

## Questions for Lesson 32: Why I Left Atheism (Part 2)

1. What is the difference between happiness and pleasure?

**Answer:** Pleasure is physical gratification, and many things in life can provide it--both wholesome and sinful. An atheist can find pleasure. Happiness has to do with peace, satisfaction, a feeling of well-being, and only comes from things that are associated with God--giving, sharing, caring, loving, tenderness, patience, etc. My experience as an atheist was that I never found these things, but they are constant and always available as a Christian.

2. How does the promise that "there will be an escape" (from temptation) get played out in the life of a Christian?

**Answer:** Having diversions that are wholesome, being with people who encourage you and keep you from the wrong things, God providing alternatives, being focused on God's will for your life and ministry.

3. What things did the geology professor believe about the Bible in Clayton's story?

**Answer:** (a) That the Bible gave the age of the earth.  
(b) that the word "species" and "kind" were one and the same.  
(c) that the ark held every species that ever lived on the earth.

4. How many times do people like the professor also totally misunderstand what the Christian system is all about?

**Answer:** Constantly, because all they know about is what organized religion has done and taught, not what the Bible says.

5. What advantages does a person like Clayton have over someone "raised in the Church?"

**Answer:** He appreciates what Christianity is all about and can understand sin a little differently, and will not be apathetic as easily. "Baptism to me was a complete burying of the old John Clayton and the raising out of the water of a totally new person. That was incredible. Someone raised in the Church and not saturated with sin might have a difficult time understanding that feeling."

6. What advantages does someone "raised in the Church" have over someone like Clayton?

**Answer:** Has not risked hell. Does not have the scars and knowledge of harm done to others. Has a better basic knowledge of the Bible. ("I still cannot rattle off the names of the books of the Bible in order.")

7. "We still need to restore New Testament Christianity." Why is this statement true?

**Answer:** Because division, envy, lack of love, and a variety of other problems exist, indicating that the spirit of Christianity is missing.

8. How do we go about building our own faith?

**Answer:** Get involved in evangelism. Study materials like these programs. You

might mention the correspondence courses, books, and audio CDs that may be borrowed from us and used free of charge. Also our websites available to anyone, anywhere at not cost.

[DoesGodExist.org](http://DoesGodExist.org)

[DoesGodExist.tv](http://DoesGodExist.tv)

[WhyPain.org](http://WhyPain.org)

[ScienceTerrific.com](http://ScienceTerrific.com)

[DandyDesigns.org](http://DandyDesigns.org)

9. What did Jesus mean in Matthew 12:30 and Luke 11:23 by “He that is not with me is against me. He that gathereth not with me scattereth?”

**Answer:** I believe He was dealing with commitment. Whatever we can do He expects us to do it.

10. Why is there so much apathy about religion in the United States today?

**Answer:** It is a result of the lack of understanding of what Christianity can do for people, squabbles within the Church, and emphasis on personal gratification instead of service. There are many, many factors, and many leading atheists today are former preachers and leaders of fundamentalist churches.