



Archery is a skill that, though simple in its practice, is based on some amazing dynamics of reality – many of which we cannot see or measure easily:

- Gravity: $F = G (m_1 m_2) / r^2$ Motion: $F = ma$ Initial Velocity: $eFd/2$
- Kinetic Energy: $k \frac{1}{2} m v^2$ Leaving Velocity: $\frac{1}{2} m v^2 + k \frac{1}{2} m v^2 = eFd/2$
- Horizontal Components: $V \times \cos(\theta) = V_x$ Flight Time: $t = 2(V_y/g)$
- Vertical Components: $V \times \sin(\theta) = V_y$ Horizontal Displacement: $X = V_x t$
- Vertical Displacement: $Y = (V_y t)/2$ Archers Paradox: $\Sigma M_G = l G \alpha$

Dizzy yet? The list could go on and on.

The point here is that in the simple and fun discipline of archery we are trusting in realities that we cannot see. And yet, they are present and they are constant and they are real.

Faith is very much the same (with a little bit easier math). Faith is the practice of trusting in reality.

Hebrews 11:1 & 3 read, “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen... By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”

Nowhere in all the universe can we observe something coming from nothing. Everything comes from something...something other than itself. For everything that exists there exists what it takes for that thing to exist.

If this is true of all the things in the universe, it stands to reason that it must also be true of the universe itself. The fact that the universe exists is the evidence that what it takes for the universe to exist also exists.

The “what” is actually a “who” – designer, creator, and sustainer of the universe.

The very first thing we read in the Bible is, “In the beginning, God created...” Later we read, “what can be known about God is plain...because God has shown it...his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made.” (Genesis 1:1 & Romans 1:19-20)

When we start to see that the things we observe inside the universe are established by God who exists outside the limits of the universe and who created and sustains everything in the universe, we begin to understand what is meant to live by faith.

Just like the archer is able to loose an arrow because of all the invisible realities at work, so each person exists and moves and has life because God is at work.

Faith is the practice of trusting in reality – the practice of trusting in God.

The Bible says that we must live by faith and not by sight and that without faith it is impossible to please God. (2 Corinthians 5:7 & Hebrews 11:6)

How do we live by faith? Simple, we chose to trust in God's Word – the Bible. We commit to the practice of trusting God a little bit more today than ever before.

