

Chapter Seven

Answers to Unbeliever's Questions

THERE ARE MANY OCCASIONS in witnessing when questions or excuses are given. The following suggestions will help you answer the excuses effectively, enabling you to continue your gospel presentation.

Excuse #1: "It's God's responsibility to reveal Himself to me."

Read Jeremiah 29:13

Jeremiah gives the requirement for someone to find God. The unbeliever must search for Him with all of his heart.

Excuse #2: "I think God is too good to send anyone to hell."

"The unbeliever is condemned already because he has refused God's way of salvation."

Read Ezekiel 18:23, 31-23

The unbeliever drew an incorrect conclusion from his correct assumption that God is good. In Ezekiel 18, God shows His goodness by declaring He receives no pleasure when the wicked die. He would prefer they turn from their evil ways and live. God is good. It is not His preference to punish the unbeliever. The unbeliever is condemned already because he has refused God's way of salvation.

Excuse #3: "It's hard to believe in a God I can't see."

Read II Corinthians 5:7 and Hebrews 11:6

If sight were the instrument used for believing in God, then I would

agree it would be hard to believe in God. However, God has given a different way for us to believe. We are to walk by faith and not by sight. Only faith pleases God. He only gives the gift of eternal life to those who exercise faith in God.

Alternate response: "I can't see your brain but that doesn't mean you don't have one. I can't see electricity, but we know it exists, because of the effects of electricity. Why do we believe in God?"

- The creation shows there is a Creator. (Rom. 1:20)
- God is still doing miracles today.
- God is still changing lives. (Rev. 12:11)
- Almost everyone believes in God. (There is safety in numbers)
- The idea of morality proves there is a God. All cultures throughout history have a similar moral code.

Excuse #4: "I'm going to have a good time for now. I'll worry about getting right with God later."

Read Psalm 16:11, Luke 12:16-21, and Mark 8:36-37

The unbeliever fails to realize that a life lived in fellowship with God will provide pleasures forevermore. The good time he is seeking to have now provides only temporary enjoyment. Luke 12:16-21 says this is the attitude of those who lay up treasure for themselves, but are not rich toward God. The Lord warns those who choose to live for the pleasures of this world. The Bible says, "What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?"

Excuse #5: "I will receive Jesus before I die."

Read Psalm 95:7-9, Proverbs 29:1 and Isaiah 55:6

Isaiah the prophet warned the people to seek the Lord while He may be found. The Lord further admonishes in the Psalms not to harden our hearts when we hear the Word of God. The unbeliever does not know when he will die. He would do well to heed the warning in Proverbs 29:1, "He...will suddenly be destroyed".

Excuse #6: "I'm afraid of praying to receive Christ and nothing happening."

Read Hebrews 11:6 and Revelations 3:20

Jesus said if any man would open the door of his heart He would come into him. The unbeliever receives a clear promise from God and is responsible to exercise faith to receive that promise.

Excuse #7: "I've tried to be a Christian before and failed."

Read Prov. 3:5-6 & Eph. 2:8-9

The problem the unbeliever experienced in the past centers on the words, "I've tried." We cannot try to become a Christian, any more that we could try to become our father's son.

A son is one who simply has been born, through no effort of his own into a family. The unbeliever must cease from his own efforts and trust God to save him through the blood of Jesus Christ. This alone can transform him into a Christian.

Excuse #8: "I'm too young (or old) to receive Christ."

Read II Corinthians 6:2, Ecclesiastes 12:1, and Deuteronomy 4:29-31

The scriptures tell those who claim to be too young for salvation to remember their Creator in their youth. Those who say they are too old to receive Christ don't realize the Bible's promises. The Scripture says if they would turn to the Lord in their later days they would find Him. The present moment is the right time of salvation for every person of every age.