

# The Biblical Apologetic

## Presuppositional Apologetics

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-Jason Mullett



**thinkingcap®**



# 1 Peter 3:15

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- 1 Peter 3:15 *but in your hearts **honor Christ the Lord** as holy, always being prepared to make a **defense** <apologia> to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with **gentleness and respect**, (ESV)*
- <apologia> This Greek word from which we get our English word “Apologetic”

# Is the Christian faith blind?

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- Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.* (NIV 1984)
- Hebrews 11:1 *Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.* (ESV)
- The unbeliever is the one that has blind faith.
- He believes in fairy tales.
  - He believes that a frog did turn into a prince.
  - He believes that fish became philosophers.

# Presuppositional Apologetics

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- Presuppositions – *The basic beliefs and assumptions that we all bring to bear before we examine or rationalize about anything.*
- Apologetics – *Giving a reasoned defense of a position often religious.*



# World Views

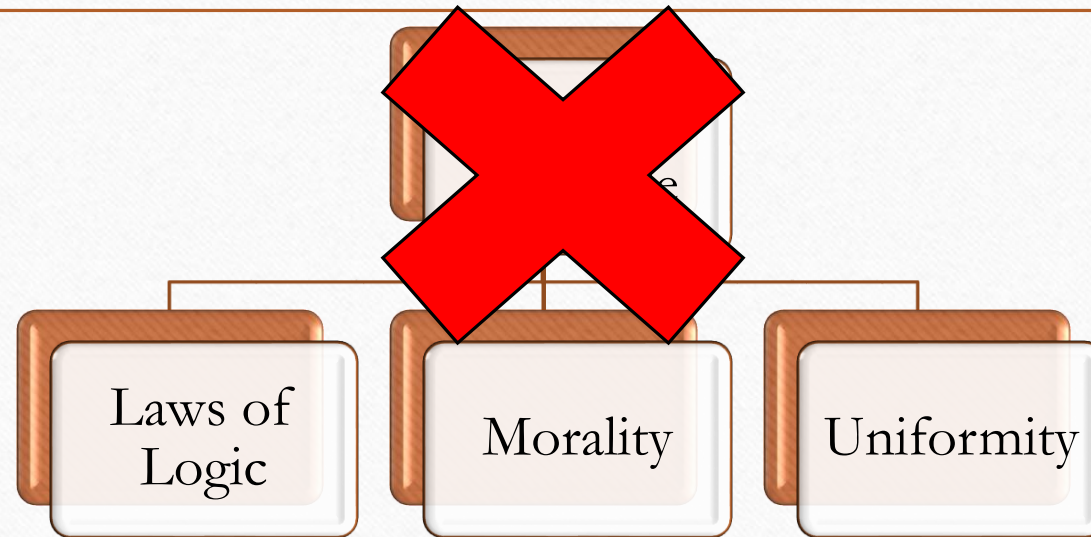


**Our worldview controls the way we view the  
evidence.**

*Graphic from: The Ultimate Proof of Creation – Dr Jason Lisle*

# God the Ultimate Authority

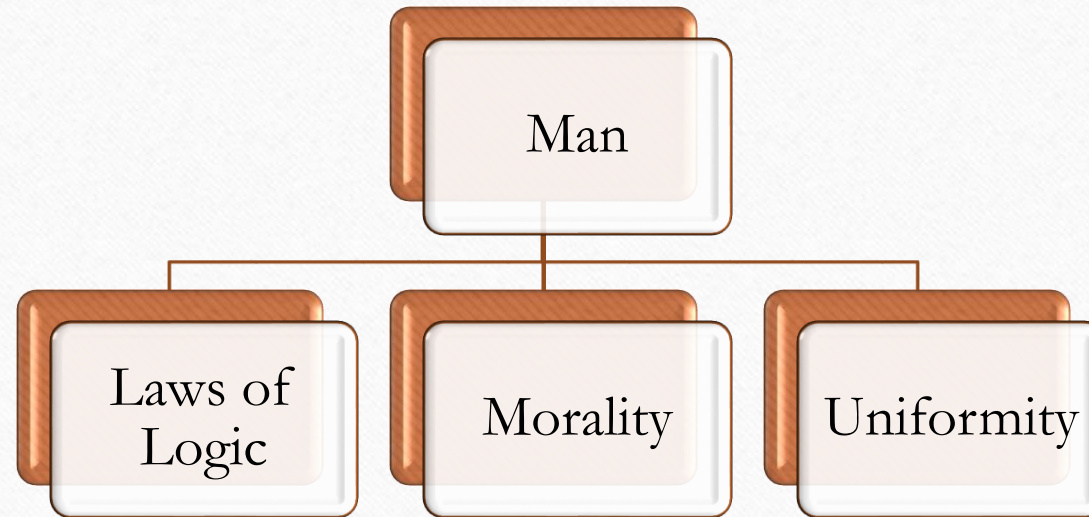
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Virtuously Circular

# Man the Ultimate Authority

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Viciously Circular



# Ultimate Authority Example

- *Metre des Archives* – Paris, France
- All meter sticks need to appeal to the authority of *Metre des Archives* as the justification for the fact they are in fact a meter in length.
- A meter stick that appeals to itself as the justification for the fact that it is indeed meter in length would be viciously circular.
- *Metre des Archives* can appeal to itself as it is the actual standard of what is a meter. This is virtuously circular.



# It's not about the evidence

- We all have the same evidence.
- We all interpret the evidence with our World View.
- The question really is which World View makes the human experience intelligible?



*Graphic from: The Ultimate Proof of Creation – Dr Jason Lisle*



# Rescuing Device

- A method employed to rescue a person's presupposed world view from evidence that would seem to be contrary to it.
  - Why are there still comets in the solar system if comets typically do not last more than 10,000 years?
    - *There is an ort cloud.*
  - Why is there still c14 found in dinosaur bones and in diamonds?
    - *There must be some contamination.*
  - How did random molecules organize themselves into an irreducibly complex, self-replicating organism (the first life)?
    - *Aliens did it.* (Richard Dawkins in the documentary Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed)
  - How can the earth be 6,000 years old if we can see galaxies millions of light years away?
    - *The White Hole Cosmology Theory (Dr. Russell Humphreys) or the Anisotropic Synchrony Convention (Dr. Jason Lisle) are possible solutions.*

# The pretended neutrality fallacy



*Graphic from: The Ultimate Proof of Creation – Dr Jason Lisle*



# There is no neutral ground

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- Matthew 12:30 **Whoever is not with me is against me**, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. (ESV)
- Romans 8:7 For the mind that is set on the flesh is **hostile to God**, for it **does not submit to God's law**; indeed, it cannot. 8 Those who are in the flesh **cannot please God**. (ESV)
- To be neutral to our creator is a sin.
- The unbeliever is not neutral.
- You should not pretend to be neutral either.

# The Judge and Jury

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- Accepting the pretended neutrality claim and attempting to convince the unbeliever of the probable existence of God is making the unbeliever the Judge and Jury over the God who created him.
- Deuteronomy 6:16a *You **shall not put** the Lord your God **to the test*** (ESV)
- Romans 1:18 *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. 19 For what can be known about God **is plain to them**, because God has shown it to them. 20 For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So **they are without excuse**.* (ESV)
- God has given us wonderful evidence and we could very likely acquit God in a trial but even if we win the unbeliever is still Judge and Jury over the God who created him.
- Man's problem with God is not intellectual but moral.



# The Fool

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- Psalms 14:1a *The **fool** says in his heart, “There is no God.” (ESV)*
- Proverbs 26:4 ***Answer not a fool according to his folly**, lest you be like him yourself. 5 **Answer a fool according to his folly**, lest he be wise in his own eyes. (ESV)*
- Romans 1:22 *Claiming to be wise, they became **fools** (ESV)*
- 1 Corinthians 1:20 *Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? **Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?** (ESV)*
- Remember that if it were not for the Grace of God that we would be fools like the unbeliever. (1 Cor 4:7 *What do you have that you did not receive?* (ESV))

# Suppression vs Profession

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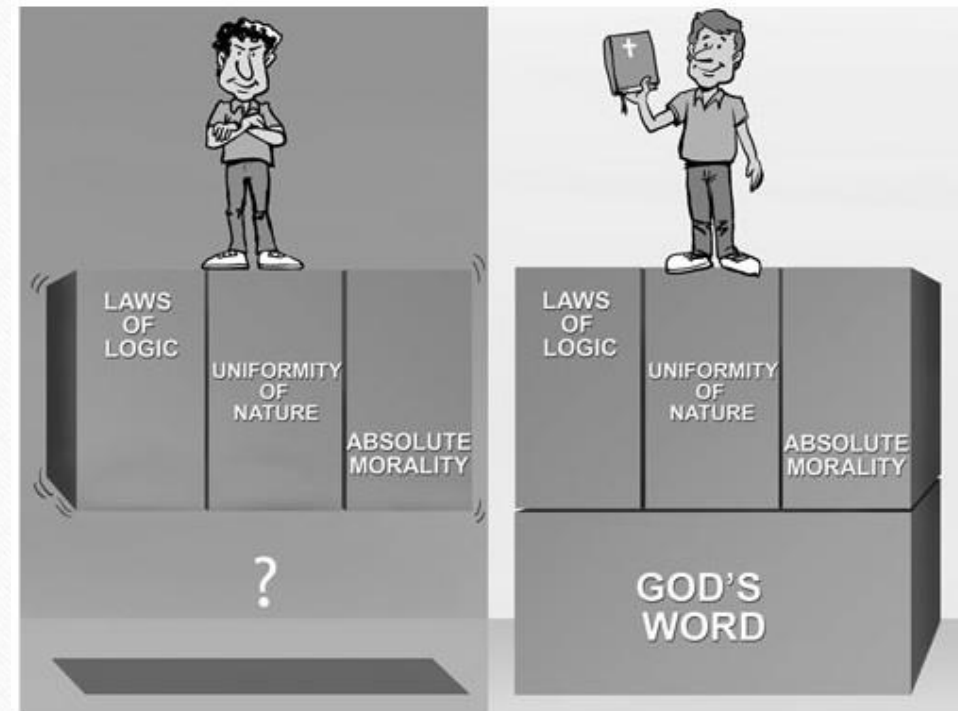
**Romans 1:18b**  
*men, who by  
their  
unrighteousness  
suppress the  
truth.*





# Biblical Christian World View

- The Biblical Christian World View is the only world view that provides a foundation and justification for our basic pre-suppositions (Logic, Uniformity, and Morality).
- For someone to argue against the Christian World View they have to borrow pre-suppositions from the Christian World View to argue against it.



*Graphic from: The Ultimate Proof of Creation – Dr Jason Lisle*

# Christian World View



Purpose

Meaning

Objective  
Morality

Uniformity

Rationality

Human Value

Human Dignity

Universal Laws

Objective Truth

Consciousness

The Revelation of the Christian God

Triune God of the Bible



# Christian World View

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- Purpose – The Creator has a purpose for all thing – Isaiah 46:10, Proverbs 16:4
- Meaning – There is meaning because all things were created for Jesus Christ – Colossians 1:16, Psalm 139:16
- Objective Morality – God has given to all people what they ought to do – Romans 2:15
- Uniformity – God holds and maintains all things – Hebrews 1:3, Genesis 8:22
- Rationality – Man is created in the image of God with noetic ability - Genesis 5:1-2, Isaiah 1:18
- Human Value – Man is of value because he is an image bearer of God – Genesis 9:6
- Human Dignity – Love your neighbor as yourself – Leviticus 19:9-18

# Christian World View

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- Universal Laws – God is everywhere (omni-present) and upholds all things by the word of His power. Colossians 1:17, Jeremiah 33:25, Psalm 139:7-10
- Objective Truth – Jesus Christ is the Truth and all wisdom and knowledge is found in Him – John 14:6, Colossians 2:2-3, Proverbs 1:7
- Consciousness – We have self-awareness and consciousness because we have been created by and are in the image of the God who has self-existence. – Exodus 3:14



# Non-Christian World View



No Purpose

No Meaning

No Objective  
Morality

No Uniformity

No Rationality

No Human  
Value

No Human  
Dignity

No Universal  
Laws

No Objective  
Truth

No  
Consciousness

Not the Triune God of the Bible

# Non-Christian World View

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- Purpose – There is no purpose, we are cosmic accidents
- Meaning – There is no meaning to life, we die and return to dust
- Objective Morality – There is no objective law giver we only have our subjective preferences
- Uniformity – Uniformity cannot be justified without begging the question
- Rationality – Reasoning cannot be justified with anything but reasoning, a circular argument
- Human Value – There is no value to human life. We have no more value than broccoli.
- Human Dignity – There is no more dignity and respect owed to a human being than to a rock



# Non-Christian World View

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- Universal Laws – There are no universal laws like the laws of logic. If the universe is only material, where do you get immaterial, universal, invariant laws like the laws of logic
- Objective Truth – How can objective truth be justified without an omniscient giver of objective truth?
- Consciousness – How does matter develop self-awareness and consciousness?

## Christian World View



The Revelation of the Christian God

Triune God of the Bible

## Non-Christian World View



Not the Triune God of the Bible



# Christian World View



The Revelation of the Christian God

Triune God of the Bible

# Non-Christian World View



Not the Triune God of the Bible

# The Proof that God Exists

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- The proof that God exists is.....
  - without Him you could not prove anything.
  - without God we could not know anything at all.
  - the impossibility of the contrary.



# Question and Answer Time?

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