

A Serious Matter

Ecclesiastes 12:1-14

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A Serious Matter

- Are we just going through the motions?
- Are there convictions behind our faith?
- II Corinthians 10:3-5 – “... bringing every thought into captivity ...”

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II Corinthians 10:3-5 – “3 For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh 4 (for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but mighty before God to the casting down of strongholds), 5 casting down imaginations, and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and **bringing every thought into captivity** to the obedience of Christ”

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A Serious Matter

**BY OUR LIVES WE
SHOW OUR BELIEFS**

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

John 14:1 – “Let not your heart be troubled: **believe in God**, believe also in me.”

- Jesus believed in God and told us to do the same.

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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 – “... are clearly seen ...”
- God tells us that we can see His creation when we look around

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- **Miracles**

- **Hebrews 2:1-4 – “... by signs and wonders, and by manifold powers, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit ...”**
- **God proved His authority to us by the miracles performed**

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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 thee wise unto salvation ...”**
- **God's existence is shown in the Bible, as are His mighty works and wonders**

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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**

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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 – “... reserved against the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.”**

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

- **“Scientific” explanations for miracles**

- **John 10:37-38 – “... believe the works ...”**

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

- **“The Bible contradicts itself”**

- **Ephesians 3:3-5 – “... when ye read, ye can perceive ...”**
- **II Peter 3:14-17 – “... the ignorant and unstedfast wrest ...”**

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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 – “... with all prayer and supplication praying at all seasons ... And on my behalf ...”
 - Paul knew the importance of prayer
 - We weaken ourselves when we do not pray.

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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 – “... give heed to 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 ye come together in the church ...”
 - Hebrews 10:24-27 – “... not forsaking our own assembling together ...”
 - How shall we encourage each other and build each other up if we refuse to gather together?

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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 in subjection to the higher powers ...”
 - The clothes we wear (appearance and modesty)
 - I Timothy 2:9-10 – “... in modest 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

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Our lives may show that we are ashamed of God

- We have the opportunity to teach others almost daily
 - 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?

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A Serious Matter

**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 3:15**
 - **Repent of your sins**
- **Acts 22:16**
 - **“Arise and be baptized”**

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