

APOLOGETICS

Apologia: a reasoned statement or a verbal defense." (Sproul)

Evangelism: from the Greek word euaggelion, meaning "gospel" or "good news"

G: God is righteous and holy

O: **S**: **P**: **E**: •

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E:

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O: Obedience, which man owes to God, is lacking

S: Sin is the name for this disobedience and it's penalty is death.

P: Paid in full on the cross of Jesus

E: Eternal...

L: Life is granted to those who turn from their rebellion and trust in Jesus

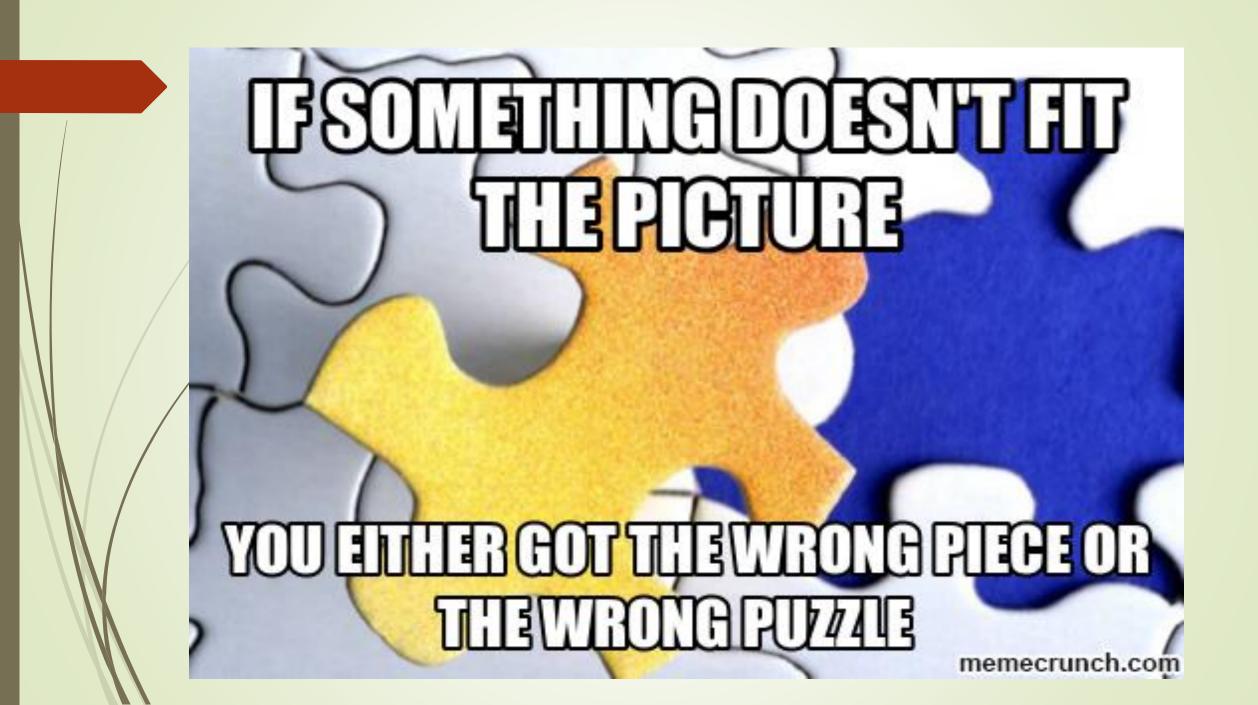
Apologetics can be used to show that Christianity is true and that all non-Christian worldviews are false.

R.C. Sproul



Speaking to man as image bearers God said, "Come now, let us reason together!







THE 5 MOST CONSEQUENTIAL QUESTIONS IN LIFE

ORIGIN: Where did we come from? **IDENTITY:** Who are we? MEANING: Why are we here? MORALITY: How should we live? **DESTINY:** Where are we going?



FOUR ELEMENTS OF EVERY WORLDVIEW

Creation: Why is there something rather than nothing & what's the purpose?

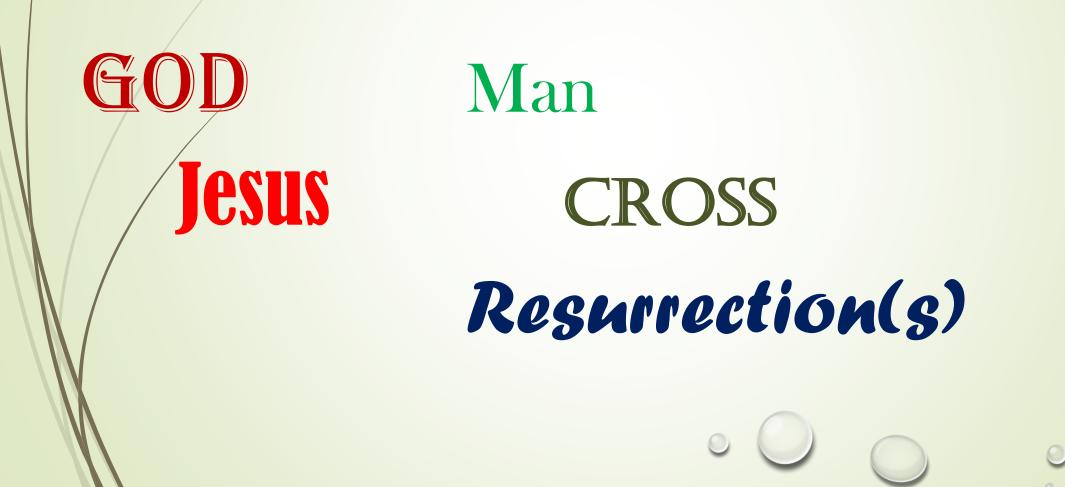
- **Fall:** Something is wrong in the world! What is it?
- Redemption: What is the solution to what is wrong with the world?

Restoration: What will a repaired world look like?

Taken as a whole!



The Story of Reality: MAIN CHARACTERS & EVENTS





TRACING STORYLINE OF THE BIBLE

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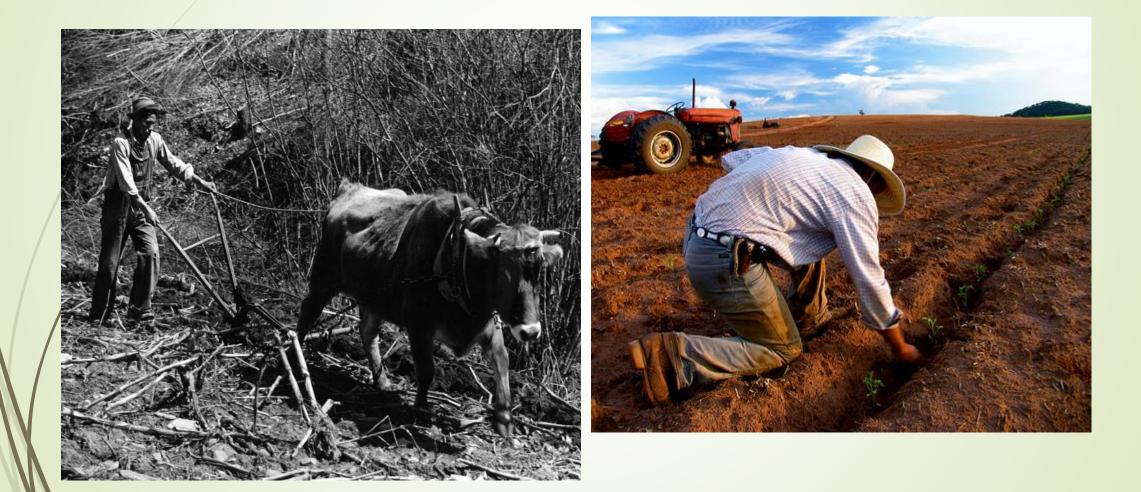
THREE SKILLS OF AMBASSADORS

- Knowledge: an accurately informed mind. Know what you believe and why you believe it.
- Wisdom: an artful method. In other words, being able to apply the knowledge into an effective interaction with others.
- Character: an attractive manner. We are representatives of Christ and therefore must imitate Him in our conduct and conversation.

A modest goal!



Which is more important?



Questions vs. assertions

He who makes a claim bears the burden of proof!



THE TWO QUESTIONS

What do you mean by that? Clarity How did you come to that conclusion?

 Reversing the burden of proof



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

A request for clarity

- Why clarity works:
 - You don't want to misunderstand the person you're talking with.
 - You don't want to misrepresent him.
 - You don't want him to misunderstand himself.



HOW DID YOU COME TO THAT CONCLUSION?

Possible responses:

- They give a coherent and logical reason
- They give an incoherent and illogical reason
- They have no good reason

CONSIDERING REASONS

Is it possible?

Is it plausible?

Is it probable?



TURNABOUT

- 1. Welcome the opportunity to clarify your view and to give reasons for holding to your view.
- 2. If, however, if it appears someone is only trying to manipulate or trap:
 - a. Stop the conversation and ask for clarification before going any further
 - b. Ask the person to rephrase their question in the form of a statement.
 - c. Then ask, "What do you mean by that?" & "How did you come to that conclusion?"

Review

- Apologetics: using a reasoned statement or verbal defense to show that Christianity is true and that all non-Christian worldviews are false.
- Worldview: One's most fundamental beliefs and assumptions about the universe you inhabit. Everyone has a worldview.
- The Four elements of every worldview:
 - Creation—Fall—Redemption—Restoration
- THE Two tactical questions:
 - What do you mean by that?
 - How did you come to that conclusion?
- The Three P's:
 - Is it possible?
 - Is it plausible?
 - Is it probable?