



jesus in dialogue with beautiful minds

Part 1: *The Scientists*

Part 2: *The Psychologists*

Part 3: *The Sociologists*

Part 4: *The Philosophers*

The concept of god works in the same way as a childhood teddy bear or a security blanket: it is something that is perpetually by your side early in life and gives you comfort during periods of stress and change. But as we mature, we become lose our need for these kinds of coping strategies.

~ Robert Buckman, *Can We Be Good Without God?*

The very idea of an idealized Superman in the sky is so patently infantile and so foreign to reality, that it is painful to think that the great majority of mortals will never rise above this view of life.

~ Sigmund Freud

Evidence and experience both suggest that God created us for fellowship with him, so that we have an innate sense of divinity and an impulse to discover and direct ourselves toward God.

~ Roy Clouser,

Knowing with the Heart: Religious Experience & Belief In God

Religious faith is an attempt to procure a certainty of happiness and a protection against suffering through a delusional remolding of reality. It is the universal obsessional neurosis of humanity.

~ Sigmund Freud

God has planted eternity in the human heart.

~ King Solomon

If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world.

~ C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

That psychoanalysis has not made the analysts themselves better, nobler, or of stronger character remains a disappointment for me.

~ Sigmund Freud

You must love your neighbour as yourself.

~ Jesus

If I love someone, he must deserve it in some way. He deserves it if he is so like me in important ways that I can love myself in him; and he deserves it if he is so much more perfect than myself that I can love my ideal of my own self in him.

~ Sigmund Freud,

Writing against the Jesus concept of unconditional love

Our life long longing is no mere neurotic fancy, but the truest index of our real situation.

~ C.S. Lewis, *Philosopher*

When it comes to establishing a balanced view of personhood, it is hard to beat the Bible. The Scriptures never let us lose sight of our sinfulness, nor do they allow us to forget our divine potential. In the Bible, it is never a matter of either/or. Within the Christian perspective on human nature, *both* the glorious and the despicable sides of personhood are declared.

~ Tony Campolo, *Partly Right*

I have found little that is “good” about human beings on the whole. In my experience most of them are trash.

~ Sigmund Freud

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. [30] And even the hairs of your head are all counted. [31] So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

~ Jesus

(Matthew 10:29-31, NRSV)