

(6b)

The group that denies the existence of God, in spite of all rational and logical evidence, is the group known as atheists. The Greek word “a-theos” means no God. **A very important point to always remember is that “atheism” is a theoretical faith system and not a factual or provable faith system.**

An atheist must speculate and theorize without any factual evidence because all factual evidence points to the existence of God. An atheist invents unprovable theories because, as Dr. Chafer said, “He knows no cause for anything, not even his own existence.” Dr. Chafer goes on to say, “It is probable that a consistent atheist has never existed. He is a sporadic individual who has forced intuition and reason out of poise in an attempt to maintain an assumed negative premise” (*Systematic Theology*, Vol. 1, p. 163). Generally speaking, there are two Types of atheists:

**(Types #1)** - The practical atheist. This is the person who wants to live life his/her own way as if there is no God so this person dismisses God from his/her mind. In some respects, all atheists have this view. This person does not want to think about God or giving an account to God, because they want to live their lives free from any such notion so they try to dismiss God from their minds by saying there is no God. There is certainly Biblical evidence for this type in James 4:13-17.

**(Type #2)** - The theoretical atheist. This is the person who dogmatically declares there is no God and tries to defend the position by various theories and assertions. What needs to be remembered is that an atheist is always trying to defend the position contrary to fact. So there will be many theoretical speculations and inconsistencies. For example, an atheist typically often goes to the “Big Bang Theory” as an explanation for the creation of the world. But when you challenge them to show just one explosion that creates beauty, they are frustrated. Often an atheist will begin their theoretical argument by saying, “If God exists, then why this or that?” “Why is there evil? Why is there tragedy?”

Now there are five reasons why people are atheists:

- (Reason #1)** - Because of arrogant pride. Atheists are typically proud, arrogant, defiant people.
- (Reason #2)** - Because of sinful lifestyle - know living a sinful life and don't want it threatened.
- (Reason #3)** - Because of theological ignorance - don't know truth about God.
- (Reason #4)** - Because of personal experience - something bad happened to them in religion.
- (Reason #5)** - Because of not wanting to think of future judgment - moment admit God there is the future reality that one must face God.

Several weaknesses with atheism:

**Weakness #1** - It contradicts intuitive knowledge. Rom. 1:19

**Weakness #2** - It contradicts logical and rational reason of rational proofs and evidences.

**Weakness #3** - It contradicts the entire Bible, which is a book that claims it is God's Word.

**Weakness #4** - It contradicts real mental limitations - To dogmatically declare there is no God, one would need total knowledge of everything, everywhere at all times.

**Weakness #5** - It contradicts real history; historical people and places.

**Weakness #6** - It is a faith system that is theoretical because there are no factual witnesses.