

General Topics :: Reason and faith

Reason and faith - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/9/19 20:21

This is another topic I would like some input on. Reason is the ability to explain something naturally and Atheists are very hardcore with this. Faith believes in the unseen of the things that are not seen as if they are seen. With this topic I would like poster to share something about reason was not able to provide an answer yet faith did.

Here is an example of what I am talking about. Someone gets in a bad accident to the extent that they should have been killed. Yet, they don't have a scratch on themselves. Reason will stretch to explain this. Faith knows why. Possibly an angel,

Another example, tornado hits a house and after it passes by a baby is found on a mattress in a tree without a scratch. How does that happen? Reason has no answers but faith does.

Do you know any true stories in which things like this have occurred? Please share them because I want to use them in an write up.

John

Re: Reason and faith, on: 2015/9/20 6:36

I was born again on Dec 29/1989 through a very dramatic vision. At the time of my conversion I smoked a pack and a half a day. I knew immediately I was suppose to quit smoking but as anyone who has tried to quit will confirm it is very difficult.

I didn't know about prayer or much of anything all I knew was I wanted to quit and told the Lord I was sorry every time I lit one up. 6 days after my conversion on Jan 3/1990 I was in Midland Ontario (I drove for a distribution company). It was a cold rain in January and I jumped up into the truck at a stop and felt what could only be described as a hot quarter on the top of my head. It was very hot and I stopped dead in my tracks up in the truck.

The circle of heat spread out over the entire top of my head and then started to move down over my entire head like hot thick honey or oil. It slowly moved down over my shoulders and chest and back. To this point it was clearly on the outside of my body, it then went inside my chest and became twice as hot. I thought I was dying at this point but was stunned because while the heat was incredibly intense, it did not produce what I would call pain.

After the intensification in my chest last lasted around 20 seconds, the entire process reversed in a matter of seconds. I stood there for a few minutes not having a clue what had happened or why. I jumped into the front of the truck started it and pulled away.

Hours later I habitually reached for my smokes and was stunned that I had none, I had intended to buy a pack at the stop where the heat had hit me in the truck. I realized I had not bought any and then I realized it had been 3 hours since I had one. I also realized I did not want one and here we are 25 years later and I have never had another cigarette or a single craving for one since. The heat of God delivered me instantly.

marcmc

Re: Reason and faith - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/9/20 7:59

John-

Are you looking for examples that absolutely cannot be explained with rational means?

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/9/20 19:40

TMK

Yes, things that reason cannot answer even if it reaches hard to find an answer. It usually has to reach out in faith to explain an incident.

Any event that happened that cannot be explained by reason yet it happened. The parting of the Red Sea would be an other example but I am wanting something in this modern day.

Re: - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2015/9/20 20:33

Quote:

-----I would like poster to share something about reason was not able to provide an answer yet faith did.

Divine revelation of the Bible is the greatest example, it lies outside of the ability of the mind to discover. The mind can make deductions with this revelation after it has come by the spirit but it cannot find it by itself.

For example, that God created the heaven and the earth or that there are three Persons in the Godhead. Or how about the fact that God is love and that Jesus Christ died to save sinners? This is the knowledge of faith, not reason.

I am glad however, that God confirms these matters of faith regularly through natural experiences.

In Christ,

Re: Reason and faith - posted by JFW (), on: 2015/9/20 23:09

Brother John,

After thinking on this for a bit, a declaration by Leonard Ravenhill came to mind in which he said something like this; the greatest display of God's power is when He takes an unholy man out of the world, makes him holy puts him back in the world and keeps him holy,... Only God can do that, there's no medicine nor method of man that could ever achieve those results.

With that being said perhaps some strong testimonies may be of help to you as they are first person experiences and not just facts/phenomenon which to the carnal mind will always be debatable.

Milton Green's testimony comes to mind as I'd imagine it a hard thing to disavow.

I realize this isn't as specific as you were asking for but it may be a profitable angle-

If you haven't heard it-

https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=ne36EGj_Tgs

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/9/21 8:13

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While this seems fine it is not what I am looking for. I am looking for something that happened very recent and something that someone can relate to. i.e. as I mentioned earlier, a baby in the tree unharmed won't be found in the bible. A bad car wreck where no one is hurt or scratched is not found in the bible.

My personal guess if is you don't have any examples, beyond the bible, it is possible you don't know of any circumstances that apply to my question. I am looking for modern day 'miracles'.

Re: - posted by dolfan (), on: 2015/9/21 8:21

Bro., I hope you get the feedback you are looking for. I know of an instance where my own brother was in a car wreck where the little truck he was driving flipped 3 times, he had on no seat belt, the cab of the truck was crushed in like an aluminum can, and he walked away without a scratch. People looked at the truck and wondered how he lived.

God's mercies? I hope so. God's miracle? Not so sure. I praise Him for it, yet my brother, 27 or 28 years or so later now, is as much an unregenerate sinner as the day he walked away from that wreck.

Re: , on: 2015/9/21 8:23

An atheist nor anyone else will never be brought to salvation through reason:

1 Corinthians 1:21

For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

Atheists think anything other than reason is foolishness.

Those who belong to the world may seem to have the upper hand now with all their "reasoned" arguments as they spurn the "foolishness of the cross", but a time is coming when they will wither like grass. We need to lovingly share the scandal of the cross and the love of a Savior with all men.

1 Corinthians 1:18-19

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent.

Point them to the cross, to Jesus. Reason cannot explain the life, death and resurrection of Christ.

Reason wrings its hands and says, "There has to be a better way!" Faith looks at Jesus and hears Him whisper, "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6).

I would be cautious about thinking that we need to have an answer for all the atheist questions and do not let anyone put you on the defensive. Don't play their games.

Faith answers the questions that reason cannot even approach.

You could even say that reason is the enemy of faith.

Reason can be the enemy of faith, because it attempts to "trump" trust in God by encouraging us to rely on human intellect. This kind of logical thinking places confidence in man,

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/9/21 8:29

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It seems to me that these kinds of things happen more than we realize and yet most people pass it by as these people being lucky. Some will say there was an angel because no way a person could have survived. This is an example of the evidence. How does reason explain this?

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/9/21 8:35

Julius21

I agree but there are many Thomas' out there as well both Christian and non christian. Reason doesn't lead anyone to salvation but if it can be shown that there are incidents that reason cannot answer but yet faith can it can affect the Thomas' of the world. In any event I want to compile a list of events that show these things.

I found a story, from a while back, in which Hamas said 'Their God changes the paths of rockets in mid-air'. 2 things here. They acknowledge Israel's God here, Why?

rockets change in mid air. is there technology that can do this from the opposition? I doubt it and if that were to be the case then how does reason answer this question?

You don't find this in the bible but that doesn't mean it is anti bible but evidence of something in this modern day. That God is working still?

What do you think?
John

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/9/21 9:15

A while back there was the story of the mother and her baby in the car seat and the vehicle went upside down into the river. The driver compartment was under water and the mother was dead.

When rescue workers got to the scene they all heard a distinct voice that said "help me" and they found the baby alive in the car seat. The baby was too young to talk.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/9/21 9:21

All that being said, it is hard to find examples where there are NO rational explanations.

The problem is that sometimes the rational explanations are harder to believe than the miraculous, like the idea that Jesus was walking on very shallow rock ledges that only he knew about when walking on water, or that the ark of the covenant was actually an alien device that could make manna, etc.

A true skeptic will never be convinced by the miraculous, unless, perhaps, if it happens to him and God gives him a revelation.

Re: , on: 2015/9/21 9:37

There are many stories of Israeli victories during the Yom Kippur and Six Day War that are unexplainable. You can google these.

There are also many conversion stories of Muslims where Christ is appearing to them. Again, you can google them.

But be warned, when dealing on the plane of reason, Atheists have great ability in explaining anything away.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/9/21 11:21

An atheist or skeptic will say the burden of proof is on the person claiming the miraculous. In most cases, it is not possible to prove the miraculous because there are almost always alternate non-miraculous explanations, even if they are outlandish.

Re: - posted by DEADn (), on: 2015/9/21 11:25

TMK

Is this thread going to produce a stupid argument over reason and faith? All I am asking is for circumstances that show where reason doesn't have an answer but has to reach to faith for the answer because reason can't figure it out. If you cannot provide an example please don't post. I really don't care if a skeptic will push it away. I just want to collect some stories. How hard is this going to be??

John

Re: , on: 2015/9/21 11:31

Miracles of the Six Day War

http://www.chabad.org/multimedia/timeline_cdo/aid/525341/jewish/Introduction.htm

Miracles in the Six-Day War: Eyewitness Accounts

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/122435>

Yom Kippur War Miracle on the Golan Heights

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3WgMu6OmNPo>

Visions of Jesus Stir Muslim Hearts

<http://www.cbn.com/spirituallife/onlinediscipleship/understandingislam/Visions.aspx>

Hope this helps you, Deadn.

Re: - posted by dolfan (), on: 2015/9/21 14:33

<http://whnt.com/2015/09/21/doctors-cant-explain-miracle-3-year-old-who-came-back-to-life-after-drowning-in-pool/>

Saw this just now

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2015/9/21 19:05

John- I already gave you a good recent example- see below.

But the article that Tim just posted is an example of something can be attributed to a miracle if one is so inclined, but there are countless examples of near drownings where children (especially) are revived after having no pulse or respiration with no ill effects. I see this in my line of work very often.

You yourself said you are looking for examples that reason cannot explain.

I can give a personal example that convinced me that a miracle was in play.

When me and my siblings were young, my dad was in San Francisco on business. My mom went into the garage and stepped on a rake and the handle came up and whacked her in the eye. She developed a HUGE goose egg and black eye. She was obviously hurt and upset and we were freaking out.

Very soon after this happened, my dad called home and asked my mom what the emergency was. My mom said she did not call(she hadn't) but my dad said when he got back to the hotel from dinner they had a message for him to call home immediately as there was an emergency at home. At any rate my mom really needed to talk to my dad and he needed to reassure us at that moment so I am convinced a guardian angel was at work.