

Apologetics Part 1: Introduction to Apologetics
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What is apologetics?

- “Apologetics” comes from the Greek word “apologia”, meaning a legal defense.
- More than just defensive, apologetics is also offensive.
- Class definition: “Intellectually contending for the truth of the Christian worldview.”
 - Intellectual¹:
 - Contend:
 - Truth:
 - Christian:
 - Worldview:

Why do apologetics?

- Exaltation
- Edification
- Evangelism

Who, where, and when?

- Every Christian should always be ready to give an answer for the hope that is in them.

How to do apologetics?

- Humbly
- Gently
- Graciously
- Boldly
- Wisely

What does it mean to “sanctify the Lord God in your hearts” during apologetics?

¹ Christians argue with unbelievers, we do not arrest them. Christians answer unbelievers, we do not apprehend them. Christians consider, we do not capture. Christians debate and discuss, we do not detain. Christians explain, we do not execute. Christians intercede, we do not incarcerate. Christians pray, we do not punish. Christians reason, we do not retaliate. Christians speak, we do not seize. Christians teach, we do not torture." –John Robbins, Trinity Foundation

Acts 26:1-2

Then Agrippa said to Paul, "You are permitted to speak for yourself." So Paul stretched out his hand and answered for himself: 2 "I think myself happy, King Agrippa, because today I shall answer for myself before you concerning all the things of which I am accused by the Jews,

1 Peter 3:15

But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;

Jude 3

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

2 Cor. 10:4-5

4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, 5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,

Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.

3 John 4

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

Hosea 4:6

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge.

Philippians 1:9

And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,

2 Peter 3

17 You therefore, beloved, since you know this beforehand, beware lest you also fall from your own steadfastness, being led away with the error of the wicked; 18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Acts 17

Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. 2 Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for three Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures, 3 explaining and demonstrating that the Christ had to suffer and rise again from the dead, and saying, "This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ."

2 Timothy 4

1 I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: 2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Colossians 4:6

Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.

Ephesians 6

19 and [pray] for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.