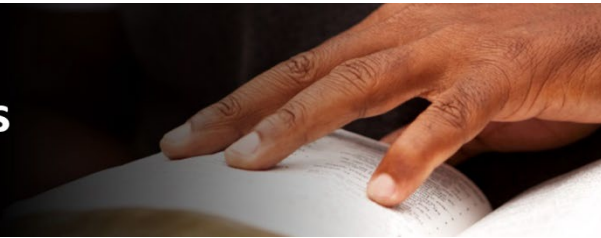


Biblical Apologetics

How do we know it's true?



Class 3, Wednesday, January 18, 2023

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander."

(1 Peter 3:15-16, NIV)

Class Introduction

Believers must know *what* and *why* we believe, and we must talk about these things with respect with lives that match our words.

Personal Note

I believe Christianity is true and it makes sense religiously, scientifically, historically, and philosophically—so I tell others!

Section 1 – Reasons Why There Must Be A God

Many people don't need reasons for faith. However, many don't believe in God, and we need to know how to talk to them!

#1 The argument from causality. (Week 1) Everything that *is* or *happened* was caused by something. At some point, there must have been an "uncaused cause," so there must be a God.

#2 The argument from design. (Week 1) The universe displays incredible order and intricacy, either by chance or design. Study and experience say it can't be by chance. Evidence of intelligent design implies a designer, so there must be a God.

#3 The argument from Desire. (Last week) Every *natural* desire (food, drink, sex, sleep, knowledge, friendship) has an object that

satisfies that desire. The desire for something beyond humanity is part of every culture. Therefore, this desire has a real object—God.

#4 The argument from Morality or Conscience. (Last week) Morality is real, though we disagree on specifics. Atheism or materialism (based on chance) can't explain it, for chance is purposeless. Therefore, morality must have come from the outside—God.

#5 The argument from R _____ or C _____.

1. Belief in God (a being to who reverence and worship is due) is a core believe of almost all people of all cultures.
2. Either the huge majority of all people have been wrong about the most profound element of their lives—or they are not.
3. It is implausible to believe that all are wrong.
4. Therefore, it is most plausible to believe that God exists.

Even skeptics admit that the testimony of a being which deserves our reverence and worship is overwhelming. If God does not exist, then this belief *has never once* had a real object.

#6 The Argument called P _____ W _____.

It's not an argument, but it's interesting. Pascal said reasoning could not prove or deny God—but He chose to believe:

- If you believe, you lose nothing even if God doesn't exist.
- If you don't believe and He exists, you lose everything.
- Therefore, you should choose (or wager) to believe.

These are 6 of 20 arguments mentioned in the first book below, so read it for more study.

NEXT: If there is a God, what must He be like?

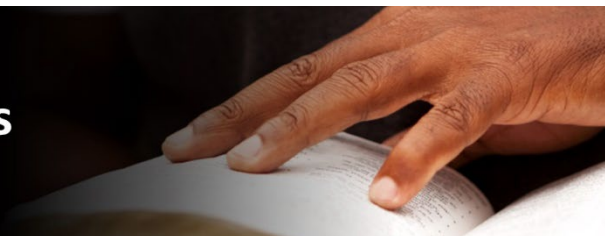
More Study:

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Biblical Apologetics

How do we know it's true?



Class 2, Wednesday, January 18, 2023

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