



From Freud to Faith: Jay Taylor's Story

By Brett Tarbell



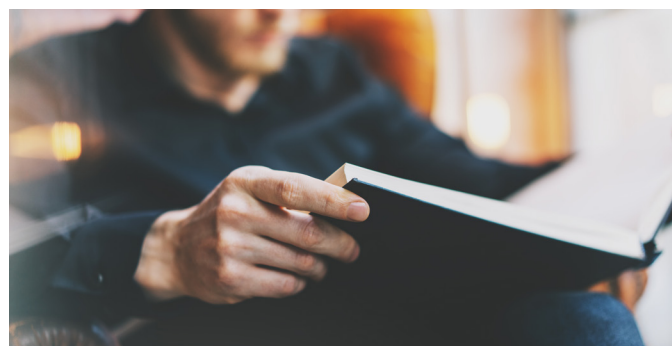
The year was 1965, and the world was changing rapidly. Raised as a devout Mennonite Christian, Jay Taylor sensed a chasm forming between his childhood faith and new ideas about good and evil, right and wrong. He set out for college, plagued by uncertainty and inner turmoil.

When Jay's poor grades forced him to face the Vietnam War draft, he was granted conscientious objector status on account of his Mennonite background. He served in a hospital with a psychiatric unit, where he hoped to find relief from the concerns that burdened his soul. The medical staff referred him to a Freudian psychoanalyst.

"Time spent with the psychoanalyst was a clinical success but a spiritual disaster," Jay recalls. Jay was able to pursue BS and MBA degrees, launch a career in finance, and run a publicly traded company. His interest in precious metals led him to study geology, as well.

Then Jay's life seemed to fall apart. Someone close to him died. His company failed. His job evaporated. "It took a lot to wake me up," he says, "but the message was getting through even to *my* thick head." Finally, Jay returned to church, and soon thereafter he heard Hugh Ross on the radio.

Reading Hugh's books helped "seal the deal," says Jay, "intellectually and spiritually." "[It] strengthened my faith," he adds, and "allowed me to share my faith with geologists and others." Thank you for helping Jay and many like him reconcile their faith in Christ with the realities of the world so they can become confident ambassadors of the gospel.



For more RTB resources to strengthen your faith and equip you to evangelize, visit shop.reasons.org.

What Happens If We Agree to Argue?

By Anastasia Young



"Atheists aren't interested in a discussion. They only attack Christians and plug their ears."

"Christians don't think

Thinking's not a part of their religion. It's all about blind faith."

How do you feel when you read those statements?

Do you find yourself agreeing with one and eager to counter the other?

That's wonderful! This very state of mind allows us to learn something about ourselves and how to (or not to) engage others.

For months now, I've worked to bring to life something you helped envision. You challenged RTB to more intentionally reach out to non-Christians, with the goal of introducing them to a rationally sound faith. We had a big vision in mind, but we started first by expanding our efforts to gain a hearing on atheist broadcasts. RTB has since been welcomed on



numerous atheist shows, and our scholars have contested others' assumptions about Christians by using credible scientific evidence to present reasons for their faith. And they've spoken consistently with gentleness and respect. In this process, we learned more about those who've walked away from their faith and those who've

never known true faith. God used these interactions to break preconceptions neither they nor we realized we held.

All this input helped us refine our "big" vision for the launch of *Agree to Argue*.

This new show is a dialogue between RTB scholar Fuzale "Fuz" Rana and Steve McRae, a non-Christian who's well-known in atheist and nontheist communities. Every month, the pair come together to tackle relevant topics, challenging and testing each other's worldview in lively conversation. Both Fuz and Steve have a passion to demonstrate that disagreement needn't be hostile and hateful, that we can all learn something through talking with one another.

One exciting aspect of this new show is that it gives viewers an opportunity to participate. During each episode, Steve and Fuz take time to address questions and challenges from viewers. This feature leads to deeper conversations and gives the cohosts an opportunity to interact with viewers—including *you*—from a wide variety of backgrounds.

Amid all the enthusiasm and excitement, never forget that your encouragement and support continue to create groundbreaking endeavors, including this new show. You inspire unique outreach that reflects quality and care, and your prayers play a vital role in each new endeavor's effectiveness.

Visit agreetoargue.com to learn more about our hosts, our vision, and to watch most recent episodes. We look forward to seeing you there!



Paul Cicciolanni discovered RTB through a Google search for evidence to support his belief in creation. His quest for facts to share with his environmental geography classmates led him to RTB. Armed with our resources, his confidence "increased exponentially." When asked what he would like to share with those who are not yet Monthly Partners, he says:

"Start small. [RTB] could provide for so many if everyone would just build a small amount of regular giving into their budget. . . . Maybe that's what RTB needs, one million one-dollar donors (well, maybe more than one dollar)."

Paul's vision is inspiring, and it is this kind of enthusiasm that helps make RTB content available for tens of thousands who are searching for hope. If you haven't done so already, will you join our Monthly Partner community? In this way you may exponentially increase someone's faith in our Creator.

To join, visit: reasons.org/monthlypartners today!



Scholar Stories



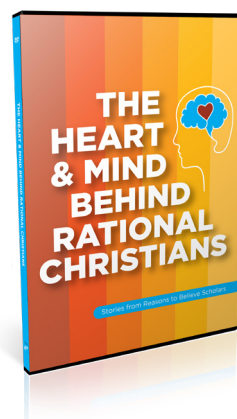
Reasons to Believe was launched to spread the Good News and advance God's kingdom by showing that science and reason align with the truth of the Bible. Your support has built a team of skilled scholars committed to carrying out this mission. Their faith-affirming research and writing reach around the world—leading many people to faith in Jesus.

Every person's faith journey is unique, and this fact certainly applies to the RTB scholars. We thought you might enjoy learning about each of their journeys to faith, and from there to full-time ministry. Their compelling stories of God's grace and guidance will give you a deeper look into the hearts and minds of the scholars who produce our core content.

We pray that their testimonies will help those struggling with doubt, unsure how to reconcile their love for science with their love of God's Word. If you know someone who values testable truth, who better for them to listen to than RTB scholars? Here's a resource you can share with your skeptical, science-focused loved ones.

Your generosity allows our scholar team to clearly show how science and Christianity are allies, not enemies. You know from experience that God can use even one simple story to bring people to faith in Christ. Perhaps he'll use our scholars' stories!

RESOURCE



This month, you can receive *The Heart & Mind behind Rational Christians* DVD as a thank-you for your gift of any amount. Make your gift and request this resource today at **give.reasons.org**.

Have a question?



Connect with us
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