

# Review Week 3

- Do not separate apologetics from evangelism.
- Balancing apologetics and evangelism.
- Done correctly apologetics persuades so that the gospel is preached.
- The apostle Paul preached and persuaded (Act 19:8,9) in tandem: (in association or partnership)

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

*“Our goal is not to teach people to come to know something **about God**, but to come to know and love Him, and to be known and loved by **Him**.”*  
*How absurd then to think that we by ourselves can do what needs to be done, and we can do it simply through words. **God** is his own best apologist, and it is he himself who draws people to know and love him , and through life and not simply words.*”(all underlined italics from Os Guinness, Fool’s Talk (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2015)

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

# Lesson Two

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

# Is Faith Really Blind?

[Show Video](#)

[Faith Really Blind? - Part One - Michael Ramsden](#)

[10:55 – 15:55](#)

## Lesson Outline:

- Do faith and reason mix?
- How do I know Christianity is true?
- How can I handle objections to truth?

## Do Faith and Reason Mix?

**If I asked you to “just believe” what's your response?**

- We don't just believe. (blind faith)
- We believe in something (object of our faith.)
- You can't separate believing from reasoning.
- We need reason in order to have faith.
- Faith means living like our beliefs are true. ([video](#))
- Lets look up Hebrews 11:1

# “The Triumphs of Faith (NASB)”

11 Now faith is the [a]assurance of *things* [b]hoped for, the [c]conviction of things not seen.

## Footnotes:

Hebrews 11:1 Or substance [a]

Hebrews 11:1 Or *expected* [b]

Hebrews 11:1 Or *evidence* [c]

New American Standard Bible (NASB)

## What Follows in this chapter contextually?

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# Hebrews 11:2-8,13i (ICB)

<sup>2</sup> People who lived in the past became famous because of faith.<sup>3</sup> It is **by faith** we understand that the whole world was made by God's command. This means that what we see was made by something that cannot be seen.

<sup>4</sup> It was **by faith** that Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did.....

<sup>5</sup> It was **by faith** that Enoch was taken to heaven.....

<sup>6</sup> Without faith no one can please God. Anyone who comes to God must believe that he is real and that he rewards those who truly want to find him.

<sup>7</sup> It was **by faith** Noah heard God's warnings.....

<sup>8</sup> It was **by faith** Abraham obeyed God's call to go to another place that God promised to give him.....

<sup>13</sup> All these great men died in faith.....

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## The Relationship of Faith and Reason:

- Reason comes before faith in that you need to understand what you're putting your faith in.
- We've got to use our minds (which reasons) to even be able to read the words in our Bibles, understand the gospel, and believe it's true.
- ***“Strong faith is NOT believing things you suspect aren't true, if that's the case then the strongest faith you could have is knowing something isn't true and still be able to believe it, which is an amazing feat”*** (Is Faith Really Blind? - Part One - Michael Ramsden – YouTube)

# Therefore.....

- Since we believe that our faith is a “reasoned” faith, based on truths and backed up by logic and experiences we must make sure that we .....

“See to it that no one takes you captive through  
[hollow](#) and deceptive philosophy,  
which depends on human tradition and the basic  
principles of this world rather than **on Christ.**”

- Paul, the Apostle (Colossians 2:8 NIV)

# Who is Christ?

“Let us give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! Because of his great mercy he gave us new life **by raising Jesus Christ from death**. This fills us with a living **hope,...**” 1 Peter 1:3

“And so I will always **remind you of these matters, even though you already know them** and are firmly grounded in the **truth** you have **received**. <sup>13</sup> **I think it only right for me to stir up your memory of these matters as long as I am still alive.**” 2 Peter 1:12,13

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# Continued...

“We have not depended on made-up stories in making known to you the mighty coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. With our own eyes we saw his greatness. <sup>17</sup> **We were there when he was given honor and glory by God the Father,** when the voice came to him from the Supreme Glory, saying, “This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased!” <sup>18</sup> **We** ourselves heard this voice coming from heaven, when we were with him on the holy mountain.”

2 Peter 1:16 (What is Peter referring to in v. 17)

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# Continued...

1 Corinthians 15:4-8 Amplified Bible (AMP)

- <sup>4</sup> and that He was buried, and that He was [bodily] raised on the third day according to [that which] the Scriptures [foretold], <sup>5</sup> and that He appeared to Cephas (Peter), then to the [[a](#)]Twelve. <sup>6</sup> After that He appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, the majority of whom are still alive, but some have fallen asleep [in death].

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# Continued...

- <sup>7</sup> Then He was seen by James, then by all the apostles, <sup>8</sup> and last of all, as to one <sup>[b]</sup>untimely (prematurely, traumatically) born, He appeared to me also.
- [1 Corinthians 15:5](#) A title referring to the original disciples chosen by Jesus (including Judas). A few hours after betraying Jesus, Judas committed suicide (Matt 27:5) leaving only the eleven (Matt 28:16; Mark 16:14; Luke 24:9, 33).
- [1 Corinthians 15:8](#) Paul's life-changing encounter with the resurrected Christ occurred on the road to Damascus (Acts 9).



## Knowing the Faith is True (pressure's off)

- It's ultimately the Holy Spirit that assures believers Christianity is true.
- It's ultimately the Holy Spirit that convinces unbelievers Christianity is true.

# Showing the Faith is True

- One of our roles is to share arguments and evidences for Christian truth claims.
- The Holy Spirit's role is to work in the unbeliever's heart in such a way that he or she is persuaded that Christianity is true.
- So why does the author of Hebrews provide evidences of the past faith? i.e. “the hall of faith”