

## PERSONAL EVANGELISM #11 - DEALING WITH THE SKEPTIC

### 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-31

The world says, "If I see, then I will believe," but God says, "If you believe, then you will see." A true skeptic questions, a scorner has a closed and a mind made up against God.

#### I. "THE GOSPEL ALL SEEMS SO FOOLISH/CHILDISH TO ME"

##### A. It IS foolishness (God says so!) 1 COR. 1:18

1. Preaching your opinion never works ("I say")
2. Preaching the Gospel changes lives! ("God says")
3. Not empty or without legal binding ISA. 55:11

##### B. It isn't a question of sight but faith 1 COR. 2:14

1. It is understandable to struggle in man's wisdom
2. It is a matter of the soul ROM. 10:9-10

##### C. Salvation by grace: Distinct from religion JOHN 7:46

#### II. "I TRIED BUT I CAN'T BELIEVE"

##### A. It could be that the mind is blinded to the truth

1. If there is a God, then there is a devil
2. If there is a devil, then he blinds 2 COR. 4:3-4

##### B. Believing has many facets (knowledge/repentance/faith)

1. Not intellectual but TRUST (Getting on a plane)
2. There can be only one source of faith ROM. 10:17

#### III. "I DON'T BELIEVE THERE IS A GOD"

##### A. The evidence of General Revelation proves it PSA. 19:1

##### B. The evidence of Special Revelation proves it JOHN 1:1

##### C. God takes GREAT PAINS to reveal Himself ROM. 1:19-22

#### IV. "I DON'T BELIEVE THE BIBLE IS GOD'S WORD"

##### A. Yet He says His Word will never pass away MATT. 24:35

1. Soviets - Nazis - Muslims: They've all tried!
2. Bible: The anvil that has broken every hammer!

##### B. Prophecies / Construction unlike any other book

#### V. "I DON'T BELIEVE JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD"

##### A. No one else did the works of Jesus JOHN 15:24

##### B. The ONLY name that matters LUKE 16:19 / ACTS 4:12

CONCLUSION: Discern the difference between the skeptic and the scorner. A skeptic may be convinced but probably not a scorner.