

WHY

CHRISTIANITY?



**TRUTH ON THE
WEB MINISTRIES**


WWW.TOTW.ORG

JOSEPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE
SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS



**CHURCH OF GOD
AT WOODSTOCK**



Empiricism is the philosophy that knowledge is based solely on what can be confirmed with the senses.

This view is aligned to the scientific method and the requirement that a hypothesis be tested with observation and measurement. The scientific method further specifies that knowledge is probabilistic, **falsifiable** and **subject to continuing challenge**.



Empiricism requires knowledge be...

...and subject to continuing challenge: always ready to be tested and adapted if new evidence is presented.

...falsifiable:

A statement, hypothesis or theory is **falsifiable** if it can be contradicted by an observation or test. If such is impossible to make, **falsifiability is not achieved.**



Empiricism

A challengeable, falsifiable example

Joe said Sally took the last donut.

There were eight other witnesses that also saw Sally take the last donut.

This can be tested by interviewing of the witnesses.

If they are proven false, the 'fact' can be proven false (**falsified**).



Empiricism

An unchallengeable, unfalsifiable example

A small teapot orbiting the Sun that is too small to be seen with telescopes.

No one has ever seen this teapot

No one will ever be able to see it

This statement cannot be challenged or proven false; thus it is **unfalsifiable**.

WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Hinduism

Most scholars believe Hinduism started somewhere between 2300 B.C. and 1500 B.C. in the Indus Valley, near modern-day Pakistan. Hinduism has no one founder but is instead a fusion of various beliefs.

Around 1500 B.C., the Indo-Aryan people migrated to the Indus Valley, and their language and culture blended with that of the indigenous people living in the region – Hinduism grew out of this ‘melting-pot’.



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Buddhism

Siddhartha Gautama, the founder of Buddhism who later became known as “the Buddha,” lived during the 5th century B.C.

Gautama was born into a wealthy family as a prince in present-day Nepal. Although he had an easy life, Gautama was moved by suffering in the world. He decided to give up his lavish lifestyle and endure poverty. When this didn't fulfill him, he promoted the idea of the “Middle Way,” which means existing between two extremes. Thus, he sought a life without social indulgences but also without deprivation.

After six years of searching, Buddhists believe Gautama found enlightenment while meditating. He spent the rest of his life teaching others about how to achieve this spiritual state.

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Islam

Muhammad (Mohammed or Mohammad), was born in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, in 570 A.D. According to Islamic texts and tradition, an angel named Gabriel visited Muhammad in 610 A.D. while he was meditating in a cave. The angel ordered Muhammad to recite the words of Allah. Muslims believe that Muhammad continued to receive revelations from Allah throughout the rest of his life.

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L. Ron Hubbard began his studies of the mind and spirit in 1923, resulting in a manuscript entitled “Excalibur” in 1938. It was in this unpublished work that the word Scientology first appeared to describe what Mr. Hubbard termed “the study of knowing how to know.”

Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health
- Published on May 9th, 1950, sparked a storm of popular enthusiasm. Thereafter, L. Ron Hubbard delved ever deeper into the spiritual nature of Man, documenting his discoveries in thousands of recorded lectures, films, articles and books.



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Bahá'í

The Bahá'í Faith traces its origin to 1844 and the announcement by a young man, Siyyid 'Alí-Muhammad, in Shiraz, Persia (now Iran), that He had been sent by God to prepare humanity for a new age and the imminent appearance of another Messenger even greater than Himself. He said the one whose coming He foretold would be the universal Manifestation of God sent to inaugurate an age of peace and enlightenment as promised in all the world's religions.



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Mormonism

When Joseph Smith was 14, he said he received a vision from God and Jesus that told him not to join any Christian denominational churches. Three years later, Smith claimed that an angel named Moroni appeared to him. Moroni revealed that Smith had been selected to translate the Book of Mormon, a sacred text that was written around the 4th century and named after Moroni's father, Mormon (yes, angels have fathers according to J.S.).

In 1823 Moroni revealed that the book was inscribed on golden plates near Palmyra, New York. The Book of Mormon was first published in 1830.

Smith also asserted that John the Baptist appeared to him while he was translating the Book of Mormon and instructed him to restore the church by preaching the true gospel.

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Roman Catholic

Sample – R.C.C. 'Approved Marian Apparitions'

Name	When	Where	People
Our Lady of Guadalupe	1531	Tepeyac, Mexico City, Mexico	2
Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal	1830	Rue du Bac, Paris, France	1
Our Lady of La Salette	1846	Mount Sous-Les Baisses, La Salette-Fallavaux, France	2
Our Lady of Lourdes	1858	Lourdes, France	1
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Unfalsifiable



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Jehovah's Witnesses

The sect now known as the Jehovah's Witnesses was started by Charles Taze Russell in 1879. He was raised a Congregationalist, but at the age of 17 he tried to convert an atheist to Christianity and ended up being converted instead—not to outright atheism, but to agnosticism. Some years later he went to an Adventist meeting, was told that Jesus would be back at any time and started developing his doctrines – doctrines that he said would lead followers back to true 1st century Christianity. He wanted to restore the church by preaching the true gospel.



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Doctrines
proven false



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Christian Scientists

The Church of Christ (Scientist) was founded in New England by Mary Baker Eddy, who wrote the 1875 book *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, which outlined the theology of Christian Science. The book became Christian Science's central text.

Eddy described Christian Science as a return to "primitive Christianity and its lost element of healing" This was revealed to her over a period of years by what she described as a series of "falling apples".



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Deuteronomy 4:32–35 [32-33]

For **ask now of the days that are past**, which were before thee, since the day that God created man upon the earth, and ask from the one side of heaven unto the other, whether there hath been any such thing as this great thing is, or hath been heard like it? Did ever **people hear the voice of God** speaking out of the midst of the fire, as thou hast heard, and live?



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

Deuteronomy 4:32–35 [34-35]

Or hath God assayed to go **and take him a nation from the midst of another nation**, by **temptations**, by **signs**, and by **wonders**, and by **war**, and by a **mighty hand**, and by a **stretched out arm**, and by **great terrors**, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt **before your eyes**? Unto thee **it was shewed**, that thou mightest know that the LORD he is God; there is none else beside him.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

Luke 2:8–11

And there were in the same country **shepherds** abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, **behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

Matthew 2:1–2

Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came **wise men from the east** to Jerusalem, Saying, **Where is he that is born King of the Jews?** for we have **seen his star** in the east, and are come to worship him.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

Luke 3:21–22

Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened, **And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

John 2:23

Now when he was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast day, many believed in his name, when **they saw the miracles which he did.**



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John 10:37–38

If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not. But if I do, though ye believe not me, **believe the works**: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

John 11:47–48

Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for **this man doeth many miracles**. If we let him thus alone, **all men will believe on him**: and the Romans shall come and take away both our place and nation.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

John 18:19–20

The high priest then asked Jesus of his disciples, and of his doctrine. Jesus answered him, **I spake openly to the world; I ever taught in the synagogue, and in the temple, whither the Jews always resort; and in secret have I said nothing.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

Acts 5:12a, 15–16

And by the **hands of the apostles** were many **signs** and **wonders** wrought **among the people**; ... **Insomuch** that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the **shadow of Peter** passing by might overshadow some of them. There came also a **multitude out of the cities round about** unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: **and they were healed every one.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

1 Corinthians 15:3–8

For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins **according to the scriptures**; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day **according to the scriptures**: And that he was **seen of Cephas**, then of **the twelve**: After that, he was seen of **above five hundred brethren** at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep. After that, **he was seen of James**; then **of all the apostles**. And last of all he **was seen of me also**, as of one born out of due time.

WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

Acts 17:30-31

And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent: Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; **whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

1 Corinthians 15:13–19

But if there be no **resurrection** of the dead, then is Christ not **risen**: And if Christ be not **risen**, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he **raised** up Christ: whom he **raised** not up, if so be that the dead **rise** not. For if the dead **rise** not, then is not Christ **raised**: And if Christ be not **raised**, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins. Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

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1 Corinthians 15:19

If **in this life only** we have hope in Christ, we are of all men **most miserable**.



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The resurrection is falsifiable

If the resurrection can be disproven, then Christianity is false and worthless.



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Falsifiable,
Doctrines
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WHY CHRISTIANITY?

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John 14:6

Jesus saith unto him, **I am** the way, **the truth**, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.



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John 3:16

For **God so loved the world**, that he gave his only begotten Son [**The Truth**], that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Christianity

BECAUSE IT IS THE

TRUTH



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

**IF CHRISTIANITY IS THE
ONE TRUE RELIGION**



**WHAT WAS THE ONE TRUE
RELIGION BEFORE
CHRISTIANITY?**

WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Romans 4:3

For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed God**, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.



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For what saith the scripture? **Abraham believed God**, and it was counted unto him for righteousness.

John 8:56

Your father **Abraham rejoiced to see my day**: and he saw it, and was glad.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Hebrews 1:1-2

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath **in these last days spoken unto us by his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Hebrews 11:1–2

Now **faith is the substance** of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For **by it the elders obtained a good report.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Hebrews 11:1–2

Now **faith is the substance** of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. For **by it the elders obtained a good report.**

Hebrews 11:39–40

And these all, **having obtained a good report through faith**, received not the promise: God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

IF CHRISTIANITY IS THE
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ANSWER:

CHRISTIANITY

WHAT WAS THE ONE TRUE
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WHY CHRISTIANITY?

**God has a great plan
for your life!**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Matthew 11:11a

Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath **not risen a greater** than John the Baptist:

Matthew 14:10

And he sent, and **beheaded John** in the prison.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Mark 14:50

And they all **forsook him, and fled.**

Mark 15:25

And it was the third hour, and **they crucified him.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Acts 7:59-60

And **they stoned Stephen**, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, **he fell asleep**.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Luke 21:16–17

And **ye shall be betrayed** both by **parents**, and **brethren**, and **kinsfolks**, and **friends**; and some of you shall they cause to be **put to death**. And ye shall be **hated of all men for my name's sake**.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Acts 14:22

Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that **we must through much tribulation** enter into the kingdom of God.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

John 15:18–19

If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but **because ye are not of the world**, but **I have chosen you** out of the world, therefore **the world hateth you**.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

John 16:1

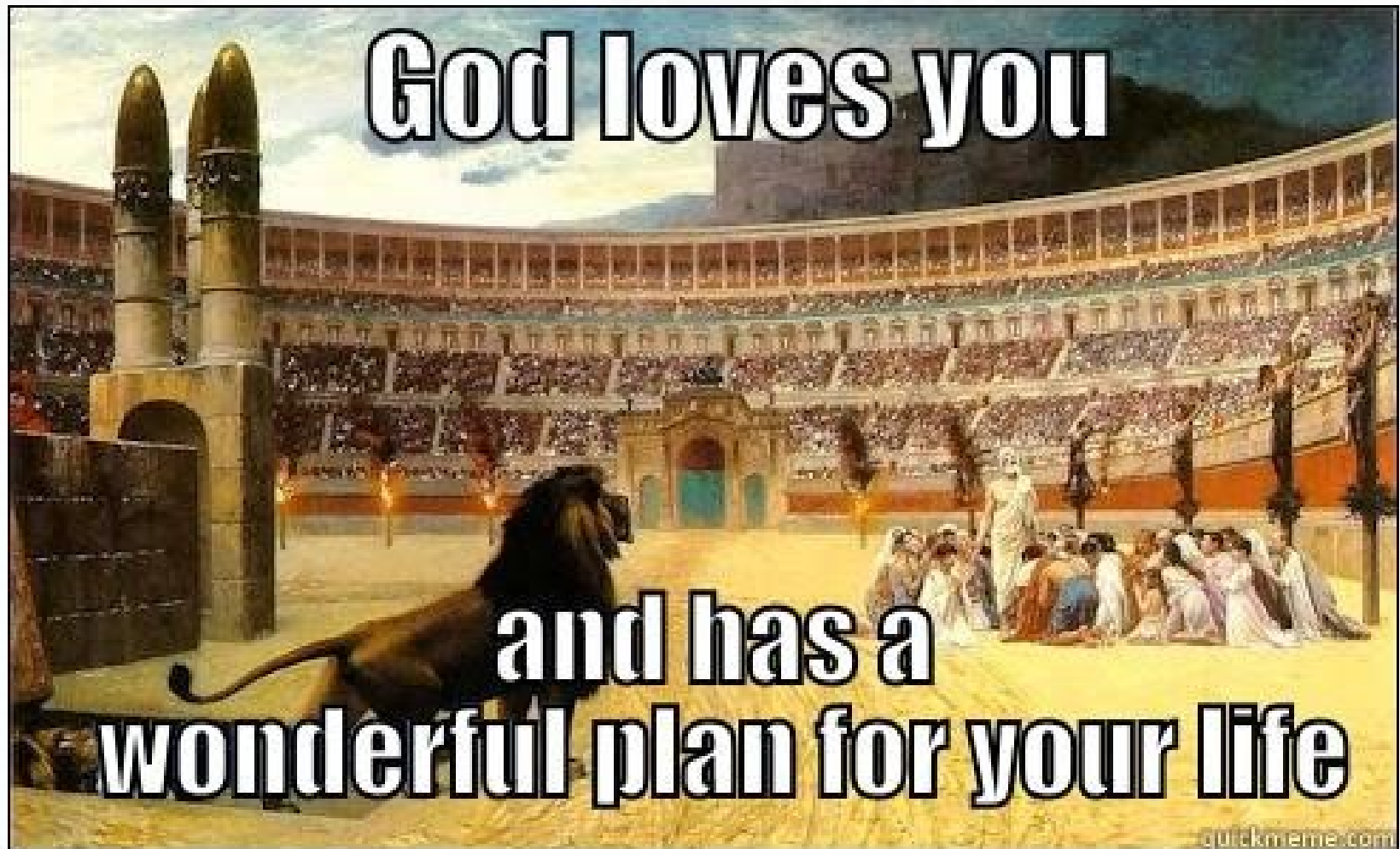
These things have I spoken unto you, **that ye should not be offended.**

John 16:33

These things I have spoken unto you, **that in me ye might have peace.** In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; **I have overcome the world.**



WHY CHRISTIANITY?



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

2 Corinthians 4:8-10 (NLT)

We are **pressed on every side by troubles**, but we are not crushed. **We are perplexed**, but not driven to despair. **We are hunted down**, but never abandoned by God. **We get knocked down**, but we are not destroyed. **Through suffering**, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Proper appetite required!



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

John 4:13-14

Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: **But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst**; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

John 6:33-36

For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. And Jesus said unto them, **I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.** But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Isaiah 55:1–3

Ho, **every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters**, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for **that which is not bread**? and your labour for that **which satisfieth not**? hearken diligently unto me, and **eat ye that which is good**, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Matthew 5:6

Blessed are they which **do hunger and thirst after righteousness**: for **they shall be filled**.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

John 17:15–21

I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. **Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.** As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world. And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be **sanctified through the truth. Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;** That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.



WHY CHRISTIANITY?

Acts 17:16

Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, **his spirit was stirred in him**, when he **saw the city wholly given to idolatry**.

2 Peter 2:7

And delivered just Lot, **vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked**:



CHOOSE WISELY!

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**ENJOY THE
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