

WHY I'M NOT...



**WHY I'M NOT
AN ATHEIST**

**A foot in
two worlds**





**A foot in
two worlds**





**A foot in
two worlds**





The “Burden of Proof”



**The Person Making the Claim
Bears the Burden to Prove It**





**What is the
proof there is
no God?**



"ATHEIST"

"AGNOSTIC"

“ATHEIST”



“AGNOSTIC”

“ATHEIST”



“AGNOSTIC”

**There is
NO GOD**

“ATHEIST”



**There is
NO GOD**

“AGNOSTIC”



“ATHEIST”



**There is
NO GOD**

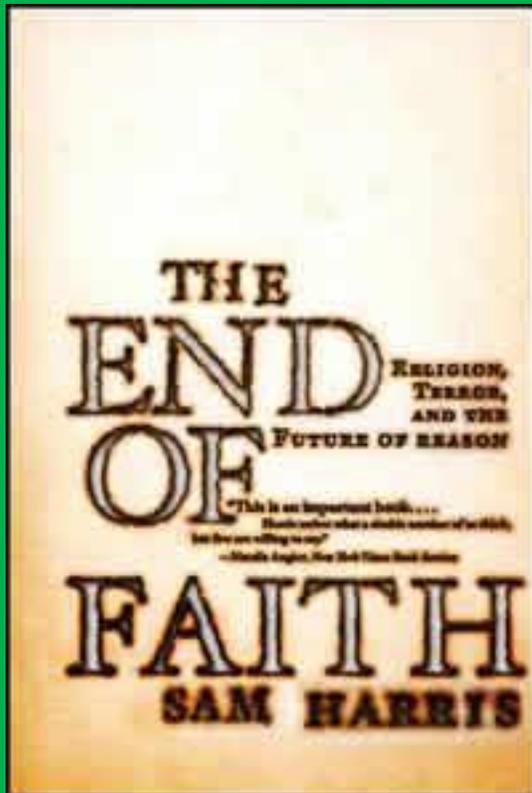
“AGNOSTIC”



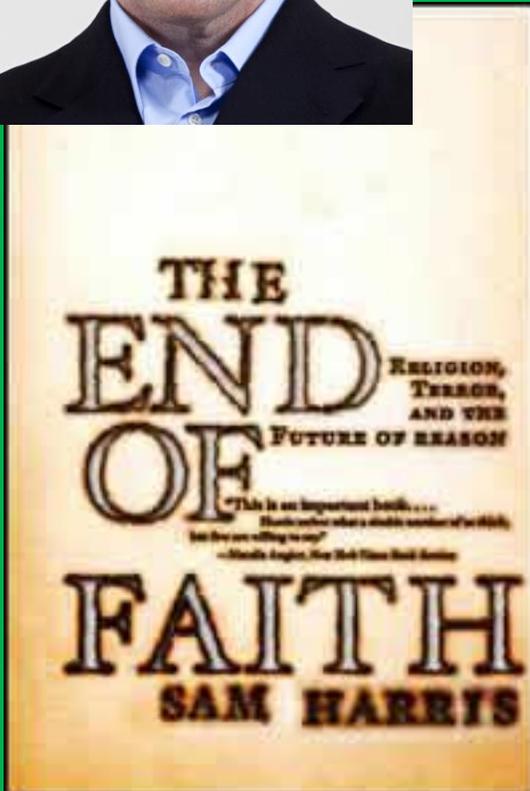
**I DON'T KNOW
if there's a God**

The Four Horsemen of the New Atheism

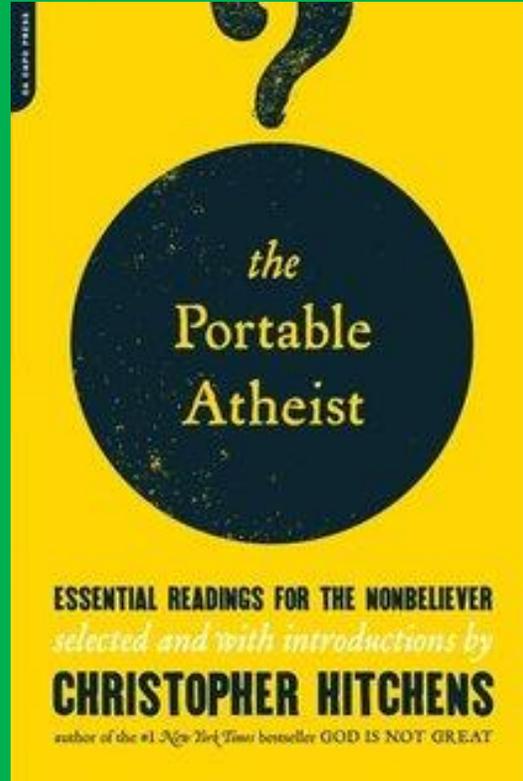
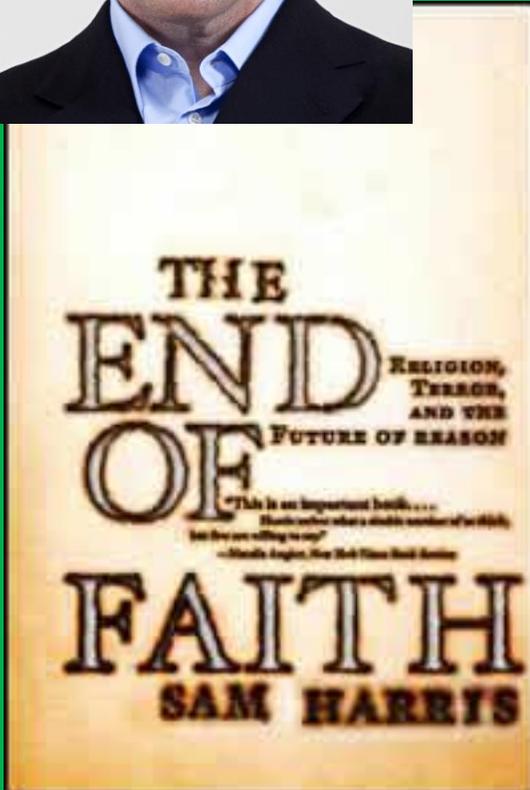
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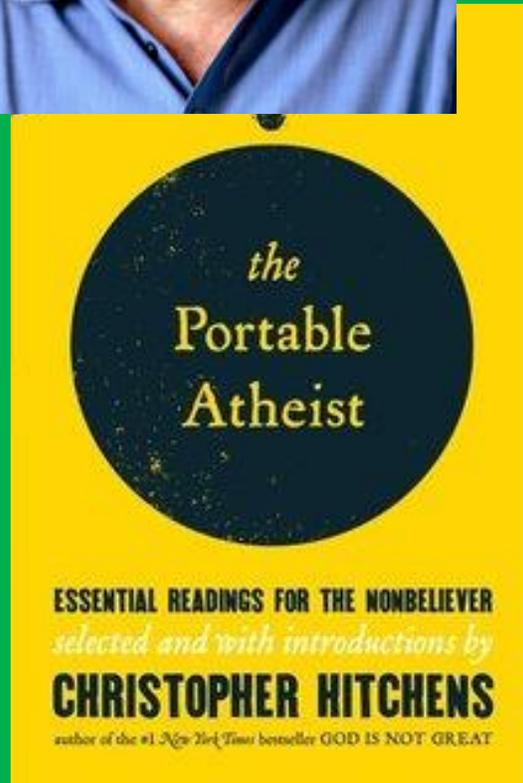
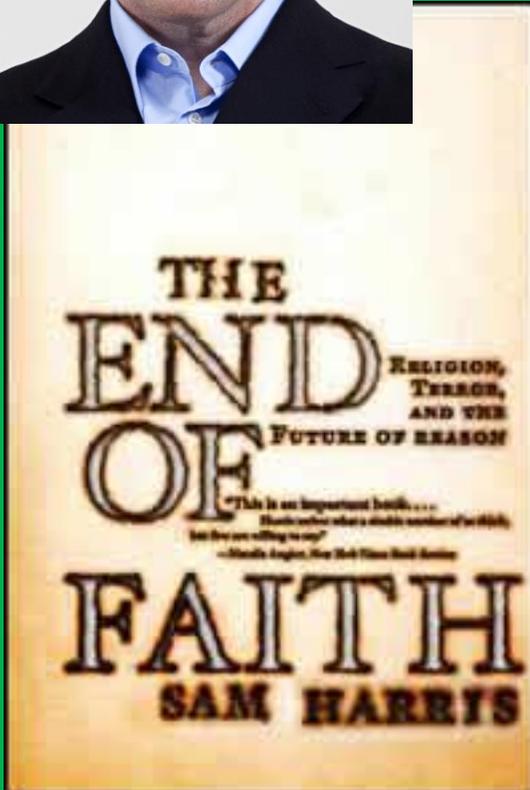
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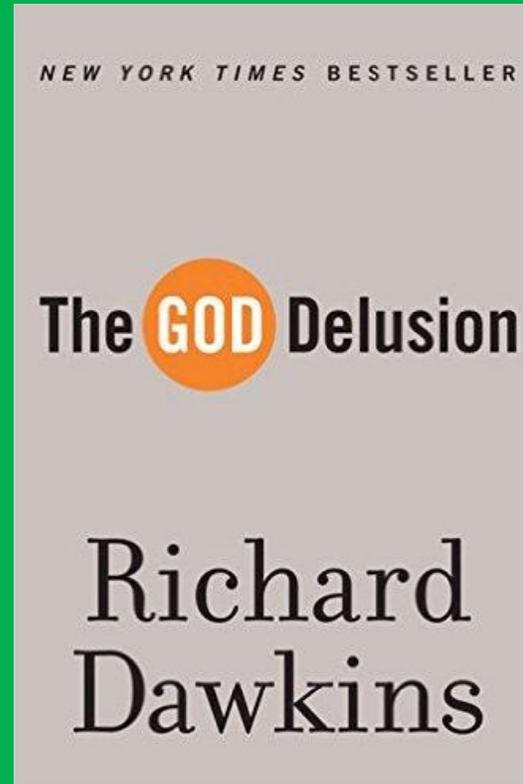
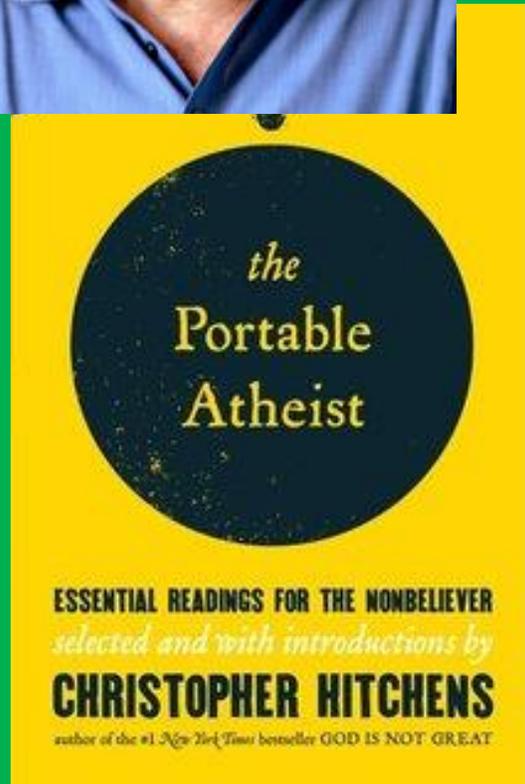
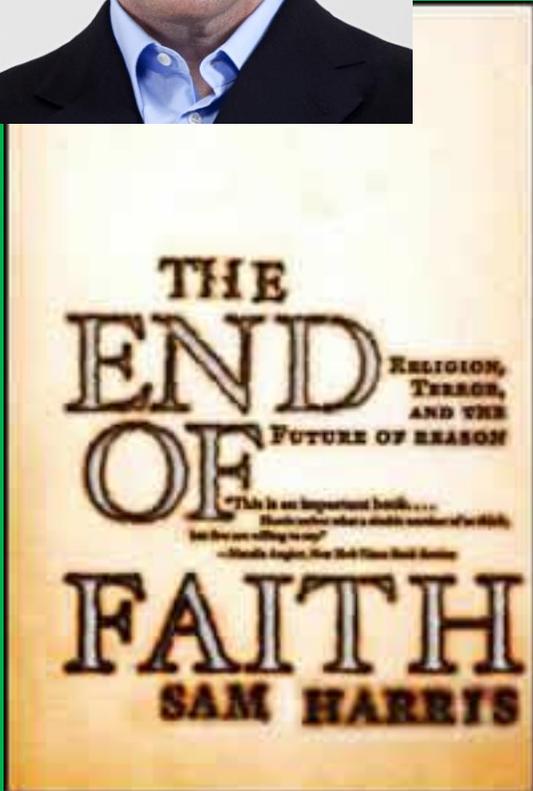
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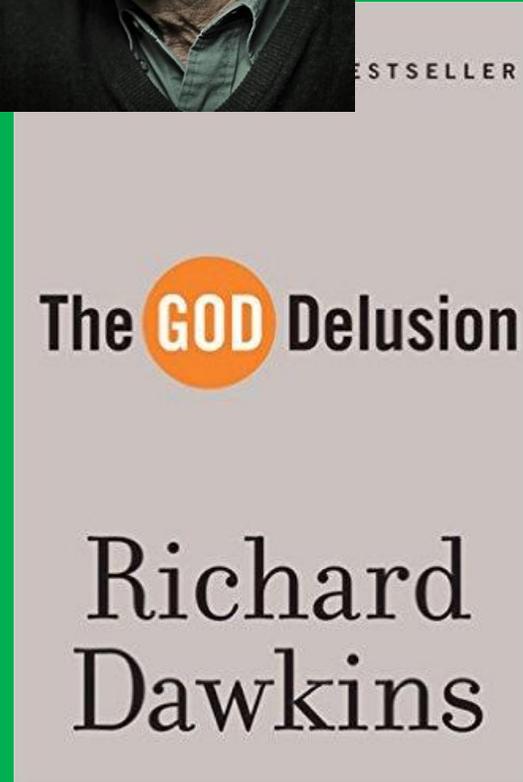
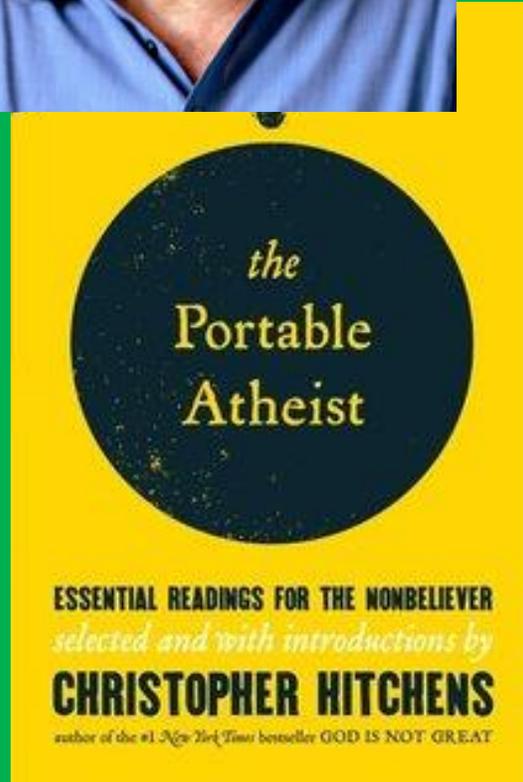
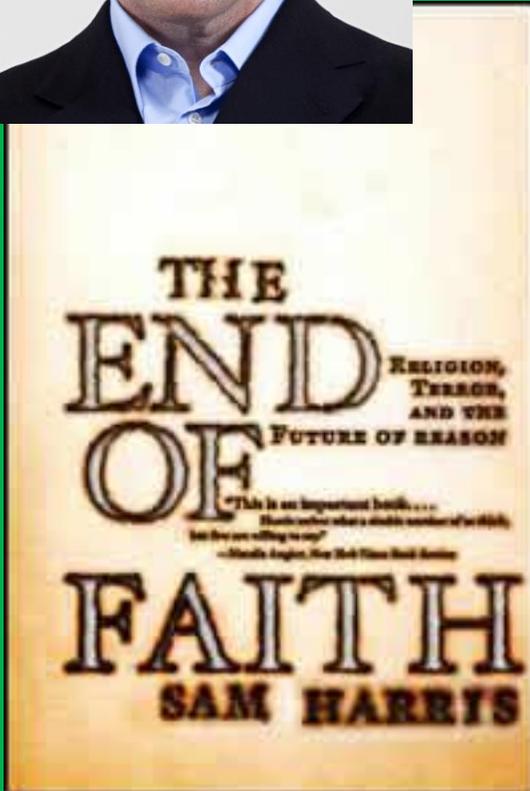
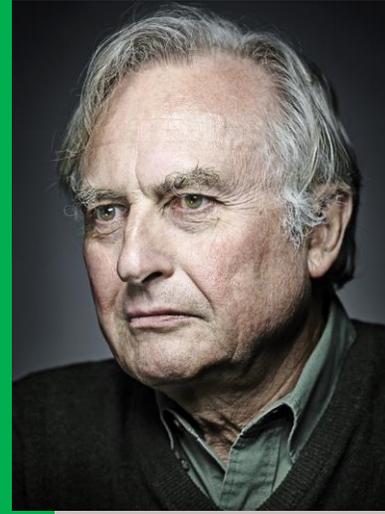
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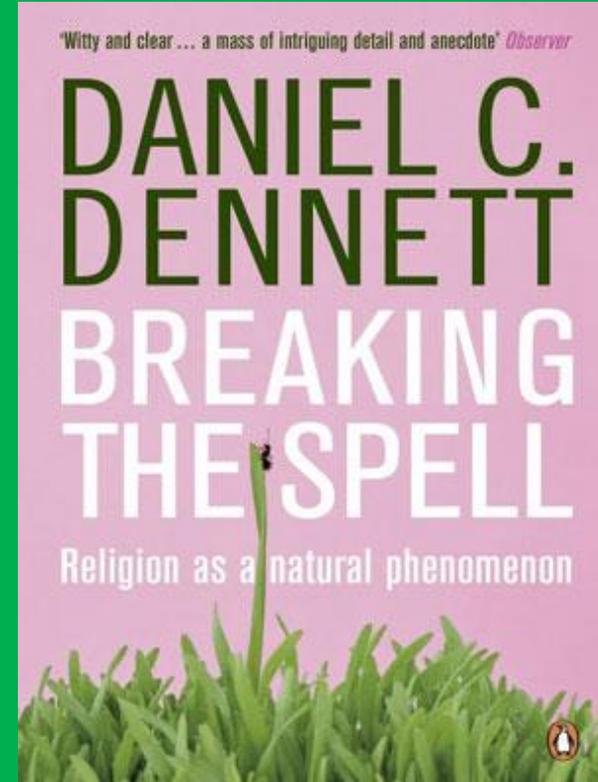
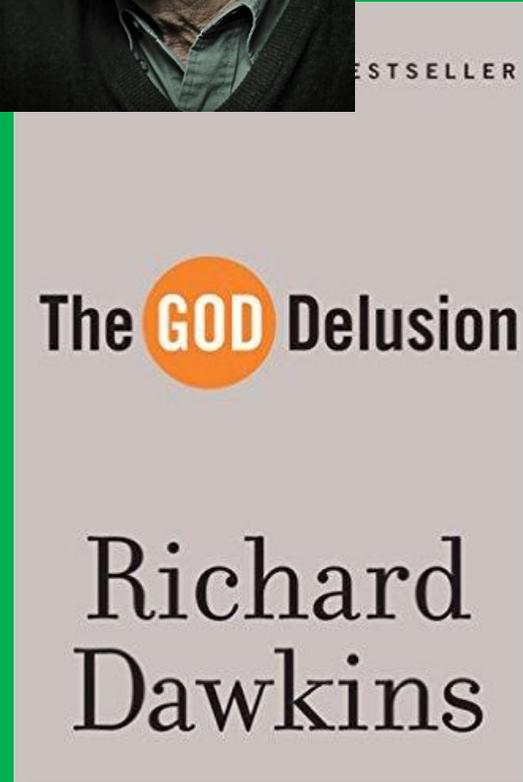
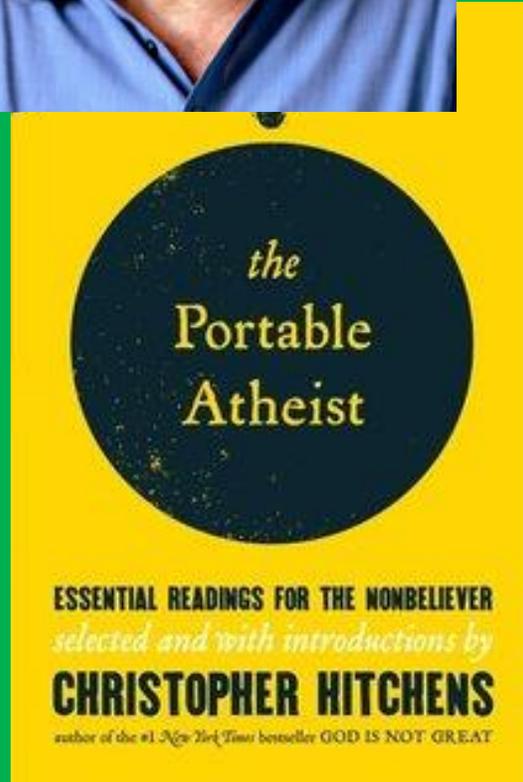
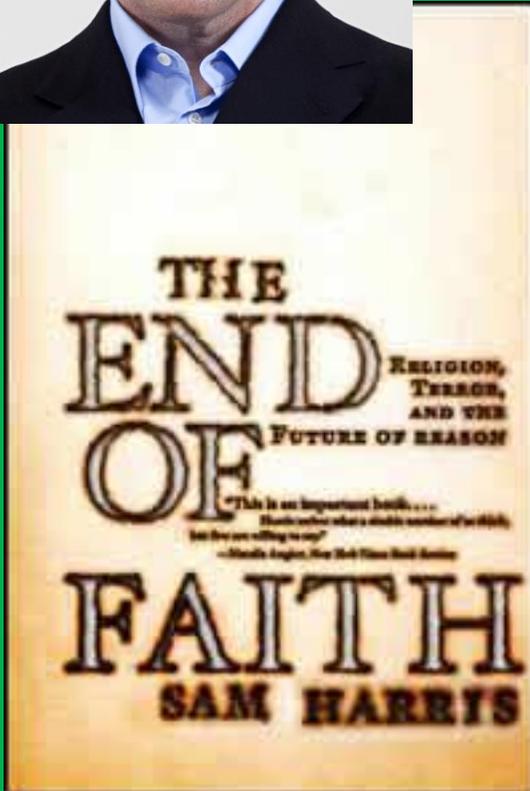
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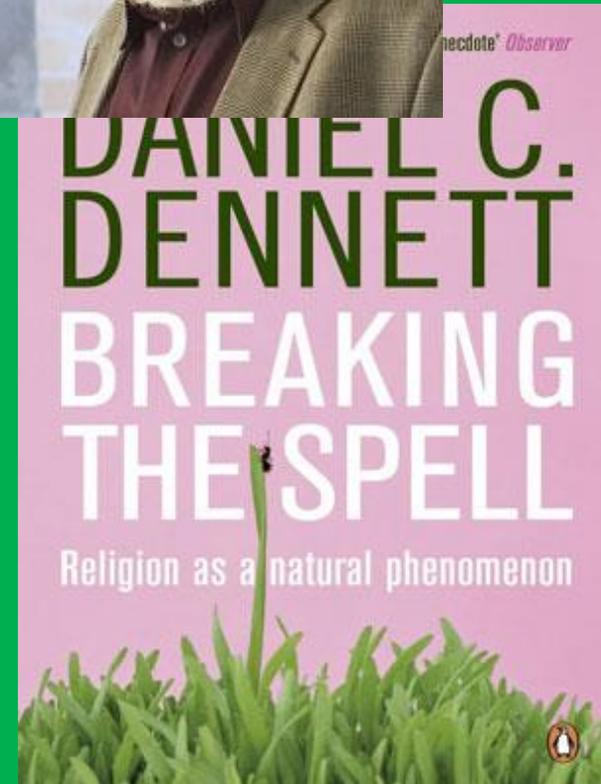
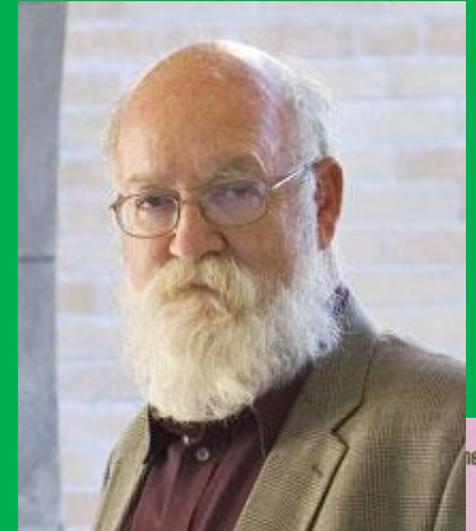
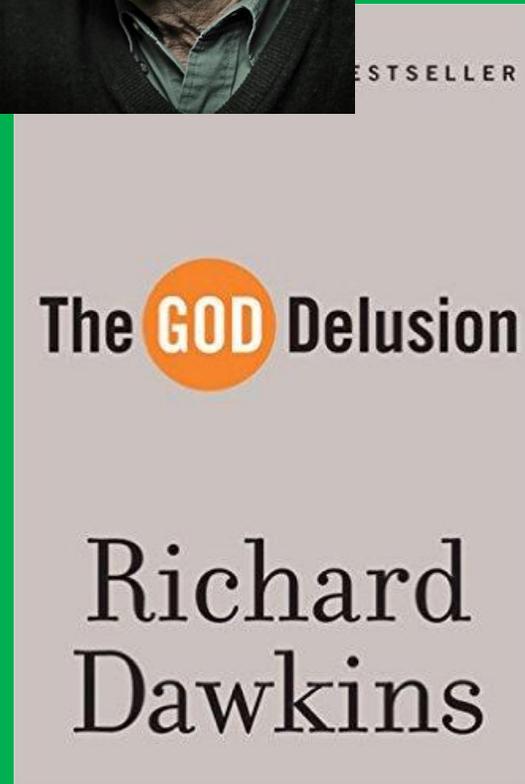
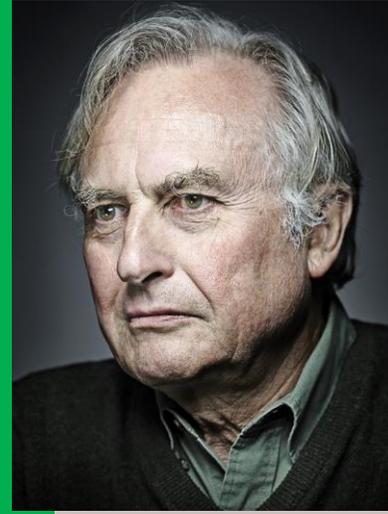
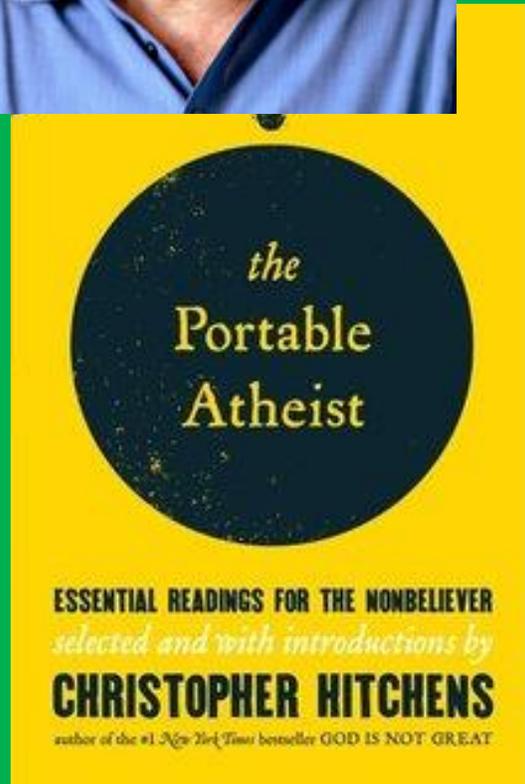
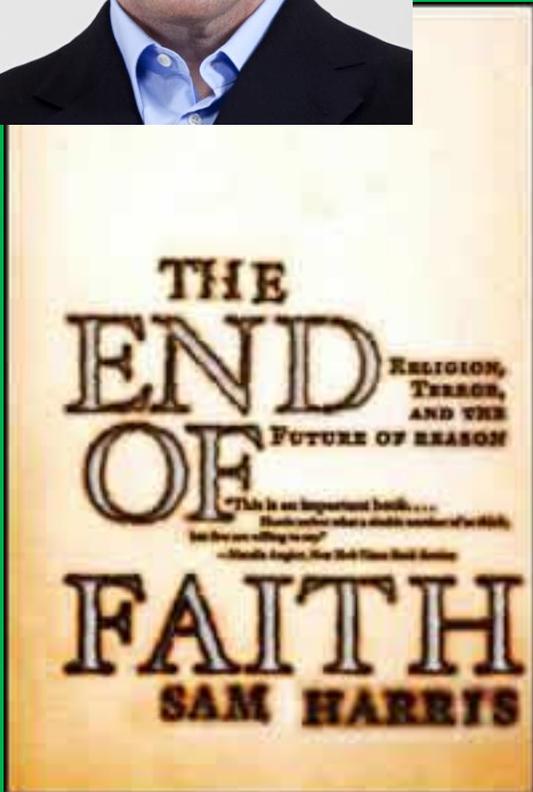
The Four Horsemen of the New Atheism



The Four Horsemen of the New Atheism



The Four Horsemen of the New Atheism



Faith is blind trust, in
the absence of
evidence, even in the
teeth of evidence
- The Selfish Gene



BESTSELLER

The **GOD** Delusion

Richard
Dawkins



Where's the
evidence?

teeth of evidence

- *The Selfish Gene*

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in the



BESTSELLER

The **GOD** Delusion

Richard
Dawkins

**Atheism proof or
sleight of hand?**



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**They shift the burden
of proof**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**They shift the burden
of proof**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



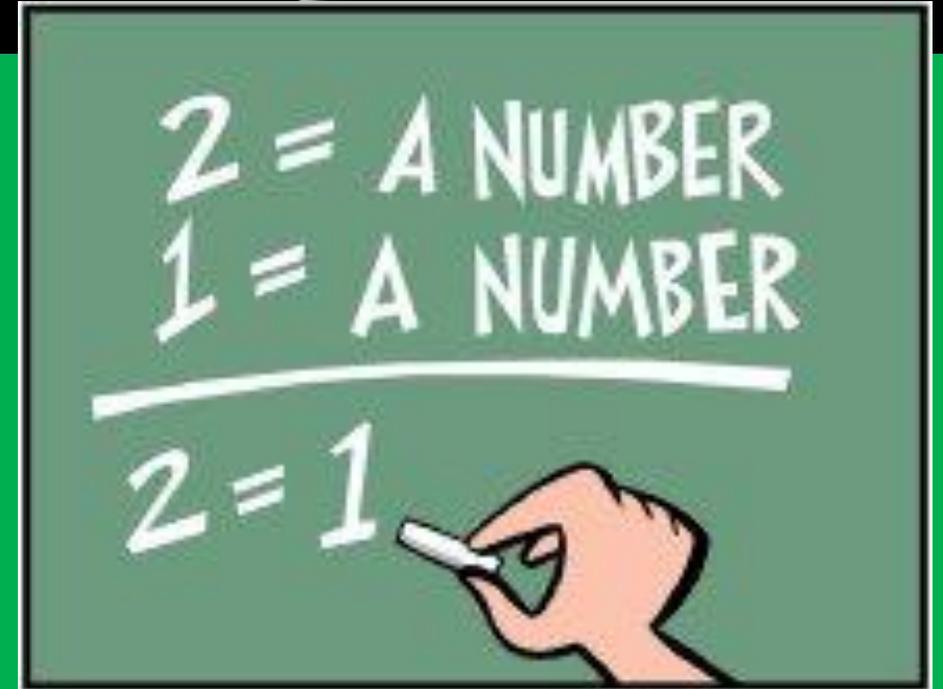
**They shift the burden
of proof**

**They use logical fallacies
and rhetoric tricks**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**They shift the burden
of proof**

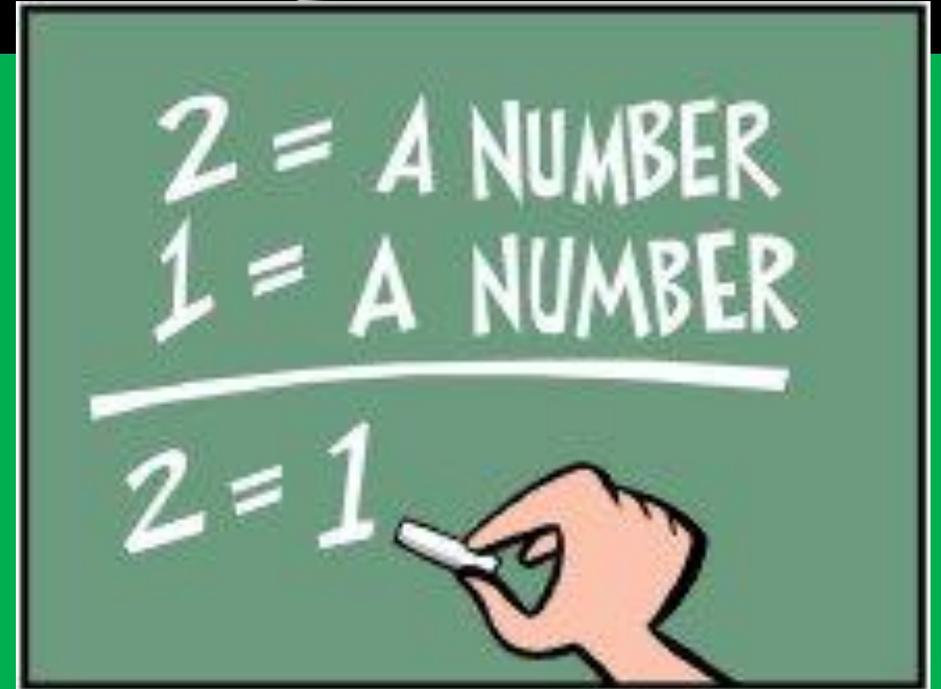


**They use logical fallacies
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Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



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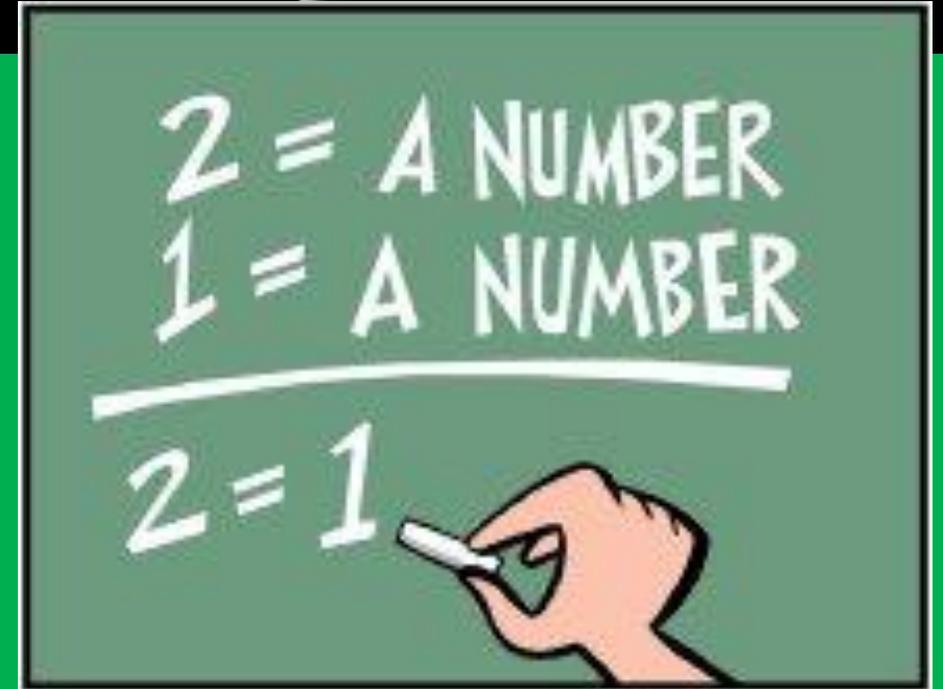


**They use logical fallacies
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Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**They shift the burden
of proof**



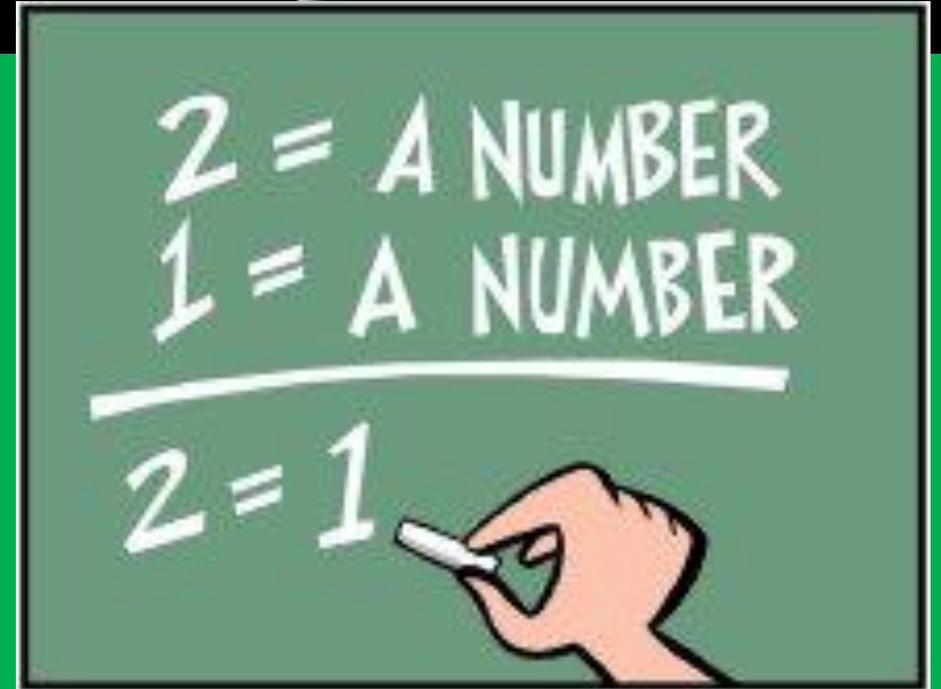
**They use logical fallacies
and rhetoric tricks**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?

Last session



They shift the burden
of proof

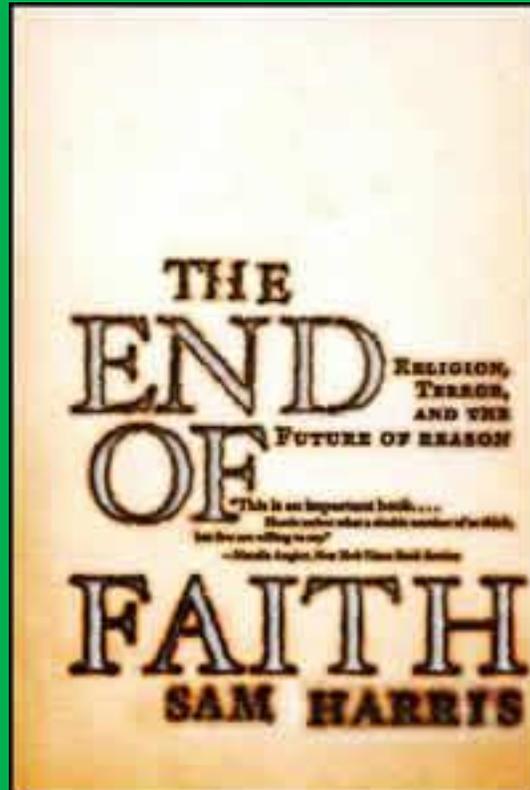


They use logical fallacies
and rhetoric tricks

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



Religion does
bad stuff!



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**Religion does
bad stuff!**

THE young man boards the bus as it leaves the terminal. He wears an overcoat. Beneath his overcoat, he is wearing a bomb. His pockets are filled with nails, ball bearings, and rat poison.

The bus is crowded and headed for the heart of the city. The young man takes his seat beside a middle-aged couple. He will wait for the bus to reach its next stop. The couple at his side appears to be shopping for a new refrigerator. The woman has decided on a model, but her husband worries that it will be too expensive. He indicates another one in a brochure that lies open

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**Religion does
bad stuff!**

on her lap. The next stop comes into view. The bus doors swing. The woman observes that the model her husband has selected will not fit in the space underneath their cabinets. New passengers have taken the last remaining seats and begun gathering in the aisle. The bus is now full. The young man smiles. With the press of a button he destroys himself, the couple at his side, and twenty others on the bus. The nails, ball bearings, and rat poison ensure further casualties on the street and in the surrounding cars. All has gone according to plan.

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**Religion does
bad stuff!**

The young man's parents soon learn of his fate. Although saddened to have lost a son, they feel tremendous pride at his accomplishment. They know that he has gone to heaven and prepared the way for them to follow. He has also sent his victims to hell for eternity. It is a double victory. The neighbors find the event a great cause for celebration and honor the young man's parents by giving them gifts of food and money.

These are the facts. This is all we know for certain about the young man. Is there anything else that we can infer about him

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



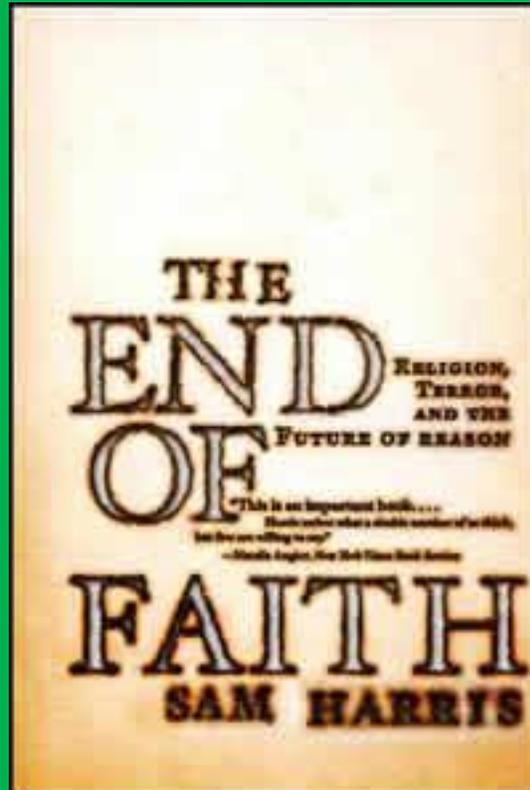
Religion does bad stuff!

on the basis of his behavior? Was he popular in school? Was he rich or was he poor? Was he of low or high intelligence? His actions leave no clue at all. Did he have a college education? Did he have a bright future as a mechanical engineer? His behavior is simply mute on questions of this sort, and hundreds like them.¹ Why is it so easy, then, so trivially easy—you-could-almost-bet-your-life-on-it easy—to guess the young man's religion?²

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



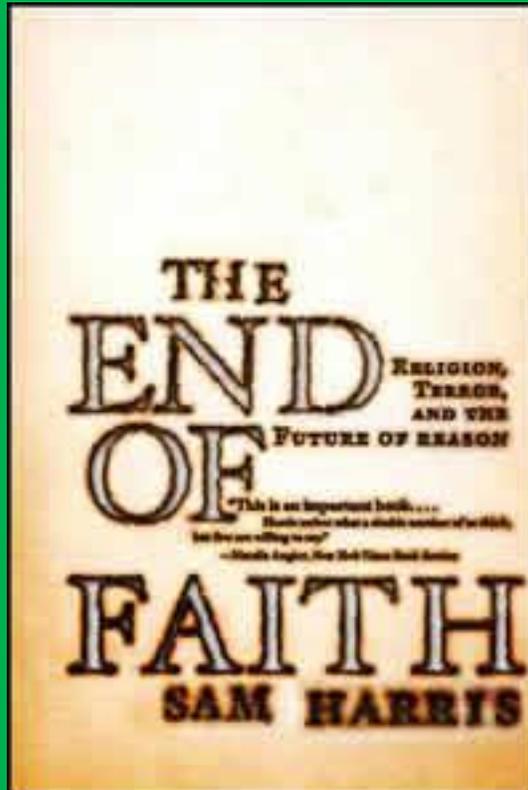
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Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



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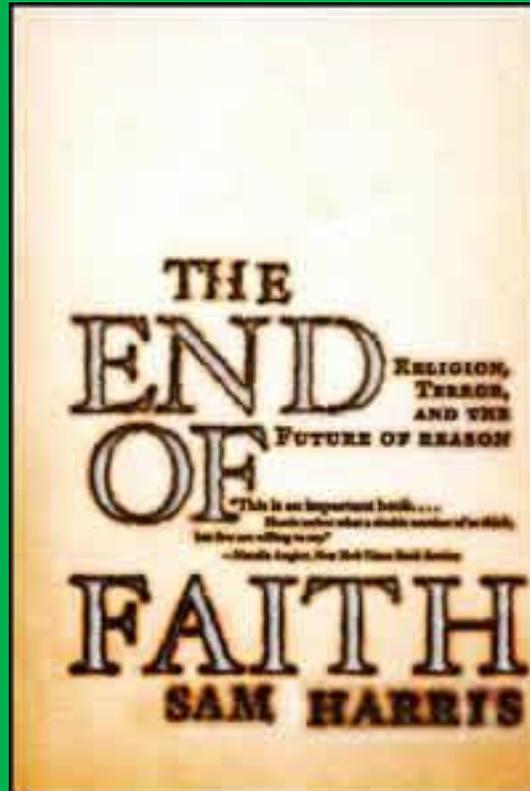


Ad Hoc Rescue,

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



Religion does bad stuff!

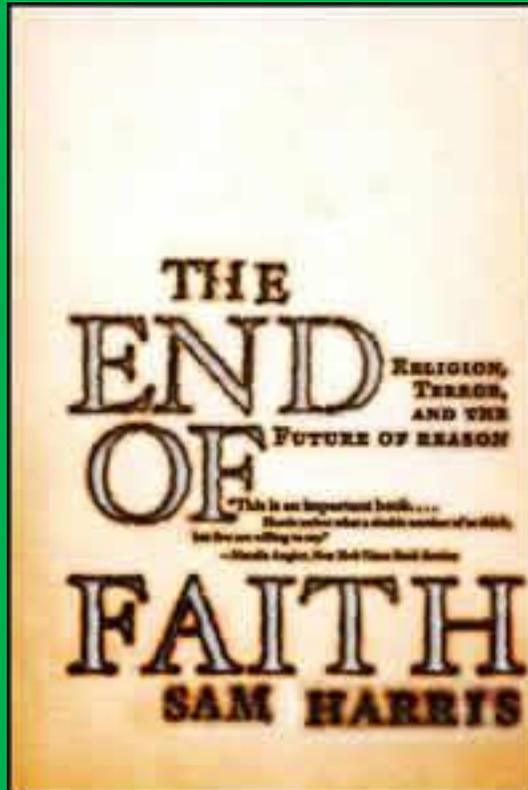


Ad Hoc Rescue,
Appeal to Emotion,

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



Religion does
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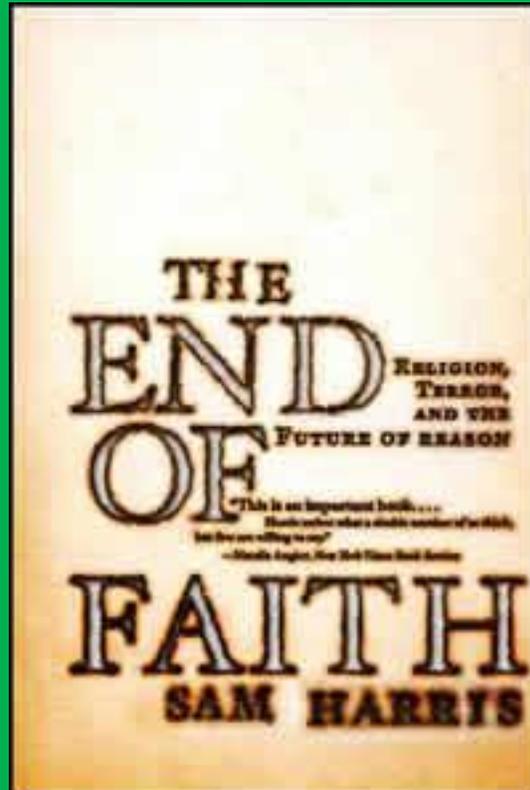


Ad Hoc Rescue,
Appeal to Emotion,
Relevance,

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



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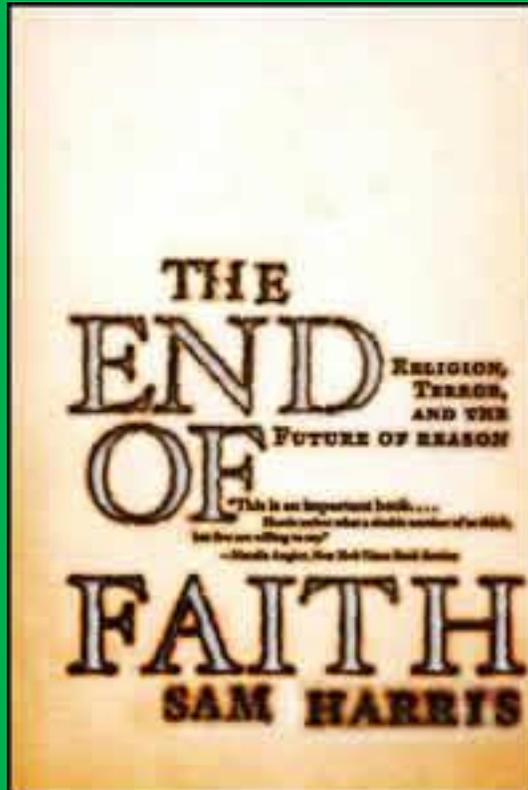


Ad Hoc Rescue,
Appeal to Emotion,
Relevance,
Appeal to Instinct,

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



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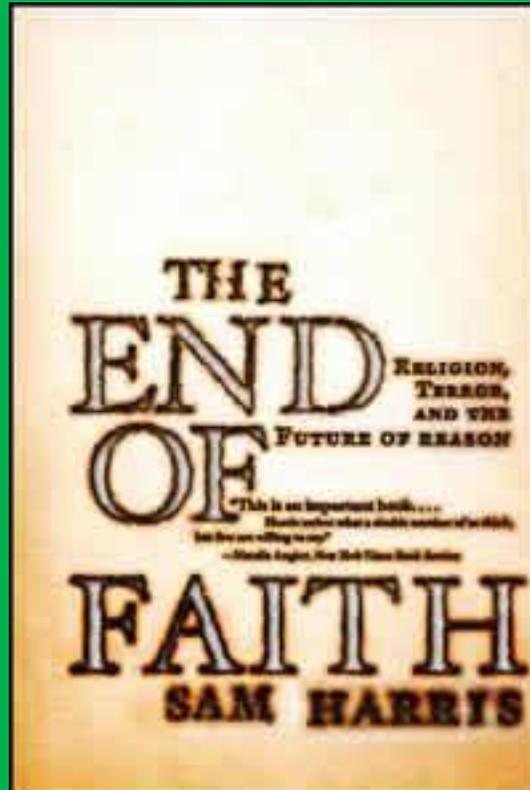


**Ad Hoc Rescue,
Appeal to Emotion,
Relevance,
Appeal to Instinct,
Overgeneralization**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**Religion does
bad stuff!**



**Ad Hoc Rescue,
Appeal to Emotion,
Relevance,
Appeal to Instinct,
Overgeneralization
Assuming Facts not in Existence**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**Religion does
bad stuff!**

**Atheism proof or
sleight of hand?**



So does atheism



**Religion does
bad stuff!**

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



So does atheism



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



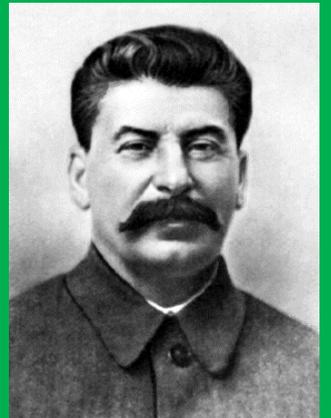
So does atheism



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



So does atheism



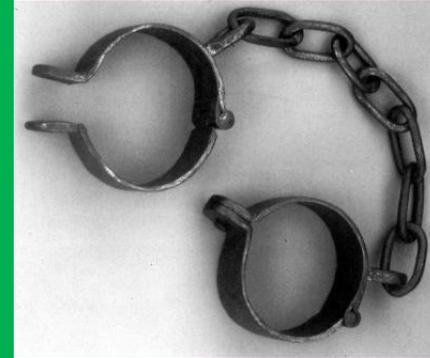
**Atheism proof or
sleight of hand?**



**Atheism proof or
sleight of hand?**



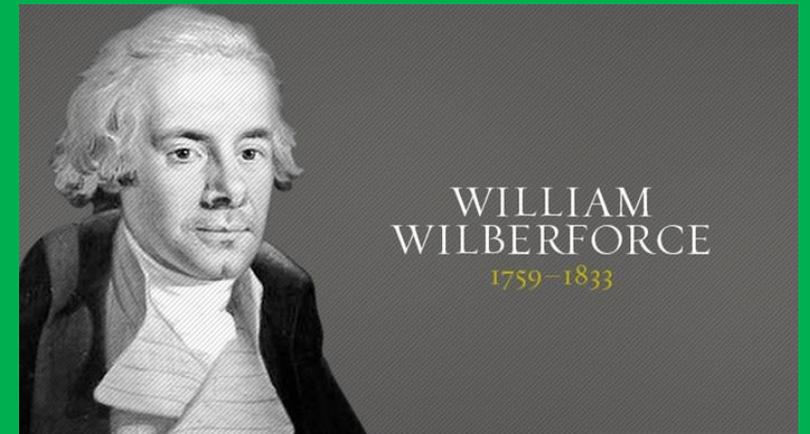
The truth:



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



The truth:

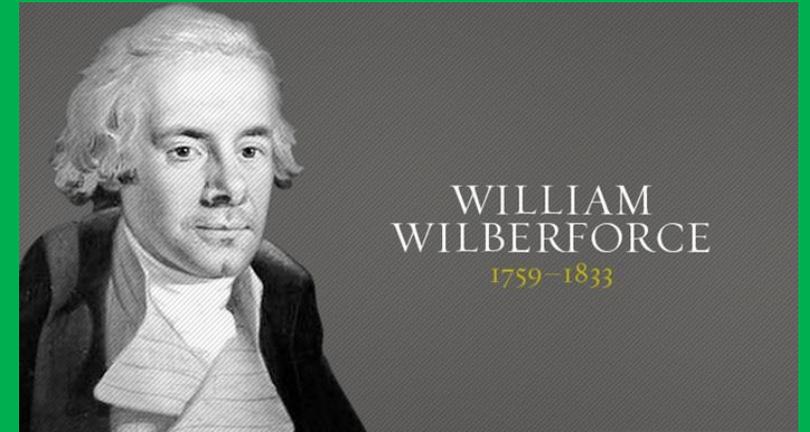


Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



The truth:

1. Religion can be destructive

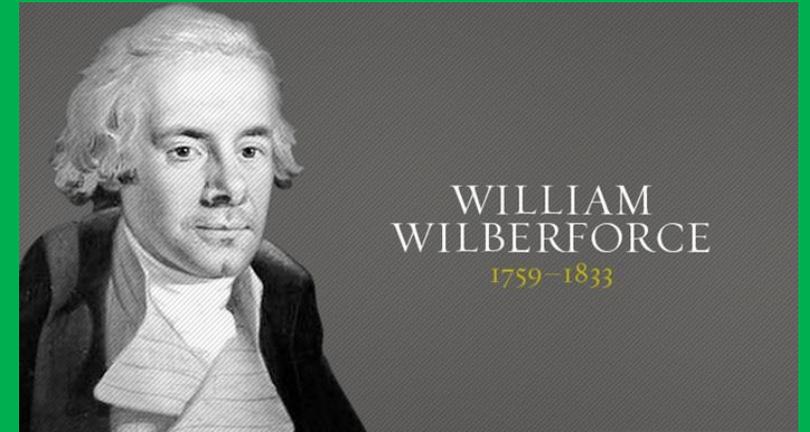


Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



The truth:

1. Religion can be destructive
2. Religion can be constructive

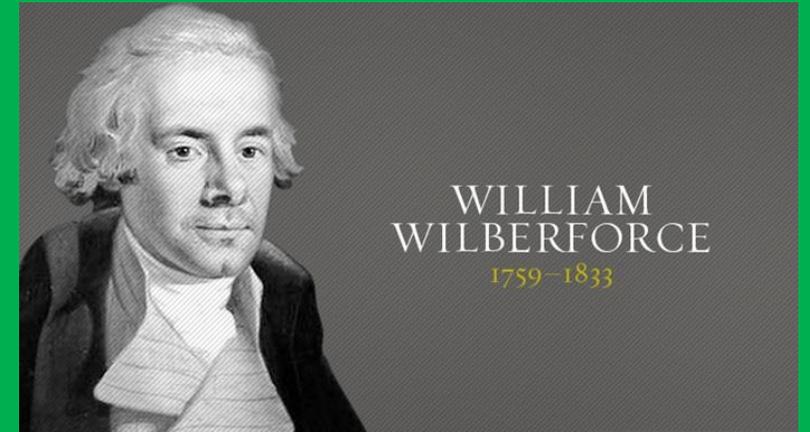


Atheism proof or sleight of hand?

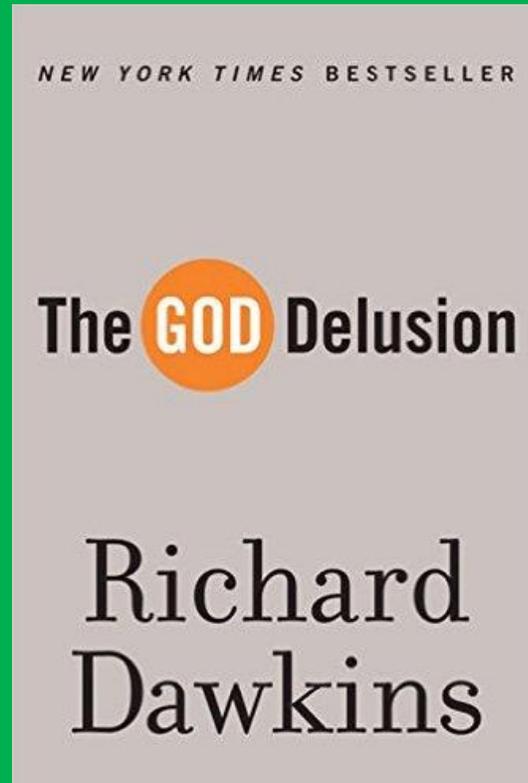
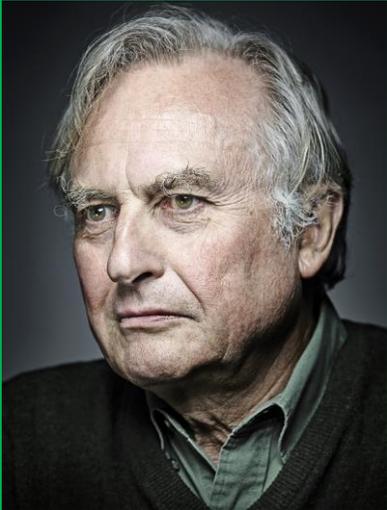


The truth:

1. Religion can be destructive
2. Religion can be constructive
3. Atheism can be destructive

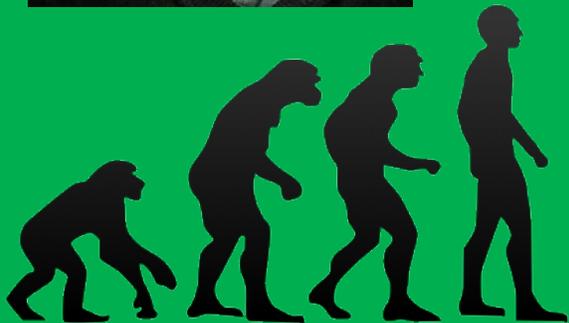


Atheism proof or sleight of hand?

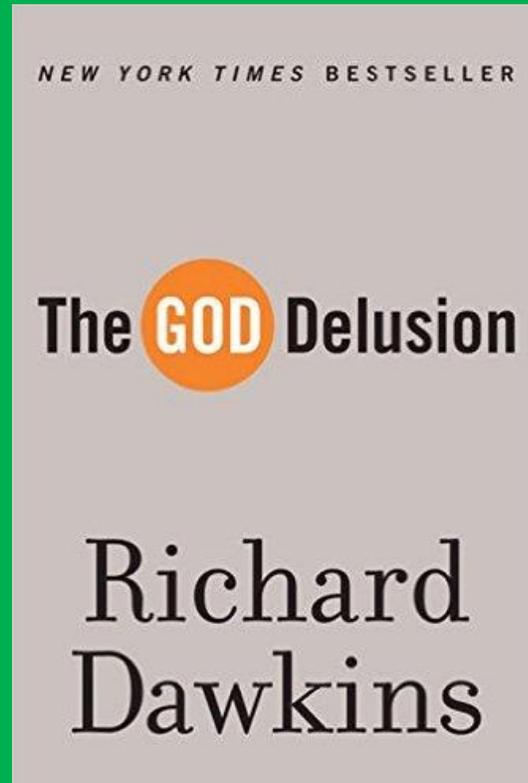
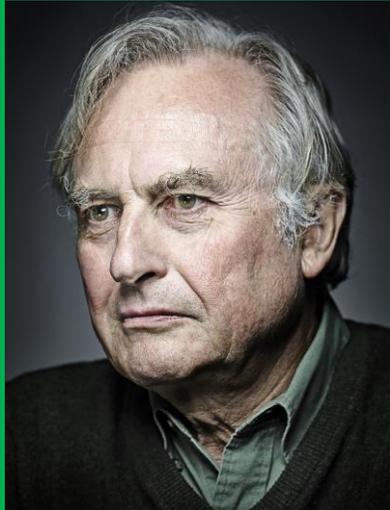


Evolution?

The scientific method doesn't prove or disprove God any more than a ruler proves or disproves the temperature

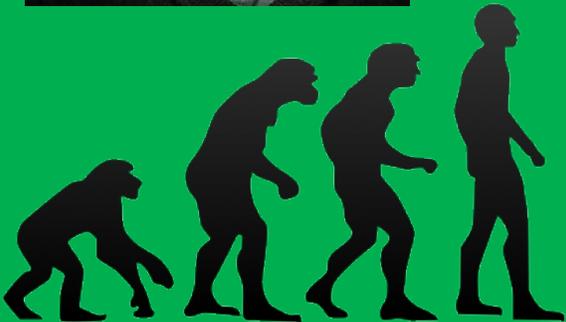


Atheism proof or sleight of hand?

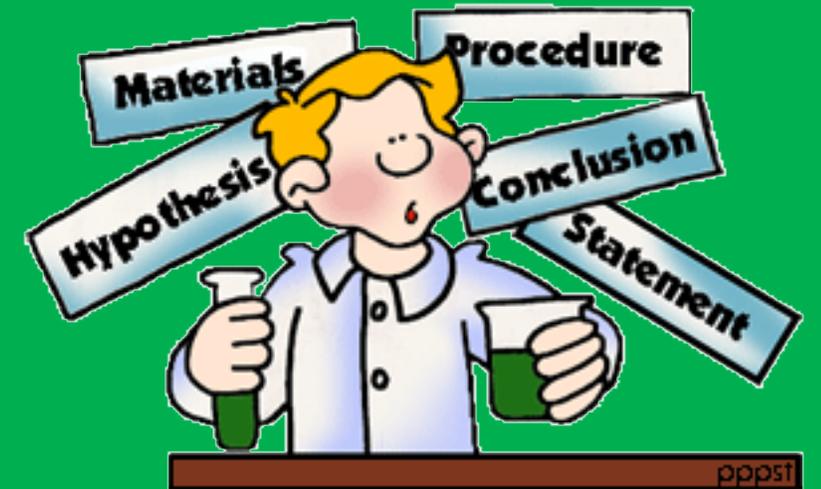


Evolution?
Irrelevant

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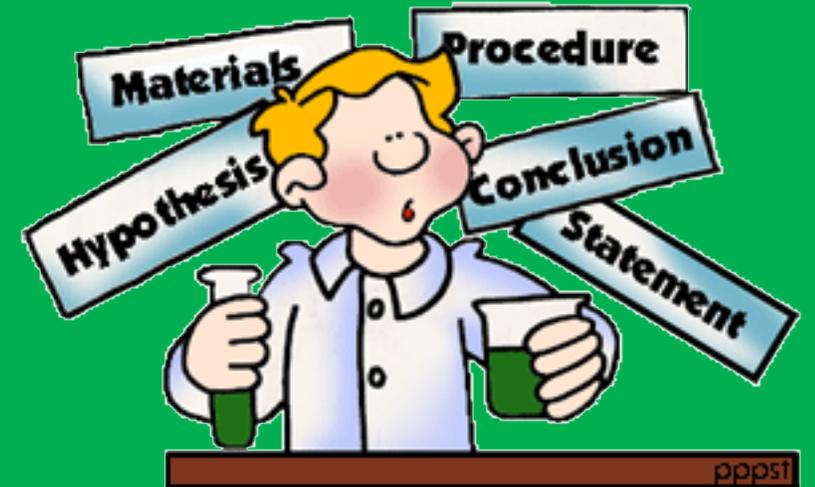
Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



The truth:

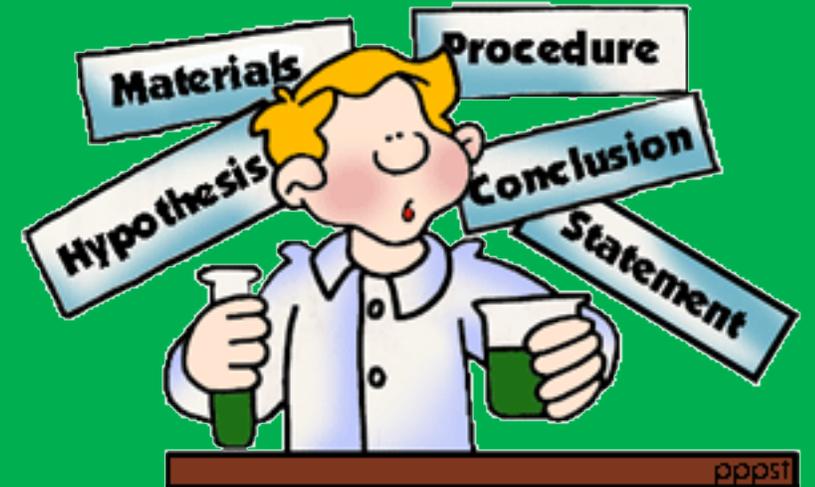


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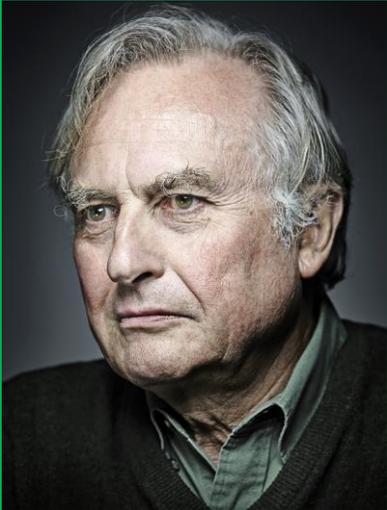


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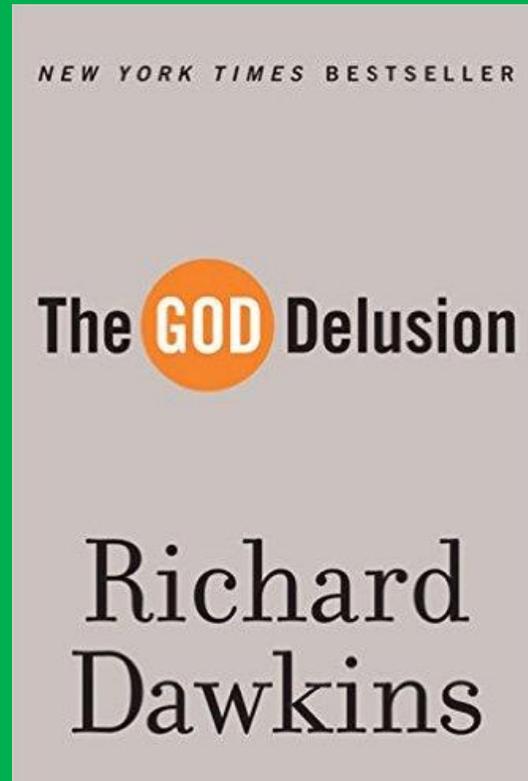
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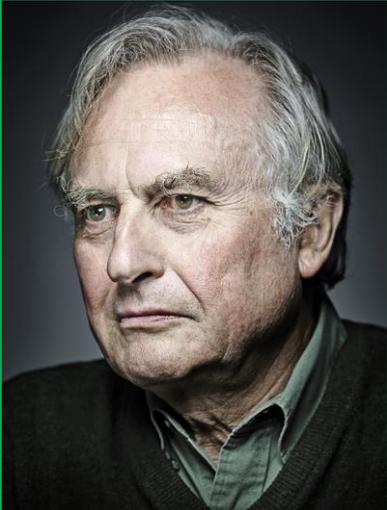
Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



**There's too
much stuff!**



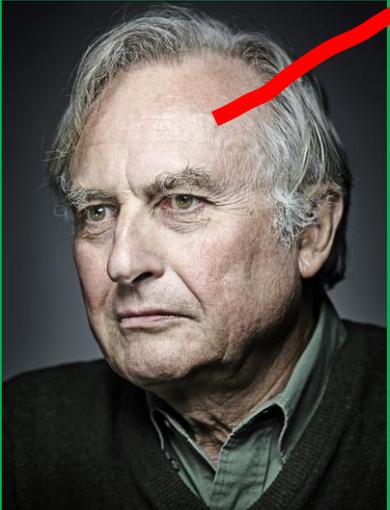
Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



There's too much stuff!

A God capable of continuously monitoring and controlling the individual status of every particle in the universe *cannot* be simple. His existence is going to need a mammoth explanation in its own right. Worse (from the point of view of simplicity), other corners of God's giant consciousness are simultaneously preoccupied with the doings and emotions and prayers of every single human being—and whatever intelligent aliens there might be on other planets in this and 100 billion other galaxies.

Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



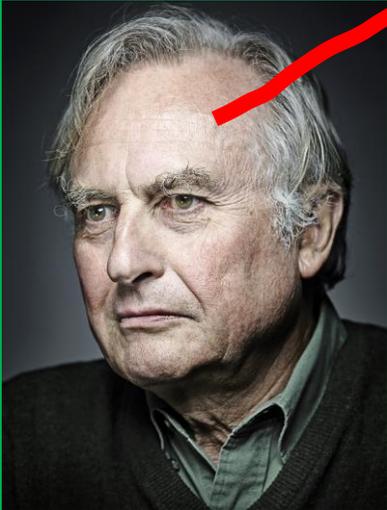
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Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



3 1/2 lbs



There's too much stuff!

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**Atheism proof or
sleight of hand?**



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



The truth:



Atheism proof or sleight of hand?



The truth:

If our 3 ½ pound brains can figure out the questions of this immense universe and it's history, it's scary to think of what something immensely greater could do!



Points for home



Points for home



*“What can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them”
(Rom. 1:19)*

Points for home



*“What can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them”
(Rom. 1:19)*

**I need to understand
what I am looking for**

Points for home



Points for home



“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse”

(Rom. 1:20)

Points for home



“For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse”

(Rom. 1:20)

**I need to recognize
what I see**

Points for home



Points for home



“Although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools”

(Rom. 1:21-22)

Points for home



“Although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools”

(Rom. 1:21-22)

**I need to remember
humility**



**WHY I'M NOT
AN ATHEIST**