



Worldviews in Conflict

WHY CHRISTIANITY IS A REASONABLE FAITH

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS?

- “Who is there to harm you if you prove zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED, but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always *being* ready to make a **defense** to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence;”

--1 Peter 3:13-15





WHAT IS A WORLDVIEW?

“A worldview is a set of beliefs about the most important issues in life.”

---Ronald Nash

Basic Beliefs of Pastors, by Denominational Families							
Belief held by pastor	Denominational Family of the Pastor						
	Non-D	Evang	ML	Cath	Pent	Blk	Holi
Human life is sacred	90%	62%	68%	34%	55%	40%	35%
The personal accumulation of money and other forms of wealth are entrusted to a person by God to manage for His purposes	71	57	62	33	46	30	38
When you die you will go to Heaven only because you have confessed your sins and have accepted Jesus Christ as your savior	71	70	51	44	64	47	49
Success in life is consistent obedience to God	67	60	53	35	45	40	37
Reincarnation is a real possibility	33	33	32	47	43	70	52
Having faith matters more than which faith you have	21	37	39	84	45	68	55
A person who is generally good, or does enough good things for others, will earn a place in Heaven	21	34	30	77	47	66	55
Determining moral truth is up to each individual; there are no moral absolutes that apply to everyone, all the time	15	39	37	79	54	76	62
The Bible is ambiguous regarding abortion; it is possible to make a compelling biblical argument either for or against abortion	15	26	49	61	35	51	40
Key to denominational abbreviations: Non-D: non-denominational and independent. Evang: evangelical. ML: mainline Protestant. Cath: Roman Catholic. Pent: Pentecostal and charismatic. Blk: traditionally black. Holi: Holiness.							
Source: American Worldview Inventory, Cultural Research Center at Arizona Christian University, N=1,000 Christian pastors, 2022.							

THREE WORLDVIEWS COMPETING IN OUR CULTURE

- POST-MODERNISM
- SCIENTIFIC-NATURALISM
(SCIENTISM)
- THEISM



POST-MODERNISM CLAIMS:

**“THERE IS NO
ABSOLUTE TRUTH.”**



HOW TO RESPOND:

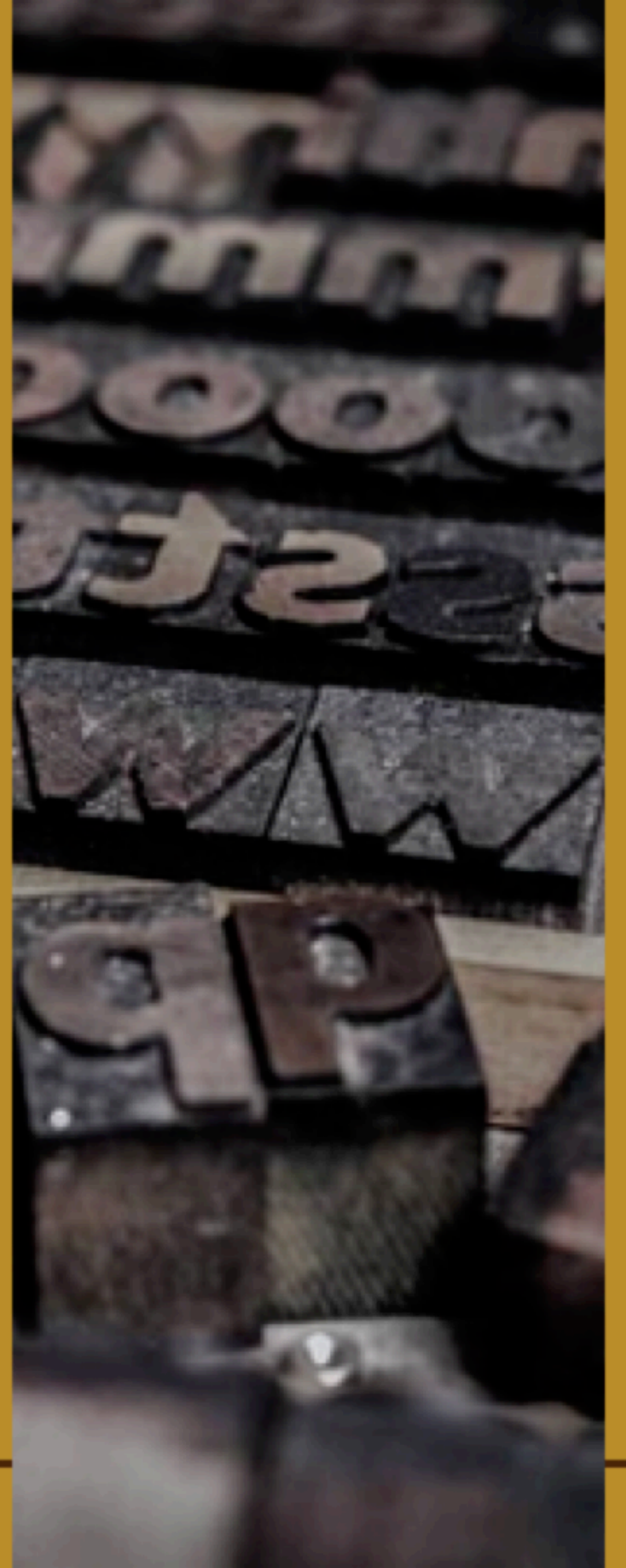
CLAIM: "THERE IS NO ABSOLUTE TRUTH."

RESPONSE: "IS THAT ABSOLUTELY TRUE?"



SCIENTISM CLAIMS:

---“WE SHOULDN'T
ACCEPT SOMETHING AS
TRUE, UNLESS IT CAN BE
PROVEN BY THE
SCIENTIFIC PROCESS.”



RESPONSE: “CAN THAT CLAIM BE PROVEN BY THE SCIENTIFIC PROCESS?”



A stack of several books with light-colored pages and dark covers, some with red spines, is visible on the left side of the slide. A red bookmark is visible in the top book.

THESE ARE SELF-REFUTING CLAIMS

A self-refuting claim is a claim that does not live up to its own standards. It refutes, or disproves, itself.

THREE TRUTHS THAT CANNOT BE PROVEN BY SCIENCE

Metaphysical Truths: The idea that the external world is real, or the belief in the existence of minds other than your own, cannot be proven by science.

Ethical Truths: You can't prove by science that committing criminal acts is wrong, yet we are all rational to accept that such things are wrong.

Aesthetic Truths: Beauty cannot be scientifically proven.

---William Lane Craig



SCIENTISM'S TWO FAVORITE ATTACKS UPON THEISM

- **“The soul does not exist.”**
- **“Miracles are not possible.”**

How to make the case for God's existence.

THE COSMOLOGICAL ARGUMENT

Cosmological Argument

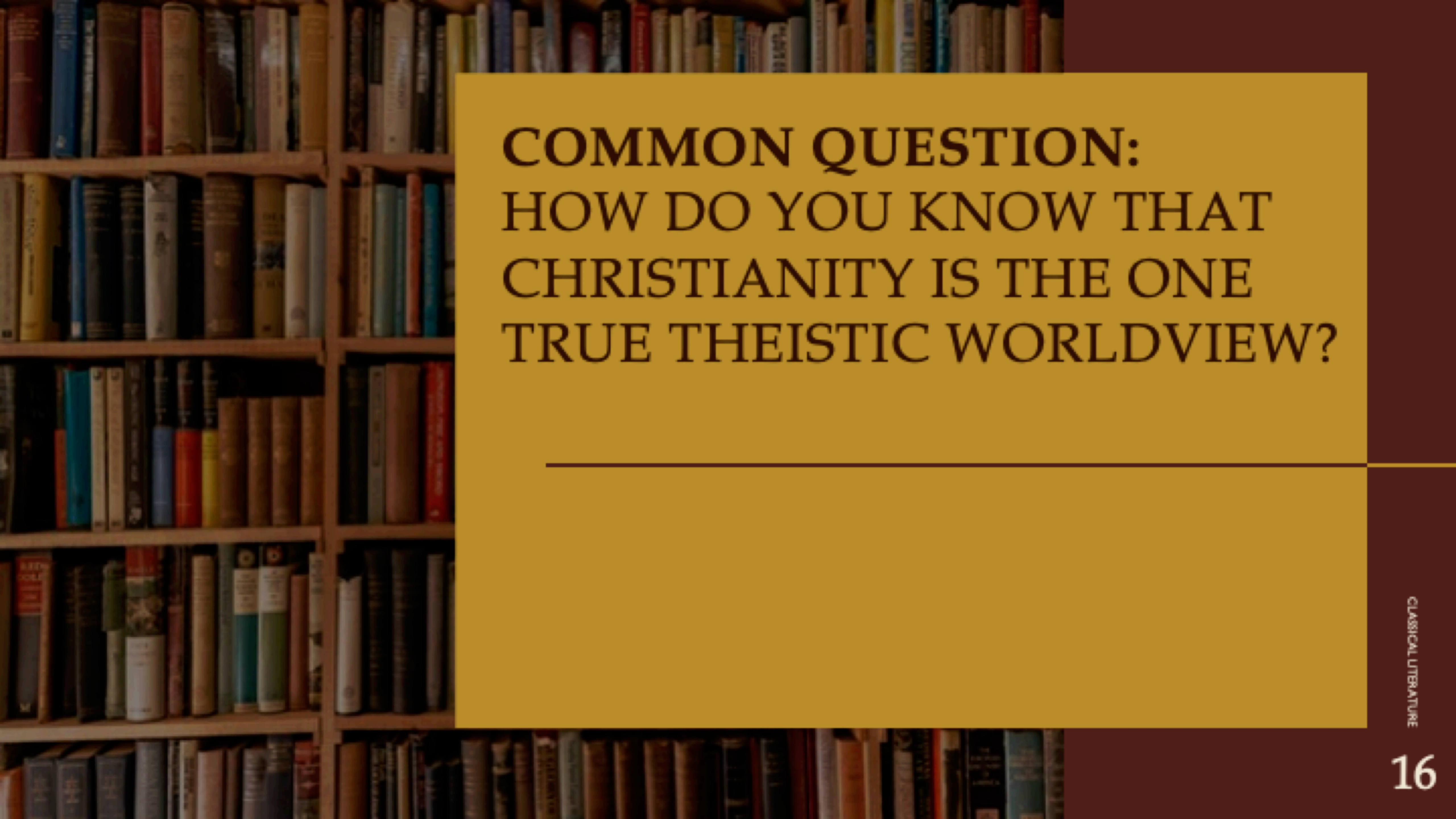
1. **WHATEVER BEGINS TO EXIST HAS A CAUSE.**
2. **THE UNIVERSE BEGAN TO EXIST.**
3. **THEREFORE, THE UNIVERSE HAS A CAUSE.**

Cosmological Argument

1. **WHATEVER BEGINS TO EXIST HAS A CAUSE.**
2. **THE UNIVERSE BEGAN TO EXIST.**
3. **THEREFORE, THE UNIVERSE HAS A CAUSE.**

The Cause
Must Be:

- Spaceless
- Timeless
- Immaterial
- Enormously Powerful
- Personal



**COMMON QUESTION:
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT
CHRISTIANITY IS THE ONE
TRUE THEISTIC WORLDVIEW?**

**EXAMPLE OF OBJECTIVE
TRUTH.**

$$2+2=4$$
