

**10/8/2023 - Speaker: Al Schaap**  
**Series: Engaging Culture – How Your Faith Can**  
**Restore a Broken World**  
**Message #4: Truth – Is Christianity Credible?**

*To the Jews who had believed Him, Jesus said, "If you hold to My teaching, you are really My disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)*

*"I am The Way and The TRUTH and The Life. No one comes to the Father except through Me. (John 14:6)*

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge.... (Proverbs 1:7a)*

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow His precepts have good understanding. (Psalm 111:10)*

★ \_\_\_\_\_ **doubts**  
\_\_\_\_\_ doubts - really just excuses/smokescreens  
thrown up when we \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ questions a person wants and needs to  
wrestle through  
*Cf. Romans 2:7-8; Psalm 10:4; Proverbs 14:6, 15:14*

→ When you struggle with this kind of doubt, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!

...Some resources from brothers/sisters (see p. 4)

...Small groups or spiritual friendships

★ \_\_\_\_\_ **doubts**

When (not "if") one you trusted who speaks The Truth  
doesn't \_\_\_\_\_

*Cf. 2 Peter 2:1-3; 1 John 1:6; Romans 3:3-4*

→ When you struggle with this kind of doubt, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!

Get alongside those who will help you keep your eyes  
on Jesus instead of just focusing on those who've lived  
a lie. *Cf. James 5:19-20; 2 Timothy 2:25-26*

★ \_\_\_\_\_ **doubts**

→ When you struggle with this kind of doubt, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!

★ \_\_\_\_\_ **doubts**

God can use any of our honest doubts if we turn to Him  
with them and let Him use them in shaping us...as we

\_\_\_\_\_   
*Cf. 1 Peter 1:22; John 17:17*

→ When you struggle with this kind of doubt, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!

*Cf. Mark 9; Proverbs 4:7, 23:23*

➤ When it comes to valuing Truth with your life,  
\_\_\_\_\_! \_\_\_\_\_! \_\_\_\_\_!

➤ No matter how much you have dis-believed, doubted,  
denied, drifted, deviated...know \_\_\_\_\_!  
\_\_\_\_\_!  
*Cf. 1 Timothy 2:3-4; Jeremiah 29:13-14*

Key: Intellectual, dishonest, don't want to know, honest; don't doubt alone; disillusionment, live it; don't doubt alone; emotional, don't doubt alone; transformational, doubt toward faith, don't doubt alone; Buy, Buy, Buy; God wants you to know Him & His truth

Some resources compiled by brothers/sisters, including books of an "apologetic" nature (not "apologize" but "apologetic" – from a Greek word that means "speaking in defense") to help understand:

...Larger, more comprehensive works: *Handbook of Christian Apologetics* by Peter Kreeft & Ronald K. Tacelli; *Apologetics to the Glory of God: An Introduction* by John M. Frame; *Apologetics in the New Age: A Christian Critique of Pantheism* by David K. Clark & Norman Geisler; *Christian Apologetics* by Norman Geisler; *How Now Shall We Live* by Charles Colson & Nancy Pearcey; *The Faith* by Charles Colson & Harold Fickett; *Every Thought Captive: A Study Manual for the Defense of Christian Truth* by Richard L. Pratt, Jr. *If God is Good: Faith in the Midst of Suffering and Evil* by Randy Alcorn; *Myths The World Taught Me* by R. Scott Richards; *Mere Christianity* by C.S. Lewis; *The Quest for Faith: Reason & Mystery as Pointers to God* by C. Stephen Evans

...Popularly written books by Lee Strobel, legal journalist and now apologist: *The Case for Faith*; *The Case for Christ*; *The Case for a Creator*; *The Case for Christmas*; *The Case for Easter*

...Books focused on questions: *I'm Glad You Asked* by Ken Boa & Larry Moody; *The Top 100 Questions* by Richard Bewes; *Frequently Avoided Questions* by Chuck Smith, Jr. & Matt Whitlock; *Hard Questions People Ask About The Christian Faith* by Case Van Kempen; *Good Questions on Belief & Doubt (A Six-Session Bible Study)* by J.I. Packer/Alister McGrath/Craig Keener/Timothy George/ Bruce Shelley/Nancy Ortberg; *Living With Questions* by Dale Fincher; *Answers To Your Kids' Questions* by Chuck Colson

...*Doubting Toward Faith: The Journey to Confident Christianity* by Bobby Conway; *Faith & Doubt* by John Ortberg