



CLASSICAL

APOLOGETICS

This ancient system uses 2 steps:

STEP 1

Argues that God exists using philosophy

* same as Rational Apologetics

STEP 2

Argues that the Bible is true and Jesus rose from the dead

* same as Evidentialism

STARTING POINTS

LOGIC

Argues we cannot avoid using logic.

This becomes a starting point for proving God and knowing reality.

Ideas:

- Non-contradiction
- Foundationalism

REASON

Proves God using rational arguments.

Ideas:

- Cosmological
- Teleological
- Ontological
- Moral arguments

SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE

Shows scientific evidence for God.

Ideas:

- Specified complexity
- Irreducible complexity
- Anthropic principle

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE

Examines historical evidence for Jesus and the resurrection.

YOUR FOCUS

These topics are central to your defense of Christianity

Man
We're rational and can know reality because we're created in God's image

God
We can really know God because we're like him (analogy)

Physical Universe
The universe points to a First Cause

Abstract Reality
You get into some pretty deep stuff, like the nature of reality and existence itself

Miracles
Miracles in the Bible confirm its spiritual message

Fulfilled Prophecy
Fulfilled prophecy about Jesus confirms the Bible is from God

Worldviews
Theism is shown to be superior to all other worldviews

Reliability of the Bible
The Bible is reliable in what it reports and in transmission

Biblical Events
Archaeology confirms biblical events, people and places

Morality / Ethics
Moral laws point to an absolute moral lawgiver

Eyewitness Evidence of the Apostles
The apostles didn't make up Jesus's resurrection

Coherency + Consistency
Christianity is the only coherent and consistent system of thought

Theology + Doctrine

This is very important to you since you like to engage contrary ideas

YOUR ACTIVITY

Activities that convince you Christianity is true

Abstracting
Your defense of Christianity involves abstracting or thinking theoretically.

Deducing
You like deductive reasoning. This goes from premise to conclusion; *a priori*.

Inducing
You like inductive reasoning. This goes from specifics to generalizations; *a posteriori*.

Comparing
You've investigated it, and Christianity is the best among all other beliefs.

VS

Your belief is not based on these activities

Emoting
You likely avoid placing your confidence in emotions, feelings or euphoria.

Intuiting
Impressions, intuition and direct awareness is likely not your thing.

Putting Faith over Reason
You see faith and reason working together. You don't take a blind leap of faith.

Verifying, Confirming
You don't really treat Christianity like a theory to be verified, corroborate or tested.

VALUES

Values in classical apologetics

Theoretical Knowledge
You value theoretical knowledge and information (not just practical ideas)

Empirical Evidence
You believe truth comes through the Bible. But you also believe we know truth by studying nature.

VS

Not as valuable

Practical Knowledge
Classical apologetics isn't based on practical results. You may or may not be a practical person.

Experience
Experience plays little part in convincing you Christianity is true.

Feelings
You probably don't base your confidence in Christianity on your feelings.

YOUR OPINIONS

Traditional proofs for God are valid!

We can/should use science in apologetics!

We can/should use reason/logic to prove God!

YOUR GOALS

What do you aim for in your proof of Christianity?

Important

Certainty
The philosophical side of you believes we can prove God exists with absolute certainty.

Probability
The scientific side of you believes we can prove God because the majority of the evidence leans in that direction.

VS

Not as important

Results, Livability
Your faith is not based on what Christianity does for you practically or how useful it is.

AUDIENCE

Scientifically Minded

Philosophically Minded

Religious + Cultists

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