



**David Fitzgerald
Skeptiko #356**

1
00:00:10,070 --> 00:00:08,990
on this episode of skeptical whether

2
00:00:11,030 --> 00:00:10,080
you're talking about an Islamic

3
00:00:12,230 --> 00:00:11,040
fundamentalist or Christian

4
00:00:13,820 --> 00:00:12,240
fundamentalist the libertarian

5
00:00:16,460 --> 00:00:13,830
fundamentalists they all have a lot of

6
00:00:18,769 --> 00:00:16,470
the same structures well that's because

7
00:00:22,099 --> 00:00:18,779
they're all based on these cultish kind

8
00:00:23,750 --> 00:00:22,109
of precisely are extremely scary and

9
00:00:26,810 --> 00:00:23,760
until you know that's the part that I

10
00:00:29,480 --> 00:00:26,820
feel like is often missing from the

11
00:00:33,650 --> 00:00:29,490
public discourse is it's cultish folks

12
00:00:36,770 --> 00:00:33,660
we understand how mind control works we

13
00:00:38,869 --> 00:00:36,780

understand how different groups in our

14

00:00:40,520 --> 00:00:38,879

society are trying to manipulate other

15

00:00:43,220 --> 00:00:40,530

groups and some of those are in a

16

00:00:44,779 --> 00:00:43,230

religious kind of framework somewhere

17

00:00:46,580 --> 00:00:44,789

outside of that and some of them are

18

00:00:47,779 --> 00:00:46,590

somewhere in between like Scientology no

19

00:00:50,720 --> 00:00:47,789

one thinks Scientology is a religion

20

00:00:53,000 --> 00:00:50,730

religion clearly they're practicing all

21

00:00:56,600 --> 00:00:53,010

the same yes pushing the same buttons in

22

00:00:58,700 --> 00:00:56,610

terms of cultish practices it's wrong

23

00:00:59,150 --> 00:00:58,710

not even just because it's correct or

24

00:01:01,130 --> 00:00:59,160

incorrect

25

00:01:03,560 --> 00:01:01,140

you know corresponding to reality but

26

00:01:06,399 --> 00:01:03,570

because of the way it defends itself

27

00:01:11,310 --> 00:01:06,409

because of the way it perpetrates itself

28

00:01:22,230 --> 00:01:17,870

[Music]

29

00:01:23,940 --> 00:01:22,240

welcome to skeptical where we explore

30

00:01:26,550 --> 00:01:23,950

controversial science and spirituality

31

00:01:30,420 --> 00:01:26,560

with leading researchers thinkers and

32

00:01:34,560 --> 00:01:30,430

their critics as you know I have been

33

00:01:38,070 --> 00:01:34,570

pretty hard on atheists over the years

34

00:01:40,590 --> 00:01:38,080

and that's because I think in terms of

35

00:01:43,800 --> 00:01:40,600

the big-picture questions who are we why

36

00:01:45,990 --> 00:01:43,810

are we here the atheistic dogma that we

37

00:01:49,680 --> 00:01:46,000

usually hear leaves those folks on the

38

00:01:51,389 --> 00:01:49,690

outside looking in without much to

39

00:01:54,090 --> 00:01:51,399

really contribute to those interesting

40

00:01:58,230 --> 00:01:54,100

questions but on the other hand I am

41

00:02:00,359 --> 00:01:58,240

drawn to the atheist position in terms

42

00:02:02,910 --> 00:02:00,369

of these kind of outsiders who are

43

00:02:06,480 --> 00:02:02,920

willing to challenge the the religious

44

00:02:09,719 --> 00:02:06,490

existing dogma that still casts a huge

45

00:02:12,500 --> 00:02:09,729

shadow not only on our culture but on

46

00:02:15,570 --> 00:02:12,510

the personal lives of many many people

47

00:02:17,670 --> 00:02:15,580

so when I heard that today's guest david

48

00:02:19,500 --> 00:02:17,680

Fitzgerald prominent atheist and

49

00:02:21,720 --> 00:02:19,510

biblical scholar if you will i hate when

50

00:02:23,130 --> 00:02:21,730

people revolt when people say biblical

51
00:02:25,020 --> 00:02:23,140
scholar right these enough of biblical

52
00:02:27,000 --> 00:02:25,030
scholar for me but when I saw that he

53
00:02:29,340 --> 00:02:27,010
had a new book I was anxious to get him

54
00:02:31,860 --> 00:02:29,350
on it's taken a couple months in the

55
00:02:34,229 --> 00:02:31,870
making to make that happen and I know it

56
00:02:35,940 --> 00:02:34,239
kind of follows a bunch of other shows

57
00:02:37,590 --> 00:02:35,950
that I've done on Christianity but

58
00:02:38,850 --> 00:02:37,600
that's okay if that's just the way it

59
00:02:42,210 --> 00:02:38,860
came out I really enjoyed the

60
00:02:45,180 --> 00:02:42,220
opportunity to talk to Dave here is that

61
00:02:47,460 --> 00:02:45,190
interview today we welcome david

62
00:02:49,890 --> 00:02:47,470
Fitzgerald the skeptic Oh David is an

63
00:02:52,259 --> 00:02:49,900

atheist activist biblical history

64

00:02:54,570 --> 00:02:52,269

researcher and a very accomplished

65

00:02:56,789 --> 00:02:54,580

public speaker I do encourage you to

66

00:02:59,190 --> 00:02:56,799

check out some of us excellent

67

00:03:01,830 --> 00:02:59,200

YouTube presentations that you'll easily

68

00:03:03,390 --> 00:03:01,840

find if you search for his name Dave is

69

00:03:05,280 --> 00:03:03,400

also the author of several books

70

00:03:06,210 --> 00:03:05,290

including one that he's here to talk

71

00:03:09,449 --> 00:03:06,220

about today

72

00:03:11,130 --> 00:03:09,459

Jesus missing in action volumes one two

73

00:03:13,949 --> 00:03:11,140

and three it sounds a little daunting

74

00:03:16,050 --> 00:03:13,959

but it's really not and one more thing

75

00:03:19,199 --> 00:03:16,060

well I'm sure that Dave would appreciate

76
00:03:21,410 --> 00:03:19,209
you buying those three volumes on Amazon

77
00:03:25,199 --> 00:03:21,420
I have to mention that if you have

78
00:03:27,629 --> 00:03:25,209
Kindle unlimited like my wife does and I

79
00:03:29,670 --> 00:03:27,639
kind of Seifer off her account there you

80
00:03:31,200 --> 00:03:29,680
can actually read those books for free

81
00:03:33,120 --> 00:03:31,210
so Dave well

82
00:03:36,030 --> 00:03:33,130
come to skeptic oh thanks so much for

83
00:03:38,580 --> 00:03:36,040
joining me thanks for having me Alex so

84
00:03:41,940 --> 00:03:38,590
you were just chatting a minute ago but

85
00:03:43,830 --> 00:03:41,950
let me set this up for listeners skeptic

86
00:03:46,290 --> 00:03:43,840
cope is primarily a show about

87
00:03:49,350 --> 00:03:46,300
consciousness science but that has led

88
00:03:52,110 --> 00:03:49,360

us into looking at spirituality and

89

00:03:55,620 --> 00:03:52,120

controversial spirituality and Christian

90

00:03:58,170 --> 00:03:55,630

apologetics but since we've done a lot

91

00:04:01,260 --> 00:03:58,180

of that lately what I'm hoping we can do

92

00:04:04,410 --> 00:04:01,270

because I have a real live atheist

93

00:04:06,270 --> 00:04:04,420

activist on the show is not only talk

94

00:04:07,650 --> 00:04:06,280

about your excellent books and what you

95

00:04:09,030 --> 00:04:07,660

bring to those books which i think is

96

00:04:11,640 --> 00:04:09,040

really great because you have kind of a

97

00:04:13,440 --> 00:04:11,650

unique angle in a unique way of kind of

98

00:04:15,180 --> 00:04:13,450

talking about this stuff but I'm hoping

99

00:04:16,970 --> 00:04:15,190

we can also pull back a bit and talk

100

00:04:20,370 --> 00:04:16,980

about some of the bigger picture stuff

101
00:04:24,570 --> 00:04:20,380
surrounding atheism and it sounds like

102
00:04:25,950 --> 00:04:24,580
you're okay with that yes at least I

103
00:04:29,670 --> 00:04:25,960
will be until we start talking and who

104
00:04:32,850 --> 00:04:29,680
knows what will happen good great great

105
00:04:35,700 --> 00:04:32,860
so let's start with the basics you know

106
00:04:36,990 --> 00:04:35,710
your bio who you are tell folks a little

107
00:04:39,960 --> 00:04:37,000
bit about that and I'm let's talk about

108
00:04:43,770 --> 00:04:39,970
these really cool books gotcha okay well

109
00:04:47,520 --> 00:04:43,780
I began life as a very devout Southern

110
00:04:51,860 --> 00:04:47,530
Baptist and that was my that informed

111
00:04:54,420 --> 00:04:51,870
all my Christianity growing up and then

112
00:04:59,700 --> 00:04:54,430
this is certainly the super long story

113
00:05:03,180 --> 00:04:59,710

super short in my ecology era my college

114

00:05:06,300 --> 00:05:03,190

era in my college years I had a what I

115

00:05:08,130 --> 00:05:06,310

call a secular epiphany when this one

116

00:05:11,100 --> 00:05:08,140

girl who I used to flirt with by having

117

00:05:12,900 --> 00:05:11,110

theological arguments with asked me well

118

00:05:14,700 --> 00:05:12,910

Dave you know the Hindu religions like

119

00:05:17,160 --> 00:05:14,710

3,000 years older than Christianity and

120

00:05:19,020 --> 00:05:17,170

I thought for a minute and I was about

121

00:05:22,530 --> 00:05:19,030

to answer back and go no it's not all

122

00:05:24,270 --> 00:05:22,540

and I realized I had no idea whether

123

00:05:26,220 --> 00:05:24,280

Hinduism was all during Christianity or

124

00:05:29,580 --> 00:05:26,230

not at the time and it turns out it's

125

00:05:31,110 --> 00:05:29,590

quite older but that realization that I

126
00:05:32,300 --> 00:05:31,120
was about to say something I didn't know

127
00:05:35,100 --> 00:05:32,310
was true or not

128
00:05:36,990 --> 00:05:35,110
shook me to my core and people talk

129
00:05:40,260 --> 00:05:37,000
about how they lost their Christianity

130
00:05:42,060 --> 00:05:40,270
over you know got dragged kicking and

131
00:05:43,119 --> 00:05:42,070
screaming and incrementally went away

132
00:05:44,829 --> 00:05:43,129
from it I could

133
00:05:46,389 --> 00:05:44,839
the moment I was a Christian in the

134
00:05:48,489 --> 00:05:46,399
moment I was no longer Christian it was

135
00:05:50,260 --> 00:05:48,499
that realization that I was just

136
00:05:52,779 --> 00:05:50,270
parroting what I'd always been talked

137
00:05:54,159 --> 00:05:52,789
and I was no better than the job as

138
00:05:56,409 --> 00:05:54,169

witnesses in the Mormons I was always

139

00:05:58,899 --> 00:05:56,419

bagging about that's really cool that's

140

00:06:01,839 --> 00:05:58,909

a cool you know most people that there

141

00:06:02,469 --> 00:06:01,849

isn't that clarity but that's really

142

00:06:05,769 --> 00:06:02,479

awesome

143

00:06:08,109 --> 00:06:05,779

it's it's so funny because it just

144

00:06:10,269 --> 00:06:08,119

changed my whole outlook on the world

145

00:06:12,759 --> 00:06:10,279

and ironically I became so much more

146

00:06:14,979 --> 00:06:12,769

christ-like in my love for everybody in

147

00:06:18,850 --> 00:06:14,989

my acceptance of everybody once I gave

148

00:06:21,249 --> 00:06:18,860

up Christianity and so that was for the

149

00:06:23,019 --> 00:06:21,259

next 16 years that was me I was not

150

00:06:24,609 --> 00:06:23,029

quite an atheist activist yet I was on

151
00:06:28,869 --> 00:06:24,619
my way to becoming an atheist activist

152
00:06:31,239 --> 00:06:28,879
and around 2000 or so I read a terrific

153
00:06:34,809 --> 00:06:31,249
book by a guy named Ken Smith called

154
00:06:36,669 --> 00:06:34,819
Ken's guide to the Bible and it's it

155
00:06:38,829 --> 00:06:36,679
left me with all these great questions

156
00:06:40,509 --> 00:06:38,839
about who Jesus really wasn't what he

157
00:06:43,029 --> 00:06:40,519
really said because you get all these

158
00:06:47,290 --> 00:06:43,039
different pictures of who Jesus is when

159
00:06:49,749 --> 00:06:47,300
you read different Gospels and so long

160
00:06:51,669 --> 00:06:49,759
story short you know I wanted to parse

161
00:06:53,350 --> 00:06:51,679
out what was the real Jesus what he

162
00:06:55,299 --> 00:06:53,360
really said and what was just a

163
00:06:59,049 --> 00:06:55,309

legendary [h__\h] that cut accumulated

164

00:07:02,319 --> 00:06:59,059

on afterwards and very long story very

165

00:07:04,239 --> 00:07:02,329

short the first thing that happened to

166

00:07:07,509 --> 00:07:04,249

me was all these red flags started going

167

00:07:09,549 --> 00:07:07,519

up as if to say you know this is all the

168

00:07:13,569 --> 00:07:09,559

evidence we have and this is the quality

169

00:07:15,639 --> 00:07:13,579

of that evidence and so about two years

170

00:07:19,209 --> 00:07:15,649

later I was thinking yeah I don't think

171

00:07:22,719 --> 00:07:19,219

this guy existed at all and that's how I

172

00:07:24,459 --> 00:07:22,729

became a myth assist and that's sort of

173

00:07:27,819 --> 00:07:24,469

where my troubles began because I wrote

174

00:07:29,379 --> 00:07:27,829

a book in 2010 called nailed and the

175

00:07:31,209 --> 00:07:29,389

subtitle was Tim Christian myths that

176

00:07:35,499 --> 00:07:31,219

show Jesus never existed at all and

177

00:07:39,579 --> 00:07:35,509

that's pretty much blown up in a way I'd

178

00:07:41,439 --> 00:07:39,589

never expected to I it's it's really

179

00:07:45,219 --> 00:07:41,449

fascinating to me that I'm still writing

180

00:07:46,809 --> 00:07:45,229

about Jesus mythos ism 15 years after

181

00:07:48,759 --> 00:07:46,819

reading that book 10 year you know

182

00:07:50,619 --> 00:07:48,769

almost 10 years after writing my first

183

00:07:53,079 --> 00:07:50,629

book but there's just so much to be said

184

00:07:54,519 --> 00:07:53,089

about it well there is there is a lot to

185

00:07:56,800 --> 00:07:54,529

be said about it and it is interesting

186

00:07:57,940 --> 00:07:56,810

too from a personal standpoint

187

00:08:01,060 --> 00:07:57,950

I wonder if you have any thoughts on

188

00:08:03,490 --> 00:08:01,070

this I mean you reached a point that I'm

189

00:08:05,170 --> 00:08:03,500

sure many many many people reach in the

190

00:08:08,830 --> 00:08:05,180

kind of the I was called the how can

191

00:08:12,300 --> 00:08:08,840

this be moment right so it's it's like

192

00:08:15,730 --> 00:08:12,310

okay I get the data I get that this

193

00:08:18,070 --> 00:08:15,740

Christian narrative just doesn't hold up

194

00:08:19,930 --> 00:08:18,080

and some real in that and that you know

195

00:08:22,210 --> 00:08:19,940

like so many people even go to seminary

196

00:08:24,159 --> 00:08:22,220

in are devout Christians but then they

197

00:08:26,800 --> 00:08:24,169

study and they go oh my god you mean all

198

00:08:30,159 --> 00:08:26,810

us insiders really know that yeah but

199

00:08:31,780 --> 00:08:30,169

then you took it this next step you

200

00:08:33,339 --> 00:08:31,790

couldn't let it go and I can definitely

201
00:08:35,860 --> 00:08:33,349
relate to that I mean that's me you're

202
00:08:38,649 --> 00:08:35,870
like no wait a minute I'm not just gonna

203
00:08:42,579 --> 00:08:38,659
pack this in and then just go on merrily

204
00:08:44,920 --> 00:08:42,589
with my life what is that about what

205
00:08:47,410 --> 00:08:44,930
does that say about you and and how do

206
00:08:52,060 --> 00:08:47,420
you understand that well it's funny I

207
00:08:53,650 --> 00:08:52,070
mean I blame my emergent Christianity in

208
00:08:55,450 --> 00:08:53,660
my formative years for a lot of things

209
00:08:57,430 --> 00:08:55,460
but one thing it did was it was

210
00:08:59,380 --> 00:08:57,440
constantly talking about defending the

211
00:09:01,390 --> 00:08:59,390
truth and the truth of the gospel uh-huh

212
00:09:03,550 --> 00:09:01,400
and the truth of Christianity and when

213
00:09:06,040 --> 00:09:03,560

you realize yeah that's not true it's

214

00:09:11,260 --> 00:09:06,050

like I didn't lose my my respect for the

215

00:09:12,520 --> 00:09:11,270

truth for the truth but now it's one of

216

00:09:14,770 --> 00:09:12,530

the things that drove me crazy made me

217

00:09:16,329 --> 00:09:14,780

want to write the book is doing the

218

00:09:19,240 --> 00:09:16,339

research for it you'd constantly come

219

00:09:20,590 --> 00:09:19,250

across Christians you know biblical

220

00:09:22,810 --> 00:09:20,600

scholars saying something that's

221

00:09:24,640 --> 00:09:22,820

completely diametrically opposed

222

00:09:26,230 --> 00:09:24,650

Christianity and then saying but of

223

00:09:27,670 --> 00:09:26,240

course there was a real Jesus I had blow

224

00:09:28,990 --> 00:09:27,680

the bubble and then backing away and

225

00:09:30,670 --> 00:09:29,000

touching the totem pole to make sure

226

00:09:33,640 --> 00:09:30,680

there everyone knows they're still on

227

00:09:36,660 --> 00:09:33,650

board and just seeing the mental

228

00:09:38,590 --> 00:09:36,670

gymnastics that they would go through to

229

00:09:41,020 --> 00:09:38,600

explain away these things that are

230

00:09:42,550 --> 00:09:41,030

obvious signs that were talking about a

231

00:09:44,410 --> 00:09:42,560

fictional character and allegorical

232

00:09:47,410 --> 00:09:44,420

character and that the Gospel writers

233

00:09:48,640 --> 00:09:47,420

will intentionally expected their

234

00:09:52,570 --> 00:09:48,650

audience to recognize that there were

235

00:09:54,940 --> 00:09:52,580

allegorical characters yeah and then so

236

00:09:57,670 --> 00:09:54,950

now you've again that book nailed was

237

00:09:59,470 --> 00:09:57,680

super well received very successful book

238

00:10:03,070 --> 00:09:59,480

now you've followed it up with this

239

00:10:05,740 --> 00:10:03,080

latest Jesus missing in action and I

240

00:10:08,170 --> 00:10:05,750

love the approach that you've taken with

241

00:10:12,120 --> 00:10:08,180

it but tell people you know what was

242

00:10:13,570 --> 00:10:12,130

what was calling you forward

243

00:10:16,120 --> 00:10:13,580

right in there

244

00:10:18,220 --> 00:10:16,130

sure when I wrote nailed it was just

245

00:10:19,840 --> 00:10:18,230

pointing out the top ten ways that the

246

00:10:23,620 --> 00:10:19,850

official story of Christianity just does

247

00:10:25,600 --> 00:10:23,630

not pass the reality test and I even had

248

00:10:28,600 --> 00:10:25,610

a chapter at the end saying can Jesus be

249

00:10:30,250 --> 00:10:28,610

saved where I talked about this is all

250

00:10:31,329 --> 00:10:30,260

the ways Christianity and early

251

00:10:33,370 --> 00:10:31,339

Christian history would have to be

252

00:10:34,720 --> 00:10:33,380

different for me to even be comfortable

253

00:10:37,360 --> 00:10:34,730

saying that there was an actually a guy

254

00:10:39,070 --> 00:10:37,370

named Jesus and I thought that was the

255

00:10:42,040 --> 00:10:39,080

end of it that's I think that all it had

256

00:10:44,530 --> 00:10:42,050

to be said but what really surprised me

257

00:10:48,940 --> 00:10:44,540

was how much blowback I got from certain

258

00:10:51,519 --> 00:10:48,950

atheist groups who were just convinced

259

00:10:53,829 --> 00:10:51,529

that not only yeah there was real Jesus

260

00:10:56,260 --> 00:10:53,839

but it's stupid to think there wasn't a

261

00:10:58,090 --> 00:10:56,270

Jesus it's it's insane and and for the

262

00:11:00,190 --> 00:10:58,100

longest time it bugged the hell out of

263

00:11:01,690 --> 00:11:00,200

me why I was getting such a vociferous I

264

00:11:04,060 --> 00:11:01,700

mean I did expect everyone to agree with

265

00:11:06,100 --> 00:11:04,070

me that's nothing special but the amount

266

00:11:08,920 --> 00:11:06,110

of hostility towards it doesn't really

267

00:11:10,870 --> 00:11:08,930

shock me until I figured out that they

268

00:11:13,660 --> 00:11:10,880

were taking all the red flags that they

269

00:11:15,579 --> 00:11:13,670

get from people who are anti-vaxxers

270

00:11:18,519 --> 00:11:15,589

from people who deny the moon landing

271

00:11:21,040 --> 00:11:18,529

happened climate change denial is all

272

00:11:24,060 --> 00:11:21,050

those red flags that went for them they

273

00:11:27,430 --> 00:11:24,070

had lumped in Jesus denial with that and

274

00:11:30,160 --> 00:11:27,440

so I wrote missing-in-action mostly as a

275

00:11:32,139 --> 00:11:30,170

response to atheists it's not really

276

00:11:35,290 --> 00:11:32,149

meant to convert Christians because I

277

00:11:37,269 --> 00:11:35,300

don't think you know it's such this

278

00:11:39,069 --> 00:11:37,279

whole subject of Jesus mythos is emit

279

00:11:41,670 --> 00:11:39,079

such kryptonite for Christianity that

280

00:11:43,840 --> 00:11:41,680

they can't even take a relaxed you know

281

00:11:45,850 --> 00:11:43,850

let's let's agree for the point of

282

00:11:48,639 --> 00:11:45,860

argument sort of standpoint they can't

283

00:11:50,139 --> 00:11:48,649

give an inch on this and hold on let's

284

00:11:51,639 --> 00:11:50,149

just let's just pull that apart for a

285

00:11:53,139 --> 00:11:51,649

minute because I thought that was an

286

00:11:56,019 --> 00:11:53,149

interesting point it comes on early in

287

00:11:57,760 --> 00:11:56,029

your book and I don't know I get where

288

00:12:00,340 --> 00:11:57,770

you're coming from and there's a

289

00:12:02,470 --> 00:12:00,350

worldview gap that sometimes we can't

290

00:12:04,180 --> 00:12:02,480

jump like we're probably not going to be

291

00:12:06,850 --> 00:12:04,190

jumped being able to jump on climate

292

00:12:09,160 --> 00:12:06,860

denier and vak stuff because I'm on the

293

00:12:11,260 --> 00:12:09,170

other side of that I think the data it's

294

00:12:12,880 --> 00:12:11,270

just the data that I see just leads you

295

00:12:14,590 --> 00:12:12,890

completely the opposite direction but or

296

00:12:15,970 --> 00:12:14,600

maybe we won't be able to jump that gap

297

00:12:17,560 --> 00:12:15,980

but we're not going to talk about it

298

00:12:20,730 --> 00:12:17,570

here because it's your other topic but

299

00:12:24,410 --> 00:12:20,740

here's the point anyone who goes through

300

00:12:27,050 --> 00:12:24,420

these kind of transformation

301
00:12:30,440 --> 00:12:27,060
of thought these the the reason based

302
00:12:33,170 --> 00:12:30,450
logic based transformations has to start

303
00:12:35,900 --> 00:12:33,180
somewhere so I kind of think you know

304
00:12:38,329 --> 00:12:35,910
Jesus missing in action I think there's

305
00:12:41,269 --> 00:12:38,339
a lot of Christians that will read it

306
00:12:42,710 --> 00:12:41,279
maybe you know get mad at it and you

307
00:12:45,650 --> 00:12:42,720
know kind of throw it over in the corner

308
00:12:47,960 --> 00:12:45,660
but well months later or a year later

309
00:12:50,540 --> 00:12:47,970
pick that up and it'll you know the

310
00:12:53,060 --> 00:12:50,550
Splinter of the mind thing will kind of

311
00:12:55,790 --> 00:12:53,070
stick there and go you know that is kind

312
00:12:57,769 --> 00:12:55,800
of true how do I get past that and I'll

313
00:13:00,319 --> 00:12:57,779

be honest with you I get stories back to

314

00:13:01,759 --> 00:13:00,329

me that that has happened there's a talk

315

00:13:03,680 --> 00:13:01,769

I give on sex and violence in the Bible

316

00:13:05,300 --> 00:13:03,690

and a friend of mine said yeah I brought

317

00:13:06,949 --> 00:13:05,310

two Christian friends of mine and they

318

00:13:08,480 --> 00:13:06,959

spent the whole time during to talk with

319

00:13:10,250 --> 00:13:08,490

him and to give me the look of their

320

00:13:12,050 --> 00:13:10,260

mouths a gap and staring at the screen

321

00:13:13,550 --> 00:13:12,060

and then three days later she got a

322

00:13:16,040 --> 00:13:13,560

email from them said they'd left their

323

00:13:18,800 --> 00:13:16,050

church and so so I know these things do

324

00:13:20,810 --> 00:13:18,810

make an impact on Christians but I was

325

00:13:24,259 --> 00:13:20,820

aiming it towards my fellow atheists

326

00:13:25,879 --> 00:13:24,269

because you know that as you as you know

327

00:13:27,740 --> 00:13:25,889

I'm sure you know the Atheist community

328

00:13:30,560 --> 00:13:27,750

is just as diverse as any other

329

00:13:32,449 --> 00:13:30,570

community out there it's not a

330

00:13:35,949 --> 00:13:32,459

monolithic block of anything any more

331

00:13:40,519 --> 00:13:35,959

than Christianity or Judaism or Islam is

332

00:13:42,860 --> 00:13:40,529

but I wanted to let them know that yeah

333

00:13:45,710 --> 00:13:42,870

we have good reasons for thinking that

334

00:13:48,259 --> 00:13:45,720

there was no Jesus whatsoever so we've

335

00:13:50,569 --> 00:13:48,269

talked about the the pushback that you

336

00:13:51,860 --> 00:13:50,579

got from atheists maybe let's even

337

00:13:54,410 --> 00:13:51,870

explore that a little bit further

338

00:13:57,740 --> 00:13:54,420

because I mean part of that is also an

339

00:13:59,689 --> 00:13:57,750

interesting kind of social phenomenon

340

00:14:02,720 --> 00:13:59,699

that you know we have to have an enemy

341

00:14:04,610 --> 00:14:02,730

you know and taking away our enemy you

342

00:14:06,079 --> 00:14:04,620

know we have all these I've built all

343

00:14:08,600 --> 00:14:06,089

these good arguments for the

344

00:14:11,030 --> 00:14:08,610

Thanksgiving table that I can use and

345

00:14:12,800 --> 00:14:11,040

now I have to change yeah I think you're

346

00:14:14,870 --> 00:14:12,810

absolutely right and I remember going

347

00:14:16,340 --> 00:14:14,880

back to when I first you know wouldn't

348

00:14:18,650 --> 00:14:16,350

it occurred to me that I was questioning

349

00:14:20,780 --> 00:14:18,660

Jesus that shook me up just as much as

350

00:14:23,150 --> 00:14:20,790

losing my religion had 16 years before

351

00:14:26,059 --> 00:14:23,160

so I get how this is a tough sell for

352

00:14:26,420 --> 00:14:26,069

people I mean Here I am still talking

353

00:14:28,220 --> 00:14:26,430

about it

354

00:14:31,550 --> 00:14:28,230

you know what is it 17 18 years later

355

00:14:33,650 --> 00:14:31,560

and while we are talking about the

356

00:14:35,870 --> 00:14:33,660

pushback from atheist that some people

357

00:14:38,269 --> 00:14:35,880

might find surprising no one's gonna

358

00:14:41,269 --> 00:14:38,279

find surprising the pushback from

359

00:14:44,600 --> 00:14:41,279

Christiane's but i think what what some

360

00:14:47,210 --> 00:14:44,610

folks might not fully appreciate and i

361

00:14:50,660 --> 00:14:47,220

have a little taste of this is that how

362

00:14:52,879 --> 00:14:50,670

nasty that can be you know I still get

363

00:14:54,530 --> 00:14:52,889

tons of not tons as maybe an

364

00:14:57,650 --> 00:14:54,540

exaggeration I get plenty of email

365

00:15:00,110 --> 00:14:57,660

though from Christians just nasty stuff

366

00:15:06,259 --> 00:15:00,120

and nasty sometimes in just kind of a

367

00:15:08,869 --> 00:15:06,269

Christian loving kind of way you know

368

00:15:11,239 --> 00:15:08,879

you haven't found God and God is trying

369

00:15:13,819 --> 00:15:11,249

to call you you need to answer you know

370

00:15:16,819 --> 00:15:13,829

just very condescending [h__\h] you

371

00:15:18,619 --> 00:15:16,829

know and it's like I I think it's easy

372

00:15:20,929 --> 00:15:18,629

for people especially on this show where

373

00:15:22,489 --> 00:15:20,939

I can bash atheists a lot for maybe some

374

00:15:25,759 --> 00:15:22,499

of the reasons we'll talk about later is

375

00:15:28,699 --> 00:15:25,769

to not appreciate how hard it still is

376

00:15:30,889 --> 00:15:28,709

to be an atheist in the United States

377

00:15:31,910 --> 00:15:30,899

and particularly you know I live in

378

00:15:33,410 --> 00:15:31,920

California I live in Southern California

379

00:15:36,590 --> 00:15:33,420

you live in San Francisco

380

00:15:40,790 --> 00:15:36,600

I mean it's considerably easier exactly

381

00:15:43,040 --> 00:15:40,800

considerably easier out here but for a

382

00:15:45,499 --> 00:15:43,050

lot of the flyover United States I mean

383

00:15:47,720 --> 00:15:45,509

you they have no one to talk to

384

00:15:51,769 --> 00:15:47,730

yeah absolutely wonderful things about

385

00:15:53,179 --> 00:15:51,779

the internet is for atheists anyway not

386

00:15:54,920 --> 00:15:53,189

only are you connected to every other

387

00:15:57,259 --> 00:15:54,930

atheist on the planet even if you're in

388

00:15:59,410 --> 00:15:57,269

the middle of snake handler Missouri you

389

00:16:01,730 --> 00:15:59,420

know in the reddest of the red states

390

00:16:04,129 --> 00:16:01,740

but you can fact check your preacher

391

00:16:07,819 --> 00:16:04,139

from the pulpit in real time it's like

392

00:16:10,490 --> 00:16:07,829

you know it's astounding how erosive and

393

00:16:12,710 --> 00:16:10,500

corrosive the the effect of all this

394

00:16:15,949 --> 00:16:12,720

information sharing is on all these

395

00:16:18,769 --> 00:16:15,959

traditional belief structures good and

396

00:16:21,769 --> 00:16:18,779

let's hit a couple of kind of high

397

00:16:25,160 --> 00:16:21,779

points there on that topic of what it's

398

00:16:28,189 --> 00:16:25,170

like for personally on a personal level

399

00:16:32,199 --> 00:16:28,199

for people who maybe start having these

400

00:16:34,579 --> 00:16:32,209

doubts about the faith of their

401

00:16:37,220 --> 00:16:34,589

childhood the faith of your family

402

00:16:39,650 --> 00:16:37,230

tradition and because I think it's it's

403

00:16:41,210 --> 00:16:39,660

a real thing that that we have to kind

404

00:16:43,489 --> 00:16:41,220

of get out there to really understand

405

00:16:46,179 --> 00:16:43,499

where a lot of the Atheist community is

406

00:16:49,069 --> 00:16:46,189

coming from I mean there's a certain

407

00:16:51,350 --> 00:16:49,079

reality I think to the claim that this

408

00:16:54,380 --> 00:16:51,360

is abuse that the

409

00:16:56,870 --> 00:16:54,390

is abusive it's clearly coercive to take

410

00:16:59,360 --> 00:16:56,880

little kids and put them and you know

411

00:17:01,400 --> 00:16:59,370

scare them like I'm not personally I

412

00:17:04,640 --> 00:17:01,410

mean raising a Greek Orthodox Church in

413

00:17:07,250 --> 00:17:04,650

Chicago and the intent was to scare the

414

00:17:10,069 --> 00:17:07,260

crap out of you yeah scared the hell out

415

00:17:12,110 --> 00:17:10,079

of you literally yeah yeah so and that

416

00:17:13,669 --> 00:17:12,120

still goes on and it we kind of gloss

417

00:17:15,169 --> 00:17:13,679

over it a little bit and think oh well

418

00:17:16,760 --> 00:17:15,179

it does not really like that ya know

419

00:17:18,919 --> 00:17:16,770

it's really it's still like that a lot

420

00:17:20,240 --> 00:17:18,929

of kids who still be a you know and

421

00:17:22,939 --> 00:17:20,250

that's not even getting into the whole

422

00:17:27,140 --> 00:17:22,949

Catholic pedophilia scandal it's like I

423

00:17:29,320 --> 00:17:27,150

mean I as a Southern Baptist for me in a

424

00:17:33,560 --> 00:17:29,330

lot of ways I had it really easy I had a

425

00:17:36,200 --> 00:17:33,570

an extended family who loved me it was

426

00:17:37,549 --> 00:17:36,210

all our social network and I think

427

00:17:40,850 --> 00:17:37,559

there's a lot of Christians out there

428

00:17:42,650 --> 00:17:40,860

who are Christians for good rational

429

00:17:44,570 --> 00:17:42,660

true reasons that have absolutely

430

00:17:49,039 --> 00:17:44,580

nothing to do with Christianity being

431

00:17:51,980 --> 00:17:49,049

true or rational or good but again I was

432

00:17:53,510 --> 00:17:51,990

one of the lucky ones I think and at the

433

00:17:54,260 --> 00:17:53,520

end of the day even that wasn't enough

434

00:17:56,990 --> 00:17:54,270

for me

435

00:17:58,580 --> 00:17:57,000

just knowing that it wasn't true was

436

00:18:01,039 --> 00:17:58,590

enough for me to say no like sorry I

437

00:18:03,320 --> 00:18:01,049

can't sign off on this but there's so

438

00:18:06,890 --> 00:18:03,330

many people out there whose religion is

439

00:18:12,010 --> 00:18:06,900

a nightmare and as you say abusive

440

00:18:15,260 --> 00:18:12,020

nightmare on on multiple levels you know

441

00:18:17,500 --> 00:18:15,270

from from just telling them something

442

00:18:19,610 --> 00:18:17,510

that's not true

443

00:18:21,620 --> 00:18:19,620

inculcating that in generation after

444

00:18:25,100 --> 00:18:21,630

generation after generation the

445

00:18:27,260 --> 00:18:25,110

judgmental nature of the idea that you

446

00:18:29,299 --> 00:18:27,270

have the one true faith and everybody

447

00:18:30,560 --> 00:18:29,309

else you have to go out like Arnold

448

00:18:32,960 --> 00:18:30,570

Schwarzenegger or the Terminator going

449

00:18:35,090 --> 00:18:32,970

save not say I'm saved not saved and and

450

00:18:36,950 --> 00:18:35,100

homing in on them and judging everybody

451
00:18:39,560 --> 00:18:36,960
by according to how much their belief

452
00:18:44,890 --> 00:18:39,570
structures match yours it's astounding

453
00:18:47,480 --> 00:18:44,900
how how pervasively pernicious that is

454
00:18:50,960 --> 00:18:47,490
pardon the alliteration but it's it

455
00:18:52,130 --> 00:18:50,970
changes your whole outlook on people and

456
00:18:54,950 --> 00:18:52,140
of course they've done lots of studies

457
00:18:56,930 --> 00:18:54,960
about this about conservative people who

458
00:18:58,760 --> 00:18:56,940
are conservative politically and how

459
00:18:59,720 --> 00:18:58,770
whether you're talking about an Islamic

460
00:19:00,919 --> 00:18:59,730
fundamentalist or Christian

461
00:19:02,510 --> 00:19:00,929
fundamentalist of libertarian

462
00:19:05,120 --> 00:19:02,520
fundamentalist they all have a lot of

463
00:19:07,460 --> 00:19:05,130

the same structures well that's

464

00:19:11,180 --> 00:19:07,470

they're all based on these cultish kind

465

00:19:13,220 --> 00:19:11,190

of precisely extremely scary and until

466

00:19:15,860 --> 00:19:13,230

you know that's the part that I feel

467

00:19:18,830 --> 00:19:15,870

like is often missing from the public

468

00:19:22,340 --> 00:19:18,840

discourse is its cultish folks we

469

00:19:25,430 --> 00:19:22,350

understand how mind control works we

470

00:19:27,560 --> 00:19:25,440

understand how different groups in our

471

00:19:29,210 --> 00:19:27,570

society are trying to manipulate other

472

00:19:31,910 --> 00:19:29,220

groups and some of those are in a

473

00:19:33,470 --> 00:19:31,920

religious kind of framework some are

474

00:19:35,270 --> 00:19:33,480

outside of that and some of them are

475

00:19:36,440 --> 00:19:35,280

somewhere in between like Scientology no

476

00:19:39,410 --> 00:19:36,450

one thinks Scientology is a religion

477

00:19:41,690 --> 00:19:39,420

religion verily they're practicing all

478

00:19:45,110 --> 00:19:41,700

the same yes pushing the same buttons in

479

00:19:48,140 --> 00:19:45,120

terms of cultish practices so I think

480

00:19:51,890 --> 00:19:48,150

until we fully dig into that and

481

00:19:54,830 --> 00:19:51,900

understand how fragile our psychological

482

00:19:56,720 --> 00:19:54,840

makeup is and how easily we are

483

00:19:58,970 --> 00:19:56,730

manipulated all of us I mean it's just

484

00:20:01,490 --> 00:19:58,980

you know like we all look back at if

485

00:20:03,500 --> 00:20:01,500

you're old enough like I am to look back

486

00:20:08,330 --> 00:20:03,510

at some old photos and see like the

487

00:20:09,770 --> 00:20:08,340

fashion you were wearing going why it's

488

00:20:11,690 --> 00:20:09,780

a there's an element of that where

489

00:20:13,820 --> 00:20:11,700

you're just kind of following along

490

00:20:14,690 --> 00:20:13,830

because it's kind of feels right and

491

00:20:18,280 --> 00:20:14,700

feels good

492

00:20:20,210 --> 00:20:18,290

any thoughts on the cultish part of this

493

00:20:22,010 --> 00:20:20,220

well at mean you think you nailed it

494

00:20:24,590 --> 00:20:22,020

right on the head it's like it's it's

495

00:20:27,530 --> 00:20:24,600

it's wrong not even just because it's

496

00:20:28,100 --> 00:20:27,540

you know wrong or right you know correct

497

00:20:30,020 --> 00:20:28,110

or incorrect

498

00:20:32,480 --> 00:20:30,030

you know corresponding to reality but

499

00:20:34,790 --> 00:20:32,490

because of the way it defends itself

500

00:20:36,620 --> 00:20:34,800

because of the way it perpetrates itself

501
00:20:38,690 --> 00:20:36,630
Daniel Dennett has done a great book

502
00:20:40,970 --> 00:20:38,700
called breaking the spell where he talks

503
00:20:44,030 --> 00:20:40,980
about all these evolutionary survival

504
00:20:45,800 --> 00:20:44,040
mechanisms that religions have co-opted

505
00:20:49,400 --> 00:20:45,810
for their own use and it's fascinating

506
00:20:51,310 --> 00:20:49,410
to see how we're dancing with ghosts in

507
00:20:53,660 --> 00:20:51,320
all these many ways that were still

508
00:20:55,520 --> 00:20:53,670
we're doing all these things that are

509
00:20:59,290 --> 00:20:55,530
meant to prop up this you know

510
00:21:02,090 --> 00:20:59,300
patriarchal authoritarian tribal group

511
00:21:04,450 --> 00:21:02,100
and here is in 21st century and we're

512
00:21:09,110 --> 00:21:04,460
still acting like Neanderthals that way

513
00:21:11,360 --> 00:21:09,120

yeah Daniel de Daniel den is an

514

00:21:13,820 --> 00:21:11,370

interesting figure as he pops up in this

515

00:21:16,430 --> 00:21:13,830

show a lot because Daniel Dennett has

516

00:21:17,790 --> 00:21:16,440

famously said that consciousness is an

517

00:21:20,490 --> 00:21:17,800

illusion

518

00:21:22,410 --> 00:21:20,500

which is a good lead-in I think some of

519

00:21:25,620 --> 00:21:22,420

the other stuff that I want to talk

520

00:21:29,780 --> 00:21:25,630

about so let me try and get there by

521

00:21:32,910 --> 00:21:29,790

saying you know atheism is cool and

522

00:21:35,520 --> 00:21:32,920

important from a cultural social and

523

00:21:37,460 --> 00:21:35,530

just the truth-seeking finishing in all

524

00:21:41,280 --> 00:21:37,470

the ways that you're talking about but

525

00:21:43,620 --> 00:21:41,290

but always I find kind of hard to

526
00:21:45,330 --> 00:21:43,630
resolve and I guess I pick and poke at

527
00:21:47,130 --> 00:21:45,340
atheists a little bit about this and

528
00:21:49,560 --> 00:21:47,140
since you're an atheist activist and I

529
00:21:53,580 --> 00:21:49,570
have you here on the show that's good

530
00:21:57,140 --> 00:21:53,590
good question but you know the link

531
00:21:59,370 --> 00:21:57,150
between this debunking of religion and

532
00:22:02,460 --> 00:21:59,380
pulling back from the cult and

533
00:22:04,620 --> 00:22:02,470
deprogramming which I totally get right

534
00:22:07,170 --> 00:22:04,630
and then the link to this what I think

535
00:22:09,930 --> 00:22:07,180
is just kind of crazy scientific

536
00:22:11,940 --> 00:22:09,940
materialism epitomized by Daniel Dennett

537
00:22:13,890 --> 00:22:11,950
I mean consciousness is an illusion

538
00:22:15,000 --> 00:22:13,900

that's a non-starter I mean no one

539

00:22:18,330 --> 00:22:15,010

thinks that anymore

540

00:22:20,760 --> 00:22:18,340

that's like so outdated scientifically

541

00:22:22,440 --> 00:22:20,770

even the you know Sam Harris who's kind

542

00:22:24,510 --> 00:22:22,450

of an interesting figure in the Atheist

543

00:22:26,430 --> 00:22:24,520

community because he's kind of on the

544

00:22:28,650 --> 00:22:26,440

fence on the consciousness thing but he

545

00:22:30,750 --> 00:22:28,660

always has been very anti religion and

546

00:22:34,020 --> 00:22:30,760

atheists don't know quite what to make

547

00:22:35,760 --> 00:22:34,030

of them but even sam harris says gee you

548

00:22:38,850 --> 00:22:35,770

think dan really believes that because

549

00:22:40,830 --> 00:22:38,860

it's just kind of a crazy idea and yet I

550

00:22:44,490 --> 00:22:40,840

see so many atheists who just

551
00:22:47,610 --> 00:22:44,500
dogmatically adhere to this scientific

552
00:22:49,680 --> 00:22:47,620
materialism and all the implications of

553
00:22:51,950 --> 00:22:49,690
it and they're like science science

554
00:22:54,870 --> 00:22:51,960
science without really digging into

555
00:22:56,910 --> 00:22:54,880
understanding what that means and what

556
00:22:58,410 --> 00:22:56,920
the implications are and I don't know

557
00:23:00,090 --> 00:22:58,420
how much you've looked into that or what

558
00:23:02,970 --> 00:23:00,100
thoughts you have on that but I'd sure

559
00:23:05,400 --> 00:23:02,980
be interested to hear well for me you

560
00:23:06,990 --> 00:23:05,410
know if we're agreeing on what

561
00:23:09,780 --> 00:23:07,000
scientific materialism is and I think we

562
00:23:12,810 --> 00:23:09,790
are I don't have a problem with it I

563
00:23:15,570 --> 00:23:12,820

don't have it doesn't narrow and

564

00:23:19,380 --> 00:23:15,580

restrict my of the cosmos and our place

565

00:23:21,870 --> 00:23:19,390

in it if anything it elevates it to to

566

00:23:25,470 --> 00:23:21,880

something that I feel like I can be

567

00:23:27,000 --> 00:23:25,480

humble and proud at the same time just

568

00:23:29,010 --> 00:23:27,010

filled with the wonder of what we're

569

00:23:31,379 --> 00:23:29,020

able to accomplish what what life itself

570

00:23:33,690 --> 00:23:31,389

has been able to accomplish even though

571

00:23:36,209 --> 00:23:33,700

much of life is brutish and thug is

572

00:23:39,029 --> 00:23:36,219

short and horrible and cruel it doesn't

573

00:23:40,769 --> 00:23:39,039

have to be and people talk about living

574

00:23:43,619 --> 00:23:40,779

in a cold impersonal universe without

575

00:23:45,539 --> 00:23:43,629

love that's not true we are the love in

576

00:23:46,979 --> 00:23:45,549

the universe there is love in the

577

00:23:50,249 --> 00:23:46,989

universe because we have this

578

00:23:52,889 --> 00:23:50,259

consciousness even if as didn't said

579

00:23:54,959 --> 00:23:52,899

our consciousness is our freewill is

580

00:23:58,049 --> 00:23:54,969

made up of teeny tiny robots you know I

581

00:24:01,139 --> 00:23:58,059

kind of love that expression yeah but

582

00:24:05,659 --> 00:24:01,149

it's a truth seeking thing Dave if it's

583

00:24:09,509 --> 00:24:05,669

not true it doesn't matter anymore

584

00:24:12,719 --> 00:24:09,519

consciousness is an illusion is not true

585

00:24:15,419 --> 00:24:12,729

it's been falsified over and over again

586

00:24:18,659 --> 00:24:15,429

and that's why I guess is the my gripe

587

00:24:20,789 --> 00:24:18,669

with atheists is it's it's more dogma so

588

00:24:22,979 --> 00:24:20,799

it's like no I can't let go of that idea

589

00:24:26,819 --> 00:24:22,989

because I've built all this other stuff

590

00:24:30,119 --> 00:24:26,829

on it and it opens up the door to that

591

00:24:32,609 --> 00:24:30,129

the the implications of it are huge and

592

00:24:34,889 --> 00:24:32,619

they're scary in the same way that you

593

00:24:36,869 --> 00:24:34,899

know they don't like the Sam where Sam

594

00:24:40,379 --> 00:24:36,879

Harris is going and I'm not a Sam Harris

595

00:24:41,969 --> 00:24:40,389

fan at least saying Sam Harris is

596

00:24:44,549 --> 00:24:41,979

someone who looks into it and says wow

597

00:24:46,499 --> 00:24:44,559

well you know I really can't put those

598

00:24:48,690 --> 00:24:46,509

boundaries on consciousness and

599

00:24:51,359 --> 00:24:48,700

therefore I have to open up to their

600

00:24:56,369 --> 00:24:51,369

being the potential of their being some

601
00:24:58,079 --> 00:24:56,379
reality to more broadly spirituality but

602
00:25:01,529 --> 00:24:58,089
what we're really talking about is some

603
00:25:04,069 --> 00:25:01,539
kind of hierarchy to consciousness so

604
00:25:07,379 --> 00:25:04,079
you know the the brutish life and the

605
00:25:09,930 --> 00:25:07,389
Richard Dawkins biological robot stuff I

606
00:25:13,379 --> 00:25:09,940
mean that's [h__\h] it's just not true

607
00:25:16,169 --> 00:25:13,389
true you know so that's my rub and I

608
00:25:18,930 --> 00:25:16,179
don't understand why atheists aren't

609
00:25:21,029 --> 00:25:18,940
more interested in trying to wrestle

610
00:25:22,829 --> 00:25:21,039
that to the ground but in the same way

611
00:25:24,749 --> 00:25:22,839
that they see like Christians want to do

612
00:25:26,940 --> 00:25:24,759
they're just like no no no that's true

613
00:25:29,190 --> 00:25:26,950

we can't really touch that let's just

614

00:25:31,379 --> 00:25:29,200

move on to the next topic well let me

615

00:25:33,329 --> 00:25:31,389

let me just respond very brief or that

616

00:25:35,639 --> 00:25:33,339

with the caveat that like is that

617

00:25:37,589 --> 00:25:35,649

atheism is just as diverse as anything

618

00:25:40,079 --> 00:25:37,599

else on the planet so I don't pretend to

619

00:25:41,819 --> 00:25:40,089

be speaking for all of 80s and again

620

00:25:45,330 --> 00:25:41,829

it's not even a topic that I'm

621

00:25:48,750 --> 00:25:45,340

particularly into if you

622

00:25:52,980 --> 00:25:48,760

I mean I have I haven't spent a lot of

623

00:25:54,840 --> 00:25:52,990

thought on the question of consciousness

624

00:25:56,130 --> 00:25:54,850

and that's fair cuz let me just say

625

00:25:57,720 --> 00:25:56,140

interject and say that's fair because

626

00:25:58,980 --> 00:25:57,730

I've read your writings and you really

627

00:26:02,610 --> 00:25:58,990

don't get into that so I don't want to

628

00:26:04,500 --> 00:26:02,620

kind of yeah yeah it's like if we don't

629

00:26:06,060 --> 00:26:04,510

get back onto historical you know what

630

00:26:08,490 --> 00:26:06,070

really happened in the first century or

631

00:26:11,010 --> 00:26:08,500

the second century then you know my

632

00:26:13,350 --> 00:26:11,020

usefulness to the discussion goes down

633

00:26:15,060 --> 00:26:13,360

but I do have my own opinions you know

634

00:26:18,120 --> 00:26:15,070

for sure

635

00:26:20,700 --> 00:26:18,130

I don't know I'm certainly open to the

636

00:26:23,970 --> 00:26:20,710

idea of that there's more to

637

00:26:26,100 --> 00:26:23,980

consciousness than we think and yet at

638

00:26:27,540 --> 00:26:26,110

the same time I'm perfectly comfortable

639

00:26:30,660 --> 00:26:27,550

with the idea that whatever

640

00:26:34,800 --> 00:26:30,670

consciousness is it evolved naturally

641

00:26:39,390 --> 00:26:34,810

out of our brains our physical you know

642

00:26:42,030 --> 00:26:39,400

mental apparatus if you will and I just

643

00:26:45,360 --> 00:26:42,040

don't have a problem with that for what

644

00:26:47,520 --> 00:26:45,370

it's worth okay there and when I see

645

00:26:49,130 --> 00:26:47,530

weight and spirituality that that's a

646

00:26:51,480 --> 00:26:49,140

placeholder for a lot of things I'm sure

647

00:26:53,910 --> 00:26:51,490

everything that goes under that big tent

648

00:26:56,970 --> 00:26:53,920

you don't hold with either and maybe

649

00:26:59,970 --> 00:26:56,980

maybe I'm just focusing my flashlight on

650

00:27:01,020 --> 00:26:59,980

the wrong corners but when I when I hear

651
00:27:03,240 --> 00:27:01,030
people talk about things like

652
00:27:04,740 --> 00:27:03,250
spirituality and I get a little deeper

653
00:27:06,540 --> 00:27:04,750
into what they're talking about it seems

654
00:27:10,430 --> 00:27:06,550
like they're talking about perfectly

655
00:27:13,170 --> 00:27:10,440
natural things emotions things of ideas

656
00:27:16,680 --> 00:27:13,180
even consciousness to me feels very

657
00:27:18,510 --> 00:27:16,690
natural so here's the central issue and

658
00:27:19,890 --> 00:27:18,520
we won't I won't pound on it too much

659
00:27:22,410 --> 00:27:19,900
because I think you're totally fair and

660
00:27:24,810 --> 00:27:22,420
saying you know this is something you've

661
00:27:26,790 --> 00:27:24,820
written extensively about or something

662
00:27:28,500 --> 00:27:26,800
like that but here's the jumping-off

663
00:27:30,930 --> 00:27:28,510

point Daniel Dennett is the perfect

664

00:27:34,440 --> 00:27:30,940

jumping-off point consciousness is an

665

00:27:35,550 --> 00:27:34,450

illusion that don't buy that and what he

666

00:27:39,360 --> 00:27:35,560

what do you what's your takeaway from

667

00:27:44,430 --> 00:27:39,370

that well what he means by that is that

668

00:27:48,360 --> 00:27:44,440

your sense of you the voice inside your

669

00:27:51,300 --> 00:27:48,370

head if you will mm-hm is not real it's

670

00:27:54,630 --> 00:27:51,310

something that's created by you but it's

671

00:27:58,080 --> 00:27:54,640

merely an illusion so your sense of you

672

00:28:02,160 --> 00:27:58,090

being you is an illusion

673

00:28:04,470 --> 00:28:02,170

and I mean so that's kind of goofy from

674

00:28:06,360 --> 00:28:04,480

just to kind of you know you could ask a

675

00:28:09,690 --> 00:28:06,370

7 year olds or an 8 year old they're

676

00:28:12,120 --> 00:28:09,700

like no you know I I me I'm really in

677

00:28:14,940 --> 00:28:12,130

here and I assume you are you and you're

678

00:28:18,180 --> 00:28:14,950

really in there and anything else is

679

00:28:19,980 --> 00:28:18,190

just kind of a ridiculousness that isn't

680

00:28:20,730 --> 00:28:19,990

even worth talking about me because

681

00:28:25,910 --> 00:28:20,740

there isn't any

682

00:28:29,640 --> 00:28:25,920

but where it really breaks down is

683

00:28:32,190 --> 00:28:29,650

scientifically you know we know that

684

00:28:34,890 --> 00:28:32,200

that's not true because we've done a

685

00:28:36,990 --> 00:28:34,900

whole bunch of experiments looking at

686

00:28:39,300 --> 00:28:37,000

consciousness and the most famous is the

687

00:28:41,430 --> 00:28:39,310

you know the double slit experiment and

688

00:28:43,530 --> 00:28:41,440

this consciousness collapse the wave

689

00:28:47,870 --> 00:28:43,540

function and then there's all the all

690

00:28:50,550 --> 00:28:47,880

the stuff on mind brain and placebo and

691

00:28:53,280 --> 00:28:50,560

meditation and mindfulness all that

692

00:28:55,260 --> 00:28:53,290

stuff comes back again and again again

693

00:28:57,630 --> 00:28:55,270

to say that gee you know whatever

694

00:29:00,510 --> 00:28:57,640

consciousness is it's not an illusion so

695

00:29:03,630 --> 00:29:00,520

then they there's there's other places

696

00:29:06,360 --> 00:29:03,640

that that all takes you but let me just

697

00:29:08,550 --> 00:29:06,370

jump in super fast and say I'm not I'm

698

00:29:10,620 --> 00:29:08,560

not opposed to what you're saying I'm

699

00:29:12,660 --> 00:29:10,630

not close to what you're saying I just

700

00:29:14,340 --> 00:29:12,670

don't have enough information to confirm

701
00:29:17,640 --> 00:29:14,350
or deny what you're saying at the moment

702
00:29:20,100 --> 00:29:17,650
ok no fair enough so I was kind of

703
00:29:23,520 --> 00:29:20,110
long-winded there but I'll come back is

704
00:29:26,820 --> 00:29:23,530
because where that leads is some really

705
00:29:29,550 --> 00:29:26,830
tricky parts for atheists that do kind

706
00:29:32,070 --> 00:29:29,560
of directly attack the underpinnings of

707
00:29:34,290 --> 00:29:32,080
atheism and that's that ok there is this

708
00:29:35,970 --> 00:29:34,300
consciousness right it's not an illusion

709
00:29:38,100 --> 00:29:35,980
so what are the limits of that

710
00:29:39,810 --> 00:29:38,110
consciousness when does it begin when

711
00:29:43,560 --> 00:29:39,820
does it end does it end at biological

712
00:29:45,930 --> 00:29:43,570
death is it as you said an epiphenomena

713
00:29:47,880 --> 00:29:45,940

of the brain is it just something that's

714

00:29:49,380 --> 00:29:47,890

created there or is consciousness some

715

00:29:51,510 --> 00:29:49,390

kind of field that's out there that

716

00:29:54,360 --> 00:29:51,520

we're tapping into those are all real

717

00:29:57,000 --> 00:29:54,370

questions that consciousness researchers

718

00:29:59,160 --> 00:29:57,010

are trying to tackle and and science in

719

00:30:01,680 --> 00:29:59,170

general is trying to tackle in a number

720

00:30:04,140 --> 00:30:01,690

of ways but one of the sets of data that

721

00:30:07,320 --> 00:30:04,150

you get out of that is starts looking

722

00:30:09,720 --> 00:30:07,330

like a lot of the religious wisdom

723

00:30:11,460 --> 00:30:09,730

traditions and that is that oh there is

724

00:30:14,669 --> 00:30:11,470

an order to this consciousness

725

00:30:17,789 --> 00:30:14,679

there does seem to be a hierarchy there

726

00:30:20,640 --> 00:30:17,799

does seem to be a morality that's kind

727

00:30:23,310 --> 00:30:20,650

of built into this fabric of the

728

00:30:26,399 --> 00:30:23,320

universe that we never imagined was

729

00:30:28,230 --> 00:30:26,409

there before and that's the real rub for

730

00:30:31,409 --> 00:30:28,240

atheists and I think that a lot of

731

00:30:33,210 --> 00:30:31,419

people who are pretty smart in the

732

00:30:34,740 --> 00:30:33,220

atheist community kind of see that

733

00:30:37,320 --> 00:30:34,750

around the bend and they're trying to

734

00:30:40,049 --> 00:30:37,330

cut it off before people really get

735

00:30:42,659 --> 00:30:40,059

there and go no no no no don't go there

736

00:30:45,510 --> 00:30:42,669

because I know where that leads and

737

00:30:48,000 --> 00:30:45,520

they're just trying to backdoor religion

738

00:30:49,890 --> 00:30:48,010

back in so all's I'm doing Davis try to

739

00:30:52,380 --> 00:30:49,900

lay out that that is one of the door

740

00:30:55,740 --> 00:30:52,390

sure and I was gonna say just in

741

00:30:57,450 --> 00:30:55,750

response to that I don't know if I see

742

00:31:00,210 --> 00:30:57,460

that happening I definitely see all

743

00:31:03,360 --> 00:31:00,220

kinds of fault lines in atheism that we

744

00:31:04,740 --> 00:31:03,370

are fighting about now and some of them

745

00:31:07,140 --> 00:31:04,750

are I think are more legitimate than

746

00:31:09,480 --> 00:31:07,150

others I don't know if anyone's really

747

00:31:10,649 --> 00:31:09,490

slamming the back you know slamming the

748

00:31:12,840 --> 00:31:10,659

door on that and saying all right let's

749

00:31:15,240 --> 00:31:12,850

not even go there well I'll think it's

750

00:31:17,130 --> 00:31:15,250

chipped in the I've seen you know in the

751
00:31:19,760 --> 00:31:17,140
last 10 years or so that there has been

752
00:31:23,370 --> 00:31:19,770
a retreat from that kind of strict

753
00:31:25,320 --> 00:31:23,380
scientific materialism so let's take

754
00:31:27,419 --> 00:31:25,330
advantage of having you here and follow

755
00:31:30,330 --> 00:31:27,429
up on that question okay what do you see

756
00:31:33,330 --> 00:31:30,340
is some of the trends that are emerging

757
00:31:35,190 --> 00:31:33,340
or moving with atheism the other trend I

758
00:31:37,980 --> 00:31:35,200
see is there seems to be the whole

759
00:31:40,740 --> 00:31:37,990
skeptic skeptic thing has really died

760
00:31:42,090 --> 00:31:40,750
down and it's kind of not that it isn't

761
00:31:45,960 --> 00:31:42,100
there anymore but it doesn't have the

762
00:31:48,419 --> 00:31:45,970
same kind of oomph that it did what are

763
00:31:51,990 --> 00:31:48,429

the trends within the community of folks

764

00:31:56,520 --> 00:31:52,000

that you talk to and call your country

765

00:31:57,990 --> 00:31:56,530

theists I tried well I see a lot of the

766

00:32:00,390 --> 00:31:58,000

same fracturing that we're seeing just

767

00:32:04,080 --> 00:32:00,400

in American society in general in

768

00:32:05,580 --> 00:32:04,090

atheism and especially 2016 just really

769

00:32:07,649 --> 00:32:05,590

ripped the country apart you know

770

00:32:10,799 --> 00:32:07,659

current kinds of ways and it ripped a

771

00:32:13,080 --> 00:32:10,809

theism apart as well politically we are

772

00:32:17,850 --> 00:32:13,090

more divided than we ever have been and

773

00:32:20,010 --> 00:32:17,860

I think the the break between the people

774

00:32:24,210 --> 00:32:20,020

who were disgusted with the Democrats

775

00:32:25,260 --> 00:32:24,220

and the liberal wing of politics and the

776

00:32:27,750 --> 00:32:25,270

people were disgusted would

777

00:32:30,299 --> 00:32:27,760

the Republicans and the plutocratic side

778

00:32:33,060 --> 00:32:30,309

of politics those just when those

779

00:32:35,519 --> 00:32:33,070

divides just went hardcore over Bernie

780

00:32:42,110 --> 00:32:35,529

versus Clinton on Trump versus everybody

781

00:32:45,049 --> 00:32:42,120

else and and at the same time gender

782

00:32:47,940 --> 00:32:45,059

politics for lack of a better term

783

00:32:54,870 --> 00:32:47,950

transgender rights you know

784

00:32:58,139 --> 00:32:54,880

homosexuality all these all these what

785

00:33:00,419 --> 00:32:58,149

the the the gender what am I trying to

786

00:33:04,289 --> 00:33:00,429

say here I think you said I think it's

787

00:33:06,389 --> 00:33:04,299

not exactly but yeah all these things

788

00:33:08,639 --> 00:33:06,399

are dividing atheism just like really

789

00:33:11,880 --> 00:33:08,649

that's surprising to me and what way are

790

00:33:14,880 --> 00:33:11,890

they divisive because I would think that

791

00:33:18,570 --> 00:33:14,890

the the kind of free thought kind of

792

00:33:22,740 --> 00:33:18,580

vibed there wouldn't be trying to pick

793

00:33:24,210 --> 00:33:22,750

apart the kind of people's sexuality in

794

00:33:26,370 --> 00:33:24,220

the way that they expressed it how does

795

00:33:29,840 --> 00:33:26,380

that work its way into the thing what

796

00:33:32,990 --> 00:33:29,850

what I'm seeing is that we've got

797

00:33:35,850 --> 00:33:33,000

factions for lack of a better word that

798

00:33:37,350 --> 00:33:35,860

don't Brook any kind of opposition you

799

00:33:42,210 --> 00:33:37,360

you have to be totally on board with us

800

00:33:44,909 --> 00:33:42,220

or you're against us we've got people

801
00:33:46,950 --> 00:33:44,919
who you know the mins right activists

802
00:33:51,110 --> 00:33:46,960
types we have cognate of that in the

803
00:33:53,549 --> 00:33:51,120
Atheist community where they're just

804
00:33:57,690 --> 00:33:53,559
really disrespectful to women really

805
00:34:01,740 --> 00:33:57,700
disrespectful to to transgender rights

806
00:34:03,539 --> 00:34:01,750
for instance and and they're proud of it

807
00:34:06,690 --> 00:34:03,549
and they think they see themselves as

808
00:34:08,669 --> 00:34:06,700
like you know defenders of free speech

809
00:34:11,909 --> 00:34:08,679
on the other hand you've got the exact

810
00:34:14,700 --> 00:34:11,919
opposite we've got the groups that are

811
00:34:17,220 --> 00:34:14,710
so entrenched in what you might call

812
00:34:19,829 --> 00:34:17,230
liberal dogma that if you even question

813
00:34:21,419 --> 00:34:19,839

it if you even say well I want to get

814

00:34:25,290 --> 00:34:21,429

more information you're triggering them

815

00:34:27,030 --> 00:34:25,300

you're triggering them yeah and and I

816

00:34:29,099 --> 00:34:27,040

don't want to take away from either side

817

00:34:30,960 --> 00:34:29,109

you know the right to speak your mind

818

00:34:31,560 --> 00:34:30,970

and the right for people to be treated

819

00:34:33,480 --> 00:34:31,570

fairly

820

00:34:35,460 --> 00:34:33,490

both of those things are super important

821

00:34:37,320 --> 00:34:35,470

and somehow we're still divided over

822

00:34:38,909 --> 00:34:37,330

them and I don't really have an answer

823

00:34:40,680 --> 00:34:38,919

for that and I do

824

00:34:42,389 --> 00:34:40,690

think those are specifically atheism

825

00:34:44,399 --> 00:34:42,399

problems either it's just we're kind of

826

00:34:47,549 --> 00:34:44,409

a mirror of society how do you think the

827

00:34:49,200 --> 00:34:47,559

the myth assist in particular if we can

828

00:34:51,240 --> 00:34:49,210

focus in on that since that's been

829

00:34:54,119 --> 00:34:51,250

something that you've really focused on

830

00:34:58,140 --> 00:34:54,129

so beautifully in your books how do you

831

00:35:00,420 --> 00:34:58,150

think that plays into this some of these

832

00:35:02,130 --> 00:35:00,430

issues for the Atheist community in

833

00:35:04,049 --> 00:35:02,140

general because I think it's really I

834

00:35:06,170 --> 00:35:04,059

think it's really interesting I think

835

00:35:08,880 --> 00:35:06,180

you've done a great service by just

836

00:35:12,120 --> 00:35:08,890

totally focusing in and saying you know

837

00:35:15,089 --> 00:35:12,130

this is a lens through which we can look

838

00:35:17,460 --> 00:35:15,099

at these larger issues of culture and

839

00:35:19,680 --> 00:35:17,470

society and why you know we have these

840

00:35:20,940 --> 00:35:19,690

our presents before they can be elected

841

00:35:23,099 --> 00:35:20,950

whether we believe that they're

842

00:35:26,910 --> 00:35:23,109

religious or not we make this kind of

843

00:35:33,510 --> 00:35:26,920

religious statement and I want that to

844

00:35:34,710 --> 00:35:33,520

go away so hard I mean on one hand when

845

00:35:38,609 --> 00:35:34,720

I was working with a secular Student

846

00:35:40,109 --> 00:35:38,619

Alliance the reports you know from Pew

847

00:35:42,510 --> 00:35:40,119

Research from Barna from all these

848

00:35:44,160 --> 00:35:42,520

different demographic researchers are

849

00:35:47,549 --> 00:35:44,170

showing that we are becoming

850

00:35:49,410 --> 00:35:47,559

increasingly more irreligious at a

851
00:35:51,690 --> 00:35:49,420
younger and younger age I mean what I

852
00:35:55,920 --> 00:35:51,700
mean by that is the the current college

853
00:35:57,329 --> 00:35:55,930
age American is far less likely to be

854
00:35:59,849 --> 00:35:57,339
religious and those numbers just keep

855
00:36:01,980 --> 00:35:59,859
going up the last I looked at it was

856
00:36:04,380 --> 00:36:01,990
about a 30 30 split I was a perfect

857
00:36:07,049 --> 00:36:04,390
third split between openly religious

858
00:36:09,900 --> 00:36:07,059
openly secular and secular but or

859
00:36:12,120 --> 00:36:09,910
religious but not what's the word

860
00:36:14,789 --> 00:36:12,130
spiritual but not religious see exactly

861
00:36:15,839 --> 00:36:14,799
and those those blow my mind that was

862
00:36:19,710 --> 00:36:15,849
still a couple years ago so it's

863
00:36:22,829 --> 00:36:19,720

probably even gone up more now and and

864

00:36:28,470 --> 00:36:22,839

what I was excited about that for me was

865

00:36:30,089 --> 00:36:28,480

the GOP has so much power in because of

866

00:36:31,680 --> 00:36:30,099

the Religious Right doing lip service to

867

00:36:33,569 --> 00:36:31,690

the religious right that they they're

868

00:36:35,660 --> 00:36:33,579

invested in this myth they're invested

869

00:36:40,049 --> 00:36:35,670

in this structure this theological

870

00:36:44,010 --> 00:36:40,059

structure to see that get worn away just

871

00:36:45,059 --> 00:36:44,020

delights me and that's where I focus my

872

00:36:47,940 --> 00:36:45,069

work because a that's what I'm

873

00:36:50,520 --> 00:36:47,950

interested in and that's be you know how

874

00:36:52,170 --> 00:36:50,530

I can best you know change the world

875

00:36:52,670 --> 00:36:52,180

but I mean I don't have I'm not under

876

00:36:55,099 --> 00:36:52,680

any

877

00:36:56,870 --> 00:36:55,109

Asians that once we get rid of religion

878

00:37:01,880 --> 00:36:56,880

we're not gonna have tons of problems

879

00:37:05,120 --> 00:37:01,890

left to figure out and that's that's a

880

00:37:07,069 --> 00:37:05,130

tough question to answer I

881

00:37:08,150 --> 00:37:07,079

you also reminded me of something else

882

00:37:11,120 --> 00:37:08,160

when you're talking about the bigger

883

00:37:12,529 --> 00:37:11,130

issues of mythis ISM and one of the

884

00:37:14,059 --> 00:37:12,539

other big surprises for me when I

885

00:37:16,700 --> 00:37:14,069

started getting into this whole there

886

00:37:19,400 --> 00:37:16,710

was no Jesus business I was shocked how

887

00:37:21,829 --> 00:37:19,410

many X Muslims and current Buddhists

888

00:37:24,049 --> 00:37:21,839

would contact me and said you know what

889

00:37:26,420 --> 00:37:24,059

we are having these exact same arguments

890

00:37:28,579 --> 00:37:26,430

in our circles to arguing whether the

891

00:37:30,380 --> 00:37:28,589

Buddha was a real person and arguing

892

00:37:34,460 --> 00:37:30,390

whether Muhammad was a real person and

893

00:37:36,319 --> 00:37:34,470

that just blew my mind to think that

894

00:37:37,670 --> 00:37:36,329

there wasn't a Muhammad until they

895

00:37:39,859 --> 00:37:37,680

started telling me the reasons why they

896

00:37:43,490 --> 00:37:39,869

thought that and I thought oh wow this

897

00:37:45,109 --> 00:37:43,500

is sounding a lot like Jesus which is

898

00:37:46,970 --> 00:37:45,119

really let's explore that for a minute

899

00:37:49,370 --> 00:37:46,980

because that's exactly what I was trying

900

00:37:52,430 --> 00:37:49,380

to put my finger on is that the the

901
00:37:54,980 --> 00:37:52,440
mythos ISM the the process if you will

902
00:37:57,410 --> 00:37:54,990
yeah that you go through in your books

903
00:37:59,950 --> 00:37:57,420
both nailed and the latest Jesus

904
00:38:03,620 --> 00:37:59,960
smithing in action both of them also

905
00:38:06,490 --> 00:38:03,630
reveal a process an analytical process

906
00:38:08,809 --> 00:38:06,500
that I think extends beyond just

907
00:38:11,779 --> 00:38:08,819
religious studies but certainly there's

908
00:38:14,870 --> 00:38:11,789
a lot of work well a lot of fields to be

909
00:38:17,779 --> 00:38:14,880
plowed in Jordan as well but you want to

910
00:38:19,819 --> 00:38:17,789
speak to that of the process that and

911
00:38:21,650 --> 00:38:19,829
the analytics that you went through and

912
00:38:25,700 --> 00:38:21,660
you think are revealed through that that

913
00:38:27,859 --> 00:38:25,710

means I think I mentioned in the book I

914

00:38:30,289 --> 00:38:27,869

made me mention it nailed but it's if

915

00:38:32,720 --> 00:38:30,299

you want to say anything about you know

916

00:38:35,599 --> 00:38:32,730

just let's say Jesus for example what he

917

00:38:37,579 --> 00:38:35,609

said and what he did your first question

918

00:38:39,200 --> 00:38:37,589

needs to be well what's our sources for

919

00:38:41,299 --> 00:38:39,210

that and your second question needs to

920

00:38:44,599 --> 00:38:41,309

be and how reliable are these sources

921

00:38:47,420 --> 00:38:44,609

and in a nutshell when you start turning

922

00:38:52,339 --> 00:38:47,430

that question on Muhammad on Buddha on

923

00:38:55,910 --> 00:38:52,349

Zoroaster on Moses on Abraham just about

924

00:38:58,190 --> 00:38:55,920

Abraham Lincoln or George I mean really

925

00:38:59,630 --> 00:38:58,200

no well I mean there's there's a

926
00:39:02,569 --> 00:38:59,640
difference though there's a difference

927
00:39:05,779 --> 00:39:02,579
because I'm I am saying that Moses

928
00:39:06,560 --> 00:39:05,789
Abraham Zoroaster and food and maybe

929
00:39:09,260 --> 00:39:06,570
Muhammad

930
00:39:10,940 --> 00:39:09,270
did not exist at all . there's a

931
00:39:13,550 --> 00:39:10,950
difference between somebody like abraham

932
00:39:15,980 --> 00:39:13,560
lincoln and like the apostle paul who it

933
00:39:18,680 --> 00:39:15,990
was a real person and yet there's so

934
00:39:20,450 --> 00:39:18,690
much gloss of mythos ism over them that

935
00:39:22,250 --> 00:39:20,460
it's hard to know where the real person

936
00:39:25,310 --> 00:39:22,260
starts and stops but we know there's a

937
00:39:27,050 --> 00:39:25,320
real kernel at the center of the core

938
00:39:29,150 --> 00:39:27,060

there is a real person we don't know

939

00:39:31,790 --> 00:39:29,160

that for Jesus we think the opposite is

940

00:39:34,340 --> 00:39:31,800

true for Jesus and all these other major

941

00:39:36,470 --> 00:39:34,350

religious figures so much so that it

942

00:39:38,600 --> 00:39:36,480

makes me wonder if people like I ron

943

00:39:41,720 --> 00:39:38,610

Hubbard and Joseph Smith are the

944

00:39:44,470 --> 00:39:41,730

exceptions to major religion starters

945

00:39:46,370 --> 00:39:44,480

because they actually were real people i

946

00:39:48,470 --> 00:39:46,380

totally get your point and don't

947

00:39:50,330 --> 00:39:48,480

disagree with it but I think the

948

00:39:52,640 --> 00:39:50,340

parallels are more interesting when you

949

00:39:56,030 --> 00:39:52,650

get up to that next level and you look

950

00:39:58,960 --> 00:39:56,040

at who I ron Hubbard really was and his

951
00:40:01,790 --> 00:39:58,970
deep connections thorough connections on

952
00:40:03,620 --> 00:40:01,800
questionable connections to military

953
00:40:07,130 --> 00:40:03,630
intelligence and he's out in the desert

954
00:40:10,760 --> 00:40:07,140
with Parsons you know who is kind of the

955
00:40:13,430 --> 00:40:10,770
mr. military intelligence and he's also

956
00:40:15,350 --> 00:40:13,440
connecting with the Crowley and you know

957
00:40:17,870 --> 00:40:15,360
three Parsons and I think he's great and

958
00:40:20,750 --> 00:40:17,880
all the rest of stuff undeniable and

959
00:40:23,740 --> 00:40:20,760
then you know we did an extensive show

960
00:40:25,640 --> 00:40:23,750
on the whole connection between

961
00:40:27,310 --> 00:40:25,650
Scientology and some of the work that

962
00:40:30,350 --> 00:40:27,320
was done at Stanford Research Institute

963
00:40:32,030 --> 00:40:30,360

under the Stargate program all those

964

00:40:33,530 --> 00:40:32,040

guys which you don't know about but I

965

00:40:36,620 --> 00:40:33,540

mean all those guys who are doing that

966

00:40:39,320 --> 00:40:36,630

psychic spying stuff not all of them but

967

00:40:42,710 --> 00:40:39,330

several of the highest level people were

968

00:40:46,550 --> 00:40:42,720

deep deep into Scientology so I think at

969

00:40:48,470 --> 00:40:46,560

that next level up the the process that

970

00:40:49,700 --> 00:40:48,480

you've gone through and the analytics

971

00:40:51,440 --> 00:40:49,710

that you do and I think you said it

972

00:40:53,180 --> 00:40:51,450

beautifully you know who are your

973

00:40:55,550 --> 00:40:53,190

sources and how reliable are those

974

00:40:58,040 --> 00:40:55,560

sources is kind of step one but the

975

00:40:59,960 --> 00:40:58,050

other thing that I see you do and and do

976

00:41:02,120 --> 00:40:59,970

quite beautifully and I really have to

977

00:41:03,980 --> 00:41:02,130

pull you out on this and giving my

978

00:41:07,250 --> 00:41:03,990

compliments on Jesus missing-in-action

979

00:41:10,250 --> 00:41:07,260

what you do is something that's kind of

980

00:41:11,510 --> 00:41:10,260

unique in that you turn this analysis

981

00:41:13,520 --> 00:41:11,520

around because a lot of people are

982

00:41:16,550 --> 00:41:13,530

talking about talked oh yeah god there's

983

00:41:18,710 --> 00:41:16,560

miles of books I know that but on this

984

00:41:20,390 --> 00:41:18,720

topic but you did you turned it around

985

00:41:24,109 --> 00:41:20,400

you said okay

986

00:41:27,650 --> 00:41:24,119

let's look at what Christians are most

987

00:41:30,079 --> 00:41:27,660

likely to say in kind of a general sense

988

00:41:32,390 --> 00:41:30,089

give people a sense than then though I'm

989

00:41:34,640 --> 00:41:32,400

not expressing it very well so give

990

00:41:37,370 --> 00:41:34,650

people a sense of some of the myths that

991

00:41:38,779 --> 00:41:37,380

you go through in that book and I think

992

00:41:41,349 --> 00:41:38,789

they'll understand what I mean about how

993

00:41:45,010 --> 00:41:41,359

you kind of have a different angle of

994

00:41:46,940 --> 00:41:45,020

looking at some of these questions yeah

995

00:41:48,829 --> 00:41:46,950

there's kind of two parts to that

996

00:41:51,559 --> 00:41:48,839

because there's the myths that I grew up

997

00:41:54,410 --> 00:41:51,569

with as a Christian and then there's the

998

00:41:55,819 --> 00:41:54,420

myths that that those that survived that

999

00:41:57,589 --> 00:41:55,829

winnowing affect when I became an

1000

00:41:59,059 --> 00:41:57,599

atheist that you know of course he

1001

00:42:01,579 --> 00:41:59,069

wasn't the Son of God but I still

1002

00:42:03,289 --> 00:42:01,589

believe that a I witness wrote about him

1003

00:42:05,319 --> 00:42:03,299

I've still believed that we have good

1004

00:42:07,370 --> 00:42:05,329

evidence for him you know all these

1005

00:42:09,920 --> 00:42:07,380

presuppositions right through the

1006

00:42:12,859 --> 00:42:09,930

Christian lens came to me through

1007

00:42:14,870 --> 00:42:12,869

atheism including what blows me away now

1008

00:42:17,900 --> 00:42:14,880

having you know gone over a decade into

1009

00:42:21,410 --> 00:42:17,910

this is when you read the stories for

1010

00:42:24,529 --> 00:42:21,420

the first time you know without looking

1011

00:42:26,599 --> 00:42:24,539

at the Christian presuppositions in them

1012

00:42:28,700 --> 00:42:26,609

when you read mark that our first Gospel

1013

00:42:31,970 --> 00:42:28,710

oldest gospel our most no-frills gospel

1014

00:42:33,890 --> 00:42:31,980

and read it as the story of a human guy

1015

00:42:36,650 --> 00:42:33,900

normal guy who because he was so

1016

00:42:40,160 --> 00:42:36,660

obedient to God became adopted as his

1017

00:42:42,079 --> 00:42:40,170

son and goes through this whole process

1018

00:42:43,220 --> 00:42:42,089

where he the first thing happens is he

1019

00:42:46,279 --> 00:42:43,230

goes through this testing period where

1020

00:42:49,640 --> 00:42:46,289

he's tested by the devil to see if he's

1021

00:42:51,799 --> 00:42:49,650

up to the job and at the end where he's

1022

00:42:53,359 --> 00:42:51,809

at the Garden of Gethsemane really

1023

00:42:54,829 --> 00:42:53,369

scared about what's gonna happen really

1024

00:42:55,339 --> 00:42:54,839

afraid of the pain and the death he's

1025

00:42:59,569 --> 00:42:55,349

gonna suffer

1026
00:43:01,880 --> 00:42:59,579
he has no idea you know what's in store

1027
00:43:04,549 --> 00:43:01,890
for him he's not a God he's still a man

1028
00:43:06,410 --> 00:43:04,559
when you read these stories not only do

1029
00:43:08,210 --> 00:43:06,420
they not make sense from a Christian

1030
00:43:10,849 --> 00:43:08,220
standpoint it's like what can the devil

1031
00:43:13,099 --> 00:43:10,859
tempt Jesus with you know all that he

1032
00:43:15,069 --> 00:43:13,109
sees as a godling slumming on earth it

1033
00:43:17,660 --> 00:43:15,079
makes no sense to be able to tempt him

1034
00:43:20,569 --> 00:43:17,670
when you read them in and see here's a

1035
00:43:22,789 --> 00:43:20,579
guy in the garden Gethsemane who says

1036
00:43:26,630 --> 00:43:22,799
I'm totally terrified I'm totally scared

1037
00:43:29,089 --> 00:43:26,640
but not my will but yours and this is a

1038
00:43:32,750 --> 00:43:29,099

flesh and blood man saying this the

1039

00:43:33,990 --> 00:43:32,760

pathos is so real and so beautiful in a

1040

00:43:35,280 --> 00:43:34,000

way that's not

1041

00:43:36,900 --> 00:43:35,290

when you think oh he's just gonna have a

1042

00:43:39,210 --> 00:43:36,910

bad weekend and then go straight back to

1043

00:43:41,520 --> 00:43:39,220

heaven you know it's interesting because

1044

00:43:44,910 --> 00:43:41,530

you kind of covered the gamut there and

1045

00:43:47,490 --> 00:43:44,920

I want to make sure people get one part

1046

00:43:49,980 --> 00:43:47,500

in there that you said that almost kind

1047

00:43:52,020 --> 00:43:49,990

of slips past and that's that in your

1048

00:43:54,450 --> 00:43:52,030

second book missing and it Jesus missing

1049

00:43:56,640 --> 00:43:54,460

in action it's almost like you get to

1050

00:43:58,350 --> 00:43:56,650

this level to discussion that I think is

1051
00:43:59,730 --> 00:43:58,360
so interesting because some of that

1052
00:44:02,760 --> 00:43:59,740
stuff you're talking about if kind of

1053
00:44:05,100 --> 00:44:02,770
deconstructing the the biblical text to

1054
00:44:07,650 --> 00:44:05,110
me is like the level one but the level

1055
00:44:09,450 --> 00:44:07,660
two is so interesting from this analytic

1056
00:44:12,030 --> 00:44:09,460
standpoint in the way that you just

1057
00:44:14,100 --> 00:44:12,040
mentioned so people go through this

1058
00:44:15,690 --> 00:44:14,110
process right and they get into

1059
00:44:17,730 --> 00:44:15,700
Christian apologetics and they learn

1060
00:44:19,950 --> 00:44:17,740
this versus that and then what you've

1061
00:44:22,500 --> 00:44:19,960
done is distilled that down it's okay

1062
00:44:25,430 --> 00:44:22,510
once you go through this process what

1063
00:44:28,200 --> 00:44:25,440

you're likely to come up with is this

1064

00:44:31,740 --> 00:44:28,210

yeah but Jesus is still one of the most

1065

00:44:34,170 --> 00:44:31,750

well sourced persons in history and you

1066

00:44:37,380 --> 00:44:34,180

go okay you're gonna come to that point

1067

00:44:38,910 --> 00:44:37,390

and now let's deconstruct that that you

1068

00:44:41,960 --> 00:44:38,920

know it doesn't really have anything to

1069

00:44:45,990 --> 00:44:41,970

do with the Bible per se it's this meta

1070

00:44:48,660 --> 00:44:46,000

meta thing that you've picked yeah I'm

1071

00:44:50,280 --> 00:44:48,670

delighted to hear you saying this

1072

00:44:51,780 --> 00:44:50,290

because that's exactly what I wanted to

1073

00:44:54,180 --> 00:44:51,790

do with this book I wanted to break this

1074

00:44:55,560 --> 00:44:54,190

down and show that hey the evidence

1075

00:44:57,390 --> 00:44:55,570

points in a completely different

1076

00:44:59,310 --> 00:44:57,400

direction let's look at that first

1077

00:45:01,170 --> 00:44:59,320

gospel of the gospel that all of them

1078

00:45:03,030 --> 00:45:01,180

others were based upon let's find out

1079

00:45:05,760 --> 00:45:03,040

who wrote these Gospels when they wrote

1080

00:45:07,830 --> 00:45:05,770

them you know there's so many there's so

1081

00:45:09,330 --> 00:45:07,840

many assumptions that go into oh well

1082

00:45:11,070 --> 00:45:09,340

Jesus had 12 followers and they wrote

1083

00:45:13,500 --> 00:45:11,080

about him and we have their books and so

1084

00:45:15,000 --> 00:45:13,510

you know la dee da da da but when you

1085

00:45:17,280 --> 00:45:15,010

look at how different Christianity is

1086

00:45:19,350 --> 00:45:17,290

before those Gospels are written and how

1087

00:45:21,450 --> 00:45:19,360

different all the four Gospels are from

1088

00:45:24,810 --> 00:45:21,460

each other and yet how clearly they're

1089

00:45:27,480 --> 00:45:24,820

taken from the first gospel and just you

1090

00:45:29,220 --> 00:45:27,490

know cut and pasted and gone in often

1091

00:45:30,750 --> 00:45:29,230

different directions and when you

1092

00:45:32,460 --> 00:45:30,760

realize that this is just the tip of the

1093

00:45:34,680 --> 00:45:32,470

iceberg these are just the four that

1094

00:45:37,050 --> 00:45:34,690

made the official cut into Scripture and

1095

00:45:39,810 --> 00:45:37,060

there's a whole world of Christian

1096

00:45:41,070 --> 00:45:39,820

writings from the second century that

1097

00:45:42,480 --> 00:45:41,080

are floating out there that never made

1098

00:45:44,310 --> 00:45:42,490

the cut

1099

00:45:45,540 --> 00:45:44,320

but then Christians in the second

1100

00:45:46,530 --> 00:45:45,550

century would think we weren't real

1101

00:45:47,790 --> 00:45:46,540

Christians because we didn't have all

1102

00:45:49,590 --> 00:45:47,800

these stories about you know

1103

00:45:52,850 --> 00:45:49,600

infant Jesus growing up in Smallville

1104

00:45:58,070 --> 00:45:52,860

before he became Superman you know and

1105

00:46:02,220 --> 00:45:58,080

and these different takes on Jesus and

1106

00:46:05,130 --> 00:46:02,230

and and the incompatibility of each one

1107

00:46:07,080 --> 00:46:05,140

no one set out to write a fourth gospel

1108

00:46:09,270 --> 00:46:07,090

no one set out to write a second gospel

1109

00:46:12,000 --> 00:46:09,280

all these gospel writers were writing

1110

00:46:14,880 --> 00:46:12,010

the gospel meant to be the one and only

1111

00:46:17,280 --> 00:46:14,890

gospel corrected version yeah exactly

1112

00:46:19,550 --> 00:46:17,290

and it is funny because they do correct

1113

00:46:21,990 --> 00:46:19,560

mistakes that mark makes in his gospel

1114

00:46:24,600 --> 00:46:22,000

and then they course they go off in

1115

00:46:27,720 --> 00:46:24,610

completely incompatible directions but

1116

00:46:30,450 --> 00:46:27,730

it's fascinating to see that development

1117

00:46:32,820 --> 00:46:30,460

just just that just the evolution of any

1118

00:46:36,270 --> 00:46:32,830

religion alone it's fascinating and

1119

00:46:38,430 --> 00:46:36,280

enough to debunk it as a purely human

1120

00:46:41,490 --> 00:46:38,440

thing and it's not that's not I mean

1121

00:46:43,950 --> 00:46:41,500

that is a slam it's fascinating to watch

1122

00:46:47,280 --> 00:46:43,960

where Christian really came from and to

1123

00:46:49,860 --> 00:46:47,290

see the the conflicting ideas that were

1124

00:46:53,190 --> 00:46:49,870

going on between early Christians and

1125

00:46:55,080 --> 00:46:53,200

proto Christians and and all the things

1126
00:46:57,150 --> 00:46:55,090
that followed after that just the ways

1127
00:47:01,550 --> 00:46:57,160
they were constantly reinventing

1128
00:47:05,490 --> 00:47:01,560
themselves and even Christianity itself

1129
00:47:07,530 --> 00:47:05,500
so many of when I when I get into book 3

1130
00:47:10,590 --> 00:47:07,540
which is basically I call it the the

1131
00:47:12,360 --> 00:47:10,600
Gospel according to HG Wells and do a

1132
00:47:15,600 --> 00:47:12,370
time-travel expedition through the

1133
00:47:18,270 --> 00:47:15,610
origins of Christianity you see them

1134
00:47:21,000 --> 00:47:18,280
taking scriptures from the Hebrew

1135
00:47:23,670 --> 00:47:21,010
Scriptures rebooting it to correct

1136
00:47:25,950 --> 00:47:23,680
failed prophecies and reinterpret it to

1137
00:47:27,240 --> 00:47:25,960
work again do you see that and taking

1138
00:47:30,110 --> 00:47:27,250

the same ones and just leap frogging

1139

00:47:33,840 --> 00:47:30,120

leap frogging through history with them

1140

00:47:36,930 --> 00:47:33,850

to come up with ways to make this this

1141

00:47:39,360 --> 00:47:36,940

work this these apocalyptic prophecies

1142

00:47:42,120 --> 00:47:39,370

work and you see Christianity coming out

1143

00:47:44,460 --> 00:47:42,130

of this effect and and the influence of

1144

00:47:47,880 --> 00:47:44,470

like Hellenized Jews like Philo of

1145

00:47:49,260 --> 00:47:47,890

Alexandria and you know other religions

1146

00:47:52,350 --> 00:47:49,270

that we don't even think of having any

1147

00:47:54,120 --> 00:47:52,360

bearing on on Christianity you totally

1148

00:47:56,400 --> 00:47:54,130

see where they're coming from you do

1149

00:47:58,350 --> 00:47:56,410

quite a job of you know again people are

1150

00:48:00,120 --> 00:47:58,360

gonna feel a little intimidated by the

1151

00:48:01,650 --> 00:48:00,130

fact that there's three volumes out

1152

00:48:03,569 --> 00:48:01,660

there but it's it

1153

00:48:05,730 --> 00:48:03,579

very readable and it's well-organized

1154

00:48:09,299 --> 00:48:05,740

and you can kind of get to it and if you

1155

00:48:13,200 --> 00:48:09,309

are interested in this history which I

1156

00:48:16,589 --> 00:48:13,210

think a lot of us should be I mean it's

1157

00:48:18,359 --> 00:48:16,599

so still linked in our culture that I

1158

00:48:20,970 --> 00:48:18,369

think we should be interested so and

1159

00:48:23,160 --> 00:48:20,980

it's just fascinating it's all things

1160

00:48:25,620 --> 00:48:23,170

being equal it's fascinating to read and

1161

00:48:27,510 --> 00:48:25,630

but I know that you say and so you know

1162

00:48:29,549 --> 00:48:27,520

it didn't mean to be it wasn't meant to

1163

00:48:31,170 --> 00:48:29,559

be three books at all actually it's just

1164

00:48:33,420 --> 00:48:31,180

when I was done with it I was talking to

1165

00:48:35,250 --> 00:48:33,430

my audio book engineer and saying okay

1166

00:48:38,700 --> 00:48:35,260

this is gonna be kind of a big book it's

1167

00:48:40,049 --> 00:48:38,710

about almost 600 pages and it's about a

1168

00:48:42,240 --> 00:48:40,059

quarter of a million just over a quarter

1169

00:48:43,859 --> 00:48:42,250

of a million words and he says wait over

1170

00:48:45,510 --> 00:48:43,869

there kind of pages how are these

1171

00:48:50,549 --> 00:48:45,520

eight-and-a-half by eleven pages or

1172

00:48:52,289 --> 00:48:50,559

these six by nine pages reformatted for

1173

00:48:55,289 --> 00:48:52,299

what the actual book it worked out to be

1174

00:48:57,779 --> 00:48:55,299

almost 900 pages so it's a quarter of a

1175

00:49:01,020 --> 00:48:57,789

million words that's cut man that's just

1176

00:49:03,329 --> 00:49:01,030

over a quarter million but instead I

1177

00:49:05,180 --> 00:49:03,339

have one big phone book sized book we

1178

00:49:07,890 --> 00:49:05,190

broke it down into three very readable

1179

00:49:10,769 --> 00:49:07,900

volume so yeah don't be daunted by it

1180

00:49:15,900 --> 00:49:10,779

and I think the third book is the most

1181

00:49:17,640 --> 00:49:15,910

fun because it is it's not talking head

1182

00:49:20,670 --> 00:49:17,650

it's it's telling a story and telling

1183

00:49:23,760 --> 00:49:20,680

from what we know for sure about early

1184

00:49:27,359 --> 00:49:23,770

Christianity what some of the things you

1185

00:49:28,799 --> 00:49:27,369

know showing that evolution and I I feel

1186

00:49:30,930 --> 00:49:28,809

like I left a lot out of that book

1187

00:49:33,990 --> 00:49:30,940

because some we just don't know the

1188

00:49:35,670 --> 00:49:34,000

dating of of these phases of early

1189

00:49:37,559 --> 00:49:35,680

Christianity we know that they happened

1190

00:49:38,910 --> 00:49:37,569

but did they happen in the 70s that they

1191

00:49:43,799 --> 00:49:38,920

happen to 90s did they happen in the

1192

00:49:45,750 --> 00:49:43,809

early second century and so I feel like

1193

00:49:48,660 --> 00:49:45,760

there's even more room to tell the story

1194

00:49:50,430 --> 00:49:48,670

there's more things to put into that

1195

00:49:52,079 --> 00:49:50,440

story but I'm really pleased with the

1196

00:49:54,329 --> 00:49:52,089

way the book is now and people seem to

1197

00:49:56,579 --> 00:49:54,339

really like it so that's that's great it

1198

00:49:58,140 --> 00:49:56,589

has a lot of great reviews so where do

1199

00:50:02,970 --> 00:49:58,150

you where do you go from here then as

1200

00:50:04,799 --> 00:50:02,980

their vol 4 and 5 horas ism well right

1201
00:50:07,440 --> 00:50:04,809
now currently I'm working on a science

1202
00:50:09,539 --> 00:50:07,450
fiction trilogy with my wife and we're

1203
00:50:11,880 --> 00:50:09,549
on book 2 of that so I'm contractually

1204
00:50:13,650 --> 00:50:11,890
obliged to finish that and book 3 but

1205
00:50:15,600 --> 00:50:13,660
the next non-fiction book I'll be doing

1206
00:50:17,160 --> 00:50:15,610
is going to be based on my

1207
00:50:19,260 --> 00:50:17,170
sex and violence talk if I don't know if

1208
00:50:21,660 --> 00:50:19,270
you've seen that on YouTube I have it's

1209
00:50:23,250 --> 00:50:21,670
my favorite talk it's it's called sexy

1210
00:50:26,460 --> 00:50:23,260
violence violent sex the weird-ass

1211
00:50:28,170 --> 00:50:26,470
morality of the Bible and it's my

1212
00:50:30,180 --> 00:50:28,180
favorite talk of all the talks I've ever

1213
00:50:34,440 --> 00:50:30,190

given and that's gonna be the next book

1214

00:50:35,850 --> 00:50:34,450

in the in a series which is the complete

1215

00:50:39,420 --> 00:50:35,860

heretics guide to Western religion

1216

00:50:41,370 --> 00:50:39,430

series great great well again our guest

1217

00:50:42,570 --> 00:50:41,380

has been david Fitzgerald we've

1218

00:50:43,770 --> 00:50:42,580

mentioned a couple of his books of

1219

00:50:45,000 --> 00:50:43,780

several times but we'll hit it one more

1220

00:50:47,100 --> 00:50:45,010

time nailed which you might have heard

1221

00:50:49,650 --> 00:50:47,110

about quite a splash with that and his

1222

00:50:52,080 --> 00:50:49,660

latest Jesus smithing in action and as

1223

00:50:55,020 --> 00:50:52,090

you just heard we got more books to look

1224

00:50:56,930 --> 00:50:55,030

for from Dave in the future so it's been

1225

00:50:59,070 --> 00:50:56,940

great pleasure having you on the show

1226

00:51:01,080 --> 00:50:59,080

thanks again so much for joining right

1227

00:51:03,480 --> 00:51:01,090

back at you Alex thanks so much has been

1228

00:51:05,430 --> 00:51:03,490

awesome talking to you thanks again to

1229

00:51:07,320 --> 00:51:05,440

david Fitzgerald for joining me today on

1230

00:51:09,990 --> 00:51:07,330

skeptic oh the one question I guess I

1231

00:51:13,050 --> 00:51:10,000

tee up from this interview has to do

1232

00:51:15,030 --> 00:51:13,060

with the cult question I don't think the

1233

00:51:18,330 --> 00:51:15,040

cultish aspect of mainstream

1234

00:51:20,280 --> 00:51:18,340

Christianity gets enough attention it's

1235

00:51:22,260 --> 00:51:20,290

as if we talked about cult and then we

1236

00:51:25,320 --> 00:51:22,270

talk about Christianity as if there's

1237

00:51:29,370 --> 00:51:25,330

this huge dividing line if there is any

1238

00:51:31,050 --> 00:51:29,380

dividing line it's certainly fuzzy isn't

1239

00:51:34,250 --> 00:51:31,060

a lot more fuzzy than we'd like to

1240

00:51:37,890 --> 00:51:34,260

pretend so what do you think is

1241

00:51:39,240 --> 00:51:37,900

Christianity a cult so I'd love to hear

1242

00:51:41,280 --> 00:51:39,250

your thoughts on that of course the

1243

00:51:47,250 --> 00:51:41,290

place to do it is through the skeptic Co

1244

00:51:49,460 --> 00:51:47,260

website at skeptik.com from there

1245

00:51:53,160 --> 00:51:49,470

you can also download any of our over

1246

00:51:54,540 --> 00:51:53,170

350 previous episodes or jump on over to

1247

00:51:57,180 --> 00:51:54,550

the forum to join the discussion over

1248

00:52:00,270 --> 00:51:57,190

there or drop me a note or an email

1249

00:52:02,670 --> 00:52:00,280

whatever way you find best to connect

1250

00:52:05,580 --> 00:52:02,680

with me and other people who are

1251
00:52:07,650 --> 00:52:05,590
listening to this show so I do have some

1252
00:52:09,600 --> 00:52:07,660
interesting shows coming up I'm also

1253
00:52:11,970 --> 00:52:09,610
slowing down a little bit for the summer

1254
00:52:14,970 --> 00:52:11,980
and kind of in general I'd like to get

1255
00:52:17,550 --> 00:52:14,980
back to the once every two weeks qej

1256
00:52:20,100 --> 00:52:17,560
wool and see what other things that

1257
00:52:22,260 --> 00:52:20,110
opens up in my life so that's my

1258
00:52:25,470 --> 00:52:22,270
direction at least temporarily for the

1259
00:52:27,510 --> 00:52:25,480
show but I do as always appreciate your

1260
00:52:28,680 --> 00:52:27,520
listening appreciate so many of the

1261
00:52:31,770 --> 00:52:28,690
awesome

1262
00:52:33,809 --> 00:52:31,780
emails and letters that I get from folks

1263
00:52:36,900 --> 00:52:33,819

who are appreciative of the show and

1264

00:52:38,910 --> 00:52:36,910

enjoy connecting with these ideas it's

1265

00:52:41,849 --> 00:52:38,920

really such an amazing thing that we can

1266

00:52:42,569 --> 00:52:41,859

connect in that way so so that's just

1267

00:52:44,700 --> 00:52:42,579

wonderful

1268

00:52:48,809 --> 00:52:44,710

and I hope it continues for a long long

1269

00:52:49,840 --> 00:52:48,819

time until next time take care and bye