#### A Serious Matter

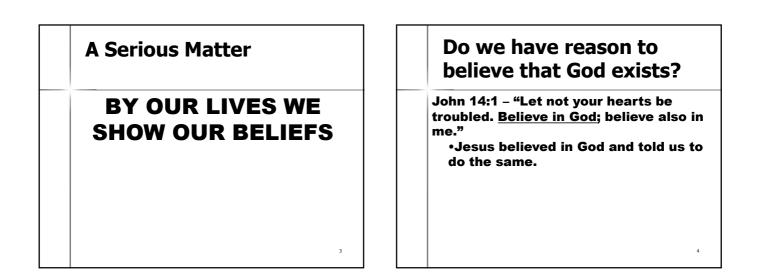
**Ecclesiastes 12:1-14** 

#### **A Serious Matter**

• Are we just going through the motions?

•Are there convictions behind our faith?

•II Corinthians 10:3-5 – "... take every thought captive ..."



#### Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

#### Creation

- Genesis 1:1 "... God created ..."
  God tells us how the world was created
- Romans 1:20-21 "... have been <u>clearly perceived</u> ..."
  God tells us that we can see His creation when we look around

### Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

#### Miracles

Hebrews 2:1-4 – "... by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit ..."
God proved His authority to us by the miracles performed

# Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

• The Bible

• Written over a period of about sixteen centuries by over 40 people

II Timothy 3:14-17 – "... able to make you wise for salvation ..."
God's existence is shown in the Bible, as are His mighty works and wonders

# Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- The Bible
  The ultimate authority in our lives
  - It shows us God
  - It shows us responsibility and obedience
  - It shows us heaven and hell

#### Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- Evolution
  - God told us how He created
  - If we don't believe exactly, we show that we don't believe Him

• Those who refuse to believe will be in trouble on the last day

• II Peter 3:5-7 – "... kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly."

# Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- "Scientific" explanations for miracles
  - John 10:37-38 "... believe the works ..."

#### Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- "The Bible contradicts itself"
  - Ephesians 3:3-5 "When you read this, you can perceive ..."
  - II Peter 3:14-17 "... the ignorant and unstable twist ..."

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# Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

In our daily spiritual lives

Prayer

• Ephesians 6:17-20 – "... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication ... and also for me ..."

- Paul knew the importance of prayer
- •We weaken ourselves when we do not pray. <sup>12</sup>

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# Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

• In our daily spiritual lives

- Bible study and reading
  II Timothy 2:15 "Study ..."
  - I Timothy 4:12-13 "... devote yourself to the public reading ..."

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# Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- In our daily spiritual lives
  - Attendance in the assemblies

    I Corinthians 11:17-18 "... when you come together as a church ..."
    Hebrews 10:24-27 "... not neglecting to meet together ..."
    How shall we encourage each other and build each other up if we refuse to gather together?

#### Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God • In our daily physical lives • Obedience to laws • Romans 13:1-2 – "... be subject to the governing authorities ..." • The clothes we wear (appearance and modesty) • I Timothy 2:9-10 – "... in

respectable apparel ..."

• I Timothy 3:2 – "... respectable ..."

## Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- In our daily physical lives
  - The places we go
  - The things we do
  - The way we speak

# Our lives may show that we are ashamed of God A Serious Matter • We have the opportunity to teach others almost daily • We have the opportunity to teach others almost daily • At work • At work • At school • At the store • EVERYWHERE • Do we show that we are ashamed of God and His gospel when we fail to use the opportunities He gives us? Why are you here today?

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#### A Serious Matter

- Romans 10:8-17
  - Hear the Word of God
  - Believe in Jesus Christ
  - Confess Jesus as Lord
- Acts 17:30
  Repent of your sins
- Acts 22:16
  - "Rise and be baptized"

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