

STUDY QUESTIONS

Apologetics Study Questions

1. Define the word *apologetics*. (2)
2. List at least three NT passages in which a Greek word related to the term *apologetics* is used. In each case, show which English word or words translate that Greek word. (3)
3. Show from 1 Peter 3:15-16 at least three principles of Christian apologetics. (3)
4. Show from Titus 1:9-11 at least two principles of Christian apologetics. (2)
5. List and define the three main divisions of philosophy; also list and define six important subdivisions. (18)
6. List at least two questions that apologetics should answer for each of the three main divisions of philosophy. (6)
7. List at least four challenges relating to apologetics that faced the writers of the NT books, which they sought to meet through their writings. (4)
8. Show from the NT two ways that John the Baptist supported his witness to Christ. (3)
9. In what NT passage does Christ tell of the four-fold witness to himself? What are the four witnesses? (5)
10. Show from the book of Acts at least two places in which Peter demonstrates the truth of the gospel. In each place show at least two ways in which Peter proves his point. (4)
11. List three passages in which the apostolic miracles are said to accredit the apostles and their message. (3)
12. List one passage from 1 Peter and one from 2 Peter related to apologetics. For each passage, show the point or points Peter is making. (4)

13. What is one major apologetic concern of Peter's which is especially dealt with in the gospel of Mark? (1)
14. List at least three apologetic appeals Paul makes to the Jewish audience in Acts 13. (3)
15. In which two passages in Acts does Paul speak to a Gentile audience? (This does not refer to his trials.) (2)
16. Give the reference to Paul's speech to the Areopagus. Explain the five steps or points he makes in this message. (6)
17. Show from Paul's speeches from Acts 22-28 at least four appeals he makes to demonstrate the truth of his message and ministry. (4)
18. List at least five passages from Paul's epistles in which he makes an apologetic appeal. Point out the nature of that appeal for each passage. (10)
19. List six major points concerning God's natural revelation that Paul makes in Romans 1:18-23. (6)
20. Describe the two major interpretations of Romans 2:12-16. Show how the term "by nature" refers to different words in each interpretation. What would be the apologetic point being made in each interpretation? (6)
21. Briefly describe three different ways by which Matthew supports the truth of the Christian message. (3)
22. What verses show us the apologetic purpose of Luke-Acts? List at least five apologetic purposes of this two-volume work. (6)
23. What verses show us John's apologetic purpose? What is John's procedure in doing this? (3)
24. What was the "age of the apologists"? When did it occur, and what were the reasons for it? (4)
25. Briefly describe the time, circumstances, and apologetics of the following writers: (2 points each)
 - a. Quadratus
 - b. Aristides
 - c. Tatian
 - d. Athenagoras

- e. Irenaeus
 - f. Tertullian
 - g. Clement of Alexandria
 - h. Origen
 - i. Eusebius of Caesarea
 - j. Athanasius
 - k. Anselm of Canterbury
 - l. Roger Bacon
 - m. Raymond Lull
 - n. William of Occam
 - o. John Calvin
 - p. Joseph Butler
 - q. William Paley
26. Describe the background, teaching, and leading advocates of Neo-Platonism. (5)
27. Discuss the life and apologetic work of the following: (4 points each)
- a. Justin Martyr
 - b. Augustine
 - c. Thomas Aquinas
28. Discuss the personalities, varieties, and accomplishments of apologetics in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Be as specific as possible. (10)
29. List the five classic arguments for the existence of God. Indicate at least one proponent for each argument. Describe what the argument is, and at least one critical argument against it. (20)
30. What is the basic difference in approach and philosophy between presuppositionalists and evidentialists? (3)
31. What is the argument from consistency, as used by some presuppositionalists? What do critics say against it? (5)
32. What three “apologetic” activities of Christians do many presuppositionalists emphasize? (3)
33. Relate the biblical apologetic to the classic arguments. (4)
34. What arguments regarding apologetics does the Bible emphasize? (5)

Ethics Study Questions

1. List and define the three types of biblical law. (6)
2. How do we know that the moral law was in force before the fall of man into sin? (3)
3. Show from Scripture that the moral law was in force during the time of Abraham. (2)
4. List the Scripture passages that contain the following: (6)
 - a. The Ten Commandments (2 passages)
 - b. The statement that there are Ten Commandments (1)
 - c. The statement that there were two tables of the law (1)
 - d. The first great commandment OT reference (1)
 - e. The second great commandment OT reference (1)
5. List at least one passage in which Christ reaffirmed the moral law, and one passage in which Paul reaffirmed the moral law. (2)
6. Explain the difference between apodictic law and casuistic law. Of which type are the Ten Commandments? (3)
7. List at least four of the uses of the moral law mentioned in the Westminster standards. (4)
8. What is the relation between obedience to the moral law, and the new covenant? Give at least one Scripture. (3)
9. List the Ten Commandments according to the Roman Catholic numbering system, and according to the Reformed system. What reasons support the Reformed system? (5)
10. List at least five of the rules for interpreting the Ten Commandments, according to Larger Catechism #99. (5)
11. The NT links the interpretation of the Ten Commandments to the command to love God and our neighbor. List at least one passage where Jesus says this, one where Paul says this, and one where John says this. (3)
12. What does the phrase before me in the first commandment mean? (1)
13. How is the “exclusive principle” of church worship related to the second commandment? What answer can we give to an extreme interpretation of this command? (3)

14. In what way is the third commandment related to our treatment of God's Word? Of the creation? (3)
15. What three main concepts are included in the fourth commandment? (3)
16. What are the three major positions regarding the changing of the Sabbath from the seventh day to the first day? (3)
17. List at least four NT passages which indicate the early church worshiped on the first day of the week. (4)
18. How did the majority of the Jewish nation obey the second, third, and fourth commandments from the time of Moses to the time of Christ? (3)
19. List at least one NT passage each, showing how the fifth commandment applies to:
 - a. parents
 - b. rulers
 - c. employers
 - d. church officers
20. In which passage does Paul call attention to the promise annexed to the fifth commandment? (1)
21. What types of killing do the words used in the sixth commandment not refer to in Scripture? What types of killing do they refer to? (5)
22. Show from both the OT and the NT that capital punishment for crime is permitted in Scripture. (3)
23. Which NT Scripture passage links hatred to this commandment? (1)
24. Name at least three of the purposes of marriage mentioned in the Westminster Confession. (3)
25. The Westminster Confession recognizes only two causes for the innocent spouse to obtain a divorce and remarry. List these two causes, and show the Scriptural argument used to defend them. (6)
26. List at least three Scriptural passages condemning the practice of homosexuality. (3)
27. Does the practice of the Jerusalem church in Acts 2:44-46 and 4:32 - 5:11 teach that socialism is the Christian system? Explain. (4)

28. Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 each use a different word for “covet.” Which one refers exclusively to mental coveting? What should be the Christian’s attitude toward his possessions? (2)
29. List the six alternative ethical systems; name at least one proponent for each system; briefly define each system. (18)
30. List at least five principles used by hierarchicalists to determine which universal norms are higher than others. (5)
31. Write a paragraph showing the ethical system you believe is most Scriptural, and your reasons. (5)
32. Which or what kind of laws should civil governments today seek to enforce? Why? (5)
33. List at least four areas where the church historically has infringed upon the liberty of Christians. (4)
34. List at least five principles concerning Christian liberty which are taught in Romans 14 and 1 Corinthians 8. (5)