"Why I Believe In Heaven"

John 14:1-6

Oct 7, 2018

The question in Job 14:14 plagues the minds of men and women more than any other issue in life. "If a man <u>dies</u>, shall he <u>live</u> again?" comes from the <u>oldest book</u> in the <u>Bible</u>. The question has echoed in the hearts of people ever since. Parents who have lost a child and children who have lost a parent all ask, "Will we see them <u>again</u>?" The answer the Bible gives us is <u>yes</u>.

I) The <u>Authority</u> Of The Bible:

A) Its authority has been established by historical reliability, scientific, accuracy, and pragmatic application. However, nothing accentuates the authority of Scripture any more than the <u>Word of Jesus</u>.

B) When Jesus spoke about the <u>existence of heaven</u>, He underscored it by appealing to His own <u>integrity</u>. John 14:1-3

C) The Second Law of Thermodynamics says that energy and matter become more random – or things <u>wear out</u> – the universe is <u>winding</u> <u>down</u>, but Jesus said, Matt. 24:35.

II) The <u>Laws</u> Of Nature:

A) Jesus taught that "unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and <u>dies</u>, it remains <u>alone</u>; but if it dies, it <u>produces</u> much <u>grain</u>." I Cor.15:35-38

B) William Jennings Bryan in his *Analogies of Nature* states, "If the Father decides to touch with Divine Power the cold and pulseless heart of a buried <u>acorn</u> and to make it burst forth into a new life, will He leave neglected on earth the <u>soul of man</u> made in the <u>image</u> of His <u>Creator</u>?"

C) This is stated in a similar way by Einstein in the <u>First Law</u> of <u>Thermodynamics</u>. This law states that matter and energy cannot be created nor <u>destroyed</u>. They may be transformed from one form to another but cannot be <u>destroyed</u>.

III) The <u>Testimonies</u> Of Out Of Body Experiences:

A) We have heard much about this <u>phenomenon</u> in recent years. But here in this passage the Apostle Paul describes his <u>own experiences</u>. II Cor. 12:2-4

B) Dr. Kubler Ross and Dr. Raymond Moody, two psychiatrists, interviewed over <u>500</u> people who <u>had</u> died and <u>came</u> back.

C) Reverend A.D. Sandborn, while pastoring a church in Iowa, called on a young Christian woman who was seriously ill. She bolstered up in bed, almost in a sitting position, looking off into the distance, "Now just as soon as they open the gate, I will go in," she whispered. Then she sank into her pillow in disappointment. "They have let <u>Mamie</u> go in <u>ahead</u> of me." Erwin Lutzer

IV) The Last Words Of Dying People:

A) Edward Gibbeon, a noted infidel: "All Is Dark."

B) Thomas Hobbes, rationalist: "I am taking a <u>fearful leap in the</u> <u>dark</u>."

C) Bertrand Russell, atheist: "There is <u>darkness without</u> and when I die there will be <u>darkness within</u>."

D) Augustus Toplady who wrote, "Rock of Ages:" "All is <u>Light</u>, <u>Light</u>, <u>Light</u>."

E) The Apostle Paul: "I am <u>ready to be offered up</u>..."