

## PROVING GOD'S EXISTENCE

There was a joke going around not long ago which went something like this, "An atheist professor was teaching a college class and he told the class that he was going to prove that there was not a God. He said, "God if you are real, then I want you to knock me off this platform in the next 15 minutes!" Ten minutes went by and nothing happened. The professor kept taunting God, saying, "I'm waiting!" He got down to the last couple of minutes and a huge 250-pound football player happened to walk by the door and heard what the professor said. The football player walked into the classroom and with one minute to go, walked up and hit the professor full force, sending him flying off the platform. The professor got up, obviously shaken and said, "Where did you come from, and why did you do that?" The football player replied, "God was busy; so He sent me!""

Obviously, this professor isn't the first person who ever questioned God's existence. Many people have cried out to the heavens with all their might, "God, if you're real...prove it!" We live in an empirical world where "seeing is believing." If we don't see something with our own eyes and touch it with our own hands, it becomes vague and fuzzy and distant. It begins to fade into the recesses of our consciousness until we struggle to discern whether it was real or imagined.

This is where God is for many people. The fact that He is "spirit", as Scripture instructs, presents a whole set of challenges to the human psyche. God is invisible and invisible is hard to grasp.

One of the great things about God is that He knows us. He knows us better than we know ourselves. He knows that we are weak and fragile and needy; dependent, if you really want to get down to it. He knows our limitations and our questions. He knows we need to see and feel and touch.

So that's exactly what He did. He empirically proved His existence. He didn't send down a lightning bolt or a voice from heaven, but He did send something else down; He sent His own Son.

The Bible tells us that the Son of God stepped out of heaven and was "...made in the likeness of men," that Jesus was "...the exact representation of His (God's) nature," and that He is "...the image of the invisible God." The Apostle John affirms that "...the Word (God's eternal Son) took on flesh and dwelt among us."

God doesn't need to strike anyone with lightning bolts because the truth of the matter is that He has come down and shown Himself and He has done it in the most spectacular way; by sending His Son so that we might believe. Want to see what God looks like? See the portrait of Jesus which is painted for you in the Bible.

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