

Apologetics 101

Fundamentals: The Bible and the Gospel

1. The Bible
 - A. What does the Bible Say about Itself?
 - B. Is the Bible Accurate in what is recorded? Remember: Luke the historian
 - C. Is our Bible today the same as what was written in the past? Remember: It's not like a game of telephone, if anything it's like a game of courtroom stenographers.
 - I. The Old Testament: The Isaiah Scroll from Qumran
 - II. The New Testament: Overwhelming Manuscript Evidence
2. Accurately Presenting the Gospel
 - A. What is necessary:

An accurate, clear presentation of the Gospel message is an important aspect of the apologetic task. Make sure you can tell others why they need to be saved, what God and has done so that they can be saved, and what they must do to be saved.
 - B. The Information
 - I. God: He is creator of all things (Gen. 1:1; John 1:3); He is sovereign, He does what He pleases (Dan. 4:34-35); He is worthy of worship and obedience (Rev. 4:11); 4. God is holy (1 Pet 1:15; 1 Jn. 1:5) and good (Ps. 119:68; Ps. 86:5); He loves us and desires a good relationship with us (1 Jn. 4:8, 10).
 - II. People: Every person is sinful (Gen. 6:5; Jer. 17:9); every person sins because every person is sinful (Rom. 5:12); every person's best is not good enough to satisfy God (Isa. 64:6); every person is dead in his or her own sins and estranged from God (Eph 2:1; 4:17-19; Isa. 59:1-2); every person deserves to receive God's wrath because of his or her own sins (John 3:18, 36; Rom. 6:23; Rev. 20:14-15).
 - III. Jesus: He is God Himself (John 1:1, 14), without sin (2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Pet. 2:22), came to save men from sin (Mt. 1:21; Lk 19:10), died for sin and rose from the grave on the 3rd day (1 Cor. 15:3-5), bore the punishment due to sinners as our substitute (Isa. 53:4-7, 10; 2 Cor. 5:21), the only way for salvation (John 14:6), and He is Lord and Savior (Rom. 10:9-10).
 - C. The Rest: Repent and believe the gospel (Mark 1:15; Acts 20:21) and receive forgiveness of sins (Co. 1:14; 1 Jn 1:9), eternal life (Rom. 6:23).