

# Atheists Who Asked, "What is Truth?"

compiled by Karen Sue Nyquist



There are various reasons why people are atheists. Some are so because they have philosophical reasons for rejecting a belief in God. Others have emotional reasons for not accepting belief in any deity, or for having left a religion. There are still others who have not really even been exposed to the beliefs of any religion.

Some have never heard convincing evidence of God. You might be an atheist for one or a combination of these reasons. This article is a compilation of quotes from previous atheists, who reached a point where they decided to discover "what is truth" and . . . became Christians. (*John 18:38*)

Philosopher - Ancient Greek - "*philosophos*," meaning 'lover of wisdom - "lover of truth." "And you shall **know the truth**, and **the truth** shall make you free." (*John 8:32*)



## 1. Some come to believe in God because of the logic of science.

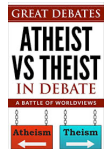


**Frank Tipler - Mathematical physicist, cosmologist, joint appointment in the Departments of Mathematics and Physics at Tulane University:** "When I began my career as a cosmologist some twenty years ago, I was a convinced atheist. I never in my wildest dreams imagined that one day I would be writing a book purporting to show that the central claims of Judeo-Christian theology are

in fact true, that these claims are straightforward deductions of the laws of physics as we now understand them. I have been forced into these conclusions by the **inexorable logic of my own special branch of physics.**" (2)

## 2. Some come to believe in God because atheism is based on faulty "evidence."

**Alister McGrath - a chemist specializing in quantum theory:** "I came to the view that God was an infantile illusion, suitable for the elderly, the intellectually feeble, and the fraudulently religious... In the midst of this growing delight in the natural sciences, which exceeded anything I could have hoped for, I found myself rethinking my atheism... **Atheism**, I began to realize, rested on a **less-than-satisfactory evidential basis**. The arguments that had once seemed bold, decisive, and conclusive increasingly turned out to be circular, tentative, and uncertain". (2)



## 3. Some come to believe in God because they lose faith in politics, ambition, utopia, and power.



**Peter Hutchins - well-known English journalist and author of The Rage Against God, whose wife was raised a Marxist atheist:** "I thought this gesture [burning his Bible] was a way of showing that I had finally rejected all the things that I had been brought up to believe, (2) . . . **Christian belief**, by subjecting all men to divine authority and by asserting in the words 'My kingdom is not of this world' that the ideal society does not exist in this life, **is the most coherent and**

**potent obstacle to secular utopianism...** the Bible angers and frustrates those who believe that **the pursuit of a perfect society justifies the quest for absolute power**" (3) ... I also knew I was **losing my faith in politics** and **my trust in ambition**, and was urgently in need of something else on which to build the rest of my life"(3). **He started visiting churches.**

4. Some come to believe in God because science and philosophy don't have all the answers. **Richard Morga - a Mormon convert to atheism and then to Christianity. His conversion was the result of participating in debates and online discussions, notably on Richard Dawkins's official website:** "Science and philosophy do not have the answer to everything. If you are **willing to listen with an open mind** and **an open heart** and just say

‘perhaps I do not possess all the truth,’ that is an act of humility and I know that God never rejects or ignores acts of humility” (2).

**5. Some come to believe in God by reading the Bible. Darren Gedye grew up as an atheist in a non-Christian home:** After a couple of years of this (talking with a Christian friend), I realized that his worldview made more sense than mine did. I started reading a Bible he gave me and one night alone in my room it dawned on me that it was all true ...” (2).



**6. Some come to believe in Christianity after considering other religions. Darrin Rasberry is a former anti-theist and former writer at John Loftus’s blog “Debunking Christianity”:** “Some time last week, I realized that I could no longer call myself a skeptic.... “After considering Deism (the belief in a God who abandons His creation), Islam, Hinduism (yes, Krishna, don’t laugh), Baha’i, and even Jainism briefly, I have decided to select **Christianity due to its superior model for human evil and its reconciliation**, coupled with the belief that God interacted with man directly and face-to-face and had \*the\* crucial role in this reconciliation” (2).

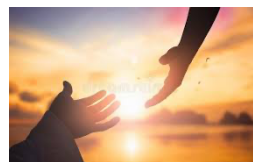


**7. Some atheists come to believe in God and Jesus Christ because of reliable ancient or modern day witnesses. Warner Wallace - a cold-case homicide detective and a once vocal atheist:** “In the end, I came to the conclusion that the gospels were **reliable eyewitness accounts that delivered accurate information** about Jesus, including His Crucifixion and Resurrection. But that created a problem for me. If Jesus really was who He said He was, then Jesus was God Himself. If Jesus truly did what the gospel eye-witnesses recorded, then Jesus is still God Himself. As someone who used to reject anything supernatural, I had to make a decision about my naturalistic presuppositions.” (1)



**8. Some come to believe in God because they read Christian authors who showed them the truths, in philosophy, science, and history, that lead to Christianity. Philip Vander Elst - is freelance writer and was a lecturer in politics and journalism:** He started reading the writings of the Christian C.S. Lewis, who had once been an atheist. “So, confronted by all these facts and arguments – **philosophical, scientific, and historical** – I surrendered my sword of unbelief to God, and asked Jesus to forgive my sins and come into my life during the hot, dry summer of 1976. In the years that have followed, I have never regretted that decision, despite many ups and downs and trials of my faith” (2).

**9. All come to God because, He loves them and draws them to Himself.** “Yes, I have loved you with an everlasting love; Therefore with lovingkindness I have drawn you” (*Jeremiah 31:3*).



If you are ready to **search for truth** with an **open mind** and **open heart**, ask God to reveal it to you (*Luke 10:22*).

**Here is a suggested prayer:** God, if You are real, are listening, and really care about me, please show me the truth. I am opening my mind and heart and am willing to go on this journey, wherever it may lead me. Thank You, amen.” We would love to see you or hear from you.

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