



# How do you know there is a God?

(pt. 2)

**Psalm 14:1a - The fool says in his heart, “There is no God.”**

Last month I began a pseudo-conversation about knowing there is a God. If you don't have it, contact me and I will get it to you. In a nut shell it was about the reality that there is a God, or some intellectual force (I say God), behind the “scenes” that established and sustains all creation and how I came to that belief. This week I want to look at the top four religions in the world and deduct from them how I came to believe that Christianity makes the most sense. I would like to invite you along with me...

**Christianity.** As of 2012, 31% of the world was labeled Christian. That is basically anyone that says Jesus is the Messiah and the way to God. What are the basic beliefs? That God created us for relationships. That we are not able to be like God nor be where He is on our own merit. Because of this God paid the price to bring us where He is and it is only through Jesus' sacrifice that He has brought us into His presence. He is with us every second of every day loving and leading us through life. And when we make a mistake we ask forgiveness and are given grace.

**Islam.** The same study says that Islam makes up 22% of the world and is the second leading religion behind Christianity. Beliefs? They also believe there is one God (monotheism) but that you must achieve your own salvation by following the “Five Pillars (faith, prayer, charity, fasting and a pilgrimage to Mecca) of Islam” AND living a just life. The definition of “just” is “based on or behaving according to what is morally right and fair.” But I don't see any allowances for when you make mistakes. And if you mess up, you can't be just. And if you can't be just, you can't attain salvation.

**Atheism.** (16%) Can you believe atheism is now one of the top “religions” in the world. I see so much irony there. Beliefs? There is no afterlife. This is it. You are in charge of your life and when you die you're worm food. Done. But what if I see proof of a deity existing in the world? Then you can't sit at this table. Join another.

**Hinduism.** (13%) They teach that the soul never dies, but keeps coming back in different forms. But then why are there more people today than at any time before? And I guess it doesn't matter how I live?

As I looked at these, I mean honestly looked at them, and compared it to what I see in the universe, the Christian God is the only one that has shown love and desire for me. That He would pay my ransom. That He would make a way to get to me. That is how I chose Christianity and stuck with it. I know this isn't all-encompassing, but it should be enough to help you on your journey.

From My Heart,

*Billy*