

The New Year – Being Wise or Being Whimsical

Christians need to be prepared to answer, with objective evidence, that the reason for the hope within them is more than a feeling and that God has taken clear measures to make Himself known to man. We all have been shaped by a culture that assigns high value to “objective knowledge” and a low value to “subjective knowledge.” (Isn't it interesting that people have an inborn desire to seek the truth.)

Objective vs. Subjective

Objective means: Not influenced by personal feelings, interpretations, or prejudice and based on facts. In other words, it is unbiased knowledge about the world around us.

Subjective means: Existing only in the mind; belonging to the thinking subject rather than the object of thought. So we can define subjective knowledge as that which exists in the mind and is incapable of external verification.

Are there any problems with these definitions? Subjective thinking doesn't have an object, but it does have a scoring system? To think of something subjectively is to put a value to it based on how the individual personally feels or sees things. Is “whimsical” part of subjective thinking? Subjective decisions may vary and may never be precise and errors go with the territory, it comes with baggage.

Is Christianity Credible?

Is there an intellectual basis for faith in Jesus Christ as the Son of God? If we are to trust God's Word we must understand that our heart and head were created to work and believe together in harmony. “my heart cannot rejoice in what my mind rejects” Christ commanded us to...”Love the Lord your God with all your mind.” (Matthew 22:37.) When believers come to trust in Jesus as our Savior it is not a matter of “subjective thinking”. We are not committing intellectual suicide and it's not “whimsical.”

1. The Christian Faith is an objective faith in Jesus Christ and a belief in His claims of who He is.
2. The Christian Faith establishes our relationship with Christ (the object.)
3. The Christian Faith is not in the one believing, but in the one who is believed in, it's object.
4. The Christian Faith is not in the person trusting, but in the one trusted.

The Facts

1. Can anyone demonstrate to a believer that Christ was not raised from the dead? If they could we would not have the right to our Christian faith (1 Corinthians 15:14.)
2. Eyewitnesses: The writers of the New Testament either wrote as eyewitnesses of the events they described or recorded eyewitness firsthand accounts of the events.
3. We are called to confirm our faith through investigation of God's Word. Christianity is not a blind leap into the dark, but rather a step into the light.

History

A knowledge of the past based on testimony (Josh McDowell)

A chronological record of events. (American Heritage Dictionary)

The branch of knowledge that records and analyzes past events. (American Heritage Dictionary)

