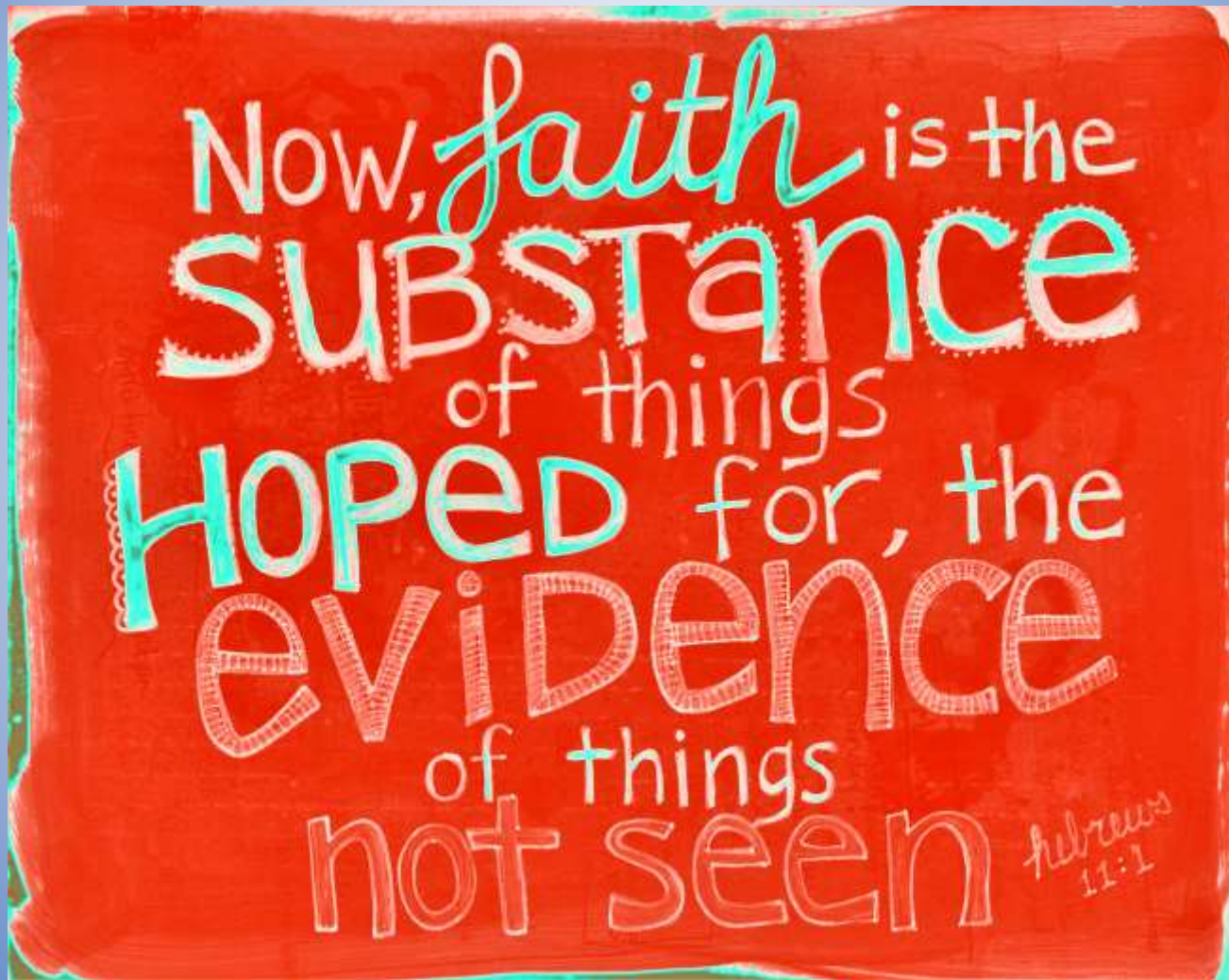




## The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2



# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## A Good Question!



“If God has spoken, why is the world not convinced?”

– Percy Bysshe Shelley

# Ending Where You Begin



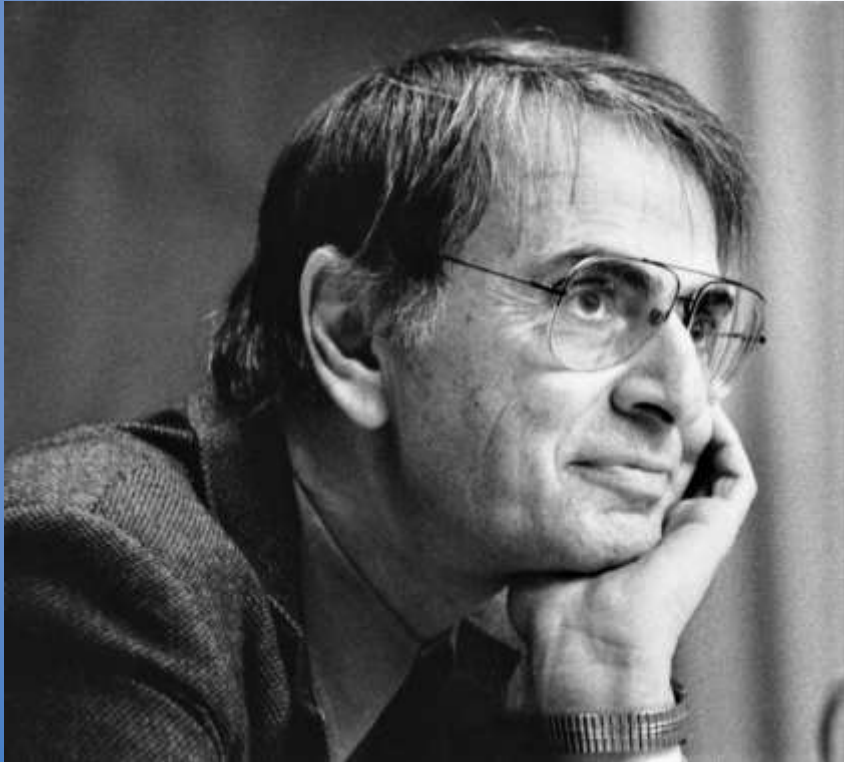
# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Ending Where You Begin

**Presupposition**

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Ending Where You Begin

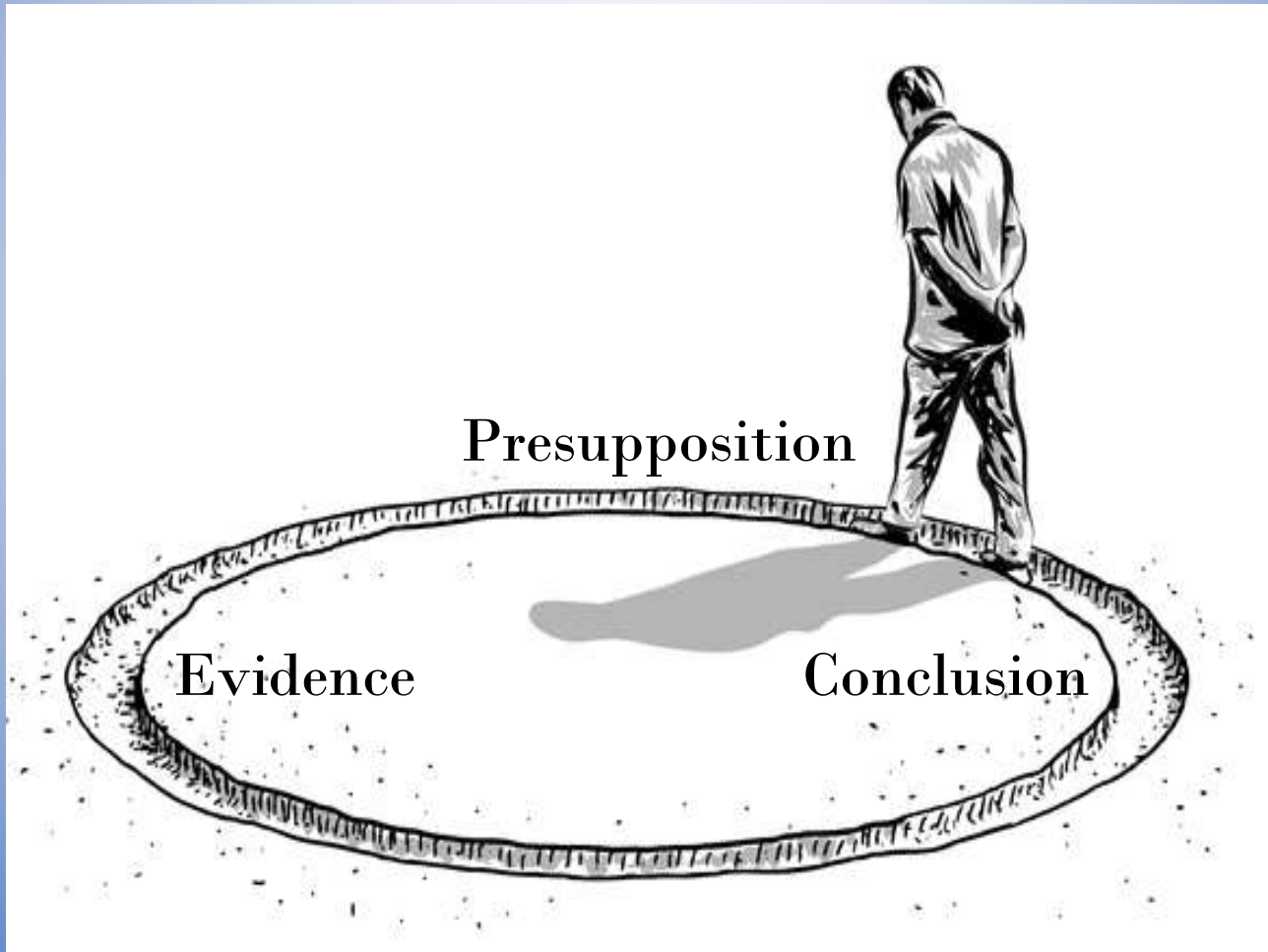


“It is far better to grasp the universe as it really is than to persist in delusion, however satisfying and reassuring.”

– Carl Sagan

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Ending Where You Begin



# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Ending Where You Begin

### Humanistic Presuppositions:

- **The world is only physical and can only be understood through naturalistic and material methods.**
- **Absolute truth does not exist. Such claims are individual and cultural, usually a strategy imposed upon the weak-minded by those who wish to oppress others.**



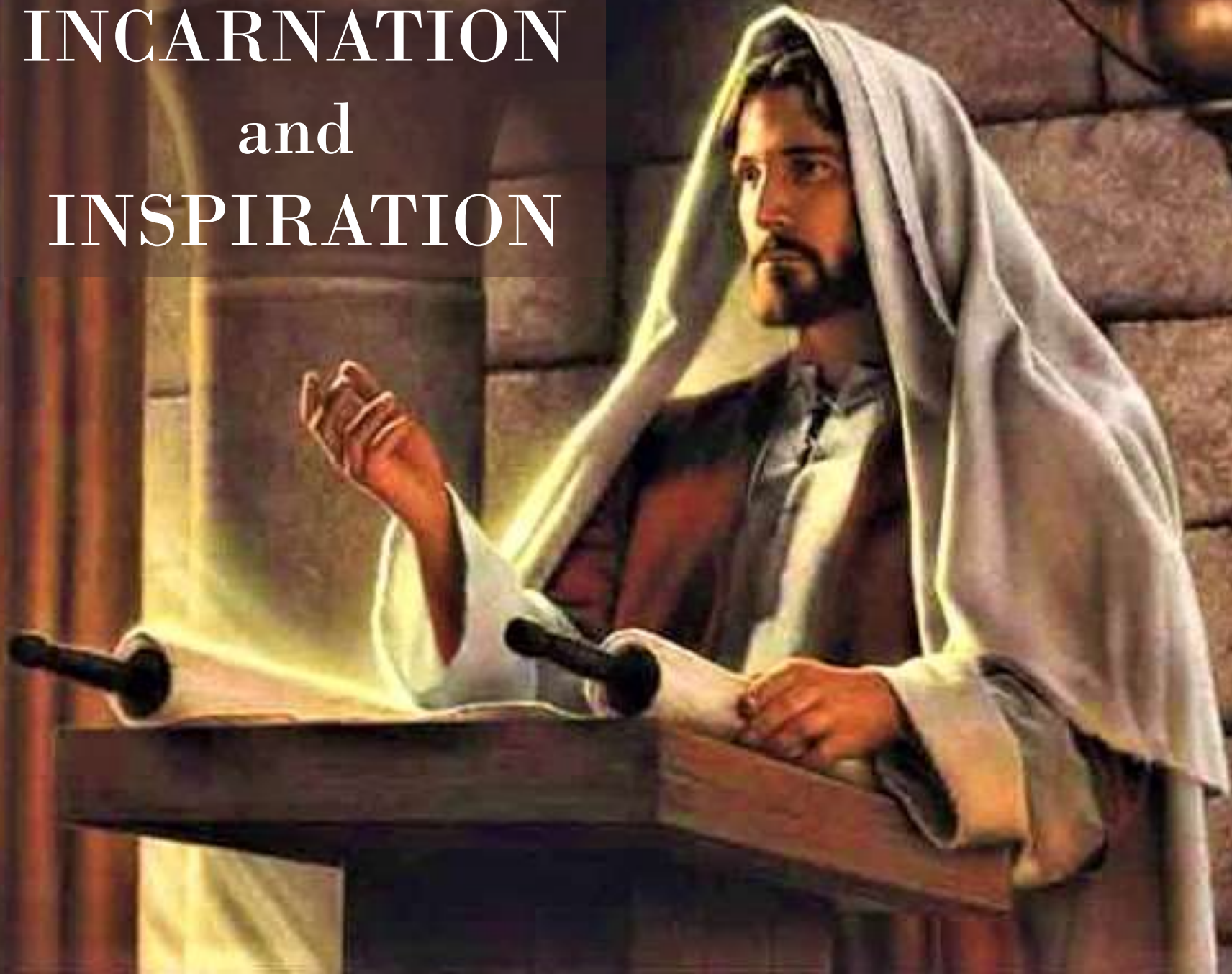
# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Ending Where You Begin

### The Theistic Presupposition:

- **The Bible is a record of God's intimate and effective engagement in history with man.**
- **The Bible carries many human characteristics of the human culture in which it was written, but its chief meaning, purpose, and application must be understood as inspired by the mind, will, and heart of God.**

# INCARNATION and INSPIRATION



# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

**The incarnation of God's living Word:**

*“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.” (John 1:1-2)*

*“The Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw his glory.” (John 1:14)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

**The inspiration of God's written Word:**

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

**Just as Jesus—the incarnate Word of God—was simultaneously fully God and fully man, so is the Bible—the written Word of God—fully divine and fully human.**

**Through incarnation and inspiration:**

- **The divine is unified with the human;**
- **The transcendent with the rational;**
- **The world of faith with the world of evidence.**

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God...”*  
*(2 Timothy 3:16)*

**“Breathed out by God”:** Theopneustos

“Theopneustos does not denote ‘inspiring’ or ‘inspiration,’ but rather ‘spiring’ or ‘spiration.’ This implies that the Scripture is not a human product of what was ‘breathed into’ the human writers by God...”

– B.B. Warfield

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God...”*  
*(2 Timothy 3:16)*

**“Breathed out by God”:** Theopneustos

“...but rather a divine product ‘breathed out’ by God through the instrumentality of human authors.”

– B.B. Warfield

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“All Scripture is breathed out by God...”*  
*(2 Timothy 3:16)*

**“Breathed out by God”:** Theopneustos

“It is the Scriptures, not the writers, that are inspired or God-breathed.”

– Paul Feinberg



# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“No prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”*

*(2 Peter 1:20-21)*



# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“No prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”*

*(2 Peter 1:20-21)*

**In this way, men carried along by the Holy Spirit indicates that they could communicate God’s words in a way that was common to their own understanding and background.**

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“No prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.”*

*(2 Peter 1:20-21)*

**Hence, the variation of styles by the individual writer, but importantly...a common divine source.**

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

### Methods of biblical inspiration:

*“The Spirit of the LORD spoke through me. His word was on my tongue.” (2 Samuel 23:2)*

*“The LORD reached out his hand, touched my mouth, and said to me, ‘Now, I have put my words in your mouth.’” (Jeremiah 1:9)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

Methods of biblical inspiration:

*“The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.” (Genesis 2:7)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

### Methods of biblical inspiration:

*“Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us...”*

*(Luke 1:1-4)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

### Methods of biblical inspiration:

*“...it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.”  
(Luke 1:1-4)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## Incarnation and Inspiration

*“[Jesus said], ‘Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me.*

*Or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves.’” (John 14:11)*



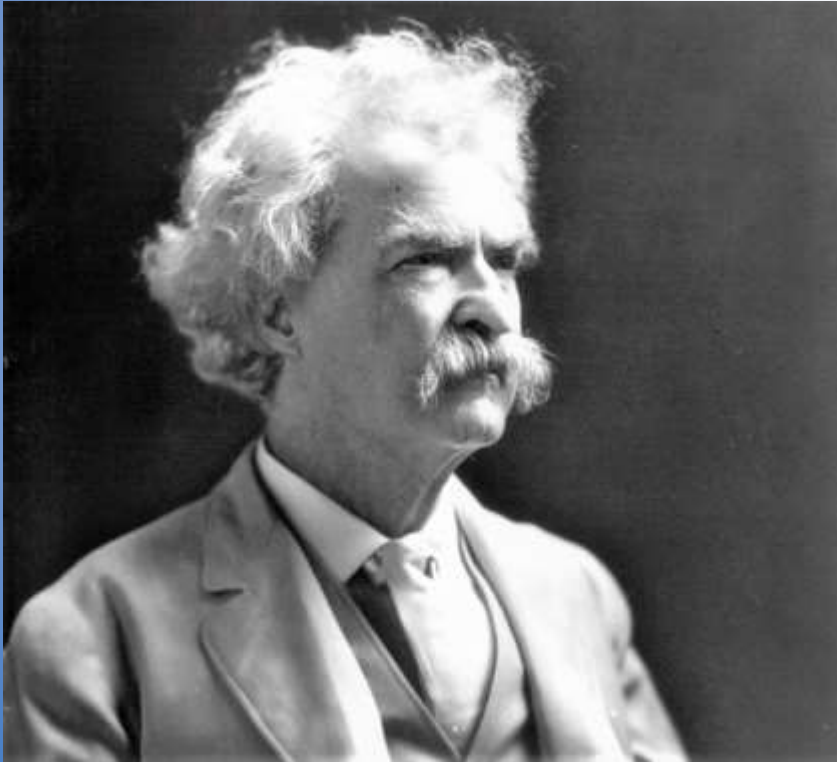


# The Testimonium



# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Testimonium



“It’s not the parts of the Bible I don’t understand that disturb me, it’s the parts of the Bible I *do* understand that disturb me.”

– Mark Twain

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Testimonium



“Man’s problem with certainty here is not so much an intellectual problem as a moral, or spiritual, one.”

– R.C. Sproul

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Testimonium



“The bridge from moral certitude to full assurance is constructed uniquely by the *testimonium*.”

– R.C. Sproul

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Testimonium

*“This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.” (1 Corinthians 2:13-14)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Testimonium



“The biggest proof of Scripture is uniformly taken from the character whose word it is...Our conviction of the truth of Scripture must be derived from a higher source...”

– John Calvin

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Testimonium



“...than human conjectures, judgments, or reasons; namely, the secret testimony of the Spirit.”

– John Calvin

# The Foolishness of God





# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Foolishness of God



*“The foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men...”*

*God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise...”*

*(1 Cor. 1:25, 27)*

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Foolishness of God



“The same divine humility which decreed that God should become a baby at a peasant woman’s breast, and later an arrested field preacher in the hands of the Roman police...”

– C.S. Lewis

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Foolishness of God



“....decreed also that he should be preached in a vulgar, prosaic and unliterary language.”

– C.S. Lewis

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Foolishness of God



“God was ready to become, undignified in both incarnation and inspiration in order to bring about our salvation, and so any suggestion, therefore, that the unity of divine and human, whether in...”

– J.I. Packer

# The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

## The Foolishness of God



“...Jesus or in Scripture, is less than complete will reduce our apprehension of this love, and thus in reality dishonor it.”

– J.I. Packer

## The Evidence of Faith, Pt. 2

“Always [be] prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you. Yet do it with gentleness and respect.”

(1 Peter 3:15)

