

“I Believe in God, the Father”
Psalm 121:1-8, page 981/893

Introduction:

1. Life is filled with difficult questions:
 - A. Where did it all begin?
 - B. What existed first, and where did that begin?
 - C. What is life?
 - D. Why is life so fragile?
 - E. Is there life after death?
 - F. Does God really exist?
 - G. Does it make any difference if God exists or does not exist?
2. How can I find answers to all these questions?
3. Where do I begin looking for these answers?

I. Begin with what we do know!

- A. I am alive, and life is real to me.
 1. Do I understand everything that I have experienced in life? The answer is no!
 2. But in the midst of my life, I do know and understand many things:
 - a. Joy and sadness.
 - b. Success and failure.
 - c. Fellowship and loneliness.
 - d. Good times and bad times.
 - e. Love and hate.
 - f. Life is exactly what the Bible tells us about life.
 - g. Life is both physical and spiritual.
- B. I live on a planet we call earth, and earth is part of a universe.
 1. Our universe is huge, and we are still discovering new things about this vast universe.
 2. Gravity holds everything on earth. We know gravity works, but we cannot explain how it works.
 3. Gravity, however, is not a reality in space.
 4. We can sometimes predict weather, but we cannot control the weather.
 5. Much of this is talked about in the Bible.
- C. I am part of a human race; other humans also live here.
 1. We do not seem to be able to get along with each other very well.
 2. When the principles of the Bible are followed, life has a lot more harmony and unity.
- D. I have seen many people die, and life leaves the body.
 1. Life on earth is very fragile and lasts for only a few short years.
 2. Life is the most valuable gift we possess.
 3. Life is a mystery, and we cannot explain this precious gift of life.
 4. Where did it begin, and when will it end?
 5. As my mother was dying, she quietly and peacefully breathed her last breath here on earth. Faith kept her in peace. (Card)
 6. I have been in the hospital when other people died in fear and turmoil.
- E. These things I know, and that is why I believe in God.

II. This life is both good and evil.

- A. There is a fierce battle going on in our world.
 1. There seems to be two forces engaged in this battle.

2. Good/right and evil/wrong.
- B. The Bible explains in detail these two armies and who is leading each army.
- C. The Bible explains when this battle began.
- D. What is explained in the Bible is clearly visible in our world today.
 1. A woman was stabbed while shopping in a convenience store.
 2. Four people stepped over her as she lay dying on the floor.
 3. One person took out a cell phone and took a picture.
 4. This week several of you gave your money, time, and energy to teach children you did not know.
- E. Jesus came to earth and struck the deciding blow in this battle between good and evil.
- F. All this is exactly as the Bible explains!

III. Logic and reason point to a divine God with a master plan.

- A. I am not obsessed with what happened a million years ago.
- B. What works for me in my lifetime is far more important to me than what happened in the past.
- C. I realize some would say that is total denial:
 1. Maybe.
 2. They cannot prove my approach to life is not accurate.
 3. It is working. Why change or fix something that is not broken?
- D. Fox News channel this week reported about a young college student in California:
 1. About a year ago a woman checked into a hospital bleeding. It was found that she had given birth to a child. The child was never found.
 2. This month a homeless person found a baby in a dumpster. Authorities traced the child to the same young woman.
 3. Two babies died from the same woman.
- E. This week my daughter, her husband, and Clay, and Paige visited us.
 1. Joel and Ronda have a strong belief and faith in God.
 2. Paige and Clay are the best.
 3. They are a fine Christian family trying to do the right things in life.
- F. None of us have all the answers concerning life.
 1. We do, however, have enough answers.
 2. Why ignore the answers we do have because of the things we cannot fully comprehend and answer?
- G. The Bible/God tells us how to live, and when we follow the blueprint, life is ok.

Conclusion:

1. 12% of Americans say they do not believe in God. This is up from 8% in 1989.
2. D.V.D. camera:
 - A. Cannot understand.
 - B. Cannot answer how it works.
3. A book tells me how to operate the camera.
 - A. With John Bearss' counsel and reading the instruction book, the camera works.
 - B. Results in pictures on a plastic disk.
 - C. The pictures show up on a screen.
4. I believe in God.
 - A. The Bible is God's instructions to us.
 - B. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can understand who God is.
 - C. Life is working.
5. My belief in God, life, and eternity is the only logical and reasonable way for me to live my life.
5. What do you believe?