

There Is A GOD

Spiritual Enrichment 2015

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST (Saraland, AL)

Sermon for February 9, 2015 by Ray Reynolds

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made." (John 1:1-3)

Why do we need to study Christian apologetics?

- Because **Jesus** wanted people to believe in Him based on the facts of what He had done (**John 11:25-26, 12:24-26**).
- Because **Luke** was convinced that eyewitness testimony, and careful history would help aid our faith (**Luke 1:1-4, Acts 1:1-3**).
- Because **Paul** spent the latter part of his life explaining and proving that Jesus was the Messiah by defending the truth (**Acts 17:2-4**).
- Because **Peter** wanted Christians to "*always be ready to give a reason*" for our faith in Jesus with humility and respect (**I Peter 3:15**).
- Because **Jude** told believers to "*contend for the faith*" (**Jude 3**) when people challenged the truth.

What do our children believe? What do our teens believe?

How old is the earth?

Hundreds

Thousands

Millions

Billions

Were their cavemen (Neanderthals) years ago?

YES

NO

Did humans and dinosaurs live together?

YES

NO

Did humans evolve from monkeys?

YES

NO

How many days did God use to create the world?

7 Days

6 Days

Millions

Other



"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear." (I Peter 3:15)

Three basic questions we need to answer:

- 1) *Is there a God?*
- 2) *Who is God?*
- 3) *What does God expect of me?*



What do you believe? Why do you believe it?

Scientists use faith & assumption to argue their hypothesis.

The Scriptures offer us evidence, eyewitness testimony, etc.

Scientists use faith in the following areas:

- 1) *The order of the universe*
- 2) *Absolute & objective truth*
- 3) *Reliability of the senses*
- 4) *Repetition of laboratory experiments*

Science gives us the "Know How," but Scripture gives us the "Know Why."

What do people believe? Can we define our terms?

- *Atheism = There is no God.*
- *Agnosticism = Do not care if there is a God.*
- *Theism = There IS a God who is active.*
- *Deism = There is a God who is not active.*
- *Gradualism = There is a God who wound up an evolutionary clock.*
- *Raelianism = There is no God, but we are a seed race from another world.*

How can we accelerate the conversation?

- 1) *More education.*
- 2) *Less criticism.*
- 3) *Prayer for intervention.*



What are the current trends? Is science moving closer to Scripture?

- *Scientists are looking to the stars for evidence and answers to their questions.*
- *The universe must have had a beginning (**Colossians 1:16-17, II Timothy 1:9**).*
- *Time had a beginning (**John 1:1-3**).*
- *Something/Someone must have caused effects before time (**Genesis 1:1**).*
- *Something/Someone must be fine tuning cosmic events (**Deuteronomy 30:11-14, Nehemiah 9:6**).*
- *God MUST NOT be left out of a scientific debate!*

How can I learn more about Christian apologetics?

I highly recommend you check out www.apologeticspress.org for more resources!