

Youth and Parent Resource Ministry Presenting:

BOOK REVIEW

CAN you reason with faith? Mark

Clark thinks so, and clearly and concisely shows so in his book the "Problem of God: Answering a Skeptic's Challenges to Christianity."

Introducing himself and retelling his testimony, Clark takes the reader on a journey through storytelling, indepth research, basic explanation, and holding true to the marvel and mystery of God, all the while demonstrating that one can reason with the various elements in the Christian faith.

Clark explains and expounds on the more hushed or mishandled topics in Christianity for the Western World: Science, Sex, Sin and Suffering, Hell, Jesus, Exclusivity, just to name a few. He gives each topic the biblical and proper recognition it deserves and shows no fear in giving the conclusions with respect and honesty.

With the example of hypocrisy, as most people outside of Christianity think people of the faith exhibit, Mark Clark admits, "If you believe the church is filled with hypocrites, I agree with you. But that doesn't mean Christianity isn't true or that it doesn't work" (p. 201).

Whether you want to challenge the Christian faith or be affirmed in it, this book by Mark Clark is well worth the read.

Home Application:

Biggest takeaway from this book: Do your research. We as Christians have no need to fear what sorts of things we can find in term of what God says in Scripture, the fact we can trust the authenticity of it, and the various sciences that help prove God's existence rather than not. Mark Clark has done a majority of the work for us, but in the end, any reader can do this for themselves.

Mark Clark isn't the first to do this kind of research: C.S. Lewis and Lee Strobal have done similar things, if they can, we can too.

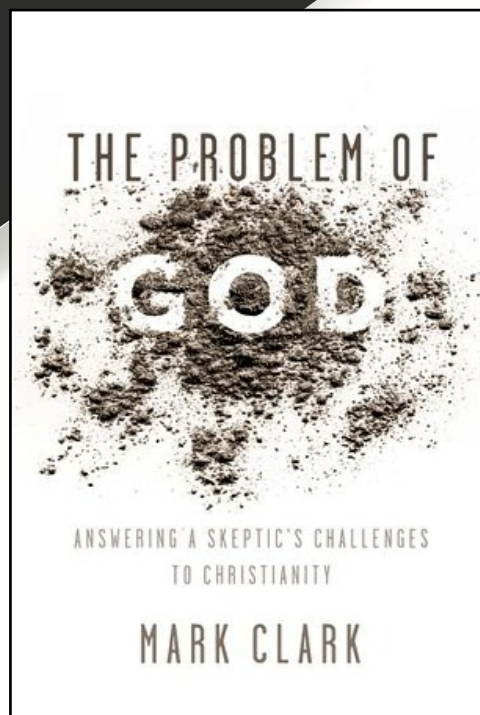
"facing the problem of God is about far more than getting the right information for ourselves, it's about a transformation of ourselves" (p. 246).

"The point of the Bible isn't about you. It's not about what we can do so God will love and save us.

It's about what Jesus has done... God doesn't save you and use you because

of you but in spite of you" (p. 83).

"We must all admit we have faith-commitments, and we are all people of faith. The real question is: What is the content of my set of beliefs? And flowing from that: What is that content based on? And finally: Is my faith position the most valid to hold if I were to carefully examine all the best available evidence" (p. 34).



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