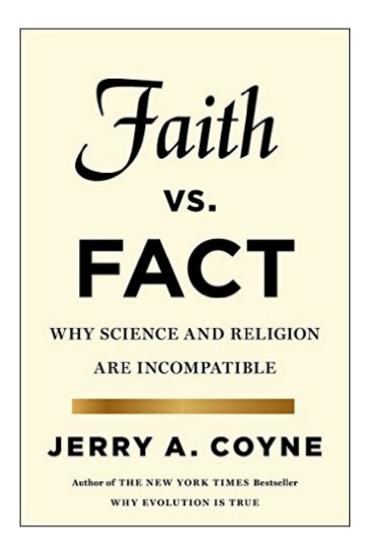
## The book was found

# Faith Versus Fact: Why Science And Religion Are Incompatible





### **Synopsis**

The New York Times bestselling author explains why any attempt to make religion compatible with science is doomed to fail In his provocative new book, evolutionary biologist Jerry A. Coyne lays out in clear, dispassionate detail why the toolkit of science, based on reason and empirical study, is reliable, while that of religionâ "including faith, dogma, and revelationâ "leads to incorrect, untestable, or conflicting conclusions. Coyne is responding to a national climate in which over half of Americans donâ <sup>TM</sup>t believe in evolution (and congressmen deny global warming), and warns that religious prejudices and strictures in politics, education, medicine, and social policy are on the rise. Extending the bestselling works of Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, and Christopher Hitchens, he demolishes the claims of religion to provide verifiable â œtruthâ • by subjecting those claims to the same tests we use to establish truth in science. Coyne irrefutably demonstrates the grave harmâ "to individuals and to our planetâ "in mistaking faith for fact in making the most important decisions about the world we live in.

#### Book Information

Hardcover: 336 pages

Publisher: Viking; First Edition edition (May 19, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0670026530

ISBN-13: 978-0670026531

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.1 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (199 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #282,065 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #91 in Books > Science & Math >

Evolution > Organic #461 in Books > Religion & Spirituality > Religious Studies > Science &

Religion #1493 in Books > Science & Math > History & Philosophy

#### Customer Reviews

Faith Versus Fact: Why Science and Religion Are Incompatible by Jerry A. Coyneâ œFaith Versus Fact" is an excellent book that presents the persuasive argument that while faith and science compete to describe reality; science is the best tool to find out what is true about our universe. Evolutionary geneticist Jerry A. Coyne follows up his masterpiece of Why Evolution Is True, with an outstanding book of its own that clearly separates science from religion. This persuasive 336-page book includes the following five chapters: 1. The Problem, 2. Whatâ ™s Incompatible?, 3. Why

Accommodationism Fails, 4. Faith Strikes Back, and 5. Why Does It Matter?Positives:1. Professor Coyne is a persuasive writer. Well-written and well-reasoned book. Engaging and accessible.2. A great topic; why science and religion are incompatible.3. Great use of logic, history, reason and facts to persuade the audience at an accessible level.4. A quote fest, â ceThe good thing about science is that itâ TMs true whether or not you believe in it by Neil deGrasse Tysonâ •.5. Clearly states his main thesis. â ceâ |understanding reality, in the sense of being able to use what we know to predict what we donâ TMt, is best achieved using the tools of science, and is never achieved using the methods of faith.â • â ceMy claim is this: science and religion are incompatible because they have different methods for getting knowledge about reality, have different ways of assessing the reliability of that knowledge, and, in the end, arrive at conflicting conclusions about the universe.â •6. Makes a very strong case that there are very clear differences between science and religion. â ceScience and religion, then, are competitors in the business of finding out what is true about our universe.

It's already happening. Coyne's Faith vs Fact is being panned as biased, curmudgeonly, and ignorant. It is none of these. Neither is it an atheist book. It is a book about knowing - epistemology and how we can confidently and reliably know what is real. Coyne argues that reason and the scientific method are the only methods we have to investigate, understand, and describe the world around us. These tools are based on observation, repeatability, and refinement. Faith offers something different. Faith-based reality is built on ancient texts, clerical and personal ideas, and feelings. Coyne points out the importance of how the two worldviews tackle errors. In science, we re-evaluate. We check against new knowledge. We ask for expert insight. We change our minds. Piltdown Man might be the greatest hoax ever foisted on science but we admit to being fooled. The textbooks have been changed. Not so with faith. Faith begins with answers and looks for evidence. When the evidence doesn't fit it is changed. Maybe a 'day' means a billion years? Maybe radioactive decay constants aren't constants after all? Coyne writes at length about what he calls accomodationism or an agreeable nod between the two worlds. This is the philosophical home for most people. Terminal cancer kills unless god intervenes. A few fish would never feed a crowd unless Jesus blesses them. Coyne argues that faith has nothing to offer fact. Must it be all or nothing? Coyne says yes. Are there 'better' or more informed religions? Coyne says no - they are all dueling fantasies. Certainly there are learned and urbane theists but their contribution to science is the same as the blood-letting shaman. Coyne doesn't dismiss faith out of hand. He invites theists of all ilk to present their case.

This book was recommended to me by a Chilean philosopher who told me about his underlined and full of personal notes copy. He told me that in almost every page there was something valuable that deserved to be maintained and reread. Such enthusiasm woke up mi curiosity and I decided to read the book. In fact, to say it in just three words: he was right. But what was the difference that "Faith vs. Fact" made with other books of the same or similar subject? The difference is that here Jerry Coyne convinces you that there really is a conflict between faith and facts. "This book... is about the different ways that science and religion regards faith, ways that make them incompatible for discovering what's true about our universe." So the word is incompatibility (see chapter two), but not an array that permits a fluid and pacific coexistence, just the opposite: "Religion is but a single brand of superstition, but [at the same time] it is the most widespread and harmful form of superstition."Coyne made his case beautifully and insightfully. "My claim," says, "is this: science and religion are incompatible because they have different methods for getting knowledge about reality, have different ways of assessing the reliability of that knowledge, and, in the end, arrive at conflicting conclusions about the universe." So, "'[k]nowledge' acquired by religion is at odds not only with scientific knowledge, but also with knowledge professed by other religions."In five chapters, we walk through the cross fire of a real conflict. In terms of what books like this usually approach, the difference here is the concentration with which Coyne compose and deliver his analysis.

#### Download to continue reading...

Faith Versus Fact: Why Science and Religion Are Incompatible Zombies versus Aliens versus Vampires versus Dinosaurs Amazing Conversions: Why Some Turn to Faith & Others Abandon Religion Tomorrowland: Our Journey from Science Fiction to Science Fact God and the Folly of Faith: The Incompatibility of Science and Religion Anarchy Evolution: Faith, Science, and Bad Religion in a World Without God Why Can't My Child Behave?: Why Can't She Cope? Why Can't He Learn? The Feingold Diet updated for today's busy families IS THIS WHY AFRICA IS? (Why Africa is poor, Why Africa is not developing, What Africa needs, What Africa needs to develop): Africa, Africa, Africa, Africa, Africa, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola, Ebola Riveted: The Science of Why Jokes Make Us Laugh, Movies Make Us Cry, and Religion Makes Us Feel One with the Universe Can I Ask That?: 8 Hard Questions about God and Faith [Sticky Faith Curriculum] Student Guide BOOKS: HOW TO PRAY WITH FAITH AND GET YOUR ANSWERS IMMEDIATELY:: FAITH FOR ANSWERED PRAYER :PRAYER PATTERN FOR CHANGING SITUATIONS: FINANCIAL MIRACLE PRAYER: PRAYER OF ABUNDANCE: PRAYER OF HEALING: Sticky Faith: Everyday

Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids Faith Books & Spiritual Journaling: Expressions of Faith through Art (Quarry Book) Me of Little Faith: More Me! Less Faith! The Politics of Social Policy Change in Chile and Uruguay: Retrenchment versus Maintenance, 1973-1998 (Latin American Studies: Social Sciences and Law) One Man Out: Curt Flood versus Baseball (Landmark Law Cases and American Society) (Landmark Law Cases & American Society) Aligning Values and Politics: Empowerment Versus Entitlement Taking the Risk Out of Democracy: Corporate Propaganda versus Freedom and Liberty (History of Communication) Boeing versus Airbus: The Inside Story of the Greatest International Competition in Business PROTONS versus Prostate Cancer: EXPOSED: Learn what proton beam therapy for prostate cancer is really like from the patient's point of view in complete, uncensored detail.

Dmca