

Apologetics 101: What We Believe, and Why

A Study in Christian Apologetics

“What We Believe and Why”

Developing a True but Controversial Conclusion:

“Christianity is the ONLY Rational Faith”

“Cogito, Ergo Credo: I Think, Therefore I Believe”

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Our Course of Study

Lesson Three
Internal Evidences

Week 1 – Christianity in the Culture – *Christianity is being marginalized*

Week 2 – Apologetics Defined - *We are expected to be able to defend the faith*



Week 3 – Internal Evidences

Week 4 – The Existence of God

Week 5 – Evidences for the Bible

Week 6 – Jesus is the Christ

Week 7 – Christian Doctrine Overview

Week 8 – Christianity is Unique

Week 9 – Other Worldviews

Week 10 – Difficulty of NOT Believing

Week 11 – Evangelism

Week 12 – Humble Apologetics

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What Can REALLY Be Known?

Lesson Three
Internal Evidences

Can anything really be 'known'?

Some claim a monopoly on knowledge (!)

Things are not always as they seem (the sun!)

We all make knowledge 'choices'

Based upon acceptable warrant!

We should consider all the facts...

...to make the appropriate choices



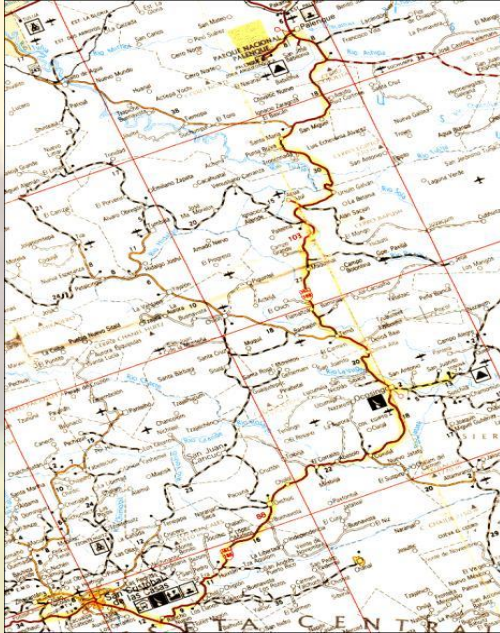
"Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1

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Our Roadmap of Information to Knowledge of Christianity

Lesson Three
Internal Evidences



General Information (Revelation)

Internal / External pointers

Answers some questions

Causes many questions

Special / Specific Information (Revelation)

Designed to answer the questions

Christianity: The Bible / Jesus

Sum It Up: Our A-B-C's

**"From one man he made every nation of men, that they should inhabit the whole earth;
and he determined the times set for them and the exact places where they should live.**

**God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him,
though he is not far from each one of us."**

Acts 17:26-27

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Internal Evidences

Lesson Three Internal Evidences

A: Our Awareness

Religious Impulse...

Causes and Meaning...

Love and Relationships...

Looking for the Answers...

...but be careful...



“He has also set eternity in the hearts of men...” Ecclesiastes 3:11

**“...what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.”
Romans 1:19**

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Signs of a Man Made Religion

Lesson Three
Internal Evidences

Singular Revelation

"Added-To" Revelation

Serves A Man or Group

Exclusivity

Lack Of Grace

Legalistic / Works Based

Man Reaching For God



"These [rules of the world] are destined to perish with use, because they are based on human commands and teachings. Such regulations have an appearance of wisdom, with their self imposed worship, their false humility and their harsh treatment of the body, but they lack any value in restraining sensual indulgence."

Colossians 2:22:23

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Lesson Three Internal Evidences

External Evidences



The Hubble Telescope
"Deep Field"

C: The Creation

Cause

Complexity

Design

'Anthropic Principle'

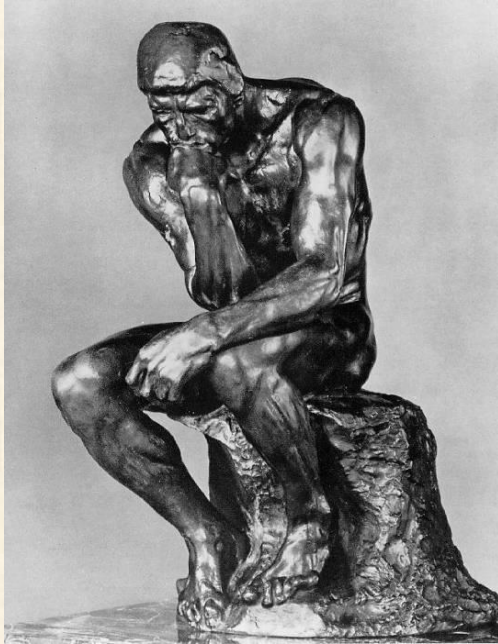
Not at war with 'science', only Naturalism

"For since the creation of the world, God's invisible qualities – His eternal power and divine nature – have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse" Romans 1:20

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Our Religious Impulse

Lesson Three
Internal Evidences



What We're Looking For

- What is the 'really real'?
- What is a human being?
- What happens at death?
- How is it possible to know anything?
- How do we know right from wrong?
- What if we do not 'think' about these questions?

An Opener: "Are these reasonable questions?"

A Better One: "Do you have a better alternative?"

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Lesson Three
Internal Evidences

Lesson Summary

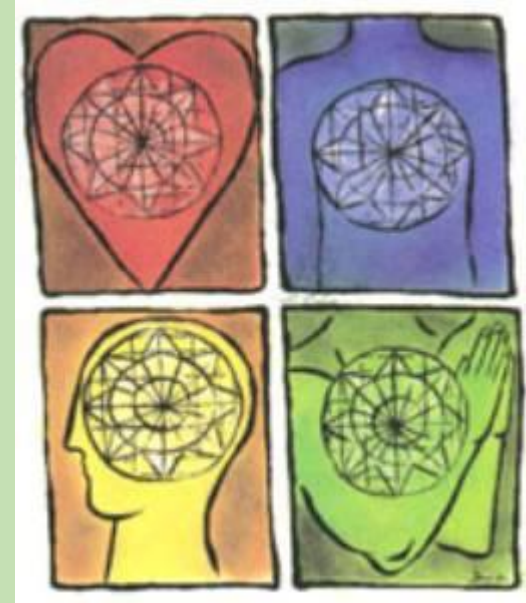
We can have reliable internal knowledge

We all have a religious instinct

This causes us to look for answers

**Christianity provides an adequate Special
Revelation (answers)**

**God placed these questions in our hearts so
we would seek Him**



Next Week: The Existence of God

Consideration for next week: Can we KNOW God exists and what He's like?