

# What Can an Atheist Believe?

## A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Vision of Myth as Moral Framework

*"A fresh voice in the God debate, arguing that Biblical mythology and critical thinking need not be enemies. Eloquent and persuasive."*  
—DAVID BOULTON, author of *The Trouble with God*

**San Francisco, CA (November 15, 2010)** — From one of Europe's most engaging thinkers and speakers comes a fresh, contemporary perspective on atheism as enhanced by the personal and social values of religious myth.

*"Populist writers like Richard Dawkins are confident that there is no God. Atheism is on the attack and the church is in retreat, busying itself with internal squabbles about sexuality and gender, and with feeble attempts to engage the faithful."*

A charismatic figure in the 21<sup>st</sup> century debate between the religious, the anti-religious and those non-believers in deities, Geoff Crocker has synthesized his comprehensive studies and involvement in the "God debate" in a new book, ***An Enlightened Philosophy: Can an Atheist Believe Anything?***, which is being released simultaneously in March, 2011, in England and in the United States.

Beginning with an explanation of why people today don't believe, and delving into the fascinating history of the antipathy between culture and church, Crocker integrates the philosophical writings of such as Simon Blackburn, Andre Comte-Sponville and Karen Armstrong, Terry Eagleton and John Lennox. **He argues that contemporary atheism, while a valid hypothesis, destroys personal and social values without offering an alternative.** The result is moral nihilism and a materialistic, self-centered society.

**In the spirit of the iconic writings of Joseph Campbell, *An Enlightened Philosophy* offers a reinterpretation of religious texts as myth, citing examples on themes of justice, love, the market, the role of the state, fear, resurrection and sibling rivalry.**

Who will read *An Enlightened Philosophy*?

- Secularists who seek a believable interpretation of faith
- Christians craving greater understanding of their faith in the contemporary world
- Church leaders, religious scholars and students interested in a new paradigm of religion as myth
- Advocates on both sides of the "God debate"

**Geoff Crocker:**

A conference presenter, panelist and media guest, Geoff Crocker combines a long-established global career as an industrial consultant with his lively interest and involvement in issues of faith and values.

A frequent speaker in Europe and soon to make his appearance in the United States, Crocker is a popular speaker on Bible themes, having worked with the Bible Society UK and with societies in transition including small township groups in South Africa, large convention gatherings in the Philippines, and churches in Germany and elsewhere in Europe.

As laid out in his easily digested, readable new book, *An Enlightened Philosophy*, Crocker's ground-breaking synthesis of the secular and the sacred moves beyond the hopeless, barren confrontation between atheism and religion to a powerful paradigm for 21st century believers, non-believers and skeptics.

Even the atheist needs human values—religion interpreted as myth offers a classic contribution!

*“Geoff Crocker embraces the concept of atheism, yet not the simplistic mantras of Dawkins-style 'new' atheism. Advocating nothing less than a synthesis of the sacred and the secular, he finds a divine power in religious myth even when its supernatural content is stripped away. Make no mistake—this book pulls no punches in its critique of the church, and many will want to argue with its bold claims. Yet, ultimately, this is a work of profoundly spiritual hope, nothing less than a philosophy of life for these disenchanting times.”*

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**Title:** *An Enlightened Philosophy: Can an Atheist Believe Anything?*

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