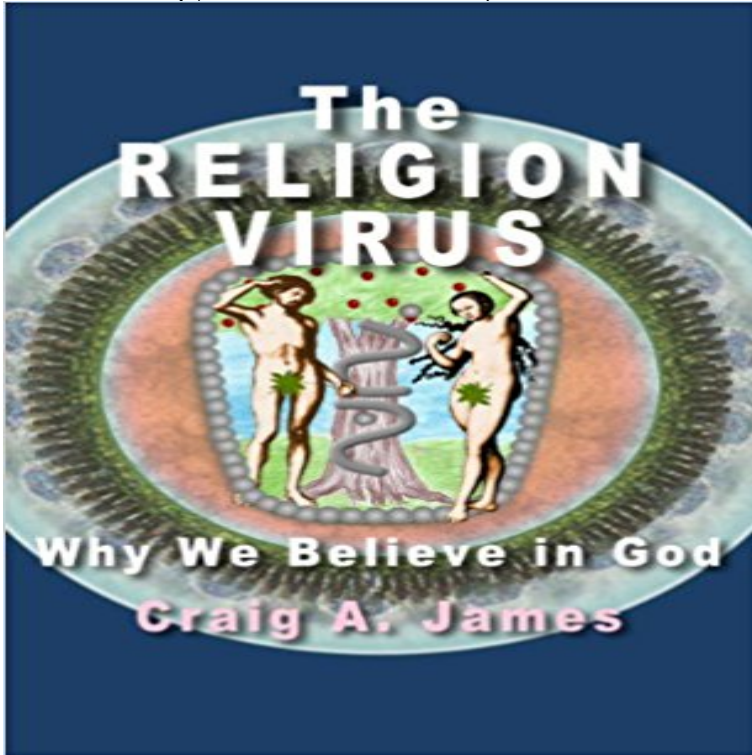


# The Religion Virus: Why we believe in God



Why is religion so incredibly tenacious? Why do intelligent people believe the universe is only six thousand years old? How can so many people believe the Bible, written over two thousand years ago, is 100% accurate in every respect? Using the powerful new science of cultural evolution called memetics -- how ideas spread and mutate as they move across society and down through history -- Craig James takes us on a fascinating tour of religions peculiar and convoluted history. Religions evolve, not metaphorically, but in a very real way. By applying survival of the fittest principles to religions, James shows us how religion became incredibly infectious to the average human. Dan Barker, president of the Freedom From Religion Foundation and author of *Godless* calls it *Ingenious*. He goes on to say, Craig James has cracked open the mystery of Religions tenacity. What *Guns, Germs and Steel* did for anthropology, *The Religion Virus* does for faith. It puts the pieces together into a fascinating, coherent model that makes sense! Phil Steele, editor of *The Passion of Ayn Rands Critics* says *The Religion Virus* is Full of powerful, ground-breaking ideas, packaged in a deceptively simple, easy-reading style. This is the most fun I've had reading non-fiction in a long time. Darwins Theory of Evolution revolutionized our understanding of biology, turning it from a science that could merely categorize into a science that predicts and explains the amazing

variety of life on this wonderful planet of ours. In the same tradition, by applying these evolutionary principles to culture we can predict and explain the history of religion itself. Religions evolution had made it perfectly adapted to its environment, your mind. Youll learn why paganisms decline and the rise of monotheism were inevitable. Youll learn why intolerance and persecution are a necessary part of a dominant world religion, and why persecution is critical to the survival of Judaism. Heaven and hell, guilt, irrational faith and many other ideas are shown to be the inevitable outcome of the inexorable forces of cultural evolution. This Kindle edition is published by the author with the permission of O-Books. A paperback version is also available on Amazon.

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