

# Debate – To Serve God or Not

Sunday AM 10/04/20

## Introduction:

This is the “debating season” with Presidential Debates. Debates can be useful as long as they are held with the right spirit and stay on point. So, this debate will have no personal attacks and seek to fairly represent both sides.

### I) Debate

- A) A formal discussion on a particular topic normally in a public setting... in which opposing arguments are put forward.
- B) Verb – to argue about (a *subject*) especially in a formal manner.
- C) The Proposition in this debate

1. *The Scriptures Teaches It is Proper and Necessary for man to serve the One True God in heaven.*

*Affirm* \_\_\_\_\_

*Deny* \_\_\_\_\_

2. *Definitions*

- a. Scriptures – the written word of God, the Sixty-six books contained in the Bible. That which is given by inspiration of God. **2 Timothy 3.16.**
- b. Proper and necessary -that which man is obligated to do or perform according to the scriptures.
- c. Serve – an act of obedience, includes the action of worshipping God
- d. The one true God – the God revealed in the Bible, Jehovah.

## II) Atheist/Humanist/Evolutionist

### A) Deny

1. There is no God, only the material universe.
2. Spiritual beings do not exist and man does not possess a soul or spirit.
3. Their main argument – show me a God and then I will believe in Him.

### B) Affirm

1. The Bible teaches there is a God and He created all things.

#### ***Genesis 1.1- 31***

***Genesis 1:26*** Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

***Romans 1:20*** For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

2. This is the key in the debate – if God exist then He made man in his image.
3. Could the universe be self-creating?

***Hebrews 3:4*** For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.

4. The Bible harmonizes with science on the following subject
  - a. Life comes from life- no such thing as spontaneous generation
  - b. Everything produces after its own kind
  - c. The material universe is finite in time.
5. The only area where the evolutionist disagrees with the Bible is also the area they disagree with science, in their theory of evolution.

### III) Idolaters/Serve the God of Your Choice

#### A) Deny

1. Idolaters – there are many different gods, limited in space/knowledge/ability/time
  - a. Make shrines and images so as to worship them.
  - b. Tend to be culturally based – modern day idolaters would not bow down to an image like Asherah but may believe crystals have some mysterious powers, or worship the god of power/popularity/sports/etc.
2. Choose the God of your choice – similar to idolatry
  - a. But their God has the same attitudes and values as they have.
  - b. Since we all have different values God must be pliable, bend to societal needs and wants.

#### B) Affirm

1. There is one God.

***Deuteronomy 4:39 "Therefore know this day, and***

*consider it in your heart, that the LORD Himself is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; there is no other.*

**1 Kings 8:60** *"that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; there is no other.*

**Isaiah 44:6** *"Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the First and I am the Last; Besides Me there is no God. 7 And who can proclaim as I do? Then let him declare it and set it in order for Me, Since I appointed the ancient people. And the things that are coming and shall come, Let them show these to them. 8 Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.'"*

2. Six times in **Isaiah 45** God affirms He is the one and only God. **Vv. 5-6, 14, 18, 21,22**

**1 Corinthians 8:4** *Therefore concerning the eating of things offered to idols, we know that an idol is nothing in the world, and that there is no other God but one.*

**Ephesians 4:4** *There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.*

3. Our God have His own will and we are accountable to Him.

**John 4:24** *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."*

4. We can only approach God on His terms.

- a. Eight times the following phrase is found in **Leviticus**  
**Leviticus 19:2** *"Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: 'You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy."*
5. This is restated in **1 Peter 1:14** *as obedient children, not conforming yourselves to the former lusts, as in your ignorance; 15 but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, 16 because it is written, "Be holy, for I am holy."*
6. Only those who are purified, sanctified can come before God.

#### IV) Hedonist/Calvinist/Universalist

##### A) Deny

1. Hedonist – pursuit of pleasure, sexual self-indulgence.
  - a. Sin is fun, enjoy life any way you want, eat/drink and be merry.
  - b. Don't worry about life after death, enjoy what you have now.
2. Calvinist – one should not sin but sin does not change one's position with God.
  - a. A child of God cannot sin so as to be lost.
  - b. Jesus saves!
3. Universalist- a good God would never condemn anyone to an eternal torment.

##### B) Affirm

1. There is a judgement to come after we die.

**John 5:28** *"Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice 29 "and come forth--those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation."*

2. The judgement will be based on God's word and how we have lived.

**John 12:48** *"He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him--the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day. 49 "For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. 50 "And I know that His command is everlasting life. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak."*

3. The unrighteous will be lost.

**Revelation 21:8** *"But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."*

4. Yes, Jesus saves but only the obedient.

**Hebrews 5:9** *And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him,*

5. Those who have been sanctified by the blood of the Lamb will be saved.

**Revelation 7:13** *Then one of the elders answered,*

**saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" 14 And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. 15 "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.**

6. The Bible affirms these things.

**Conclusion:**

Would you sign the proposition: *The Scriptures Teaches It is Proper and Necessary for man to serve the One True God in heaven.*

Affirm       Those who have obey the Gospel of Christ and are living faithfully

Deny       Everyone else