

Finding Living Water

Your cup of life will run dry. A vastly better and never ending life is promised. Are you headed there?

24 reasons to make certain you are

God says his paradise will be far better. Trust him.

It's your only chance to be with loved ones forever.

Even the slightest chance of hell should be checked out.

Men usually go to great lengths to avoid death.

If you think you know, double check, triple check.

A lot of people are pulling for you to get there.

Some who are expecting heaven, are in for a shock.

God has only shown us a few of his treasures so far.

There are men in this world who would deceive you.

This topic deserves our most diligent effort.

Conscience tells us there will be an accounting.

It's possible you are leading your loved ones astray.

You don't have a special immunity to deception.

Jesus thought this issue important enough to die for.

Heaven has all that's good here, with none of the bad.

God says the alternative will be awful. Trust him.

Do not get this question wrong.

Don't assume most people get in.

Why gamble on missing paradise.

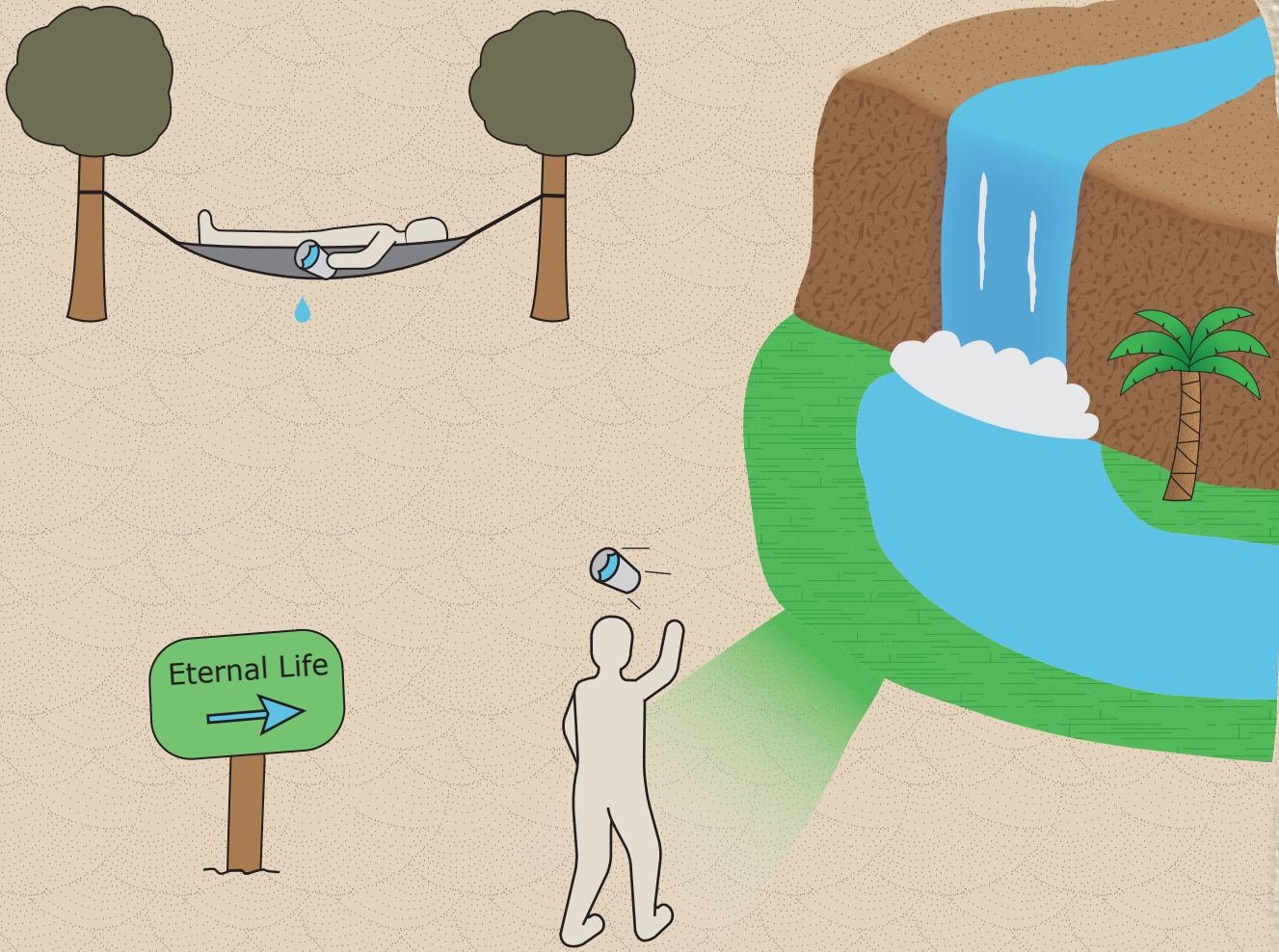
God really wants you with him.

You never have to give it back, ever.

You may stand before God next week.

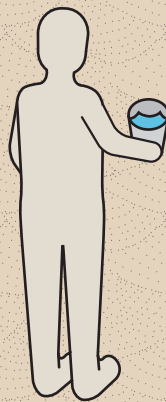
Life is wonderful, worth fighting for.

You got a better offer?

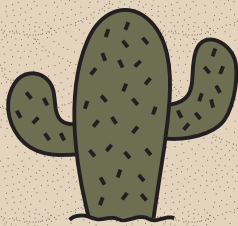


This water won't last long.

Look at that all that water over there!



I am positive heaven is this way.

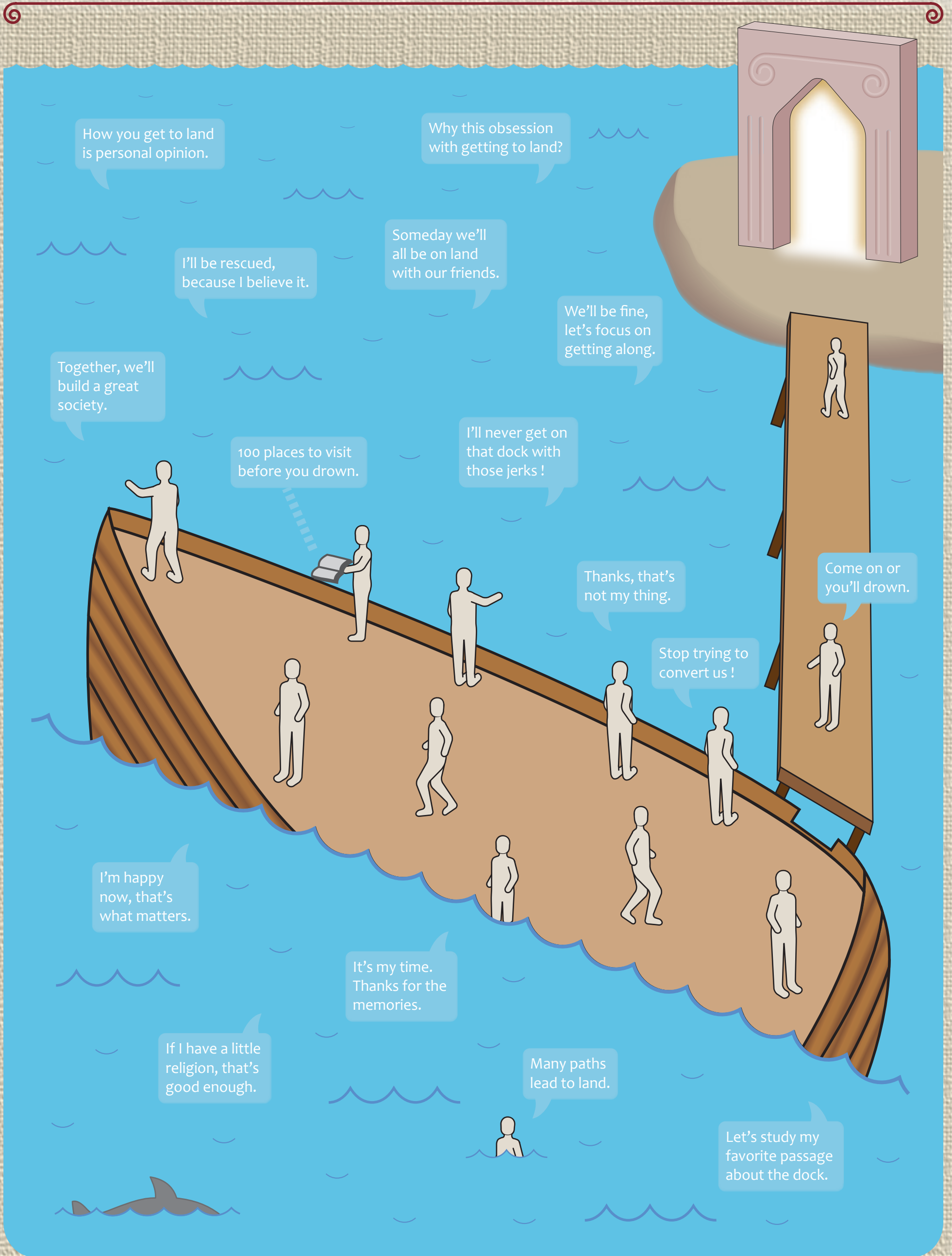


No Cup Refills



It's Sinking

Why would anyone not flee the boat?
Why would anyone not flee to eternal life?



Dangerous attitudes that hinder you from reaching paradise

Contentious I just can't get along with certain Christians
Deception I'm not deceived because I don't think I am
Apathy Why bother making sure I'm on the right path
Stubborn I don't agree with the way the church is doing it
Short sighted I don't care about eternity, just so I'm content now
Assumptions I'm certain I already know what God wants

Pride I'll never admit those losers are right instead of me
Reckless I'm gambling that God isn't bothered by my morality
Sentiment I'll never accept that some won't make it to heaven
Careless I mix Christianity with what else I think it needs
Illogical I don't care if a religion is true, as long as I like it
Rebellion The Bible doesn't let me be who I really am

Search For Eternal Life

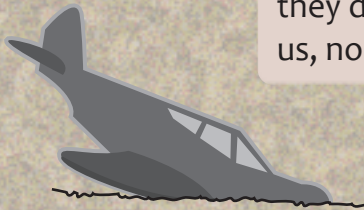
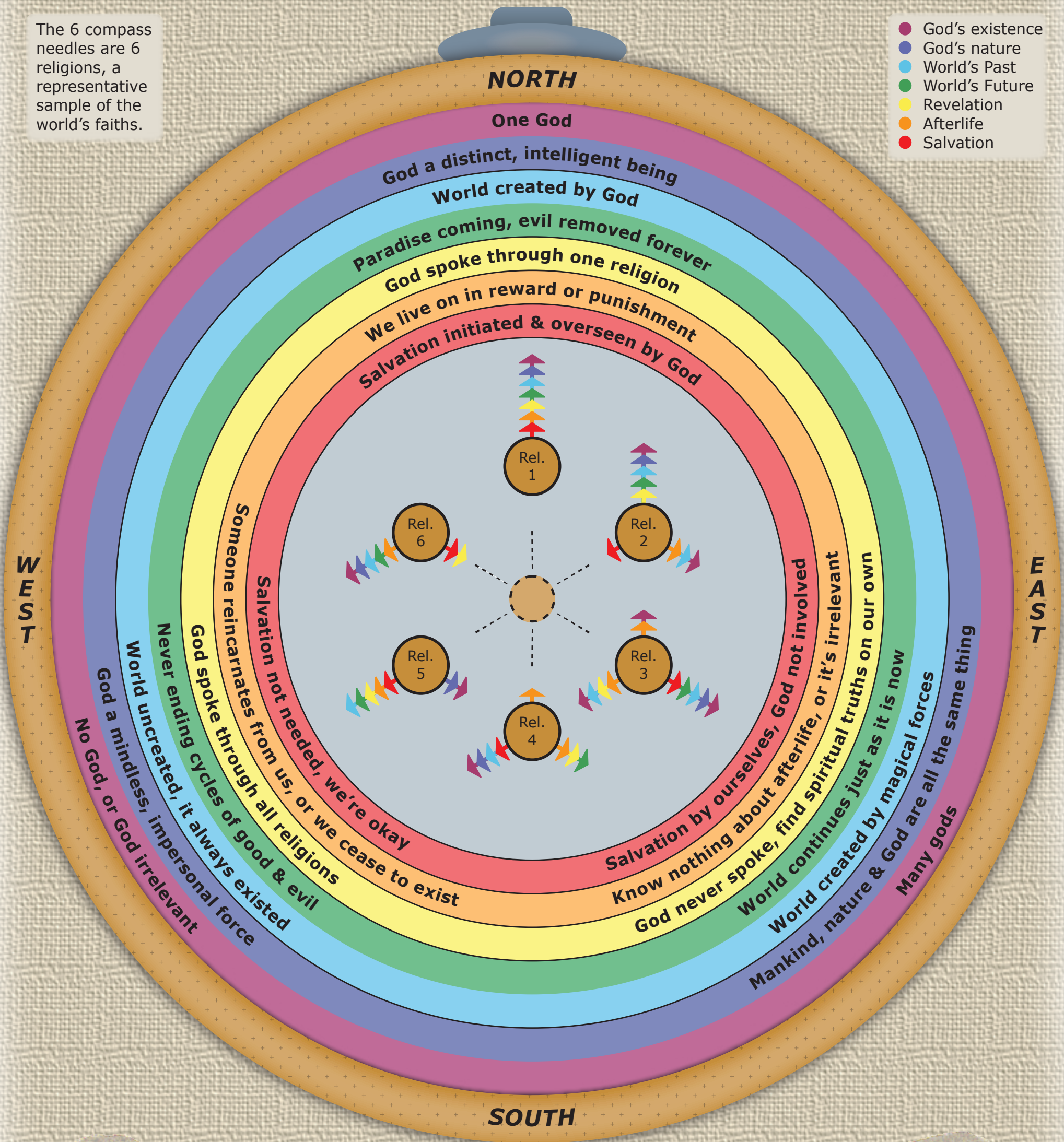
What if someone set out to find eternal life, starting with a blank sheet?



Do All Religions Teach the Same Thing

The 6 compass needles are 6 religions, a representative sample of the world's faiths.

- God's existence
- God's nature
- World's Past
- World's Future
- Revelation
- Afterlife
- Salvation



Why use those other compasses? Half the time they don't agree with the one the captain gave us, nor do they agree with each other.

I ignore all the times when they don't agree, so in my opinion they all say the same thing.

In time of war, a plane crashes behind enemy lines on a cloudy night. Rescue lies due north, if reached by daybreak. Each soldier has a functioning compass, but some also fashion their own compasses.



I've come to believe that all compasses contain a portion of the truth.

Which Religion

Religions claim to inform us about the spiritual world.
How do we decide which are telling the truth?

There once was an island that was part of a kingdom far away on the mainland. The primitive islanders had no boats and none had ever seen the mainland or the king, nor did they possess his advanced powers and knowledge. The island was slowly sinking into the sea, so the king continually sent messengers to explain himself, the mainland, and how to get there. These ambassadors brought many proofs to convince the islanders of their authenticity. Other men arose on the island, also claiming knowledge from beyond the sea. Each islander had to figure out who they would trust.

Section 1 (Top Left): A group of blue people. A speech bubble says "Nope." A red starburst with 'M' is nearby. A speech bubble asks "Where's your boat? Have you ever taken anyone out on the water?"

Section 2 (Top Right): A group of blue people. A speech bubble says "Your group's ambassadors - can you tell me their names, dates, historical context, miracles, and is this written down?" Another speech bubble says "No, no, no, no, and no." Symbols include a book and a grave.

Section 3 (Middle Left): A group of blue people. A speech bubble asks "Where does your official document end & the opinions of men begin?"

Section 4 (Middle Right): A group of blue people. A speech bubble asks "How many ambassadors were sent?" Another speech bubble says "Ignore all the others. Our guy replaces them all." Symbols include a book and a grave.

Section 5 (Bottom Left): A group of green people. A speech bubble says "We know nothing about the king & his mainland. We make life on this sinking island better." Symbols include a book and a grave.

Section 6 (Bottom Middle): A group of green people. A speech bubble asks "Why don't your converts ever invite us to join them?"

Section 7 (Bottom Right): A group of green people. A speech bubble asks "You telling me the king only sent a message once, by one person?" Symbols include a book and a grave.

Central Area: A large group of blue people. Above them are several groups of red starbursts with 'M'. Below them are several groups of purple starbursts with 'P'. A boat is visible in the water on the right.

LEGEND

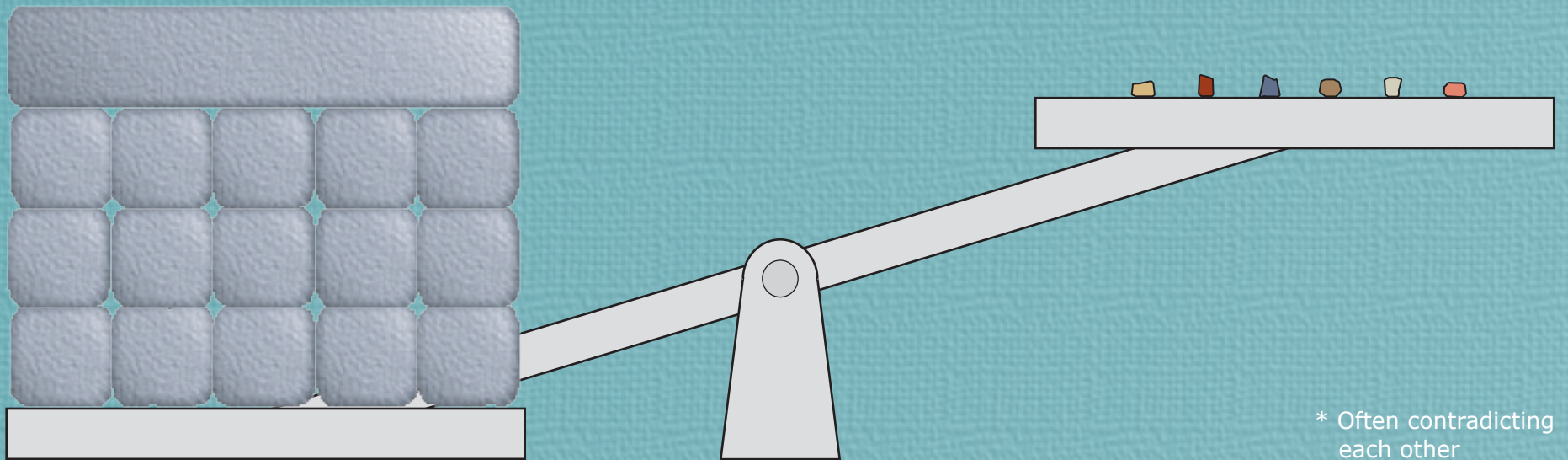
- Ambassadors. Proven contact with God & spiritual world. Then they teach us what they know.
- Converts. Devoted lives show they are convinced of the religion's validity.
- Miracles. Supernatural events that could only be caused by supernatural beings.
- Predictions. Supernatural knowledge of the future that only supernatural beings possess.
- Invitations. Persuaded of the religion's truth and value, converts passionately ask us to join them.
- Repetition. Each episode where God met men, with full historical documentation.
- Validation. What's promised has been historically demonstrated, i.e. dead raised, bodies healed.
- Documentation. Written and well defined official definition of the religion.

Who Knows Better

To find out what God is really like, what source of information carries the most weight?

The Nation of ancient Israel

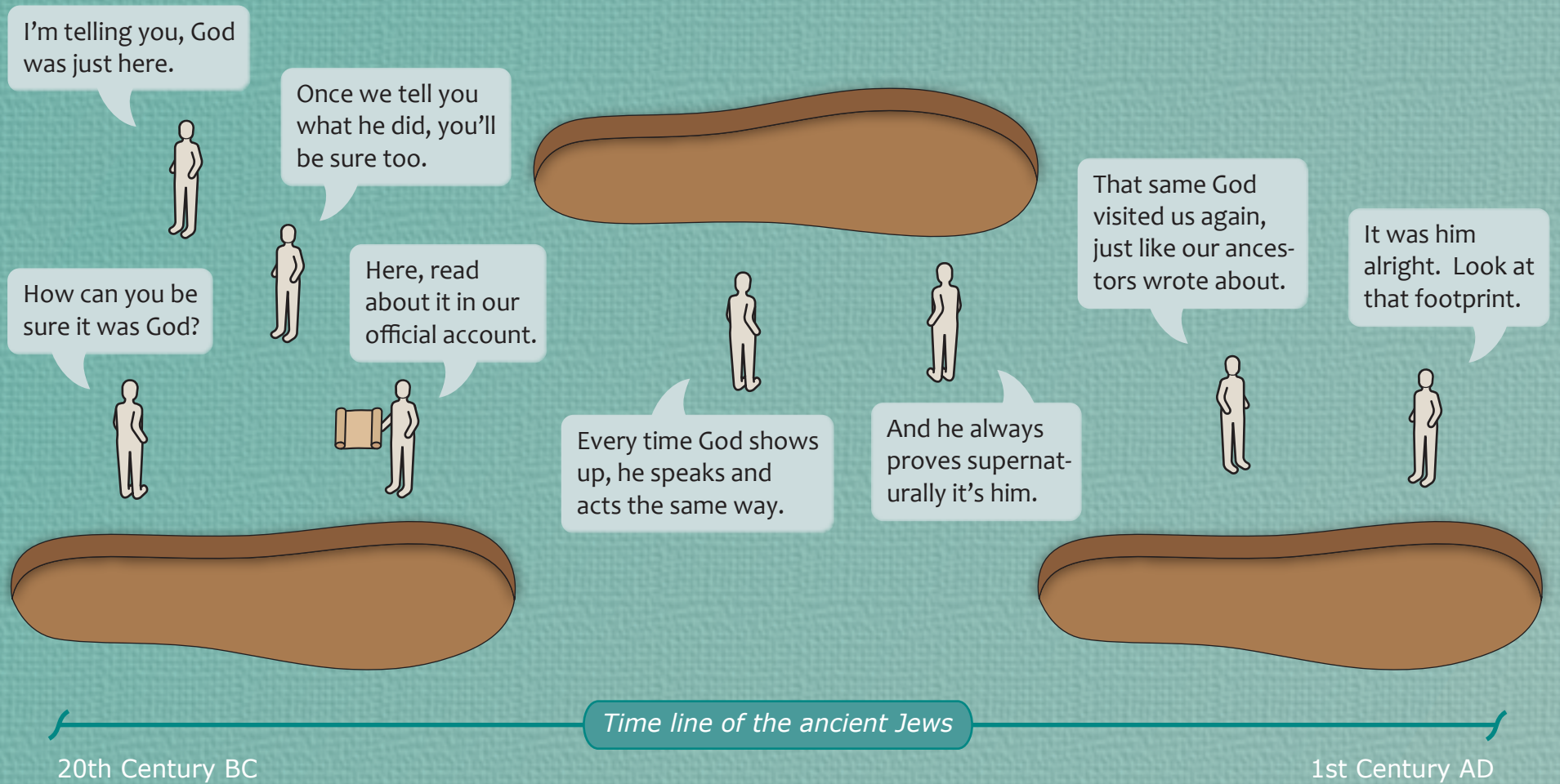
Individual opinions *



* Often contradicting each other

Why does Israel's description of God carry so much weight?

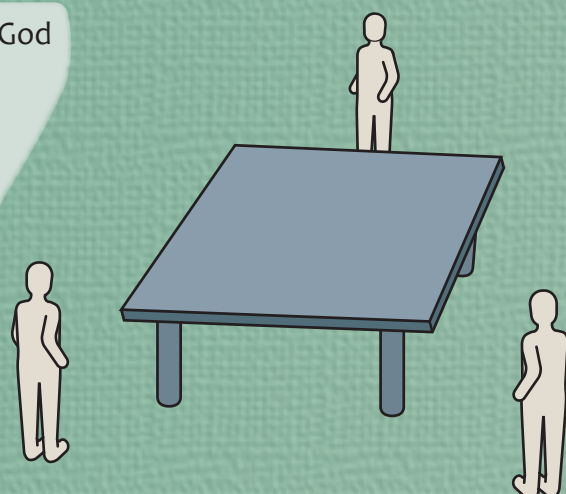
Because they met him . . . many times.



And why does one person's opinion carry so much less weight?

Lay on the table proof that your knowledge of God rivals ancient Israel's. Include the following:

- Seas parted, armies routed and dead raised.
- Churches which formed out of your views.
- Additional prophets God sent to confirm your doctrines.
- Missionaries traveling the world spreading your ideas.
- Number of centuries your opinions have been tested.

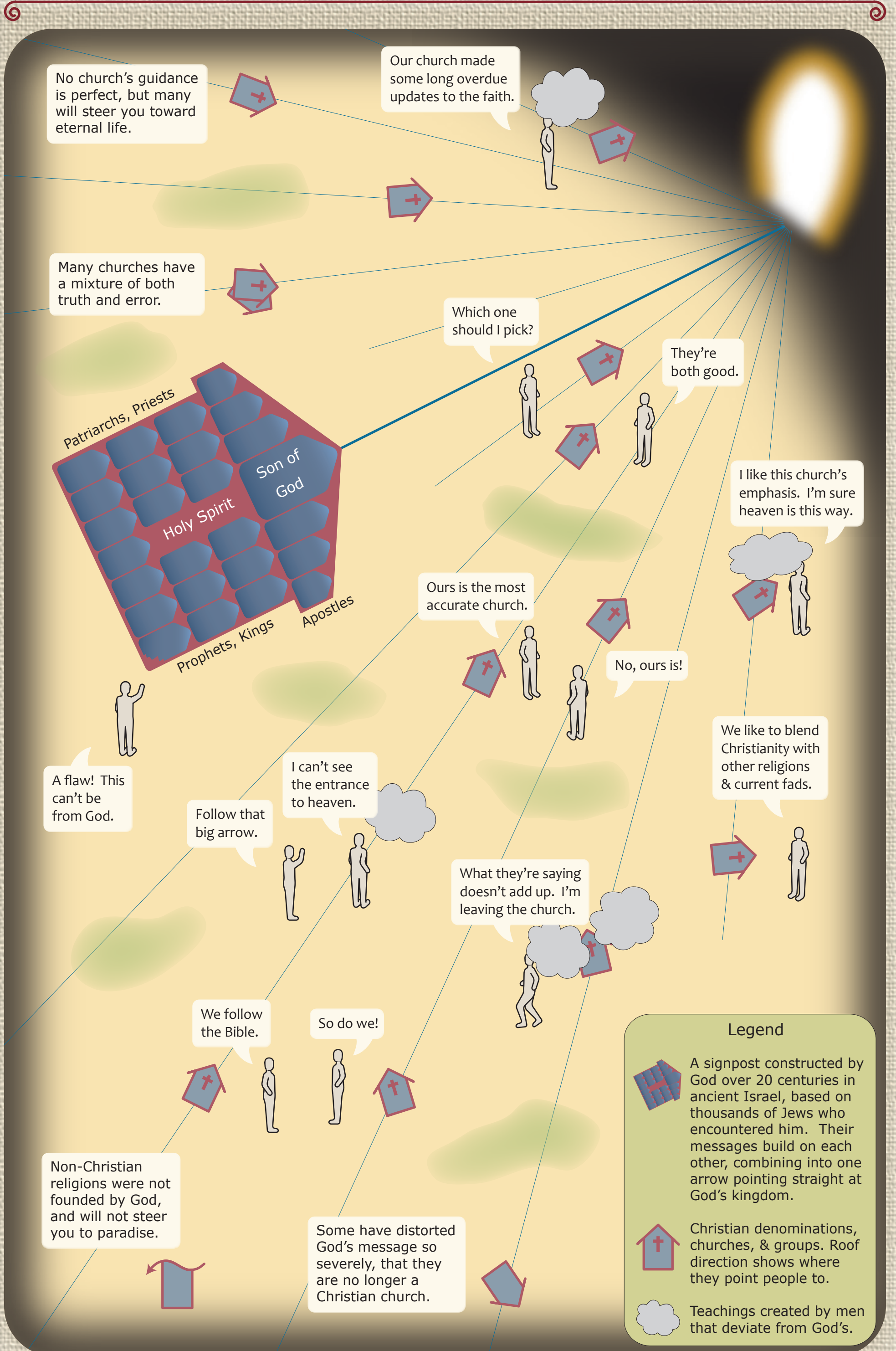


After that, put this evidence on the table:

- Number of converts to your unique ideas.
- Your predictions fulfilled after 1000 years.
- Angelic encounters, miraculous births and audible voices from heaven.
- Skeptics throughout history who have challenged your theories.
- Names of those who willingly died for your opinions.

What About Denominations

Of the many versions of Christianity, how does one determine which point in the right direction?



Recognizing False Prophets

Over the last 2000 years many false prophets have risen in the Christian tradition, deceiving millions.

God's True Prophets

- None renounced their Jewish predecessors.
- Proven by many miracles & predictions.
- Besides these below, many other Israelites encountered God directly.
- Even false prophets accept the legitimacy of true prophets.



The Bible and Christianity are corrupt. God sent me with new revelation.



Either I trust all of them, or you alone? Easy choice.



I stand upon the Christian tradition, yet I contest it.



I'm starting a new religion, Christianity plus hidden wisdom.



The Bible cannot be understood without me.



You're a powerful leader and dynamic speaker. You can't be a false prophet.



Ignore those Jewish prophets. I'm replacing them.



I revere the Bible, parts of it.



Mine is the only true church.

I am the return of Jesus!



All religions once taught what I am now restoring.



I was sent by God, just like them.



But your message is different.

And you're not even Jewish.



False Prophets

- Lure by charisma.
- Create splinter groups.
- Stand alone. Never confirm each other.
- Claim to be Christian, but contradict God's prophets.
- A rare few have managed to draw followers in the millions.

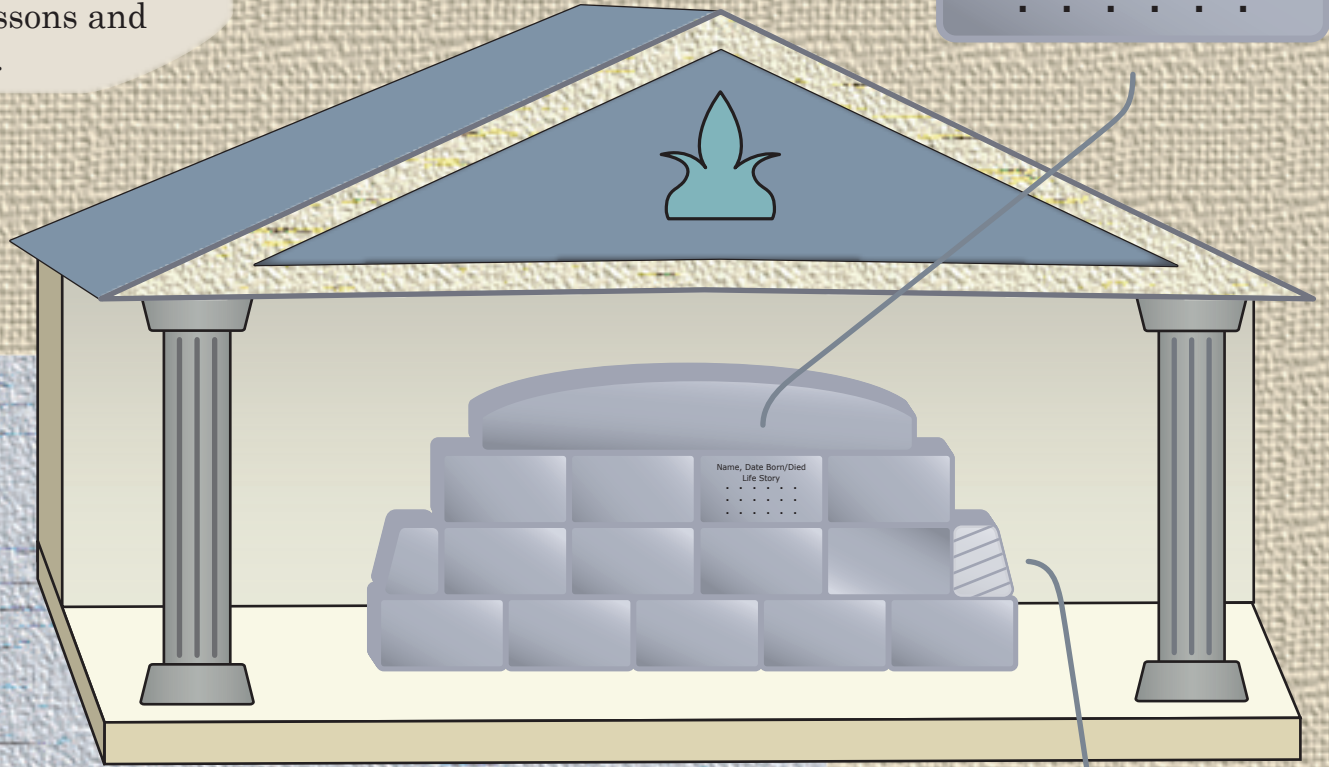


The Right Books

Did the ancient Jews and Christians hand down to us the right biblical books, ones that tell the truth?

There once was a family clan. As significant relatives died, a memorial stone was added to the clan monument, venerating their life. For centuries the shrine grew. Later generations molded their lives around the lessons and values inscribed on these stones.

Name, Date Born/Died
Life Story
.....
.....
.....



Students, we've studied this sacred memorial. The teachers will now test your understanding.



The stones were not added by strangers, but by children of the deceased.



Why can we trust what our ancestors added to this monument?



They are sacred to those who laid them, and to our clan ever since.



They weren't laid by one person. It's construction spanned generations.



Our fathers would not build a holy memorial with known falsehoods.



How can we know the same stones are still there?



Successive generations keep confirming what's been laid. The test of time.



Survey our history and early literature. Those exact same stones guided clan life in all eras.



Years ago, a conclave of patriarchs declared this a holy memorial. Was *that* when the stones were placed?



Try adding or removing a stone. The clan would **not** stand idly by.



No. That's one snapshot in time of the monument's status. There are many others snapshots, both before and after that conclave.

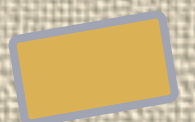


Some denominations include a few books that others don't. These extras do not alter the main message. They do demonstrate how selecting the books was a church wide effort.

Unchanging table of contents

Jews and Christians parted 2000 years ago, yet their lists of Old Testament books are still in remarkable agreement.

Other books appear biblical, but were never placed as "memorial stones" by those closest to the scene. Rejected by generations of believers ever since, they lack the ring of truth. They usually don't change the message, adding only nonessentials.



Copying the Bible

Were the words of the Bible altered as it was repeatedly copied over the centuries?

The Copying Process

Antiquity

Today

Over time, independent copying branches formed. Changes in one branch would not affect other branches. These barriers came from conflict between groups, geographical distance, national borders, translations, etc.



Master Copy

It's not hard to make a faithful reproduction when master and copy exist side by side for centuries.

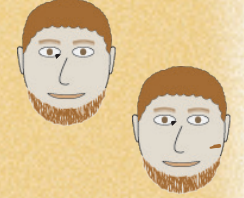
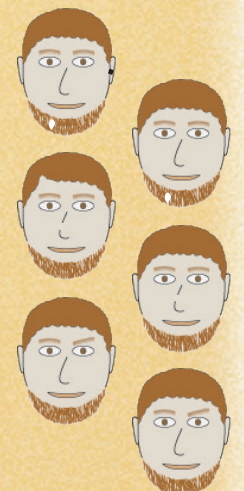
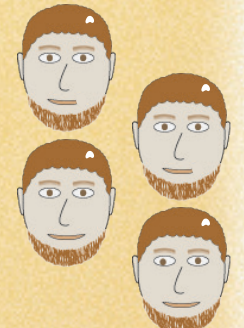
Since manuscripts can last for centuries, there are not very many generations between the original and today's copies.

Changes in this copy would *never* spread to all the others.

Some copies today are up to 2000 years old.

The close agreement between copies today proves the copying process was dependable.

New Copy Made



Shown here are independent copying branches formed in the Bible's early years, each creating a "brick wall" between blocs of Jews (or Christians) along with their copies.

Israel destroyed, Jews dispersed

Christians spread through ancient world

Jewish/Christian split

Latin translation

Greek translation

Denominational splits

Migration to Egypt, Greece, etc.

Translated into other languages

Babylonian exile

Israel north/south split

500 AD

Samaritans

Assyrian exile

Quoted in other literature

100 AD

1000 BC



Beginning many centuries before Christ, Jews & later Christians spread copies of the scriptures around the world.

Today's copies disagree in a very small % of cases. Most are resolved by comparing copies. Remaining variations are minor and do not affect the meaning.

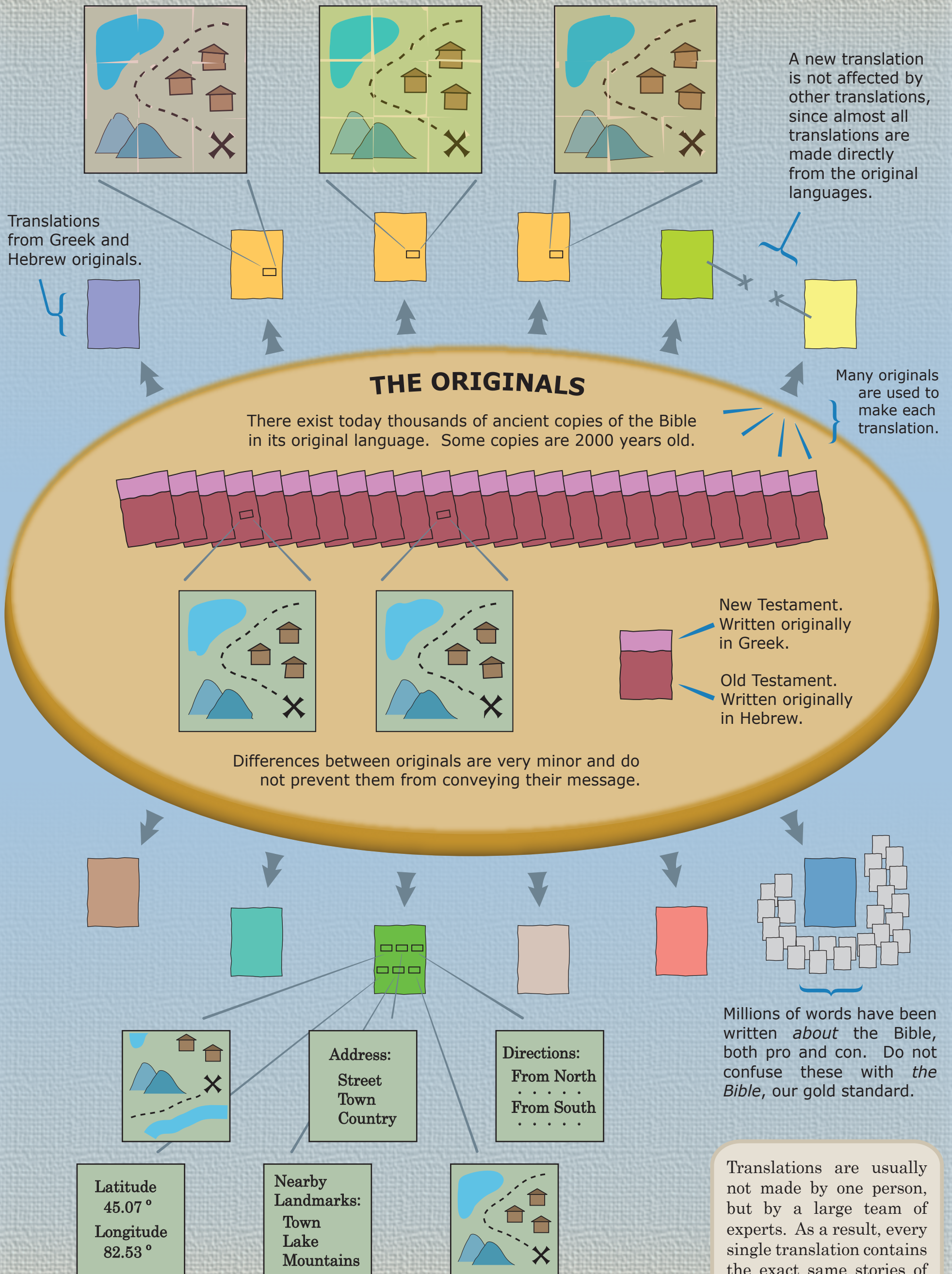
The Bible's wide geographical dispersal has made it immune to alteration by one man or group.

If there had been major tampering, either intentional or accidental, we would have widely diverse readings among today's copies. But we do not see that at all.

Bible Translations

Does God's message still come through clearly when the Bible is translated into other languages?

Adaptability Although the building blocks of language change in translation, the story of each biblical passage still comes through clearly, showing us the way to God's kingdom.



Redundancy The Bible contains many forms of directions, each pointing to the same location, God's truth. This repetition, with variety, further insures that the story comes through correctly when translated.

Translations are usually not made by one person, but by a large team of experts. As a result, every single translation contains the exact same stories of the red sea parting, the Babylonian exile, and the resurrection of Jesus.

The Past

Passage
of
time

The Present

As towns grow along rivers, Israel grew along their scriptures, which defined and influenced their:

origins	laws	festivals	land
worship	taxes	names	wars
food	kings	hopes	...

The accounts in the Bible are of real people, the Jews and the early Christians, who built their lives around what they knew to be true.

A large river confirms the existence of a large body of land beyond the horizon. In the same way, the Bible confirms 20 centuries of this nation's history.



The written record of Jewish national history

Early Church

Jesus the Messiah

Christian

Traditions & rituals

Jewish

Return from Babylon

Archeological finds

Judgement & exile

Prophets & Kings

Jews cited in secular histories

David & Solomon

Exodus & Conquest

The Jews wrote down messages & events as they occurred, gradually building a national diary.

Patriarchs

Creation & flood stories in cultures around the world

These rivers each traveled separately through time. They independently reveal the existence of ancient Israel, and they confirm many details in the Bible.

Modern men have not been to the other side of the hills. Their opinions on what they think "really" took place in ancient Israel have no value.

Israel is one of the best documented nations of antiquity.

These rivers are the only link we have to the other side of the hills. They carry news from a place we can never travel back to, but we can drink from their life giving waters today.

Myth Versus History

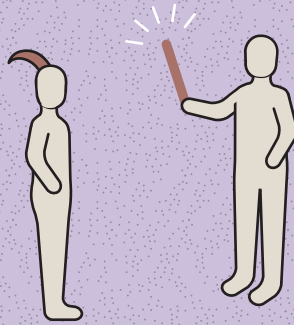
How should biblical stories with miracles be viewed, as fictitious legends or factual history?

Sense from the Author:
It's a fascinating tale. Enjoy.

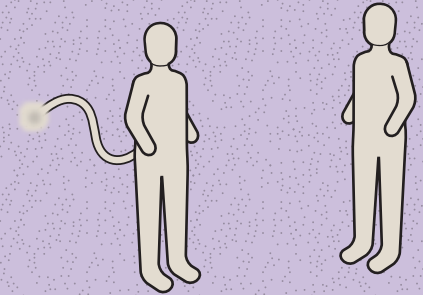
Once upon a time, in a far off land, there lived a rascal magician.



Hey, I'm growing horns.



So, what's for lunch?



Fictional land, detached from reality

Magical, silly or bizarre

As if the supernatural were common

Could never be proven false

Blurring of natural & supernatural

No missionaries

Historical context

Nature of the miracle

People's reactions

Names & events known from history

Purpose is to assist, instruct, or prove

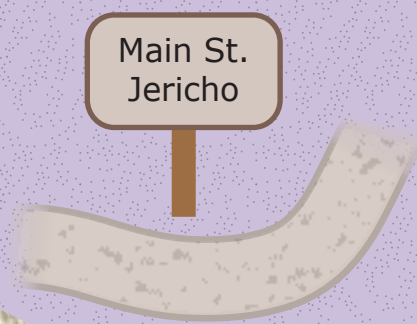
Astonishment, like you and I would react

Places we can visit even today

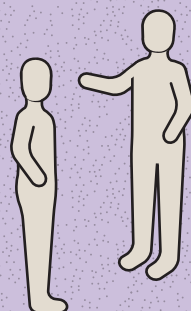
Rare and distinct

Lives altered, a nation and a religion founded

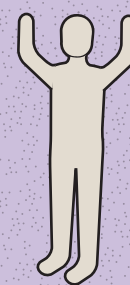
In the 15th year of Tiberius Caesar, a man named Jesus from Nazareth, before many witnesses, did this . . .



I . . . I can see.



Wow!



Listen to what I just saw!



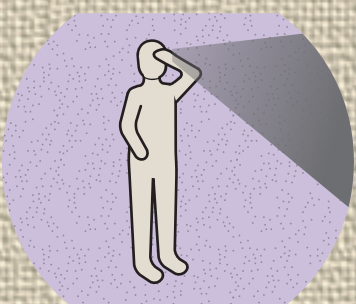
Sense from the Author:
This really happened. Take it seriously.

Similarities between fictional stories & your life don't make you mythical. Likewise between myths and the Bible.

Fanciful embellishments of Bible stories, written centuries later, do not convert the originals into myths.

Anti-Supernatural Bias

This man is blind to part of reality because he thinks . . .



Even serious stories *have* to be fiction, if they include miracles.

Proven frauds permit me to label anyone as a fraud, if I don't agree with them.

I quickly accept evidence, as long as it supports my preconceived bias.

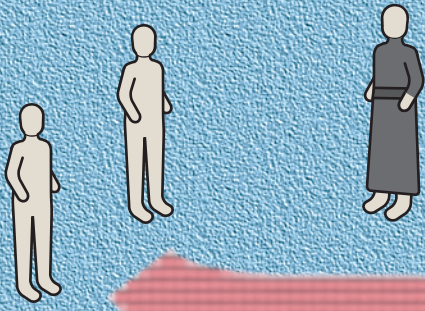
I set the required proof for the supernatural slightly higher than the proof given.

I must see it to know that something occurred. Others seeing it proves nothing.

Fact or Fiction

Should you believe everything the biblical authors wrote down?

1. Preparing the jury



Judge's Briefing

Prospective jurors, this case has many witnesses. Your job is to decide if they are telling the truth.

You must assume the witness is honest and competent, unless you have evidence to the contrary.

You cannot selectively dismiss parts of their testimony without a valid reason.

They saw these events, we did not. Other opinions of what happened at the scene are inadmissible.

The burden of proof for their reliability should be reasonable, without demanding near perfection.

Men's lives are at stake. Arrive at the correct verdict.

2. Discarding baggage

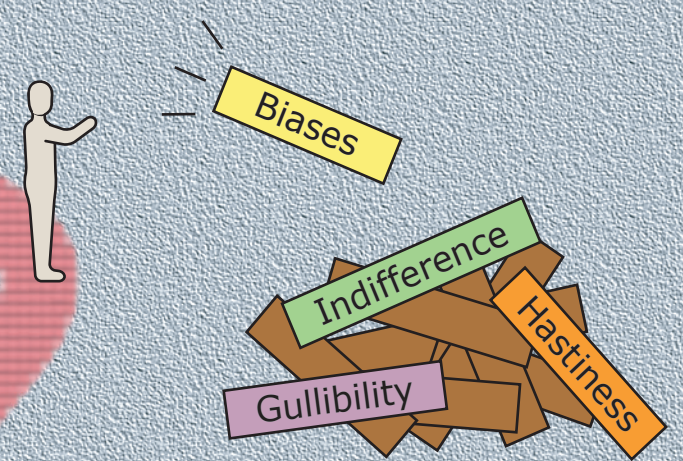
Banned from Courtroom

Deciding ahead of time what is and is not possible in this world.

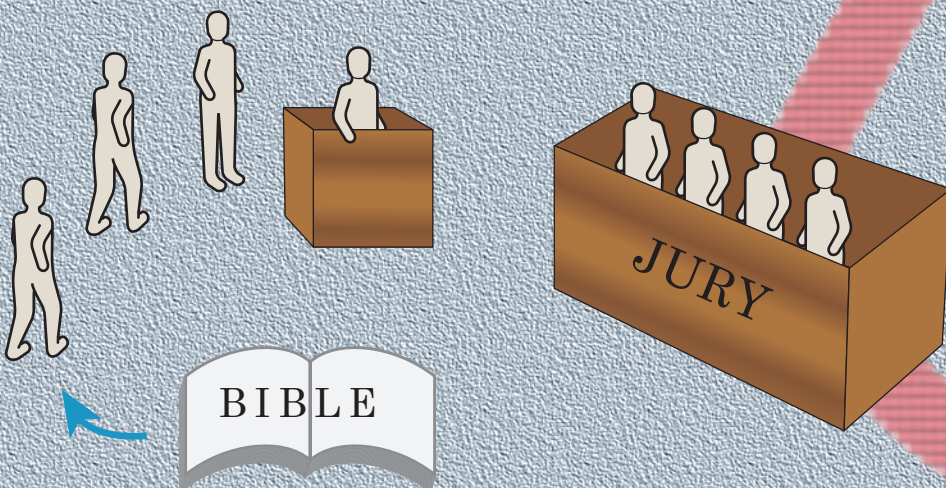
Applying different standards for spiritual and non-spiritual evidence.

A predetermined verdict.

Conclusions based on self interest, hidden behind weak arguments.



3. Hearing & weighing the witnesses



A Juror's Notes:

Each one gives essentially the same version . . .

They can't ALL be dimwits, or ALL liars . . .

Lived centuries apart, collaboration impossible . . .

This stuff's very public, everyone would know if it's true . . . and it's as sacred as our constitution, everyone would care . . .

Another witness? When do they run out?

4. Casting a verdict

Reasons to Believe

Has ring of truth, with realistic, flawed people.

Many claimed to be eyewitnesses.

No record of deceit, recanting, greed, madness.

There are no alternate versions.



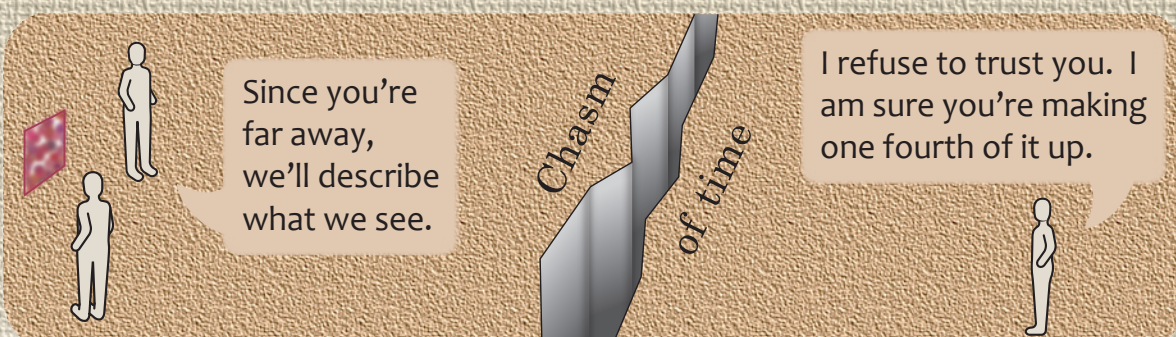
Reasons to Doubt

Because there aren't even more witnesses.

Everyone was "in on it".

I don't like what they're saying.

Focus on nitpicky discrepancies.



Since you're far away, we'll describe what we see.

I refuse to trust you. I am sure you're making one fourth of it up.

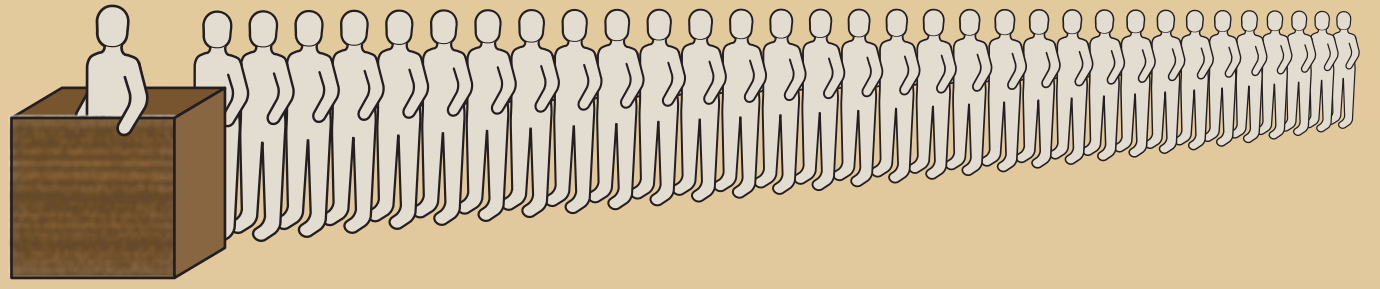
Then why not believe every religion?

Many religions don't even have any written witness testimony that resembles history (i.e. not mythical). The rest typically rely on one man's opinions, not on witnesses describing what they've seen and heard.

Jesus - One of the best documented figures of antiquity



WITNESSES



Four distinct biographers.

Thousands of eye witnesses followed his very public life.

Described also in other New Testament books.

Highlights of his life passed down in church traditions & rituals.

Mentioned by early non-Christian historians.

Initial accounts upheld by writings of later generations.



PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

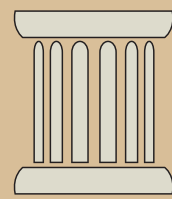


Archeology has unearthed thousands of artifacts which corroborate many names, dates and places cited in the New Testament.

A wealth of inscriptions and ruins from the first century onward reveal the birth of a movement based on a crucified savior.

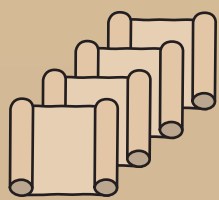
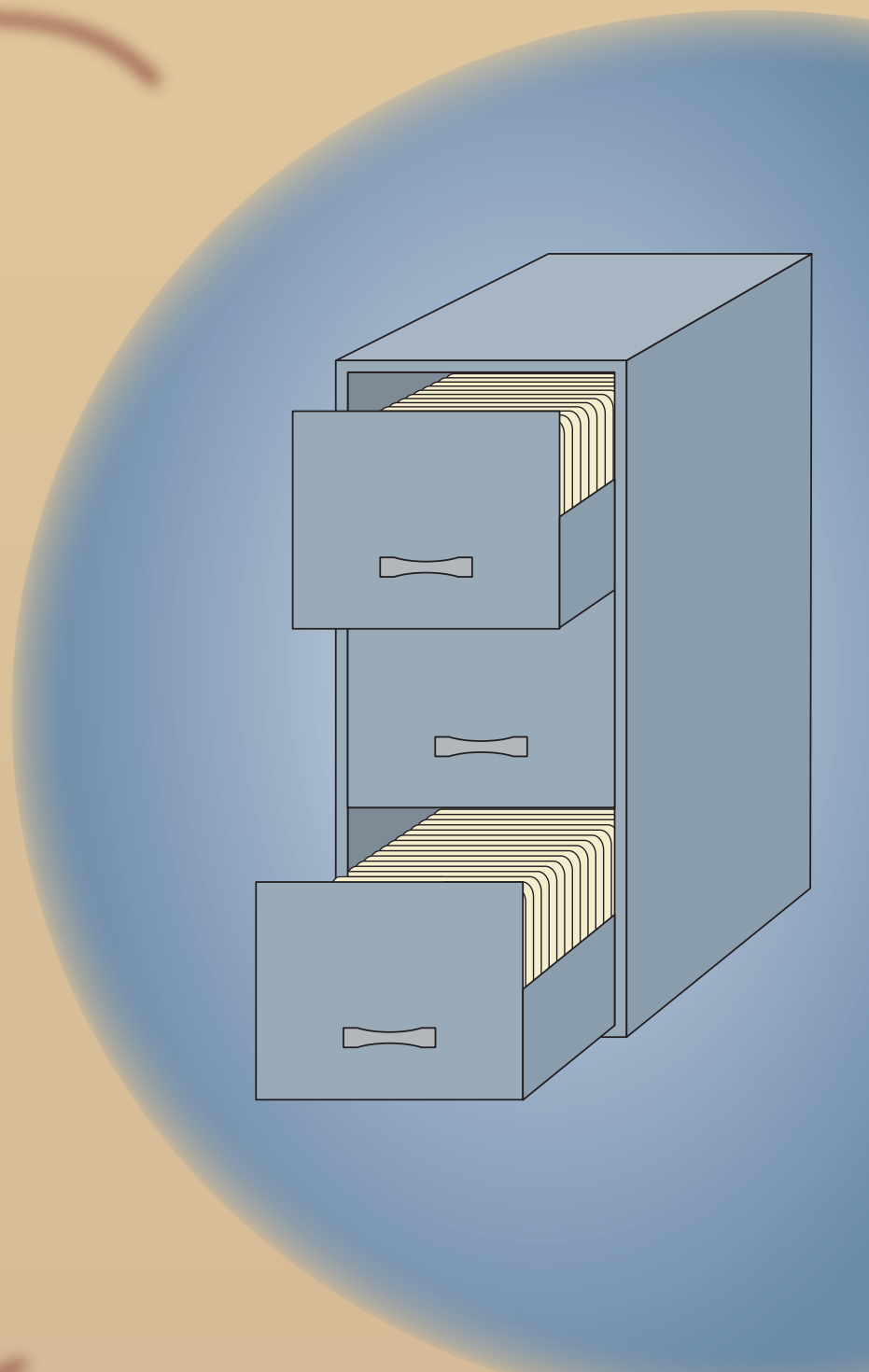


BACKGROUND INFO

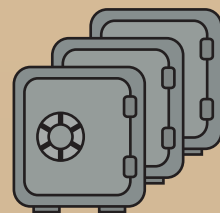


We know more about the nation that Jesus was born into than almost any nation of antiquity.

The political & cultural context around Israel at that time is known in great detail, coming from many secular sources as well as the Bible.



PRESERVING THE WRITTEN RECORD



New Testament books were quickly duplicated and distributed throughout the Roman empire & beyond.

Churches in Europe, Asia & Africa each safeguarded their copies of these sacred documents.



EXAMINED






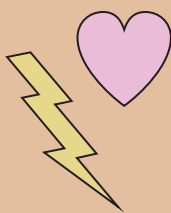




Jesus and his era have been studied and scrutinized like no other person in history.

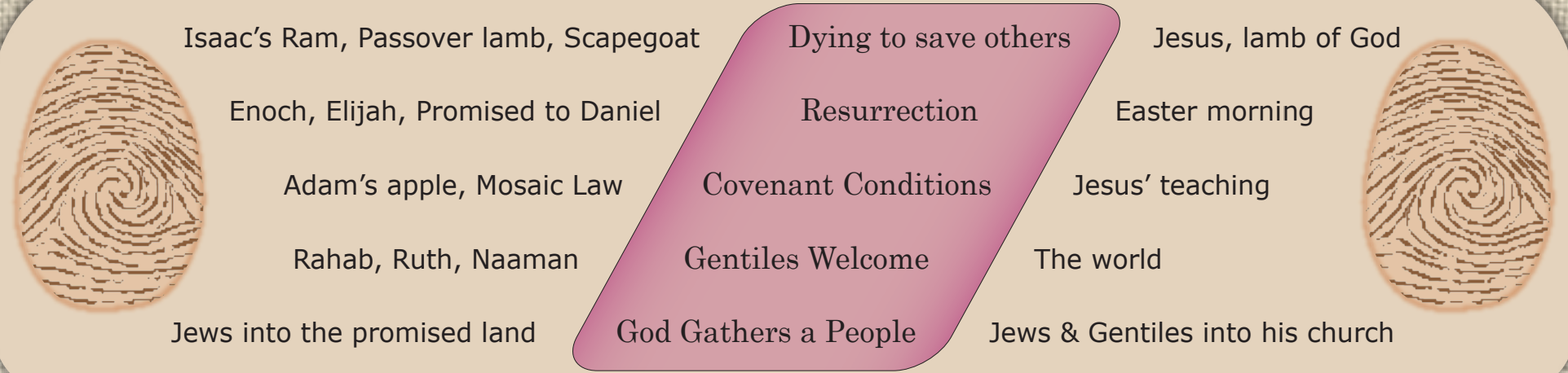
The many historical details in Jesus' biographies made them readily testable by first century readers and every generation since.

Like Father, Like Son

God followed consistent patterns when dealing with Israel, making his Messiah easily recognizable.

THEMES	OLD TESTAMENT	NEW TESTAMENT
	Patriarchs • Birth of a nation Moses • Gave the law Joshua • Brought Jews into the land Samuel • Initiated the kingship Nehemiah • Rebuilt Jerusalem	Jesus • Ushered in the Kingdom of God Peter • Built the Kingdom of God
	Abraham • Jews enslaved in Egypt Moses • Conquest of Canaan Samuel • David to be king Prophets • Messiah coming Prophets • Exile and return	John the Baptist • The Messiah is near Jesus • His death, resurrection, return
	Noah • Rainbow Abraham • Land promised Moses • Jews as God's nation David • Messiah's kingdom Jeremiah • New cov promised	Jesus • New covenant begun Apostles • New covenant preached
	Moses • Manna from God Joshua • Parted Jordan river Elijah • Fire from heaven Elisha • Healed leprosy Isaiah • Sun went backward	Jesus • Healed, fed many, walked on water Paul • Blinded a false prophet
	Joseph by his brothers Job by his three friends Moses by the Jews in Egypt David by King Saul Jeremiah by Jewish leaders	Jesus by Jewish leaders Apostles by Jewish leaders
	Worldwide flood Jews gifted their own land 40 years in the wilderness David forgiven Nineveh spared	Jesus died for us Ananias & Sapphira put to death
	Rescued Lot from Sodom Called Gideon Announced Samson's birth Defeated Assyrian army Rescued Daniel from lion's den	Announced Jesus' birth & resurrection Rescued Peter
	Samson for strength David for psalms Elisha for miracles Ezekiel for prophecy Promised to Christians by Joel	Jesus for ministry Believers for witness

Other threads running through both Old and New Testament



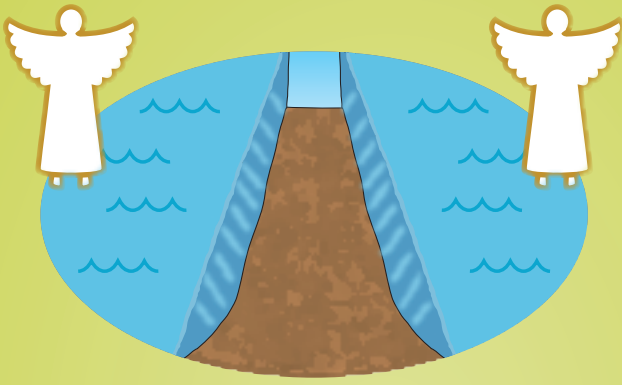
Proof

The evidence for Christianity does not hang on just a few threads.

Miracles

The Bible records over 200 miracles

What only God can do



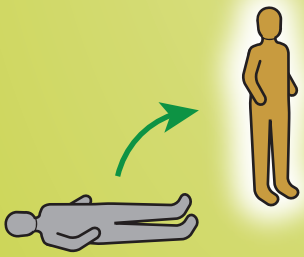
Proves divine source of message

Undeniably supernatural

Many observers

Demonstrated Cure

Miracles of physical healing and raising the dead prove that God has both the ability and intention to give us immortal bodies.



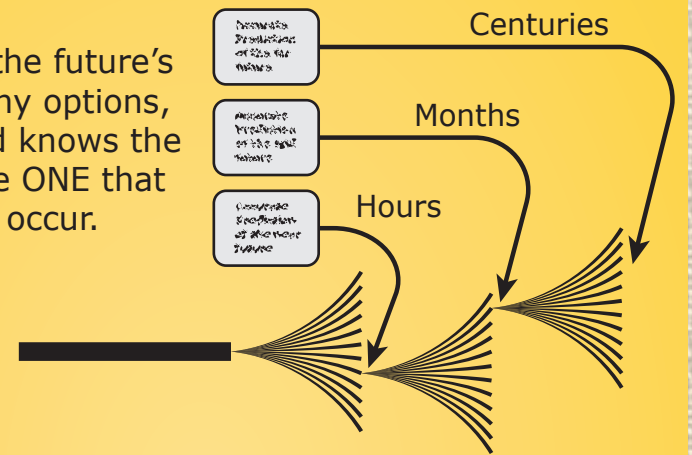
Fraudulent or careless claims of miracles do not cancel out the real ones.

Fulfilled Predictions

The Bible records over 200 fulfilled predictions

Predicted now Fulfilled later

Of the future's many options, God knows the lone ONE that will occur.



Past — Now — — — — Future

What only God can do

Demonstrated Forecasting

Repeated accurate foretelling of the future proves that Christianity can be trusted when it speaks on the afterlife.

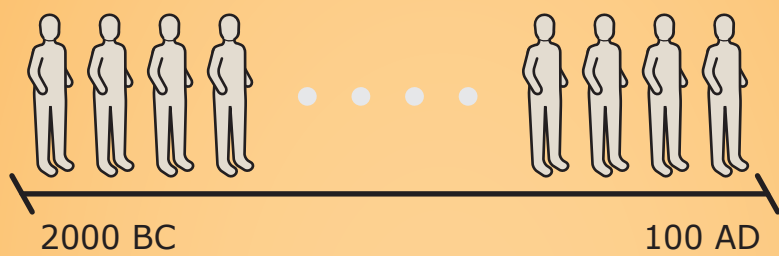


Vague or incorrect predictions by others do not nullify biblical predictions.

Witnesses

The Bible records over 100 direct witnesses

WE MET GOD

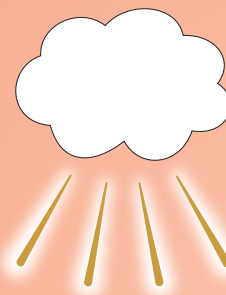


Unique supernatural encounters with God

Their descriptions of him all match

In a few cases God revealed himself to thousands at the same time

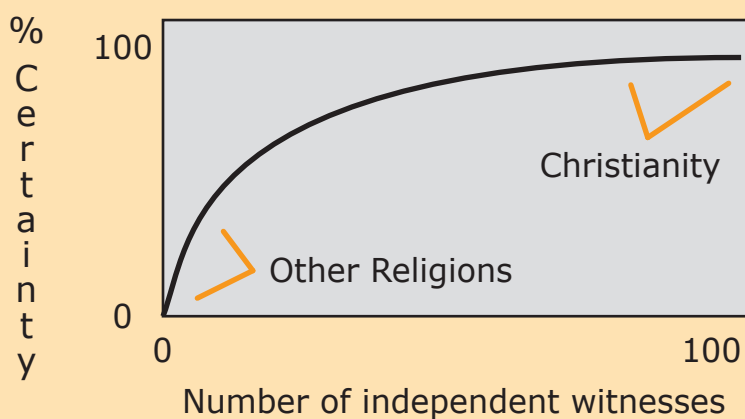
The evidence for Christianity isn't only in the Bible



Seen among Christians worldwide, past and present:

- Miracles
- Physical healing
- Answered prayers
- Supernatural guidance
- Increased love & holiness
- ...

From its birth, Christianity spread around the world, as the Old Testament prophets and Jesus predicted.



It's fantastic... and real!



Millions of Christians passionately tell others about their faith. The evidence has convinced them of its truth.

Phony Christians do not undo genuine believers.

What Lures You Away - Objections to Christianity

Suffering & evil

Why does God allow suffering & evil to continue?



God's fabulous plan will soon end all suffering and evil . . . forever!

I don't like his plan.


I hate this filthy prison and these violent convicts. Why doesn't the warden do something?

Not interested. Your pardon doesn't get me out of here fast enough.



PARDON

If a good & all-powerful God existed, he would obviously handle this issue exactly as I would.



He demanded evil be stopped immediately, so we started with him.

CONSIDER

- Our sin brought God's curse on the earth. If the curse is really bad, it's because **we** are really bad.
- The innocent (Jesus) experienced this world's suffering & evil to rescue the guilty (us).

◇ No Special Rules ◇

When judging the Bible's reliability, use the same rules & criteria you would use on any other literature.

Bible Contradictions

Does the Bible contain discrepancies & contradictions?

I saw three cop cars at the park.

There's a policeman down the street.

I saw three people healed at church!

A deaf man got his hearing back, down the street!

Minor differences between descriptions are normal, and would not lead us to doubt that the event happened.

Two people's descriptions of a supernatural event will have the same degree of minor differences.

A Genuine Discrepancy



Author #1:
Jesus crucified in Jerusalem.

Author #2:
Jesus died in battle in Egypt.



The Bible has nothing close to this.

Stories may only *appear* to contradict because of:

- Parts included/left out
- Approximations
- Different perspectives
- Figurative language
- Summarizing
- Language isn't math

An imperfect eye witness account has the ring of truth, showing it wasn't fabricated or cleaned up afterward.



What Lures You Away - Objections to Christianity

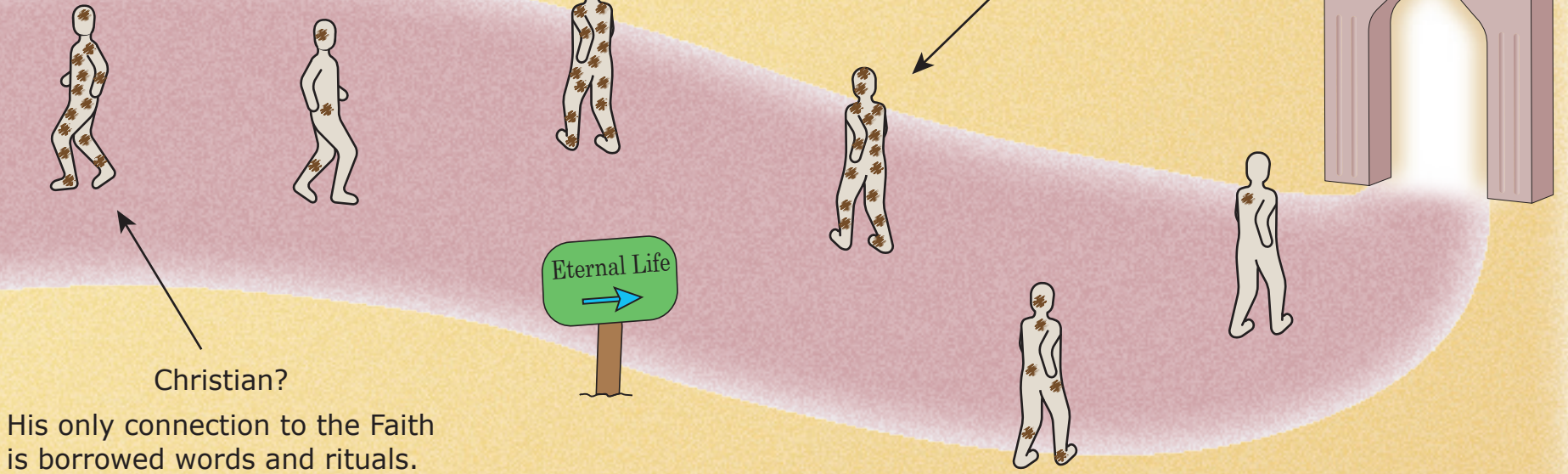
◆ Keep your eyes on the road, not the people. ◆
 . . . and make sure YOU are headed the right direction.

Hypocrites

Are phony Christians a reason to leave the faith?

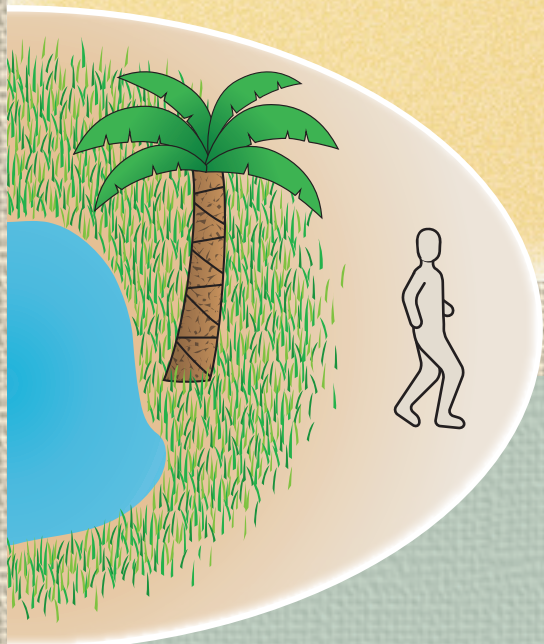
Will you leave the path of life because of this jerk, letting him decide your eternal destiny?

He makes you mad, but does he make the Bible untrue?



Would you turn your back on God only because he patiently endures fake Christians for now?

God will punish all false believers at the judgment. Until then, he gives them time to turn around. Some do, some don't.



Relative or Absolute

Are religious truths determined by opinion?

Time's up students. Hand in your exams.

That was a tough test.

Don't worry, the right answers are personal preference.

In kindness, I like to believe everyone's answers are correct.

With religion, let everyone believe whatever they want.



Apathy benefits no one.

Relative truths - true for me only, my opinion

My favorite food
I am attractive



Absolute truths - true for all, one right answer

Who are my parents
Does the moon exist



These must be absolute truths

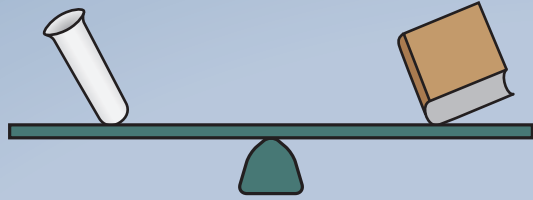
Existence of God
Who made the world
What happens to you at death

Religious truths are not relative just because people around the world carelessly believe contradictory ideas.

Right & wrong are personal preference *only* if:

- 1) God does not exist
- or
- 2) He has no moral opinions

What Lures You Away - Objections to Christianity



Science
Do science and the Bible disagree?

Science is simply a record of how nature usually behaves.

The bible records exceptions to the norm, called miracles.

Both are valid sources of information.
Neither should be banned.

CONSIDER

Science does not possess the omniscience needed to declare miracles impossible. It does tell us that they are rare, which the Bible agrees with.

Science which attempts to reconstruct the past is far less certain than science based on repeatable experiments.

Miracles aren't repeated on demand, and neither are tornadoes. We know both exist because others have seen them.

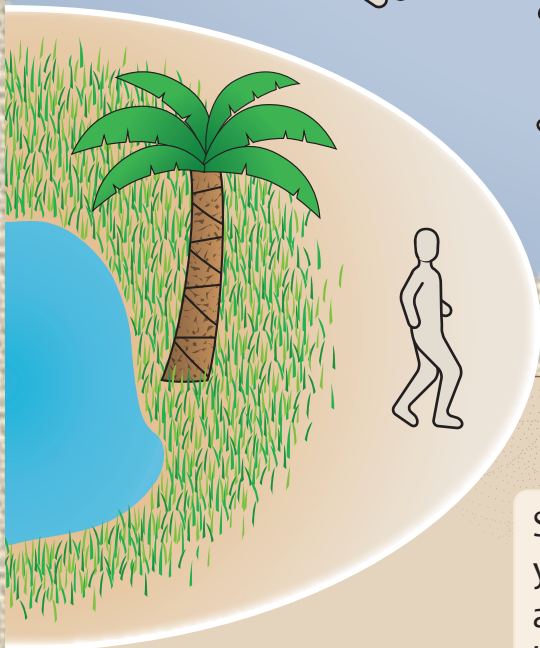
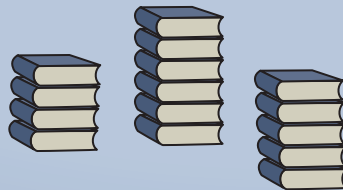


God works outside of natural laws, so it is impossible for science to prove that He did not create the world.

Trust us with your eternity. Here, check our calculations.

But you scientists change your mind every 50 years.

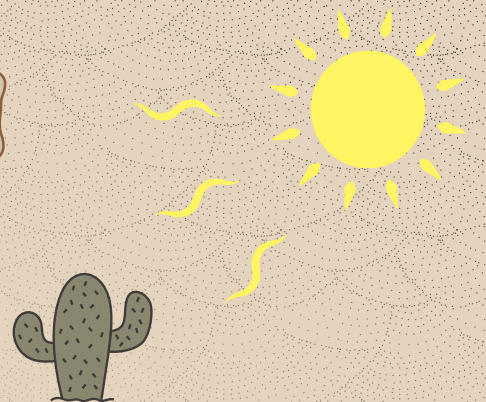
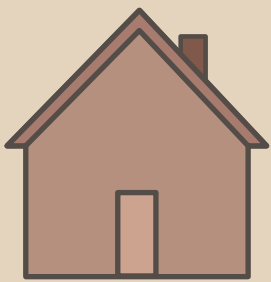
I know we do. But THIS time we are sure we got it right.



Disappointed
Would you leave God because you think He let you down?

Son, why are you running away from home?

You never gave me what I wanted, when I wanted it.



Jesus submitted to God and died on a cross, followed by resurrection to paradise. Were you expecting a different route for yourself?



God tests us.
Hang in there until the end, and your reward will be very great.

Are you perhaps blaming God or the entire church, for the rotten behavior of a few?

Remember that the Bible lists a number of conditions we must meet before our prayers will be answered.

If your expectations of the Christian faith are not being satisfied, adjust them.

What Lures You Away - Objections to Christianity

Exclusivity

Would God speak only through one religion?

I found the exit!
We're saved
from the fire.

EXIT

That wouldn't be fair to those in the other rooms. Therefore, all doors must lead to safety.

I'm sure God wouldn't work through only one religion, because I wouldn't.

My religion teaches the opposite of yours.

God is in all religions. We are both going to heaven.

My religion doesn't believe in a God or a heaven.

Oh. Well, I'll see you in heaven . . . maybe?

Can anyone produce evidence that at the final reckoning God will NOT judge each person's unique situation with fairness?

In no field is truth determined by how evenly it's known, and that includes religious truth.

If Christianity is a known cure, why refuse it just because it warns us of counterfeits?

Disagreeable Rules

Would you leave God because of what he asks of you?

Forget it. I like my freedom here.

How could you know more than us?

You homeless boys live in a garbage dump and are very ill. Follow my instructions, or you will die.

Doctor

You boys must also follow my rules to live.

No medical degree

Many rules are invented by men. Follow only what God's original messengers gave us.

Eternal life in paradise

Pick one



Forbidden Fruit
After 3 bites, it's taken from you forever.

What to do?
What to do?

CONSIDER

- o This world drifted so far from God, that his moral demands seem absurd.
- o God isn't dying, we are. So who knows more about healthy living?
- o The One who doesn't understand how sick he is, will not swallow bitter tasting medicine.



The Jewish Law?
The Bible's moral standards are for all mankind at all times. God also gave additional but temporary rules to the Jews who lived in ancient Israel.

What Lures You Away - Objections to Christianity

Wrath

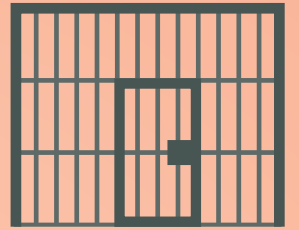
Does God punish unfairly?

How could you possibly know that before it even happens?

I'm positive God will be unfair on the day of final judgment.

I'm sure God unjustly used the death penalty in biblical times.

Did you sit in on the trial and hear every bit of evidence?



Why don't we ever see demonstrators outside prisons, protesting unfair punishment?

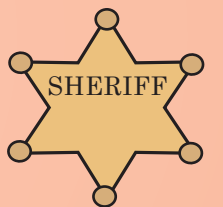
Don't get indignant over someone's embellished but misguided description of hell, beyond what the Bible teaches.

Since each of us would admit to some wrong doing - consider:



Are criminals who are preoccupied with critiquing the legal system really concerned with fairness?

Should the guilty be accusing the one who is offering amnesty?



Some people will never stop doing evil. Unlike the false gods portrayed by other religions, the true God will NOT allow that to continue indefinitely.

None of us has sufficient intellect, morality, or information to judge God with 100% fairness.

Enemy Tactics

Have clever men tricked you into doubting the faith?

Behold my arguments as to why the forest is at best an illusion.

He speaks with such confidence.

I'm convinced! I no longer see a forest.

Make much of this flaw. Ignore everything else.

How do you explain there being no tree here!

These obviously are not trees.

These imperfections cast serious doubt on whether these actually are trees.

Science has clearly proven that you need 30 trees to be called a genuine forest.

A forest of evidence in favor of Christianity

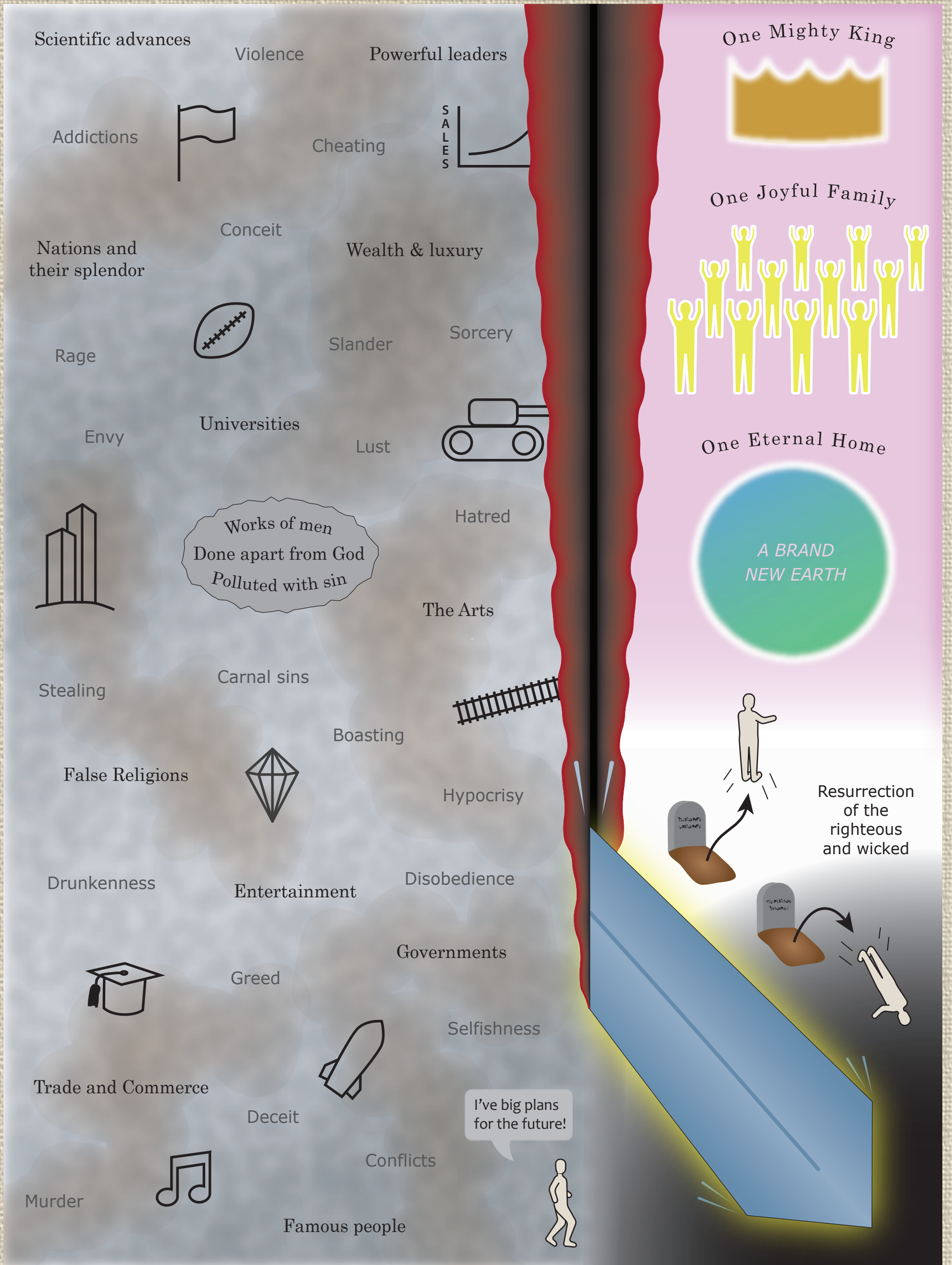
This one's sour experience with the church makes him an easy target for these enemy ploys.

Other schemes used by God's adversaries

- Double standard when comparing secular vs. biblical history
- Focus on villains with marginal ties to Christianity
- Lump Christianity with false religions that are easy to discredit
- Accuse Jewish nation of spending 2000 years building a hoax

The Great Day

The fate of this planet at the second coming of Jesus Christ.



The Promised Kingdom

One day soon, God will unveil a far superior world.
Here is what He has said that world will be like.



Evil is banished by a just and good King, one who insures safety, rest and prosperity.
Jeremiah

Shame, deceit & sorrow are replaced by honor, gladness and love from God.
Zephaniah

All will gather around God, serving Him. Sin is ended.
Micah



We come home to God, betrothed to him forever. Compassion flows from Him, and everyone is productive.
Hosea

The kingdom never ends. Its pure citizens shine like the heavens.
Daniel

We all live together, satisfied and enjoying an abundance.
Amos

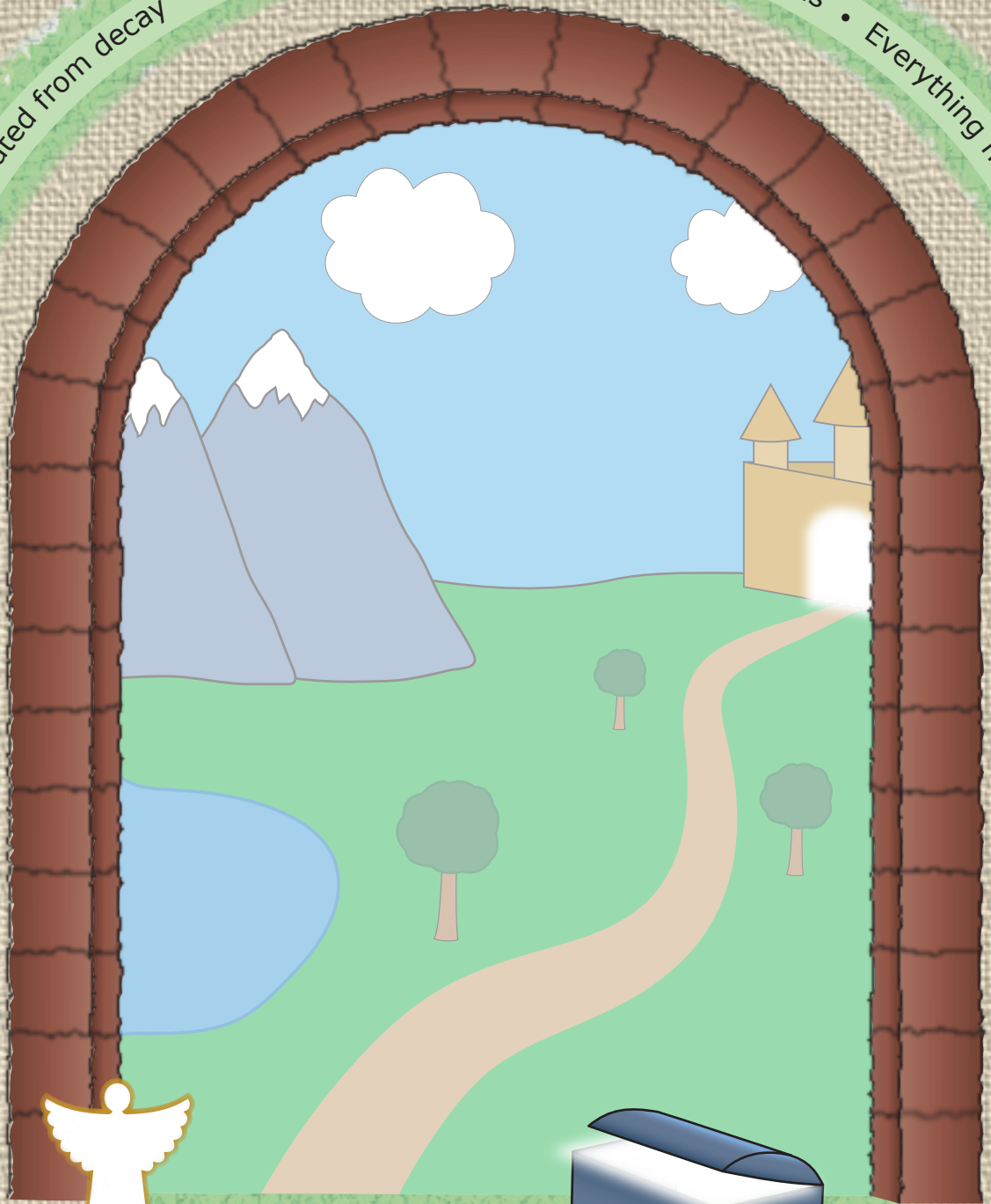
Healing flows from God. The wicked are no more.
Malachi

God's rule is worldwide, as all worship and obey Him. Prisoners are freed. His children sparkle, thrive, and walk in his name.
Zechariah

All know God, and everyone has a place to live. Peace and unity prevail, while famines and oppression cease.
Ezekiel

War, violence & weeping make way for beauty, joy, holiness, wealth and feasting. No harm is done to anyone. Death is abolished. God rules over all creation, and his loved ones are with Him forever in the eternal city.
Isaiah

From New Test: Share God's happiness • We rule over cities • Liberated from decay • Glorious, imperishable body • Be like Jesus • Everything new • No death, crying or pain • God lives with us & we see his face.



God gave Israel a land that could be seen and touched. And so will this blessed place be.

What no eye has seen nor ear heard

No force in the universe could ever prevent this new world from becoming a reality.

THESE WILL BE GONE - FOREVER

war • hospitals • pollution • hunger • prisons • loneliness • cemeteries • felonies • birth defects • blindness
accidents • injustice • savage animals • cheating • fights • barbed wire • ambulances • violence • hurricanes
cancer • divorce • padlocks • unemployment • lawsuits • revenge • rape • mold • riots • adultery • lunacy
prejudice • medicine • aging • child abuse • cripples • disease • earthquakes • assassinations • sorrow • evil
funerals • weapons • demons • addictions • massacres • poverty • tyranny • murder • satan • sin • death