

## Christian Apologetics (Part 44)

### Introduction

I. The Premises of the Christian Apologist

II. The Character of the Christian Apologist

III. The Strategy and Tactics of the Christian Apologist

IV. The Arguments of the Christian Apologist

A. Theism: belief in God. We may begin here because theism is more foundational than revelation. It includes monotheism (belief in one god); polytheism (belief in more than one god); henotheism (the worship of one particular god without denying that others exist); pantheism (belief that all is God); deism (belief that God has no contact with creation); animism (the belief that spirits dwell in physical objects) Our aim is to narrow the field to a personal God who creates and speaks. Once we establish the existence of God and the divine authority of the Bible, everything else follows from there.

### Arguments for the Existence of God

#### Approach #1: Argument by Truth/Argument by Folly

-Argument by Truth:

- Evidence from the Bible: Genesis 1:1; Proverbs 1:7; Psalm 14:1
- Evidence from the External World: Psalm 19:1; Romans 1:18-20; Christians

-Argument by Folly:

- Claims of Certainty

-“There is no God.” (the atheist)

-“There is a god, but not the Christian God.”

- Claims of Uncertainty

-“We can’t know whether God exists or not.” (the agnostic)

-“God’s existence is a personal matter and should not be debated.”

Conclusion: Unbelievers are committed to independent thinking. This renders them unable to be certain of anything. They haven’t researched all the evidence there might be. Moreover, they’re not able to. So they are unable to be certain about any claims they make—even claims of uncertainty. They can’t be sure that the evidence is against Christianity. Neither can they be sure that there isn’t enough evidence to know either way.

→ If there isn’t a God who has spoken, then we can’t be sure of anything.