

# THE WHY SERIES

A BIBLICAL RESPONSE TO THE GREAT QUESTIONS OF LIFE

Hebrews 11:1

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:  
**THE EVIDENCE FOR FAITH**

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:  
**Apologetics, Answers, Faith, Reason, Hope, Discipleship**

**Dr. Richard Dawkins Video**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S0tyRvSIEH4>

**Believe it or not, tonight we're going to be talking about the most important topic in all of life's existence.**

**We're going to be talking about faith** and how every human being possesses faith, exercises faith and that the faith that possesses you is the faith that animates you. Your faith is as powerful as the object in which it is placed.

## Supporting Scriptures & Citations

**Hebrews 11:1**

Now **faith** is the **substance** of things hoped for,  
(faith) the **evidence** of things not seen.

**2 Corinthians 4:18**

So we fix our eyes not on what is **seen**, but on what is **unseen**,  
since what is **seen** is **temporary**, but what is **unseen** is **eternal**.

**2 Corinthians 5:7**

For we **walk** (journey, move, live) by faith, not by sight.

## “The Controversy of Faith.”

Every human being, by nature is a faith-based individual.

[https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/peter\\_singer\\_471296](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/peter_singer_471296)

*What is faith? If you believe something because you have evidence for it, or rational argument, that is not faith. So faith seems to be believing something despite the absence of evidence or rational argument for it.*

*- Peter Singer*

**Don't Worry About Peter Singer's Faith – It's Huge.**

<http://nautil.us/issue/47/consciousness/do-aliens-have-inalienable-rights>

## Hebrews 11:1

Now **faith** is the **substance** of things hoped for, (faith) the **evidence** of things not seen.

**Substance *hupostasis***; a supporting structure or base. a foundation, pillar. Confidence. reality. existence.

**Evidence *elegchos***; the proof. the confirmation, the conviction, the assurance.

### **What Substance is there to your faith claim?**

( on what basis does it rest? – the historicity of the Biblical record. )

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### **What Evidence is there that this faith claim is factual?**

( what are the facts that provide this assurance? – the fulfillment of prophecy )

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**So then by definition, a “Biblical faith” is prescient by nature. Prescient meaning, “the foreknowing”; having preceding or pre-event knowledge of events before they take place.**

These Two (2) Greek & Hebrew words used in the Bible for “Faith” provide a compounded meaning ;

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“Faith is what gives reality & proof to those things unseen by the human eye as if they were in plain sight.”

*I actually don't need to make an argument for the exercise of faith because, Faith is as common as life itself.*

**We exercise great faith, every day,  
in a myriad of things!**

The “faith” controversy comes down to these considerations.

If you've ever gotten out of bed – you did so in faith.  
If you've ever gone to school – you did so in faith.  
If you've ever applied for a job – you did so in faith.  
If you've ever voted in an election – you did so in faith.  
If you've ever taken a trip – you did so in faith.  
If you've ever fallen in love – you did so in faith.

**Always hoping and expecting that something good and meaningful would come out of the journey.**

**THE EVIDENCE FOR FAITH**

## 1.) Why does faith exist universally?

Transcendent from education, culture, wealth status, ethnicity, background, worldviews – faith exists universally in the heart and mind of man.

### THE EVIDENCE FOR FAITH

## 2.) Why does faith require an object?

Because There is an Internal Witness within Man  
That generates the Faith-Issue.

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0d/Areopagus\\_hill.jpg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0d/Areopagus_hill.jpg)

<https://mavicpilots.com/threads/flight-around-the-acropolis-of-athens.45406/>

#### Acts 17:16-31

Now while Paul waited for them at **Athens**, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. **17** Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. **18** Then certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers encountered him. And some said, “What does this babbler want to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a proclaimer of foreign gods,” because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. **19** And they took him and brought him to the **Areopagus**, saying, “May we know what this new doctrine is of which you speak? **20** For you are bringing some strange things to our ears. Therefore we want to know what these things mean.” **21** For all the **Athenians** and the foreigners who were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing. **22** Then Paul stood in the midst of the **Areopagus** and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; **23** for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription:

#### TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: **24** God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. **25** Nor is He worshiped with men’s hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. **26** And He has made from **one blood** every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings. **27** so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that 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 have our being, as also some of your own poets have said, “For we are also His offspring.” **29** Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, something shaped by art and man’s devising. **30** Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, **31** because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. **He has given assurance** of this to all by raising Him from the dead.” – (a factual claim)

Faith is the natural response to the evidence.

What is the evidence? – Jesus Christ rose from the dead.  
What is the reason / logic for this evidence? – God will one day judge.

On what basis do you use your Bank?  
( trust / faith )

On what basis do you use Amazon?  
( trust / faith )

## The Archko Volume

### **THE EVIDENCE FOR FAITH**

#### 3.) Why does faith generate controversy?

It's been said that if you're going to have faith,  
then you're gonna have to  
"Take a leap of faith into the dark".

But what if the opposite is true.  
What if we're the ones who have always been in the dark?

A faith in almost anything "other than" is totally fine and  
tolerable to almost everyone in the world - - unless you mention  
"Faith In Jesus Christ"

### **THE EVIDENCE FOR FAITH**

#### 4.) Why does faith matter in life?

**Faith Brings to Us The Ultimate Answers.**

#### **BECAUSE IF...**

- 1. The complexity of our planet points to a deliberate Designer who not only created our universe, but sustains it today.**
- 2. The universe had a beginning - what caused it?**
- 3. The universe operates by the uniform laws of nature. Why does it?**
- 4. Unlike any other revelation of God, Jesus Christ is the clearest, most specific picture of God revealing Himself to us.**

"btw – if you can get a non-believer to play a game with you, ask them

this question. “If you pretend to choose a faith in any one of the thousands of religions on earth – which one would you pick?”

## THEN...

It matters because **faith is the conclusion to a full-bodied consideration of life.**

#1 there is the **intellectual accent** argument.

#2 there is the **trust** argument.

#1 + #2 =

#3 intellectual accent (thought) + trust (dependability) = faith

### **Belief (intellectual accent) is not enough**

#### **James 2:19**

You believe that there is one God. You do well.  
Even the demons believe—and tremble!

#### **Acts 16:31**

So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and you will be saved, you and your household.”

### **How Can This Be True? – *because...***

#### **Romans 1:20-21**

For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, 21 because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

**Belief (intellectual accent) must move into trust which is an act of faith, an active faith !**

What universal faith-object do you believe in?

What is the faith-object of your faith?

Notice This – That The Bible never Appeals to Feelings

or Emotions as a basis for faith and belief.

### John 14:8-11

Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." :9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? :10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. :11 Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for **the sake of the works** (evidence) themselves.

What controversy does your faith-object generate?

### John 10:19-33

Therefore there was a division again among the Jews because of these sayings. 20 And many of them said, "He has a demon and is mad. Why do you listen to Him?" :21 Others said, "These are not the words of one who has a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?" :22 Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem, and it was winter. 23 And Jesus walked in the temple, in Solomon's porch. 24 Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." :25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. 26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you. 27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. 28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to Me, is greater than all; and no one is able to snatch them out of My Father's hand. 30 I and My Father are one." :31 Then the Jews took up stones again to stone Him. 32 Jesus answered them, "Many good works I have shown you from My Father. For which of those works do you stone Me?" :33 The Jews answered Him, saying, "**For a good work we do not stone You**, (no, you're good to go on the evidence is undeniable) but for blasphemy, and because You, being a Man, make Yourself God."

What faith-object will support you in the end?

Let's revisit Richard Dawkins as we close.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sm220Q5wks4>

### Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He is God, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

# End of Study

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