
Is There a God?

- **Apologetics:** The _____ and defensibility of the Christian faith.
 - Heb. 11:1; Rom. 1:20
 - **Fideism:** the conviction that "...religious belief systems are not subject to _____ evaluation." – Peter Holms
 - Phil. 1:9-11
 - Faith is not _____ of reason but is tied together with it.

Moving Toward a Definition

- "apo" + "logos" = *apologia*; to defend
 - 1 Pet. 3:15-16
 - Apologetics isn't just about debating others. While that is a factor, there is an essential _____ component.
- **Final Definition:** Apologetics is the defense of the _____ faith by means of persuasive _____ that reveals the coherence and dependability of what we believe, all for the sake of advancing the gospel.
 - The goal of apologetics is to "speak away" these incorrect assumptions about what we believe by systematically – piece by piece – constructing our worldview from the bottom up, and revealing how each component along the way is a solid, sturdy, and strong

Preliminary Matters:

- **Prologue Point:** Just because we evaluate our worldview from within our worldview, it does not mean we cannot evaluate it _____.
 - **Presupposition:** The reality that everyone "brings baggage to the table of truth;" all have values through which they see the world.

Define "Worldview"

- Who is the author of our "grand story"? – _____.

Apologetic for the Existence of God

- Our *Opposition:*
 - **Naturalism:** "...the view that the [material] universe _____ exists.
 - The reality is, the more and more naturalism begins to creep into the role of religion, the more it is going to try and use _____ as a weapon against Christianity.
- Our *Position:*
 - **Kalam Cosmological Argument**



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"Resurrection Church exists to see *lives transformed* by the *love of God* through the *power of the Gospel*."

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- First, everything that begins to exist has a _____.
 - “Why does a beginning need a cause?”
 - Law of Causation – Something that was caused must have been caused by something else.
 - “What about God? Who created Him?”
 - It is well attested in Christian doctrine that God never “Began to exist” therefore, we have no need within our worldview to provide a _____ for his existence
- Second, the universe began to _____.
 - “The universe is eternal. It did not have a beginning, so this premise is invalid.”
 - The Big Bang theory has become the predominant theory in cosmology, so the burden of proof as to its cause has shifted.
 - Naturalists claim that there had to be a beginning, yet they have no answer as to its cause. We, however, do have an answer – our creator God.
- Third, therefore the universe has a _____.
 - “Even with a big bang, prior to it, the universe existed one way or another.”
 - The problem of the infinite: “We could never get to the present moment if we had to cross an actual infinite number of moments in the past. Yet, since the present moment is real, it must have been preceded by a finite past that includes a beginning or first event. Therefore, the universe has a beginning.” – Sean McDowell

“Who/What Caused It?”

- God is the most plausible explanation.
 - God provides an adequate, non-contradictory and coherent solution as the source of that cause.
 - We have not only an adequate solution to the problem of who caused the universe, but we actually also possess the _____.

Takeaways

- *First, apologetics is important*
 - We are called to defend our faith with wisdom, knowledge, and depth of insight.
- *Second, be confident that our faith does not simply bow to the seemingly impossible questions of an unbelieving world*
 - We have solutions, and more than that, we have the most plausible solutions.
- *Third, remember, no one was ever saved by _____.* They were saved by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - We are simply arming ourselves to dismantle the walls they will inevitably have.
 - 1 Pet. 3:15-16