

Sixteen Common Objections to the Gospel

Here are some of the most common objections that you may have thrown at you during the process of attempting to share the gospel message. Scriptures are provided with most of the objections to show a Biblically based response to the objection.

- **How do you know God exists?** *“In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth”* (Genesis 1:1). Sometimes we must appeal to science and creation to show the unbelieving that God created it all. The wonder, beauty, diversity, intricacy, and complexity of the world points to the existence of an intelligence who designed it all. The designer and creator is God!
- **Are miracles possible?** By definition, a miracle is something that occurs that is beyond natural explanation. All miracles begin with faith in God and His Word. The earliest and most profound miracle of all was that of creation. God created everything *ex nihilo*—from nothing—and each succeeding miracle reinforced His incredible power. In some parts of the world, accounts are given of people who have had dreams about Jesus and wake up and pray to become a Christian, despite living in an area with no missionary activity and never hearing the teachings of the Bible. In other situations, God has worked through changes of weather or the perfect timing of circumstances in the lives of a person to bring forth an outcome that is part of His perfect will.
- **Isn't religion just a crutch?** Religion may be, but not Jesus! His name is the only name by which we can be saved (Acts 4:12). We have been “crippled by sin” and only Jesus can make us whole again.
- **Is the Bible reliable?** If the Word has been here since the beginning, then it is impossible to contest its veracity and authenticity. The Bible is the world's oldest and best-selling book! It has withstood every critic for centuries. There are over 1,800 prophecies in the Bible and Jesus has already fulfilled 300 of them!
- **Is Jesus the only way to God?** The Bible teaches that there is no other way to salvation than through Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself says in John 14:6, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”* He is not a way, as in one of many; He is **the** way, as in the **one** and **only**. No one, regardless of reputation, achievement, special knowledge, or personal holiness, can come to God the Father except through Jesus because he paid the penalty for our sins when He died on the cross as our supreme sacrifice. He offers salvation to all who will receive Him.
- **Can good deeds get you to heaven?** Romans 10:9 tells us to “confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” If we got to heaven by good deeds surely the Bible would tell us how many we need to do and when we would be ready for heaven! The Bible says over and over that our good works will *not* get us to heaven.
- **Do you get to heaven by just “believing”?** Yes, however Biblical believing involves “trusting in Jesus.” Believing is vital but we must trust in Jesus for our salvation. *“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him”* (Hebrews 11:6). We get to heaven by believing in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- **Can anyone be sure about heaven?** We can be sure about heaven because Jesus Christ came to overcome death's sting and open Heaven's door for us. Only one thing will keep us out of Heaven, and that is our sin. But Christ came into the world to conquer sin's power—and He did this by becoming the final sacrifice for our sins through His death on the cross. We know Heaven is real because of Christ's

resurrection from the dead. Death could not hold Him—and neither can it hold us! Don't give in to hopelessness but put your faith and trust in Christ—both for this life and the life to come.

- **What about the hypocrites?** What about them? God loves them too. It is important to remember that they are in all walks of life—not just in the church. Just because someone else fails to accept His gift and lives a hypocritical life, that does not absolve us from the requirement that we have as an individual that we must believe in Him.
- **If God is a loving God, why do the innocent suffer?** The very short answer is, “because of sin.” Sin in the world, from the time of Adam has brought sickness, disease, and death to all the world. As a result, sin allows sickness and death to overtake all of us. God is not the author of sin and evil and, if we put our trust in Him, He will restore all things like in the beginning on earth.
- **How could a loving God send anyone to hell?** God sends no one there. Rather, He offers the free gift of eternal life in heaven. We are the ones who must choose. Matthew 10:28 says, “*And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.*” We must understand the fact that the lost are going to go to hell for eternity due to their rejection of the free gift of salvation. This is the penalty for sin. You must willfully reject the gospel message to be doomed to spend eternity there. God is a loving God, but He is also a righteous God. His righteousness demands the penalty of death for all who reject His Son.
- **“I’ve been a good person, better than some Christians I know!”** No doubt that is true; but the fact still remains that all of us as individuals must make our own, personal decision to believe in Jesus Christ. No one can make it for us, and if we fail to make the decision to believe in Christ before we die, we will spend eternity separated from God. Ephesians 2:8-10 lets us know that we are saved by faith, not of works, or anything we have done, other than believe in Jesus. Just being a good person is not going to get us to heaven.
- **How could God allow disease, poverty, famine, etc?** The Bible reveals that God will not tolerate sin. Micah 5:15 says, “*And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.*” In Micah 6:13, God says, “*Therefore will I make thee sick in smiting thee, in making thee desolate because of thy sins.*” Make no mistake about it; God is a loving God, however, He is a just, holy and righteous God.
- **I need to get my life cleaned up first!** Romans 10:13 says that, “*...Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*” There is nothing in the Bible that indicates that anyone has to clean up themselves before they come to Christ for salvation. Jesus accepts us where we are at the time of salvation, but He doesn't leave us there.
- **I'm not ready now. I will come to Christ later.** There may not be a “later.” II Corinthians 6:2 says, “*Behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation.*” No one has the promise of tomorrow. The Bible tells us that “*it is appointed unto man once to die, but after this, the judgment.*” (Heb. 9:27). The truth is that none of us have the guarantee of tomorrow.
- **I would have to give up too much!** There is an old saying that goes like this: “*It is wise to give up what you cannot keep, in exchange for what you cannot lose.*” Nothing we have on this earth will go with us to the grave. Whatever we may have to give up when we accept Christ, we probably did not need anyway.