

Dear God...How do I know you are real?

Wylie United Methodist Church
Pastor Jeff Hatcher – April 23, 2017

Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

We know that God is real because of...

1. FIRST CAUSE

Genesis 1:1a In the beginning God!!

Ps 102:25-26

25 In the beginning you laid the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands. 26 They will perish, but you remain...

2. INTELLIGENT DESIGN

Genesis 1:1a In the beginning God created!!

Ps 19:1

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Eph 2:10

For we are God's workmanship (masterpiece)...

3. REASONING & MORALITY

Rom 7:18-19, 24-25

18... For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. 19 For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do — this I keep on doing. 20-23... 24 What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25 Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord!

4. RISK & REWARD

Ps 53:1

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."

Prov 14:12

There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end it leads to death.

5. JESUS

John 1:1-3; 14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 14 The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

John 10:30 "I and the Father are one."

John 20:27-31

27 Then [Jesus] said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." 28 Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." 30 Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. 31 But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

6. A TRANSFORMED LIFE

1 Cor 15:10 (Apostle Paul)

[God's] grace to me was not without effect.

1 Peter 3:15

... Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.