Apologetics in Church History

- 1. God has blessed his church with some great thinkers and defenders
 - a. God promised to preserve his church (Matthew 16:18)
 - b. Not many called are wise, but some are (1 Corinthians 1:18-25; Philippians 3:4-8)
 - c. Disclaimer
- 2. A timeline of apologetics in church history (see chart)
 - a. The New Testament Era
 - skeptics, Judaizers, deniers of the resurrection, deniers of Christ's deity
 - b. The Early Church through the Middle Ages
 - deniers of Christ's deity, Greek philosophy, Gnosticism, Pelagianism
 - c. The Reformation through the Present Era
 - medieval superstition, Enlightenment rationalism, skepticism, modernism, atheism
- 3. Christianity is a time-tested, well preserved faith
 - a. Many modern challenges are rehashed heresies from the past:

Modalism	Oneness theology
Arianism	Moral teacher/JW denial of divinity
Pelagianism	Graceless, works-based righteousness
Gnosticism	Enlightenment reasoning/science; New Age

b. Christianity is able to withstand the onslaught of critics, both ancient and new

Apologetics in Church History

Resources:

Apologetics in Church History

Faith Has Its Reasons, Ken Boa and Robert Bowman Thinking about Christian Apologetics, James K. Beilby

Historical Theology

Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought, Alister McGrath

Historical Theology: An Introduction to Christian Doctrine, Gregg Allison

Readings in Church History

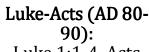
Early Christian Doctrines, JND Kelly Christian Classics Ethereal Library (ccel.org)

Heresies in History

Heresy: A History of Defending the Truth, Alister McGrath

Heresies: Heresy and Orthodoxy in the History of the Christian Church, Harold OJ Brown

Apologetics in Church History The New Testament Era



Luke 1:1-4, Acts 2:36, Acts 17



The Apostle Paul (d. 67):

Romans 1, 1 Corinthians 15



The Apostle John (d. 100):

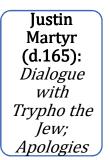
John 1:1, 14; 20:31

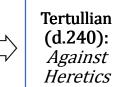


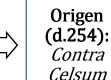
The Apostle Peter (d. 67):

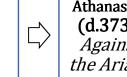
1 Peter 3:15

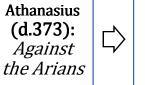
The Early Church through the Middle Ages

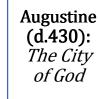


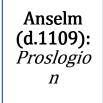


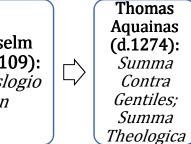












The Reformation through the Present Era

Martin Luther (d.1546): 95 Theses



John Calvin (d.1564):

Institutes of the Christian Religion



Blaise Pascal (d.1662): Penses



William Paley (d.1805):

A View of the Evidences of Christianity; Natural Theology



Thomas Reid (d.1796): *Inquiry into the* Human Mind

"Old Princetonians" **Charles Hodge** (d.1878) and B.B. Warfield (d.1921)



Abraham Kuyper (d.1920): "Antithesis"



Cornelius Van Til (d.1987): The Defense of the Faith



C.S. Lewis (d.1963): The Problem of Pain; Miracles; Mere Christianity



Modern Apologists: Greg Bahnsen (95), Walter Martin (89), John Frame, William Lane Craig, John Warwick Montgomery, RC Sproul, James White, JP Moreland, Norman Geisler, Alvin Plantinga, Lee Strobel, Josh McDowell, Daniel Wallace, Michael Licona, Frank Turek, Paul Copan, Michael Brown, Tim Keller, Hank Hannegraff, John Lennox, Ravi Zacharias, Gary Habermas, Greg Koukl, Darrell

Bock