

# 3. Strategies for Responding to Non-Christian Worldviews

Grove Christian Camp

Event Webpage: [www.worldvieweyes.org/Grove2020.html](http://www.worldvieweyes.org/Grove2020.html)  
Resources: [www.roomfordoubt.com/recommended-resources](http://www.roomfordoubt.com/recommended-resources)

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## Introduction

- A. Worldview options.
- B. A Biblical directive: “Apologetics”
  - 1. **1 Peter 3:15** \_\_\_\_\_ **DEFEND** [*apologia*] the faith.
  - 2. **Col. 2:8** “Don’t be taken \_\_\_\_\_ **CAPTIVE** \_\_\_\_\_ by deceptive philosophies.”
  - 3. **2 Cor. 10:5** “We \_\_\_\_\_ **DEMOLISH** \_\_\_\_\_ arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God.”
  - 4. **2 Timothy 2:24-25** “The Lord’s bond-servant must not be quarrelsome but be kind to all . . . with gentleness \_\_\_\_\_ **CORRECTING** \_\_\_\_\_ those who are in opposition; if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth.”
  - 5. **Jude 3** “Contend earnestly for the faith.”
- C. Biblical guidelines to help others.
  - 1. Be sensitive (1 Pet 3:15b; 2 Tim 2:24-25; Jude 1:22).
  - 2. Be inquisitive (e.g. Mark 11:27-33).
  - 3. Be expressive (John 9, the healed blind man).
  - 4. Be comparative (Rom 1:18-23; John 6:67-68).
- D. Response strategies for defending the Christian faith (apologetics).
  - 1. Negative
  - 2. Positive
  - 3. Neutralizing

## I. “Negative” Strategy: Show Christianity is \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ **NOT FALSE.** (Respond to specific criticisms.)

- A. Biblical examples.
  - 1. The disciples accused of stealing Jesus’ body (Matt 28:11-15).
  - 2. Festus accuses Paul of being insane (Acts 26:22-32).
  - 3. The claim that Christians “all act contrary to the decrees of Caesar” (Acts 17:5-8).
- B. Examples today.
  - 1. The problem of evil.
  - 2. ????
  - 3. ????

## II. “Positive” Strategy: Show that Christianity is \_\_\_\_\_ **TRUE** \_\_\_\_\_.

A. **Evidences in nature** (Ps 19:1-6; Rom 1:18-32).

B. **Miracles** (1 Kings 18; Ex 10:1-2; Jn 20:30-31; Acts 2:22-24; 1 Cor 15:1-20).

1. John 20:30-31 “... these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.”

2. Acts 2:22-24 “... Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him ....”

C. **Fulfilled prophecy** (Lk 24:25-27; Acts 17:2-3; 26:22-23; Deut 18:18-22; Is 7:14; Micah 5:2; Zach 9:9; Is 53; Ps 22:1-8; 16:10).

D. **The reliability and authority of Scripture.**

1. John 20:30-31 “... Jesus did many other signs which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.”

2. 2 Tim. 3:14-17 “... all Scripture is inspired by God ....”

3. 2 Peter 1:20-21 “But know this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.”

E. **Personal experience.**

1. John 9:25-30 “... One thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see.”

2. Paul's testimonies to the Jews (Acts 22), to Felix (Acts 24:10-23) and to Agrippa (Acts 26).

## III. “Neutralizing” Strategy: Show that the other worldview options are \_\_\_\_\_ **INCONSISTENT** and \_\_\_\_\_ **UNLIVABLE**.

A. Biblical background (2 Cor. 10:5 “... destroying speculations”; Titus 1:9-11 “... refute those who contradict”; Rom. 1:21 “... they became futile in their speculations ...”).

B. Destroy it from WITHIN.

C. Apologetic advantage: It does not require using \_\_\_\_\_ **SCRIPTURE** \_\_\_\_\_ in its method.

D. The basic steps:

1. Determine the **logical implications** of the worldview.

2. Compare the W.V. logical implications to the **claims** and **behavior** of the proponents.

3. Expose the **inconsistencies**.

4. Expose the **unlivability** of the WV: IF the worldview were consistently applied, few, if any, one would really want to live it.

E. Examples applied to **Secular Humanism** (and any pure Naturalism).

F. Examples applied to **Pantheism** and **New Age** (“all is one”).