

Series: Apology — Giving a Defense for the Faith

Title: Part 6 — Biblical Arguments

Text: Hebrews 4:12

Date: July 14, 2024

Hebrews _____

2 Corinthians _____

1. DEFINING PRESUPPOSITIONALISM

“To presuppose” = “To believe or suppose in _____.”

Applied to the field of apologetics, such terminology is used of a philosophy that apologists should start their defense of the faith with a certain set of beliefs. In arguing for Christianity, one should operate from a basis of Christian suppositions.

“Presuppositionalism” = “A philosophical approach to theology which claims that all systems of knowledge are constructed on assumptions that cannot be proved about God, humanity, and reality. Thus no claims of objectivity can exist.” **Donald McKim**

“When one becomes a Christian his faith has not been generated by the thought patterns of worldly wisdom. The world in its wisdom knows not God (1 Cor. 1:21) but considers the word of the cross to be foolish (1 Cor. 1:18, 21b). If one keeps the perspective of the world, then, he shall never see the wisdom of God for what it really is; thereby he will never be ‘in Christ Jesus’ who is made unto believers ‘wisdom from God’ (1 Cor. 1:30).” **Greg L. Bahnsen**

Bahnsen was so strong in his convictions concerning a presuppositionalism that he charged those who used natural arguments for Christ with immorality!

To adequately understand the claims of the presuppositionalist, it is important to understand the concept of “fideism”...

“Fideism” = based on the Latin word for faith (*fides*). The word “confides” literally means “with faith.” One can define the concept of fideism as “The view that faith rather than reason is the means by which Christian truth is known.”

2. A CRITIQUE OF PRESUPPOSITIONALISM

A. The Christian Life is Built on _____ and _____.

“Christianity is a faith, to be sure; but there are reasons for this faith. Faith is not to be confused with reason; but neither is it to be separated from it.” **R.C. Sproul, John Gerstner, and Arthur Lindsley**

B. The _____ Uses of Classical and Evidential Arguments.

C. Skeptics Often Demand More Than A “Bible-Tells-Me-So” Answer.

D. God Has Given _____ Revelation and Special Revelation.

E. Other Arguments Do Not Undermine the _____ of Scripture.

“No one is argued into a living faith in God. The truth of God’s existence is accepted by God-given faith, not as the result of a process of rational argument.” **David McKay**

3. OFFERING BIBLICAL ARGUMENTS

Allow me to propose two actions you can take in giving biblical arguments for the faith...

A. Lay Down The _____.

Romans _____; 3:10; _____

“...a high view of law makes a man a seeker after grace.” **J. Gresham Machen**

“An absence of the law hinders an understanding of the gospel.” **J.C. Ryle**

Romans _____

B. Give Them The _____.

“The word gospel means ‘good news’. It is glad tidings. It is by far the most wonderful and astounding message that man can hear.” **Martyn Lloyd-Jones**

1 Corinthians _____

Romans _____

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What do you think of the presuppositional approach? Do you agree with the critique given above? Is there validity in the approach?
2. Which biblical argument do you find to be most helpful for today’s culture?
3. What would it look like to use biblical arguments in a daily conversation or interaction?
4. Take time practicing the use of biblical arguments with a friend or with someone who is studying with you.