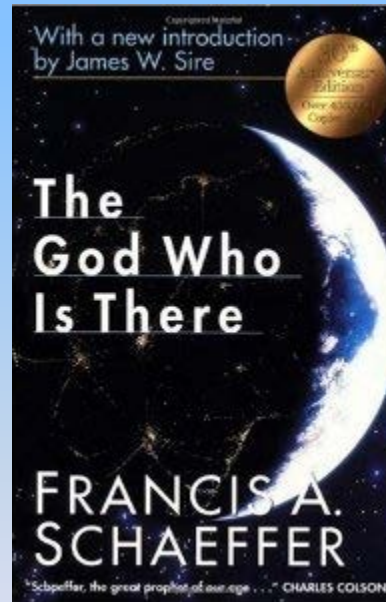
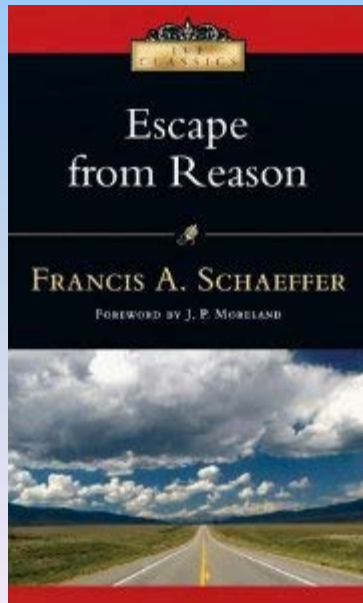
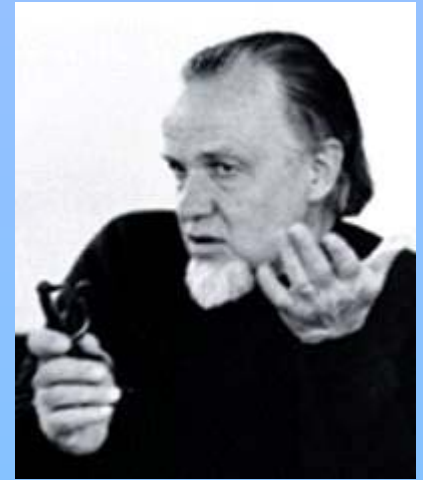


A memory ...

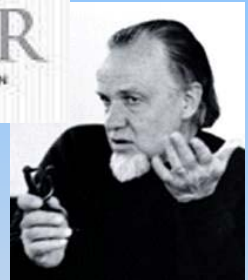
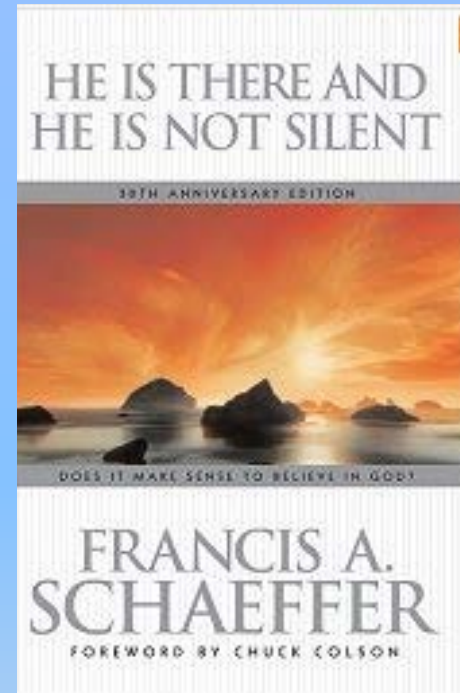


Francis Schaeffer

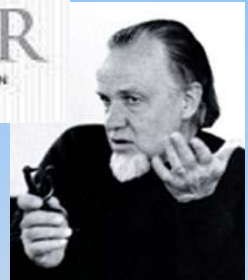
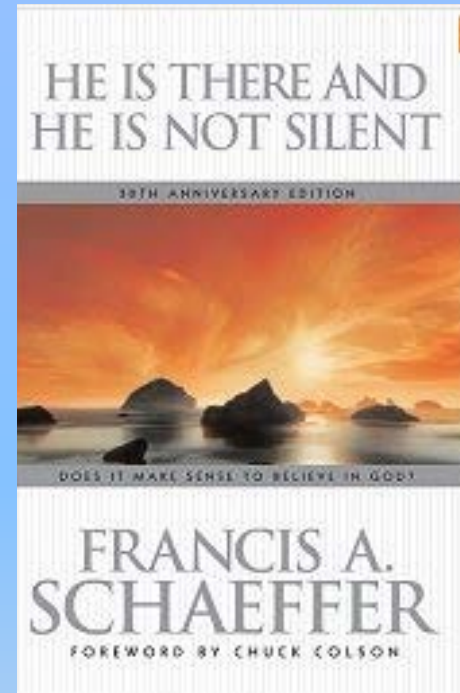
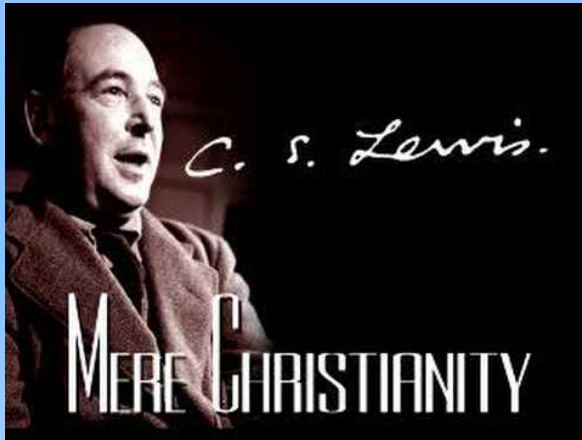
- “Apostle to the Intelligentsia”
- Believing in God makes sense!



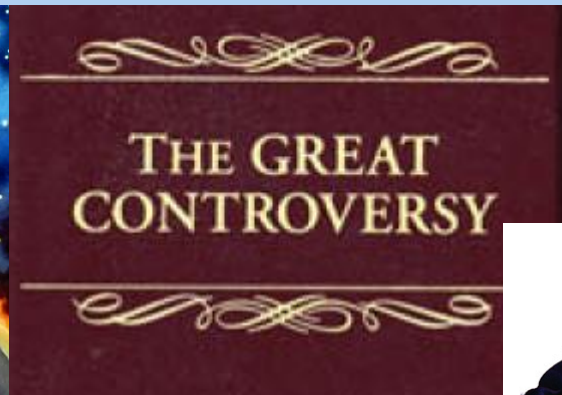
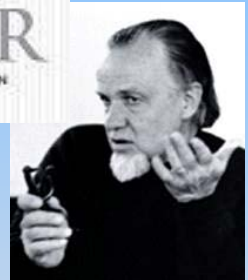
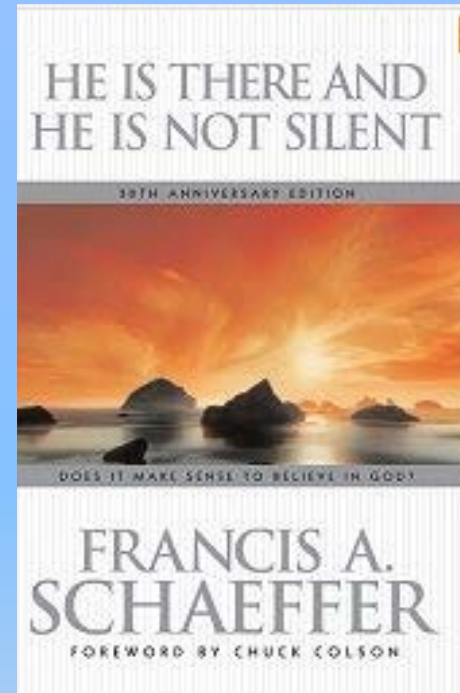
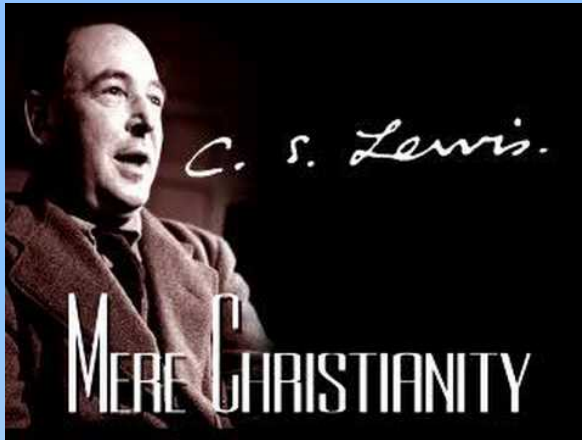
I'm back!



I'm back!



I'm back!

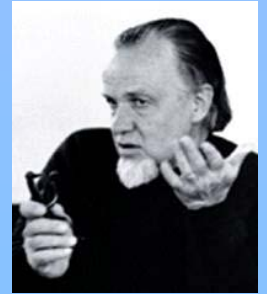


Science doesn't shake my faith

- Having an explanation \neq No need for God
- Biblical worldview is most logical explanation
- Materialism doesn't explain fundamentals
- Education \neq Unbelief,
- Religion \neq Ignorance
- Science doesn't "disprove" religion
- Science is actually **based** on the Christian worldview

Science based on Christian Worldview

- *“Christianity was needed for the beginning of modern science.”*



--Francis Schaeffer

- *“Christianity was absolutely necessary for the rise of modern science.”*

--Eric V. Snow

- *“The rise of modern science cannot be explained apart from the Christian view of nature.”*

--Nancy Pearcey

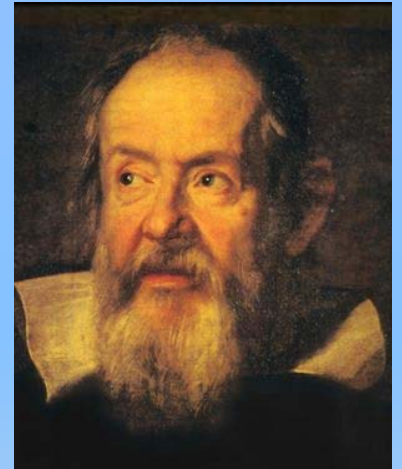
Science based on Christian Worldview

- One God, eternal, changeless
 - No squabbling pantheon of gods
 - No capricious divinities
- God of Order
 - designed Nature to operate according to logical, comprehensible laws
- Creator of both Man and Nature
 - made Man in His image, creative and having the ability to understand the logical works of God

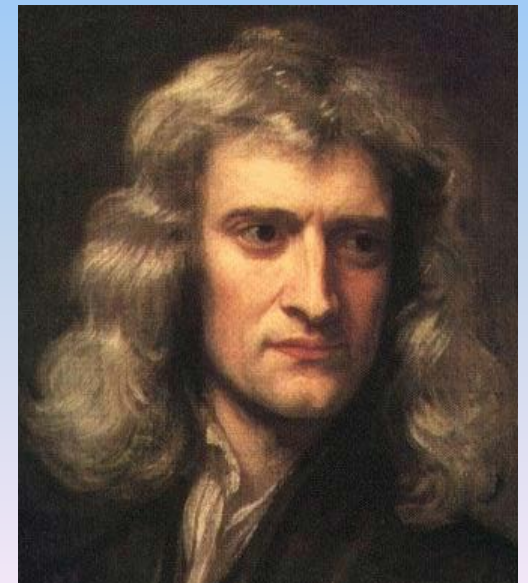
Quotes from Scientific Pioneers:



- **Nicholas Copernicus**
- **Galileo Galilei**
- **Johannes Kepler**
- **Sir Isaac Newton**



- ...
- ...
- ... !



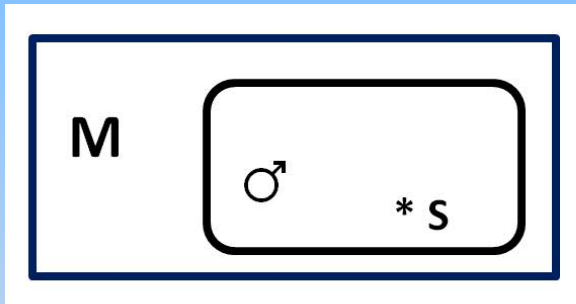
How can science shake my faith in God,

- when science may owe its existence to the Christian worldview?
- when great scientists saw their study as honoring God?
- when materialism doesn't provide adequate answers to the meaning of life, the universe, and everything?

The Incompleteness of Logic & Reason

- Logical thought:

Deduction:



- All men are mortal.
- Socrates is a man.
- ∴ Socrates is mortal.

proof

Induction:

... It's always worked
this way before!

(= SCIENCE!)

Pattern

Problems with Induction

- Generalizations cannot be proven by repeated testing
 - Merely give a possible answer, never provide proof
 - Our data is always taken from a limited subset, so a counterexample could appear at any time
 - Science is inductive, all this applies!

Twin Problems with Deduction

- Must start with unproven Axioms
 - No deductive system can prove its own assumptions (which includes its axioms and rules for proving)
 - Requires FAITH at a fundamental level
- Mathematical Game?
 - Arbitrary choice of assumptions
 - Relativism, no absolute truth

The Bottom Line

Inductive logic, like science, gives possible explanations, not proof.

Deductive logic, to even state a hypothesis, requires induction (or revelation)

Logic requires Faith

TRUTH

- We can now PROVE that some True statements are unprovable.
- **GÖDEL'S THEOREM**
- Logic proves its own limits
 - Still very useful, but within limits
- Faith is essential, reason is not enough

Are all worldviews equally good?

- See where it leads!

... by their fruits

Matthew 7:16-20 (NASB)

¹⁶ You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn *bushes* nor figs from thistles, are they?

¹⁷ So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.

¹⁸ A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

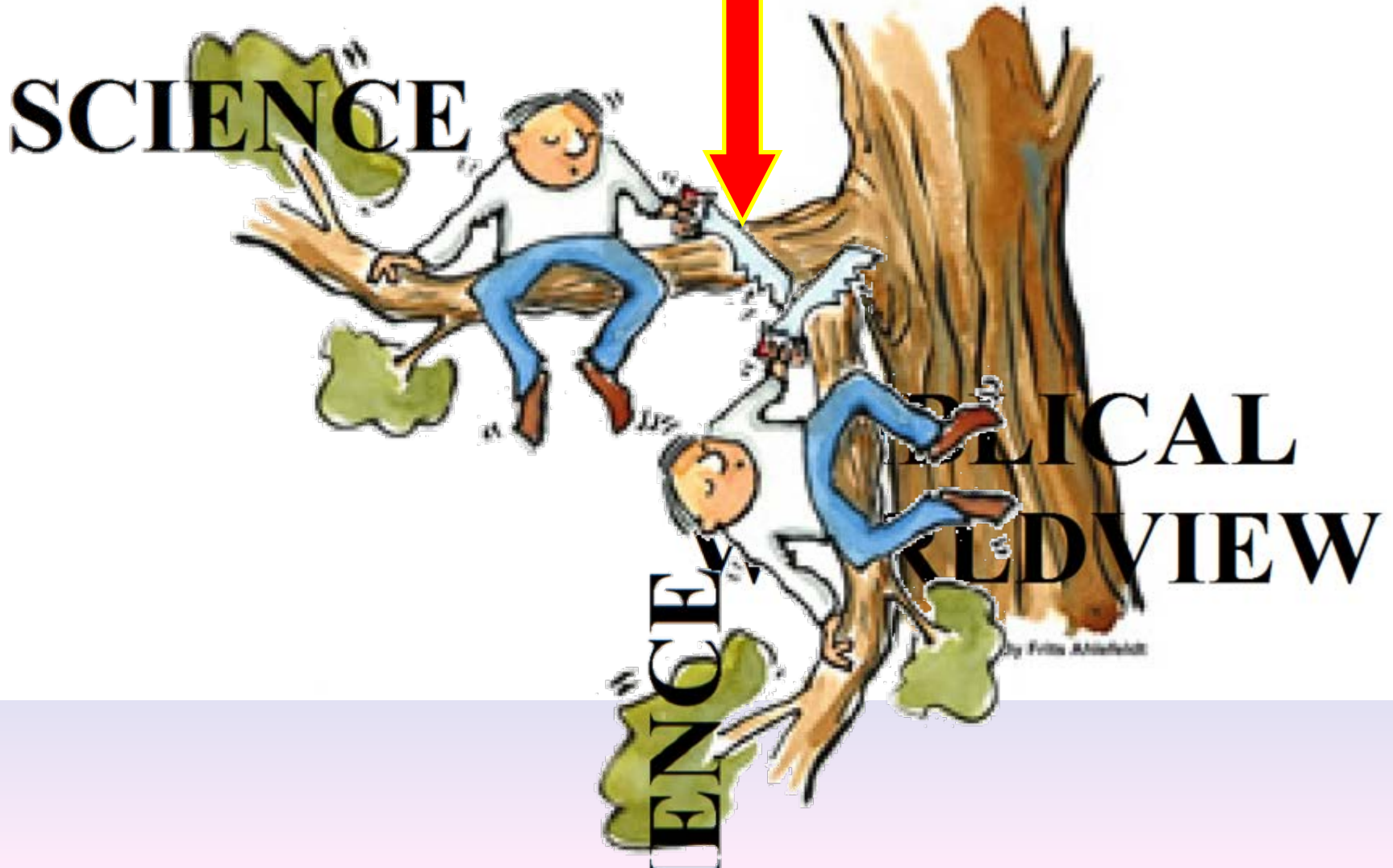
¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

²⁰ So then, you will know them by their fruits.

The Downfall of Materialism

- In an atheistic materialistic universe, all is determined or chaotic/probabilistic
- Meaningless
- Thought becomes meaningless
- Belief in materialism is self-contradictory

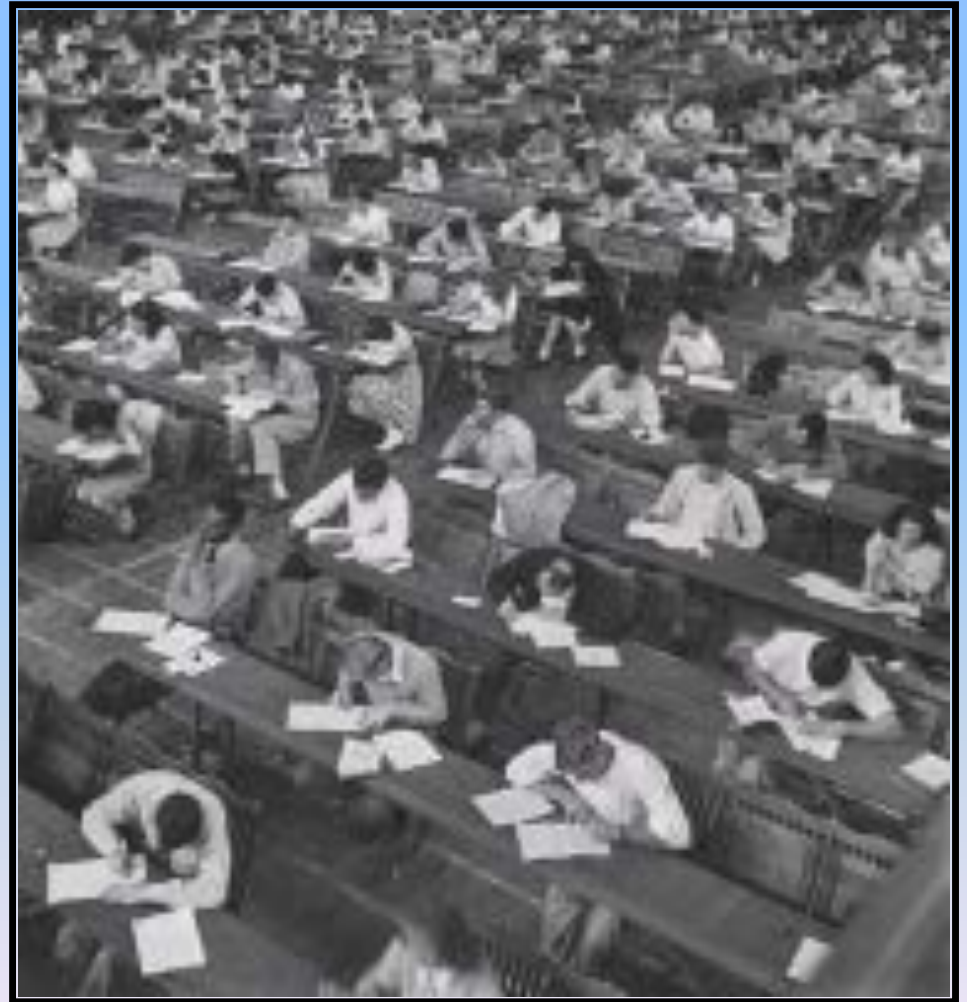
Atheistic Materialism



Back to my story...

- Studied for myself:
- Belief in God is logical!
- My previous doubt was due to...

Peer Pressure



EGW, Steps to Christ, pp. 109-110:

God desires man to exercise his reasoning powers; and the study of the Bible will strengthen and elevate the mind as no other study can. Yet we are to beware of deifying reason, which is subject to the weakness and infirmity of humanity.

EGW, Steps to Christ, pp. 109-110:

... to all eternity men may be ever searching, ever learning, and yet never exhaust the treasures of His wisdom, His goodness, and His power.

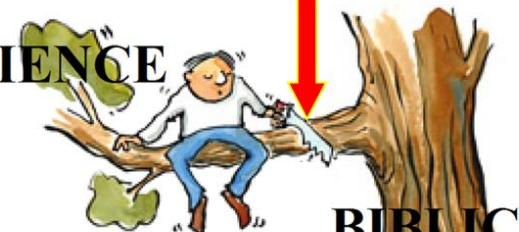
Thank you for listening!



Questions?

Atheistic Materialism

SCIENCE



BIBLICAL
WORLDVIEW

By Fritz Allhoff