

has proved itself to be historically, textually, philosophically, and factually accurate. It is also the one text that has universal, practical applicability. The reader will have to do his homework at this point, as this brief pamphlet cannot address these issues fully.

**10. This revelation from the mind of God also provides the answers to man's spiritual problems.**

If the Bible is really what it claims to be—a revelation from the mind of an infinite, personal being—then we can expect that it will contain the information necessary to deliver us from our philosophical dilemmas. But we should expect much more than that if this “being” is personal, loves us, and is sincerely interested in us. Not only does the Bible answer man's basic philosophical questions, it also tells us all we need to know about life. God's Word gives us this important information:

**A.** God created us to live in a fulfilling love relationship with Him.

**B.** We rebelled against the loving rulership of God and decided to try to live without Him.

**C.** Our choice to rebel against God separated us from Him, disrupted relationships with other people, and caused the destruction of the earth itself.

**D.** Though God must judge us and punish us for our selfishness and rebellion, He still loves us and longs to re-establish relationship with us.

**E.** God became a man, in Jesus Christ, and through His death provided a way to justly forgive us and accept us back into relationship with Him.

**F.** If you meet the conditions, you can be forgiven, enter into relationship with God, and have eternal life. Those conditions are:

**1. Acknowledge that you have rebelled against God.** (“All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Rom. 3:23)

**2. Turn away from your lifestyle of selfishness.** (“Repent for the forgiveness of your sins.” Acts 2:38)

**3. Commit yourself to living the way God commands you to live—loving God, and loving others as yourself.** (“Love the Lord your God, and love your neighbor as yourself.” Mark 12:30, 31)

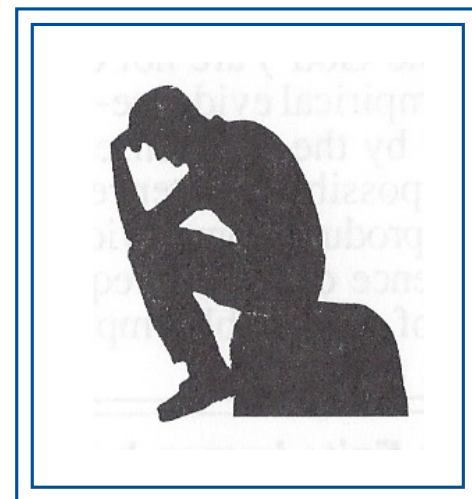
**4. Ask God's forgiveness for your sins.** (“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins.” I John 1:9)

**5. Take your hands off your own life and allow Jesus to be your master.** (“If you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Rom. 10:9, 10)

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# Ten Things Every Thinking Atheist Ought to Know



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## 1. The statement “There is no God” is a negative philosophical statement.

Statements like “There is a God” are positive, that is, they assert the existence of a thing. “There is no God” or “There are no absolutes,” on the other hand, assert the non-existence of a thing and are called negative philosophical statements.

## 2. Negative philosophical statements require the presence of all possible empirical evidence to prove.

Negative philosophical statements (such as “There is no God”) are not open to proof on the basis of empirical evidence—evidence which can be tested by the five senses. To prove the existence or possible existence of a thing you only need to produce some evidence. To prove the non-existence of a thing requires, by nature, the presence of all possible empirical evidence.

## 3. The finite human being is not capable of providing the evidence necessary to prove such a statement.

We, as human beings, cannot go everywhere, experience everything, know everything, and present every entity in the universe for empirical examination. Even the combined intelligence of all the humans on earth is still, at its best, finite. So, if someone tries to

prove that “There is no God” he would have to be something other than finite to do so. In short, he would have to be God himself in order to prove that there is no God.

## 4. Therefore, the statement “There is no God” can never be proved empirically.

Because of the negative nature of the assertion “There is no God,” the statement cannot, by its very nature, be proved empirically (with data tested by the five senses).

## 5. The charge of wish fulfillment is a two-edged sword.

Atheists sometimes charge theists with being involved in wish-fulfillment. They think that theists may only want God to exist so that God will care for them. But would sinful men want a God like the God of the Bible to exist? He is absolutely holy, judges sin, and punishes evil-doers for their actions. Would sinners really want someone like that to exist? Maybe it is the atheist who is involved in wish-fulfillment. Maybe he hopes that this holy God does not exist so that he will not be judged and punished for his sin.

## 6. No scientific evidence can be offered to prove “There is no God.”

Scientific process is based on observable, repeatable phenomena. For three reasons, then, science cannot prove that there is no God. First, no one can offer observable phenomena of a non-existent entity. Second, God, as a spirit, is not open to objective observation (though His intervention in the time-space continuum would be). Third, the cause-and-effect relationship between God as a cause and any effect He might produce is not repeatable in a controlled environment. Scientific process, although useful for many things, is not applicable to the issue of the non-existence of God.

## 7. Only agnosticism is tenable philosophically due to the finite nature of the human mind.

If a person cannot prove that God does not exist, his only other option is to say, “I don’t know if there is a God.” This “non-knowing,” called agnosticism, results from the finite nature of the human mind.

Because of the limitations of man’s finite mind, there are realms of knowledge that are closed to man’s investigation. The total amount of man’s compiled knowledge would still only resemble a speck on a wall if the wall represented the realm of all possible knowledge. Since man cannot prove that any particular unit of knowledge is not within the realm of all possible knowledge, he can only state that he does not know if such a unit exists.

## 8. Only knowledge from an infinite mind can provide the absolutes necessary to establish true knowledge.

With his finite mind and relative, subjective experiences, man cannot establish the absolutes necessary to solve his basic philosophical dilemmas. With his finite mind, man cannot conclude the absolute, objective existence of any particular in the universe, absolute standards of right and wrong, or absolute knowledge. In short, man is “sunk” philosophically unless he receives information from a mind greater than his own—an infinite mind.

## 9. Only the writings of the Judeo-Christian heritage (the Bible) offer this revelation from the mind of God.

The Judeo-Christian scriptures (the Bible) claim to be a revelation from the mind of an infinite, personal, spiritual being. Although other texts (the Koran, Vedas, Upanishads, Tripitaka, and writings of Zoroaster) claim to be revelations from a “higher mind,” only the Bible