

INVESTIGATING JESUS

HOW WE KNOW.
WHY WE FOLLOW.

Somebody Had to Tell

Andy Stanley

Note: The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, and word usage.

0:00:00.0 Andy Stanley: So here is what might be an uncomfortable question for some of us, and an interesting and maybe even helpful and surprisingly honest question for others of us. When it comes to knowing if there is a God, and if there is a God what God is like, and when it comes to trying to figure out what God likes, does it really come down to the Bible tells us so? Or any other religious literature tells us so? Well, modern people, rational people, are we really expected to believe what we believe, or believe anything, based on a collection of ancient manuscripts written by potentially dozens of men, only, who didn't even know each other, over the course of hundreds and hundreds of years in a world without science in the way that we think of modern science, and in a world where everybody believed in the gods, or some kind of god?

0:01:04.0 AS: I mean, let's just be honest, alright? Weren't they just making stuff up? Weren't they just guessing? Weren't they just looking at the weather patterns and trying to make sense of something that just didn't make any sense in that time? And, along with that, and maybe this kind of investigation with your life, should we really be surprised that modern people it seems more and more are kind of dismissing faith in general, or deconstructing their faith, the terminology that we use now, and we begin to ask really hard questions or what seem to be hard questions about faith and realize we don't really have answers? And it's not that we're sure that we're right, that religion is wrong, but because we're not sure that religion is right we just kinda step back and it's like, I'm just I'm not sure about that anymore.

0:01:49.9 AS: Should we be surprised more and more people are doing that? Or to make it personal, should we be surprised that perhaps that's where you are or are you surprised that that's where you are? That maybe you're in the process of walking away, or you just have some questions you're starting to lean away, or maybe you're listening or watching the way and honest nobody in your family knows this yet but you have your hand on the door knob, you're about to step away and on the side of faith, and you're not sure how your family is gonna respond, your friends are gonna respond, maybe even your employer is gonna respond, but you're just kind of leaning that way. And if all there is to this is the Bible tells us so then we shouldn't be surprised, and you should be honest with yourself. If in fact the Christian faith is based on the precarious edge of ancient declarations of superstitious men, well then, why not? Why not? But, as it turns out and the reason we're talking about this, and maybe this is new or maybe this is a reminder, or maybe it's just something you've heard before but you need to hear it again, or maybe it's the thing you've always believed, but you need some more terminology, the truth is, Christians are not expected to believe...

0:02:29.9 AS: What we believe based on a collection of ancient manuscripts written by men who never met each other over the course of hundreds of years, in a time when everybody was superstitious and everybody believed in the gods and there was no modern science. That the foundation of our faith, and we talk about this a lot here, the foundation of our faith is far more substantial than that. It's far more sustainable than that. It's even, as we're gonna discover, it's even investigable. Investigable. Which is actually a word. I don't like it, I like the word investigateable, but as it turns out, that is not actually a word. And the people who keep me between the lines grammatically said, You can't use your word, you have to use the actual word.