

*EXCELLENT WAY MINISTRIES*  
*Knight's Notes #3: Dr. Andrew Knight*

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**Title:** *“Doctrine Drives Apologetics”*

**Introduction:** If apologetics is the art and science of making argument for the faith, then doctrine is the antecedent of those arguments. In other words, without doctrine there is no argument. There is nothing to defend or advance.

Doctrine simply means, teaching, more specifically the teachings of the Bible. There is another name for the study we are engaged in today which is systematic theology. We won't give an in depth look at each of the seven doctrines but rather a brief overview for the purpose of continuing to construct the foundation of apologetics. Here are some Scriptures relative to doctrine.

- **Systematic theology: Isaiah 28:13** But the word of the LORD was unto them precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken.

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- **Proverbs 4:2** “For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.”
  
- **Isaiah 29:24** “They also that erred in spirit shall come to understanding, and they that murmured shall learn doctrine.”
  
- **Matthew 7:28** “And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:”
  
- **Luke 4:32** “And they were astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power.”
  
- **John 7:17** “Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.”

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- **Acts 2:42** “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”
  
- **Ephesians 4:14** “That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;”
  
- **I Timothy 1:3** “As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,”
  
- **I Timothy 4:6** “If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained.”

- **II John 1:9-10** Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed:

**I. The Word of God: The BIBLE.**

A. The Bible sometimes refers to the Word of God equivalent to Jesus Christ. Thus when we are read the Bible we are hearing the Words of Jesus Christ.

**1. Revelations 19:13** “And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.”

**2. John 1:1** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

3. **John 1:14** “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.”

B. John equated to Word with Jesus. John said that Jesus was the Creator. And John stated that the Word is truth.

## **II. The Doctrine of God (Theology Proper):**

A. The Bible teaches three distinct Godheads, often called the Trinity. Each One of the Godheads has their own characteristics and functions. This writer likes to refer to God the Father as the Executive of the Trinity. God the Father spoke the worlds into existence (Gen. 1:1), though Christ was present in the Creation. God the Father sent the Son into the world to be their redeemer (John 3:16-17).

1. **Creation: Romans 1:20** “For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.”

2. **Testimony: Ephesians 1:17** “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:”

3. **Nature: Psalm 19:1-2** “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge.”

B. Three powerful proofs of the existence for God; the Creation; the experience of knowing God; and the observation of nature and the world.

C. Understanding the character and nature of God the Father as the Creator and One who sent Jesus, the Son of God into the world to redeem it, are foundational to knowing the Father, the Godhead of the Trinity.

### **III. The doctrine of man:**

A. A large part of apologetics is having a biblical worldview, and a large part of a biblical worldview is viewing man the way God sees man. When we see ourselves the way God sees us than we have a biblical worldview, and then can be an apologist.

1. **Man created: Genesis 1:26-27** “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over

every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”

**2. Man's condition: Romans 3:22-23** “Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;”

B. Understanding the doctrine of man, relative to the origins, and the spiritual condition of man goes a long way to see ourselves as God sees us. As we lay out these doctrines we are building a biblical worldview. One which we will be able to advance.

## **Applications:**

1. Begin to look at biblical doctrines as areas that you can teach others.



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2. Print off Knight's Notes off the website and uses these to develop your biblical worldview.

3. Learn from the notes how you can better communicate a biblical worldview to those around you.

**Where we began:**

- Supremacy of Scripture
- Bible Doctrines #'s 1-3

**Next time:**

- Bible doctrines #'s 4-7

**Followed:**

- Hermeneutics
- Apologetics of Isaiah