

1 Peter Series

Lesson #087

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Dean Bible Ministries

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GIVING AN ANSWER – PART 5

**OLD TESTAMENT: GOD
CONFRONTS HUMAN VIEWPOINT,**

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

1 PETER 3:15

1ST PETER

**LIVING IN LIGHT
OF ETERNITY**

Introduction to Apologetics

- 1. What is *Apologetics*?**
- 2. Why should we learn about apologetics?**
- 3. Why do some people object to apologetics?**
- 4. The Bible doesn't use apologetics, why should we?**
- 5. What is the difference between Apologetics and Christian Evidences?**
- 6. On what basis do we defend, support, argue, that Christianity is the one and only TRUTH?**

“*Apologia* describes a carefully reasoned defense in response to a line of questioning or wrongful accusation by recognized authorities. The word may also refer to a more informal defense outside of the courtroom against personal questioning or accusation (1 Cor. 9:3; 2 Cor. 7:11; 1 Pet. 3:15). The intent of an *apologia* is to win over the person being addressed, to change his mind about what is true.”

~Clough, *Theology and Apologetics*

Introduction to Apologetics

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The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems of Perception	RATIONALISM Classic Apologetics- Logic and reason	Innate ideas Faith in human ability.	Independent use of logic & reason
	EMPIRICISM Evidentialism- Facts, history, science	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM Fideism-just believe, apart from reason or evidence	Inner, private experience; intuition Faith in human ability	Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable
Divine Viewpoint	REVELATION Presuppositionalism- Presupposes the truth of Scripture	Objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic & reason

DVP vs. HVP

**Common
Ground**

**Triune
GOD**



**Is the common ground
apart from God or is it the
Creator—God who made
man in His image?**

**Ancient humans
Adam and Eve**

Examples:

Gen. 1:1–2:4 The Creation account directly challenges all human viewpoint (HVP) ideas of origins.

Gen. 1 and human creation “myths”

1. Assumes the creation by God, e.g., Rom. 1:19–23

Rom. 1:20, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

Rom. 1:21, “because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

Rom. 1:22, “Professing to be wise, they became fools,”

Gen. 1 and Rom. 1:19–23

- 1. Assumes the creation by God, e.g., Rom. 1:19–23**
- 2. Every human being knows God exists and can understand that He exists. This is known as “God-consciousness.”**
- 3. Through rejection of what they know, they suppress truth (1:18), they are without excuse (vs. 20), they become “futile” (empty, useless, worthless) in their speculations.**

Gen. 1 and Rom. 1:19–23

4. Shows the futility of their alternative realities.

What We Learn from Gen. 1

- 1. In Gen. 1 God is speaking to pagan cultures/suppression mechanisms to challenge their assumptions.**

Thus God does not seek to “prove” His existence, His word is self-authenticating.

What We Learn from Gen. 1

2. God creates *everything*.

Ex. 20:9, “Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

Ex. 20:10, “but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD your God. In it you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who is within your gates.

Ex. 20:11, “For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.”

What We Learn from Gen. 1

1C This means *everything*, every star, every planet; every rock, mineral, substance; every animal, bird, fish, human, every molecule, every atom, the properties of every substance and compound, the laws of physics, chemistry, biology, botany, every thing, every fact, every piece of data is what it is because God created it to be so.

What We Learn from Gen. 1

2C A corollary to this is that facts are what they are because God created them to be what they are. So as creatures communicating about God's facts we cannot be ambiguous about them or lack total confidence in them.

Facts are not neutral; facts in God's universe proclaim the glory of God. This gives us tremendous confidence.

What We Learn from Gen. 1

Rom. 1:18, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,

Rom. 1:19, “because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them.

Rom. 1:20, “For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse,

Rom. 1:21, “because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.”

What We Learn from Gen. 1

- 2. It speaks to humans about what is, and assumes they can understand it. This means that human beings have the ability to understand God.**

What We Learn from Gen. 1

3. It shows that God stands outside of all creation and is not a part of creation.

What We Learn from Gen. 1

- 4. It reveals that mankind is morally and spiritually accountable to the Creator.**

What We Learn from Gen. 2

- 1. Satan challenges the divine viewpoint encoding of the creation and reinterprets it to the creature, Eve.**

“Facts and the truth about their relationship to one another can be known by man, Satan contended in effect, without getting any information about them from God as their maker and controller.”

~Van Til

What We Learn from Gen. 2

- 2. On her part Eve sets herself up as the arbiter to determine who is telling the truth. This is the beginning of her downfall. She assumes autonomy rather than dependence upon God.**