

# Pontifications Definition

## **Pontifications Definition: Unpacking the Meaning and Implications of Authoritative Statements**

Introduction:

Have you ever encountered someone delivering pronouncements with unwavering confidence, seemingly dispensing wisdom on a subject they may or may not fully understand? That, my friends, is a prime example of pontification. But what exactly is a pontification? This comprehensive guide dives deep into the definition of "pontification," exploring its nuances, implications, and how to identify it in everyday conversation and writing. We'll examine the etymology, delve into the subtle differences between pontification and related terms like assertion and declaration, and ultimately provide you with the tools to understand and effectively use (or avoid!) this powerful word. Prepare to become a pontification expert!

What is a Pontification? A Deep Dive into the Definition

The word "pontification" originates from the Latin "pontifex," meaning "bridge builder," a title historically associated with the highest priest in ancient Rome. While the modern meaning bears little direct resemblance to bridge building, the underlying concept of authority and pronouncements remains. A pontification, therefore, is a formal or authoritative declaration, often presented with an air of self-importance and without sufficient evidence or consideration of opposing viewpoints. It's a statement delivered with the conviction of an expert, regardless of the speaker's actual expertise.

Key Characteristics of Pontification:

**Authoritative Tone:** Pontifications are delivered with an air of undeniable truth and certainty, often leaving little room for discussion or dissent.

**Lack of Evidence:** While assertions might be backed by some evidence, pontifications frequently lack the supporting data or reasoning necessary to justify their claims.

**Self-Importance:** The speaker often positions themselves as an authority, regardless of their actual knowledge or qualifications. There's a distinct flavor of "I know best" interwoven within the statement.

**Dismissal of Counterarguments:** Alternative perspectives are often ignored or dismissed outright, further solidifying the speaker's self-assured position.

**Overly Confident Delivery:** The manner of delivery is crucial. A pontification isn't just a statement; it's a performance, characterized by a tone of absolute certainty and unwavering conviction.

Pontification vs. Assertion vs. Declaration:

It's important to differentiate pontification from similar terms. While all three involve making statements, the nuances are critical:

**Assertion:** A statement made confidently, but not necessarily with the authority or lack of evidence

characteristic of a pontification. Assertions can be supported by evidence.

**Declaration:** A formal or official statement, often of intent or fact. Declarations can be authoritative, but they don't always carry the same air of self-importance as a pontification.

**Pontification:** As discussed, a self-important, often unsupported, authoritative pronouncement. It leans heavily on the speaker's perceived authority rather than substantial evidence.

### Identifying Pontifications in Everyday Life:

Pontifications are surprisingly common. Pay attention to conversations and discussions – you'll likely recognize them in:

**Online Forums and Comment Sections:** The anonymity of the internet often emboldens individuals to pontificate on subjects they know little about.

**Political Discourse:** The realm of politics is rife with pontifications, as individuals and groups stake out positions with little regard for nuanced debate.

**Workplace Environments:** A boss delivering pronouncements without consulting others or considering alternative perspectives could be engaging in pontification.

**Casual Conversations:** Even amongst friends, someone might inadvertently pontificate on a subject where they lack expertise.

### The Implications of Pontification:

While seemingly harmless, frequent pontification can have several negative consequences:

**Stifling of Debate:** By dismissing alternative viewpoints, pontifications can prevent productive discussions and the exploration of different perspectives.

**Spread of Misinformation:** Unsupported claims presented as absolute truths can contribute to the spread of misinformation.

**Erosion of Trust:** Constant pontification can erode trust in the speaker and their judgment.

### How to Avoid Pontification (and How to Respond to It):

**Self-Awareness:** Before making a statement, take a moment to consider whether you have sufficient evidence to support your claim. If not, temper your language and acknowledge potential limitations in your knowledge.

**Open-mindedness:** Be open to alternative perspectives and be willing to engage in constructive dialogue.

**Respectful Discourse:** Engage in respectful and evidence-based discussions, even when disagreeing with others.

**Responding to Pontification:** When faced with a pontification, politely challenge the speaker to provide evidence or acknowledge alternative viewpoints. Ask clarifying questions. Focus on facts and logic rather than engaging in an argumentative exchange.

### Article Outline:

**Title:** Pontifications Definition: Unpacking the Meaning and Implications of Authoritative Statements

**Introduction:** Hook the reader, provide an overview of the article's content.

**Chapter 1:** What is a Pontification? Define pontification, explore its etymology, and discuss its key

characteristics.

Chapter 2: Pontification vs. Assertion vs. Declaration: Differentiate pontification from related terms.

Chapter 3: Identifying Pontifications in Everyday Life: Provide examples of pontification in various contexts.

Chapter 4: The Implications of Pontification: Discuss the negative consequences of frequent pontification.

Chapter 5: How to Avoid Pontification (and How to Respond to It): Offer practical advice.

Conclusion: Summarize key takeaways and encourage further exploration.

FAQs: Answer frequently asked questions.

Related Articles: List and briefly describe relevant articles.

(The above outline is reflected in the main body of the article already written.)

FAQs:

1. Is pontification always negative? Not always. Sometimes, a confident statement can be helpful, particularly in situations requiring quick decisions. However, the lack of evidence and dismissal of alternative viewpoints are the key negative aspects.
2. How can I tell if I'm pontificating? Ask yourself if you have sufficient evidence to support your claims. Are you open to alternative viewpoints? Are you presenting your opinion as absolute truth?
3. Is pontification a formal term? While understood in formal settings, it's often used informally to describe confident, possibly unsupported statements.
4. Can pontification be humorous? Yes, often it's used satirically to highlight the absurdity of unfounded pronouncements.
5. What's the best way to respond to someone pontificating? Respectfully question their assumptions and ask for supporting evidence. Focus on factual information.
6. Is pontification a sign of arrogance? Often, yes. It frequently stems from a lack of self-awareness regarding one's own knowledge limitations.
7. Can pontification be effective in persuasion? It can be momentarily effective, especially with a receptive audience, but it's not a sound long-term strategy for persuasion.
8. Are there any positive aspects to pontification? Sometimes, a confident statement can be inspiring or motivating, even if it lacks rigorous evidence. However, this is often dependent on context and audience.
9. How does pontification relate to the concept of "confirmation bias"? Individuals prone to confirmation bias are more likely to engage in pontification, as they selectively seek out information that confirms their existing beliefs while ignoring contradictory evidence.

Related Articles:

1. The Art of Assertive Communication: Explores healthy ways to express opinions confidently while

remaining open to differing perspectives.

2. Logical Fallacies and How to Spot Them: Provides tools to identify flaws in reasoning and argumentation, including those often found in pontifications.
3. Critical Thinking Skills: A Beginner's Guide: Teaches readers how to evaluate information critically and make informed judgments.
4. Effective Argumentation Techniques: Explores constructive methods of debating and persuading others using evidence and logic.
5. The Dangers of Misinformation and Disinformation: Discusses the impact of false information on society and individual decision-making.
6. Building Confidence Without Arrogance: Provides strategies for boosting self-assurance without becoming overly self-important.
7. Understanding Cognitive Biases: Explores various cognitive biases that can impact decision-making and communication.
8. Active Listening Skills for Effective Communication: Focuses on the importance of attentive listening in fostering productive conversations.
9. Developing Emotional Intelligence in the Workplace: Explores the role of emotional intelligence in navigating workplace dynamics and communication challenges.

**pontifications definition:** *Street Crossers* Rick W. ShROUT, 2011-10-12 Imagine traditional congregations in the United States and Canada sending missionaries across the street from their church buildings to express the kingdom of God within a postmodern culture and among disenfranchised Christians. The possibilities and potential are endless. This concept is explored and actual examples are presented in *Street Crossers*. Partnerships between traditional churches and nontraditional simple church planters are rare. More need to be encouraged because a significant number of people across North America are skeptical of organized religion or want nothing to do with church-as-usual. While some might conclude that the traditional church has little to offer a postmodern world and that no amount of tweaking traditional church structures will make a significant difference, they have forgotten to consider a vital reality existing in most congregations across the land: a commitment to send and support missionaries to foreign cultures. It's time to harness this existing commitment and focus it across the street.

**pontifications definition:** *The World Book Dictionary*, 2003 An English language dictionary, in two volumes, that provides definitions, spellings, and pronunciations to more than 225,000 terms.

**pontifications definition:** *The Favor of My Lord* Denise Sobilo, 2021-05-25 The primal metaphor has been transposed as sleep an affiance with death eludes for death defective is but sleep. Alludes to resurrection now: a dawning rosed in bloody-red genesis, predisposed to whited hues dazzling out in amplitudes. In a debut collection of inspirational poems, Denise Sobilo invites readers to awaken to the Presence of the Divine through her introspective and often philosophical reflections. Sobilo, whose poetry is inspired by both scripture and other writings, shares lyrical insight reflected in verse that touches on many themes and subjects including the blood-sacrifice wounds of salvific love, the absolution that surrounds a death bed, a feast that sates the soul's appetencies and satisfies the mind, a mother's spirit that rises to heaven again, and a potter's wheel under a dervish hand. *The Favor of My Lord* is a unique volume of poetry which provides an insightful perception of the spiritual aspects of this world that will inspire believers and non-believers alike to a deeper introspection and understanding of their own relationships with God.

**pontifications definition:** *Morality Vs. Christianity* N. I. Zimudo, 2022-12-30 There is more to Christianity than being kind, empathetic, and decent. In fact, there is a great gulf that separates morality from Christianity. One does not need to become a Christian to be moral, but one certainly needs Christ to become a child of God. N. I. Zimudo, who has spent his life teaching others to walk with the Lord, notes that if morality was all that God required of us, then Christ would not have needed to die on the cross. It's clear that Christianity goes beyond right and wrong to address

matters at the core of our human existence. As you read, you'll explore themes such as morality, religion, repentance, and Christianity, including the differences between them. Consider questions such as: • Can morality exist outside of a religious system? • What are the practical differences between good morals and Christianity? • What more does Christianity have to offer besides good behavior? • Why is morality a risky business? The author contends that we don't become Christians to find morality but rather to become children of God. Find out what God expects of you and how to take hold of his blessings with this book.

**pontifications definition: After Midnight** Joseph N. Manfredo, 2010-08-24 After Midnight: Poems and Pontifications presents a collection of poetry written over a span of sixty years. Manfredos early writings reflect the idealism, spirituality, and wonderment of youth, questioning the meaning of life and describing dreams and aspirations. The collection then traces the evolution of his style into a sophisticated and passionate maturity. During the last score of years, his poetry demonstrates an acceptance of the realities of life, sometimes expressing a sense of both resignation and whimsy. As a life presented in poetry, After Midnight offers a journey of emotional growth, which finally and inevitably arrives at an awareness and graceful acceptance of mortality. Gettin Old I look in the mirror and say a prayer Of thanks to the Gods that my face is still there. My locks are much thinner My face is less fair. Glad Ive lived long enough to lose my hair. Dying young, while good-lookin, Aint a bargain to me. Livin long, causin trouble, Thats where I want to be. So Ill linger a while longer Kinda messin with you. When I finally depart Youll be glad I will too!

**pontifications definition: Inside IBM** James W. Cortada, 2023-10-31 IBM was the world's leading provider of information technologies for much of the twentieth century. What made it so successful for such a long time, and what lessons can this iconic corporation teach present-day enterprises? James W. Cortada—a business historian who worked at IBM for many years—pinpoints the crucial role of IBM's corporate culture. He provides an inside look at how this culture emerged and evolved over the course of nearly a century, bringing together the perspectives of employees, executives, and customers around the world. Through a series of case studies, Inside IBM explores the practices that built and reinforced organizational culture, including training of managers, employee benefits, company rituals, and the role of humor. It also considers the importance of material culture, such as coffee mugs and lapel pins. Cortada argues that IBM's corporate culture aligned with its business imperatives for most of its history, allowing it to operate with a variety of stakeholders in mind and not simply prioritize stockholders. He identifies key lessons that managers can learn from IBM's experience and apply in their own organizations today. This engaging and deeply researched book holds many insights for business historians, executives and managers concerned with stakeholder relations, professionals interested in corporate culture, and IBMers.

**pontifications definition: The New York Times Book Review** , 1972-10

**pontifications definition: The World Book Dictionary** Clarence Lewis Barnhart, Robert K. Barnhart, 1982

**pontifications definition: Toxic People** Tim Cantopher, 2021-05-13 'A brilliant book about how we identify the often-charming people who only spread misery.' Jeremy Vine, BBC Radio 2 BMA MEDICAL AWARDS 2020: HIGHLY COMMENDED Some people are so stressful, they can actually make us ill. Gameplayers, bullies, users and abusers - all pose a risk to our health and welfare if we don't take action. This book presents the tools we need to deal with the toxic people in our lives who drain our energy. It explains how to make healthy relationship choices, set proper boundaries and recognize the red flags that should alert us to avoid certain people. Whether you are struggling with a narcissistic partner, or dealing with a bullying boss or a sociopathic colleague, there is practical advice that will help you not only to protect your mental wellbeing but also to thrive. You will understand the nature of the toxic workplace - how to avoid it and if necessary survive within it. If you're surrounded by the takers of this world, read this book and gain the freedom to make your own choices and live your own life.

**pontifications definition: Sexual Virtue** Richard W. McCarty, 2015-01-08 Richard W. McCarty offers a compassionate and inclusive conception of sexual virtue, one that liberates Christians from

traditional patriarchal requirements for heterosexuality, marriage, and procreation. Daring to depart from ongoing debates about what Aristotle or Aquinas had to say, this book sets a new course centered on virtue ethics. It employs new insights from the sciences, biblical scholarship, analyses of church traditions, and revisionist natural law thinking. Eschewing simple deconstruction of traditional Christian norms for sexual morality, McCarty offers constructive ideas about what might count as real human goods for people in a wide variety of sexual relationships. Recreation, relational intimacy, and selective acts of procreation are three ends of sexual virtue that promote human happiness and can be appreciated in a broad Christian framework. While primarily referencing the Roman Catholic intellectual tradition, McCarty's work is also vital and accessible to those from Protestant backgrounds. Addressed to LGBT and straight readers, *Sexual Virtue* provides a compassionate sexual ethics for our time.

**pontifications definition:** *The Literary Criterion* , 1994

**pontifications definition:** **Generative Artificial Intelligence** JERRY. KAPLAN, 2024-02-19  
Generative Artificial Intelligence: What Everyone Needs to Know  $\hat{A}$ (R) equips readers with the knowledge to answer pressing questions about the impact of generative artificial intelligence on every facet of society.

**pontifications definition:** *The Mechanism Demands a Mysticism* Thomas G. Brophy, 2001-03-27 Brilliant important strongly recommended reads at times like a 'Tom Robbins of physics'. - Jacquelyn Small, author of *Awakening in Time*, and *Becoming a Practical Mystic* With this book, Thomas Brophy establishes his credentials as a paradigmatic, that rarest of thinkers, whose models of reality not only enhance human understanding of their world, but give form to new historical movements. By integrating several cutting edge paradigms, and by highlighting the role of spirit in the universe, *The Mechanism Demands a Mysticism* is sure to inform, instruct, entertain, and even inspire its readers. -Stanley Krippner, Ph.D., former president of the American Psychological Association's Division of Humanistic Psychology; author of *Dream Telepathy*. Integrating the words of many holy people with scientific theories and a study of phenomena, Brophy indicates the limitations of scientific and religious dogmas this kind of integration will become more and more necessary in the next century. -Hiroshi Motoyama, Ph.D., Litt. D., author of *Karma and Reincarnation*; Head Priest of Tamamitsu Shinto Shrine, Tokyo. Well, 'just a few pages' has turned into reading the whole thing. Eminently readable and highly entertaining or infotaining. A good book! Never thought of juxtaposing Newton and Basho myself. -Yasuhiko Kimura, CEO of the University of Science & Philosophy and Director of the Twilight Club/Center for Evolutionary Ethics, former Zen priest. Your ideas are profound. *The Mechanism Demands a Mysticism* deserves a broader exposure. - Jeffrey Mishlove, Ph.D., host of *Thinking Allowed*, and *Virtual U Wisdom Radio*. You are opening the eyes of scientists all over. Bravo! -Judith Orloff, M.D. Board Certified Psychiatrist, author of *Second Sight*.

**pontifications definition:** *The World Book Dictionary: L-Z* Clarence Lewis Barnhart, Robert K. Barnhart, 1987 Provides information about the meaning, spelling, and pronunciation of commonly used words in the English language.

**pontifications definition:** *Saul Bellow Journal* , 2003

**pontifications definition:** [The Great Derangement](#) Amitav Ghosh, 2017-07-24 Are we deranged? The acclaimed Indian novelist Amitav Ghosh argues that future generations may well think so. How else to explain our imaginative failure in the face of global warming? In his first major book of nonfiction since *In an Antique Land*, Ghosh examines our inability—at the level of literature, history, and politics—to grasp the scale and violence of climate change. The extreme nature of today's climate events, Ghosh asserts, make them peculiarly resistant to contemporary modes of thinking and imagining. This is particularly true of serious literary fiction: hundred-year storms and freakish tornadoes simply feel too improbable for the novel; they are automatically consigned to other genres. In the writing of history, too, the climate crisis has sometimes led to gross simplifications; Ghosh shows that the history of the carbon economy is a tangled global story with many contradictory and counterintuitive elements. Ghosh ends by suggesting that politics, much like

literature, has become a matter of personal moral reckoning rather than an arena of collective action. But to limit fiction and politics to individual moral adventure comes at a great cost. The climate crisis asks us to imagine other forms of human existence—a task to which fiction, Ghosh argues, is the best suited of all cultural forms. His book serves as a great writer's summons to confront the most urgent task of our time.

**pontifications definition: Church and State** , 1974

**pontifications definition: Newswatch** , 2003

**pontifications definition:** *Living in Bible Times* Christopher J. Richmann, 2020-01-09 F. F. Bosworth was the only major living link between the late-nineteenth-century divine healing movement that gave birth to Pentecostalism and the post-World-War II healing revival that brought Pentecostalism into American popular culture. At once on the fringes and in the mainstream of American Pentecostalism, Bosworth has largely been ignored by historians. Richmann demonstrates that Bosworth's story not only draws together disparate threads of the Pentecostal story but critiques traditional interpretations of speaking in tongues, Azusa Street, denominational affiliation, divine healing, the relationship to fundamentalism, the Word of Faith movement, and eschatology. In this critique, Richmann provides a much-needed critical biography of Bosworth as well as a fresh interpretation of Pentecostalism.

**pontifications definition:** *Laughing with Doomsday* Kaare Bursell, 2021-11-10 What is disease? What does disease signify? The author found himself faced with these questions after several years of veterinary practice. How was it that he was not prepared to answer these questions after so much schooling and life experience? He set out on a quest to delve into human evolution, spirituality and the cultural fabric of the modern world. Through the lens of macrobiotics and anthroposophy, Kaare lays out a picture of the heritage that should belong to the human being. In a world where people are taught to override their symptoms with medications,, where social and political problems are at the mercy of the latest fads, Kaare provides a call to take action. In this timely follow-up to Kaare's first book, *The End of Medicine*, he takes us past digestion and physical dis-ease into the world of economics, politics, relationships and family structure. Written long before the era of covid, this practical treatise gives the reader a valuable compass to help chart a course out of wilderness of modern, mechanical thinking into a new, peaceful world of connection to spirit and true purpose in living.

**pontifications definition:** *Critical Theory* Alan How, 2017-03-07 This book examines the intellectual contribution made by Frankfurt School Critical Theory to our understanding of modern life. Thematically organized and offering a strong mix of historical and contemporary material, it considers the work of both the first and second generation. While the work of the latter is often taken to exceed that of the former, the author suggests that insights gleaned by both, regarding the human subject, offer a significant alternative to post-modern ideas.

**pontifications definition: Future Perspectives in Behavior Therapy** Larry Michelson, Michel Hersen, Samuel M. Turner, 2013-11-11 Contemporary behavior therapy encompasses diverse conceptual positions, clinical and applied problems, and intervention techniques. Behavior therapy has spread to several disciplines to provide substantive concepts and procedures as well as methodological tenets regarding how intervention techniques are to be evaluated. The proliferation of behavior therapy research has produced a plethora of texts. Typically texts review the history of particular treatments and detail contemporary advances. The historical underpinnings are often emphasized with the heavily labored view that in order to understand where one is going, it is important to understand where one has been. To be sure, historical roots of behavior therapy are important to document. However, a given history might have many different outcomes. Similarly, the current status of par ticular areas is frequently reviewed. Sometimes the number of reviews seems to approach or exceed the number of sound studies that there are to be reviewed. A review of current work is obviously essential but leaves open major questions of where the work will all lead. A valuable addition to ex isting reviews would be information that points in a prescriptive or explicit way to areas that are likely to be important in future work. The present book is unique in its

approach and focus. Brief reviews of contemporary advances are provided in diverse areas of behavior therapy and serve as a point of departure to chart emerging trends and future directions.

**pontifications definition:** *Evangelism and Social Concern in the Theology of Carl F. H. Henry* Jerry M. Ireland, 2015-06-01 How do evangelism and social concern relate to one another in the mission of the church? How should the Old Testament's emphasis on social justice inform the praxis of modern believers? Does the Bible emphasize individual salvation, or does it teach a broader, more inclusive concept? Theologians, missiologists, pastors, and educators have wrestled with these questions for centuries. But especially since the early part of the twentieth century, this debate has increasingly become a point of contention among evangelical Christians, with few indications that a consensus may soon be forthcoming. Yet few have offered so thorough an answer to these questions as has Carl F. H. Henry. Henry's regenerative model of evangelism and social concern stands on the shoulders of Augustine and many others, and offers what may be the best way forward. This book explores Henry's thoughts on this subject and sets him in dialogue with numerous others who have written on these topics. Thus it will prove a valuable resource for all interested in this topic.

**pontifications definition:** *Quest*, 1974

**pontifications definition:** *The Psychology of Gender* Gary W. Wood, 2018-03-15 What is the difference between sex and gender? What is the impact of gender-role stereotypes on our lives, our relationships and the world? What does gender mean to you? The Psychology of Gender looks at our biology, history and culture to consider the impact of gender roles and stereotypes, and addresses the 'dilemmas' we have regarding gender in a post-modern world. It offers a unique perspective on gender through storytelling and explores ideas around transgender and cisgender identities and androgyny, tackling hidden assumptions and helping us make sense of the world of gender. By examining the future of gender, The Psychology of Gender offers a platform for further exploration, and arrives at a new psychology of gender that emphasises relationships and helps us to understand our own gender identity and that of those around us.

**pontifications definition:** *Science Wars* Andrew Ross, 1996 Analyzing the antidemocratic tendencies within science and its institutions, they insist on a more accountable relationship between scientists and the communities and environments affected by their research.

**pontifications definition:** *The Mind of Christ* Stephen T. Pardue, 2013-09-12 This book brings a variety of theological resources to bear on the now widespread effort to put humility in its proper place. In recent years, an assortment of thinkers have offered competing evaluations of humility, so that its moral status is now more contentious than ever. Like all accounts of humility, the one advanced in this study has to do with the proper handling of human limits. What early Christian resources offer, and what discussions of the issue since the eighteenth century have often overlooked, is an account of the ways in which human limits are permeable, superable and open to modification because of the working of divine grace. This notion is especially relevant for a renewed vision of intellectual humility-the primary aim of the project-but the study will also suggest the significance of the argument for ameliorating contemporary concerns about humility's generally adverse effects.

**pontifications definition:** *Truth for Human Existence and Happiness* Paul Sites, Danny Sites, 2010-07-23 This book is a response to postmodernists who take the position that there is no foundation for truth; there are only stories. We posit two types of truth, truth about existence created by scientists, which serves as a foundation of truth for existence. Truth about existence describes human nature, a major component being the human sense of self. Following George Herbert Mead, the self is not an entity, it is process. It is not substantive; it is functional. There are two phases to the self, the I phase and the Me-phase. The I- phase has its roots in biology, so when the needs of the self are not being gratified, individuals suffer. When individuals suffer, life is without meaning; individuals despair. It is human needs and their inherent tie to suffering that points the way to truth for human existence and happiness. Because other people value what they need, needs and their corresponding values serve as the foundation for truth about existence upon which truth for human existence is constructed.



**pontifications definition: There Are Certain Realities** JC Lippman, 2024-05-30 The question as to whether or not God exists is, by definition, a simple dichotomy. Logic dictates that God either exists or does not exist. Either way, there are certain realities that are going to be true. This book explores some of those realities and explains why, in the light of those facts, it is the case that for some individuals, atheism is the only intellectually honest position they can hold. In some parts of the world today, a fundamental misunderstanding of atheism has led atheists to risk losing friends, family, employment, their liberty, and even their lives just for acknowledging who they are. These risks can only be realistically combated through knowledge and understanding. This does not require theists to adopt atheism but rather to open their minds to understanding a different perspective. So, whether you are an atheist baffled by atheism, an atheist baffled by theistic arguments, or find yourself undecided about your position and are just looking for some perspective, you may find what you're looking for here. A must-read for those seeking a deeper understanding of the atheistic perspective, as well as those seeking to better understand the theological apologetics underpinning religious belief systems. This work is intended to winnow away the proverbial chaff from the wheat, whilst remaining open to new arguments in favor of the existence of God. It is the author's hope that this book will aid readers in their quest for truth and understanding, by steering them away from bad and long-since debunked arguments, under the simple premise that uncovering the truth cannot be achieved, so long as one continues to embrace logical fallacies, unsupported assertions, or known falsehoods.

**pontifications definition: Rock Solid Living in A Quicksand World - Rewind** Alfred McGowen, 2018-08-16 Rock-Solid Living in a Quicksand World is an extremely critical conversation Jesus is having with twenty-first century nations and people regarding the importance of looking back in order to actually have a future. At the end of the Sermon on the Mount, we hear Him teaching us to look backward in Matthew's Gospel (chapters 7 through 5,) and He says, Embrace these teachings of mine, and actually live by them. Then, when the CAT-5 hurricanes of life pummel you, you will bear up under them! Choose otherwise, and you will collapse in a melodramatic way! The USA and Western culture are on the path of Rome and Greece. Our foundations are crumbling in much the same way the foundations of these ancient superpowers turned to dust and ruin. These once-great historical titans now stand as crumbling ruins, viewed by today's tourists. They are seen as once great mighty nations that once were but never more shall be. Likewise, our foundations are turning into quicksand. Within the pages of this book, Jesus is calling us back to his teachings, which served us so well. Yes, it is in these teachings that we find personal, national, and cultural salvation and hope for a future. Here in his teachings, we will find the rock-solid foundation for our ever-increasingly crumbling quicksand world.

**pontifications definition: The Nitpicker's Guide for Classic Trekkers** Phil Farrand, 2010-03-31 Six feature films, the wildly successful television spin-off Star Trek: The Next Generation, endless reruns, videotapes, conventions, a line of best-selling novels, and William Shatner's New York Times best-seller Star Trek Memories have kept the Star Trek spirit alive and well, even 25 years after its cancellation. Now this must-have book for all Trekkers -- which covers every episode of the original series, the pilot, and all six movies -- reveals all the bloopers, continuity errors, plot oversights, equipment malfunctions, and goof-ups that discerning, die-hard fans love to spot, but may have missed. Written especially for all those who find themselves thinking, Hey, if the transporter is broken, why don't they just use a shuttlecraft?, this nitpicky volume includes Kirk's toupee watch; an examination of the logic of the miniskirted female crew members; number of times Kirk violated the Prime Directive and lots of trivia questions, fun facts, quizzes, and more. Live long and nitpick.

**pontifications definition: Nollywood** Jonathan Haynes, 2016-10-04 The English-language branch of the Nigerian film industry, Nollywood, has become the third largest in the world. Nollywood films saturate Nigeria and have spread across the African continent, achieving an astonishing extent and depth of cultural influence. They are the most important modern cultural form to come out of Africa. In this book, Jonathan Haynes aims to map out the cultural terrain of

Nollywood films much more comprehensively and ambitiously than has been to date. He in effect establishes a canon for Nollywood films. The book is organized around the historical development of Nollywood film culture, which is explored with close attention to the recent history of Nigeria. Throughout the book, genre (defined with reference to common usage in Nigerian film markets) is the principal framework. Thus after establishing a sense of the material and social circumstances out of which Nollywood was born and exploring a few landmark films, Haynes analyzes the durable set of themes and plot types that dominate the industry and reveal deeply embedded tensions in contemporary Nigerian life. These genres include family films and romances, village films, cultural epics, political films, films made in or about the Nigerian diaspora, and campus films. Haynes concludes by offering some remarks on the future of Nollywood, exploring the buzz around a New Nollywood of films with higher budgets fit for international film festivals and widespread screening in cinemas in Nigeria and abroad.

**pontifications definition: Christopraxis** Andrew Root, 2014 Finding practical theology not always able to present frameworks for understanding concrete and lived experience with divine action, Andrew Root's Christopraxis seeks to reset the edifice of practical theology on a new foundation. While not minimizing its commitment to the lived and concrete, Root argues that practical theology has neglected deeper theological underpinnings. Root seeks to create a practical theology that is properly and fully theological, post-postmodern, post-Aristotelian, and that attends to doctrines such as divine action and justification.

**pontifications definition: Reporting in a Multimedia World** Gail Sedorkin, 2020-07-16 Every journalist must be able to conduct an interview and write snappy copy. No matter what field they are working in journalists also need to be able to wield a digital recorder, take photographs, talk to camera convincingly and create content for online delivery. Reporting in a Multimedia World offers a thorough overview of the core skills journalists need for the 21st century. The authors show how to generate story ideas, handle interviews, write for different audiences, and edit your own copy. They explain the basics of news photography and broadcast media, the requirements of different digital platforms and the challenges of user generated content. They also look at professional issues: the use of social media by journalists, legal and ethical issues, and career strategies. Thoroughly revised to reflect the rapid changes in media as a result of digital technologies, and written in a lively style with case studies and tips from experienced journalists, Reporting in a Multimedia World is an ideal introduction to an exciting and demanding profession. 'Theoretical and practical aspects of journalism are perfectly matched, making it an invaluable resource for students and teachers alike.' - Padma Iyer in AsiaPacific MediaEducator

**pontifications definition: Cognitive Capitalism** Yann Moulier-Boutang, 2011 This book argues that we are undergoing a transition from industrial capitalism to a new form of capitalism - what the author calls 'cognitive capitalism'.

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