



Preponderance of the Evidence

We make most decisions in life, not on the basis of mathematical proofs, but on the preponderance of evidence. When someone asks “Can you prove what you believe?” There is no way to give “ironclad” mathematical proof. In that case there would be no faith involved. Instead God has chosen to give an abundance of evidence that points to His trustworthiness and the trustworthiness of His Word. An open minded person, willing to consider the evidence, will definitely find that the preponderance of the evidence encourages us to trust God.

A Robbery

If a man puts a gun to our head and demands that we hand over our money to him, we have to make a decision.

We could analyze the situation, maybe like this:

- This kind of thing has never happened to me before. So how could it be happening now?
- I must be dreaming. This can't be real.
- This could really ruin my day. Maybe if I ignore him he'll just go away.
- I'll bet that his gun is not really loaded.
- I'll bet he's really holding a toy gun, not a real one.
- This guy looks like a wimp. I think I can take him on and whip him.
- He looks like he's probably really a nice guy. I'm sure he wouldn't really shoot me.
- I think I might be able to trip this guy, make him fall, and run away before he can shoot me.
- I think I can talk him out of what he's trying to do. Surely he'll listen to my logic.
- Someone once played a trick on me like this. I'll bet this is really a trick. Any moment now he'll burst out laughing at me.

Your reasoning could go on and on.

But the PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE says, “This is a serious situation. My life is in danger. I'd better act wisely.”

Biblical Truth

We go through the same process when confronted with the overwhelming evidence that supports our trust in the Bible. We can rationalize with thoughts like:

- I've never seen a dead man rise. So I don't believe Jesus rose either.
- The evidence is strong, but this is all too good to be true. I refuse to believe it.
- A lot of other people I know don't believe it. So, in spite of the evidence, I'll stick with them.
- I've been deceived before. So even though the evidence seems clear, I'll reject it because I might end up being tricked.
- This evidence may be strong, but if I accept it, it will change my life dramatically. I really don't want to change my life. So I'll just try to ignore the evidence.

But the PREPONDERANCE OF THE EVIDENCE says, “God is real. The Bible is His Book. Jesus really did rise from the dead. I'd better act wisely!”