

The Evangelist's Presuppositional Checklist

1. God is absolutely sovereign in the salvation of His elect

- In the words of the prophet Jonah, “salvation is of the Lord” (2:9).
 - John 6:44-45
 - Galatians 1:15-16
 - Ephesians 1:4-14
 - Romans 8:28-30; 9:1-29; 11:1-24

2. God saves His elect through the gospel

- He ordains not only the end (i.e. who will be saved), but the means (i.e. how they will be saved).
 - Romans 10:17
 - James 1:18
 - 1 Peter 1:23-25
 - Parable of the sower (Matthew 13; Mark 4; Luke 8)
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14
 - 2 Corinthians 4:1-7
 - Isaiah 55:10-11
 - John 6:63

3. Every single one of Christ's elect will be saved through the gospel

- Even the hardest sinner is no match for God's electing purposes and sovereign grace!!¹
 - John 10:11, 16, 25-30
 - Revelation 7:4-8
 - Acts 13:48; 16:10; 18:9-10

4. The number of the elect is incalculable

¹ For example, Saul's own conversion confessions in Acts 9, 24, 26 (cf. 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Galatians 1:11-17).

- As R.C. Sproul once said, “We should evangelize as though every person we meet is one of the elect.”
 - John 11:51-52
 - Revelation 7:9

5. Man is utterly incapable of believing in Christ apart from divine grace

- As Paul says, all humans by nature are “dead in trespasses and sin” and “slaves” to the world, their flesh and the devil (Ephesians 2:1-3).
 - Romans 5:12 – we are all naturally born “in Adam”, and thus are sinners by nature as well as choice.
 - ➔ Cf. Romans 6:16-22 – those “in Adam” are “slaves to sin.”
- Therefore, we need a spiritual miracle in our hearts/disposition if we are ever going to love and believe in the Christ we naturally hate.
 - 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; 2:14
 - John 3:1-8
 - 1 John 5:1 (the Greek emphasizes that regeneration precedes faith)
 - Ephesians 2:8
- The only one who truly has free will, according to the Bible, is God.
 - We all choose according to nature.
 - ➔ Thus, apart from God’s sovereign grace, we will all freely – and gladly and willingly – reject the true God of the Bible, and worship the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever.
Amen.

6. All humans know there is a God

- Don’t let the atheists fool you with their lying claims!!
 - Romans 1:18-32 – they know there is a God through creation.
 - ➔ Cf. Psalms 19:1-6

- Romans 2:1-16 – they know there is a God through conscience.

→ Cf. Proverbs 20:27

- This is why all humans need the gospel!!
 - They have enough knowledge in “general revelation” to condemn them, but need special revelation for them to be saved.

7. All those not born-again are naturally haters and enemies of God (and thus His messengers)

- That is, there is no neutrality (cf. Matt. 12:30; Mark 9:40; Luke 11:23). Even those who outwardly appear indifferent or unhostile towards the gospel are nevertheless inwardly opposed to it (e.g. Acts 17:32; cf. 1 Kings 18:21).
 - Romans 8:5-8; cf. 1:30; 3:9-18
 - John 15:18-25; cf. 3:19-20

8. Eternal punishment is biblical, and thus real

- If the Holy Spirit enables the elect to love God and love their neighbor as themselves, then evangelism ought to be the inevitable fruit for both.
 - A place of torment: Matthew 8:12; 13:42, 50; 22:13; 24:51; 25:30; cf. Luke 13:28
 - Eternal: Matthew 25:41, 46; cf. Revelation 14:11; 20:10

9. There are no “second chances”

- Things like reincarnation are a lie from the pit of hell!!
 - Hebrews 9:27
 - Luke 16:19-31
- Because God cannot deny His holy character, He will not “bend the law” or “make exceptions” for lawbreakers. The wages of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

How This Practically Helps Us in Evangelism

1. It keeps us from compromise
2. It keeps us from manipulation
3. It enables us to be patient
4. It emboldens us to preach the gospel and leave the results with God
5. It forces us to our knees
6. It makes sure God gets all the glory in salvation