

## Unbreakable Faith

How God's Perfections Give Life, Joy and Thriving Assurance in a World of Unbelief

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#### **Course Description**

Unbreakable Faith explores the nature and implications of the infinite excellence of God's perfections (attributes) and demonstrates how they form the source and basis for all things in the universe, including all knowledge, truth, and ethics. The course explores how reality, as we know it, is impossible without God, while unbelief is irrational, contrary to the clear evidence, inconsistent with science, and founded upon blind faith. In contrast, Christian faith is reasonable, logical, consistent with every scientific discovery, foundational to science, and supported by everything in existence, as well as the testimony of the God who created and sustains all things. Designed to simply and easily immunize the student against the most sophisticated arguments of unbelief, Unbreakable Faith provides the foundation for a solid, comprehensive, logical, and satisfying biblical worldview, while providing the means to adequately address the deepest theological difficulties and mysteries. The course will nurture and strengthen faith, joy, and assurance in Christ, and turn arguments against faith in Christ into opportunities to witness to the futility of unbelief, the greatness of God, and the necessity of the Gospel. 1 unit high school credit.

**Course Prerequisite(s): None** 

#### **Student Learning Outcomes**

Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

- 1. Understand the nature, implications, and differences between the faith assumptions that underlie all of the reasoning of believers and unbelievers.
- 2. identify why unbelief is irrational, unscientific, and contrary to all of known reality.

- 3. understand the importance of the infinite excellence of God's perfections as the proper starting point for all thought, knowledge, truth, ethics, and science.
- 4. apply the course content to personal faith, Bible study, prayer, evangelism, and interaction with those who would deny and attack the Christian faith.
- 5. synthesize the course content with all biblical truth and interpretations of God's world, toward the development of a comprehensive biblical worldview.

### **Course Requirements**

#### 1. Required Texts

Biehl, Craig. *God the Reason: How Infinite Excellence Gives Unbreakable Faith.* Carpenter's Son Publishing, 2015.

Biehl, Craig. The Box: Answering the Faith of Unbelief. Carpenter's Son Publishing, 2015.

#### 2. Assignments

## A. Reading

All reading must be completed according to the course schedule (below), as the quizzes and final exam will include material from the reading. Moreover, reading according to the schedule will greatly compliment and reinforce what is taught in the videos. See the course calendar below for specific reading assignments.

### 3. Exams and Quizzes

#### A. Quizzes (75% of grade)

Quizzes are all online, closed-book, and test learning on the video and reading content of one section of the course, *primarily*, **but may include a few questions on topics addressed in previous sections of the course**. All quizzes are to be taken online after the assigned videos and readings are completed for a given section of the course. The next section in sequence cannot be started until the quiz for the previous section has been completed. Sections must be taken in their proper order.

## B. Final Exam (25% of grade)

The online final examination must be taken after all videos, readings, and quizzes are done. The course is completed once the final examination is taken.

#### Course Procedures

- Videos and Readings: All videos are accessed and viewed online, while all required books
  must be purchased as either paperbacks or eBooks through a bookseller or
  www.pilgrimsrock.com. Both God the Reason and The Box must be read in their entirety to
  complete the course. To best prepare for the quizzes, the books should be read according to
  the assignment schedule, as all assigned readings correspond to the videos and quiz for
  each section.
- 2. *Timing and Schedule*: The course is self-paced and can be taken and started at any time. Once the course is started, however, the student must complete the course in 36 weeks or less. All sections must be taken in order, namely, Section 1 must be completed before beginning Section 2, etc., but no time limit exists for each section. Please schedule your time wisely, allocating sufficient time for each section and the final exam. For example, if you complete each section in five weeks, six weeks remain to study and take the final exam. You are not required to utilize the entire 36 weeks; you may take the course at your own pace, as long as all of the assignments are completed.
- 3. *Cooperation with Other Students*: Students are welcome to discuss course content with other students, parents, and the professor (during office hours) while taking the course, and are encouraged to do so. At the same time, students may not discuss the content of the quizzes or final exam with others who have not yet taken them.
- 3. *Make-ups*: Quizzes cannot be taken over. If you do poorly on a quiz, study harder for the next one and you will do better. Each quiz is only 15% of the grade, so doing well on other quizzes and the final can make up for doing poorly on some. All assignments must be completed within the 36 week timeframe.
- 4. Cheating: Cheating dishonors God, hurts the student who cheats, and hurts other students who take courses with honor and integrity. All tests are closed-book and are to be taken by the student, alone, without any outside assistance or notes. As noted above, prior to taking quizzes, students can discuss material from the seminar presentations and the readings, but are not to discuss material included on any quiz unless both people discussing the quiz have already taken it.
- 5. Office Hours: Feel free to email the professor anytime and he will try to respond as soon as possible, though he cannot always guarantee an immediate response. Open office hours will be scheduled each week when one or more students can call and discuss questions online via Skype and Zoom.

#### Grading

Quizzes: 75%

Final: 25%

# **Grading Scale**

Grade	%	Points	Meaning of Grade
Α	94–100	4.00	Excellent
A-	90-93.9	3.7	
B+	87-89.9	3.3	
В	83-86.9	3.0	Good
B-	80-82.9	2.7	
C+	77-79.9	2.3	
С	73-76.9	2.0	Average
C-	70-72.9	1.7	
D+	67-69.9	1.3	
D	63-66.9	1.0	Passing
D-	60-62.9	0.7	
F	0-59.9	0.00	Failing

## **Course Calendar**

Part	Topics	Videos & Readings & Quizzes
1	Introduction to Apologetics; The Implications of God Having No Beginning or Needs.	Videos: Intro A Attitude-Definition-Place (Parts 1-2), Intro B Focus on Foundation, Video 1: God Has No Beginning or Needs (Parts 1-6). Reading: The Box (all); God the Reason, Introduction and Chapters 1-2. Quiz: Part 1.
2	The Implications of God as Unable to Be Known Unless He Reveals Himself, Infinite, and Unchanging.	Videos: Video 2: God Is Too Great To Be Known Unless He Makes Himself Known (Parts 1-2), Video 3: God Is Limitless (Parts 1-2), Video 4: God Is Unchanging. Reading: God the Reason, Chapters 3-5. Quiz: Part 2, primarily, but includes Part 1.
3	The Implications of God as an Undivided Unity, Spirit, Perfect in Knowledge, and Perfectly Wise.	Videos: Video 5: God Is an Undivided Unity (Parts 1-3), Video 6: God Is Spirit, Video 7: God's Knowledge Is Perfect (Parts 1-2), Video 8: God's Wisdom Is Perfect. Reading: God the Reason, Chapters 6-9. Quiz: Part 3, primarily, but includes Parts 1-2.

## **Course Calendar - Continued**

4	The Implications of God as True and Truthful, Good and Love, Holy, and Righteous.	Videos: Video 9: God Is True and Truthful (Parts 1-2), Video 10: God Is Good and Love (Parts 1-3), Video 11: God Is Holy, Video 12: God Is Righteous (Parts 1-3). Reading: God the Reason, Chapters 10-13. Quiz: Part 4, primarily, but includes Parts 1-3.
5	The Implications of God as Infinitely Powerful and Sovereign; The Unbelieving and Believing Worldview.	Videos: Video 13: God Is Infinitely Powerful (Parts 1-4), Video 14: God Is Sovereign (Parts 1-4). Reading: God the Reason, Chapters 14-15. Quiz: Part 5, primarily, but includes Parts 1-4.
6		Final Examination Due