

## ATHEISM

***“don’t throw the baby out with the bath water!”***

### INTRO – Slide 2

*“...something good is eliminated when trying to get rid of something bad”*

**Wikipedia**

### WHAT IS IT?

*“Atheism is, in a broad sense, the rejection of belief in the existence of deities”*

**Wikipedia**

**It literally means in the Greek (*atheos*) “Without God!”**

### Atheism for dummies – Slide 3

1. Get fed up with Christendom
2. Throw all religion/faith/beliefs into the Bin
3. Begin to “enjoy” life without God - *Now*
4. Ignore anything good to do with God thereafter - *Now*

### LIES

**Youthwork** (July '11) magazine says:

*“a third of 11-16 year olds said they did not believe in God a recent survey revealed. The UK wide survey taken by the BBC showed that 34% said they did not have a religion...just under 40% of the young people said they did (believe in God or gods) while 32% said they did not.”*

**BBC Nottingham** story - “default position”:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-nottinghamshire-13925399>

**The Atheist/Secular/Humanist movement want the public to believe that:**

- **“Atheism is the rational/common sense/ default position”**

**TRUTH: PEOPLE ARE STILL SPIRITUAL BUT LESS RELIGIOUS**

**WHY?** – slide 4-12

**Most Atheism if not all is a reaction to something:**

- **Institutionalised Church**
- **Religious Wars**
- **Religious Intolerance/Arrogance**
- **Religious Hypocrisy**

- Terrorism
  - Biblical Misinterpretations
  - Colonialism
  - “Christians” who judge & don’t love!
- TOTAL = All in “God’s” NAME!!!**

*Even if evolution is true... Why can't God still exist?*

*What's your problem with God? - They don't WANT Him to exist!*

**Most if not all Atheism is based on a Mis-Conception of Christianity**

## **HOW DO WE RESPOND?**

**1 Peter 3:15-16 says:**

*“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behaviour in Christ may be ashamed of their slander”*

**IN LOVE:** Slide 13

- **Speak to the heart not the head**
- **Understand why they don't like the idea of God?**
- **Pull down misconceptions**

**Show them what a Real Christian is like – YOU**

*gentle, respectful, good works, loving Jesus, grace & mercy*

**Tell them what real Christianity is about:**

**BEING SPIRITUALLY ALIVE THRU CHRIST – loving God, loving others**

**NEXT:** Jerry's presentation