

Review Week One

- What is the context of that verse?
- Define Apologetics
- Anyone want to share an experience they had this past week?

Is there absolute truth?

**“Real truth does not exist.
‘Truth’ is just truth to you.”**

Group Work

- **Discuss the video, what was the central theme we were presented with?**
- **Discuss the article from the resource book. From your discussions, list as many major thoughts your group gleaned.**

Two Views of Truth

View #1: Truth Is What's True for You

- “truth is relative— a subjective opinion, I believe it so that makes it true. You have your truth, I have mine.”

Two Views of Truth

View #2: Truth Is What Matches the Facts

“truth is absolute— an objective reality. Truth isn’t personal, and it doesn’t belong to me or to you.”

“Whether everyone, or most, or few, or nobody believes it, truth is what matches up with what’s real.”

FAITH AND REASON:
HOW DO I KNOW
CHRISTIANITY IS TRUE?

Review Week Two (anyone?)

- Absolute truth and the “Law of Non Contradiction”
- *A statement cannot both be true and not true at the same time and in the same sense.*
Examples?
- How does that relate to worldviews, religious beliefs?

Cart Before the Horse

- Why Apologetics (again)?
- Before we assume we can share our beliefs with un-believers, the unbeliever **must see a need for our beliefs, rethinking theirs.**
- *Closed hearts are not ready for the “good news.”*

Cart Before the Horse...continued

- Does the person know they are lost? (skit)
- *“Apologetics as pre-evangelism”*
- *“Apologetics and evangelism are closely knitted while distinct it must lead directly to it...”* *“apologetics work is done when the door to the gospel has been opened and the good news can be proclaimed”*

Cart Before the Horse...continued

Two pitfalls to watch for:

1. *“Using/emphasizing apologetics in isolation without it leading to evangelism or*
2. *“The opposite, emphasizing evangelism at the expense of apologetics.”*

Some scriptures to guide us (pitfall #1)?

Galatians 5:22,23 - John 13:35 - James 1:5 – Colosians 4:5,6

FAITH AND REASON:
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Galatians 5:22,23 – “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

John 13:35 – “By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

Colossians 4:5,6 “Conduct yourselves with wisdom toward outsiders, making the most of the opportunity. ⁶ Let your speech always be [with grace, *as though* seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.”

James 1:2-5,6-8 ² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter ***various trials***,³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance ⁵But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, ⁸ *being* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” KNOW WHAT / WHY YOU BELIEVE!

FAITH AND REASON:
HOW DO I KNOW
CHRISTIANITY IS TRUE?

Cart Before the Horse...continued

- #2 The opposite, emphasizing evangelism at the expense of apologetics.
- So..... What can we do with people whose hearts are closed off?
- *“It is wiser to start on their grounds not ours.”*
- ***Mistake***, *“begin with the good news when the hearer is not able to see it’s good.”*

Preaching and Persuading

- Act 19:8.9 “Then Paul went to the synagogue and *preached boldly* for the next three months, *arguing persuasively* about the Kingdom of God.9 But some became stubborn, rejecting his message and publicly speaking against the Way. So Paul left the synagogue and took the believers with him. Then he held daily discussions at the lecture hall of Tyrannus.”

VIDEO

The Heart

[Clay Man Skit Begins 54 minutes](#)