

# ***INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS***

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# INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS OVERVIEW

Introduction to Christian Apologetics is a 4-week precursor study to prepare you for the foundational class of Apologetics 101 that will be taught in September, the Fall of 2026. This introduction is designed to convey basic principals to equip Believers with evidence for the truth of Christianity while empowering them with the ability to defend their faith.

## **OBJECTIVE:**

As a result of this study, the student shall be able to:

- 1) Articulate the theological truths of the "good news" as revealed in the Authority of the Scripture.
- 2) Define apologetics and its relationship to pre-evangelism and post-evangelism.
- 3) Illustrate through logic and reasoning why Christian faith is an "objective" faith.
- 4) Identify when apologetics should be presented.
- 5) Distinguish the difference between what Agnostics, Atheists, and Skeptics believe in order to answer their objections and overcome erroneous ideology to Christianity.

### • **WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?**

- a) Definition
- b) Authority of the Scriptures

- c) 351 Old Testament Prophecies Fulfilled
- d) 100 New Testament Prophecies Fulfilled

- **THE BASIC MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE**

- a) First Adam - Fall of Man
- b) Second Adam - Propitiation
- c) "Good News" - **1 Corinthians 15:1-4**
- d) Bad news of the Bible

- **THREE REASONS WHY PEOPLE REJECT JESUS**

1. **Ignorance** - **Jn 7:40-43**

- a) Some rejected Jesus as the Christ because they were ignorant of the historical facts concerning His birth.
- b) So many do today for a similar reason: lack of accurate information.

2. **Pride** - **Jn 12:42-43**

- a) Pride in wanting to be approved by men kept them from confessing Jesus as the Christ.
- b) Today, many do not want the ridicule or rejection one might face for following Christ.

3. **Moral Problems** - **Jn 3:19-20**

- a) Some people reject the evidence because it means having to change their lifestyle.
- b) Today, many people in efforts to justify their immorality:
  - 1) Accept only that evidence which supports theories which

allows them to continue their lifestyle.

2) Reject any evidence which may support a doctrine which would condemn their behavior and require a change.

- **“WWG” – WORLDWIDE GULF**

a) The Cross - Bridging the Gap

b) Standing at Your Red Sea – Cross over by Faith

c) New Birth – **2 Corinthians 5:17**

- **WHAT IS APOLOGETICS?**

a) Definition

b) Purpose

c) Importance to Believers and Unbelievers

- **IS APOLOGETICS BIBLICAL?**

a) **1 Peter 3:15-16**

b) Every Christian need Apologetics

c) Jesus engaged in Apologetics.

d) Formal use of Apologetics: Paul in **Acts 22:1; 1 Cor. 9:3.**

- **WHY STUDY APOLOGETICS**

**A. Apologetics is important for both pre-evangelism and post-evangelism.**

a) Pre-evangelism is what we do to help a person get closer to committing his life to Christ.

b) Christians can use apologetics to remove intellectual

obstacles in the path of someone on his way to faith.

c) Post-evangelism is what we do to help Christians become strengthened in their faith after they are converted.

**Why is apologetics important in pre-evangelism?**

Because many people come to Christ after studying the evidence for the truth of Christianity.

## **B. THE CHRISTIAN FAITH IS AN OBJECTIVE FAITH**

***IT IS A FAITH IN AN 'OBJECT': "JESUS OF NAZARETH"***

1. Faith in who He was: The Christ, the Son of God.
2. Faith in what He did: He rose from the dead on the third day.

## **C. IT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE 'WHAT' WE BELIEVE...**

1. The old cliché "It doesn't matter what you believe, as long as you believe in something" is inconsistent with the Christian faith.

2. Consider **Jn 8:24; Ro 10:9**

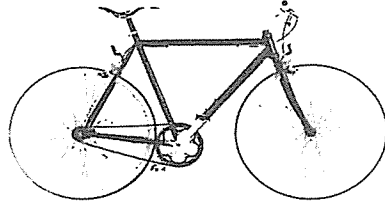
- a) Note that it is not faith in of itself that is important
- b) But in Whom (the object) our faith is based.

## **VIII. WHEN SHOULD WE PRESENT APOLOGETICS?**

► When should we present apologetics? Should we present it before or after we present the gospel?

## **BICYCLE ANALOGY**

- The general rule is this: when you are sharing your faith, present the gospel first. Then, if it is needed, use apologetics to support the presentation of the gospel.



There are exceptions to the rule of “gospel first.” For instance, sometimes you may want to use an apologetic topic to introduce the basic message of the Bible. Remember that the gospel is most important. Use apologetics if people bring up an objection or if using apologetics will create opportunities to share the gospel.

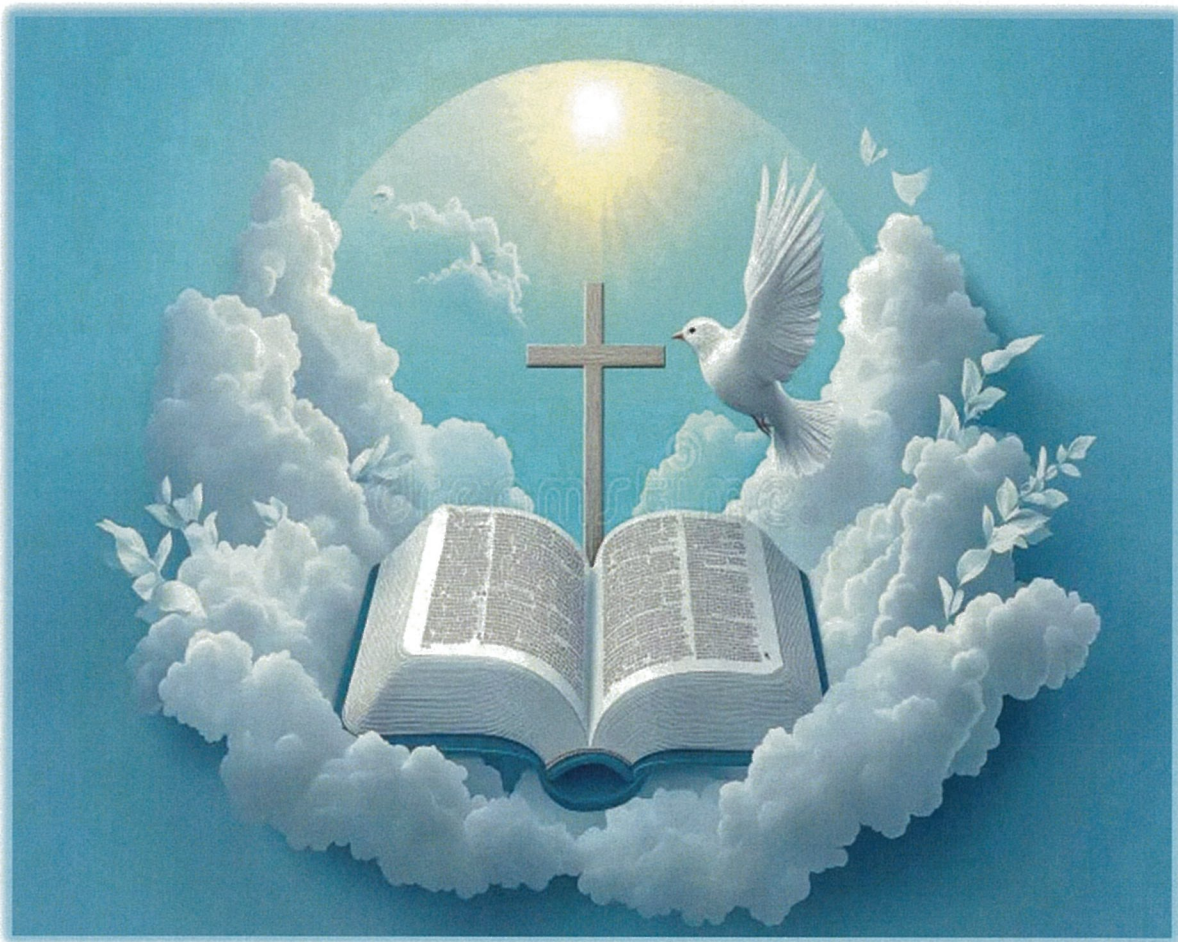
## **IX. AGNOSTICS, ATHEISTS, AND SKEPTICS**

- a) Definitions
- b) Examples of converted famous Unbelievers

## **X. THE EVIDENCE THAT DEMANDS A NEW VERDICT**

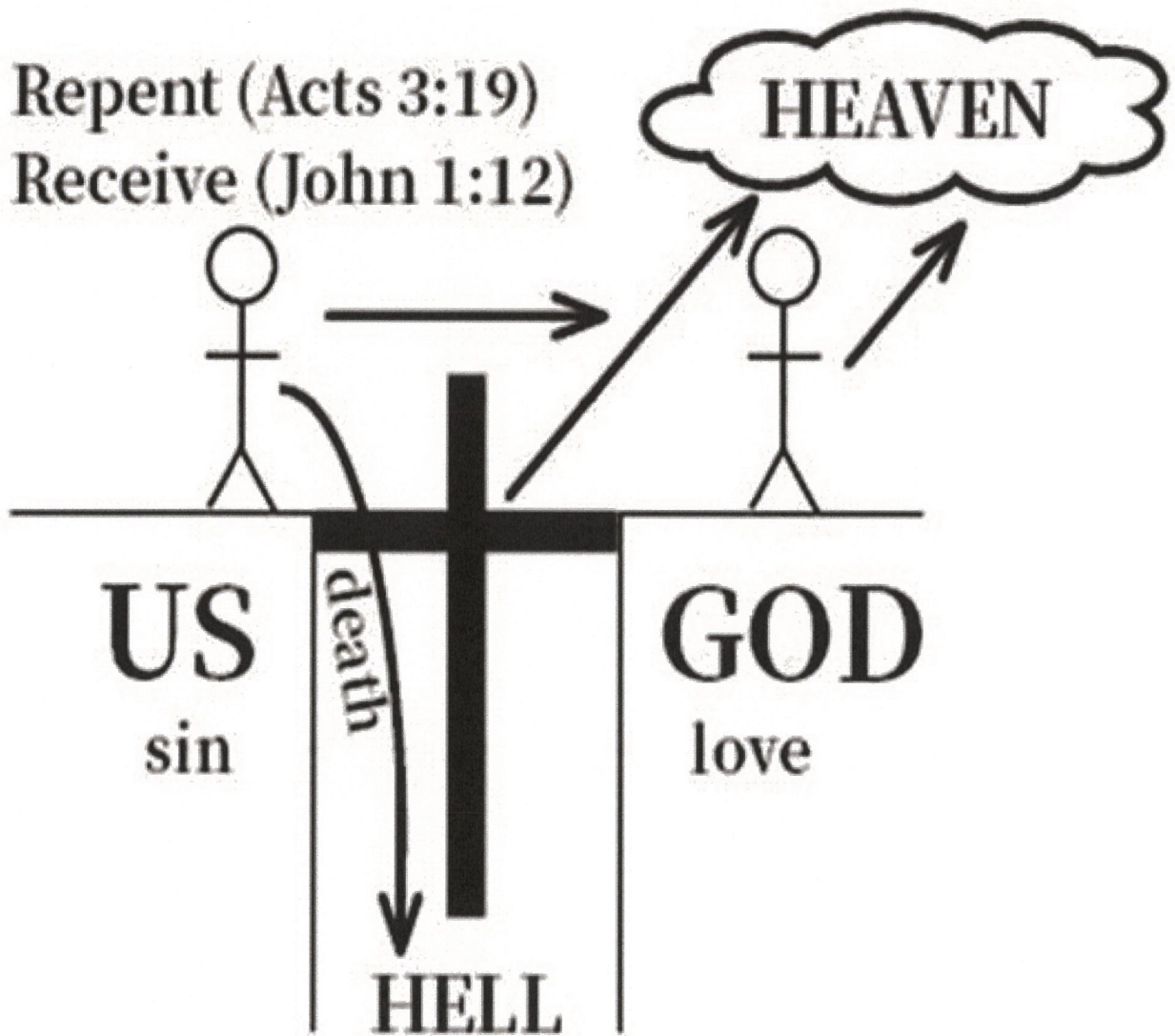
- a) Josh McDowell – Atheist turned to a Christian
- b) Answers Objections, Obstacles, with verifiable evidence.

# ***AUTHORITY OF THE SCRIPTURES***



**2 TIMOTHY 3:16 All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for [a]instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

# ***THE BASIC MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE***





Jesus Said He is the

**WAY  
TRUTH  
LIFE**

John 14:6

Only One Road Leads To

**Heaven**

***IT DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE "WHAT YOU  
BELIEVE"***