



The Branches Of
Apologetics

Dr. Johnson C. Philip
Dr. Saneesh Cherian

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Pre-suppositions And Classification
of
Christian Apologetics

Dr. Johnson C. Philip & Dr. Saneesh Cherian

Chapter -- 1

Presuppositions Of Christian Apologetics

Similar to the foundations upon which buildings are built, presuppositions are the starting truths upon which different fields of knowledge and investigations are built.

In any field, whether science or theology, presuppositions are the basic and starting assumptions upon which the rest of the subject is built. At times presuppositions are axiomatic (self proven) in nature. No proof is needed for establishing axiomatic presuppositions. For example, if two rods A and B are equal in length to rod C, then A and B would be equal to each other also. However, in most cases these assumptions or presuppositions are so elementary and so basic that more elementary or more basic truths cannot be found for proving or disproving the suppositions. Therefore, arguments at this level should be addressed with great caution.

Opposing presuppositions must be analyzed, tested, or shown to be false to prove or disprove their veracity. Some presuppositions do not readily lend themselves to proof while other presuppositions, while other presuppositions may be easily analyzed when more information becomes available. In such cases analysis will yield fruitful results. For example, in the early stages of computer programming people thought that pure mathematical computation could produce "artificial intelligence". After about half a century of working with computers every computer expert today knows that this presupposition was totally wrong.

Many presuppositions will have to be tested in an indirect way through the "Consistency Test". Consistency tests are possible only after the subject is developed to a reasonable degree. Once a subject has been developed, presuppositions and the observed facts can be tested for congruency. Since the observed facts are established truths, any presuppositions conflicting with these facts are rejected. This is a powerful method for discrediting false philosophies that underlie many branches of science.

One good example of the Consistency Test can be used to test the Theory Of Evolution. Among the many presuppositions that are foundational to evolution, the role played by chance phenomena is the most important assumption. A "chance event" is an action that is completely random or unplanned. According to the chance-presupposition of Evolution, randomness and blind chance must produce a net INCREASE in the order and complexity seen in the Universe (when matter and energy interact with each other).

At the time when the Theory Of Evolution gained initial popularity, theoretical or experimental data to evaluate the chance-presupposition was nonexistent. Consequently the Theory of Evolution continued under the false belief that the assumption was scientifically true. "Chance" became so important for Evolution that even creative powers were attributed to randomness and blind chance. However, the study of chance phenomena has grown rapidly in the last century, and has now provided reliable data with which to evaluate the "chance" assumption. In the light of irrefutable evidence, today the presupposition about blind chance and evolution can be shown to be a gross error.

Developments in the Theory Of Probability, Information Sciences, Computer Technology, Thermodynamics, and the study of biological mutations have shown conclusively that the net result of randomness and blind chance is DECREASE and DESTRUCTION of order and NOT the other way round. This is a serious blow to the false theory of evolution. Analysis of presuppositions in the light of empirical observations furnishes a powerful tool to the Christian Apologist. One can powerfully refute false presuppositions using the "Consistency Test".

The analysis of presuppositions can help the apologist in another way. By using a set of accepted or established presuppositions the apologist can show why the opposing school of thought is in error. Just by establishing the fact that opposing positions are based upon a different set of presuppositions is sufficient in many cases to refute opposing positions.

Radical Christian scholars portraying themselves as Bible believing people can be refuted

effectively by using accepted or established presuppositions. Non conservative Christians come in many shades of thought -- from neo evangelicals to complete radicals. All differ from conservatives (fundamentalists) in interpretation of miracles, creation, and canonicity. Non conservative Christians try to impress upon Bible believing Christians that miracles in the Bible were not real, the Genesis creation account is only a non literal story, and that there is nothing unique with the canon of the Bible.

Since radical Christians use the same vocabulary as conservative Christians, many Bible believing believers do not recognize that conclusions reached by radical Christians are NOT based on research, but arise out of false presuppositions of randomness and blind chance. Radical Christians are mentally preconditioned by the presuppositions they hold and speak AGAINST the Bible when the presuppositions are not supported. They cannot be convinced against their will. They are not seekers of truth but proponents of bias. To refute arguments at a surface level is a losing battle. When false presuppositions are uncovered, the battle changes pace.

As long as one does not expose the radical presuppositions held by non-fundamentalists, the battle remains one sided. Opposition to the Bible is claimed on the basis of scientific investigations. When shown that the arguments brought against the Bible stem not from research but from "starting assumptions", the situation changes. For example, when a radical Christian denies the inspiration and infallibility of the scriptures, when he advocates evolution in place of creation, and when he tries to "demytholyze" supernatural events recorded in the scriptures, he claims research and science as reason for this attack. This is clear deception.

As long as the apologist focuses on conclusions, exposing the fallacy of their claims will be difficult. However, if false presuppositions are exposed, the situation changes. For example, it can easily be demonstrated that the radicals base arguments with at least the following assumptions:

1. The existence of a personal God is doubtful.
2. The Bible is an ordinary book, no different from any other ancient book.
3. All historical phenomena must be explained naturalistically, and therefore miracles and supernatural events are not possible.

Criticisms voiced by radicals are obviously based on the above presuppositions and are NOT a result of scholarly research. When a radical scholar starts with the above assumptions the scriptures are immediately questioned. Once this aspect is exposed, their conclusions can no longer be perceived as scholarly and the task of refuting radical arguments becomes easy. Radical bias can often be exposed by asking leading questions; e.g., "do you believe that miracles are possible", "do you believe that salvation is obtainable only by faith in Christ"? Through presupposition analysis the Christian apologist can learn to ask appropriate leading questions, and thus can diffuse the brashness and boldness with which many of radicals speak against the Bible and Christianity.

People who oppose the Christian faith often do not disclose their presuppositions since they know that revealing the bases for the radical beliefs will make their arguments vulnerable. Thus the best approach for rebutting radical beliefs is to know the major presuppositions of different groups in advance enabling the apologist to frame suitable leading questions to expose the assumptions of the opponents. With this in mind some of the major presuppositions of orthodox Christian faith and of prominent opposing views are listed below.

Major Pre-suppositions Of Some Groups Prominent Today

1-FUNDAMENTALISTS (Theological Conservatives): There are many varieties of Fundamentalist such as Islamic, Judean, Buddhist, Hindu, and Christian. However, throughout this lesson when we refer to Fundamentalist, we will be referring to Christian Fundamentalist only. Christian Fundamentalists are Christians who are devoted to the fundamentals of the Bible. Brethren, Fundamental Baptists, Independent Baptists, Presbyterians, Fundamental Lutherans, and many Independents are among such groups. Fundamental (conservative) Christian

presuppositions are:

Sola Scriptura: The Bible alone is the Holy Spirit-inspired word of God, and is the source of all revelation, doctrine, and authority. Human experience or traditions have no authority in the above matters.

Sola Gratia: Grace alone is the basis of salvation. Grace is unmerited favor from God. No man however saintly can obtain salvation through his own meritorious works.

Sola Fide: Faith is the only means through which one can attain the free gift of justification. Faith is a non-meritorious activity. Meritorious human works play no part in receiving the gift of justification.

Solus Christus: Christ is the only Saviour and the only mediator between God and man. There is no other Saviour or mediator.

According to the stand of fundamentalist Christianity, anyone denying any of the above tenets is a heretic. Church Fathers, Protestant Reformers, and the Fathers of the Brethren Assemblies hold all of the above tenets. The writers of Calvin Research Group Textbooks are unashamedly committed to the above fundamentals. No theological compromise is permitted. The actual presuppositions of the writers include additional points, and are mentioned at the end of this chapter.

Fundamentalists are also known by the titles CONSERVATIVES or ORTHODOX. ORTHODOX is used here in a theological sense, rather than as a denominational title such as Eastern Orthodox

2-EVANGELICALS: The word Evangelical was actually a synonym for Fundamentalist. Today "evangelical" implies a more liberal view. In the original sense, and Evangelical is a doctrinally conservative Christians who believes all the doctrines in the ancient Nicene Creed, which stresses the centrality of the resurrection, and the belief that salvation is through Jesus, alone. This is emphasized by the need for a definite, adult commitment or conversion to faith in Christ. Evangelicals stress both doctrinal absolutes and vigorous efforts to win others to belief. They believe in the four presuppositions above, but may be more flexible and loose in applying them.

Exactly how loose and flexible depends upon their commitment and what type of doctrinal absolutes that define their commitments. There are two primary groups of Evangelicals one being the Conservative Evangelists that are defined by specific doctrines and the Born Again Christians which are defined by personal, often vague, spiritual experiences and feelings.

Conservative Evangelicals are noted for their faith in their lives and believe they have a personal responsibility to share their religious beliefs about Christ with non-Christians. They believe that Satan exists; believe that eternal salvation is possible only through grace, not works; believe that Jesus Christ lived a sinless life on earth; and describe God as the all-knowing, all-powerful, perfect deity who created the universe and still rules it today.

While the Born again Christians believing that because they have made a personal commitment, confessed their sins, and accepted Jesus Christ as savior that they will go to heaven. Because they are generally upbeat about their beliefs they are always eager to have other join in their in their faith. It is with the Born again Christian evangelicals that most problems lie, in that they tend to be far more liberal in acceptance of abortions and/or gay relationships.

Keep in mind that many of those confessing to be Born-again-Christians are in fact Conservative however, they have started miss using the phrase "Born-again" as a title.



3-NEO EVANGELICALS: By the middle nineteen fifties even the looser variety of Evangelicals wanted the label "evangelical", but were not willing to accept the accuracy and reliability of Biblical narratives. Further, they were not willing to believe in the Biblical record of creation, the flood of Noah, and miracles. The term Neo (New) Evangelicals was used to identify this group. Many seminaries worldwide labeled 'Evangelical' are actually Neo Evangelical in theology, as is obvious from their stand on evolution, creation and normative revelation.

Neo-evangelical are theologically radical and would be defined as one who has taken a "lower view" of Scripture, has developed a more open, inclusivistic spirit toward liberalism, and has become ecumenical in evangelism efforts.

Neo Evangelical presuppositions are:

- A complete toleration toward, questionable views of Scripture which has inevitably led to the toleration of a wide diversity of theological viewpoints so much so that they tend to believe of a probability of being saved without Christ. Neo Evangelical presuppositions are:

[A Somewhat Fallible Bible](#)

[Probable Theistic Evolution](#)

[Probability Of Salvation Without An Explicit Knowledge Of Christ](#)

[Doubt About The Veracity Of Miracles Recorded In The Bible](#)

Other things to note are:

- They deny that the Scripture is complete through their attempts to Christianize pagan ideas and systems founded upon personal beliefs and/or influences such as psychology/psychiatry, numerology, astrology, personality theory, etc
- Over time in their desire to gain intellectual acceptability there has been a marked subservience to scientism, which has led to a friendly attitude toward scientism almost to the point of placing rationalistic (not 'rational') scholarship and scientism in the seat of final authority. This has led many of them to doubt the miracles recorded in the Bible.
- Neo-evangelicals view the gospel as the social gospel, which has two points individual and social, thereby neglecting New Testament priorities. This means that the gospel tends to become watered down to make it acceptable to the world.
- They prefer the kind of cooperative evangelism which emphasizes the unity of the church in preference to truth and doctrinal purity, and try to align with groups that have been traditionally subversive of Bible truth such as Roman Catholics.
- They criticize Christian Fundamentalist on issues related to their doctrinal emphasis and claim that this emphasis has caused neglect of the social application of Christianity to the world. They tend to call for preaching only a "positive message," as often expressed by the statement, "God called me to win souls, not to criticize others."
- They have a tendency toward finding justifiable reasons for condoning and using that, which evolves from carnality, sensuality, secularism, and worldliness especially in regards to music, theatrics, emotionalistic and psychological manipulations, promotionalism, and general appearance.
- Desire to mix their Christian views and politics as one through Christian Activism.
- Unbiblical views regarding God's role for women.
- Because of their weak views on Scripture they have a tendency to shift from objective Biblical doctrine to subjective experience which allows for the possible validity of apostolic sign-gifts for our own day (prophecy, tongues, miracles of healing through special persons, etc.).

4-RADICALS (Wrongly Termed, LIBERALS): ⚠️ When reviewing this section, you need to keep in mind that there are two forms of radicals: Christian radicals and the Extreme radicals. Christian radical are actually divided into two forms of radicals, one that should be called liberals that totally and completely reject the orthodox or conservative position of structured religious organizations. These Christians are radicals of one form or another and tend to lean towards the liberalism as seen in modern churches and their acceptances of same sex couples, homosexual priests and bishops, and modern written Bibles that are less restrictive.

The other form of Christian radicals is more frequently considered the extreme religious right that tries to change government and the lifestyles of others to their extremely self-righteous morality. Their form of "Christian" has become a political code word to refer to only those who agree with their political agenda, shutting out politically or theologically liberal Christians. It is amazing the degree to which the radical/religious right has linked the term "Christian" not only to politically conservative doctrines like laissez-faire capitalism, lower-taxes, and gun ownership, but also to patriotism. ⚠️

The more conservative form of Christian radical is preferable to the Apologist rather than the liberal form but this does not mean that an Apologist should ever advocate having the few extremist dictate to the government or try changing the government to their form of Christianity. ⚠️

⚠️ Extreme Radicals come in many forms:

- Anti-government
- The Lunatic Fringes
 - Conspiracy Theorists
 - Militia Groups
 - Identity Christianity ⚠️

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⚠️⚠️ **Anti-government:** Normally you would not think of Christian groups as having hostility towards the government. However, there are those that feel contempt for the government and the extreme religious right that they feel controls the government and the intrusion into their own lives and personal pursuits.

The Lunatic Fringes: These groups are on the extreme edge of any form of Christianity and either follow or observe practices outside the norm of normal Christianity.

⚠️ **Conspiracy Theorists:** Strongly influence segments of the religious right who believe in the impending return of Jesus Christ, preceded by a seven year period of chaos, which, in addition to being strongly anti-communist, see the United Nations as the instrument of an international communist conspiracy. ⚠️ ⚠️

⚠️⚠️ **Militia Groups:** Contains elements and traits shared by the more mainstream Religious Right, individualist, libertarian, and anti-authoritarian, traits, which are fundamentally in opposition to the Religious Right. The militia movement contains those that claim Christian and Supremacist roots. Some of them hold senior positions within the movement with authority, power and influence. However, these views do not mean they are predominant or ascendant within the militia movement nor does it mean the militia movement is a Neo-Nazi, White Supremacist or Racist movement.

Identity Christianity: Who frequently attack, through vocal means, lesbians and gay men are extreme fringe group, which holds that the White, Anglo-Saxon/Germanic peoples are the true Israel and that Jews are Satanic/demonic pretenders. Identity Christianity's theology is very similar to Christian Reconstructionism.

Most mainline churches have become theologically radical today. Priests in these churches are often more radical than lay people, and seminary professors tend to be more radical than priests. Radical presuppositions are:

A Rejection Of All Tenets Of Conservative Christianity

All Religions Eventually Lead To Salvation

Everyone Will Eventually Attain Heaven

The Bible Is Not The Sole Word Of God

The Bible Contains Plenty Of Errors And Primitive Ideas

The Record Of Creation Is A Myth, While Evolution Is Fact

Virgin Birth, Resurrection Of Christ, And Miracles Are Myths

5-NEO ORTHODOX: Began in the aftermath following World War I, with a rejection of Protestant scholasticism and a denial of the Protestant liberal movement. To distinguish from Orthodox or Conservative Christians the term Neo-Orthodox was adopted. Neo-Orthodox theology is neither new nor orthodox. Carl Barth is the most noted proponent of Neo-Orthodoxy. In the beginning, there was confusion with the movement due to the association of words. Many saw the word Orthodoxy and associated it with the basic ideas of the Protestant Reformation and as a means of proclaiming the truth of the gospel. The prefix Neo caused many to believe that a new philosophy was (or would be) used to attain an accurate view of Scripture, which used in combination with orthodoxy would provide a powerful witness to God's action in Christ for those of the new century. Soon, however, it became clear that they use word from orthodox theology in a totally opposite and radical sense, rendering them totally radical in theology.

Neo-orthodox writers claim that both traditional and liberal Protestantism have lost the insight and truth of the faith. During the nineteenth century theologians had taken the paradoxes of faith, dissolved their tension, used rational, logical, coherent explanations as a substitute, creating propositions, and thus had destroyed the living dynamic of the faith. Paradoxes of the faith for the neo-orthodox must remain precisely that, and the dialectic method, which seeks to find the truth in the opposites of the paradoxes, leads to a true dynamic faith.

Proponents of Neo Orthodoxy liberally use terms like heaven, hell, sin, salvation, revelation, Christ, and resurrection, but define the terms differently from conservative definitions. For example when a Neo Orthodox writer talks about the Word of God, he is not talking about the actual Biblical record; when he talks of Christ, he is not talking of the Jesus Christ of history! Differing meaning of terms creates deception. Neo Orthodox presuppositions are:

- A Rejection of All Fundamental Tenets of Christianity by their belief that the Word as Scripture was not intended be seen as one. The Scripture contains the Word but is not the Word. The Word is proclaimed and witnessed to, in and through the body of Christ through the work of the Holy Spirit. The Bible you have in your hands is not divine revelation. When it inspires a message in your mind, that message is revelation.
- God's revelation about Himself is an act of grace to which humankind's response is to listen. This revelation by God is presented in a threefold sense: Jesus as the word made flesh; Scripture, which points to the word, made flesh; and the sermon, which is the vehicle for the proclamation of the Word, made flesh.
- There is a possibility of Salvation to all without Christ: Due to humankind's sinful ways, there is a vast chasm between God and humanity. That humankind cannot bridge that chasm and all of mankind's efforts to follow religious doctrine, moral and ethical thoughts and actions are a waste of time. The only possible way for the chasm to be crossed is by God, and this he has done in Christ. The Neo Orthodox deny it.
- Their view of Scripture, "The Bible is God's Word so far as God lets it be his Word" (Barth, Church Dogmatics, I / 2, 123), has been seen as a rejection of the infallible sola Scriptura of conservative Protestantism.

- Neo-Orthodoxy relies on human reason and stress the reliability and validity of human reason to critique revelation.

6-CHRISTIAN MYSTICS: Christian mystics seek one or more mystical encounters for spiritual joy and assurance. Christian mystics are found both among Roman Catholics and Protestants.

They are concerned about a spiritual transformation of the human person to achieve full realization of their human potential, which was realized most perfectly in Jesus and is manifested in others through their association with Him. Christian mystics are found among both Roman Catholics and Protestants.

Christian mystics strive to follow a three-way path in their quest of holiness. While the different paths may have different names in the different Christian traditions, they can all be characterized as purgative, illuminative, and unitive which corresponds to what is considered the whole person body, mind, and spirit.

Purgative: forms the foundation for Christian spirituality by way of purification and this is where aspiring Christian mystics start and focuses on:

- Discipline, particularly in terms of the human body
- Prayers at designated times, either alone or with others, and in certain postures, often standing or kneeling.
- Disciplines of fasting and alms giving, which includes spiritual and corporal works of mercy such as feeding the hungry and sheltering the homeless.

Illuminative: has to do with the perceived activities of the Holy Spirit, which enlightens the mind, gives insights into truths not only explicit in Scripture and the rest of the Christian Tradition, but also those implicit in nature. This does not mean in the scientific sense, but more in depth aspects of natural happenings such as experience through the working of God.

Unitive: has to do with the experience of when you unite with God. It is difficult to describe this experience because it varies from person to person. It is always associated with Divine love, the underlying theme being that God is known or experienced at least as much by the heart as by the intellect since.

A final aspect has to do with its communal nature; all members of this lifestyle always lived in communion with the Church, the community of believers. This allows for the practice of having a spiritual director, confessor, or "soul friend" with which to discuss one's spiritual progress.

Do not confuse Christian Mystics with Christian Spiritism as many do.

Christian Mystic presuppositions are:

Rejection Of "Bible Alone"

Rejection Of Doctrine And Theology

Elevation Of Mystical Experience To The Level Of Revelation

Salvation Through Mystical Experience



Spiritual Joy Through Mystical Experience

7. Christian Spiritism: Christian Spiritism is a deception that hides under the form of a Christian worship. The church may include all the normal items such as: pulpit, pews, crucifix, and organ. The service seems normal in their use of: Bible, Christian prayers, and songs. However, the change is that they also use trances and psychic readings an ancient practice to try communicating with the dead, which makes it a sacrilege.

Spiritism in any form is Condemned in the Bible, A man or a woman who is a medium or a

wizard shall be put to death; they shall be stoned to death, their blood is upon them" (Leviticus 20:6,27)... and it is called "an abomination to the Lord" in Deut.18:12. Christian Spiritism presuppositions are:

- God: is an infinite spiritual intelligence, an impersonal power controlling the universe.
- Jesus: was a man, not God, and during His time on earth, He was a prophet or an advanced medium who communicate with the spirit world.
- Jesus: is now a primary spirit that one communicates with in the spirit world.
- No Virgin Birth
- No redeeming cross: yet many will have a crucifix displayed above the pulpit.
- No resurrection
- No Second Coming
- Heaven and Hell do not exist, they are states of mind.
- People continue to live in the spirit world after their physical body dies.
- Rejection Of Bible Alone: they also use their Spiritualistic Manual, Aquarium Gospel of Jesus the Christ, and Oashpe

8-CHRISTIAN CULTS:  Originate from a group of churches that may call themselves Christians, use the Bible as their Sacred Scripture, and may even have the name of Christ in the title of their church. Many so-called Christian Cults claim to be the true Church. Since many Cultists are experts at beguiling unsuspecting believers, it is necessary to know the presuppositions with which they operate. 

Not every cult holds all of these presuppositions, but most cults accept most of the following:

Rejection Of Sola Scriptura And Elevation Of Their Own Books To The Level Of the Bible
Rejection Of Salvation By Grace Through Faith
Rejecting The Uniqueness Of Jesus Christ
Rejection Of Normal Hermeneutics
Claim That Only They Are True Children Of God
Rejection Of One Or More Of The Biblical Doctrines Related To Sin, Salvation, Grace, Justification, Hell, etc.

The following are a few of the Christian cults:

- Mormons: The Church of Jesus Christ of the of Latter-day Saints
- Jehovah's Witnesses
- Moonies: Unification of Christianity
- Christian Science Church
- Church of Scientology
- Children of God: Family of Love
- Worldwide Church of God, of Armstrong
- Spiritualism
- Church Universal and Triumphant
- Unitarianism/Universalism.
- Gnosticism/Neo-Gnosticism.
- Way International
- Holy Order of MANS
- Church of the Living God

Other Christian Cults:

- Central London Church of Christ
- Rev. Ike Penitents: Snake Handlers
- Churches for Homosexuals: Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches
- Branch Dravidians: "Waco", David Koresh
- People's Temple: Jim Jones, Jonestown

9-CHRISTIAN OCCULTISTS: : before launching into Christian Occultists, we should examine

what occultism is. To the Occultist, Occultism is the study of hidden wisdom, truth, or rather the deeper truth that exists beyond the surface. Most people consider this as an unknown area, which is limited only to depth of human imagination and the use of talismans, magic, voodoo, astrology, numerology, or even religions such as Hinduism and Buddhism. ❗❗

Christian Occultists are in reality, advanced students of Occultism and use their gained knowledge of magic, astrology, numerology, or other training to produce what seems like miracles. They have produce mass-hypnotism, mass-hysteria, and many other delusions. Reportedly, they have also produced individual as well as mass-healings. These Christians believe God gives them their occultic skills not the power of evil spirits. Because of the power, they feel while practicing their skills:

Rejection Of Sola Scriptura

They Believe That Occult Techniques Are Approved By God

They Believe That The Spirit Beings That Help Them Are From God

They Reject Most Of What the Bible Says About the Devil And His Angles

They Believe That Occult Phenomena Can Bring People Close To God

10-NON CHRISTIAN CULTS: ❗ They study hidden wisdom, truth, or rather the deeper truth that exists beyond the surface they use of talismans, magic, voodoo, astrology, numerology, or even religions such as Hinduism and Buddhism. They do not try to work with physically measurable facts, but those obtained through the mind or the spirit, which can be associated to mental, psychological or spiritual training. However, occultists do study science because they perceive science as a branch of Alchemy that they try to use to add validity to occultist practices.

These non-Christian cults often pretend to have close similarity or relationship with the Christian faith. Their leaders often quote from the Bible however, there beliefs are not Christian and the differences can be seen in the following: ❗❗

Nature of man:

- **Christian:** Believe man made in God's image and separated from by sin
- **Occultist:** Believe man is like God, only most people do not realize it ❗

Heaven and Hell:

- **Christian:** Believe they are actual places
- **Occultist:** Believe that Heaven and Hell is a condition that conformed to the will of God or not. Some occultists actually believe in the Christian version of afterlife. ❗

The devil:

- **Christian:** Believe to be an actual being
- **Occultist:** Believe to be those that perverse the use of their abilities through wrong thinking. ❗

Magic and Ritual:

- **Christian:** Believed to be Satanic activities
- **Occultist:** Believe in making changes through natural forces that they believe is a function of the spirit world

❗❗ Their general presuppositions are:

- Rejection Of Sola Scriptura
- Rejection Of Salvation By Grace Through Faith

- Rejection Of Jesus Christ As The Only Saviour
- Rejection Of All Major Christian Doctrines

11-NEW AGE GROUPS: in a class by itself was given birth by Alice Bailey of Lucifer Trust in the nineteen thirties has now become the New Age Movement. The movement has no holy text, central organization, membership, formal clergy, geographic center, dogma, creed, etc. They often use mutually exclusive Christian-sounding definitions for some of their terms, which have attracted Christian followers. There is nothing Christian in this movement in fact it is a free-flowing spiritual movement; a network of believers and practitioners who share somewhat similar beliefs and practices, which they add on to whichever formal religion that they follow.

The New Age is a heterogeneous movement of individuals, which became popular during the 1970's as a reaction against what some perceived as the failure of Christianity. The members are classified into seven groups. The largest, being Cultural (Christmas & Easter) Christianity followed by Conventional Christianity, New Age Practitioner, Biblical (Fundamentalist, Evangelical) Christianity, Atheist/Agnostic, Other, and Jewish.

Many New Age followers hold a number of fundamental beliefs; individuals are encouraged to "shop" for the beliefs and practices that they feel most comfortable with:

Monism: All that exists is derived from a single source of divine energy.

Pantheism: All that exists is God; God is all that exists. This leads naturally to the concept of the divinity of the individual, that we are all Gods.

Panentheism: God is all that exists. God is at once the entire universe, and transcends the universe as well.

Reincarnation: After death, we are reborn and live another life as a human.

Karma: The good and bad deeds that we do add and subtracts from our accumulated record, our **karma**.

Personal Transformation A profoundly intense mystical experience will lead to the acceptance and use of New Age beliefs and practices.

Ecological Responsibility: A belief in the importance of uniting to preserve the health of the earth, which is often looked upon as **Gaia**, (Mother Earth) a living entity.

Universal Religion: Since all is God, then only one reality exists, and all religions are simply different paths to that ultimate reality.

General New Age presuppositions are:

Rejection Of Sola Scriptura

Rejection Of Salvation By Grace Through Faith

Rejection Of Jesus Christ As The Only Saviour

Rejection Of All Major Christian Doctrines

Salvation Through All Religions/Universalism

12-THE NEW PRAJAPATI MOVEMENT: This movement began with a Telegu tract titled 'Sacrifice', published in the nineteen thirties. The tract has now been translated into English and many major Indian languages. The Prajapati movement gained momentum in the late eighties and in the nineties primarily through the work of Mr. Koshy Abraham, Dr. Jospeh Padinjarekkera, and Arvindaksha Menon.

What is **Prajapati**? In Hindu, mythology is the primordial lord of creatures, and is mentioned in Vedic, epic and Puranic literature. In Vedic legends, he is described in various ways as the

creator of the world, and the creator of heaven and earth. He is an androgynous being who impregnated himself by fusing elements of mind and speech. In later epics, he is the guardian of the sex organ. Prajapati becomes the name for Brahma in later Hinduism.

According to the advocates of the heresy, the Prajapati, who is one of the 33 gods of the Vedas, is Jesus Christ Himself. They claim that the gods offered the Prajapati as a sacrifice and he has many characteristics that prove beyond a doubt that the Prajapati is Jesus, the Son of God.

Prajapati is sinless: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, did not commit any sin and the devotees of Prajapati try to prove Prajapati is Christ. They took some portions from the vedas or Upanishads (suppressed all what did not suit them) and gave Prajapati a clean sheet.

The Crown of Thorns: Jesus was crowned with a wreath of thorns and if one could prove that the Prajapati also had such an experience, it would be easy to prove that the Prajapati is Christ. Therefore, the devotees of Prajapati tried their best to locate something like that, but they could not. At last, they had to be content with the grass rope that was used to fasten the sacrificial horse to the pole.

The Rejection: Jesus rejected everything and offered Himself as a sacrifice. However, the devotees of Prajapati make it something unusual, because, in Itareya Brahmana, a cow is offered and not Prajapati.

The Silent Sufferer: Jesus offered Himself as a sacrifice and suffered everything willingly. Therefore, it is necessary to show that the Prajapati also did something like that which devotees of Prajapati cannot.

Close to the Cross: There is no mention of any kind of cross in the Vedas, but it is necessary to bring some kind of a cross into the Vedas in order to crucify the Prajapati. For this they use the tail of the sacrificial cow being tied to the pole. But their mistake is the animal is tied to the pole, but Jesus was nailed to the cross. The pole, which is a god, has nothing to do with the cross.

The Blood: The devotees of Prajapati try to compare the shedding of blood by Christ as being the same as that of Prajapati however their mistake is that while Christ shed blood there is no mention Prajapati shedding blood so, it was necessary to find some blood somewhere. Blood was found in Brhadaranyaka Upanishad where, man is compared to a tree. Man has hair on his head and the tree has leaves instead. Both the tree and the man has skin as well. The sap of the tree is like the blood of the man. When a tree is cut, sap oozes, just like the blood that flows from an injured man.

The Bones: The bones of Christ were not broken and the devotees of Prajapati discovered something in Itareya Brahmana. The cow sacrificed with the consent of its relatives had 26 bones of this cow is taken from the body and put in a line thereby showing no broken bones.

The Man Alive: Christ rose on the 3rd day after the Crucifixion and the devotees of Prajapati try to use the beliefs of Hindus to state that Prajapati returned to life after the sacrifice.

The Flesh of the Man: In the Last Supper Christ presented to his followers bread and wine that represented the flesh of his body and his blood to consume. However, in the vedas, the gods killed but did not eat Prajapati.

The Cloth of the Prajapati: Some of the devotees of Prajapati lie that that the clothes of the Prajapati were divided among four priests, though none of them have ever said where such an incident is mentioned. Even some of the Prajapati factions deny this characteristic, though the biggest Pentecostal denomination in India had included Prajapati, along with this characteristic (including others) in their Sunday School Text book! [They removed it after Pastor TS Balan, a Hindu-convert and reformist fought against it].

Nailed to the Cross: The devotees of the Prajapati know they cannot prove that Prajapati's hands and legs were nailed to the pole. However, they still preach and teach that the hands and legs of the Prajapati was nailed to the cross and due to this reason the Prajapati is Christ.

Son of a Virgin: Some of the Christian servants of the Prajapati teach that their lord, the Prajapati of the Vedas, was the son of a virgin ... even though they do not say where this matter is recorded in the Vedas or in other Hindu scriptures. In fact, there is nothing of this sort mentioned in the Vedas.

It seems that among the Prajapati-Christians, anybody who can quote some things from the Bible is accepted as born again Christians and given a platform to teach and preach.

Their presuppositions are:

[Outright Rejection of Sola Scriptura](#)

[Rejection of the Uniqueness of Jesus Christ](#)

[Rejection of all Major Christian Doctrines](#)

[Elevation of Non Christian Scriptures to the Level of the Bible](#)

13-OCULTIC CULTS: Occultic Cults are satanic movements manifested in Satan Worship, Sorcery, and Demon-assisted healings. Many have also manifested as personality-development movements. Membership in satanic sects, the participation in the rites introduced by them, the evocation of demonic entities, the personal and sole cult of the devil, and the affirmation of ideas deriving from the area of Satanism, have assumed an unexpected dimension in today's society.

❗ In countries where there is religious freedom, satanic cults have flourished with unbridled speed. They are so diverse certain groups are unknown even to those same people who frequent the satanic environment. However, most are connected to one another either through a central person or group or virtual existence such as the Internet web sites.. Due to changes in society some will cease activity others continue their activities just below the threshold of acceptance by society. All of them will undergo some type of change over time due to enter rivalries or growth. These groups will divide amongst themselves into individual trunks that will divide into limbs and eventually into branches.

❗ Well-known groups that are active include:



❗❗. Church of Satan

❗❗. Order of the Black Ram

❗❗. Worldwide Church of Satanic Liberation

❗❗. Order Templi Satanis

❗❗. Ordo Sinistra Vivendi

❗❗. Chiesa di Satana di Filippo Scerba
Chiesa Luciferiana di Efrem Del Gatto

❗❗. Temple of Set

❗❗. Werewolf Order

❗❗. Church of War

❗❗. Order of the Nine Angels and Dark Lily

❗❗. Bambini di Satana



❗❗. Impero Satanico della Luce degli Inferi



❗❗. Seguaci del Maestro Loitan



The group Order Templi Satanis distributes volumes of satanic information through the use of the Internet is actually makes them more dangerous to the Christian world because most of their work is in a covert environment.

Satanic beliefs are as diverse as the groups they represent however most of them follow the following beliefs or presuppositions:

- Satan liberates the believer from religious, moral, and cultural conditioning
 - Satanism is a religion of the flesh
 - Satanist must find happiness here and now
 - There is no heaven or hell to go to after death
 - Satan a real being prince of darkness and a friend of Mankind
 - It is possible to obtain favors from Satan through magical rituals
 - Satan is Lucifer, a positive figure opposed to God who is seen in a negative light
-
- Rejection Of Sola Scriptura
 - Rejection Of Jesus Christ As The Only Savior
 - Rejection Of Salvation By Grace Through Faith
 - Rejection Of All Major Christian Doctrines
 - Elevation Of Non Christian Scriptures To The Level Of the Bible

14-SECULAR CULTS:  Secular cults are not a new phenomenon they have been around as long as the Church started by Christ. However, since the end of World War 2, they have gained in popularity and varieties. Due to the horrors of war and the lost of so much life, people began questioning the Church and even God Himself, which left a wide-open spiritual wound that the secular cults were eager to fill. Because of the mass destruction and seemingly overwhelming loss of life, the secular cults were able to draw, erroneous conclusions, that there was no God and that religion was a waste of time and energy, and the idea of orthodox Christianity and all belief systems that posit a supernatural realm as just a delusional nonsense created to control the masses. 

  Their main point that they used repeatedly at the end of the war was "If there is a God, then why would He allow for so much destruction and loss of life and property?" and "Why would He allow for genocides to be committed against the Jews?"

  Think about it for a moment, you come back from a war to see everything you grew up knowing either destroyed or dead. You yourself, would have gone hungry, cold, and either killed to survive or seen the death of so many others. Your mind and spirit is one very large open wound and the ones that are trying to comfort you are the very same that are trying to lead you away from God. Over time, your spirit begins to heal and maybe you have returned to God only to see another war start and the old wounds reopen. Since the end of World War 2 (WW2), the world has seen multiple wars in the Middle East (Israel, Jordan, Syria, Egypt, Iraq, Iran, etc.), revolutionary wars in China, Viet Nam war, the massive killing fields of Cambodia, Korean War, and multiple genocidal wars in various African nations. Since the out break of WW2 the loss of human life due to war has far exceeded 150 million.

This has left more than ample room for Secular Cults to spin their web that God does not exist however; they do fail in the end because they forget to point out the good humanitarian ideals and deeds that have taken hold for the betterment of mankind. Because of the destruction, left by wars humanity has established many watch groups and peacekeeping forces to prevent or at least stem the flow of war. In addition, they fail because they preach that life is the here and now enjoy it now because when it is over, it is over. This makes you wonder if it is truly over when you die then why are they so concerned with the trying to tear down organized religion. Why do they waste their precious time, since this is the only life they will ever have, when they could be living it to the fullest? The fallacy with secular cults is that their actions do not coincide with their doctrine.

15-RATIONALIST GROUPS: Hold to a philosophical belief that the truth is founded by reasoning and analysis of factual data and not on faith, or religious teachings. Although many people will normally associate the rationalist movement or groups as atheist, it is not always the case. Although rationalism is similar to humanism and atheism, it differs from both of these, in that:

- Humanism: Rationalism is found in humanism however, rationalism does not need the strong ethical component found in humanism.
- Atheism: Reject the belief in God for any or no reason at all and there is no requirement for rationalism.

⚠ Keep in mind, although rationalism does reject any belief based on faith alone but it does not deny or affirm atheism. However, most rationalists today believe that theism cannot be rationalized therefore the correlation with atheism. However, some rationalists such as Deism state reason rather than revelation or tradition, should be the basis of belief in God. Because deism believes, reason is the essential element in all knowledge they reject both organized and revealed religion. They rationalize that God does not interfere with humanity or the world because He made it perfect from the beginning and to make changes would be to state that He is not perfect.

Deism is the exception and not the norm when studying Rationalist Groups, in that they believe in a God while the other rationalist groups reject all belief in God, immortality, after-life, heaven, and hell. Many Western rationalist groups have been known to openly encourage immorality, and publish pornographic books.

16-HUMANISTS: When speaking in religious terms many of the words used will have multiple meanings and humanists is just such a word. Therefore, before we speak on one area lets look at the various forms of humanism:

Christian Humanism:

- Christian beliefs about the nature of God
- Advocate people's fulfillment by personal effort

Cultural Humanism:

- Knowledge can be obtained through rational thought and experimentation
- Roots in ancient Greece and Rome
- Scientific method and underpinning of all sciences today

Literary Humanism:

- Pursuit of the humanities

Modern Humanism:

- Encompasses both Religious and Secular Humanism

Philosophical Humanism:

- Centered upon the needs and interests of people

Renaissance Humanism:

- Started at the end of the Middle Ages
- Renewed an interest in classical studies
- Promoted the concept that truth found through human effort

Religious Humanism:

- Similar to secular humanism
- Practiced in a religious setting with fellowship and rituals
- Associated with the *Society for Humanistic Judaism* and some groups affiliated with the *Unitarian Universalist Association*.

Secular Humanism:

- Non-religiously based philosophy
- Promotes humanity as the measure of all things

An in-depth look at the Humanist show that their beliefs and practices are:

- They promote their roots to the philosophies of ancient Greece and regard Socrates as the first Humanist.
- They except knowledge through reasoning and/or hard evidence and not on faith
- The belief that historical progress conflict between organized religion and secular society beliefs and practices have gradually replaced with secular beliefs
- That religious groups promises of immortal salvation or fear of eternal damnation are both illusory and harmful
- Acceptance of democracy and rejection of both theocracy and secular dictatorships as dangerous to individual freedoms
- Combating bigotry, hatred, discrimination, intolerance and censorship
- Support the separation of church and state
- Liberal beliefs about topics, like abortion, corporal punishment of children, death penalty, enforced prayer in schools, homosexuality, physician assisted suicide, etc.

For the purpose of this course, the concentration will be on the Secular Humanists a non-theistically based philosophy that promotes humanity as the measure of all things and considers man as the Supreme Being in the Universe. Essentially, there are no actual differences between secular humanists and atheists. The facts show that the essence of their presuppositions and practices are identical. Many secular humanists do not accept this fact and use the name 'humanist' instead of 'rationalist' because they do not yet have the courage to declare who they actually are.

Generally speaking:

- They **do not** believe in:
 - A personal God, a Goddess or a combination of Goddesses and Gods
 - Supernatural beings such as angels, demons, Satan, Holy Spirit, etc
 - Heaven or hell or life after death
 - The separation of a person into body, soul and spirit
 - Survival of an individual in any form after death
 - The existence of a deity, or they don't really care about the topic
 - The concept of a personal God, and regard humans as supreme
- They **do** believe:
 - Excellent codes of behavior and morality can be created through reason
 - About human rights and equal opportunities for all
 - Humans created the Gods and Goddesses in their own image
 - There is no God in heaven to intervene and save us from a disaster
 - That full responsibility for the future of the world, its political systems, its ecology, etc. rests with humans
 - A universe that was not created
 - In the theory of evolution and a universe that obeys natural laws
 - Rejection of divinely inspired ethical and moral codes in favor of codes derived by reason from the human condition

And they tend to be at the liberal end of the spectrum on such controversial topics as abortion access; equal rights for gays, lesbians and bisexuals; same-sex marriage, physician assisted suicide, separation of church and state, etc.

Pre-suppositions Of CRG Textbooks

The writers of Calvin Research Group Textbooks are all theological conservatives. The following four presuppositions are a MINIMUM starting point:

Sola Scriptura (Bible Alone)

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)

Sola Fide (Faith Alone)

Solus Christus (Christ Alone)

However, additional presuppositions describe their positions more fully. These are:

Inspiration: Each word of the Bible is recorded there by God's inspiration (verbal inspiration). This inspiration extends not only to the words, but also to ideas and historical/scientific facts.

Inerrancy: The Bible is totally and completely free of moral, spiritual, historical, and scientific errors.

Infallibility: The Bible is infallible in all matters of doctrine, practice, morals, and every subject on which it makes an authoritative pronouncement.

Canonicity: The 66 books of the Old and New Testament, and they alone, are the Word of God. The Apocrypha are not part of the Bible.

Revelation: Christ and the Bible are the only divine revelations given to mankind through the Holy Spirit. Mankind can know God only through Christ and the Bible.

The Biblical record makes no sense without the above presuppositions. The Bible demands that we approach it with the above presuppositions in mind. Anything less would force a person to explain away significant portions of Bible and theology.

Summary

Every apologist should know both his own presuppositions as well as the major presuppositions of his opponents. Asking suitable leading questions to expose the anti-biblical presuppositions of one's opponent is a powerful method to expose error. Only continuous study and analysis will help.

All doctrinal positions -- whether conservative or radical -- require adherence to certain minimum presuppositions. Calvin Research Group is unashamedly a conservative institution, and the minimum required presuppositions are:

Sola Scriptura (Bible Alone)

Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)

Sola Fide (Faith Alone)

Solus Christus (Christ Alone)

Chapter -- 2

Branches Of Christian Apologetics

Christian Apologetics is not a narrow subject dealing with the Bible and science alone, but is a

vast subject with several branches dealing with various opposing views against the Christian faith.

As learning increases, opponents of the Christian faith continue to present an ever widening array of questions against the Bible. Thus the task of the Christian Apologist also keeps widening, with new topics coming into prominence in each generation. The hundreds of topics that today constitute Christian Apologetics can be classified into the following broad categories, with each of them having several sub categories.

Philosophical/Theological Apologetics

Historical/Legal Apologetics

Rational/Scientific Apologetics

Interdisciplinary Apologetics

Consideration of each of the above groups is helpful. More detailed discussion is presented in the following chapters.

Philosophical/Theological Apologetics

Many attacks against the Christian faith are philosophical in nature. Erroneous philosophy can be countered only with right philosophy, and thus the need for philosophical apologetics. Theological apologetics begins with an analysis of worldviews, and then proceeds to other aspects of non-Christian philosophies.

Philosophies against the Bible can be divided into four categories: theistic, atheistic, occultic and non-theistic philosophies. The major groups that fall into these four categories are listed below

THEISTIC PHILOSOPHIES: Groups holding theistic philosophies include Hinduism (made up of at least six different philosophies), Islam, Jainism (some branches), Buddhism (some branches), Taoism, Shintoism, Sikhism, Bahai, Zoroastrianism, Christian Cults, Non-Christian Religious Cults, and many Occult Cults.

ATHEISTIC PHILOSOPHIES: Groups holding atheistic philosophies include Hinduism (the materialistic philosophy), Jainism, Buddhism, Rationalism, Atheism, Secular Humanism, Nihilism, Marxism, and Existentialism.

OCCULTIC PHILOSOPHIES: Groups holding occultic philosophies include Animism, Tantric Philosophies, Ancestor Worship, New Age Movement, Rosicrucianism, many of the Holistic Healing Systems, Satanism, Spiritism, Devil's Church, etc.

NON-THEISTIC PHILOSOPHIES: Non-theistic philosophies neither affirm nor deny the existence of God. However, many non-theistic philosophies tend to be atheistic. The notable ones are Theosophy, Agnosticism, and Nihilism.

Philosophy is important for gaining insight, but is not a tangible subject like physical science. Consequently, philosophical arguments can be unnecessarily prolonged. Since philosophy-based discussions are easier than science and technology-based discussions, many Christian apologists confine themselves to philosophical apologetics. Self-taught lay people may also find philosophical apologetics an easier area than the more technical types of apologetics.

Philosophical apologetics was prominent in the nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth centuries. However, from the middle of the twentieth century most attacks directed against the Bible and the Christian faith have had their origin in the more tangible fields of science and technology. Thus for success in the apologetic task today apologists need to be equipped in the other branches of apologetics. At the same time the revival of philosophical religions of the Orient demands that Christians apologists should not overlook training in philosophical apologetics.

Historical/Legal Apologetics

The rise of modern archeology in the twentieth century has brought a vast amount of historical information. Since historical narratives in the Bible are all two thousand years old or older, archaeological developments have a direct bearing on the Bible.

Critics quickly used historical and archaeological developments to attack the Bible. Historical and archaeological attacks reached a peak in the last half of the nineteenth and the first half of the twentieth century. However, the historical sciences have provided a vast amount of evidence in support of the Bible and the Christian faith.

Unfortunately, before Christian scholars could take control of this field, radical theologians spread propaganda using historical sciences to discredit the Bible. Only now have the effects of the false propaganda begun to diminish.

Bible and history, Bible and archeology, Bible and prophecies, Bible and linguistics, all fall into the area of historical/ legal apologetics. Dozens of volumes have now been written addressing historical/legal apologetics. For persons who do not have a science background but still want to work in a field of more tangible apologetics, the study of historical apologetics is a good area of training.

Rational/Scientific Apologetics

In the last four centuries modern science has become prominent in the field of knowledge. For the common man the word 'science' has become a synonym for 'truth'. (Very few people know that these two words are not strictly identical).

Since the common man views science as an object of awe, wonder, and even worship, critics quickly used modern science to attack the Bible. The rise of the Theory of Evolution in the nineteenth century also gave great courage to critics of the Bible. Rational/Scientific apologetics deals with these attacks.

Rational apologetics addresses diverse subjects; e.g., Bible-difficulties, Bible and science, Bible and evolution, Bible and astronomy, cosmogony. The rise of the Theory Of Evolution has resulted in the development of Creationism as a part of rational apologetics. Today Creationism is one of the most advanced areas in Rational Apologetics.

The vastness of subjects and amount of information involved in rational apologetics creates a challenging study. However, the highly tangible nature of scientific information can be used to lead discussions between the inquirer and the apologist to a reasonable end in a reasonable amount of time.

Interdisciplinary Apologetics

With the advent of newer fields of learning and investigation, opposition against the Bible has also multiplied. Many opposing views can be countered with the help of a single subject such as history, but a few of them require the use of more than one subject. The apologist has to gather and present evidence spanning more than one discipline, thus the name 'interdisciplinary apologetics'.

CHRISTIAN ETHICS: The defense of Christian Ethics can be placed in this category. For example the apparent harsh attitude of Jews and God toward gentiles as recorded in the Old Testament might be perplexing. People reading the New Testament (specially with a secular humanistic attitude) might find ethical requirements too strict and even unnecessary. Defense of Christian Ethics against these objections would require mastering several subjects including, history, jurisprudence, legal science, and theology. Thus for the Christian apologist Christian ethics becomes a part of Interdisciplinary Apologetics.

THE PROBLEM OF EVIL AND SUFFERING: Many atheists and critics argue that evil and suffering cannot exist in a world ruled by an all-powerful God of perfect love. The apologist needs to combine philosophy, theology, biography, and even more subjects to refute these arguments.

LEGAL APOLOGETICS: Legal and logical argument is another part of Historical/Legal Apologetics. At times legal apologetics requires the study of several subjects. Thus legal apologetics is also considered a part of Interdisciplinary Apologetics.

RELATIONAL APOLOGETICS: Educated young people often wrongly think that scientific investigation is the only method for gaining knowledge to arrive at truth. Most things in life are, however, learned by entering into a relationship with them. For example a person recognizes a table, chair, or a pole anywhere in the world. He does not have a concise definition for these things, but recognizes a table anywhere in the world because of the information collected through exposure to many kinds of tables.

Often Christians are asked to demonstrate certain truths with the help of science, even though these things belong to relational analysis. Thus in relational apologetics the Christian apologist demonstrates to the seeker that the object of his inquiry can be discovered and verified only by entering into a personal relationship.

GOD'S EXISTENCE: The existence of God is another subject faced by apologists. Since God is neither matter nor energy, experiments of physical sciences can neither prove nor disprove God. Rather, a combination of reasoning based upon several subjects can unmistakably point to the existence of God. Thus this subject also belongs to Interdisciplinary Apologetics.

MIRACLES AND RESURRECTION: Radicals and infidels often question the resurrection of Jesus and the miracles recorded in the Bible. Information from several subjects would need to be collected to defend these Biblical truths, thus this subject also can be placed in Interdisciplinary Apologetics.

BIBLE TEXT/LANGUAGE/CANON: The text, language, and canon of the Bible are favorite targets for infidels outside and inside the church. Many times the questions raised can be answered only by combining information gleaned from history, geography, linguistics, and even philology. Thus its placement in this section.

Summary

Christian Apologetics was a simple subject when opposition against Christianity was also simple. However, in the last two centuries opposition has become highly sophisticated. Critics search to find subjects with which to attack the Bible. Consequently the range and depth of opposing arguments have also increased dramatically. In response, Christian Apologetics has also become an advanced subject with numerous branches.

A student of Christian Apologetics should not confine study to the older Philosophical Apologetics alone, but should try to master more tangible fields also. This is more difficult than studying Philosophical Apologetics alone, but the results are rewarding.

Everyone who tries to use anything other than the Conservative Presuppositions is trying to synthesize two opposites into one harmonious entity. However, opposites can be synthesized only at the cost of truth, and that is an alarming possibility for any apologist.

In all Calvin Research Group School textbooks we take an unashamed stand in favor of truth, total truth, and truth alone. There will be no attempt to mingle error with truth. Tens of thousands of Protestant Reformers have sacrificed their lives to defend the truth expressed in the following statements:

Sola Scriptura (Bible Alone)
Sola Gratia (Grace Alone)
Sola Fide (Faith Alone)
Solus Christus (Christ Alone)
Soli Deo Gloria (To God Alone Be Glory)

We unashamedly stand with the Fathers of the Reformation. The above statements form the

presuppositions upon which this book rests. Since presuppositions play a very important part in apologetics, polemics, hermeneutics, and theology, another document is devoted to a discussion of presuppositions of various groups of Christians as well as non-Christians.

About The Author

Dr. Johnson C. Philip is a Christian Apologist based in Ernakulam. He received the degree of Th.D. in Apologetics in 1984 and Ph.D. in Physics (Quantum Chromodynamics) in 1991. He was awarded the DSc in Alternative Medicines in 2003 and DNYS in 2004. So far he has authored more than 2500 popular articles and research papers and more than 50 books in the fields of physics, communication, apologetics, and theology. This includes many Indian "firsts" like a Systematic Theology and a 4-volume Bible Encyclopedia, both in the Malayalam language.

He is a voting member of numerous professional societies including: Creation Research Society, American Scientific Affiliation, The Society Of Christian Philosophers, Indian Physics Association, etc. He is a founder and life member of the Indian Association Of Physics Teachers.

Dr. Saneesh Cherian is a Christian communicator and theologian based in Ernakulam, Kerala. He studied for his BTh and MDiv with Brethren Bible Institute, DMin with IICM, and ThD with International School of Theology, India. He is the author of numerous books and articles. He is also a co-author of many theology textbooks including, Systematic Theology, 4-volume Bible Encyclopedia, Dictionary of Theology, and Integrated Christian Apologetics, all in the Malayalam language.

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<http://www.TrinityTheology.Org>
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Appendix -- 1

Classified Bibliography In Apologetics

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