

A Serious Matter

Ecclesiastes 12:1-14

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A Serious Matter

- Are we just going through the motions?
- Are there convictions behind our faith?
- II Corinthians 10:3-5 – “... take every thought captive ...”

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A Serious Matter

BY OUR LIVES WE SHOW OUR BELIEFS

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- John 14:1 – “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.”
- Jesus believed in God and told us to do the same.

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- **Creation**
 - Genesis 1:1 – “... God created ...”
 - God tells us how the world was created
 - Romans 1:20-21 – “... have been clearly perceived ...”
 - God tells us that we can see His creation when we look around

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- **Miracles**
 - Hebrews 2:1-4 – “... by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit ...”
 - God proved His authority to us by the miracles performed

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- **The Bible**
 - **Written over a period of about sixteen centuries by over 40 people**
 - **II Timothy 3:14-17 – “... able to make you wise for salvation ...”**
 - **God’s existence is shown in the Bible, as are His mighty works and wonders**

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Do we have reason to believe that God exists?

- **The Bible**
 - **The ultimate authority in our lives**
 - **It shows us God**
 - **It shows us responsibility and obedience**
 - **It shows us heaven and hell**

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- **Evolution**
 - **God told us how He created**
 - **If we don’t believe exactly, we show that we don’t believe Him**
 - **Those who refuse to believe will be in trouble on the last day**
- **II Peter 3:5-7 – “... kept until the day of judgment and destruction of the ungodly.”**

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- **“Scientific” explanations for miracles**
 - **John 10:37-38 – “... believe the works ...”**

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- **“The Bible contradicts itself”**
 - **Ephesians 3:3-5 – “When you read this, you can perceive ...”**
 - **II Peter 3:14-17 – “... the ignorant and unstable twist ...”**

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- **In our daily spiritual lives**
 - **Prayer**
 - **Ephesians 6:17-20 – “... praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication ... and also for me ...”**
 - **Paul knew the importance of prayer**
 - **We weaken ourselves when we do not pray.**

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- In our daily spiritual lives
 - Bible study and reading
 - II Timothy 2:15 – “Study ...”
 - I Timothy 4:12-13 – “... devote yourself to the public reading ...”

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- In our daily spiritual lives
 - Attendance in the assemblies
 - I Corinthians 11:17-18 – “... when you come together as a church ...”
 - Hebrews 10:24-27 – “... not neglecting to meet together ...”
 - How shall we encourage each other and build each other up if we refuse to gather together?

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- In our daily physical lives
 - Obedience to laws
 - Romans 13:1-2 – “... be subject to the governing authorities ...”
 - The clothes we wear (appearance and modesty)
 - I Timothy 2:9-10 – “... in respectable apparel ...”
 - I Timothy 3:2 – “... respectable ...”

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Our lives may show that we do not even believe in God

- In our daily physical lives
 - The places we go
 - The things we do
 - The way we speak

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Our lives may show that we are ashamed of God

- We have the opportunity to teach others almost daily
 - At work
 - At school
 - At the store
 - EVERYWHERE
- Do we show that we are ashamed of God and His gospel when we fail to use the opportunities He gives us?

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A Serious Matter

Why are you here today?

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A Serious Matter

- **Romans 10:8-17**
 - **Hear the Word of God**
 - **Believe in Jesus Christ**
 - **Confess Jesus as Lord**
- **Acts 17:30**
 - **Repent of your sins**
- **Acts 22:16**
 - **“Rise and be baptized”**

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