

Thank You!
Dion Hawkins
Speaker today



New Christians...and Others Interested
“Foundation Lessons” Class
Wednesdays 3:30 p.m. at the church building

June Birthdays

9 Debbie Pescador

June Anniversaries

5 Kurt & Debbie Hoffman

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“I Just Believe in One Less God Than You”

Kyle Butt, M.Div.

When searching YouTube for “Best Atheist Arguments,” several videos appear that include a popular saying often repeated by atheists: “I just believe in one less God than you.” What do atheists mean when they use this argument? They list several “gods” such as Zeus, Poseidon, Vishnu, Buddha, Horus, and Apollo. They then say something to the effect of, “Tell me why you don’t believe in those gods, and I will use your very same reasons to tell you why I don’t believe in yours.”

The problem with this “argument” is that it’s not an argument at all. It’s a neat little play on words, but when looked at closely, it is not a logical reason for anything. The idea being presented is that just because there are many wrong answers, then all the answers must be wrong. In fact, the statement implies that the “one less” answer is just the next step in the sequence. But let’s think through that. If there really is just one correct answer, then of course all the others would be incorrect. For instance, if a person were to say, “You don’t believe that 2+2 equals 5 or 6 or 7 etc., therefore 2+2 does not have an answer. See, I just believe in one less answer than you.” The problem with such reasoning is easy to see: If there is a singular answer, then the “one less” statement leaves out the one most important correct answer.

To further illustrate, when Thomas Edison invented the light bulb, the story is told that he said that after trying 10,000 different filaments, he had not failed; he just found 10,000 things that don’t work in a light bulb. Now suppose a person were to say, “Tell me

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

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why those 10,000 substances did not work and I will use the same reasoning to tell you why the one thing you say will work, won't. I just believe in one less filament than you." Again, the fault in the reasoning is evident. The characteristics of the filaments that don't work are obviously different from the ones that do. Yes, it may be true that atheists believe in one less God than the God of the Bible. But the fact is, no other God is the all-powerful, all-knowing, all-good Creator of life Who came down to the Earth in human form and sacrificed His life for His human creatures simply because He loved them. Yes, atheists believe in one less God, but it is that God, and only that God, Who truly fits all the criteria to be the singularly correct answer (John 11:26).

Seeking God?

By Ron Bartanen

"You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart" (Jeremiah 29:13).

No one finds God by accident. They seek in vain who would seek Him through the words of philosophers, cult leaders or even preachers that claim to speak for God apart from the word of God. Trusting the various shallow wells of human wisdom would leave us void of the fountain of life. Only God knows God's heart and His purpose and plan for man. The apostle Paul, in speaking of the *"wisdom of men"* in contrast to *"the wisdom of God"* (1 Corinthians 2), writes, *"For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man that is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God"* (1 Corinthians 2:11). In verse ten he made it plain that this knowledge is not apart from the revelation of truth through Christ's chosen apostles, such as himself: *"But God hath revealed them unto us by His Spirit."* While a limited comprehension of God is through His creation, as Paul asserted in Romans 1:19-20, yet a fuller and clearer revelation of God's truth was made in the giving of the Law of God in written form through Moses and the prophets, the

completed body of knowledge awaited the coming of Christ. Hebrews 1:1-1-2a declared, *"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son...."* Through Christ and His inspired apostles, the gospel (good news) of Christ was to be proclaimed to *"all the world"* (Mark 16:15), resulting in the salvation of baptized believers (v. 16).

While the Lord's apostles are no longer with us, the Holy-Spirit-inspired-message of reconciliation with God through Christ is not lacking but is recorded for us in the writings of some of the apostles and men associated with them in that book we call "the Bible." The inspired writings of both the Old and New Testaments are frequently referred to simply as "the scriptures." To what better source could we possibly go in order to seek and find God? They alone lead us to Jesus Christ, who declared, *"...No man knoweth the Son, but the Father: neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and He to whosoever the Son will reveal Him"* (Matthew 11:27). One cannot bypass Christ and still find God. He plainly made this known when He said to the apostles, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh to the Father but by Me"* (John 14:6). Christ and His message, as revealed through the apostles, are inseparable. By that message man's claim to truth must be tested. Even those who questioned the apostle Paul's preaching are declared to have been "noble" because *"they searched the scriptures daily (to see) whether those things were so"* (Acts 17:11). True preachers of the word will not contradict Scripture, which was *"given by inspiration of God"* (2 Timothy 3:16-17). Satan is a master of deception, and he uses those who speak *"contrary to the doctrine"* the apostles taught, and *"by good words and fair speeches deceiveth the hearts of the simple"* (Romans 16:16-18). If we will seek God from the heart, we will read and heed our Bible, and let it lead us to God through His Son, Jesus Christ.