

Foothill Bible Church  
Apologetics - Fall 2017

***...in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect... (1 Peter 3:15 ESV)***

INTRODUCTION

**I. Welcome**

*What is apologetics?* The word apologetics comes from the Greek word *apologia*, which means to defend, to make a reply, to give and answer, to legally defend oneself. Apologetics is the subdivision of Christian theology dealing with the systematic, argumentative defense of the Christian faith (Acts 22:1).

**II. Understanding our Culture**

**III. Theology Shapes our Apologetics**

What we believe about God, man, sin, and salvation all shape our apologetic (Ps. 36:9b)

GOD

- Creator (Gen. 1:1)
- Sovereign Sustainer (Acts 17:24-25)
- Revealed Himself to humanity through General & Special Revelation (Ps. 19:1; Heb. 1:1-2)

MAN

- Created upright in the image of God (Eccl. 7:29; Gen. 1:26)
- Ruined by sin (Eph. 2:1-3); blinded by Satan (2 Cor. 4:3-4)
- Rebellious (Rom. 3:10-18)
- Redeemed by Christ alone (Eph. 2:8-10)
- Bondage to sin is broken (Rom. 6:4-6)

SIN

- Failure to worship God (Rom. 1:21)
- Affects every aspect of life, including the mind (1 Cor. 2:14)
- Can only be overcome by regeneration (Jn. 6:44; Rom. 8:7)
- Fully removed at glorification (Rom. 8:18-24; 1 Cor. 15:54-57), or eternally punished in perdition (Rev. 20:11-15)

SALVATION

- No salvation outside of Christ (Acts 4:12)
- Substitutionary atonement required (2 Cor. 5:21)
- Lordship of Christ (Phil. 2:11; Matt. 28:18-20)
- Christ will return to establish His kingdom and remake creation free from sin (Rev. 20-22)