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# The Christian Delusion Why Faith Fails John W Loftus

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Dawkins' GOD

Why I Became an Atheist

The Jesus Delusion

50 Simple Questions for Every Christian

The God Delusion. 10th Anniversary Edition

The Christian Delusion

The Dawkins Delusion?

The Christian Revolution and Its Fashionable Enemies

Christianity Is Not Great

A Defense of Metaphysical Naturalism

Atheist Fundamentalism and the Denial of the Divine

Why Faith Fails

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Atheism and its Scientific Pretensions

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Gunning for God

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A Humanist Bible

But Is It Real?

From Preacher to Atheist

An Evidentiary Analysis of Doctor Richard Carrier's Objections to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The Gospel of the Flying Spaghetti Monster

Is Faith Delusion?

Even Dawkins Has a God

God or Godless?  
A Non-Believer's Guide to the Uses of Religion  
Advice from an Atheist  
Atheist Delusions  
The End of Reason

*The Christian  
Delusion Why  
Faith Fails*  
*John W Loftus*

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## **LACI RICHARD**

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### **Dawkins' GOD**

AuthorHouse  
Should we believe in God?  
In this brisk introduction  
to modern atheism, one of  
the world's greatest  
science writers tells us  
why we shouldn't. Richard  
Dawkins was fifteen when

he stopped believing in  
God. Deeply impressed by  
the beauty and  
complexity of living  
things, he'd felt certain  
they must have had a  
designer. Learning about  
evolution changed his  
mind. Now one of the  
world's best and  
bestselling science  
communicators, Dawkins  
has given readers, young  
and old, the same

opportunity to rethink the  
big questions. In twelve  
fiercely funny, mind-  
expanding chapters,  
Dawkins explains how the  
natural world arose  
without a designer—the  
improbability and beauty  
of the “bottom-up  
programming” that  
engineers an embryo or a  
flock of starlings—and  
challenges head-on some  
of the most basic

assumptions made by the world's religions: Do you believe in God? Which one? Is the Bible a "Good Book"? Is adhering to a religion necessary, or even likely, to make people good to one another? Dissecting everything from Abraham's abuse of Isaac to the construction of a snowflake, *Outgrowing God* is a concise, provocative guide to thinking for yourself. *Praise for Outgrowing God* "My son came home from his first day in the sixth grade with arms

outstretched plaintively demanding to know: 'Have you ever heard of Jesus?' We burst out laughing. Maybe not our finest parenting moment, given that he was genuinely distraught. He felt that he had woken up one day to a world in which his peers were expressing beliefs he found frighteningly unreasonable. He began devouring books like *The God Delusion*, books that helped him formulate his own arguments and helped him stand his ground. Dawkins's new

book is special in the terrain of atheists' pleas for humanism and rationalism precisely since it speaks to those most vulnerable to the coercive tactics of religion. As Dawkins himself says in the dedication, this book is for 'all young people when they're old enough to decide for themselves.' It is also, I must add, for their parents."—Janna Levin, author of *Black Hole Blues* "When someone is considering atheism I tell them to read the Bible first and then Dawkins. *Outgrowing*

God—second only to the Bible!”—Penn Jillette, author of *God, No! Why I Became an Atheist* Bloomsbury Publishing USA

Is faith delusion? Is religion bad for your health? How, in a scientifically and technologically advanced age, can people still believe in God/spirit/'other'? Clearly not all believers are primitive and ill-educated; an alternative explanation is that they must be mad, or at least severely neurotic (as suggested by

Freud). This book starts by looking at, and giving reasons for, the connection and the division between Christian faith and psychiatry. It asks whether science challenges Christians involved with psychiatry, as patients or professionals, and whether the spiritual needs of patients are recognised. The author examines the scope and use of the neuro-sciences and considers cause and effect, natural selection and determinism. He explores the overlap (and

the difference) between psychiatric symptoms and religious belief, the possible association between demon possession and mental illness, and the idea that some people are intrinsically religious and some are not. The variations of personality are examined, with their implications for belief. Posited as a statement, that faith is delusion is always hostile, but outcome studies (reviewed here) show that in general religious belief and practice convey good

mental health. Religious faith and mental illness are different, and their concepts come from different world-views. A consideration of them in relation to each other is long overdue. The author is a former Professor of Psychiatry and President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, and has also been Chairman of their Spirituality and Psychiatry Special Interest Group, so is exceptionally well qualified to address the subject. Although the book is technically proficient, it is aimed at

the general reader and is illustrated with stories, brief case histories and anecdotes.

### **The Jesus Delusion**

Vintage

If God does not exist, then what does? Is there good and evil, and should we care? How do we know what's true anyway? And can we make any sense of this universe, or our own lives? Sense and Goodness answers all these questions in lavish detail, without complex jargon. A complete worldview is presented and defended, covering

every subject from knowledge to art, from metaphysics to morality, from theology to politics. Topics include free will, the nature of the universe, the meaning of life, and much more, arguing from scientific evidence that there is only a physical, natural world without gods or spirits, but that we can still live a life of love, meaning, and joy.

### **50 Simple Questions for Every Christian**

Alfred a Knopf

Incorporated

The God Delusion caused

a sensation when it was published in 2006. Within weeks it became the most hotly debated topic, with Dawkins himself branded as either saint or sinner for presenting his hard-hitting, impassioned rebuttal of religion of all types. His argument could hardly be more topical. While Europe is becoming increasingly secularized, the rise of religious fundamentalism, whether in the Middle East or Middle America, is dramatically and dangerously dividing opinion around the world.

In America, and elsewhere, a vigorous dispute between 'intelligent design' and Darwinism is seriously undermining and restricting the teaching of science. In many countries religious dogma from medieval times still serves to abuse basic human rights such as women's and gay rights. And all from a belief in a God whose existence lacks evidence of any kind. Dawkins attacks God in all his forms. He eviscerates the major arguments for religion

and demonstrates the supreme improbability of a supreme being. He shows how religion fuels war, foments bigotry and abuses children. The *God Delusion* is a brilliantly argued, fascinating polemic that will be required reading for anyone interested in this most emotional and important subject. *The God Delusion. 10th Anniversary Edition* John Wiley & Sons  
Dr. Richard Carrier is an expert in the history of the ancient world and a critic of Christian

attempts to distort history in defense of their faith. Not the Impossible Faith is a tour de force in that genre, dissecting and refuting the oft-repeated claim that Christianity could not have succeeded in the ancient world unless it was true. Though framed as a detailed rebuttal to Christian apologist J.P. Holding (author of The Impossible Faith), Carrier takes a general approach that educates the reader on the history and sociology of the ancient world, answering many

questions like: How did Christians approach evidence? Was there a widespread prejudice against the testimony of women? Was resurrection such a radical idea? Who would worship a crucified criminal? And much more. Written with occasional humor and an easy style, and thoroughly referenced, with many entertaining "gotcha " moments, Not the Impossible Faith is a must-read for anyone interested in the origins of Christianity.  
The Christian Delusion

Pitchstone Publishing (US&CA)  
From the bestselling author of A History of God and The Great Transformation comes a balanced, nuanced understanding of the role religion plays in human life and the trajectory of faith in modern times. Why has God become incredible? Why is it that atheists and theists alike now think and speak about God in a way that veers so profoundly from the thinking of our ancestors? Moving from the Paleolithic Age to the



present, Karen Armstrong details the lengths to which humankind has gone to experience a sacred reality that it called God, Brahman, Nirvana, Allah, or Dao. She examines the diminished impulse toward religion in our own time when a significant number of people either want nothing to do with God or question the efficacy of faith. With her trademark depth of knowledge and profound insight, Armstrong elucidates how the changing world has

necessarily altered the importance of religion at both societal and individual levels. And she makes a powerful, convincing argument for structuring a faith that speaks to the needs of our dangerously polarized age.

#### **The Dawkins Delusion?**

Kingsway Publications Christopher Hitchens, described in the London Observer as “one of the most prolific, as well as brilliant, journalists of our time” takes on his biggest subject yet—the increasingly dangerous

role of religion in the world. In the tradition of Bertrand Russell’s *Why I Am Not a Christian* and Sam Harris’s recent bestseller, *The End Of Faith*, Christopher Hitchens makes the ultimate case against religion. With a close and erudite reading of the major religious texts, he documents the ways in which religion is a man-made wish, a cause of dangerous sexual repression, and a distortion of our origins in the cosmos. With eloquent clarity, Hitchens

frames the argument for a more secular life based on science and reason, in which hell is replaced by the Hubble Telescope's awesome view of the universe, and Moses and the burning bush give way to the beauty and symmetry of the double helix.

*The Christian Revolution and Its Fashionable Enemies* Knopf Canada  
Richard Dawkins's *The God Delusion* is one of the most serious attacks on religion in recent times. A number of highly capable authors have countered it.

Neil's reply is different from most. He finds areas of agreement with Dawkins over a number of his assessments of religion while exposing his erroneous understanding of the nature of God. He shows that Dawkins's attack on God is irrelevant even though he successfully demolishes what he imagines is the Christian ?god?. At the same time, Neil tries to equip Christians to come to an informed intelligent position, to lose their fears of science, and to see its wonderful

strengths. He challenges the assumptions made particularly by the New Atheists in imagining that faith is a childish approach to origins and furthermore that their own views are similar to some religions so that they virtually have a ?god? themselves. Tackling thorny topics like the meaning of faith, miracles, morality, and righteousness, Neil honestly appraises Christian views, tries to debunk misconceptions about these topics, and shows that science and

faith can be mutually enhancing.

**Christianity Is Not Great** Tectum

Wissenschaftsverlag  
Atheism and the Christian Faith is an anthology of the proceedings from a conference of the same name which convened at Concordia University of Edmonton in May 2016. The book represents a wide diversity of subtopics—primarily from a philosophical perspective—including submissions from atheists, agnostics and theists. This combination

of topics and perspectives makes the book totally unique. There are arguments for and against theism. The foreword to the book is by Professor Richard Swinburne, Professor Emeritus of Philosophy at Oxford University, who contributes two chapters to the book: “Why Believe That There is a God?” and “Why God Allows Suffering”. The book includes a chapter from renowned astrophysicist, and former student of Stephen Hawkins, Professor Dr. Don Page

from the University of Alberta “On the Optimal Argument for the Existence of God”. Atheism and the Christian Faith advances arguments around serious philosophical issues of direct relevance to contemporary society. It will be of interest to a broad range of scholars in philosophy, theology and epistemology.

**A Defense of Metaphysical Naturalism** Prometheus Books

In this new anthology critiquing Christianity,

John Loftus—a former minister and now a leading atheist—has brought together an outstanding group of respected scholars who focus on the harms caused by the world’s leading religion. The contributors begin by dissecting the many problematic aspects of religious faith generally. They repeatedly demonstrate that, with faith as a foundation, almost anything can be believed or denied. And almost any horrific deed can be committed. The

authors then take a good hard look at many of the most important political, institutional, scientific, social, and moral harms committed in the name of Christianity. These range from the historical persecutions of the Inquisition and witch hunts to the current health hazards of faith healing. Finally, the authors answer three common Christian retorts to criticisms from nonbelievers: (1) that atheists cannot judge a harmful action without an objective moral standard;

(2) that atheists need faith to solve the world’s problems; and (3) that atheists cannot live a good life without faith. Loftus and the contributors generally conclude that, given both the well-documented historical record and ongoing problems raised by the faith, Christianity decisively fails empirical tests of its usefulness to humanity.

**Atheist  
Fundamentalism and  
the Denial of the  
Divine** Freedom from  
Religion Fndtn

The Christian Delusion Why Faith Fails Prometheus Books  
**Why Faith Fails** Graphic Arts Books  
 Can I get a “ramen” from the congregation?! Behold the Church of the Flying Spaghetti Monster (FSM), today’s fastest growing carbohydrate-based religion. According to church founder Bobby Henderson, the universe and all life within it were created by a mystical and divine being: the Flying Spaghetti Monster. What drives the FSM’s devout followers, a.k.a.

Pastafarians? Some say it’s the assuring touch from the FSM’s “noodly appendage.” Then there are those who love the worship service, which is conducted in pirate talk and attended by congregants in dashing buccaneer garb. Still others are drawn to the Church’s flimsy moral standards, religious holidays every Friday, or the fact that Pastafarian heaven is way cooler: Does your heaven have a Stripper Factory and a Beer Volcano? Intelligent Design has finally met its

match—and it has nothing to do with apes or the Olive Garden of Eden. Within these pages, Bobby Henderson outlines the true facts—dispelling such malicious myths as evolution (“only a theory”), science (“only a lot of theories”), and whether we’re really descended from apes (fact: Humans share 95 percent of their DNA with chimpanzees, but they share 99.9 percent with pirates!) See what impressively credentialed top scientists have to say: “If Intelligent Design is

taught in schools, equal time should be given to the FSM theory and the non-FSM theory.”

–Professor Douglas Shaw, Ph.D. “Do not be hypocritical. Allow equal time for other alternative ‘theories’ like FSMism, which is by far the tastier choice.” –J. Simon, Ph.D.

“In my scientific opinion, when comparing the two theories, FSM theory seems to be more valid than classic ID theory.”

–Afshin Beheshti, Ph.D. Read the book and decide for yourself!

### **Letter to a Christian**

### **Nation** Bloomsbury Publishing

In this anthology of recent criticisms aimed at the reasonableness of Christian belief, a former evangelical minister and apologist, author of the critically acclaimed *Why I Became an Atheist*, has assembled fifteen outstanding articles by leading skeptics, expanding on themes introduced in his first book. Central is a defense of his "outsider test of faith," arguing that believers should test their faith with the same

skeptical standards they use to evaluate the other faiths they reject, as if they were outsiders. Experts in medicine, psychology, and anthropology join Loftus to show why, when this test is applied to Christianity, it becomes very difficult to rationally defend. Collectively, these articles reveal that popular Christian beliefs tend to rely on ignorance of the facts. Drawing together experts in diverse fields, including Hector Avalos, Richard Carrier, David Eller, and

Robert Price, this book deals a powerful blow against Christian faith. *The End of Christianity* Ulysses Press  
A former preacher tell why he abandoned the guidance of the Bible to follow the dictates of own conscience.

A Beginner's Guide  
Prometheus Books  
Using logic, common sense, philosophy, ethics, history, and science, the author rebuts every argument that claims to "prove" the existence of God. IS THERE REALLY A GOD? OR DOES GOD

EXIST ONLY IN OUR HEADS? IS THE BIBLE TRULY GOD'S WORD? OR IS IT A JUMBLE OF FANCIFUL MYTHS? Atheist Universe details why God is unnecessary to explain the universe's diversity, organization and beauty. Using simple, straightforward logic, this book rebuts every argument that claims to "prove" God's existence. A comprehensive primer for countering today's religious dogma, Atheist Universe addresses all the historical and scientific questions, including:

- What is atheism, and why is it so misunderstood? •If God is a myth, then how did the universe appear?
- Without God, is there an objective "right" and "wrong"?
- What is the meaning of life without God?
- Is there evidence of Jesus's miracles and resurrection?
- Can atheists explain "near death" experiences and medical miracles?
- Can science and the Bible realistically be reconciled?
- What is the behind-the-scenes relationship between politics and

religion? “An admirable work.” —Richard Dawkins “David’s work will be very useful for anyone combating harmful religious beliefs. Honest, frank, and right to the point!”—Albert Ellis, Ph.D., father of modern psychotherapy, author of [A Guide to Rational Living](#) [Deluded by Dawkins?](#) Xulon Press  
Part I asks: Is evolving Nature all there is – self-generated, self-sustaining, self-contained? Are human beings, as the topmost outgrowth of Nature,

responsible to none other but themselves? That is the stance of naturalist and atheist Richard Dawkins. Or is evolving reality derived from, and dependent on, a transcendent Source and Destiny, to whom humans are accountable and whose benevolence reaches out to humans as persons because humans are persons? That is the conviction of the Christian faith. Part II shows that Dawkins’ interpretation of religion is deficient even in evolutionary terms and lacks the objectivity and

impartiality of genuine science.

### **The Good Atheist**

McClelland & Stewart

The creator of the popular science blog, Pharyngula, presents a biting and uproarious assessment of religious fanaticism that imparts his infectious disdain for such topics as creationism, biblical literalism and "intelligent design" theory.

### **Outgrowing God**

Lulu.com

Alister E. McGrath is one of the world’s leading theologians, with a doctorate in the sciences.



Richard Dawkins is one of the bestselling popular science writers, with outspoken and controversial views on religion. This fascinating and provoking work is the first book-length response to Dawkins' ideas, and offers an ideal introduction to the topical issues of science and religion. Addresses fundamental questions about Dawkins' approach to science and religion: Is the gene actually selfish? Is the blind watchmaker a suitable analogy? Are there other ways of

looking at things? Tackles Dawkins' hostile and controversial views on religion, and examines the religious implications of his scientific ideas, making for a fascinating and provoking debate. Written in a very engaging and accessible style, ideal to those approaching scientific and religious issues for the first time. Alister McGrath is uniquely qualified to write this book. He is one of the world's best known and most respected theologians, with a strong research background in

molecular biophysics. A superb book by one of the world's leading theologians, which will attract wide interest in the growing popular science market, similar to Susan Blackmore's *The Meme Machine* (1999). *The Christian Delusion* Zondervan. In this successor to his critically acclaimed anthology, *The Christian Delusion: Why Faith Fails*, a former minister and now leading atheist spokesperson has assembled a stellar group of respected scholars to

continue the critique of Christianity begun in the first volume. Contributors include Victor Stenger, Robert Price, Hector Avalos, Richard Carrier, Keith Parsons, David Eller, and Taner Edis. Loftus is also the author of the best-selling *Why I Became an Atheist: A Former Preacher Rejects*

Christianity. Taken together, the Loftus trilogy poses formidable challenges to claims for the rationality of the Christian faith. Anyone with an interest in the philosophy of religion will find this compilation to be intellectually stimulating and deeply thought provoking.

### **Atheism and the**

**Christian Faith** Vernon Press

Argues that the increasing power of Christian fundamentalists in American politics threatens the country's citizens, blames the Bible for promoting intolerance of other faiths, and describes atheism as "an admission of the obvious."