



God or Godless?: One Atheist. One Christian. Twenty Controversial Questions.

By John W. Loftus, Randal Rauser

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Perhaps the most persistent question in human history is whether or not there is a God. Intelligent people on both sides of the issue have argued, sometimes with deep rancor and bitterness, for generations. The issue can't be decided by another apologetics book, but the conversation can continue and help each side understand the perspectives of the other.

In this unique book, atheist John Loftus and theist Randal Rauser engage in twenty short debates that consider Christianity, the existence of God, and unbelief from a variety of angles. Each concise debate centers on a proposition to be resolved, with either John or Randal arguing in the affirmative and the opponent the negative, and can be read in short bits or big bites. This is the perfect book for Christians and their atheist or agnostic friends to read together, and encourages honest, open, and candid debate on the most important issues of life and faith.

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- Sales Rank: #1076124 in Books
- Published on: 2013-04-15
- Released on: 2013-04-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.50" h x .46" w x 5.50" l, .52 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 208 pages

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Honest debate on the big questions of faith

Perhaps the most persistent question in human history is whether or not there is a God. Intelligent people on both sides of the issue have argued, sometimes with deep rancor and bitterness, for generations. The issue probably won't be decided by another book, but when we engage in civil conversation, we can begin to understand each other's point of view.

In this unique book, atheist and former pastor John Loftus and theist and professor Randal Rauser engage in twenty short debates that consider Christianity, the existence of God, and unbelief from a variety of angles. This is the perfect book for Christian, atheist, and agnostic friends to read together, and it encourages honest, open, and candid discussions on the most important issues of life and faith.

"In *God or Godless?*, Randal Rauser and John Loftus provide bite-sized discussions on a variety of topics. The discussions are very readable and provide helpful overviews. This book is an enjoyable and informative read that will challenge you to think about the issues discussed."--**Michael R. Licona**, associate professor of theology, Houston Baptist University; author of *Paul Meets Muhammad*

"This is not a quarrel, nor one of those flame wars of the deaf that rage across cyberspace then spill angrily into print, nor even that stuffy, artificial creation known as a 'religious dialogue.' What we have here is conversation: at times witty, at times tendentious, often humorous, and almost always engaged on emotional as well as intellectual levels. Rauser is master of parables with a philosophical point; Loftus makes an art form of heart-on-his-sleeve pragmatism. Both land blows, yet the book contains hardly a trace of bitterness. At its best, it reaches the level of a mythical, Platonic debate in a pub. Almost no one will fully agree with either writer, nor fail to enjoy the rhetorical flow."--**David Marshall**, author of *The Truth Behind the New Atheism*

"This is a fascinating and sometimes humorous intro to twenty common debates between atheists and theists. You'll find countless rambling and confused versions of such debates online. But here you will find a clear, concise, well-written exchange on each. Keeping it short, the authors can't include every point to be made, but they make a good show of where each side stands on these questions and why. If you want to continue these debates further, start with this."--**Dr. Richard Carrier**, author of *Sense and Goodness without God*

"The argument between skeptics and Christians has existed since the beginning of Christianity. Randal Rauser and John Loftus continue that argument with gusto, conciseness, and civility. This book should be the first stop for readers shopping for dueling voices from two of the most articulate advocates for Christianity and atheism."--**Dr. Hector Avalos**, professor of religious studies, Iowa State University

About the Author

John W. Loftus is a former Christian minister and apologist with degrees in philosophy, theology, and the philosophy of religion from Lincoln Christian University and Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He also did PhD studies at Marquette University in theology and ethics. John is the founder of an influential blog called *Debunking Christianity* (<http://debunkingchristianity.blogspot.com/>). He is the author of *Why I*

Became an Atheist: A Former Preacher Rejects Christianity and the editor of *The Christian Delusion: Why Faith Fails*, and *The End of Christianity*. He lives in Indiana.

Randal Rauser (MCS, Regent College; PhD, King's College London) is associate professor of historical theology at Taylor Seminary, Edmonton, Canada. He is the author of several books, including *Finding God in the Shack*, *You're Not as Crazy as I Think*, and *The Swedish Atheist, the Scuba Diver, and Other Apologetic Rabbit Trails*. He is a popular speaker and gifted communicator who seeks to bring the truth of Scripture to bear on the real-life issues of today and who blogs regularly at www.randalrauser.com. He lives in Alberta.

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