

Why I Don't Go to Church



“The Church Is Anti-Intellectual”



- 1) The church is unscientific because we believe in creation.



*In the beginning God
created the heavens and
the earth.—Genesis 1:1
(NIV)*



- What I would have to accept if I am to believe that God did not create:
- Everything was produced from nothing
 - Life came from non-life
 - Randomness produced highly intricate and interdependent systems
 - Unconsciousness produced consciousness
 - Non-reason somehow resulted in reason



2) The church is naive because we believe in miracles.



Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and all that night the LORD drove the sea back with a strong east wind and turned it into dry land. The waters were divided, and the Israelites went through the sea on dry ground, with a wall of water on their right and on their left.—Exodus 14:21-22 (NIV)



- It takes more faith to believe the non-miraculous explanations or the denials of most events than it does to believe God acted.



3) The church is irrational because we believe in Jesus' resurrection.



“The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead after you killed him by hanging him on a cross. Then God put him in the place of honor at his right hand as Prince and Savior. He did this so the people of Israel would repent of their sins and be forgiven. We



*are witnesses of these things and so is the Holy Spirit, who is given by God to those who obey him.”—
Acts 5:30-32 (NLT)*



4) The church is ignorant because we believe that the Scriptures are inspired.



The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God. As the Scriptures say, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise and discard the intelligence of the intelligent."



So where does this leave the philosophers, the scholars, and the world's brilliant debaters? God has made the wisdom of this world look foolish. Since God in his wisdom saw to it that the world would never know him through human wisdom, he has used our foolish preaching to save



those who believe. It is foolish to the Jews, who ask for signs from heaven. And it is foolish to the Greeks, who seek human wisdom. So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it's all nonsense.



But to those called by God to salvation, both Jews and Gentiles, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. This foolish plan of God is wiser than the wisest of human plans, and God's weakness is stronger than the greatest of human strength.—1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (NLT)



- Christianity is not irrational; it exceeds our rational capacities.



1) This week invite someone to come to church with you. If they say that the church is anti-intellectual, do this: Challenge them to challenge God to reveal himself to them.



2) Learn more about why you believe what you do.