## Why People Become Atheists:

 <u>Hypocrites</u> – Lets face it, Christians are far from perfect. It's easy to spot a fake and people are disillusioned by people who don't practice what they preach. Of course the real test of every person is to look to God for a perfect example but most of us cannot. We blame God for human behaviors. This includes sin at a National level with countries and leaders who are starving its population or not able to treat basic medical needs. After all, if God were just, he would not allow suffering. The problem is, is that God is Love, and that includes free will with consequences, even if others have to feel the sting.

We also reap the benefits from blessings caused by obedience and right choices of leaders.

- <u>Refusal to stop sinning</u> People desire Moral Independence that is free from outside consequences. "The fool says in his heart, 'There's no God.' They are corrupt; they do vile deeds. There is no one who does good" (Psalm 14:1). Judges 21:25 - In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as they saw fit. When we do not answer to anyone, we make up the rules!
- 3. <u>Unexplained Bible verses.</u> Yes we can acknowledge passages that are hard to understand. The Apostle Peter wrote this... as our dear brother Paul pointed out in his letter to you, written out of the wisdom God gave him. In that letter, as indeed in all his letters, he referred to these matters. There are, of course, some things which are difficult to understand, and which, unhappily, ill-informed and unbalanced people distort (as they do the other scriptures), and bring disaster on their own heads, (2 Peter 3:16). You can read or study from the position that you must be skeptical and cynical or you will fall victim to being a naïve "simpleton". The other option is to submit to Scriptural authority and when in doubt, Trust that God is true no matter what, even if I am confused or uninformed.
- 4. <u>The Desire for global unity –</u> All religions are equal and as long as we are sincere, it doesn't matter what you believe. That is, the person becomes an atheist, or at least agnostic because one does not want to tell a person of another faith that he or she is wrong. Some skeptics think that they can solve the world's problems by holding that no religion is true, except their religion of atheism. The skeptic holds that their skepticism will unite people together globally rather than causing a divide. If you are not a combative person, the idea that "all religions could be true" seems peaceful. People who hold this notion desire the love of people rather than the love of God.
- 5. <u>Emotional reasoning.</u> That is to say, the skeptic bases one's decisions on emotions rather than reason and logic. When God does not rescue them from a bad choice, or they are a victim of someone else's sin, the skeptic becomes angry with God and leaves the faith (if he or she was in an organized religion) or refuses to come to faith (if one was not part of an organized religion). Emotive thinking is especially found in the claim that a good, loving God cannot coexist with a created world full of evil (e.g., the claims of Neil deGrasse Tyson). The skeptic may have been hurt by Christians in church and desired to get back at them by becoming an atheist. The choice is based on emotion rather than reasoning. When your heart is wounded, even a good argument or proving facts is feudal. People often need a personal intervention or visitation from God before their spirit can be open to truth.