

Can you have faith without judgment?



יהוה said to my lord, sit at
my right hand... - Psalm 110:1

יהוה is [God's Hebrew name](#). He inspired it recorded over 6000 times in the original Hebrew text of the Old Testament. When uttered by Hebrews, the Divine Name sounds like Yea•Vah to English speakers. (That's "Yea" as in "Yea go team," followed by "Vah" like "the first two letters of Vault." It is that same sound, no matter what language you speak. Recognizing the Name of **יהוה** has a powerful unifying effect on all people who know and use it. – [Pro 30:4](#))

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You can only resist becoming judgmental if you remember it is “faith” you have and not knowledge. If you start to imagine you have been imbued with (divine) knowledge, what further use would “hope based in faith” be? ([Rom 8:24-25](#)) You could not help but start judging as wrong those who have not been enlightened with the knowledge God has given you!

Is it even possible, though, to have real faith in something, without starting to believe it is knowledge? The Bible explains that through its definition of faith. [Hebrews 11:1](#) tells us faith is the assured expectation of things hoped for, with that certain expectation being based on the evident demonstration of realities though not beheld. [Verse 3](#) goes on to say it is by faith we perceive our world was made at God’s command, and that what we can see was made out of what we cannot see. Those verses define the faith every person alive struggles with building, and then, with nourishing and maintaining. Most of us start to hear about God and his Christ (or about “one” of the other Gods of this world – [1 Cor 8:5-6](#)) from infancy. So... Do we choose to truly believe there is a Grand Creator of all we know and see? ([Heb 11:6](#); [Heb 3:4](#)) Does hearing stories about a Creator incline us to search for the one true God? He takes note if we do. ([2 Chron 16:9](#)) He then identifies all who are sincere in searching for truth, and directs us to his son. ([John 6:44-47](#)) Jesus said there in John 6:45 that everyone who has heard from the Father comes to him. Heard what, though, from the Father? Simple, everyone

who has heard God's command at [Mat 17:5](#) to listen to his son. It can, however, seem hard to believe in a Grand Creator of all we know and see. On the other hand, to imagine the wondrous creation came about as a result of blind chance does seem harder. So, what is real and true? That decision is (or becomes) the life mission of most people. It also defines some serious questions all wise people wind up asking: What do I really believe? What is the purpose of life? Who is going to be upset, or even hate me, if I don't share their faith (join them in their life course)? That leads back to the one question we all face, the question we now consider: Does it mean I have to judge as lost those who don't share my faith? And/or, do I have to judge as ignorant or stupid those who don't believe in the things my faith defines to be truth?

My faith is the Bible [charts](#) a very clear history of mankind between the creation of Adam and our present day in time. Let us consider that period of history as an example: The Bible defines it to be [some 6000 years from Adam's creation](#) in about 4026 BCE. (Bible scholars have put the 6000 year mark, from the creation of Adam, to be about 1974 or 1975 CE.) I believe [my faith is] that [Bible record](#) is accurate. Some scientists then tell me the pre-human period was millions of years long, and, others say mankind has been around way longer than 6000 years. Does my faith in the Bible and its history require I judge ignorant or deceitful the portion of the scientific community that believes in a millions of years timeline? In my mind, it doesn't. Please let me explain. Most scientists are really smart people and many are upright. They try hard to base their faith on facts and logic. Make no mistake, however, what they have is faith, just the same as what I have is faith.

Trying to understand where we came from, using skeletons and artifacts that are very, very old,

certainly does require faith. But, again I say, they seem pretty smart. So, how can I maintain my faith, while not judging them ignorant or even stupid for believing something different? First of all, I don't dispute that the earth and universe may have taken millions of years for creation. That really has nothing to do with my faith in the Bible's record of the [creation of mankind \(Adam and Eve\) happening about 6000 years ago](#). And, the animals were apparently present when Adam was created (maybe having been around a very long time). So... The scientific community may be right about much of what they believe. I ~~can't~~ won't say I believe in evolution, but I also won't judge someone else to be wrong in their faith. I have come to appreciate judgment belongs to God! ([1 Cor 4:1-5](#)) If someone feels they have proof some form of evolution took place, and also express their faith in Christ, that is their faith ([Mark 9:38-42](#)) and will produce their reward of life. ([Mat 7:15-24](#)) If the things they believe did happen, my faith is it had to happen parallel to, or in concert with, the Bible record of God's creation of mankind. While the [6000 years](#) recorded since Adam is aligned with human thinking about the measure of time, because humans did keep those records, the creative days of God that came before Adam may have been any length of time. So, I don't have any trouble talking with someone who believes dinosaurs lived millions of years ago. I believe that is likely the way it happened as well, but, that has no bearing on my faith in God's Bible account of man's creation and his using humans to produce the Messiah (the coming of the Christ is the theme of the Bible – [Gal 3:23-25](#)). If I am wrong about dinosaurs, it has no spiritual meaning. However it happened with the dinosaurs and pre-human creation, I still believe the Bible's creation account. It is certainly not something to argue about or to judge someone over. Carefully consider that I am not saying I believe everyone will find favor in God's eyes, no matter what their faith. I just do my best not to judge others. Jesus said even he didn't come to judge us, but he

also made clear we do have a judge. He warned in [John 12:46-50](#), the word (or sayings) he spoke to us would be our judge. You shouldn't judge the faith of others but that doesn't mean what you believe isn't important. Jesus came to give us thinking ability, so we may hold God in accurate knowledge. ([1 John 5:20](#); [Eph 4:13 of 13-16](#); [Rom 1:28 of 20-32](#); [Eph 1:17 of 15-23](#); [Php 1:8-11](#)) We thus make ourselves responsible if we build a faith that is not based on truth, faith that is not built on what Jesus Christ actually said. That's partly why God sent Jesus, to teach us. ([John 12:49](#); [John 14:10](#); [John 7:16](#); [John 8:28](#)) Jesus warned many times you can not rely on what people say he said. ([Mat 7:15](#)) You must sit at his feet and learn for yourself what his Father sent him to teach. We can only do that by reading the accounts of his life and teachings recorded by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. ***If you make the choice to listen to Christ and to him alone, it will protect you from getting caught up arguing and judging others based on their doctrine or yours. That is the purpose of this booklet: To direct you to Jesus Christ!***

The principle of tolerance, based on understanding that what Bible believers have is faith, and not knowledge, can be applied to being tolerant of the beliefs of most people. Example:

Some people believe Jesus died on an upright stake, while others believe he died on a stake with a second crossed piece of wood. Historians say the Romans used both methods of crucifixion, and the different translations of the Bible render the account of Jesus's crucifixion both ways. Would you really judge someone lost to God if they fail to agree with your opinion (your faith) on whether Jesus died on a stake or cross? Truth is, unless God has whispered in your ear, you don't know! Do you have humility to ~~accept~~ *be tolerant of* that? Why argue about things that have no bearing on faith? Do you believe Jesus is the son of God? Do you believe he died for your sins so you might have

life? It is very good if you do believe that. Please take to heart, then, Jesus's command not to judge others! ([Mat 7:1-5](#); [1 Cor 4:1-5](#))

As another example, some individuals say there are people who live among us that were/are marked by God in some way. ([Gen 4:8-15](#)) If they believe they have proof of that, and have made it their faith, that is their faith and there is no reason for me to judge them. I must caution them, based on Jesus warnings about judgment, to be very careful of any judgment they render or believe about other people. ~~They~~ You will receive the just reward for your faith, just as I will. ([Gal 6:7-10](#)) My faith is it is not for me to judge.

There is a very simple truth from the Bible that should form the basis of all Christian faith. The Bible says of itself at [Galatian 3:23-25](#), its history and law code exist as a tutor for the purpose of leading us to the Christ. We should also realize God has given only one command since Jesus started teaching. He told us in [Matthew 17:5](#), Jesus is his approved spokesman and we should listen to him. Since Jesus is now in the heavens, ([Psalm 110:1](#)) how can we obey that command from God to listen to his son 2000 years later? Simple... We can read the Bible's inspired records ([2 Tim 3:16-17 of 14-17](#)) of Jesus's life and teachings as penned by [Matthew](#), [Mark](#), [Luke](#) and [John](#). Those Gospels comprise less than 200 pages in total, and, those accounts encompass what God sent his son to teach (*you*). ([Mark 9:7](#)) *There is a huge problem you face!* Jesus has many enemies, and, they are all deceitful! ([Mat 7:15-23](#)) They all [assert as representatives of Christ](#) but really want to direct you away from him, away from reading the Gospel accounts of Jesus's teachings. Instead of encouraging you to take in God's spirit by reading the sayings of Christ, ([John 6:63](#)) [religionists](#) try and bury you in reading their organizational literature, as they arrogantly assert reading their books and magazines is Bible study. ([Acts 20:29-30](#)) If you are wise, you must be wondering: Could this booklet be doing that same

thing? Could my teachings be against the interest of Christ, while claiming to direct you to him? They certainly could! The simple but distinct (and easy to understand) difference between this Christian letter, and all the religious material and teachings you encounter, is this: Remember always, I'm not encouraging you to follow me or my teachings. Proving myself a Christian, and contrary to all the many [religions](#) of this world, I'm encouraging you to actually read the words of Jesus Christ from the Bible for your-own-self. My caution and encouragement to you is that reading the words of Christ is the only way you can know if what I am saying is actually what Jesus taught. Surely, you can see and know, directing you to learn from Christ for yourself can not possibly be bad advice.

Distinguishing Christians from religionists really is just that simple: True Christians don't ever encourage you to follow them, or to join their sect. Christians, each and all as individuals, encourage you to read the words of Christ for yourself. Now I have heard [religionists](#) say (til it gags me, really), the first century Christians formed congregations, and so, we should too. Using those words, many people assert I'm wrong to encourage you to study the sayings of Christ for yourself. ([John 8:31-32](#); [John 6:63](#)) Some of them go so far as to proclaim you need to follow them so they can ~~help~~ *direct* you, and, some are so grandiose as to assert you won't be able to hear or understand Christ without their help. Please seriously consider what that really means. Are they gathering to study the words of Christ with you, or to bury you in some Bible study aids? Do they direct you to study aids "they have published," while "assuring" you they are the only way you can learn from Christ? If you are going to learn from Christ, shouldn't you, well, actually listen to Christ? God selected and sent Jesus to teach you what He wants you to know. ([John 12:44-50](#); [Mat 17:5](#); [Luke 10:22](#)) You don't need anyone to "interpret" the words of Jesus for you. Truth is, with the Bible's (and Jesus's) many warnings against false teachers, I can't imagine how you could possibly feel safe in allowing anyone to step into Christ's place as your lord and teacher.

([Mat 23:8-12 of 1-15](#)) If you willingly accept that you need someone to explain Christ's teachings to you, how could you be sure you really following Christ? Wouldn't you be following your selected interpreter? ([Acts 20:29-30](#)) If you allow someone to explain Christ to you, how could you know if they are really teaching you what Jesus said? You couldn't possibly! Don't be fooled... If you allow someone to tell you what Jesus meant by what he said, you are most likely being misled as fool. True Christians actually learn from Christ, and know better than to attempt to assert themselves as stand-ins for our Lord. ([Mat 23:8-12 of 1-15](#)) Christians simply direct you to Jesus's words. Once you recognize the simple truth in God's command to listen to his son, ([Mat 17:5](#)) you don't need any human to instruct or guide you. Rather, Christ's teachings help you realize your need to avoid [religionists](#) like the plague they are.

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The following translations may have been quoted in this document:

ALT – 1999 Analytical Literal Translation (Gary F. Zeolla)
ASV - 1897 American Standard Version (American Revision Committee)
BBE - 1949, 1964 Bible in Basic English (Cambridge Press)
Bishops - 1568
Calvin – 1856 (Calvin Translation Society)
Coverdale – 1535 James Coverdale
CEV – 1995 Contemporary English Version (American Bible Society)
Darby - 1884, 1889 Darby Bible (John Nelson Darby)
DRB - 1899 Douay-Rheims Bible
ESV – 2001 English Standard Version (Crossway Bibles)
Geneva – 1587 (Christopher Barker, printer to the “Queenes Maiestie”)
GNB – 1992 Good News Bible (American Bible Society)
GW – 1995 God’s Word Bible (GOD’S WORD to the Nations Bible Society)
IHOT+ - Interlinear Hebrew Old Testament with Strong’s numbers
ISV – 1996 International Standard Version (The ISV Foundation)
KJV - King James Version (1611)
LITV - Literal Translation of the Holy Bible (1976-2000 by J. P. Green)
MKJV - Modern King James Version (1962-1998 by J. P. Green Sr.)
Murdock – James Murdock (1851)
MWT - Modern World Translation (JustBibleTruth.com)
NWT – New World Translation (Watchtower Bible and Tract Society)
RV – 1769 Revised Version (King James Revised Version)
Webster - 1833 Webster Bible (Noah Webster)
WTNT – 1525 William Tyndale New Testament (William Tyndale)
Wycliffe – 1394 Wycliffe (Purvey Revision)
YLT – 1862 Young's Literal Translation (J.N. Young)

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“All who come to God believe he exists and is good.” Heb 11:6

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