
“Either human intelligence ultimately owes its origin to mindless matter; or there is a Creator. It is strange that some people claim that it is their intelligence that leads them to prefer the first to the second.”

-John Lennox

Thesis

Evangelism...Apologetics...?

Yes.

Let's connect the dots.

Where we're going.

- Definitions
 - Biblical bases
 - Biblical goals
 - Biblical examples
 - Biblical intersections
 - Skeptical questions
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What is Christian evangelism?

“To evangelize’ is to proclaim the good news of the victory of God’s salvation.”

-William J. Larkin Jr.

What is Christian evangelism?

It may be understood as the task of proclaiming Christ in word and deed.

“Evangelization describes the process of leading people on the journey and pilgrimage toward Christ.”

-George Carey

What is Christian apologetics?

It's pre-evangelism.

“[In evangelism] We are speaking to unbelievers from the Word of God, about the Son of God who died and rose from the dead by an act of God, which brings us the salvation of God-and they do not even believe in God!”

-Norm Geisler

What is Christian apologetics?

Offensively, it answers the question “Why is Christianity true?”

Defensively, it answers objections to, or questions about, the Christian faith.

What is Christian apologetics?

“Apologetics is the discipline that deals with a rational defense of the faith, whether the challenge comes from inside or outside the church.”

-Norm Geisler

What is the biblical basis for evangelism?

All four gospels include the commission to evangelize the world: Matt. 28:18-20, Mark 13:10, Luke 24:47, and John 20:21.

What is the biblical basis for evangelism?

“And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching (διδάσκω: didaskō teach; instruct) them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

(Matt. 28:18-20)

What is the biblical basis for evangelism?

“And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ...”

(Eph 4:11–12)

What is the biblical basis for evangelism?

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

(Acts 1:8)

What is the biblical basis for apologetics?

“Let your steadfast love come to me, O Lord, your salvation according to your promise; then shall I have an answer for him who taunts me, for I trust in your word.”

(Ps 119:41-42)

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What is the biblical basis for apologetics?

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a **defense** (ἀπολογία) to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

(1 Pet. 3:13–16)

What is the biblical basis of apologetics?

ἀπολογία [apologia /ap·ol·og·ee·ah/] translates as “defense” three times, “answer” three times, “answer for (one’s) self” once, and “clearing of (one’s) self” once. 1 verbal defense, speech in defense. 2 a reasoned statement or argument.

Enhanced Strong’s Lexicon, 1995.

What is the biblical basis of apologetics?

“Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend (ἐπαγωνίζομαι) for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.”

(Jude 3)

ἐπαγωνίζομαι [epagonizomai /ep·ag·o·nid·zom·ahee/] v. translates as “earnestly contend for” once. 1 to contend. The meeting of effort by effort, striving against opposition; sometimes physically, as in battle (Deuteronomy 2:9), or with horses (Jeremiah 12:5), sometimes orally (Nehemiah 13:11), sometimes spiritually (Isaiah 57:16).

What is the biblical goal of evangelism?

To call the world to the Lord Jesus.

“Lest you be wise in your own sight, I do not want you to be unaware of this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.”

(Rom. 11:25)

**What is the biblical goal
of evangelism?**

To hasten the return of the Lord Jesus.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.”

(Matt. 24:14)

**What is the biblical
goal of apologetics?**

**To defeat and remove barriers to Christian
faith.**

**“We destroy arguments and every lofty
opinion raised against the knowledge of God,
and take every thought captive to obey
Christ,...”**

(2 Cor. 10:5)

**Biblical examples
of evangelism.**

Matt. 9:35-38

Luke 19:1-10

John 4:1-30; 20:31

Acts 26:1-23

Romans 10:13-15

**Biblical examples of
apologetics.**

Exod. 4:1-9

1 Kings 18

John 3:2

Acts 2:22, 14:6-20

Do They Intersect?

Evangelism seeks to elicit a response of faith and trust.

Apologetics seeks to nurture agreement of the mind.

They are distinguished from each other in theory but are connected in practice.

-David K. Clark



Do They Intersect?

Acts 8:26-38, 17:16-34

Questions...skeptics
and believers alike.

- What caused God?
 - Doesn't science explain everything?
 - If God is good, why is there evil?
 - If God is good, why does He send people to hell?
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Where we've been.

- Definitions
 - Biblical bases
 - Biblical goals
 - Biblical examples
 - Biblical intersections
 - Skeptical questions
-

Our imperative.

“Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.”

(Col 4:5–6)

“And have mercy on those who doubt...” (Jude 22)

Thesis

Evangelism...Apologetics...?

Yes.

Dots, connected.
