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Answering Christianity's Critics / Superstition; Reason; Reasoning

New Testament Christians are not superstitious but are reasoned and informed in their faith.

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ISN'T CHRISTIANITY SIMPLY SUPERSTITION?

Answering Christianity's Critics

Acts 17:22-23

**Acts 17:22-23** *ESV*

<sup>22</sup> So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: "Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: 'To the unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

# Superstition Defined

## Dictionary.com

superstition

a belief or notion, not based on reason or knowledge, in or of the ominous significance of a particular thing, circumstance, occurrence, proceeding, or the like.

a system or collection of such beliefs.

a custom or act based on such a belief.

irrational fear of what is unknown or mysterious, especially in connection with religion.

any blindly accepted belief or notion.

# Reason Together

## **Isaiah 1:18 ESV**

<sup>18</sup> “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:  
though your sins are like scarlet,  
they shall be as white as snow;  
though they are red like crimson,  
they shall become like wool.

## **Isaiah 43:24–26 ESV**

<sup>24</sup> You have not bought me sweet cane with money,  
or satisfied me with the fat of your sacrifices.  
But you have burdened me with your sins;  
you have wearied me with your iniquities.

<sup>25</sup> “I, I am he  
who blots out your transgressions for my own sake,  
and I will not remember your sins.

<sup>26</sup> Put me in remembrance; let us argue together;  
set forth your case, that you may be proved right.

## **1 Samuel 12:7 ESV**

<sup>7</sup> Now therefore stand still that I may plead with you before the LORD concerning all the righteous deeds of the LORD that he performed for you and for your fathers.

## **Jeremiah 2:5 ESV**

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD:

“What wrong did your fathers find in me  
that they went far from me,  
and went after worthlessness, and became worthless?”

**Micah 6:2 ESV**

<sup>2</sup> Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth,  
for the LORD has an indictment against his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

**Acts 17:2 ESV**

<sup>2</sup> And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned  
with them from the Scriptures,

**Acts 24:25 ESV**

<sup>25</sup> And as he reasoned about righteousness and self-control and the coming  
judgment, Felix was alarmed and said, “Go away for the present. When I get an  
opportunity I will summon you.”

# Build a Reasoned Faith

**2 Timothy 1:7 ESV**

<sup>7</sup> for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

**Luke 6:46–49 ESV**

<sup>46</sup> “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do what I tell you? <sup>47</sup> Everyone who  
comes to me and hears my words and does them, I will show you what he is like:  
<sup>48</sup> he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on  
the rock. And when a flood arose, the stream broke against that house and  
could not shake it, because it had been well built. <sup>49</sup> But the one who hears and  
does not do them is like a man who built a house on the ground without a  
foundation. When the stream broke against it, immediately it fell, and the ruin of  
that house was great.”