



VERIFICATIONALISM

* also called Practical Presuppositionalism

APOLOGETICS

A very brief summary

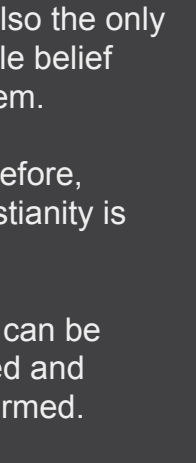


Treats Christianity like a hypothesis to be tested internally and against facts

THEORY

REALITY

Argues Christianity alone is self-consistent and best describes reality



Says Christianity alone is livable; anything opposed to it is unlivable

LIVABLE



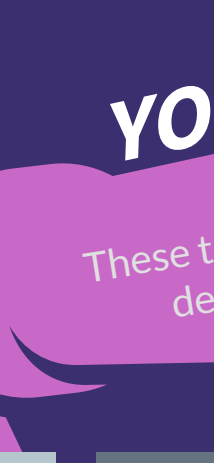
HYPOTHESIS

Christianity is the only coherent explanation for reality.

It's also the only livable belief system.

Therefore, Christianity is true.

This can be tested and confirmed.



SCRIPTURE

Scripture provides the Christian worldview and way of life. This becomes the hypothesis to be tested.

It is tested internally against itself and externally against facts.

STARTING POINTS

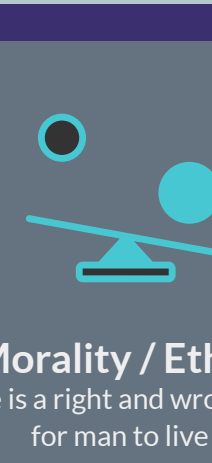


YOUR FOCUS
These topics are central to your defense of Christianity



Man

Focuses on whether man can live out a given worldview



God

Theism is the best explanation for reality



Abstract Reality

You get into some pretty deep stuff in your quest to best explain reality



Coherency + Consistency

Christianity is the only coherent and consistent system of thought



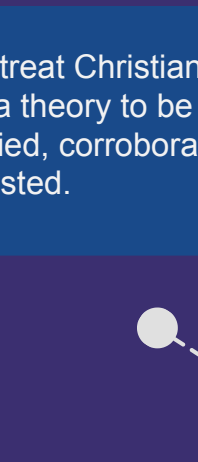
Uniqueness of Jesus/Christianity

The only way to live properly is to follow Jesus



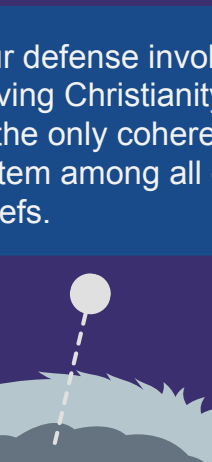
Theology + Doctrine

The Bible provides the content of the theory to be tested



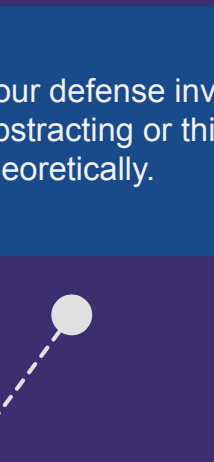
Physical Universe

Christianity is tested empirically against external facts



Morality / Ethics

There is a right and wrong way for man to live



Worldviews

Theism is shown to be superior to all other worldviews



Culture

People groups must follow God to thrive as a culture



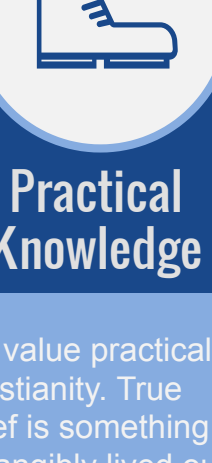
Changed Lives

People practically change for the better when they follow Jesus

YOUR ACTIVITY



Activities that convince you Christianity is true



Verifying, Confirming

You treat Christianity like a theory to be verified, corroborate or tested.



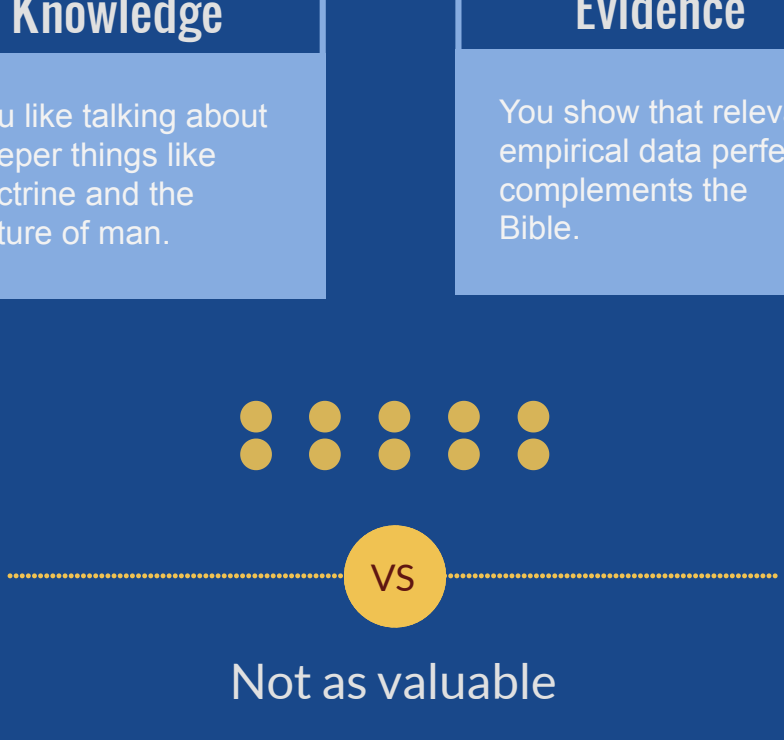
Comparing

Your defense involves proving Christianity to be the only coherent system among all other beliefs.



Abstracting

Your defense involves abstracting or thinking theoretically.



Deducing

As a philosopher, you use deductive reasoning. This goes from premise to conclusion; *a priori*.



Inducing

You apply empirical data, which moves from specifics to generalizations; *a posteriori*.

VS

Your belief is not based on these activities



Intuiting

Your defense is not based on an impression or direct awareness.



Putting Faith over Reason

You see faith, reason and relevant facts working together. You don't take a blind leap of faith.



Emoting

You do not ultimately place your confidence in emotions, feelings or euphoria.

VALUES

What's valuable in Verificationalism



Practical Knowledge

You value practical Christianity. True belief is something to be tangibly lived out.



Experience

A person can personally confirm that walking with God yields positive results.



Theoretical Knowledge

You like talking about deeper things like doctrine and the nature of man.



Empirical Evidence

You show that relevant empirical data perfectly complements the Bible.

VS

Not as valuable

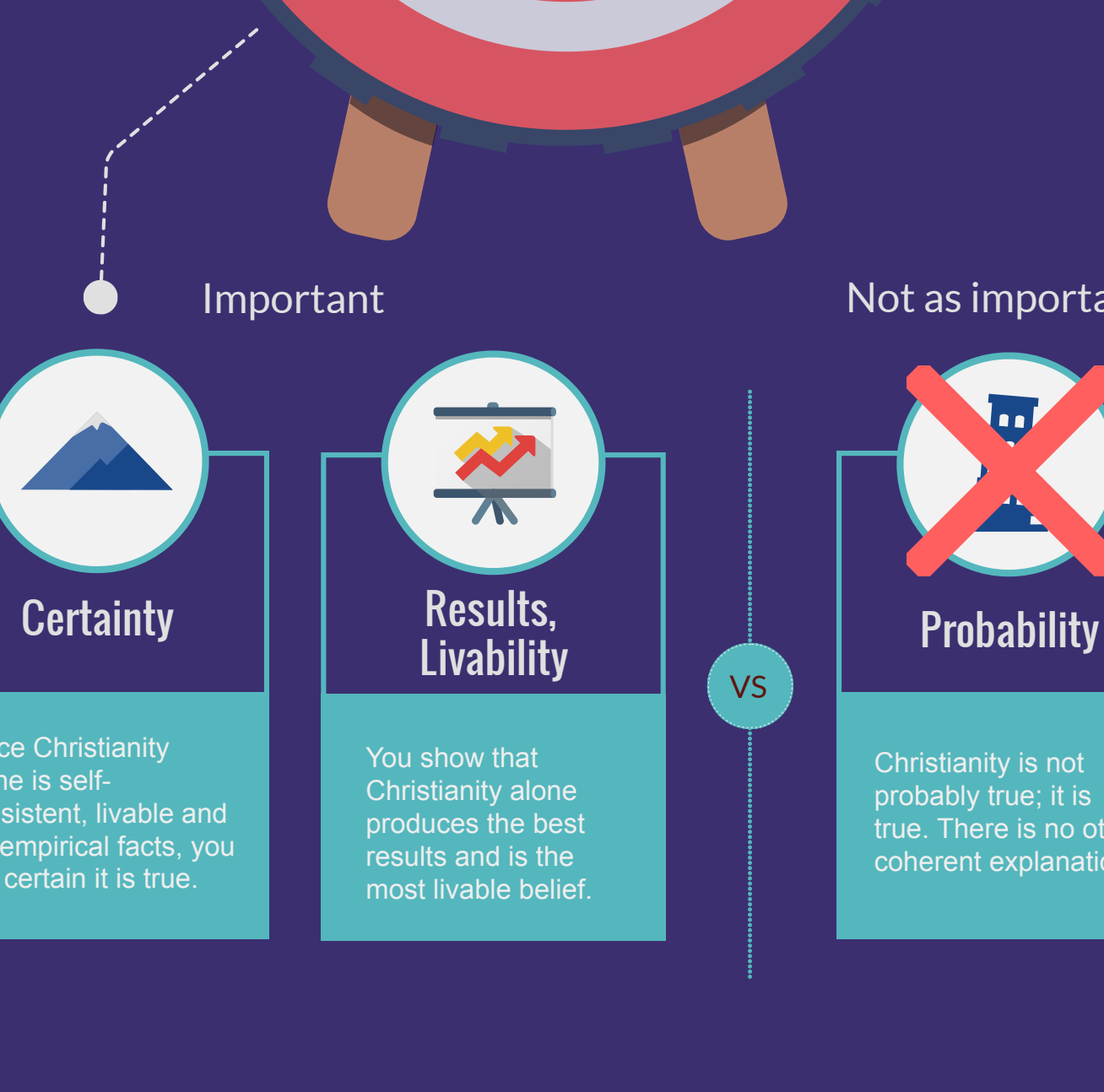


Feelings

You do not base your confidence in Christianity on your feelings.

YOUR GOALS

What do you aim for in your proof of Christianity?



Important

Not as important



Certainty

Since Christianity alone is self-consistent, livable and fits empirical facts, you are certain it is true.



Results, Livability

You show that Christianity alone produces the best results and is the most livable belief.



Probability

Christianity is not probably true; it is true. There is no other coherent explanation.

VS

AUDIENCE

Philosophically Minded



© 2020 Shawn Nelson. All rights reserved.

Visit Nelson.ink

- Take the [apologetics survey!](#)
- Get more [apologetics infographics!](#)
- Use the [apologetics Venn diagram tool!](#) (shown on right)

