



Debating the Faith

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Peter May's October 2008 *News & Views* item on the value of public debates urges Christians to engage with the issues raised in these events, think through their own response and use this material to make their own witness more effective.

A selection of recent debates are listed below, with links for listening to the audio or purchasing the DVD. Let us know what you think of the different debates and we'll post the most interesting and helpful comments to guide others. If there are other debates you think we should list, let us have the details with your reasons why we should include them. We will keep the list regularly updated.

Public debates between Christians and non-Christians

Recent Debates

Richard Dawkins and John Lennox

Has Science Buried God?

7:00 pm Tuesday, 21st October 2008
Oxford Museum of Natural History, UK

Dawkins and Lennox discuss atheism, the Christian faith, and the claims of their respective books: *The God Delusion* and *God's Undertaker: Has Science Buried God?* Order the DVD.

Past Debates

Alistair McBay and David Robertson Is Faith in God a Delusion?

23rd September 2008

Edinburgh University, Edinburgh, UK

This event was organised jointly by the University of Edinburgh Philosophy Society and the Christian Union. Watch the video.

Michael Shermer and John Lennox Does God Exist?

23rd August 2008

This debate took place during Australian Science Week.

Listen to the audio.

Vic Stenger et al and John Lennox et al

We'd be better off without religion

9th August 2008

Sydney, Australia

Three advocates on each side discuss this topic. For details of the speakers, click here.

Watch the video.

Christopher Hitchens and John Lennox Should the New Europe Prefer the New Atheism?

9th August 2008

Edinburgh International Festival, Edinburgh UK

Billed as a clash of two intellectual heavyweights, this debate considered whether the new Europe would be better off jettisoning its religious past and welcoming the new atheism.

Get the DVD.

Kenneth Humphreys and Gary Habermas

The Resurrection: Historical Fact or Religious Invention?

10th March 2008

Edinburgh University, Edinburgh, Scotland

This event was organised jointly by the University of Edinburgh Philosophy Society and the Christian Union.

Watch the video.

Peter Atkins and Alister McGrath Should we rid the mind of God?

13th March 2007

Edinburgh University, Edinburgh, Scotland

This event was organised jointly by the University of Edinburgh Philosophy Society and the Christian Union.

Watch the video.

Richard Dawkins and John Lennox

"The God Delusion" Debate

3rd October 2007

The Alys Stephens Center, Birmingham, Alabama

Richard Dawkins and John Lennox met for the first time in this debate, sponsored by the Fixed Point Foundation. The debate, moderated by United States Federal Judge William H. Pryor, examined six theses from Dawkins' book *The God Delusion*. Although billed as a debate, this was more of a directed discussion, with less time for debate and real interaction than both participants appeared to want.

Purchase the DVD or CD.

Watch the debate.

Richard Dawkins and Alister McGrath

"The God Delusion" Debate

26th March 2007

The Sunday Times Oxford Literary Festival, Oxford

Chaired by Joan Bakewell, this was the first public discussion between Dawkins and McGrath.

Download or listen to the debate.

William Lane Craig's "Reasonable Faith Tour" Debates

William Lane Craig engaged in four debates during UCCF's Reasonable Faith Tour in February and March 2007.

Is God a Delusion?

Debate with Professor Lewis Wolpert

Professor Craig debated Professor Wolpert at Central Hall, Westminster, with John Humphrys in

the chair. Professor Wolpert is Professor of Biology as Applied to Medicine at University College, London and is well known for his atheistic beliefs.

Does the Christian God Exist?

Debate with Dr Andrew Pyle

Professor Craig debated Dr Pyle at Bristol University. Dr Pyle is Reader in Early Modern Philosophy at Bristol University, and has written a reader's guide to David Hume's *Dialogues Concerning Natural Religion*.

Was Jesus Bodily Raised from the Dead?

Debate with Dr James Crossley

Professor Craig debated Dr Crossley at Sheffield University. Dr Crossley is on the academic staff of Sheffield University's Biblical Studies Department. Both participants have written scholarly works on the topic of the debate.

Is God a Delusion?

Debate with Professor Mike Begon

Professor Craig debated Professor Begon at Liverpool University. Professor Begon is Professor of Ecology in the School of Biological Sciences at Liverpool University.

DVDs of all four of these debates are available. Get the order form.