

*EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES*  
*Knight's Notes # 1 Dr. Andrew Knight*

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**Title:**“Apologetics, the Most Important Issue of Our Day”

**Introduction:** Apologetics is the most important issue? One might say that that is an incredibly large assertion, and the burden must lie on the one making the assertion to prove that assertion. When one is speaking about apologetics they are in assists talking about the Gospel.

Let's list some things that might be a bigger problem. How about poverty? Clean water in third world countries? What about population explosion in the world? What about the many migrates around the world seeking a better life? What about the issue of late term abortion?

What about the problem of terrorism? How about the concern of nuclear war? Why not be more concerned with the cure for cancer, or Aids, or other fatal conditions?

In order to find the largest problem one must first determine the furthest reaching consequences. Once that problem is established one must then search for the solution to that problem. The solution to that problem will be the most valuable and will be the greatest issue of our day! In every major problem the worst possible outcome

would be death. That is the worst consequence to the most tragic problem in this life. Though death is final for the body the soul lives on forever. Death therefore cannot be the worst problem to find a solution to because where the soul spends eternity is a far more reaching than this life.

**Propositional Question:** If we can determine the solution to the greatest problem, what actions will to determine to take?

**I. What is apologetics?**

- A. Give an answer: I Peter 3:15a “be ready always to give an answer to every man...”
- B. Give a reason. 15b “that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you...”
- C. Give a defense: Acts 25:8 “While he answered for himself,” (Paul).

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- 1.) To give an answer for one's faith is to give one's testimony. One's testimony is so powerful a witness because who can argue what has happened in your life, your heart, your soul? Nobody!
- 2.) To give a reason is to appeal to one's intellect. The ability to reason is the ability to persuade. And the ability to persuade is one's ability to develop as a witness for Christ.
- 3.) To make a defense for one's faith in Christ is not to defend Christ, but rather to put forth an argument for one's faith in Christ and ultimately why the skeptic should put his faith in Christ as well.
- 4.) Apologetics is the study and practice of communicating one's faith in Christ by way of giving one's testimony, reasoning with the

skeptic to develop a Christian worldview, in order that faith would be placed in Christ; and

that argumentation for placing one's faith in Christ might be developed and put forth to the unbelieving world.

## **II. What is presuppositional apologetics?**

A. God declared Himself to the World.

Gen. 1:1 "In the beginning God..."

B. Reasoned out of the Scriptures.

Acts 17:2 "And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,"

C. Confront pagan philosophers:

Acts 17:22 "Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars' hill, and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious."

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1. Classical, evidential, and other forms of apologetics argue TO God, whereas presuppositional apologetics argues FROM God. This is to say, God does not argue and plead for one to believe in Him, He simply declares Himself to the World.
  
2. Paul developed his worldview from the Scriptures (the Old Testament) and as a result he developed a biblical philosophy of salvation and life. Thus, Paul's delivery of reasoning to the unbelieving Jews in the Synagogue was made from the Scriptures.
  
3. Paul took his apologetic message to Mars Hill. These were the philosophers of the day. This account is proof positive that all humanity is searching for answers in life and eternity. Paul confronted these philosophers with apologetic truth.

### **III. What is the purpose of life?**

A. The chief end of man is to glorify God.

I Cor. 10:31 “Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.”

B. Man was made to serve the Lord.

Col. 3:24. “Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.”

C. Man's Devine Life Mission

Matt. 28:19. “Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,”

1. When man is left to himself the natural result is self - destruction and the judgement of God. On the contrary, the person that lives for the Lord receives God's favor, blessing and eternal life. God is glorified and others are blessed.

2. Man is made in God's image, thus the fact that man is made to serve the Lord should be no surprise. Furthermore the man that serves the Lord actually is working in his own self best interest as the Lord richly rewards His servants.
3. It's been said that the greatest knowledge is to know the love of God, and the greatest achievement is to share the love of God. Teaching God's Word is the greatest message to the World, the message of salvation through Christ, and the answer to all the world's ills.

### **Applications:**

1. Take the time to learn apologetics.
2. Develop your own style of apologetics.
3. Seek out conversations with unbelievers where you can employ apologetics.