



World Religions/ Apologetics Syllabus

Introduction

Apologetics is making a defense. Making a defense for those Theological positions which unite us as believers in Jesus the Christ. It is the orthodox or accepted minimum beliefs and the subsequent definitions of those beliefs which are required for one to be called a Christian.

Texts

1. "More than a Carpenter" Josh McDowell
2. "Evidence that Demands a Verdict" Josh Mc Dowell
- 3." Mere Christianity" C.S. Lewis
- 4." Seeking Allah finding Jesus" Nabeel Qureshi
5. "Kingdom of the Cults" Walter Martin

Couse Objectives

The first aspect of making a defense is knowing what you believe. We will be doing a refresher course on systematic theology. These are the aspects of our theology which are interrelated. They depend on the other tenants to be complete. We will be using the bare minimum systematic theology as a guide to compare various world religions.

The overall object is to provide the student with the tools to recognize and refute ideas which are contrary to biblical teaching. Since Christianity is true all other religious beliefs must be false.

Assignments

1. Term paper

The scope of that assignment will be outlined in the appendix “term paper” The assignments will vary according to your degree level and or your major.

2. Construct a defense.

The student will pick a religion and using the steps of the creed make a critique of that world religion. This assignment is in appendix 2 Defense.

3. Quizzes; each lecture in the series will have a quiz.

Course outline, in order by lecture

Listen to the lecture ,read the text and answer the questions

1. Lecture number one Introduction

Quiz

1. Why is it necessary to review systematic Theology?

2. Need for the Creed

a. Reading: “More than a carpenter” Josh McDowell

b. Read the book of Jude. What problem was Jude addressing in verse 3,4?

c. What are the two reasons the creed was created?

d. Where in the New Testament do we find the first evidence of a creedal statement?

3. The Father

A. Start Reading: “Mere Christianity” CS Lewis

B. Quiz from lecture number 3.

1. Define each of the following 6 statements: Deism, Atheism, Pantheism, Panentheism, Finite Godism, and Polytheism

C. Doctrinal Students: This is an additional assignment for Doctrinal students.

Define the three major philosophical arguments for the existence of God. Ontological, Teleological, Cosmological

4. Lecture number 4 "Jesus"

Reading;" More than a carpenter" Josh McDowell chapter 3

Quiz

1. What theological truth is found in the definition of the Hebrew Word Yeshua?
2. What is the definition of the word Christ?
3. Why is the definition of the word Christ so offensive to the world?

5. lecture 5 More Jesus

Quiz

1. What are the 22 statements of the creed?

6. Prophetic significance

Quiz

1. What statements in the creed can be found in Isaiah 53?

7. The Gospel

Reading "More than a Carpenter"

Quiz

1. Explain how the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus constitutes The gospel.

8. Holy Ghost

A. Each student is to write a short paper on the biblical evidence for the third person of the trinity.

B. Mdiv. and Doctrinal students your additional reading is "Pentecost"
Robert Menzies

Question for grad students: In a short paper define the terms "Cessationist and Pentecostals."

9. Cults

A. From the lecture give me your opinion and help me define the role the occult has played in the ruin of mankind.

10. Mormons

Read "Kingdom of the Cults" Walter Martin, Chapter on Mormonism

Homework: using the creed refute some of the practices of Mormonism which do not align with Christian orthodox teaching.

11. Islam

Read; "Seeking Allah finding Jesus" Nabeel Qureshi

1. As a book report tell me the significance of David's role in Nabeel's conversion. Include how Nabeel was able to see the false narratives given by Islam about Jesus, the bible and God.

13. The final exam will be given by the instructor when the student meets the other requirements.

Dr Milt