

Chapter Three: The Anatomy of Faith and the Quest for Reason

***What sign do You give us?
Destroy this body and in three days I will raise it up.***

1. "There is an old adage that says, 'It is better to debate a question before _____ it than to settle a question before _____ it.' "
2. "To commit one's _____, habits, _____, goals, priorities— _____ —to a certain world-view with no questions asked is, from the antagonist's point of view, to build one's life upon a very questionable _____."
3. "...Jesus warned the seekers of signs in very _____ terms. But He also justified His claims in _____ ways. There is a _____, and we must find it."
4. "If isolated instances demand that we not risk our lives on the preposterous claims of some self-styled demagogue, how much more important it is that we not _____ the very _____ of humanity on someone who insists that He is the only true answer to life's _____ and _____ —unless that claim can be thoroughly _____ and _____."
5. Speaking of people who claim there is little or no _____ for Christianity, Ravi says, "The Scriptures categorically state that the problem with such people is not the _____ of evidence; it is, rather, the _____ of it. The message of Jesus Christ shifts the charge of insufficiency from the _____ of evidence to the _____ of one's will."
6. NYU professor Thomas Nagel wrote, "... I _____ atheism to be true and am made uneasy by the fact that some of the most _____ and well-informed people I know are _____ believers. It isn't just that I don't _____ in God and naturally, _____ there is no God! I _____ there to be a God; I _____ the universe to be like that."

7. Why does Ravi write, "Of all the enterprises in which the human heart engages, none lends itself more to abuse and manipulation than the activities of religion."
a. _____
8. Do you agree or disagree with Ravi when he says, "Sometimes religion can be the greatest roadblock to true spirituality." ?
a. _____

9. What's the big difference between the skeptics of Jesus' day and the skeptics of Christianity today?
a. _____

10. "The faith that the Bible speaks of is not antithetical to _____. It is not just a will to _____, everything to the _____ notwithstanding. It is not a _____ to _____ every piece of information to fit into the mold of one's desires."
11. "Faith in the biblical sense is substantive, based on the knowledge that the One in whom that faith is placed has _____ that He is _____ of that _____. In its essence, faith is a _____ in the person of Jesus Christ and in His power, so that even when His _____ does not _____ my end, my _____ in Him remains because of _____ He is."
12. "Faith for the Christian is the response of _____ based on who Jesus Christ _____ to be, and it results in a life that brings both _____ and _____ in a commitment of _____ to Him."
13. Ravi writes, "It does not take more than one look at our society to see the utter absence of wisdom, and it is because we understand neither law nor grace." Do you think this is more or less true than 2,000 years ago? Why?
a. _____

14. In the late 17 hundreds, "David Hume ... was one of the most vocal philosophers to contend for the _____ nature of _____ against what he termed the _____ of religion. ... Hume roundly denounced the very possibility of _____."
15. "The only problem with Mr. Parris's test for meaning, quoting Hume, is that the test itself does not pass the _____. ... Hume's grand statement is neither _____ nor _____. ... It is a _____ solvent that _____ itself."
16. Answering the atheist's claims, Ravi writes, "No, the Christian's faith is not a _____ into the _____; it is a well-placed _____ in the _____ -the _____ of the World, who is Jesus."
17. Speaking of the hypocrisy of the scientist's selective rejection of philosophy, Ravi says, "The person who demands a _____ and at the same time has already determined that anything that cannot be explained _____ is meaningless is not merely stacking the _____; he is _____ at his own game."
18. "Is it the Christian who uses his _____ to trust in God, or is it the one who, without any attempt to explain how his _____ came to be, nevertheless uses that _____ to demand a _____ and disbelieves in God? When Russell was asked to explain the existence of the universe, he said, "It's _____." That is not an explanation."
19. "How does a universe, which itself developed from _____, impart into every human strand of DNA enough specific information to cover six hundred _____ pages of _____ from _____?"
20. Extra credit:
- a. How many characters [base pairs] are there in human DNA?

 - b. How many cells in the average human? _____
 - c. How many of those cells have complete DNA? _____

21. "... faith in Jesus Christ is a _____, _____, and _____ commitment to that which stands up under the scrutiny of the _____, the _____, and the _____. It is not an escapist grasp that comes to the rescue when life is out of _____."
22. What does Deepak Chopra say is the difference between you and a bag of inert chemicals?
- a. _____

23. What does he say is the source of the energy and information that make you and your body a living human being?
- a. _____

24. "Having lost this truth [*of the God-given value of the human body*], what are we left with? _____ and the cruel _____ of men, women, and children; _____ in the womb in the name of personal rights; the breakdown of the _____ ... ' the _____ of sex in our entertainment industry; _____ in unprecedented proportions. ... In losing the high value that God has placed on the _____, we are in a free _____, at the mercy of _____, _____, and _____."
25. "Jesus made it clear that the body is not just informationally different from other quantities; it is purposefully different. That is why the resurrection is a _____ one at its core. The body matters in the _____ sense, not just the _____."
26. "Islam ridicules Christianity for profaning God's name, calling Jesus' _____ blasphemous. But in His incarnation He _____ the body, first by being conceived in the womb of a virgin, then by taking on _____ form and giving it the _____ expression of God in the flesh. ... Jesus sent a message loud and clear. We are His _____."