Session 3 — Introduction to Biblical Apologetics



Our Mission:

Equip the church to discover, deliver & defend the truth of God's Word and engaging the people, ideas, and issues in God's World.

Visit our website: www.TruthPointApologetics.org

<u>DEMONSTRATING TRUTH & THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THE BIBLE</u>

"Christianity has been successfully attacked and marginalized... because those who professed belief were unable to defend the faith from attack, even though its attackers' arguments were deeply flawed." — William Wilberforce, Real Christianity

Pursue Wisdom (Proverbs 2:2-5)

EXAMINING TRUTH CLAIMS

Truth claim — "There is no such thing as truth."

Response: Is that true?

Truth claim — "No one can know truth."

Response: Can you know that?

Truth claim - "Truth is relative."

Response: Is that relatively true?

Truth Claim – "Truth changes over time."

Response: Does truth change or only our knowledge of the truth?

Truth claim - "Science determines truth" or "I base my decisions on Science."

Response: Does science determine truth or does it discover truth?

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DOES THE BIBLE DETERMINE TRUTH?

"Yes" or "No"

It's not true because the Bible says it...rather the Bible says it because it's already true (consider a science text book...ex: gravity, water cycle, entropy).

Biblical Worldview

WHY do we determine the way we think, live & engage with others based on the Bible's teachings, ideas, principles & values?

We can demonstrate the truth in the Bible, which God authored, is consistent with the truth in the world He created.

SHOULD WE BE SHOCKED?

One key thing that demonstrates the authority & validity of the Bible is the way that it describes people & culture and predicts history before it happens.

- 1. People will love themselves (2 Timothy 3:1-5)
- 2. People will reject truth (2 Timothy 4:3-4)
- 3. God will give people over to their sin (Romans 1:18 & 24-31)

METHODS OF BIBLICAL APOLOGETICS

- 1. Giving Reasons & Evidence for Biblical Beliefs
- 2. Responding to Other People's Beliefs
- 3. Giving legitimate answers to life's questions by connecting biblical truths to personal, relational & cultural values, ideas, issues & realities
- 4. Comparing the reasoning & results of biblical teachings and values to the reasoning & results of other beliefs and values

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BIBLICAL APOLOGETICS

Biblical Apologetics (1 Pet 3:15; 2 Tim 2:15; Heb. 5:13-14):

- **Discovering** what the Bible says, why it says it and how to apply it.
- **Defending** the fact that the truth in God's Word is consistent with life and truth in
- God's world.
- **Delivering** that truth in purposeful, powerful, wise & winsome ways.

Biblical Apologetics gives us vital tools to engage our culture in <u>relevant, rational and</u> <u>relational</u> ways. It helps us discover truth and discern lies so that we can navigate life and relationships in God's world by connecting it to the truth in God's Word.

Apologetics gives us the answers and skills necessary to confidently share truth and faith with our kids, friends, family, neighbors, with our co-workers, by engaging people's minds with truth & answering their questions about legitimate roadblocks to biblical faith!

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 • Hebrews 5:13-14 • Acts 17:2-4 & 16-31 • 2 Timothy 4:2 & 5 • 2 Timothy 2:15 & 24-26

WHAT HAPPENS WITHOUT BIBLICAL APOLOGETICS?

Chuck Colson lists 4 things that happen when we don't engage cultural realities with biblical truth (Apologetics):

- We can't answer the questions our kids bring home from school.
- We can't prepare them for the challenges they will face in life.
- We can't explain to our friends and neighbors why we believe what we do.
- We can't effectively defend the Bible or biblical faith.

As a result of these things—

- Christians are weak in their faith and their relationship with God
- Powerless Churches & Christians
- Fewer people coming to Christ & more false conversions
- —our ability to have a redemptive affect on our culture has been crippled.

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A FEW AREAS OF EVIDENCE/REASON

Evidence from History...secular evidence of biblical events.

Evidence from Archaeology...secular evidence of biblical places.

Evidence from Science... the water cycle is described in Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, and Job.

Reason from Relationships...there are over 30 "one another's" in the Bible.

Relevance to People...wounds from a friend are better than kisses from an enemy.

Relevance to Life...if you don't work, you don't have money.

Reason from Morality...if there is no objective moral standard, why is anything wrong?