

ANSWERS BOOK 4 TEENS

VOL 1

Your Questions, God's Answers

Bodie Hodge, Tommy Mitchell, with Ken Ham



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INTRODUCTION

I've worked with teens for years . . . and there is a big misconception about them (and hopefully you will agree) . . . they are much smarter than we often think! The young people I've worked with are intelligent and bright.

Yeah, I'll admit, some are smarter in some areas than others; in other words, some may know a lot about music, others know a lot about science, others know a lot of sports, and so on, but the point is they are much brighter than many people give them credit for. So with this book series, we are not going to be afraid to answer the questions they have without a "bunch of fluff," but with solid biblical answers that "have some meat to them" and challenge the secular religions like atheism and evolution that are forced on them in many settings — like movies, schools, and so on.

To do this, I want to define some terms, people, and worldviews just to make sure we are on the same page as we jump into these questions:

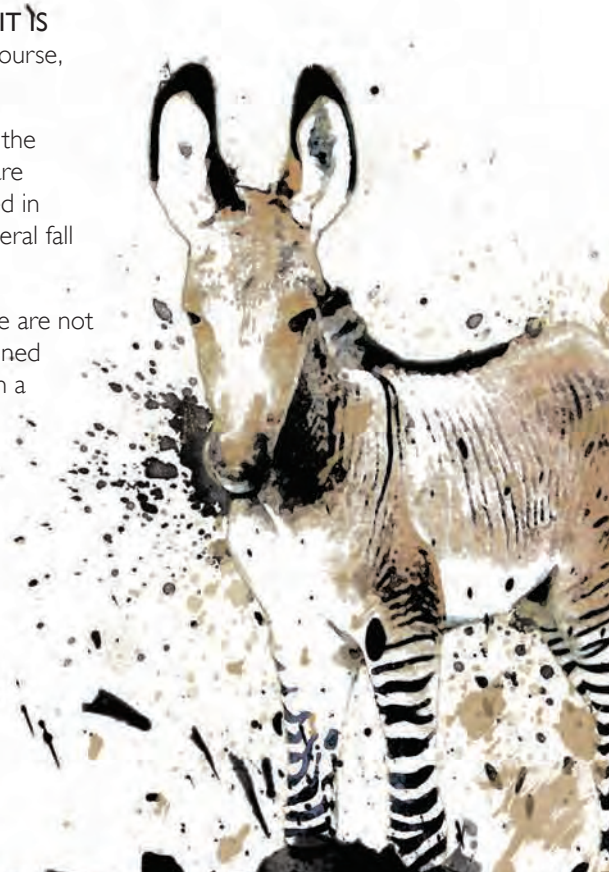
- **Secular humanism** (secular; humanism, secularists) is a religion that teaches that man is the ultimate authority on all matters, not God. In fact, this religion says God does not exist and they say that there are no supernatural things, but only natural/material things. This is the only religion permitted to be taught as fact in the public schools.
- **Evolution** (molecules-to-man evolution) is part of the religion of secular humanism. There are four major aspects of evolution:
 - **Astronomical evolution** that teaches matter and energy came from nothing — called the **big bang** where the universe supposedly created itself.
 - **Geological evolution** teaches that rock layers represent millions of years of sedimentation. Secularists claim that the rock layers were laid down slowly and gradually in the past over millions of years without catastrophes — such as worldwide floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.
 - **Chemical evolution** that teaches that life came from non-life when chemicals supposedly came together to form the first life.
 - **Biological evolution** that teaches that this first life evolved to be more complex through mutations and natural selection over millions of years to arrive at what we have today.
- **Natural selection** is a process described by a Christian named Ed Blyth about 25 years before Darwin to explain variations within created kinds (variations within dogs for example). Darwin thought this process could lead to evolution — most evolutionists today disagree with Darwin as they recognize this process loses information and is moving in the wrong direction for evolution! So now they appeal to mutations as the main mechanism.
- **Mutations** are changes in your DNA (*deoxyribonucleic acid*, which is the information building blocks for you and me) — like copying mistakes. Many have no effects, but others cause major problems like cancer or deformities. But evolutionists really hope that mutations used to cause changes to help us evolve from single-celled organisms to humans. But in reality, they are moving in the wrong direction for evolution as well.

- **Jesus Christ** is the Creator (John 1, Colossians 1, Hebrews 1), the second person of the one triune God (another word for trinity; consisting of God the Father, Christ, and the Holy Spirit) — God who stepped into history to become a man and die to sins on our behalf. Through Christ alone came salvation from sin and death.
- **Trinity** is the term we use to describe God because of His attributes and persons in the Bible. It is one God but three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). Analogies are never perfect but the one church fathers used was an equilateral triangle. It has three identical points but they are different points. Yet it is one triangle where each line of each angle is what makes up the lines of the other angles!
- **Biblical Christianity** is religion that is based on God being the ultimate authority and His Word, the Bible, dictates the basis for all things.
- **The Bible** is the written Word of God given to the Jews by the prophets of the Old Testament and on the Church by the Apostles of the New Testament. There are 66 books of the Bible — 39 in the Old Testament and 27 in the New Testament.
- **Atheism** is a variant form of humanism that says **THERE IS NO GOD**. (So apparently people who say this think they have looked everywhere in the natural and supernatural world at exactly the same time to make this claim! Yeah, right!)
- **Agnosticism** is a variant form of humanism that says **IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW** if there is a God. (But, of course, how can they know that!)
- **Creationists** are people who believe the Bible to be the absolute authority in all areas including origins. They are biblical Christians who believe in creation as described in the Bible including the biblical age of the earth, the literal fall of mankind, and a global Flood.
- **Created kinds:** the Bible speaks of animal kinds. These are not exactly the same as species, but instead can be explained by descriptions like a horse kind or a dog kind. Within a kind you may have different animals — for example, a donkey and a zebra are within the horse kind, and being part of the same kind, they can reproduce to create a zonkey. (*He's kinda cute, isn't he!*)

Any other terms we use, we hope to discuss in the context of the book, but we wanted to make sure we were on the same page as we began.

Now teens . . . let's get started.

Bodie Hodge, *Answers in Genesis*



Q1

How can anyone believe that the Bible is true since it was written so long ago when

**PEOPLE DIDN'T
KNOW STUFF?**



PEOPLE DIDN'T KNOW STUFF?

Well . . . the first thing that needs to be addressed is the false issue of “people not knowing stuff.” This is an evolutionary assumption. In the evolutionary story, people evolved from ape-like creatures and they were “dumb brutes” that slowly got smarter.

According to the Bible, God made Adam and Eve perfectly! In fact, they were “programmed” with perfect knowledge, and they could talk to God right from the start! So people were indeed smart and knew stuff right from the start — cool, huh?

GOOD ANSWERS OFFERING NO PROOF

Many well-meaning Christians have put forth a number of arguments for the Bible to be true. Most of these arguments are not the best ones to use. They are sometimes a good confirmation that the Bible is true, but not proof of it. I'll summarize some of these here.

- **The Bible says it is the Word of God, hence the truth because God is the truth.**

If Johnny Smith writes an essay and says it is the Word of God does that make it so? Nope. But it is good the Bible makes the claim of being the Word of God, because if it didn't, there would be no reason to think it is the Word of God!

- **Variations of cool Bible facts and uniqueness of the Bible.** Definitely unique: written over the course of about 2,000 years with over 40 authors, including a shepherd and a king, is scientifically, archaeologically, and historically accurate, with no errors, prophetically 100 percent, one theme centered around the Fall of mankind and salvation through Christ, and even the last two chapters of the Bible undo what happened in the third chapter of the Bible! But this still isn't proof of truthfulness of the Bible. Though, we expect the Bible to be all these things, they are still not proof.

Let's look at the correct answer in some more detail.



IMAGE OF GOD

When God created man, He made us in His image, unlike plants and animals. Think of this for a moment — we are made in the image of a truthful, logical, loving God! This is why we care, why we can think logically, and why we have an understanding of what truth is. This is why we can ask the question “is the Bible true?” and why we can think “logically” about it — squirrels have never asked me if the Bible were true after all!

See, if the Bible weren't true — we would have no basis for truth to even exist. Or for that matter we would have no basis for logic to exist. In fact, we would have no basis for knowledge at all! There would be no reason for clothes, weekends, marriage, love, science, literature, and so on. Wow! Never thought about the Bible that way, have you?

SO HOW DO WE KNOW THE BIBLE IS TRUE?

Answer: It has to be; all other worldviews fall short and make knowledge impossible, except the Bible. The Bible is the only book that has the basis for knowledge and logic (in other words, only the Bible has necessary foundational knowledge that makes intelligence possible).

All other worldviews (Islam, Hinduism, Mormonism, Atheism, Agnosticism, etc.) must borrow from the Bible to make sense of things. Science, morality, and logic all stem from the Bible being true. So to repeat, if the Bible were not true, then knowledge would be impossible. In other words, if the Bible were not true, nothing would make sense — good or bad — everything would be meaningless and pointless.



Yeah, it seems complicated, right, but don't let it scare you! **Here's an example:**

One day I was called to deal with an evolutionary atheist who was questioning a young Christian lady. As I approached, the atheist was firing off question after question to the lady and not even permitting her to respond. Every time she tried, he would ask another question with a rather aggressive tone.

When I entered into the conversation the skeptic turned to me and then, he went into a tirade of questions attacking Christianity one question after another . . . with me. Every time I tried to respond, he cut me off with another question.

I realized that he obviously didn't believe the Bible and that was one of the main issues, besides the fact that he didn't want to hear a response. While he was taking a breath, I slipped in a question that silenced him. I asked him, "Why are you wearing clothes?" He was shocked speechless. So I asked again and then said something to the effect that "animals don't get up in the morning and put clothes on." I continued by saying, "You are an atheist, right, where you believe people are just animals, so why are you wearing clothes?"

Then he paused and thought for a moment and said, "Because it's cold." So I instantly came back and said, "When it warms up you don't wear clothes?" Obviously, he had not considered, in his professed worldview, why he wore clothes, yet there he was, with shirt and pants on!



I explained that he wears clothes because in a literal Genesis, a literal Adam and a literal Eve ate a literal fruit and literally disobeyed God and that caused us to be literally shameful. God killed an animal and clothed Adam and Eve. So we wear clothes as a result. And in your heart of hearts, you know God exists and the Bible is true, as your actions reveal that you know you are shameful ([Romans 1](#)).

Then I noticed he was wearing a wedding ring. So I asked, "Why did you get married?" He said because he loved his wife. I pointed out that love, in an atheistic worldview is no different from sadness, both being chemical reactions in the brain that are essentially meaningless (yep . . . that is what atheists really believe!). Love exists in a Christian worldview where we are made in the image of a loving God.

I also pointed out that getting married is contrary to what atheists would teach. You have one basic goal in an atheistic evolutionary story: to pass on your genes to as many people as you can. Getting married and being faithful to one woman (which he said he was and we need to understand is the only biblical teaching on marriage, by the way) is going against what an evolutionary atheist professes should be going on. I continued by saying that marriage comes from the Bible, specifically in Genesis, because God created a literal man and a literal woman, hence the first marriage.

After all this, the atheist just stopped to think about what we had discussed (obviously not wanting to believe it). His hostile tone was gone and he realized that he didn't have answers to defend his atheistic worldview.

What I needed to do was show him that even though he claimed to be an atheist and evolutionist, he had no basis in his religion to wear clothes or get married. Those things come from the Bible being true! So I needed to show him where he was borrowing from the Bible. It just goes to reveal how people know the Bible's true in their hearts ([Romans 2:15](#)) and inadvertently live their lives according to it many times, yet in their own religions say they don't believe it is true. They must borrow from the Bible even to argue against it!



WHY IS THIS SO IMPORTANT?

Well, it should be obvious that if the Bible were not true, nothing would matter and nothing would make sense: friends, love, morality . . . nothing. Sadly, many kids today are taught that the Bible is not true, and they begin to live their lives like this . . . don't they? And we can see the terrible effects of it all around us.