

Skeletons In God's Closet?

(Jeremiah 10:1-10)

- Introduction:
1. As we near election time, we are also greeted with some "skeleton" dredged up out of someone's closet.
 2. This skeleton is intended to be sufficiently shocking as to make the candidate unworthy of trust and holding office.
 3. While we have grown familiar with this process in the realm of politics, it also occurs in religion too.
 4. Some unbelievers in God, who think God is unworthy and undeserving of our trust and obedience, will "dredge up" what they believe to be skeletons in God's closet.
 5. In this lesson, we want to examine three of these alleged skeletons and see if they are valid.

I. Skeletons In Pagan Gods' Closets

- A. (Jeremiah 10:1-10).
- B. The prophet Jeremiah reveals several dirty little secrets that are true of pagan gods.
 1. They are man made.
 2. They cannot speak.
 3. They cannot move; they have to be carried.
 4. They cannot stand; they have to be propped up.
 5. They cannot hurt you nor can they help you.

II. Does The God Of Heaven Have Skeletons In His Closet?

- A. Human Suffering
 1. God can't be all-knowing, all-powerful, and all-good and allow evil to exist.
 2. Suffering results from nature and free will.
 3. Furthermore suffering is not all "bad" (Psalm 119:71) It was good for me to be afflicted that I may learn your statutes.
- B. Foreknowledge
 1. If God knew man would sin before he created him, then wouldn't it be evil to proceed with creation?
 2. God did know (Revelation 13:8).
 3. Having the desire to love and be loved is not evil.
- C. Hell
 1. It's not right to punish a man eternally for a finite offense (Matthew 25:45-46).
 2. If so, is it right to reward a man eternally for a finite display of faith?
 3. What about justice? Rather than Hell arguing against God, I believe it's an argument for God.

- Conclusion:
1. God has not skeletons in his closet and upon examination is totally worthy of our trust.