

Ready to Answer 3

Session 3: The Christian God

What Did We Learn About a Creator?

1. The universe had a _____ — Cause and Effect
2. The Creator is intelligent/intentional — _____
3. The Creator is _____ — Right and Wrong Exist
4. We are made to _____ God — Human Longing
5. God has a _____ — Meaning/Value/Significance

How Does God Reveal Himself?

_____ **Revelation:** Creation reveals something about God's power, intelligence, and nature.

Romans 1:18–20

_____ **Revelation:** God shows Himself through prophets, the scripture, the Holy Spirit, and ultimately Jesus.

Hebrews 1:1–3; John 14:9

Do All Religions Believe the Same Thing? NO!

Christianity: Jesus is _____ and was crucified.

Judaism: Does not accept Jesus as God or the promised _____.

Islam: Honors Jesus as a _____, but rejects His divinity and generally denies His crucifixion.

Three Tests for Claims of Revelation

1. Is the claim internally _____?

Example: "All religions are equally true." Contradictory claims cannot all be true in the same sense.

2. Does the claim correspond to _____?

Example: The Book of Abraham and the surviving Egyptian papyri.

3. Is there credible _____ for the revelation?

Example: What supports the claim that Muhammad received revelation from God?

Christianity's Distinctive Claim

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us." — John 1:14

Christianity claims that God came to us.

Historical Evidence Concerning Jesus

1. Jesus was a real _____ person.

Ancient writers: Josephus (Jewish historian), Tacitus (Roman historian), and Suetonius (Roman writer).

2. Jesus rose from the _____.

Read 1 Corinthians 15:3–8.

Paul reports appearances to Peter, the Twelve, more than 500, James, and himself.

3. The apostles _____ for their faith.

The historical evidence for individual apostles' deaths varies. Willingness to suffer supports sincerity, not proof.

4. _____ and _____ became followers.

Acts 9:1–5, John 7:3–5; Acts 21:17–19

Other Explanations for the Resurrection Claims

1. Jesus did not actually _____ (the swoon theory).
2. The disciples _____ the body. (Matthew 28:11–15)
3. The disciples experienced visions or _____.
4. The resurrection story developed as a _____.