

Introduction to Apologetics

Lesson 1

What is apologetics?

Apologia:
giving an explanation to reply and rebut charges

What is Christian apologetics?

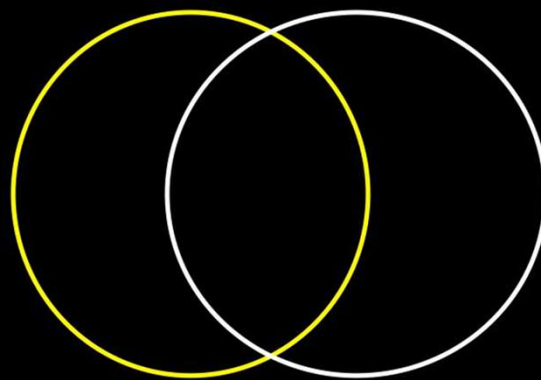
the discipline of offering a defense of and case for, or offer evidence for, the veracity and reliability of the Christian faith.

What is Christian apologetics?

*Evangelism
explains the truth of the Gospel*

What is Christian apologetics?

Apologetics
defends the truthfulness and reliability of those
claims, and provides a critique against false
claims.



Evangelism Apologetics

What is Christian apologetics?

Christian apologetics is:

Defensive: defending the truthfulness and reliability of Scripture

Offensive: attacking the false teaching and unbiblical worldviews.

Who are Christian Apologetics for?

Christians

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1 Peter 3:15

but 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

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1 Corinthians 15:17-19

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Matthew 22:37

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a. Early Church

Acts 17:17

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Philippians 1:7

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Philippians 1:16

¹⁶ The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the **defense of the gospel**.

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b. Church History

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b. Church History

- *Early church fathers*
- *Reformation*
- *Modern day*

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Reasons Christians do not use apologetics:

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Reasons Christians do not use apologetics:

1. *Deny the role of faith*

James 2:19

¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder!

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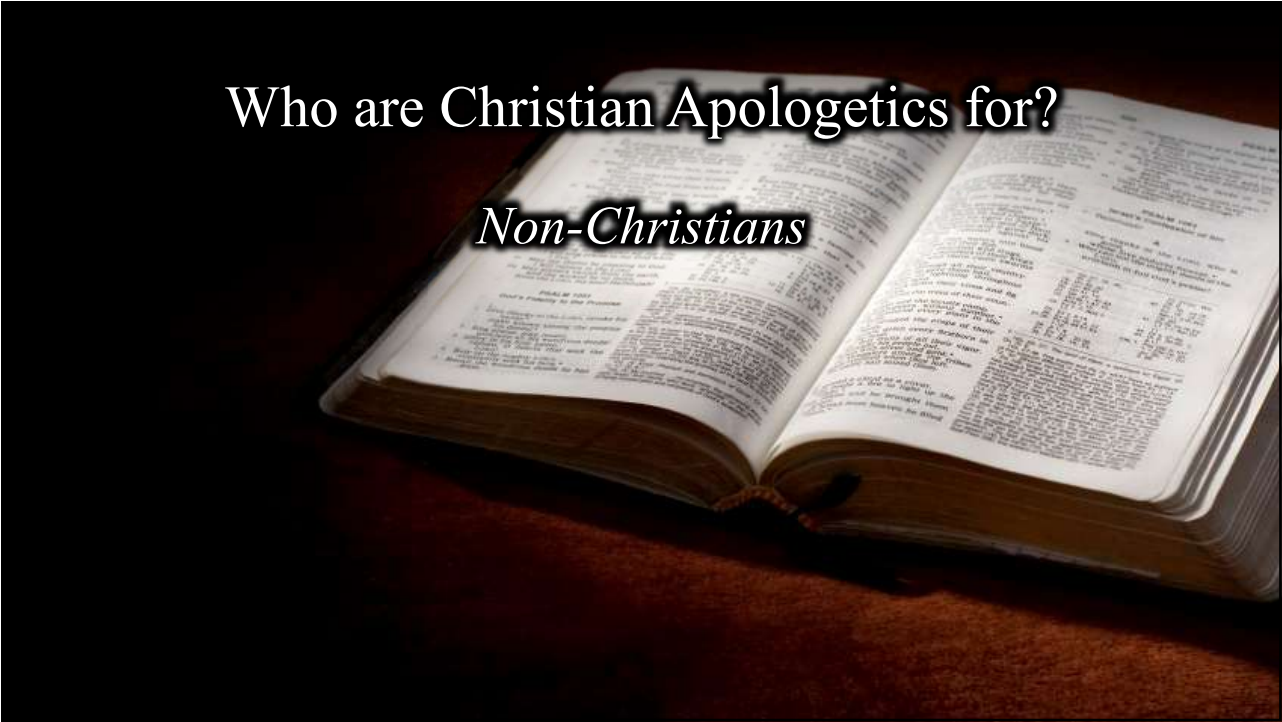
Reasons Christians do not use apologetics:

2. Fear what others think of them

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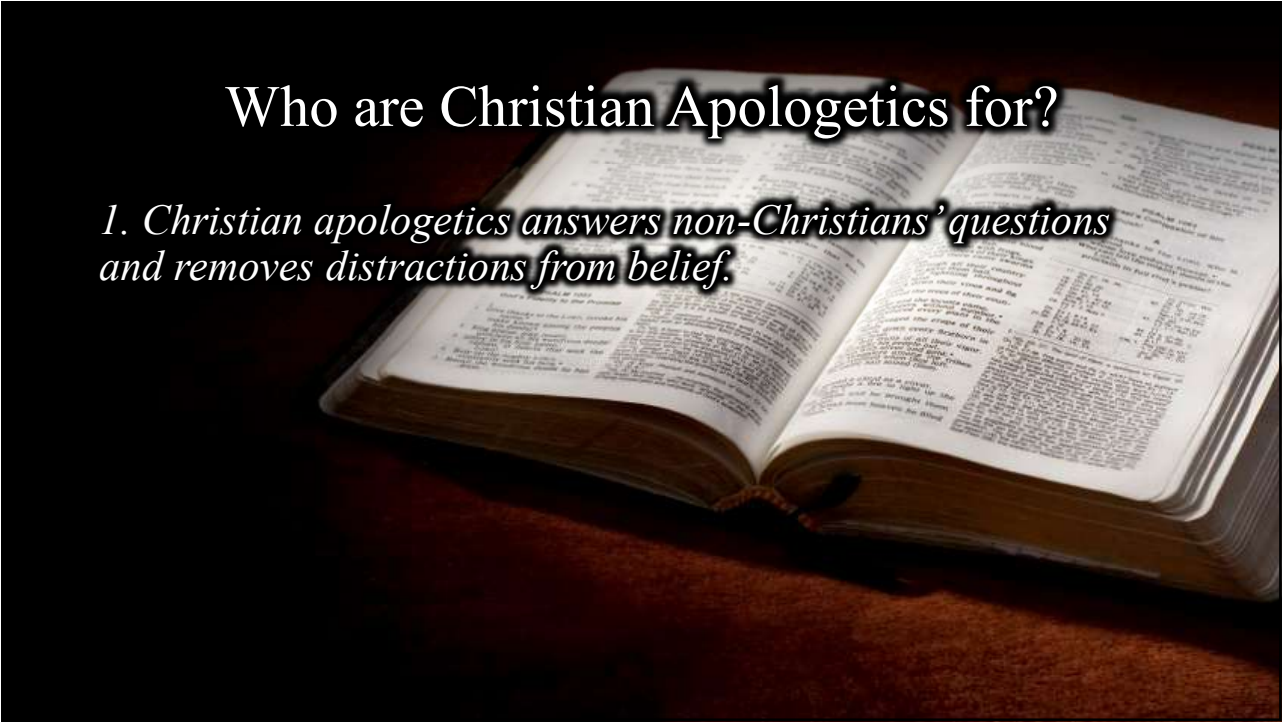
Reasons Christians do not use apologetics:

3. Intellectually lazy

An open Bible with text overlaid. The text is in white with a black outline, making it stand out against the dark background of the Bible's pages. The Bible is open to a page with a table of contents or index, showing various chapters and verses. The text is centered on the page.

Who are Christian Apologetics for?

Non-Christians

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1. Christian apologetics answers non-Christians' questions and removes distractions from belief.

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2. Christian apologetics, coupled with evangelism, points non-Christians to faith in Jesus.

E.g. Apostle Paul in Acts 17:22-33

Used reason and cultural examples of an altar in Athens and a Greek poem.

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Ephesians 6:12

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

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2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

The coming of the lawless one is by the activity of Satan with all power and false signs and wonders, ¹⁰ and with all wicked deception for those who are perishing, because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.

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What Are the Approaches of Apologetics?

1. *Evidentialist*

• *Use of objective evidence and proof*

2. *Presupposition*

What Apologetics Questions Will We Be Considering In The Future Weeks?

Lesson 1: Introduction to Christian Apologetics

Lesson 2: The Existence of God (No handout)

Lesson 3: The Problem of Evil

Lesson 4: The Reliability of Scripture

Lesson 5: Resurrection (No handout)

Lesson 6: World Religions

Lesson 7: Panel Discussion (No handout)