

Christian Apologetics (Part 25)

Introduction

- I. The Premises of the Christian Apologist
- II. The Character of the Christian Apologist
- III. The Strategy and Tactics of the Christian Apologist
 - A. Our Methodology
 1. The Classical School
 2. The Historical/Evidential School
 3. Presuppositional School

Evaluation/Conclusion

- 1) We must stay within the bounds of Scripture in our apologetic methodology.
- 2) Scripture warrants a methodology that borrows to some degree from all the major schools of apologetics.
 - Reason and use evidence within the bounds of Christian presuppositions.

The Basic Structure of a Biblical Defense of the Christian Faith

Proverbs 26:4, 5

-v. 4: Argument By Truth (arguing for the truth from a Christian perspective)

v. 5: Argument By Folly (apagogic argument: proving indirectly, by absurdity or impossibility;
reductiones ad absurdum)

-3 parts to the Argument by Truth:

1. The Declaration (1 Peter 3:15):

2. The Case:

-Evidence From Scripture (Acts 2:22-36; 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4)

-Evidence From the External World (John 20:30, 31; Acts 14:17; 26:26; 1 Corinthians 15:5-7)

-Evidence From Personal Experience (Acts 22:1-21; 26:1-20; 1 Corinthians 15:8)

3. The Challenge: Expose the non-Christian's commitment to independent thinking.