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Is neuroscience relevant to Hume's idea that religious belief is grounded in fear?

The Scottish Enlightenment philosopher David Hume famously claimed -- and many influential critics of religion have followed him in this, e.g. Bertrand Russell -- that (generally speaking) religious belief is grounded in fear. I offer an explication of this thesis, and discuss what relevance its possible truth would have for the evaluation of religious belief. I also discuss the question whether neuroscience, and in particular the new field of credition research, is relevant to the confirmation (or disconfirmation) of this thesis, and, if so, in what way.