

SHEFFEY SCHOOL OF THE BIBLE

*A Ministry of Freedom Tabernacle Baptist Church
Atkins, Virginia*

Course: APO-301 Presuppositional Apologetics

Week 2 Student Handout

THE NATURE OF UNBELIEVING THOUGHT & THE MIND OF THE NEW MAN ROOTED IN CHRIST

Instructor: _____

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

WHAT YOU SHOULD LEARN FROM TODAY'S LECTURE

- Explain the nature of unbelieving thought.
 - Define autonomy.
 - Describe the vanity of fallen reasoning.
 - Explain Paul's warning about worldly philosophy.
 - Understand the renewal of the Christian mind.
 - Explain what it means to be rooted in Christ.
 - Identify differences between Christian and unbelieving worldviews.
 - Apply these truths in apologetic encounters.
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I. THE NATURE OF UNBELIEVING THOUGHT

Key Principle

Unbelieving thought rejects God's authority.

Short Explanation

Every person reasons from presuppositions. The unbeliever rejects God's revelation and adopts autonomous assumptions.

Notes

II. THE VANITY OF HUMAN REASONING

Key Principle

Reasoning apart from God leads to intellectual futility.

KJV Scripture

Ephesians 4:17-18

"This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart:"

Short Explanation

When men reject God, their reasoning becomes futile and darkened.

Notes

III. WORLDLY PHILOSOPHY VERSUS CHRIST

Key Principle

All reasoning must be measured by Christ and His Word.

KJV Scripture

Colossians 2:8

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

Short Explanation

Worldly philosophies that oppose Christ lead people away from truth.

Notes

IV. THE CHRISTIAN'S NEW MIND

Key Principle

The Christian mind is transformed by God's truth.

KJV Scripture

Romans 12:2

"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."

Short Explanation

God changes how believers think through His truth and grace.

Notes

V. ROOTED IN CHRIST

Key Principle

The Christian thinker must remain rooted in Christ.

KJV Scripture

Colossians 2:6-7

"As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him:

Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving."

Short Explanation

Christian thinking continues under the authority of the same Christ received at salvation.

Notes

VI. APPLICATION TO PRESUPPOSITIONAL APOLOGETICS

Key Principle

Christian apologetics challenges autonomous thinking and calls men to Christ.

Short Explanation

The apologist identifies worldview assumptions and points people to God's truth.

Notes

THINGS TO KNOW (EXAM ANCHORS)

- Unbelieving thought rejects God's authority.
- No person is truly neutral.
- All people operate from presuppositions.
- Autonomy is self-rule.
- Unbelief seeks independence from God.
- Fallen reasoning is described as vain.
- Fallen reasoning is described as darkened.
- Ephesians 4:17-18 describes the vanity of unbelieving thought.
- Philosophy is not automatically wrong.
- Philosophy becomes wrong when it opposes Christ.
- Colossians 2:8 warns against worldly philosophy.
- Human tradition cannot replace divine revelation.
- Christians possess a renewed mind.
- Conversion affects thinking.
- Romans 12:2 teaches the renewal of the mind.
- Christians are not to be conformed to the world.
- Believers are rooted in Christ.
- Christian thinking begins with Christ.
- Christian thinking continues with Christ.
- Colossians 2:6-7 teaches believers to walk in Christ.
- A worldview influences interpretation.
- Unbelieving worldviews rest upon autonomy.
- Christian worldviews rest upon revelation.
- Presuppositional apologetics challenges autonomous reasoning.
- Biblical truth is necessary for proper understanding.

ASSIGNMENT

Read Week 3 material:

- Chapter 5 — *Revelation as the Foundation of Knowledge*
- Chapter 6 — *God's Self-Attesting Authority*

Be prepared to discuss why divine revelation is necessary for knowledge and why Scripture possesses self-attesting authority.