

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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“What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

- Romans 10:17
 - Hear the Word of God
- Romans 10:9
 - Believe in Jesus Christ
- Acts 17:30
 - Repent of your sins
- Romans 10:9
 - Confess Jesus as Lord
- Acts 22:16
 - “Rise and be baptized”
- Hebrews 3:14
 - Remain faithful

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