A Study in Christian Apologetics – What We Believe and Why

Internal Evidences

Week 1 – Christianity in the Culture – Christianity is being marginalized
Week 2 – Apologetics Defined – We are expected 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
What Can Be ‘Known’?

Can anything really be ‘known’?

Some claim a monopoly on knowledge (!)

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
Our Roadmap of Information

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

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
External Evidences

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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Internal Evidences – Our Religious Impulse

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?”
Internal Evidences – Our Religious Impulse

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?