

Making Sense of the ANTI-WOMEN, ANTI-SCIENCE, PRO-VIOLENCE, PRO-SLAVERY

and Other Crazy-Sounding
Parts of Scripture

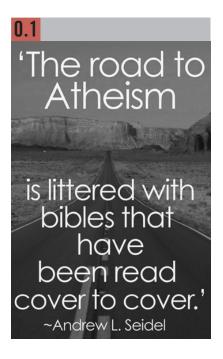
DAN KIMBALL

FOREWORD BY SEAN MCDOWELL





BECOMING ATHEIST BY READING THE BIBLE



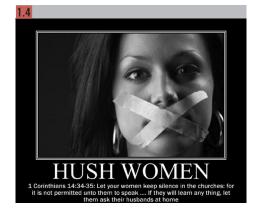


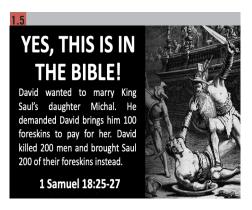
Yes, There Are Unicorns in the Bible

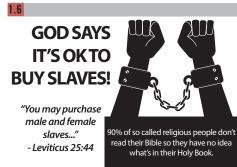


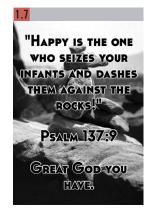




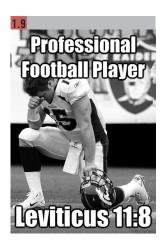








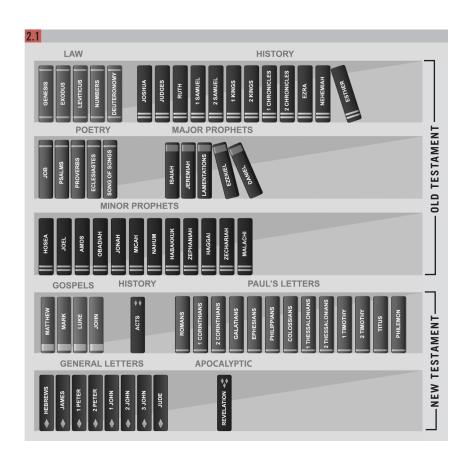




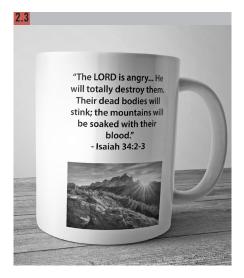




The Bible Was Not Written to Us









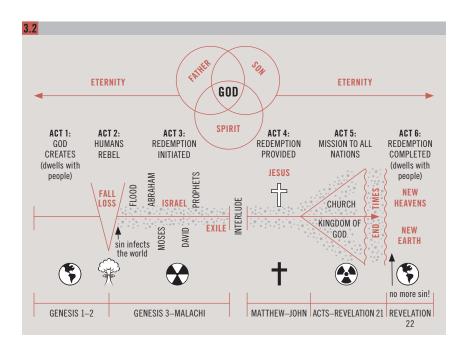
Never Read a Bible Verse

3.1

The Gospel of John Chapter 1

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself.

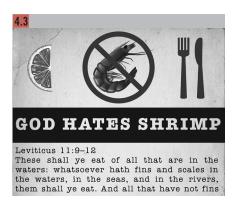




Strange and Stranger Things in the Old Testament











The Art of (Not) Cherry-Picking Bible Verses

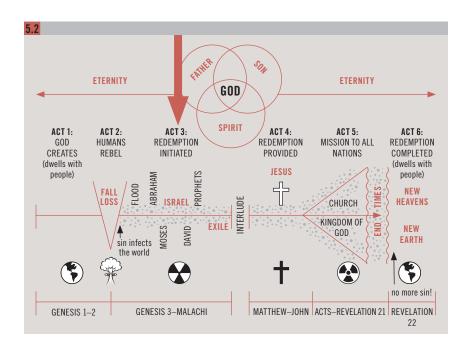
5.1

I've studied the Bible.

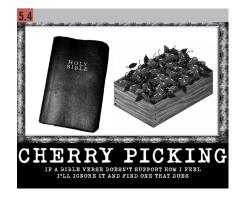
That's why I'm an

Atheist.

Brought to you by the Don't Cherry Pick the Bible Society.

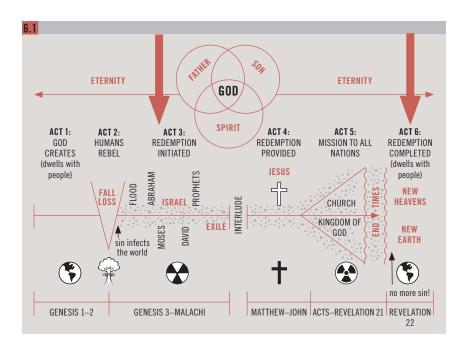


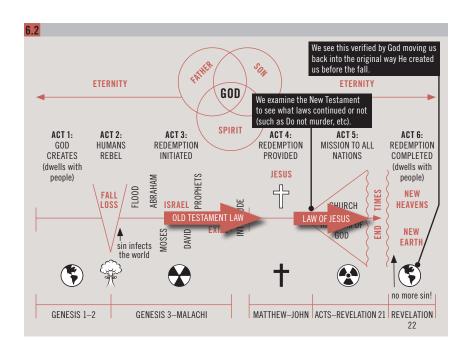






Making Sense of Shrimp, the Skin of a Dead Pig, and Slavery

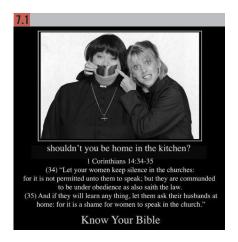


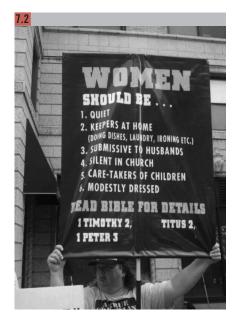






The Boys' Club Bible









Can't Keep a Good Woman Down

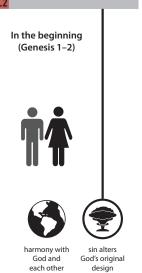
8 1

In the beginning (Genesis 1–2)





harmony with God and each other



In the beginning (Genesis 1–2)

After "the fall" (Genesis 3)

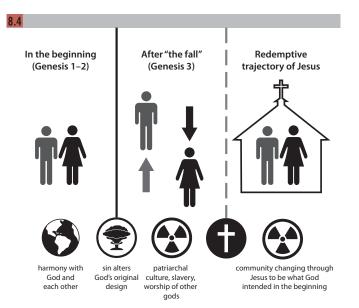
After "the fall" (Genesis 3)

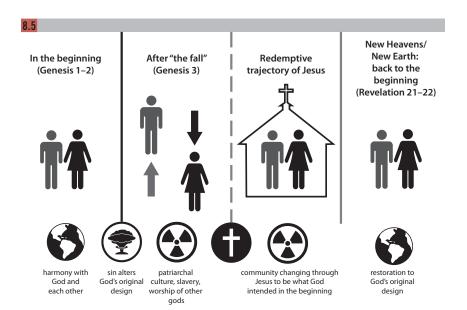
design

worship of other

gods

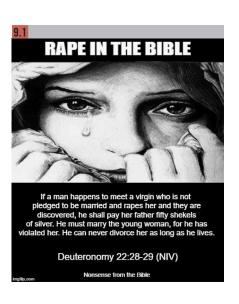
each other







Making Sense of Inequality in the Bible



9.2 I believe in biblical marriage



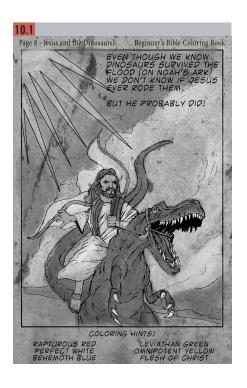
Man and multiple wives: (Abraham, Jacob, Solomon, David etc.)
Man and concubines: (2 Chronicles 11:21)
Man and his brother's wife: (Genesis 38:6-10)
Man and the woman he rapes: (Deuteronomy 22:28-29)
Man and women he captures in war: (Numbers 31:1-18)







Jesus Riding a Dinosaur







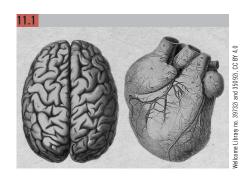
CHRISTIANITY:

The belief that some cosmic
Jewish Zombie can make you
live forever if you symbolically
eat his flesh and telepathically
tell him that you accept him
as your master, so he can
remove an evil source from your soul
that is present in humanity because
a rib-woman was convinced by a talking
snake to eat from a magical tree.

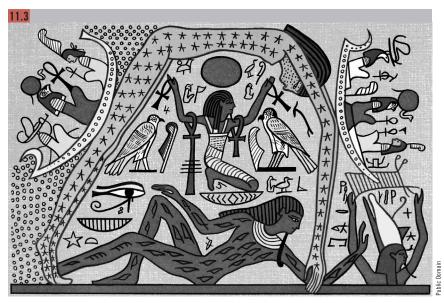
Makes perfect sense.



In the Beginning We Misunderstood







A drawing of the separation of sky from earth in Egyptian creation mythology





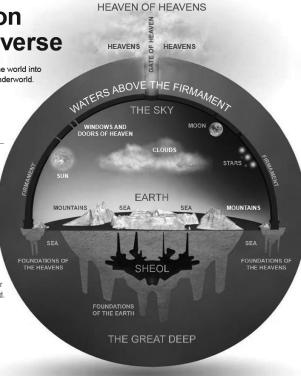
The ancient Israelites divided the world into Heaven, Earth, Sea, and the Underworld.

They viewed the sky as a vault resting on foundations—perhaps mountains—with doors and windows that let in the rain. God dwelt above the sky, hidden in cloud and majesty.

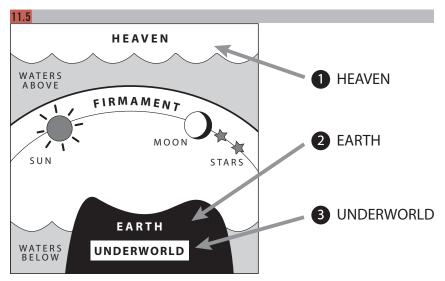
The world was viewed as a disk floating on the waters, secured or moored by pillars. The earth was the only known domain—the realm beyond it was considered unknowable.

The Underworld (Sheol) was a watery or dustyprison from which no one returned. Regarded as a physical place beneath the earth, it could be reached only through death.

GRAPHIC BY KARBEL MULTIMEDIA, COPYRIGHT 2012 LOGOS BIBLE SOFTWARE



GOD



Another simple diagram of the Three-Tier universe that the Israelites would have imagined as how their world functioned. The solid dome (firmament) held up the waters above; the sun, moon, and stars went up and down under that firmament.





Making Sense of the Bibleversus-Science Conflict

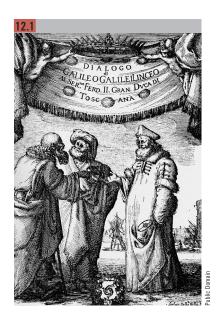






Table 12.1					
	Problem: Creation is "formless and empty" (1:2).				
God's Work	Forming	Filling			
	Day 1: light and darkness	Day 4: the lights of day and night			
	Day 2: sky and sea	Day 5: birds and fish			
	Day 3: fertile earth	Day 6: land animals, including man			
	Result: The work of creation is finished, and God can rest (2:1).				

Table 12.2					
	Atheistic Evolution	Young Earth Creation	Old Earth Creation	Evolutionary Creation	
God created earth and all life	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Earth is billions of years old	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Evolution describes how life developed	Yes	No	No	Yes	

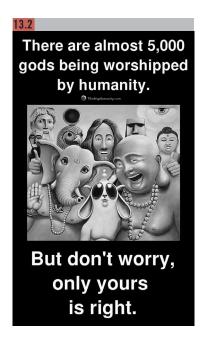
Courtesy of Deborah Haarsma from BioLogos (biologos.org). Deborah used this chart in a presentation I was part of with her, and this is used with her permission.





My God Can Beat Up Your God







Love Is the Way, the Truth, and the Life



In the beginning (Genesis 1-2)





harmony with God and each other

14.2

In the beginning (Genesis 1-2)



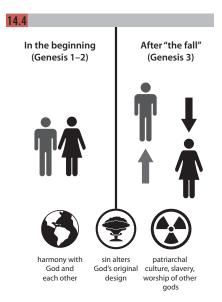






sin alters God's original design









Yet even as Hinduism was beginning in India, the one true God had not forgotten his promise to Adam and Eve.









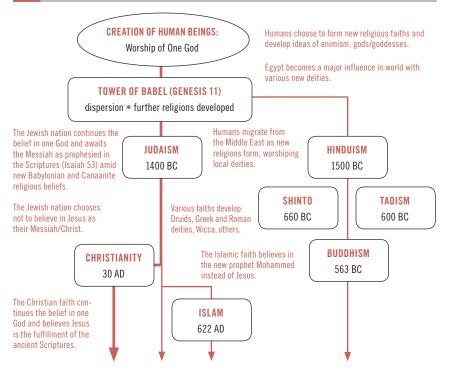


14.12 New Heavens/ New Earth: After "the fall" In the beginning Redemptive back to the (Genesis 1-2) trajectory of Jesus (Genesis 3) beginning (Revelation 21-22) patriarchal harmony with sin alters community changing through God and God's original culture, slavery, Jesus to be what God God's original worship of other each other design intended in the beginning design

gods

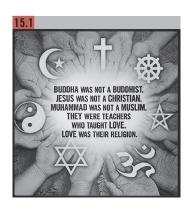


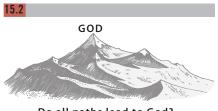




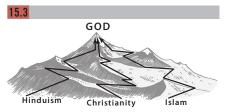


Making Sense of the Intolerant-Sounding Jesus

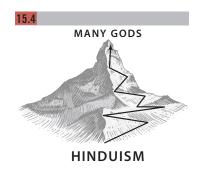


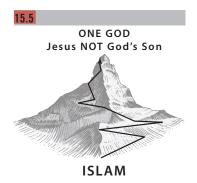


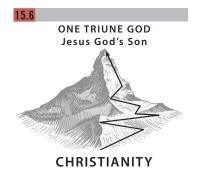
Do all paths lead to God?

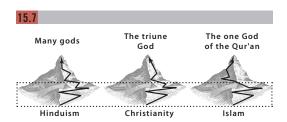


Do all paths lead to God?

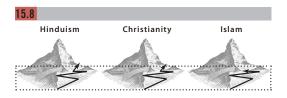




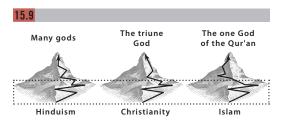




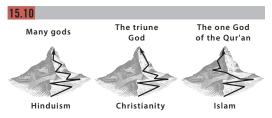
. . . the paths lead to entirely different mountaintops



At the base level there is common truth among faiths



When you go beyond a base level see where the paths keep going to . . .



... the paths lead to entirely different mountaintops

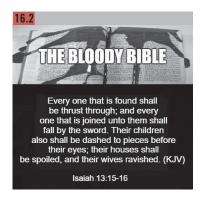




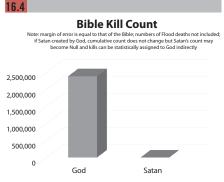


The TV-MA, NC-17 Bible









God = 2,391,421; Satan = 10; Cumulative = 2,391,431

16.5

PARENTAL ADVISORY

Contains scenes of violence, sex, the occult, immorality, genocide.

NOT SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

16.6

CONTENT

This is a work of fiction and SHOULD NOT be interpreted literally.

Contains material advocating murder, racism, genocide, rape, pedophilia, infanticide, theft, and verses descriptive of incest, self-mutilation, human sacrifice, and psychopathic behavior.

Exposure to contents, especially during formative years, has been shown to cause delusions, hallucinations, impaired cognitive function, psycho-pathological and emotional disorders, and violent behavior.

THIS BOOK SHOULD NOT BE READ BY CHILDREN UNDER 14 YEARS OF AGE



The God of Compassion, Slow to Anger and Forgiving

17.1

Old Testament God



"Kill them" (Num. 25:16)
"Show them no mercy"
(Deut. 7:2)

New Testament Jesus



"Love them" (Matt. 22:39)
"Forgive them" (Luke 23:34)



Making Sense of the Texts of Terror

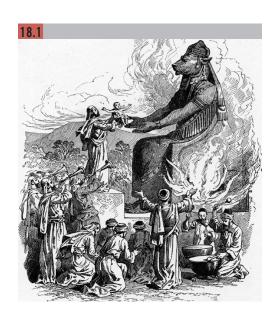


Table 18.1* "Extermination"

Joshua 10:20a: "It came about when Joshua and the sons of Israel had finished slaying them with a very great slaughter until they were destroyed."

Joshua 10:39: "every person" in Debir was "utterly destroyed."

Joshua 11:21: The Anakites were "cut off" and "utterly destroyed" in Hebron—as well as from Debir, Anab, and "all the hill country of Judah." There were "no Anakim left in the land of the sons of Israel."

Judges 1:8: "Then the sons of Judah fought against Jerusalem and captured it and struck it with the edge of the sword and set the city on fire."

Joshua: 11:23: "So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had spoken to Moses, and Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Thus the land had rest from war."

"No Extermination"

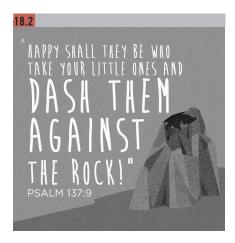
Joshua 10:20b "and the survivors who remained of them had entered the fortified cities."

Joshua 11:21: Later Joshua "utterly destroyed" Anakites in Debir.

Joshua 15:13–14: Caleb "drove out" the Anakites from Hebron; cf. Judges 1:20, where Caleb "drove out" the Anakites from Hebron

Judges 1:21: "But the sons of Benjamin did not drive out the Jebusites who lived in Jerusalem; so the Jebusites have lived with the sons of Benjamin in Jerusalem to this day."

Judges 2:21, 23: "I also will no longer drive out before them any of the nations which Joshua left when he died.... So the Lord allowed those nations to remain, not driving them out quickly; and he did not give them into the hand of Joshua."

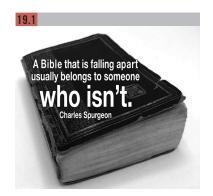


^{*} Scripture quotations are from the New American Standard Bible.



POSTLUDE

Jesus Loved His Crazy Bible (And Why Trusting It Isn't That Crazy)



19.2



To most Christians, the Bible is like a software license. Nobody actually reads it. They just scroll to the bottom and click "I agree."