

World Religions

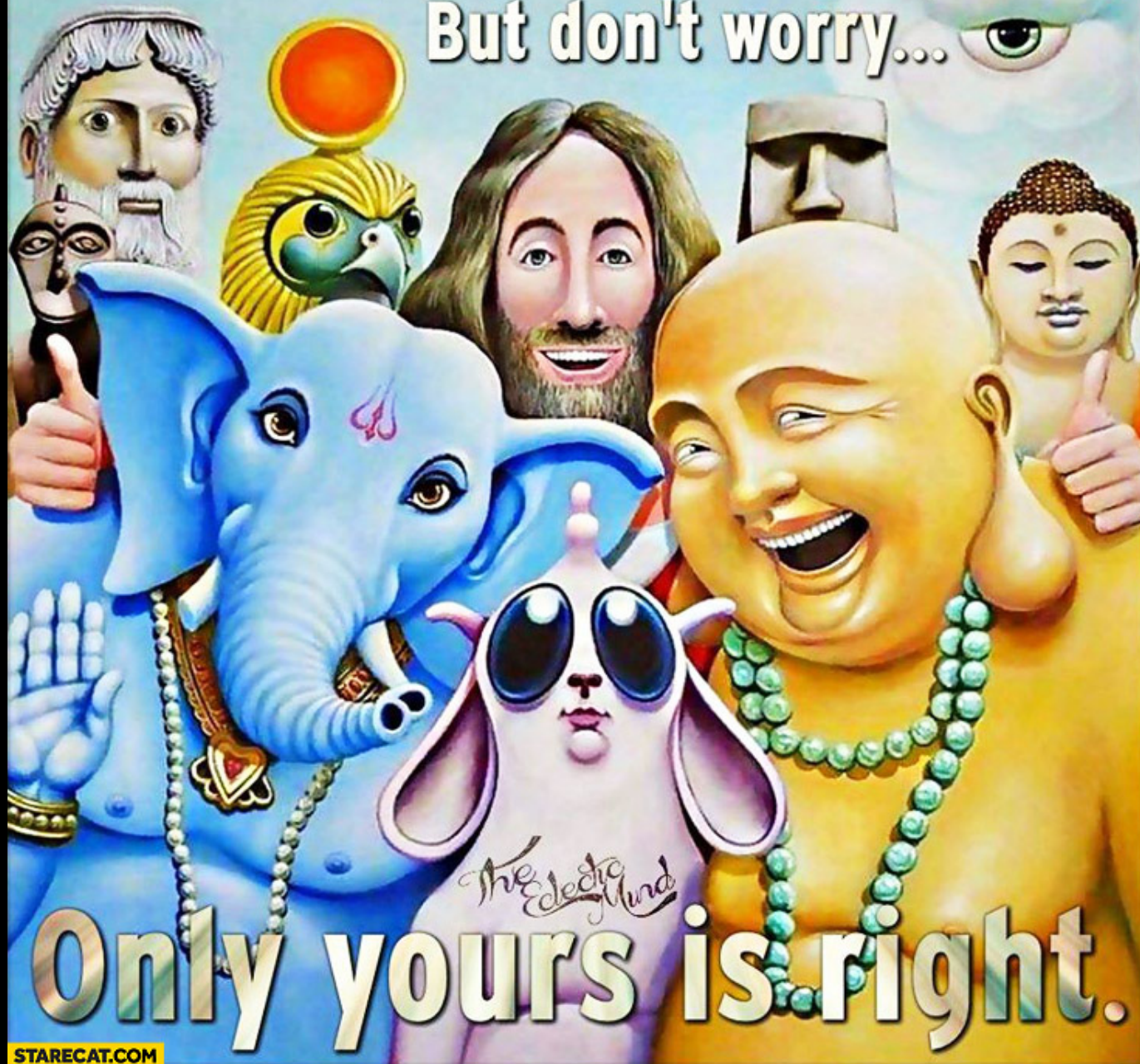


They Can't All Be True

Why are you a Christian?



There are almost 5,000 gods being worshiped by humanity.
But don't worry...



Why aren't you a...



Why aren't you a...



Why aren't you a...



Why aren't you a...





You should be an atheist
because...

I was born into an atheist family.

I read a book.

My friend took me to an atheist
group.

Atheism changed my life!

**Are you ready
to convert?**

Because Christianity is TRUE!

1 Corinthians 15:12–19

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.

And if Christ has not been raised, then our **preaching is in vain** and your **faith is in vain**. We are even found to be **misrepresenting God**, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your **faith is futile** and you are **still in your sins**. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in Christ we have hope in this life only, **we are of all people most to be pitied**.

(ESV)

Because Christianity is TRUE!

1 Corinthians 15:32

What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, "Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die." (ESV)

Because Christianity is TRUE!



Tim Barnett
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When I was in high school, my faith was mostly a matter of birth and habit.
Today, my faith is a matter of reason, evidence, and trust.

3/1/17, 4:00 AM

What do you mean by **truth**?

Subjective



or

Objective



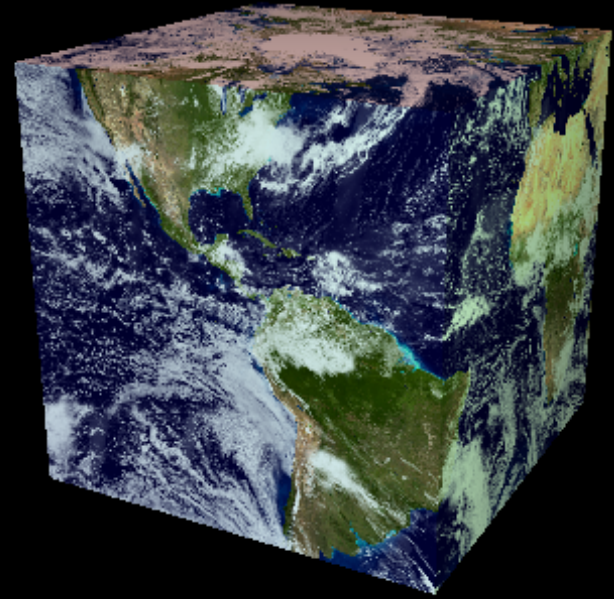
Am I saying that Christianity is
subjectively or objectively true?

Law of Non-Contradiction

Opposite ideas **cannot both be true** at the same time and in the same sense.



The earth is round.



The earth is not round.

Law of Non-Contradiction

Opposite ideas **cannot both be true** at the same time and in the same sense.

God exists.

Jesus is God.

Jesus is the only way to God.

God does not exist.

Jesus is not God.

There are many paths to God.

There are almost 5,000 gods being worshiped by humanity.
But don't worry...

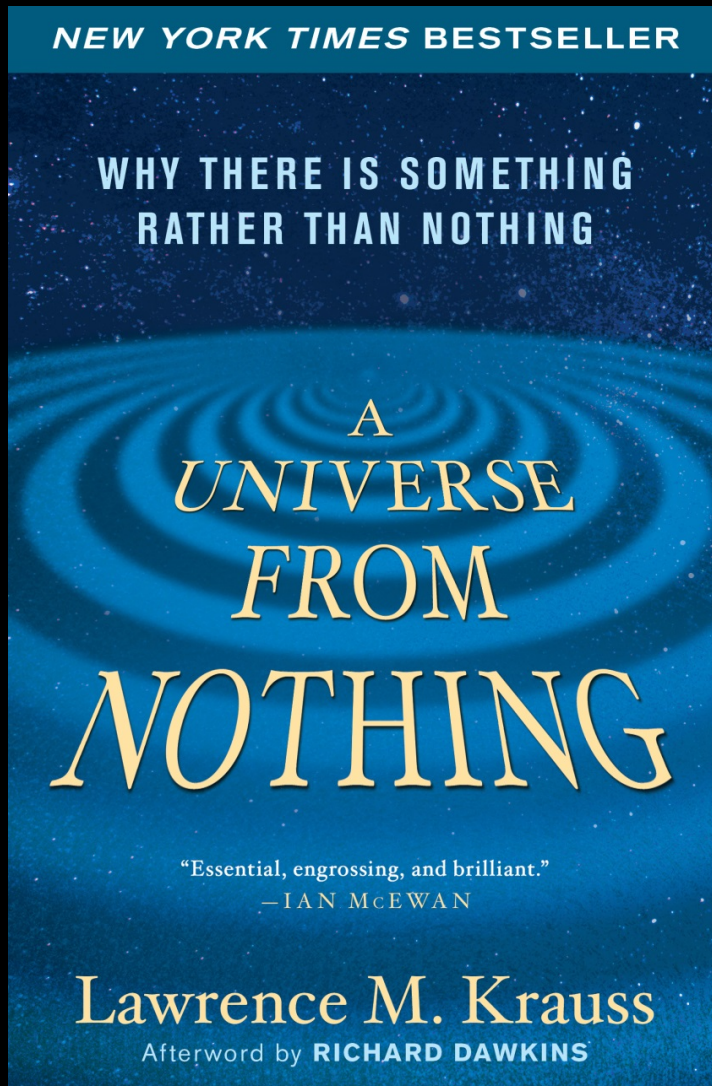


How to test whether or not an explanation is true

1. Does the explanation **redefine the facts?**

What do you mean by that?

Does the explanation **redefine the facts**?



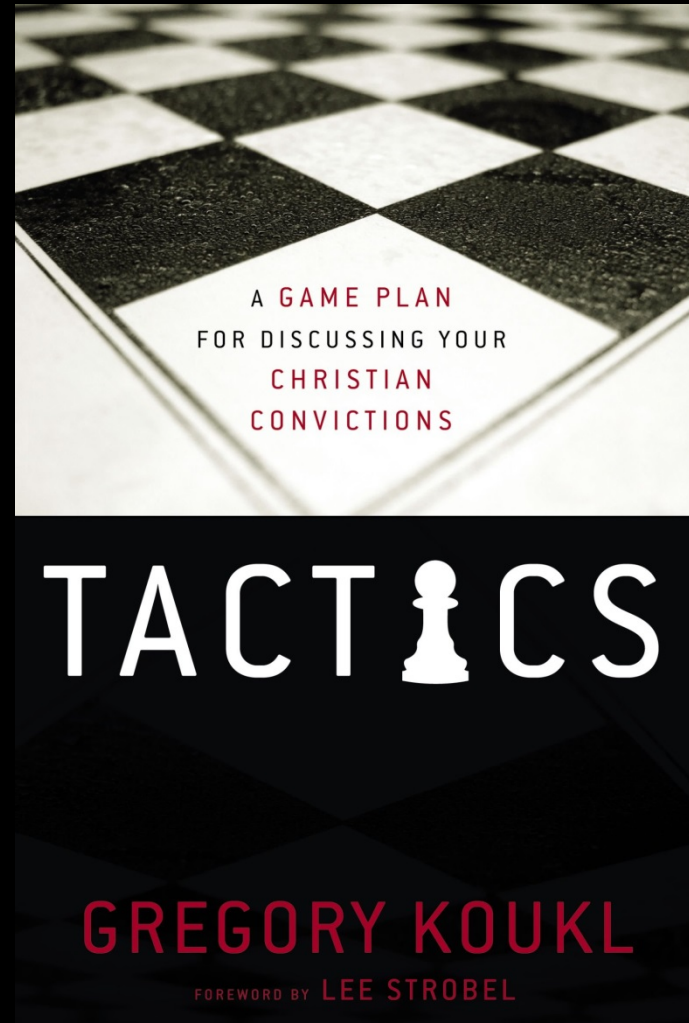
How to test whether or not an explanation is true

1. Does the explanation redefine the facts?
2. Is the explanation **logically contradictory**?

Is the explanation logically
contradictory?

**Some views are self-
defeating. They kill
themselves.**

Is it really a self-defeating
statement? Or is it just
words?

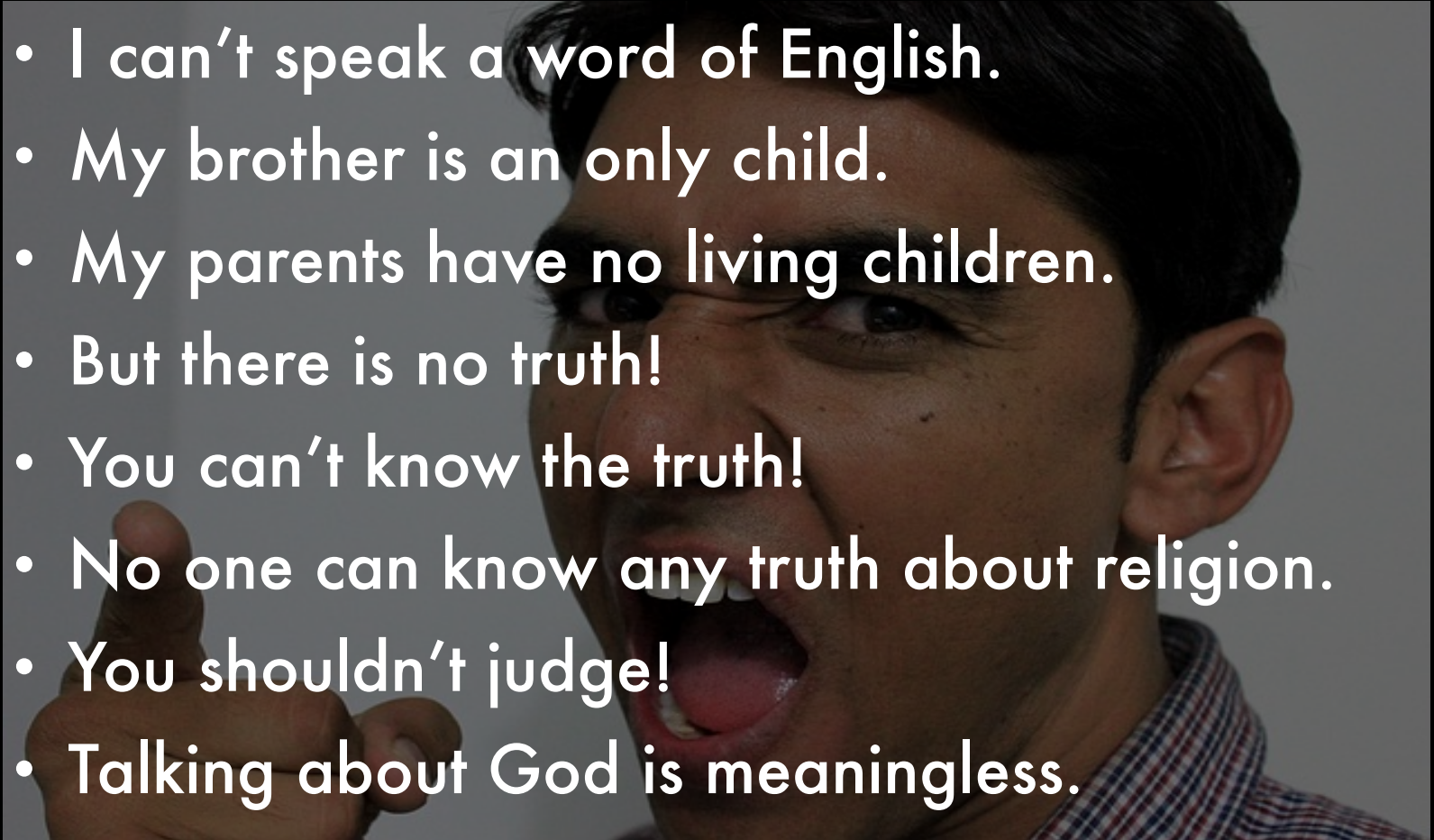


How would you respond to these
self-defeating claims?



How would you respond to these **self-defeating claims?**

- I can't speak a word of English.
- My brother is an only child.
- My parents have no living children.
- But there is no truth!
- You can't know the truth!
- No one can know any truth about religion.
- You shouldn't judge!
- Talking about God is meaningless.



Does the explanation **contradict internally**?

“Then in the footsteps of the prophets, we sent Jesus, the son of Mary, **confirming the Torah** revealed before him. And we gave him **the Gospel containing the guidance and light** and confirming what was revealed in the Torah—a guide and a lesson to the God-fearing. **So let the people of the Gospel judge by what Allah has revealed in it.** And those who do not just by what Allah has revealed are truly the rebellions.” – Sura 5:46-47

“The Word of your Lord has been perfected in truth and justice. None can change His Words. And He is the All-Hearing, All-Knowing.” – Sura 6:115

How to test whether or not an explanation is true

1. Does the explanation redefine the facts?
2. Is the explanation logically contradictory?
3. Is the explanation **supported by the evidence**?

How did you come to
that conclusion?

What happened to Jesus?

Fact 1: Jesus died by Roman crucifixion.

1. Mentioned in all four Gospels.

Matthew 27:50 "And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit."

Mark 15:37 "And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last."

Luke 23:46 "Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last."

John 19:30 "When Jesus had received the sour wine, he said, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up his spirit."

What happened to Jesus?

Fact 1: Jesus died by Roman crucifixion.

1. Mentioned in all four Gospels.
2. Tacitus - Roman Historian

“Consequently, to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace. **Christus**, from whom the name had its origin, **suffered the extreme penalty** during the reign of Tiberius at the hands of one of our procurators, Pontius Pilatus.”

What happened to Jesus?

Fact 1: Jesus died by Roman crucifixion.

1. Mentioned in all four Gospels.
2. Tacitus - Roman Historian
3. Josephus - Jewish Historian

"When Pilate, upon hearing him accused by men of the highest standing amongst us, had condemned him to be **crucified**, those who had in the first place come to love him did not give up their affection for him."

What happened to Jesus?

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4. John Dominic Crossan

"I take it absolutely for granted that **Jesus was crucified** under Pontius Pilate. Security about the fact of the crucifixion derives not only from the unlikelihood that Christians would have invented it but also from the existence of two early and independent non-Christian witnesses to it, a Jewish one from 93-94 C.E. and a Roman one from the 110s or 120s C.E."

What happened to Jesus?

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4. John Dominic Crossan
5. Gerd Ludemann

“The fact of Jesus’ death as the consequence of crucifixion is **indisputable**.”

What happened to Jesus?

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4. John Dominic Crossan
5. Gerd Ludemann
6. Journal of the American Medical Association

“Clearly, the weight of historical and medical evidence indicates that **Jesus was dead** before the wound to his side was inflicted and supports the traditional view that the spear, thrust between his right ribs, probably perforated not only the right lung but also the pericardium and heart and thereby ensured his death. Accordingly, **interpretations based on the assumption that Jesus did not die on the cross appear to be at odds with modern medical knowledge.**”

What happened to Jesus?

Jesus died by Roman crucifixion.

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Jesus didn't die by crucifixion.

Sura 4:157

That they said (in boast), "We killed Christ Jesus the son of Mary, the Messenger of Allah";- but they killed him not, nor crucified him, but so it was made to appear to them, and those who differ therein are full of doubts, with no (certain) knowledge, but only conjecture to follow, for of a surety they killed him not

Ask...

1. What do you mean by that?
2. How did you come to that conclusion?

To determine...

1. Does the explanation redefine the facts?
2. Is the explanation logically contradictory?
3. Is the explanation supported by the evidence?

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