

# Apologetics: Answering the Bible's Big Questions

Session 2: How can anyone take a blind leap of faith? Is the bible true?

## How can anyone take a blind leap of faith?

a. How do you believe in anything?

Analytical statements – \_\_\_\_\_

Illustration:

Synthetic statements – \_\_\_\_\_

Illustration:

Non-sensical (meaningless) statements – \_\_\_\_\_

Illustration:

One of the best questions to ask anyone: \_\_\_\_\_

“How much evidence do you need for God?” Vs. “What’s the best evidence for God?”

1 Corinthians 15 –

## Is the bible true?

a. Three basic approaches:

1. Deductive approach: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Inductive approach: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Second level induction: \_\_\_\_\_

b. How reliable are the documents of Jesus?

1. Bibliographical test:

2. Internal evidence:

a. 2 Peter 1:16 - <sup>16</sup> *We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were **eyewitnesses** of his majesty.*

b. John

i. "Saw" \_\_\_\_\_

ii. "Heard" \_\_\_\_\_

iii. John 1:1,2, 14 – <sup>1</sup> *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>14</sup> The Word **became flesh** and made his dwelling among us. We have **seen** his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

iv. John 20:24ff - Thomas

c. Luke:1-4 – *Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, <sup>2</sup> just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were **eyewitnesses** and servants of the word. <sup>3</sup> Therefore, since I myself have **carefully investigated** everything from the beginning, it seemed good also to me to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, <sup>4</sup> so that you may know the **certainty** of the things you have been taught.*

3. External evidence is important to confirm that the documents

4. Response to "Higher Criticism"

What did Jesus claim about himself?

How did he validate that claim?

Conclusion?

Next time:

1. What happens when I die? What about those who never hear about Jesus?
2. How can Jesus be the only way? What about other religions? It doesn't matter what you believe, as long as you're sincere.
3. What is right: evolution or creation?
4. Why is there evil and suffering? Problem of suffering.