

Public Shame

I was trying (painfully) to listen to an apologetics podcast refuting an atheist. Apologetics (for those who don't know) is a craft of giving evidence towards God and Christianity. These men and women do have a craft. The tools they employ to argue for the existence of God are interesting. I am not an apologist. To top that off I really don't like it. However, their tools make me stronger in my faith. I like to know more about why I believe and why the Bible is the way it is. They have a seat at the table. Theologians, pastors, and apologists make Christianity better. Yet, the defending bugs me greatly.

Why defend God? Does He need defending? Then it hit me. Why are some people arguing with those who choose not to believe. Yes, apologists have risen because false claims are out there. They are trying to set the record straight about the Christian world. If you were investigating religion, the Christian world wants correct information out there. I get it. Yet, how do you explain the invisible God? How do you articulate miracles and belief? Many things in the Christian world come from faith and the unseen. An argument is dumb!

A few of these apologists decided to debunk a popular atheist on what proves God does not exist. The atheists' arguments were not arguments at all. He just stated that the whole thing is rubbish. He had no facts or examples. Instead, he just stated twenty observations he believed led to no god. What I heard is the ramblings of a mad man. Reason number one that he did not believe in God: I can't see him. It is an argument. In fact, it's probably part of any investigation. No eye witnesses. However, there are many other evidences. I find it odd that they say over a billion Christians have been deceived. They don't say that about a billion served at McDonalds.

What does God have to say? Proverbs 6:12-13 *“Let me describe for you a worthless and a wicked man; first, he is a constant liar; he signals his true intentions to his friends with eyes and feet and fingers.”* That’s it really. Apologists and atheists walk in their own circles. The circles are friends that believe the same thing. The other circles are literally walking around in circles. The apologist claims the Bible says. The atheist claims it’s just a book. Basically, it’s one calling the other a liar. One calling the other wrong because they claim their right. The evidence on both sides? Well, that is up to interpretation. Here is the best part. Apologists yell the Bible is Gods word. The atheists scream the Bible is a book. They are both right.

I stood there listening to the arguments for the existence of God. It came to me that we don’t need to have an argument. The atheist was making a claim without evidence. In-fact he was claiming there was no evidence. The apologists were trying to lovingly public shame this man. To prove he was an idiot. All the while, the atheist was doing a fine job of publicly shaming himself. Only an idiot would claim to be right because someone else is wrong. He makes that claim without evidence. Ironically the apologist looks like a similar idiot because he claims his God is invisible. Its plainly a ridiculously circular fight with no winner.

For most of us we open our mouth and the opinion of public shaming wins. We all say stupid things. To compound that, we all have unjustified opinions. I know you and me believe a great many things without proof. Oh, we say we do have proof. “They say.” “Scientists claim.” How about “it just is true.” Yet, in each case you haven’t a shred of evidence, but you believe it. Arguments and debates can be fun. I think they are mostly a waste of time. Just let people talk. To open their mouth. Quite frankly, they publicly shame themselves most of the time. We don’t need to say a thing.