

WHY DO YOU
BELIEVE
WHAT YOU
BELIEVE



an introduction to apologetics & defending your faith



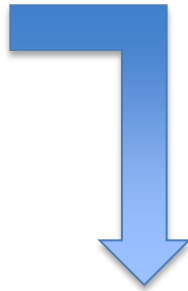
**I WILL TALK
WITH ANYONE
ABOUT
ANYTHING.** FREE!

The seeker asks

Did Jesus really live?

The skeptic declares

Jesus is myth!



Jesus lived and died
Historical

The seeker asks

Did Jesus really live?

The skeptic declares

Jesus is myth!



Jesus lived and died

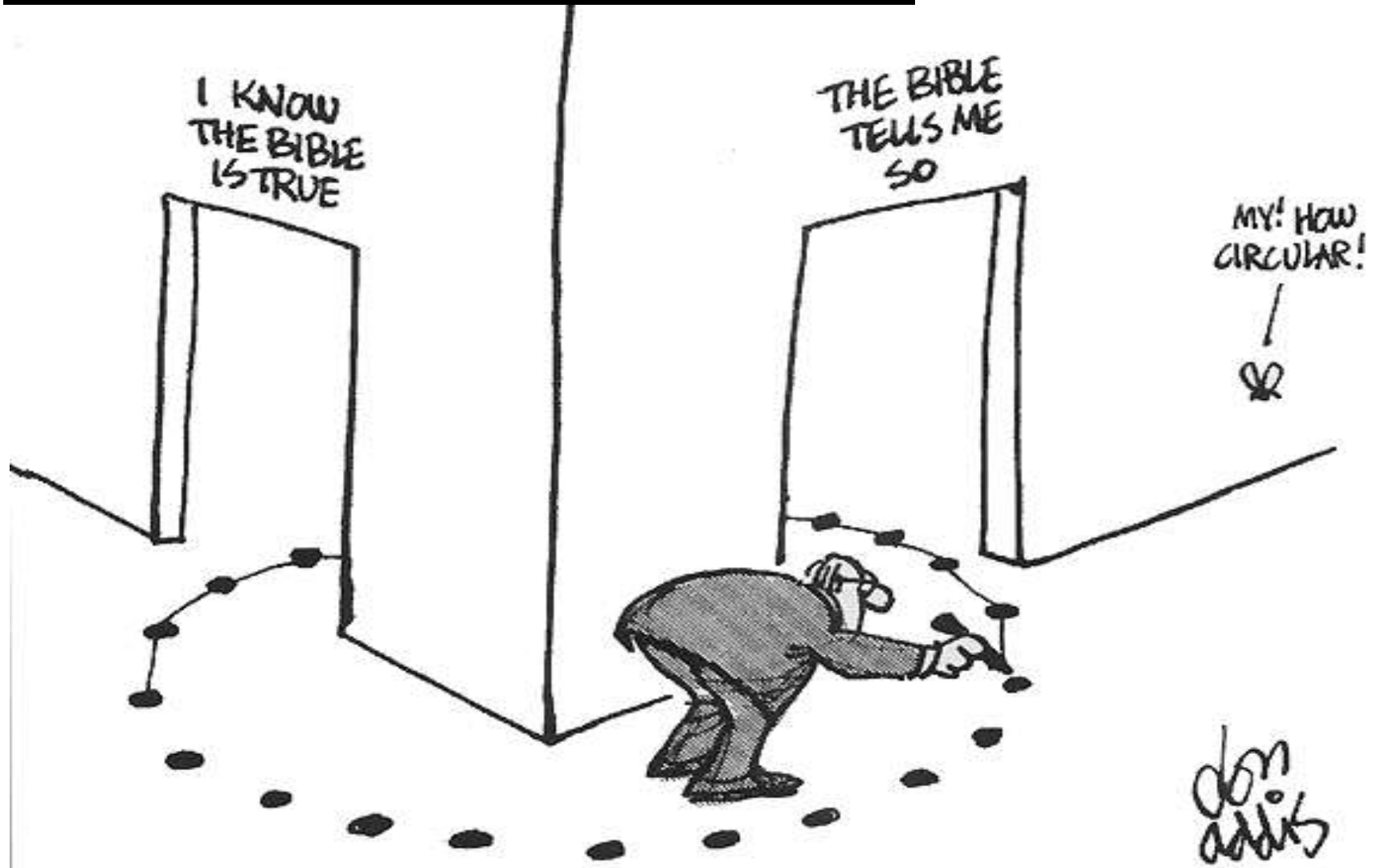
Historical



Jesus lived and died for ME!

Gospel

How most people defend their faith



FAITH-BASED CONNECT-THE-DOTS

ask **Why**
why

respond with **Love**

be **Logical**

remember your **Faith**

Course Objective:

*But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and **be ready always** to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. 1 Peter 3:15*



Course Overview

Part 1: Background of apologetics

Apologetics defined

Apologetics defended

Part 2: Battlefield of apologetics

Roadblocks (hypocrisy vs. hostility)

How do I know God is real?

Hasn't science disproved biblical creation?

How do I know the Bible is true or authentic?

Was Jesus really the Son of God or just a good man?

Is Jesus the only way to heaven?

How could a loving God allow evil to exist in the world?

Always ready!

APOLOGETICS

BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER



BACKGROUND

Apologetics Defined

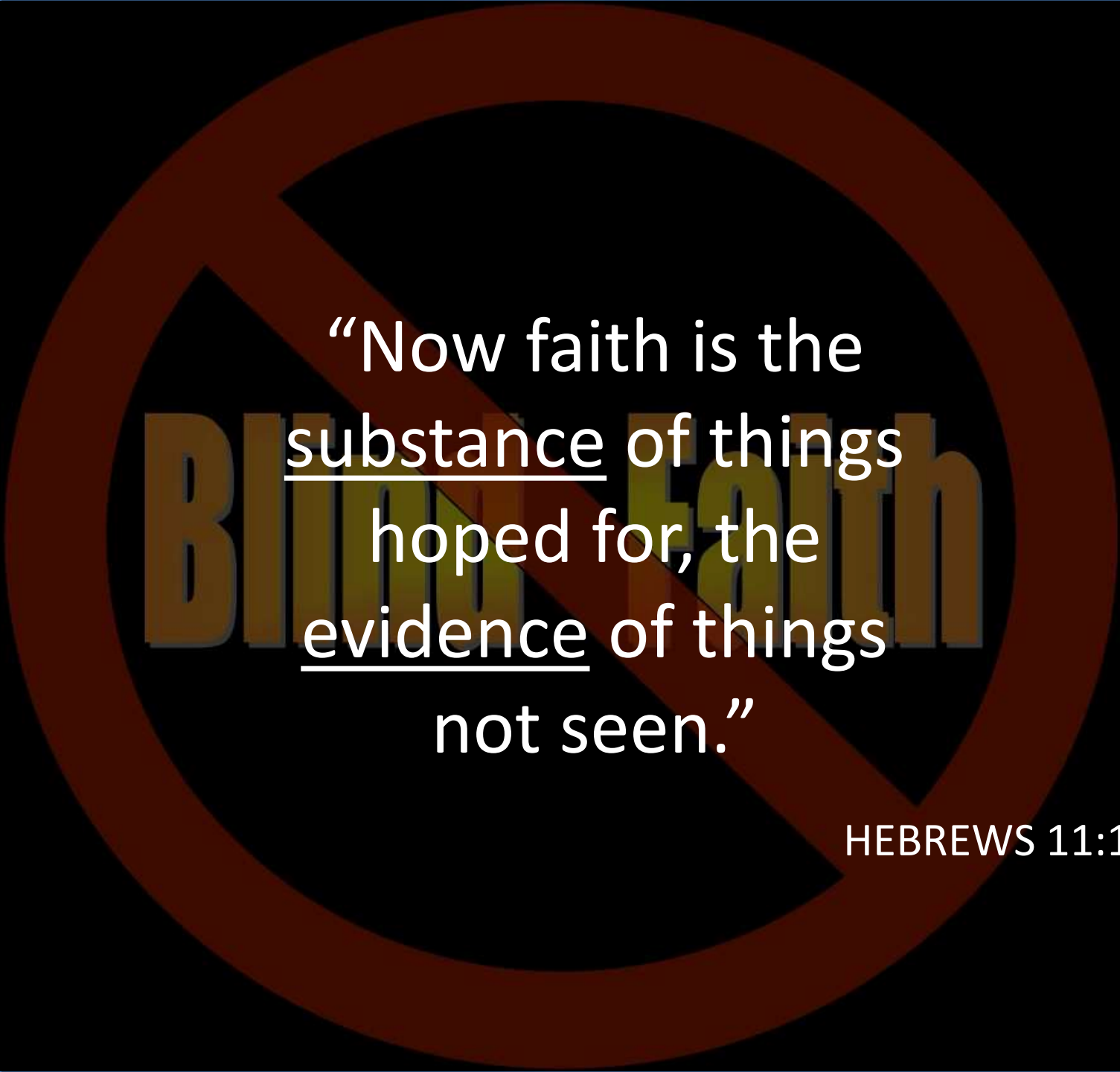
Branch of Christianity that deals with answering those who oppose or question the revelation of God in Christ and the Bible. It can include studying such subjects as biblical manuscript transmission, philosophy, biology, mathematics, evolution, and logic. But it can also consist of simply giving an answer to a question about Jesus or a Bible passage.

It does NOT explain faith away, for we know that the basis of Christianity is faith.

Always ready!



Blind Faith



“Now faith is the
substance of things
hoped for, the
evidence of things
not seen.”

HEBREWS 11:1

Apologetics Defined

Branch of Christianity that deals with answering those who oppose or question the revelation of God in Christ and the Bible. It can include studying such subjects as biblical manuscript transmission, philosophy, biology, mathematics, evolution, and logic. But it can also consist of simply giving an answer to a question about Jesus or a Bible passage.

Judicial term from the Greek word ***apologia***, which means, “defense.”

Always ready!

Apologetics Defined

Acts 26: Paul's "defense" before King Agrippa.

Salvation (v. 9-13)

Purpose (v. 18)

Personal Testimony

Obedience (v. 19)

Respect/love

Faith/Reliance of God (v. 22 & 29)

Ready to defend (v. 2)

Study of God's Word (v. 24)

Judicial term from the Greek word
apologia, which means, "defense."

Always ready!

Apologetics Defined

Two distinct aspects or approaches:

1. Destructive or Negative

Dismantle or destroy hostile arguments against Christianity developed under opposing philosophical or world systems.

2. Creative or Positive

Offers evidence and support for the truthfulness of Christianity.

Always ready!

Apologetics Defined

Destructive or Negative

(2 Cor 10:3-6; Titus 1:9-11)

Dismantle or destroy hostile arguments...

Age of Enlightenment

Liberalism/modernism

Apologetics receives
emphasis

Evolution/Darwinism

Satan's lie

Satan's tool

Post-modernism

No absolutes

In our churches!

“There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” **Proverbs 14:12**

Always ready!

Apologetics Defined

Creative or Positive

(Acts 1:3; Luke 24:39; Rom 1:19-20)

Offers evidence and support for the truthfulness of Christianity ...

There are basic questions w/which humans wrestle

Does God exist?

If God exists, what kind of God is He?

How may I know this God?

These questions help establish common ground

We had these same questions

We can answer these questions from the Bible

God is not cruel

Always ready!

Apologetics Defined

Why should I study apologetics?

For the UNBELIEVER

The Skeptic

The Seeker

For the BELIEVER

Defense

Doubt

Always ready!

Apologetics Defined

Why should I study apologetics?

For the UNBELIEVER

For the BELIEVER

The Skeptic

The Seeker

Defense

Doubt

Evangelism tool

Discipleship tool

Always ready!

APOLOGETICS

BE PREPARED TO GIVE AN ANSWER



DEFENDED

Apologetics Defended

Many oppose the use or idea of apologetics

Apologetics is not contained in the Bible.

Many say the Bible needs no defense.

It's like a caged lion that once it's loosed,
its power will take care of itself.

Genesis 1:1 says “In the beginning God’
Nothing else needs to be said. God does not
defend His existence and neither do we need
to defend it.”

Always ready!

Apologetics Defended

Many oppose the use or idea of apologetics

Apologetics is not contained in the Bible.

Many say the Bible needs no defense.

It's like a caged lion that once it's loosed, its power will take care of itself.

Genesis 1:1 says “In the beginning God’ Nothing else needs to be said. God does not defend His existence and neither do we need to defend it.”

Apologetics was practiced & preached by the apostles (Acts 22:1; 25:16; Acts 26; Phil 1:7-17)

1 Peter 3:15

“But sanctify the Lord God in your (the person: Christian) hearts: and be ready (the preparation: ready) always to give an answer (the position: defensive) to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope (the purpose: to give hope) that is in you with meekness and fear (the practice: with meekness and fear).”

Always ready!