I have decided to hold a small and intimate webinar in order to raise money for the Bart Ehrman Blog. Every penny that the webinar brings in will go directly to two of the blog’s charities, The Food Bank of Central/Eastern North Carolina and Doctors without Borders, split equally between them. It will be held on Sunday May 31 at 4:00 pm. It will last for an hour and fifteen minutes.

The topic of the seminar will be “How We Got the New Testament.” Among the topics to be covered will be: Who decided which books would be included in the New Testament? Who gave them the authority to decide? How did they decide? What were their criteria? When were their decisions finally made? What do we know about the books that were left out? And why didn’t these other books “make it”?

I will say at the outset, here, that the answers are not what most people seem to suppose.

In the webinar I will deliver a talk for about 40-45 minutes; the rest of the time I will entertain questions from the ten participants, on this particular topic. We will do the webinar on Zoom.

Each of the ten participants will make a donation in advance. Anyone on the planet is welcome to be one of the ten. In order to maximize the amount that we can raise for these important charities, the ten positions will be made available to the ten highest bidders. Bidding will start at $100 for a spot.

From now until Thursday May 21 I will accept bids for the opportunity to participate. BUT, there will be a second round. Once the bids are in, I will announce what the top ten bids are and people who still want to participate can then make a second bid, until Saturday May 23 at 6:00 pm.

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS: To put in a bid, send a private email to me at behrman@email.unc.edu. DO NOT reply here on the blog. For the SUBJECT LINE simply say “Bid for Webinar.” In the text of the message, indicate how much you are willing to bid. Once all the bids are in I will contact all bidders to indicate the level of the top ten bids for the second round, and will notify all participants of the second round whether or not they have made it “in.”

As an additional bonus, the top bidder will have an additional 30 minutes with me, one-on-one, on Zoom, following the meeting - to discuss either the topic of the webinar further or to talk about anything else she or he would like.

If you have any questions about the procedure, feel free to ask me on the blog or in a private email.

I hope we can raise a lot of money for worthy causes. I’m looking forward to it!

My Interview with Erstwhile-Evangelist-Now-Secular-Humanist Bart Campolo
A Powerful Film and Some Raw Emotions