

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY

KNOWING WHAT WE BELIEVE, AND
SHARING TRUTH WITH A CONFUSED
WORLD...



APOLOGETICS

DEFENDING THE FAITH

WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?

- **CLASS ACTIVITY**
- **OVERVIEW OF THE CLASS**
- **WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?**

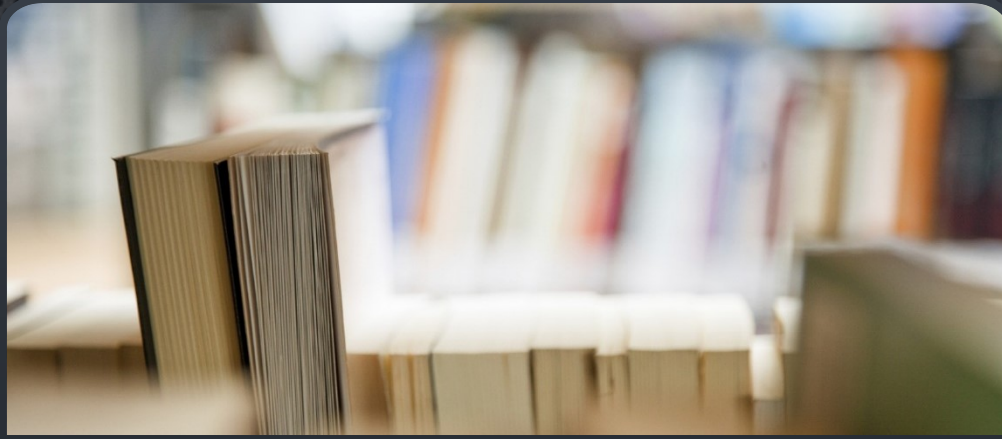
OUR PRAYER IS THAT UPON THE COMPLETION OF THIS CLASS THE STUDENT WILL BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS IS, AND HOW TO ENGAGE THE TASK OF APOLOGETICS WHEN NECESSARY TO DEFEND THE FAITH AGAINST OTHER TRADITIONS, AND OBJECTIONS...

WE WILL USE THE METHODS OF LECTURE, ROLE PLAYING, GROUP ACTIVITY, AND RESEARCH.



always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect...

1 PETER 3:15



**GOD DOESN'T
NEED DEFENDING**
BUT PEOPLE NEED HELP UNDERSTANDING



APOLOGETICS 101

• *“IF TRUTH (GOD’S WORD) IS ABSOLUTE, THEN WE WHO ARE DEFENDERS OF TRUTH MUST NEVER BE AFRAID TO ENGAGE THE EXISTENTIAL ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION OF WHAT WE DEFEND. THE TRUTH WILL OUT!!!...*

• *BENJAMIN T. HAILEY SR*

WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?

WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?

- ***THE DEFENSE OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF AND OF THE CHRISTIAN WAY AGAINST ALTERNATIVES AND AGAINST CRITICISM***

- CROSS, F. L., & LIVINGSTONE, E. A. (EDS.). (2005). IN [THE OXFORD DICTIONARY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH](#) (3RD ED. REV., P. 87). OXFORD; NEW YORK: OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS.

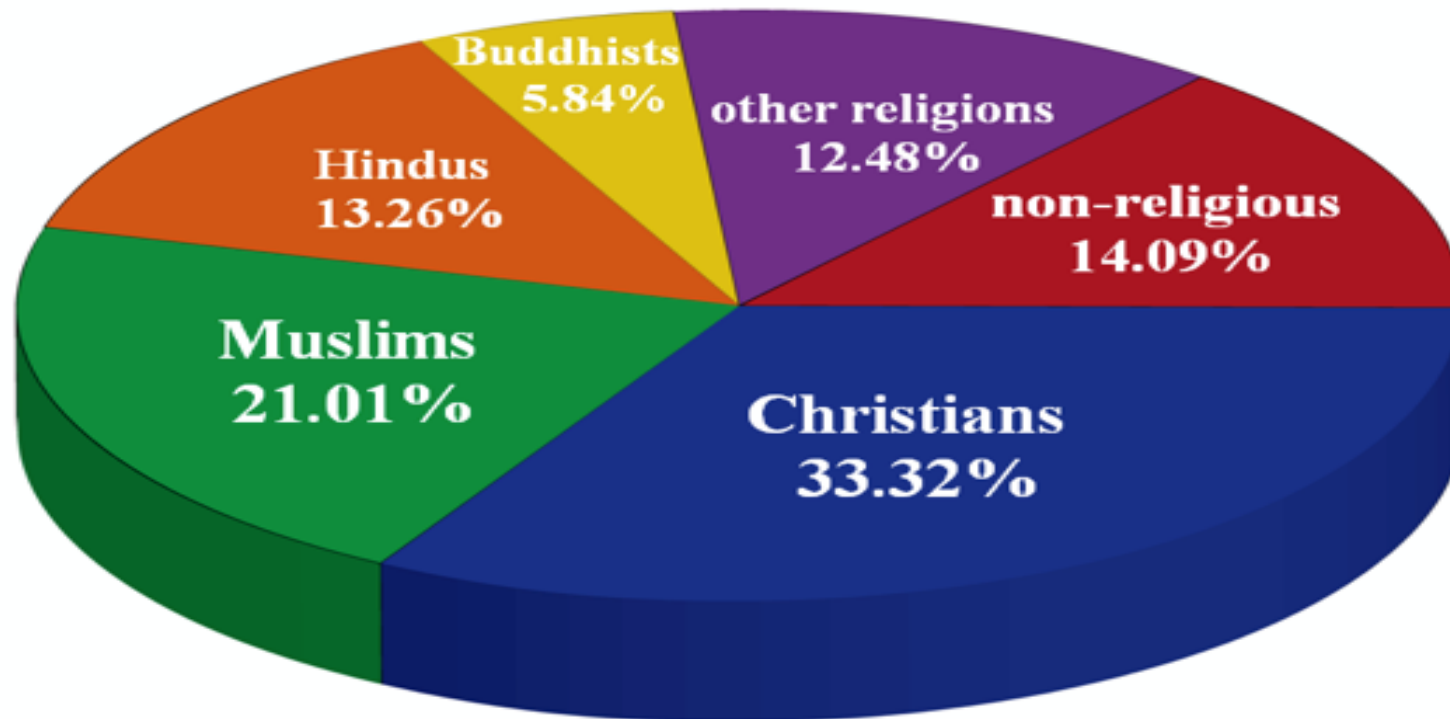
WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?



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WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?

World Religions by percentage



WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?

**A JUDICIAL TERM, IT DESCRIBES THE
WAY A LAWYER DELIBERATELY AND
RATIONALLY PRESENTS A VERBAL
DEFENSE OF A PARTICULAR CLAIM.**

ASPECTS OF APOLOGETICS

- THE DESTRUCTIVE ASPECT = DISMANTLING OR EXPLAINING AWAY ARGUMENTS AGAINST CHRISTIANITY...
- THE CREATIVE ASPECT = OFFERS EVIDENCE AND PROOFS TO SUPPORT ARGUMENT FOR THE TRUTHFULNESS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH...

WORLDVIEWS

- IN THIS SECTION WE WILL TAKE A LOOK AT SOME OF THE PERVASIVE WORLD VIEWS AND DETERMINE HOW THEY DIFFER FROM BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY.
- WE SAY BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY BECAUSE AMERICAN CHRISTIANITY HAS STRAYED FROM WHAT THE BIBLE HAS TO SAY ABOUT CHRIST AND THE AUTHENTIC MODES OF HIS CHURCH.
- IT IS NECESSARY TO UNDERSTAND OTHER WORLD-VIEWS IN ORDER TO EFFECTIVELY “DEFEND” THE FAITH, OR OPERATE IN THE ARENA OF CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS...

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- THE **CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW IS BIBLICAL**. IT IS THE PLUMB LINE TO COMPARE VARIOUS OTHER FAITHS.
- IT MATTERS BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY COMPETING FAITH TRADITIONS, WORLD VIEWS AND RELIGIONS. WE MUST BE SURE OF WHAT WE BELIEVE, AND WHAT WE BELIEVE COMES FROM A BIBLICAL WORLD VIEW...

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- COMPETING WORLD VIEWS
 - SUBJECTIVE TRUTH
 - MORAL RELATIVISM
 - APOSTASY
 - NEW AGE MOVEMENT
 - HEBREW ISRAELITES
 - NONE'S AND DONE'S
- FALSE SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- WHAT IS YOUR WORLD VIEW?
- WHAT IS IT THAT YOU BELIEVE?
- ONE OF THE PRESSING PROBLEMS OF CHRISTIANITY IS THAT MANY PROFESSED CHRISTIANS DO NOT KNOW WHAT THEY BELIEVE...

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- WHAT IS A WORLD VIEW?
- A SET OF ASSUMPTIONS THAT MAKE UP YOUR PERSONAL OUTLOOK ON THE NATURE OF THE WORLD AND HOW TO LIVE IN THAT WORLD DAY BY DAY. IT IS OUR “BELIEF SYSTEM” ABOUT THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES IN LIFE.
- ALL OF US HAVE A WORLD VIEW, EVEN IF WE DON'T KNOW IT, OR HAVE THE ABILITY TO ARTICULATE IT. A WORLD VIEW IS DEVELOPED BY HOW YOU ANSWER SOME OF LIFE'S MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS...

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

1. WHO OR WHAT IS GOD?
2. WHO AM I AND HOW DO I OPERATE IN MY WORLD?
3. WHEN IT'S ALL OVER, WHERE DO I GO?
4. HOW CAN I KNOW RIGHT FROM WRONG?
5. HOW CAN I KNOW THE TRUTH, FOR THAT MATTER, HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT I KNOW ANYTHING?
6. WHAT DOES MY LIFE MEAN, AND HOW DO I FIT INTO HISTORY, IF AT ALL

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- NATURALISM
- PANTHEISM
- POLYTHEISM
- RELATIVISM

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- **NATURALISM:** GOD DOES NOT EXIST AND PHYSICAL MATTER IS ALL THERE IS. NATURALISM IS THOUGHT TO BE THE DOMINANT WORLD VIEW IN OUR TIME, AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CREATION OF POST-CHRISTIAN AND POSTMODERN CULTURE. THIS WORLD VIEW IS CONNECTED TO SECULAR HUMANISM EMPIRICISM AND EVOLUTIONISM.

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- **PANTHEISTIC MONISM:** EASTERN IN ORIGIN. PANTHEISTIC MONISM MEANS “ALL IS ONE, ONE IS ALL, AND ALL IS GOD”. HINDUISM AND BUDDHISM HAVE ELEMENTS OF THIS WORLD VIEWS. THE NEW AGE MOVEMENT IS A WESTERN ADAPTATION OF HINDU AND BUDDHIST RELIGIOUS AND WORLD VIEW THINKING...

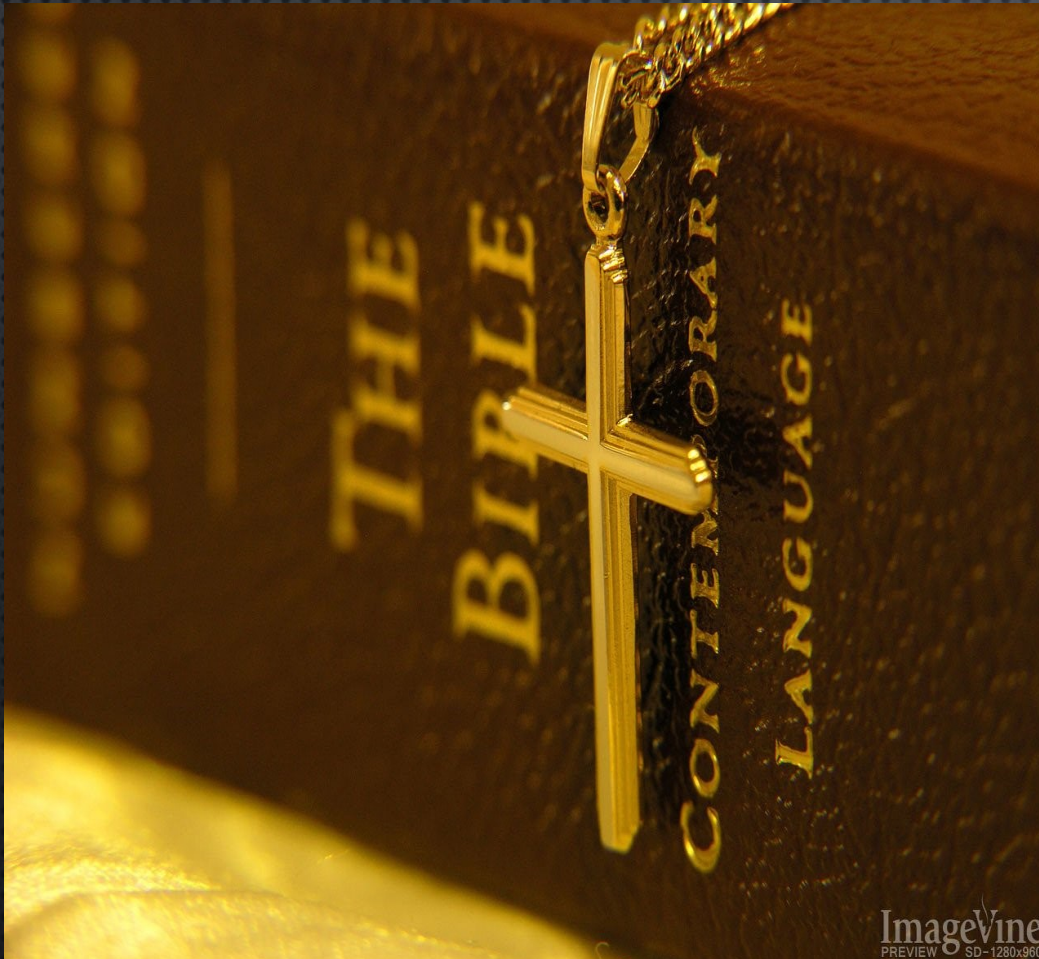
SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- **POLYTHEISM:** THERE ARE MANY GODS, GODDESSES, AND SPIRITS THAT WE MUST APPEASE AND PLEASE TO HAVE A REASONABLY GOOD LIFE. POLYTHEISM IS FOUND IN BUDDHISM AND SOME OF THE NEW AGE AS WELL AS AMONG MORMONS (BUT THEY WILL VEHEMENTLY DENY IT)

SHAPING YOUR WORLD VIEW

- **RELATIVISM:** THIS WORLD VIEW FINDS ITS PLACE AMONG THOSE WHO DO NOT WANT TO COMMIT TO ANY PARTICULAR WORLD VIEW. THEY WILL PICK AND CHOOSE WHAT THEY LIKE ABOUT DIFFERENT WORLDVIEWS AND ARE NOT CONCERNED IF THEIR IDEAS ARE IN CONFLICT WITH EACH OTHER. THEY ONLY BELIEVE IN “WHAT WORKS FOR YOU”. SECULAR HUMANISTS, AND POSTMODERNISM AS WELL AS NEW AGE MOVEMENT PEOPLE ARE IN THIS CATEGORY. “I DON’T BELIEVE ANY ONE SYSTEM CONTAINS ALL TRUTH”, IS WHAT RELATIVISTS SAY...

WORLDVIEWS: BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY



WORLDVIEWS: BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

- TO BE “BIBLICAL” IS TO SERIOUSLY SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES TO INTERPRET THE BIBLE ON ITS OWN TERMS AND NOT TO CHANGE ITS MEANING TO FIT THE TIMES.
- TO BE A BIBLICAL CHRISTIAN IS TO APPROACH THE BIBLE WITH REVERENCE AND RESPECT, BECAUSE WE BELIEVE IT TO BE TRUE AND AUTHORITATIVE...

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

- **THE PLUMB LINE**: “A STRING WITH A POINTED WEIGHT ON THE END. USED BY MASONS TO MAKE SURE THEY LAY A BRICK WALL STRAIGHT AND TRUE.
- “LOOK, I AM SETTING A PLUMB LINE AMONG MY PEOPLE... (AMOS 7:8)

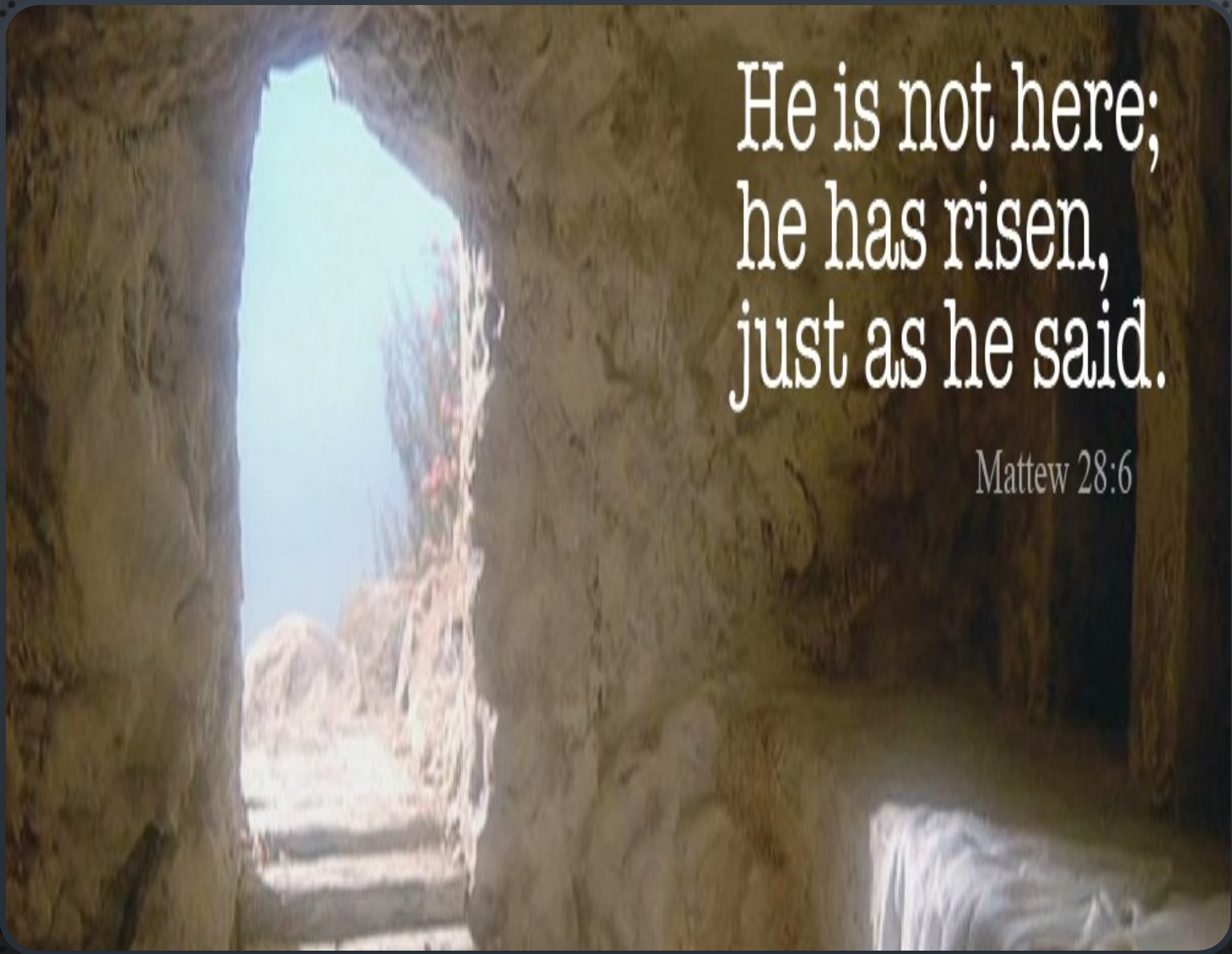


BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

- **THE PLUMB LINE:** CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES... HE WAS BURIED... HE WAS RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY ***ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES*** (1 COR. 15:3,4)

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY

*GOD'S PEOPLE ARE MEASURED BY GOD'S STANDARDS, HIS
WORD, AND BY NO OTHER STANDARD...*



He is not here;
he has risen,
just as he said.

Matthew 28:6

**BIBLICAL
CHRISTIANITY
THE
RESURRECTION
“THE WATERSHED
DOCTRINE”**

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- EVEN THE DISCIPLES WHO WALKED WITH JESUS WERE NOT FULLY CONVINCED OF WHO HE WAS UNTIL THEY WERE WITNESSES OF HIS RESURRECTION...

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- PETER: CONFESSED HIM TO BE THE CHRIST, YET DENIED HIM THREE TIMES...
- **MATTHEW 26:34 (KJV)**
34 JESUS SAID UNTO HIM, VERILY I SAY UNTO THEE, THAT THIS NIGHT, BEFORE THE COCK CROW, THOU SHALT DENY ME THRICE.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- THE DISCIPLES: WENT BACK TO THEIR LIVES AFTER HIS CRUCIFIXION...
- BUT AFTER THE RESURRECTION, THEIR FAITH WAS ALSO RESURRECTED, AND THEY WENT OUT TO PRESENT THE CRUCIFIED AND RESURRECTED SAVIOR TO THE WORLD...

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- THE RESURRECTION IS AT THE CORE OF CHRISTIAN BELIEF. LUKE 25:45-48

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- LUKE 24:45-48 (NLT2)

⁴⁵ THEN HE OPENED THEIR MINDS TO UNDERSTAND THE SCRIPTURES.

⁴⁶ AND HE SAID, "YES, IT WAS WRITTEN LONG AGO THAT THE MESSIAH WOULD SUFFER AND DIE AND RISE FROM THE DEAD ON THE THIRD DAY.

⁴⁷ IT WAS ALSO WRITTEN THAT THIS MESSAGE WOULD BE PROCLAIMED IN THE AUTHORITY OF HIS NAME TO ALL THE NATIONS, BEGINNING IN JERUSALEM: 'THERE IS FORGIVENESS OF SINS FOR ALL WHO REPENT.'

⁴⁸ YOU ARE WITNESSES OF ALL THESE THINGS.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- THE RESURRECTION PROVED THAT JESUS IS WHO HE CLAIMED TO BE AND THAT HE ACCOMPLISHED WHAT HE CLAIMED TO HAVE COME TO EARTH TO ACCOMPLISH...

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- *WITHOUT THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE TRUTH OF THE RESURRECTION, ALL CHRISTIAN BELIEF IS IN VAIN...*

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- **1 CORINTHIANS 15:14 (NLT2)**
14 AND IF CHRIST HAS NOT BEEN RAISED, THEN ALL
OUR PREACHING IS USELESS, AND YOUR FAITH IS
USELESS.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- **1 CORINTHIANS 15:14 (NKJV)**
¹⁴ AND IF CHRIST IS NOT RISEN, THEN OUR
PREACHING IS EMPTY AND YOUR FAITH IS ALSO
EMPTY.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- **1 CORINTHIANS 15:14 (WEY)**
¹⁴ AND IF CHRIST HAS NOT RISEN, IT FOLLOWS
THAT WHAT WE PREACH IS A DELUSION, AND
THAT YOUR FAITH ALSO IS A DELUSION.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE RESURRECTION

- **1 CORINTHIANS 15:14-18 (NLT2)**

¹⁴ AND IF CHRIST HAS NOT BEEN RAISED, THEN ALL OUR PREACHING IS USELESS, AND YOUR FAITH IS USELESS.

¹⁵ AND WE APOSTLES WOULD ALL BE LYING ABOUT GOD—FOR WE HAVE SAID THAT GOD RAISED CHRIST FROM THE GRAVE. BUT THAT CAN'T BE TRUE IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD.

¹⁶ AND IF THERE IS NO RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, THEN CHRIST HAS NOT BEEN RAISED.

¹⁷ AND IF CHRIST HAS NOT BEEN RAISED, THEN YOUR FAITH IS USELESS AND YOU ARE STILL GUILTY OF YOUR SINS.

¹⁸ IN THAT CASE, ALL WHO HAVE DIED BELIEVING IN CHRIST ARE LOST!

does GOD exist?

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE
OF GOD

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- COINCIDING WITH THE DOCTRINE OF RESURRECTION IS THE THAT THERE IS A GOD, AND THE GOD OF THE BIBLE IS THE ONE TRUE GOD..

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS THAT MUST BE ANSWERED IN CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS:
- IS THERE A GOD?
- WHAT KIND OF GOD IS HE?
- THE RESURRECTION GIVES CERTAINTY TO THE ANSWERS OF BOTH QUESTIONS.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- EVERY EFFECT MUST HAVE AN ADEQUATE CAUSE...
- WHAT OR WHO CAUSED THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST?

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- GOD AND GOD ALONE! THE GOD OF THE BIBLE.
- THE GOD OF THE O.T AND THE N.T.
- THE GOD OF ABRHAM ISAAC AND JACOB.
- THE GOD WHO JESUS CLAIMED WOULD RAISE HIM FROM THE GRAVE...
- THIS GOD EXISTS BECAUSE HE PROVED HIS EXISTENCE BY HAVING RESURRECTION POWER...

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- **GENESIS 1:1 (NLT2)**

¹ IN THE BEGINNING GOD CREATED THE HEAVENS AND THE EARTH.

- **JOHN 1:1 (NLT2)**

¹ IN THE BEGINNING THE WORD ALREADY EXISTED. THE WORD WAS WITH GOD, AND THE WORD WAS GOD.

- **JOHN 1:2 (NLT2)** ² HE EXISTED IN THE BEGINNING WITH GOD.

- **JOHN 1:3 (NLT2)**

³ GOD CREATED EVERYTHING THROUGH HIM, AND NOTHING WAS CREATED EXCEPT THROUGH HIM.

BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- PSALM 19:1 (NLT2)
1
- THE HEAVENS PROCLAIM THE GLORY OF
GOD. THE SKIES DISPLAY HIS CRAFTSMANSHIP.

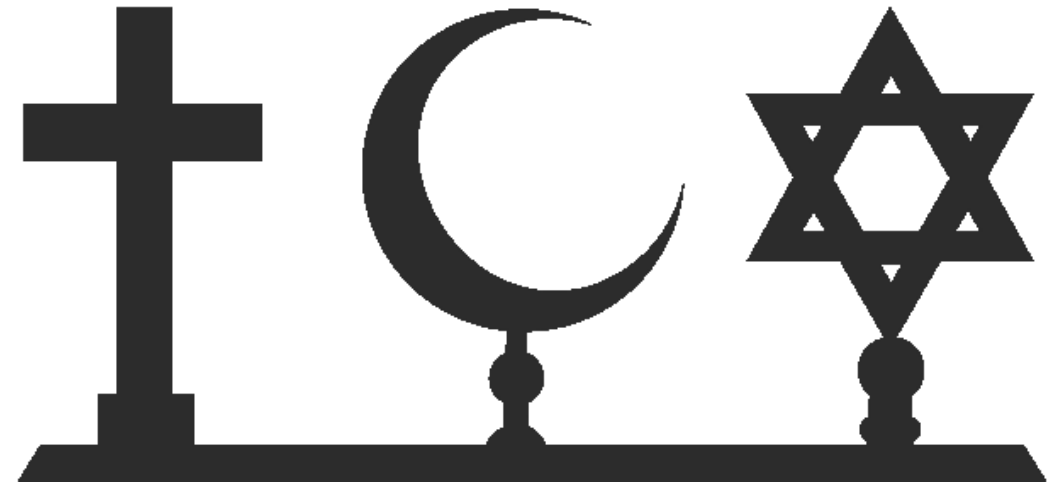
BIBLICAL CHRISTIANITY: THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

- **PSALM 14:1 (NLT2)**
1

- **ONLY FOOLS** SAY IN THEIR HEARTS, “THERE IS NO GOD.” THEY ARE CORRUPT, AND THEIR ACTIONS ARE EVIL; NOT ONE OF THEM DOES GOOD!

**Belief triggers
the power
to DO**

SO WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?



SO WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

SO WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

- ***CHRIST DIED FOR OUR SINS ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES...HE WAS BURIED...HE WAS RAISED ON THE THIRD DAY ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPTURES (1 COR. 15:3,4)***

SO WHAT DO WE BELIEVE?

THE SELF-EXISTENT GOD

- GOD IS **REVEALED** IN THE SCRIPTURES, AND WE CANNOT KNOW THE SCRIPTURES UNTIL WE ARE WILLING TO BE CHANGED BY THEM.
- WE KNOW GOD BY UNDERSTANDING OUR DEEP SPIRITUAL NEED.
- HAVING RECEPTIVITY TO GOD'S PROVISION THROUGH THE WORK OF CHRIST & OUR APPLICATION OF THE WORK BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.
- TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD MUST CHANGE US TO CHANGE OTHERS.
- WHERE DO WE START?...

THE SELF-EXISTENT GOD

I AM THAT I AM... EX. 3:13-14

- SELF-SUFFICIENCY MEANS THAT **GOD HAS NO NEEDS AND DEPENDS ON NO ONE, FOR ANYTHING...**
- THAT STATEMENT DISMISSES SOME OF OUR STATEMENTS ABOUT GOD.
- “MEN AND WOMEN ARE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT GOD’S WORK OF SALVATION AND AS WITNESSES TO DEFEND THE FAITH” – **Lk. 3:8**
- “GOD NEEDS WORSHIPPERS” – **LUKE 19:40**

THE SELF-EXISTENT GOD

- GOD WAS NOT OBLIGATED TO CREATE
- IT WAS A GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN ACT, CAUSED BY NOTHING OUTSIDE OF HIMSELF
- IT WAS DONE BY HIS OWN GOOD PLEASURE...
- **EPHESIANS 1:11 (NLT2)**
¹¹ FURTHERMORE, BECAUSE WE ARE UNITED WITH CHRIST, WE HAVE RECEIVED AN INHERITANCE FROM GOD, FOR HE CHOSE US IN ADVANCE, AND **HE MAKES EVERYTHING WORK OUT ACCORDING TO HIS PLAN.**

THE SELF-EXISTENT GOD

- THE GLORY OF GOD SURPASSES NEED. GOD HAD NO NEED TO GAIN GLORY FROM OUR WORSHIP, AND NO NEED FOR EXTERNAL GLORY FROM OUR REDEMPTION. HE WAS GLORIOUS ENOUGH WITHIN HIMSELF. GOD CREATED AND PREDESTINATED TO BE HIS ELECT FAMILY TO HIMSELF BECAUSE IT WAS THE GOOD PLEASURE OF HIS WILL TO DO SO...

THE SELF-EXISTENT GOD

- **EPHESIANS 1:5 (NLT2)**

5 GOD DECIDED IN ADVANCE TO ADOPT US INTO HIS OWN FAMILY BY BRINGING US TO HIMSELF THROUGH JESUS CHRIST. THIS IS WHAT HE WANTED TO DO, AND IT GAVE HIM GREAT PLEASURE.

THE SELF-EXISTENT GOD

- THE REALITY IS THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO BRING THE ALMIGHTY UNDER OBLIGATION TO THE CREATION...
- GOD GAINS NOTHING FROM US!

NOW WE ARE
READY TO STUDY
APOLOGETICS

What is Truth?

- Truth is transcultural. If something is true, it is true for all people, in all places, at all times. ($2 + 2 = 4$)
- Truth is unchanging. Beliefs about truth may change, but not truth. (Earth is flat)
- Truth is not affected by an attitude of one professing it.
(An arrogant person does not make the truth he professes false, and a humble person does not make the error he professes true.)

Have you ever been asked
a difficult question about

YOUR FAITH?

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- **ROMANS 12:1-2 (NLT2)**

¹ AND SO, DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS, I PLEAD WITH YOU TO **GIVE YOUR BODIES TO GOD** BECAUSE OF ALL HE HAS DONE FOR YOU. **LET THEM BE A LIVING AND HOLY SACRIFICE**—THE KIND HE WILL FIND ACCEPTABLE. **THIS IS TRULY THE WAY TO WORSHIP HIM.**

² **DON'T COPY THE BEHAVIOR AND CUSTOMS OF THIS WORLD,** BUT **LET GOD TRANSFORM YOU INTO A NEW PERSON BY CHANGING THE WAY YOU THINK.** **THEN YOU WILL LEARN TO KNOW GOD'S WILL FOR YOU,** WHICH IS GOOD AND PLEASING AND PERFECT.

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER IS NOT SUPPOSED TO JUST LIES STILL, RELAX, AND ENJOY THE SALVATION ALREADY GIVEN TO HIM/HER. WE ARE TO BE ACTIVE IN SERVING THE LORD, LIKE AN ATHLETE OR A FARMER WORKING HARD. 1COR. 9:24-26; 2TIM. 2:5-6)
- YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN, FOR YOU WERE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE, SO GLORIFY GOD IN YOUR BODY. (1COR. 6:19:20) CHRIST FOLLOWERS MUST GIVE UP EVERY OTHER LOYALTY TO BE LOYAL TO CHRIST ALONE...

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- A TRUE DISCIPLE IS NEVER OFF DUTY.
- YOU ARE A DISCIPLE:
- IN THE ACTIONS OF YOUR BODY
- IN THE ACTIONS OF YOUR MIND (A RENEWED MIND)
- IN EVERY WORD WE SPEAK AS WE ENGAGE AN APOLOGETIC DISCUSSION

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- A DISCIPLE USES THE APOLOGETICS THAT THEY KNOW...
- JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD, NOT JUST ANOTHER PROPHET
- JESUS IS GOD IN THE FLESH
- THE RESURRECTION WAS REAL
- JESUS' MIRACLES IN THE BIBLE ARE REAL
- THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD ARE NOT RELATIVE CULTURAL PREFERENCES

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS IS ABOUT HOW TO DEFEND YOUR FAITH WHEN OTHERS BRING OBJECTIONS.
- THEREFORE CHRIST MUST BE REGARDED HOLY IN OUR HEARTS...
- 1PETER 3:15-16
 - WE CANNOT EVER BE RELIGIOUSLY NEUTRAL!!!

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- NOT ALL WAYS LEAD TO GOD! WE BELIEVE CHRIST IS THE ONLY WAY TO GOD... (JOHN 14:6) (ACTS 4:12)
- **JOHN 14:6 (NLT2)**
⁶ JESUS TOLD HIM, "I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE. **No ONE CAN COME TO THE FATHER EXCEPT THROUGH ME.**
- **ACTS 4:12 (NLT2)**
¹² THERE IS SALVATION **IN NO ONE ELSE!** GOD HAS GIVEN NO OTHER NAME UNDER HEAVEN BY WHICH WE MUST BE SAVED."

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- THE O.T. REJECTS IDOL (FALSE GODS) WORSHIP
- THE N.T. REJECTS OTHER WAYS OF SALVATION
- THIS IS CALLED KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH, IT IS NOT A RELIGIOUSLY NEUTRAL ARGUMENT.
- BELIEVERS MUST STAND ON THE TRUTH AND CANNOT BE “UNBIASED” BASED ON AN NON-CHRISTIAN’S EXPECTATION.

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- YOUR COMMITMENT TO CHRIST AND THE WORD OF GOD LOOKS LIKE A BIAS TO NON-BELIEVERS. BUT THE WORD DECLARE THAT NON-BELIEVERS ALREADY KNOW THE ONE TRUE GOD WHO CREATED THE WORLD...

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- **ROMANS 1:19-20 (NLT2)**

¹⁹ **THEY KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD BECAUSE HE HAS MADE IT OBVIOUS TO THEM.**

²⁰ FOR EVER SINCE THE WORLD WAS CREATED, PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE EARTH AND SKY. THROUGH EVERYTHING GOD MADE, THEY CAN CLEARLY SEE HIS INVISIBLE QUALITIES—HIS ETERNAL POWER AND DIVINE NATURE. **SO THEY HAVE NO EXCUSE FOR NOT KNOWING GOD.**

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- IDOL WORSHIP IS NOT AN INNOCENT PRACTICE BUT A REACTION USE TO REPLACE THE WORSHIP OF THE KNOWN GOD OF CREATION.
- **ROMANS 1:22-23 (NLT2)**
 - ²² CLAIMING TO BE WISE, THEY INSTEAD BECAME UTTER FOOLS.
 - ²³ AND INSTEAD OF WORSHIPING THE GLORIOUS, EVER-LIVING GOD, THEY WORSHIPED IDOLS MADE TO LOOK LIKE MERE PEOPLE AND BIRDS AND ANIMALS AND REPTILES.

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- NON-CHRISTIANS ARE ACTUALLY BIASED BY A COMMITMENT *AGAINST* GOD...
- **MATTHEW 12:30 (NLT2)**
30 “ANYONE WHO ISN’T WITH ME OPPOSES ME, AND ANYONE WHO ISN’T WORKING WITH ME IS ACTUALLY WORKING AGAINST ME.

UNDERSTANDING APOLOGETICS

- OUR LOYALTY TO CHRIST MATTERS. CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS MUST BE THOUGHT THROUGH IN A WAY THAT REJECTS THE IDEA OF NEUTRALITY AND ACCEPTS THE BIBLE'S DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION...