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*The mysteries  
of God...*



*can be revealed  
through chosen vehicles...*



*unto those who  
seek wisdom.*

## On the Wisdom of Men - How much do we really know?

- By Michael Brown



*One of the great troubles of our times is the seemingly infallible wisdom of men. Apparently a prerequisite for induction into the Sigma Lambda Rho fraternity (science, logic, rational deduction) is to first use these tools to demonstrate conclusively that there is no God.*

- *Why is it that a prerequisite for acceptance as an intellectual is to conclude that belief in God is silly?*
- *Why is it important to address each new claim refuting God?*
- *The most important truths are hard to discover by science alone.*

### **True observations are not always accompanied by true explanations**

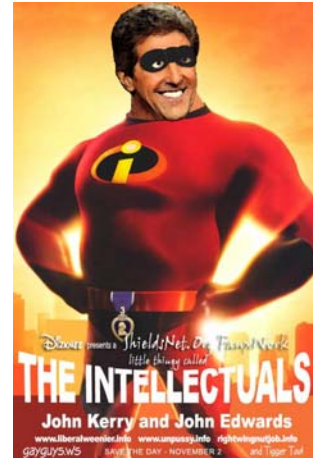
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Said wise men - the truly learned intellectuals of our time - roam the earth turning over stones, observing what can be seen, and reporting to us all on what their process of research and intellectual inquiry has produced. Occasionally this process turns up something that appears to challenge or debunk long held religious beliefs. There is nothing wrong with honest inquiry into any subject. Truth and light have nothing to hide. Men fail when they draw conclusions too quickly based on sketchy evidence, scientific leaps of faith, or without full consideration of what are often a myriad of potential explanations for the observations. As often as not such conclusions are not definitive from the discoverer's point of view as much as by those with an agenda who simply use new observations to build a house-of-cards claim. (Example, many who have measured global warming are not ready to concede that man is the sole or even the major cause, but Al Gore types use their research for scare mongering to help gain power).

## Many of us “average folk” (especially politicians) are closed to some potential explanations - thinking after a handful of sound bites that we know it all

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Many fancy themselves learned or with a gifted intellect, and seek to be informed of the happenings of our times so as to participate in the great debates from the sidelines either as fans or biased commentators of the “SLR Brotherhood”. The Brotherhood and fans long ago concluded that all things are simply mechanical and we are nothing more than lucky byproducts of random evolution, which itself was made possible from the most simple life form which was a lucky byproduct of luckier Big Bang. The fans are most often left-leaning, and since it is common knowledge that individuals in the media are observably left when they gather at water coolers, the commentators also subtly highlight news that supports the Brotherhood (or points a mocking, scornful finger at those who question the Brotherhood).

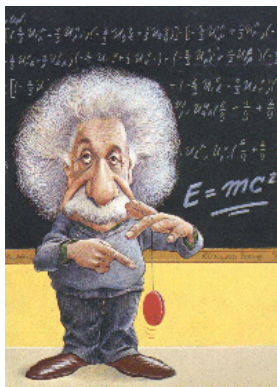


These trust in the scientists, philosophers, and great thinkers to a fault. Their knowledge of massively complex subjects comes in sound bites, and they assemble a bite here and a bite there to proudly proclaim their own infallible, obviously factual conclusions which they hope will convince other “average Joe’s” like themselves that they are not really an average Joe at all. They would have us believe they are capable of the intellectual rigor of an active member of Sigma Lambda Rho, but they have simply chosen to apply their intellect to report on the happenings of SLR rather than be in SLR.

## The highest thinkers recognize how little they really know

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Let me insert that I believe the highest order of the Science, Logic, and Rational deduction fraternity would not jump to conclusions that there is no God. In other words, they would have learned enough to not trust their own conclusions on observations. They



would know there may be many potential, rational explanations. Einstein demonstrated he was of the highest order when he said, “The more I learn, the more I realize I do not know.” However, many and maybe most of the great thinkers of modern ages, while they remain open to alternative mechanical explanations, are generally closed since childhood to explanations that seem mystical or would involve a God, since such seems more like a convenient excuse for the presently unexplainable. Why does explaining the previously unexplainable somehow equate with discrediting God? It may discredit previous understandings of God, but that does not require that God could not know of or make use of the newly discovered insight.

(I contend in another essay that God Himself, with all His seemingly magical powers, in fact operates by means which are mechanically and mathematically explainable. We

incrementally discover those means all the time, but have only an infinitesimal fraction of what we would need to know to truly comprehend science as known to and harnessed by God. The little I understand of string theory makes me think it could be the “giant leap forward” in helping us comprehend some of the science God may know and use).

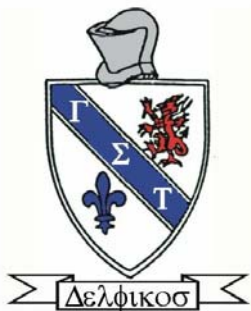
I talk as if I am a member of the Sigma Lambda Rho debate team mocking the wannabe’s and even chastising my fellow members. In truth, I am an average Joe, and my resume would confirm to anyone in “The Brotherhood” that I’m a benchwarmer. I am no doubt so, as the nature of my profession in civil engineering allows little time for pursuits that could attract the attention of such elites. However, as a sideliners watching the spectacle, I can see how the debate works.

### **The most important truths are hard to discover by scientific approaches alone**

Fortunately for this average Joe, my life’s experience has helped me discover alternative methods for obtaining light and knowledge, and approaching subjects that embroil the Sherlock’s. I find myself shouting “Hey, I think I’ve stumbled upon some clues!”, but they’re all too far from where I am to hear, and even if I could do a song and dance long enough to turn their heads, they’d still say, “Now, what are your credentials that I should turn away from such learned men to consider your untrained, juvenile reasoning?”

### **To be accepted as a serious intellectual, one must first find some reason to doubt God, then mock or discredit believers**

Actually, the “debate” isn’t really a debate at all. It is more of a quest to find anything to justify conclusions one must reach to be in the brotherhood. “See, I found this reason to doubt God!” “Here is evidence debunking Mormon doctrine!” The list is never ending.



One may be tempted to frame things as a debate between Sigma Lambda Rho’s “infallibly factual” religious beliefs, and the traditional religious community’s defense of the seemingly indefensible. I think that is close to right, but in my eyes it’s not a debate where in good sportsmanship they attempt to respectfully share their interpretations of observations and the religious community likewise responds gentlemanly with introspection in an attempt to reconcile what is truly



doctrinal against beliefs that are more traditional than doctrinal. That would be nice and it’s how I try to do things myself.

I see it not as the respectful “lay the cards on the table and lets see if we can find some answers” that it should be, and more as an attempt at mockery by those who have already concluded that anything which seems on the surface to be magical, superstitious, silly, or “requiring a God” is patently absurd and not worth an ounce of honest, long, benefit of

the doubt inquiry. The only religious inquiry worthy of time is to hunt through religious beliefs and history for sticks and stones they can beat believers with.

### **Is there any value in rebutting those who mock and will not see?**

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We in turn are not really responding to them to convince them - it can't be done by mortals! They've allowed their eyes to become blind and they've shut up their ears. They point and laugh from the Great and Spacious Building. Those of us at the Tree are trying to pull aside those who are buying into their claims and scorn and we whisper, "Don't be ashamed at having come to the Tree. Here are some reasons why they are wrong and it's worth staying - not the least of which is that their building will fall!" Likewise there are hosts of people who are wandering, having not fully determined to seek out the Tree, the Building, or some other way. Possibly most at the Building have never strained to see or hear spiritually. Thus in their mockery I find myself saying "Forgive them, for they know not what they mock."

My heart bleeds when I see so many not come to the tree. I shout in whatever way I can. I realize that my style of describing the particular fruits I've tasted will not appeal to all, but I also know that my style will appeal to some - particularly those whom the Spirit touches through rational argument and explanation, and who are intellectually honest enough with themselves to allow for the possibility of a God and to give half a chance to all the other connected possibilities.

If you have valued from this, please feel free to email a link to [www.latterdaylogic.com](http://www.latterdaylogic.com) to those you believe may be receptive to this essay.