

Belief in God remains hot discussion topic

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"Do you believe in God?"

We posed that question to readers on StatesmanJournal.com, and the response was overwhelming — from all different viewpoints. When we published some of those comments last Monday. There was such interest, that we are presenting more today.

The responses are edited for length.

"I don't know if He (or She) is the God I've grown up believing in, but there has to be a Supreme Being of some sort. I don't know how anyone can look at the beauty of nature or see a baby be born and not believe that someone is in charge."

— StatesmanJournal.com user lindilou1966

"I believe science has done an adequate job explaining the seasons. So, now please do the same. Give me one shred of scientific evidence of 'god.' I'll wait."

— StatesmanJournal.com user bobcatbob

"... You cannot 'prove' God exists any more than you can prove God doesn't exist, right?"

— StatesmanJournal.com user zeero

"I believe in God for the following reasons:

"1) Something cannot come from nothing. It has to be created. We cannot see bacteria with our naked eye, but we know it exists. So why is it so hard to accept that God exists, just because we don't see Him?

"2) There is too much order in our solar system to simply say it 'just happened.'

"3) I believe in God because of the lives that are truly changed. ..."

— StatesmanJournal.com user papanibbs

"... I believe in God but not in religion! There is a vast chasm between religion and spirituality."

— StatesmanJournal.com user Zephyranna

"Religion is made up nonsense, a crutch for the weak-minded among us.

"If one person initiated a religion today based on the myths contained in any of the three dominant monotheisms' books, s/he would be considered insane. Just because there are a multitude that say they believe, then society accepts the fictions. ..."

Read more

To read more comments about the existence of God, or to comment on this or other topics, click on the Forum link at StatesmanJournal.com/Opinion or go to StatesmanJournal.com/LocalStandard.

"Humans would be better off without organized religions tainting our societies. Most of the mayhem during wars stems from religion, even in WW2 due to the Nazis' attempt to exterminate Jews, a religious-based classification of people. Muslim terrorists today use their fictitious beliefs to blow up people. Religion is the bane of humanity."

— StatesmanJournal.com user Jackrabbit7

"I do not believe in supernatural beings of any kind and I do not believe in magic. I have no idea how or why the universe was created. I have no idea how or why life began. However, I would wager it all happened in accordance with the laws of physics.

"To suggest that some magical being simply willed it into existence seems ludicrous to me. To suggest that an all-powerful being sat down at the drawing board, planned out everyday detail, and then actually constructed the universe is equally ridiculous. ..."

— StatesmanJournal.com user TravisRedfish

"... My spiritual beliefs are the deepest part of me. They've evolved over the course of a lifetime, and for me to 'choose' what or how to believe would be tantamount to my choosing to be.

"And I can't 'choose' to be.

"I just am."

— StatesmanJournal.com user rockn1

"... It boils down to faith. I have seen the hand of God too many times and have no doubt he exists. ..."

— StatesmanJournal.com user bhrio

"If some 'god' really does exist, you and I and all of those who question its existence will suffer no consequences for our lack of belief. What we will get, however, if this schizoid god turns out to be real, is an explanation for why this god chose to put we hapless humans through a metaphysical waterboarding. This god better have a ... good reason!"

— StatesmanJournal.com user Android

"There sure is something out there that we mere humans can't possibly understand. It is probably nothing like the 'gods' that are in our imagination. There are too many flaws in all of the 'holy' books to possibly be true. Even science, which is constantly evolving, doesn't even come close to having it right."

— StatesmanJournal.com user TerryP

"Who made God?"

— StatesmanJournal.com user theat7

"Yes. I simply take the Bible at its word, and it has yet to be proven incorrect in ANY aspect, unlike science, which is a manmade theory at best and often proven wrong. Our world is too unique and wonderful to be created by anything but a heavenly Father. And for those of you claiming to be atheist/agnostic, if there is no God, then why do you have to go to the lengths of denying Him?..."

— StatesmanJournal.com user CherryAnn

"A more important question is, how do we conduct our lives? Since life is only for a short time and goes only one way — from birth to death — are we making the most of this time? And secondary to our own enjoyment of this experience, and probably the most important question of all is: Are we good to others or least not doing them any harm?"

— StatesmanJournal.com user MrBrat2u

"... I do not understand how anyone can look out into space and seeing the stars and galaxies and not come to the conclusion that there is a God (creator).

"There is such order that we can set our clocks by the movements of the planets, predict comets, eclipses, sun/moon risings/settings. Look at the eye and its complexity; it screams of a creator and of design as all of creation does. Design points to a creator.

"An airliner, ship, building, whatever that has been designed has a mind behind it and can not ever just come together by chance or time."

— StatesmanJournal.com user bigredjim

"There is no way there can be a god. I don't believe in a book created by man."

— StatesmanJournal.com user chammich

"I have a firm belief in a Divine Creative Force that is only Love and only Truth. Of course in that Kingdom of God, that is only Love and Truth. There is no hell but for the one we create for ourselves as we too often harshly judge others and forget how much Love there is in the Kingdom of God. Love and Truth is all there is and always will be. ..."

— StatesmanJournal.com user 4quixana2