

Debate

What Best Explains Reality:
Theism or Atheism?

Frank
Turek

AND

Christopher
Hitchens

Tuesday March 31, 2009 8:00 in Kendall Hall, TCNJ

Sponsored By:

Protestant Bible Fellowship

<http://pbf.weebly.com/index.html>

Secular Student Alliance

<http://www.secularstudents.org/TCNJ>

New Jersey Christian Fellowship

<http://www.tcnj.edu/~ivchrist/>

The TCNJ Debate Club

tcnjdebate@gmail.com

TCNJ Philosophic Society

psociety@tcnj.edu

Sponsor Information

Protestant Bible Fellowship (PBF) (pbf.weebly.com)

At Protestant Bible Fellowship, we seek to advance the Gospel of Jesus Christ and his kingdom into the nations through spiritual generations of laborers living and discipling among the lost. We believe that the core truths of Christianity, as affirmed in the early creeds and reaffirmed in the Confessions of the Protestant Reformation, define and unite us more deeply than any particular denominational distinctive. As such we guard our unity on essentials while maintaining a loving acceptance of others' views on less essential matters.

Secular Student Association (SSA) (TCNJ@secularstudents.org)

Secular Student Association is the only independent, democratically structured organization in the U.S. that serves the needs of freethinking college students. There are chapters all over the country, and one was established at TCNJ in fall 2007. The basic tenets of SSA are: 1. One can lead a meaningful and moral life without belief in the supernatural. 2. Careful observation and reason are better ways to understand the world than religious dogma. 3. The separation of church and state is a critical part of good government.

New Jersey Christian Fellowship (NJCF) (<http://www.tcnj.edu/~ivchrist/>)

New Jersey Christian Fellowship is a chapter of InterVarsity, an interdenominational Christian fellowship on college campuses around the world. The purpose of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA is to establish and advance at colleges and universities witnessing communities of students and faculty who follow Jesus as Savior and Lord: growing in love for God, God's Word, God's people of every ethnicity and culture, and God's purposes in the world.

-----Tear along this line-----

Worldview Survey

TRUTH – Truth is knowable and Permanent

YES NO

GOD – A divine being exists

YES NO

Circle the following that is the closest to your worldview?

- There is no "supreme being", the world is all there is.
- There is no "supreme being", a person should strive to achieve spiritual awareness through self.
- "God" is a higher conscious within a person
- There are numerous representations of God and multiple ways toward spiritual perfection/enlightenment/nirvana.
- There is only one God, the eternal creator of the universe and the source of morality.
- It is not possible to have knowledge of God or God's existence.

Do you associate yourself with any religious/worldview group?

- a) Yes b) No c) Used to be d) In the process of joining/learning

What best describes this group?

- a) Hinduism b) Judaism c) Islam d) Christianity e) Atheism f) Other g) None

What best describes the religious group in which you were raised?

- a) Hinduism b) Judaism c) Islam d) Christianity e) Atheism f) Other g) None

If you had/have children would/do you raise them in your current religion/worldview?

- a) Yes b) No c) I would/do let them decide

To what writings, if any, do you conform your life?

- a) Torah b) Bible c) Quran d) Scientific works e) Philosophical works f) Other g) None

THE BIBLE – The bible is a powerful and historical record of God at work

YES NO

THE BIBLE – The bible is the inerrant and inspired word of God

YES NO

Do you think it is possible to know the supreme being personally?

- a) Yes b) No c) Don't know/don't believe in one

JESUS – Jesus was a real person who revealed God to mankind

YES NO

JESUS – Jesus is a real person who is fully himself God

YES NO

RESPONSE – Every person must respond to the message of Jesus contained in the Bible

YES NO

Do you believe that your religion/worldview is the only true religion/worldview

YES NO

Additional Sponsor Information

The TCNJ Philosophy Society (<http://www.tcnj.edu/~philos/whatcanido.html>)
There are currently about 50 philosophy majors and 20-25 philosophy minors at TCNJ. They are widely different in terms of interests, backgrounds, personal style, and future plans. What they have in common, though, is a love of philosophy -- of questioning, analyzing, reflecting. The student-run TCNJ Philosophical Society meets every two weeks to discuss topics of philosophical interest to students.
The TCNJ Debate Club (moretto2@tcnj.edu)

Loose Change to Loosen Chains

The sponsors of this event recognize that, although we may have differing views on certain issues, there are ways that we can be united in cause, and effect change. One of these ways is shown tonight through our fundraiser for "Loose Change to Loosen Chains." This fundraiser is a student-led campaign that goes to the International Justice Mission (IJM.org) who will then use the money to rescue victims of slavery and other forms of oppression. Ushers will be ready after the debate to accept any donation you wish to make and there will be more information about this cause located at the PBF information table. If you do not wish to donate, we still encourage you to educate yourself on the terrible issue of human trafficking and look for ways to take action.

-----Tear along this line-----

The Debate

What did you like about the debate:

With regards to the debate content or structure what do you think needs improvement:

Would you like to see an event like this happen again at TCNJ:

What are some other speakers you would like to see at TCNJ:

Additional Comments:

Additional Information

Would you like to receive more information about:

- a) PBF b) SSA c) NJCF d) The TCNJ Debate Club e) The TCNJ Philosophy Society
- f) Dr. Frank Turek and his work h) Christopher Hitchens and his work i) Theism in general
- j) Atheism in general k) Christianity in general

Email* _____

Other contact info* _____

*=optional