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BOOK 12

THE DEBATE LEDGER
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RUNNING COUNT

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THE RUNNING COUNT

ARGUMENT SCORECARD

THE DEBATE LEDGER

Every claim here has a receipt.

B.J. CALDER

The Debate Ledger — Free Sample

Keep the method. Open the primary.

B.J. Calder

Product job: field guide / specialist map (who is actually strongest at what). **Sticky line:** The fame economy and the depth economy are not the same economy.

Author: B.J. Calder **Series:** Modern World Library | Vol 12

From the openingMWL 12 §1

Measured by raw mentions across this corpus:

PHRASE	MENTIONS (CORPUS-WIDE)
resurrection	105,854
evolution	52,669
sola scriptura	41,644
kalam	33,953
papacy	31,982
problem of evil	15,047

It will not tell you who is right about God. That question is not answerable by word count, and any book that claimed otherwise would be lying to you in the very first chapter.

Those six numbers are the exhibit this book actually ships. They come from an author-side corpus of **Christian-side debate** – thirteen figures in the field guide. Christopher Hitchens, Sam Harris, and Richard Dawkins are not in it. The searchable database is not in this file. *Sola scriptura* plus *papacy* is 73,626. *Kalam* plus *problem of evil* is 48,997.

Clip scoring is not a ledgerMWL 12 §2

Somebody in the comments always says it. *He destroyed him. Total meltdown. This ends the debate forever.* Underneath a ten-minute clip, cut and titled by someone with an incentive to make it look that way, watched by people who already agreed with the winner before the video loaded.

That is the entire scoring system for a huge stretch of Christian-side debate on the internet. This book puts a scoreboard under that noise. The record it uses is real. It is also author-side. Do not confuse a printed table with a public query box.

What actually exists nowMWL 12 §3

Publicly available debate, dialogue, and long-form exchange from thirteen prominent figures in Christian-side apologetics was collected, transcribed, and indexed into one searchable database on the author's side. Not summarized. Not vibes-checked.

THE LEDGER	COUNT
Videos transcribed	8,082
Words of transcript	over forty-two million (author-side corpus)
Figures in the field guide	13

A number large enough that no single person – not the debaters themselves, not their most devoted fans, not their harshest critics – has watched and absorbed all of it. You cannot re-run the search from this file. You can read the tables.

The first surpriseMWL 12 §4

Ask a casual viewer what religious debate is mostly about, and the answer is almost always some version of *Christians vs. atheists*. That is the marquee fight. It is also not, by volume, the biggest one in this corpus.

The single largest argument by word count is not between believers and skeptics at all. **It is between Christians** – the fight over religious authority itself. Whether Scripture alone is the final word (*sola scriptura*), or whether an ongoing teaching authority is required to interpret it.

Nobody titles their video *Why I Still Think the Reformation Was a Mistake* and expects ten million views. But strip away the titles and just count the words actually spoken, and this argument turns out to be the thing this corpus spends the most energy relitigating.

What this book will not doMWL 12 §5

- **It will not tell you who is right about God.** That question is not answerable by word count, and any book that claimed otherwise would be lying to you in the very first chapter.
- **It will not flatten thirteen distinct voices** into one composite “apologetics community.”

- **It will not score cheap points.** Every figure is described only through the plain record of what they said in public, on camera, on purpose.
- **It will not ship the database.** The tables are in this book. The searchable corpus is not.

Same rule as *The Receipt War*, applied to a different subject: describe what is actually there, print the table so it can be read, and let the reader draw their own conclusion.

Want the rest?MWL 12 §6

The full book adds:

- **The Specialist Map** – who genuinely owns which argument, and where fame and depth come apart
- **Three convergence cases** – the Kalam, manuscript evidence, and minimal facts, and what independent rediscovery does and does not prove
- **The volume surprise in full** – anatomy of the authority fight, and what it reveals about who this content is really for
- **The actual tactics** – the fallacy myth, what wins a room, the generalist trap, and telling genuine update from performed concession
- **How to watch a debate now** – finding the strongest version of any argument, spotting real resolution, and why the algorithm is not your friend
- **Appendix A: the Field Guide** – thirteen names, specialist-by-specialist
- **Appendix B: Method Notes** – how the author-side corpus was built, and why the database is not in this file

Full pack: open the HTML page, EPUB e-book, or PDF of *The Debate Ledger* from this book's pack (same folder tree as this sample). **Author site:** open *The Debate Ledger* page in the Modern World Library site.

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