Paper Assignment #2

Paper Option (i)

In a paper of 5-6 pages, critically discuss one of the following claims:

“No testimony of any kind in favor of miracles can plausibly justify religious belief.” This involves setting up Hume’s argument in light of Bayes’s theorem, along with objections and replies considered in class.

“Faith depends on reason (religious belief is appropriately proportioned to the evidence).” This involves discussion of what you see as crucial issues raised in readings by Kierkegaard, Adams, Clifford, Scriven, Pascal and/or James, along with lecture.

“Reason depends on faith (all believing involves some element of faith and commitment).” This involves discussion of what you see as crucial issues raised in readings by Plantinga, Alston, Pargetter and Hasker, along with lecture.

The first draft of your paper is due on Tu 3/4. You may expect graded papers to be returned to you by Tu 3/11, and rewrites to be due on Tu 3/18 (of final exam week).

Paper Option (ii)

As per the syllabus, you are to turn in a complete draft on Tu 3/4. The final draft is due at the final exam on Tu 3/18.