



Schrödinger's cat walks into the bar and doesn't

Why believe Part One: Believing what?

Why believe in anything at all? Philosophy is an interesting cat. Speaking of, Schrödinger's cat is a theory that states that all things are in a state of flux until we observe them. In English it can be described this way. A cat is in a box. Poison is inside the box too. Yet, we cannot see inside it. What is really happening? Is the cat dead or alive? We just don't know until we lift the box and see the cat. The fascinating part is the possibilities. Is the cat still in the box? Did it escape? What if the cat survived or did not take the poison? Is the cat dead, dead, dead?

Ok, so you are that darn cat. God will put a choice before you. Live or die. It's your choice. The non-believer will argue that it's not for God to decide. Yet, believing is a simple choice. You believe in God or you don't. I get it that some people believe in the spiritual. We will not pray but send good vibes (as if we can). Yet, each one of us are confronted with the issue of God. Is He there or not? That choice will set your path towards heaven or hell. Some will say it's a path just towards dirt. Fair enough, but that's it right? Two paths within the unknown. Who will be right about (you) the cat in box?

Is it important to believe? I say it is. There is sadness in me when I think about the wasted time in my past. I floated around for 33 yrs. not really believing in anything. I have often wondered if that is death within itself. Just existing? What kind of existence do you have as a pawn of fate? A pawn to what life throws at you. Why is suicide such a problem these days when

we can own so much in a consumer world? Why is drug use up and power drinks so readily available? Why do so many people need an upper to get by. Yet, those who have decided to end their lives know that the upper was never enough. Something is missing. We need to believe in something. Even Hollywood actors and sports stars cave in to the pressure to be something. Especially when something is missing. Evangelist Billy Graham had a tremendous ministry with God. He may be the most famous religious person in the modern era. Yet, his close friend Charles Templeton became an agnostic. He believed in the spiritual but just not Billie's God. What do you believe in?

We have heard them all. Believe in a higher power, just don't name it. We send good vibes yet, don't name where they come from. Wish on a falling star that has what power? Toss a lucky penny or blow on your hands before you roll the dice. My goodness, people cross themselves after a close call or a touchdown. Then we have the others. The ones who say "my God" would not. They equally say "your God" does and my God wouldn't. Yet, they don't name their God. Where is the blueprint of this God? For Christians it found in two places. One is the Bible. It's called God's word. Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth. The other is in the encounter with the living Jesus. I could believe in a moose if I wanted too? What holds you to what you believe?

Trust me, an atheist has beliefs and convictions. Everyone has some sort of belief. Attaching beliefs to a book or ideology is a bad idea. Don't staple yourself to a religion. Believing is not a statement on top of a soap box. You can claim that a moose is your all-powerful God till the cows come home but that does not make your belief real. It means you say you believe in a moose. It's important to put aside your beliefs. Put aside your knowledge. We believe in aliens without proof. We believe murder is wrong. Why? Within us is an idea of how

life should work. We expect things to be a certain way. Yet, we all know that life is about dodging curve balls. How does your convictions handle curve balls? Ask your moose?

So, there you are under the box. A person (cat) that is in flux. Are you a Christian, agnostic, atheist, or other? Do you know for sure? I thought I did. Then in came Jesus. All of a sudden, the rules changed. The Big Bang and Darwin's theories changed. How I viewed people changed. My life turned upside down. In essence my beliefs changed. If you say God didn't do it then he didn't. Life looks exactly like you believe it is. What if you were wrong about that?

Christian belief is different. Once you let God open your eyes, nothing is as it was. All of a sudden, the destiny of the cat in the box does not matter. What matters is others. What matters is how God sees you and the world around you. Death and life become secondary. Living in the here and now become paramount. Belief is not something you hang a hat on or wear as a badge. It should change how you view the world. Believing in something greater than ourselves that gives us new meaning and new drive. That is belief. Tune in next week for more.