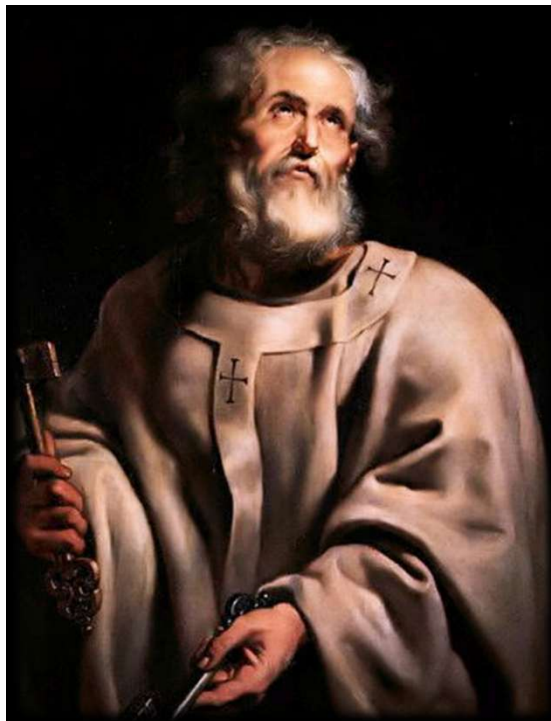


defense

ἀπολογία

(apologia)

NT Greek word translated
'defense'



✠ 1 Peter 3:15 ✠

*"But sanctify the Lord
God in your hearts,
always be ready to give
a **defense** to everyone
who asks you a reason
for the hope that is in
you, with meekness and
fear;"*

Why would Peter expect his readers to be asked about the hope that is in them?

❖ *Because they were bearing up under persecution*

What exactly is that hope?

❖ *The hope of the resurrection and eternal life*

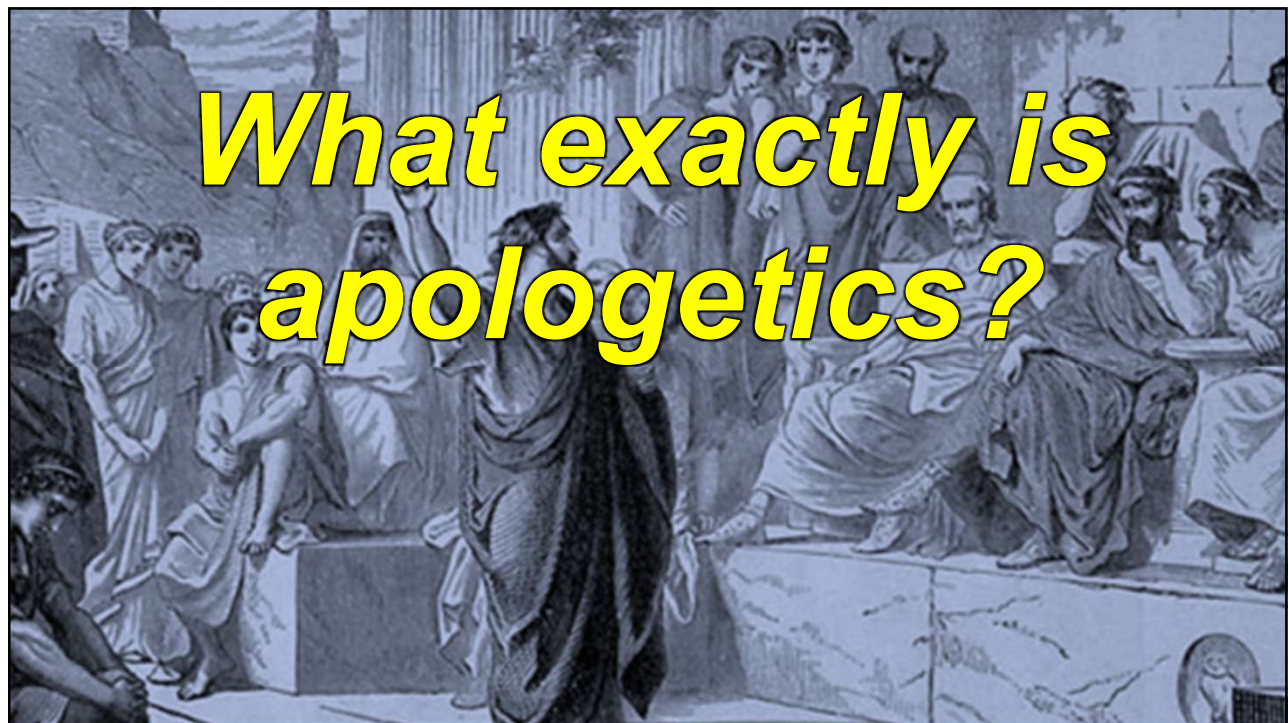
What is their reason for that hope?

❖ *God raised Jesus from the dead, proving that our sins are forgiven by His grace through our faith.*

What is the defense of that reason?

✧ 1 Peter 3:15 ✧

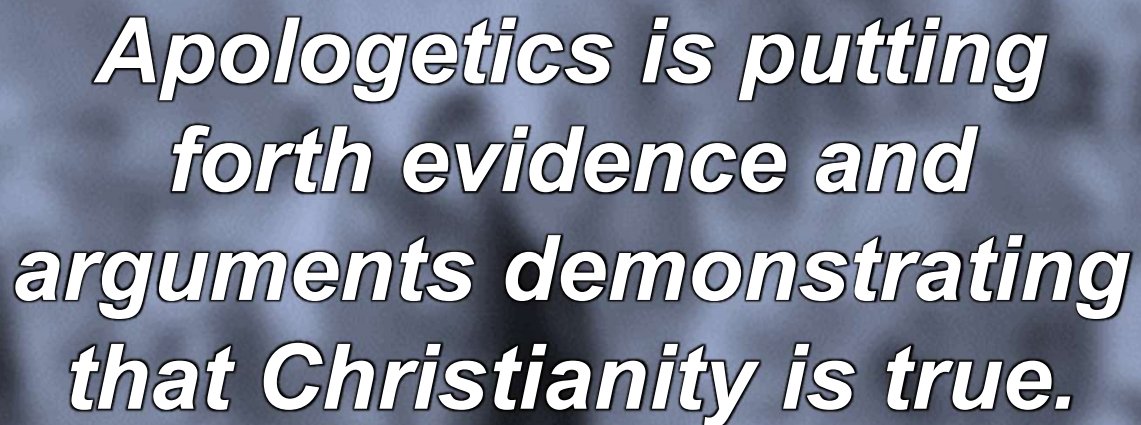
*"But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, always be ready to give a **defense** to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;"*



What exactly is apologetics?



Apologetics means "the defense of the faith."



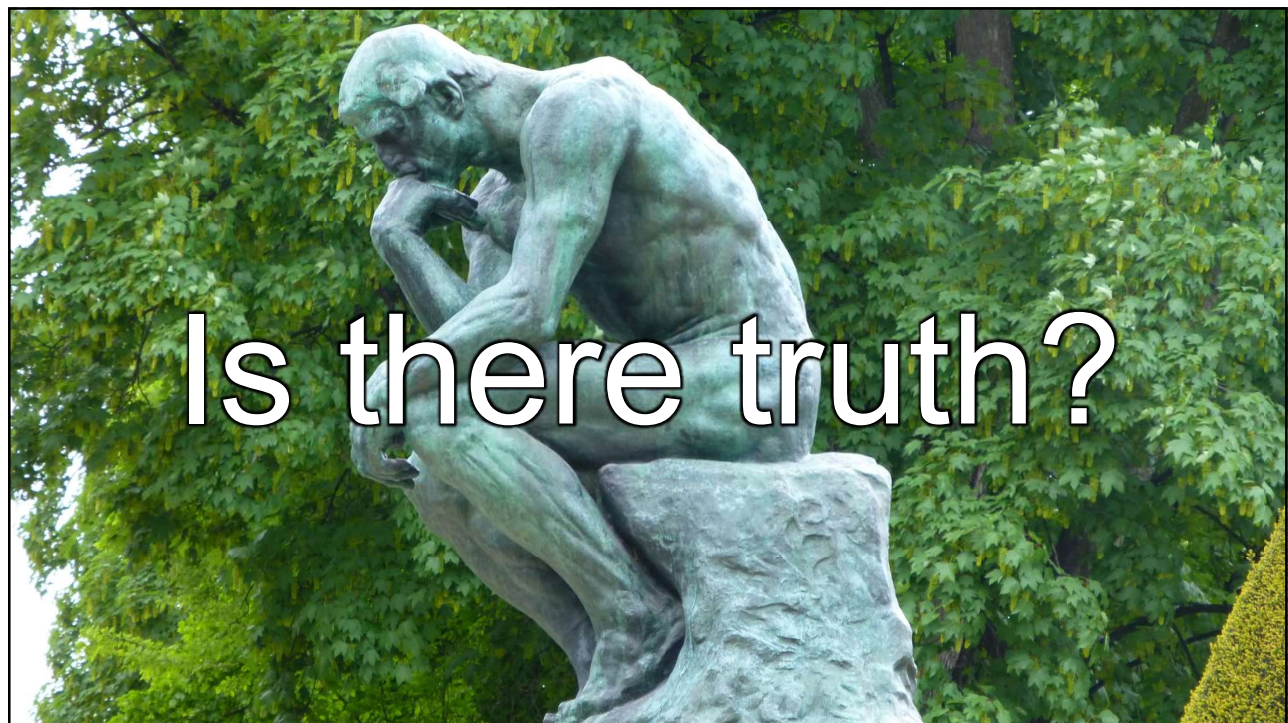
Apologetics is putting forth evidence and arguments demonstrating that Christianity is true.

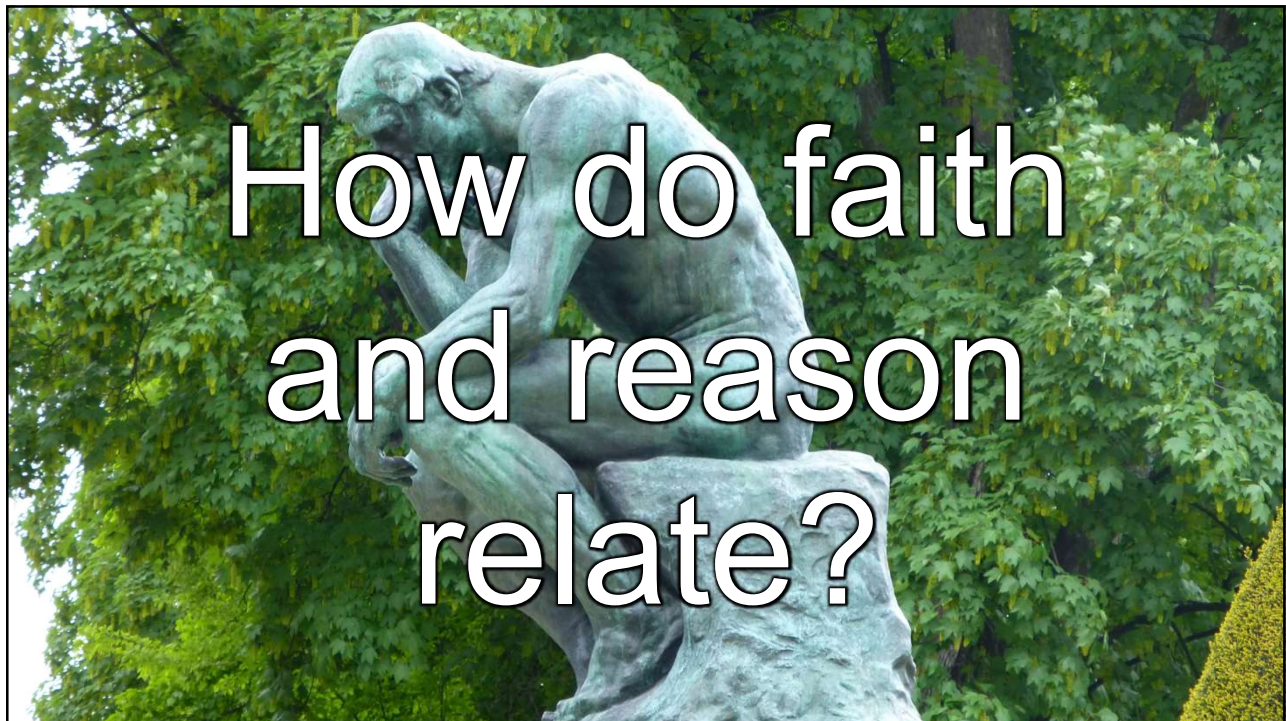
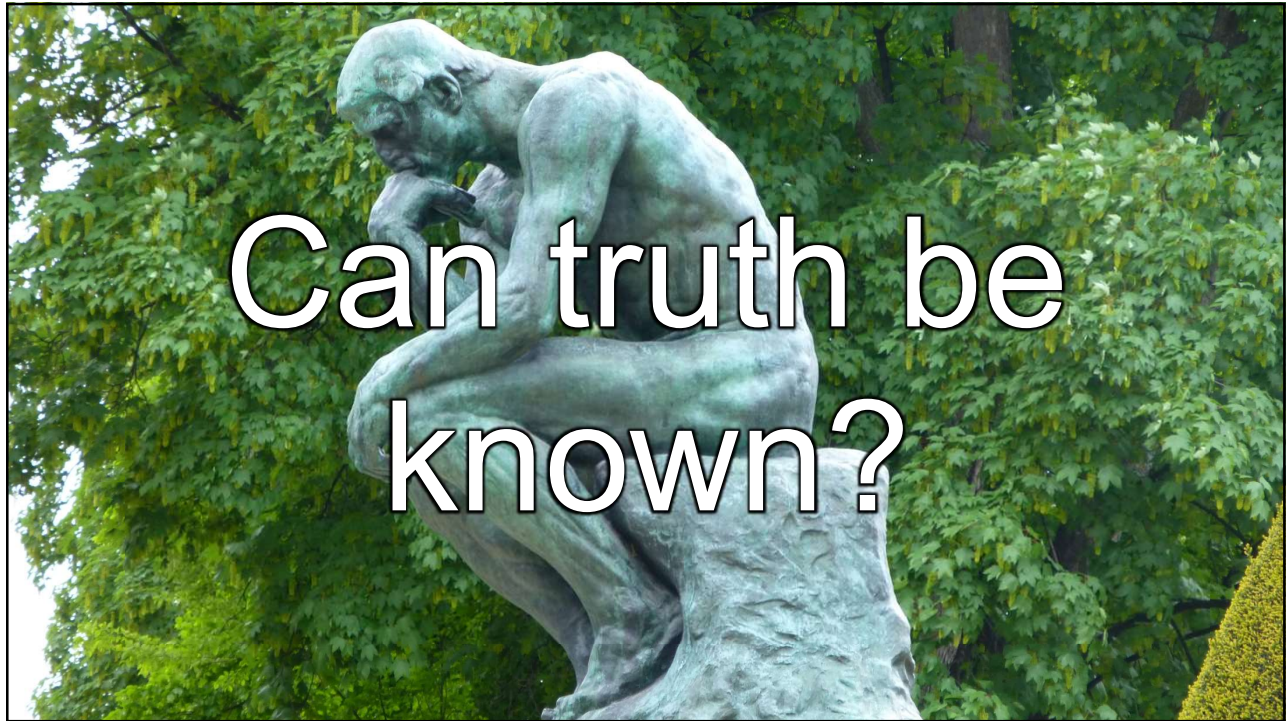
*Apologetics is **knowing**
and **showing** why
you believe that
Christianity is true.*

*Apologetics is **knowing**
and **showing** why
you believe that
Christianity is true.*

**demonstrating to
yourself that
Christianity is true**

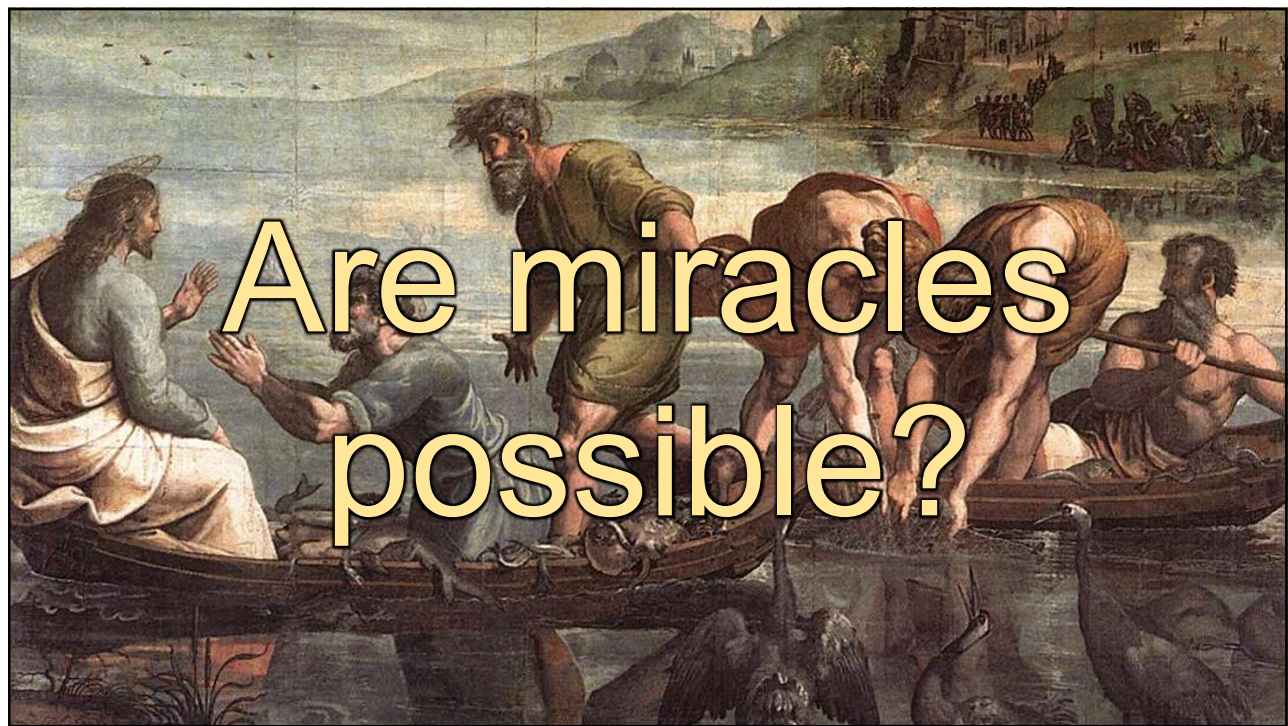
**demonstrating to
others that
Christianity is true**

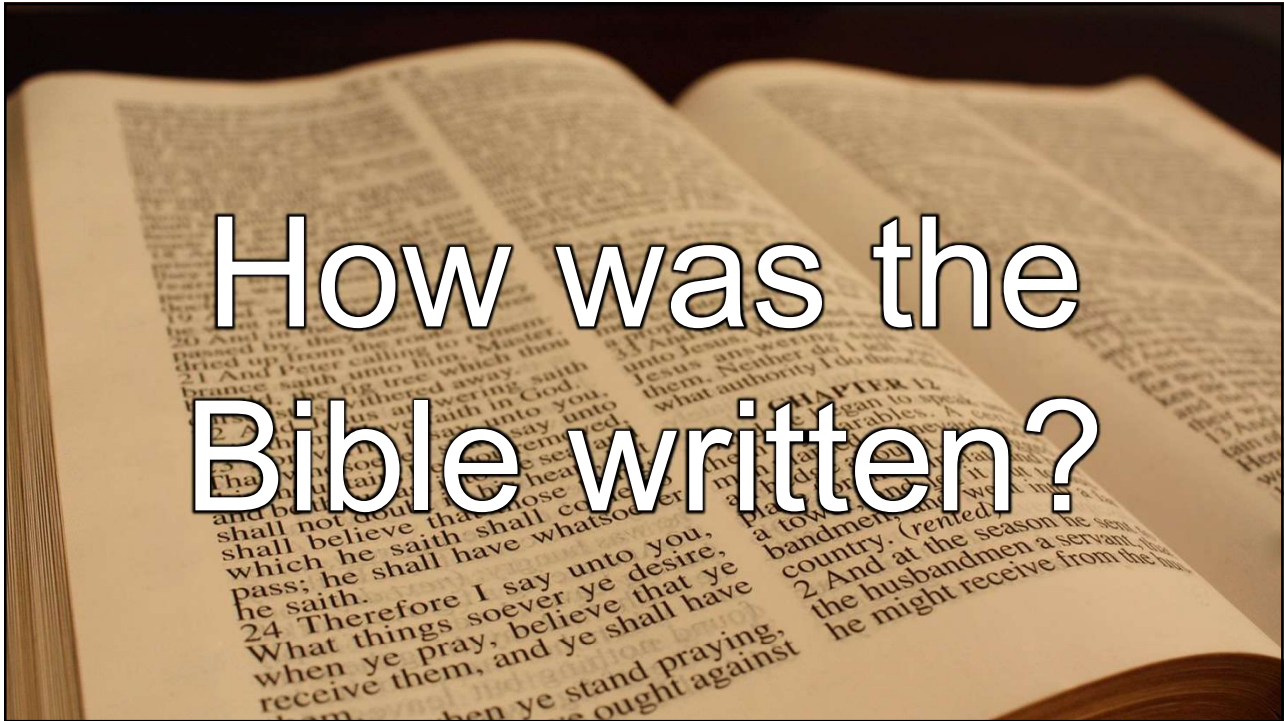




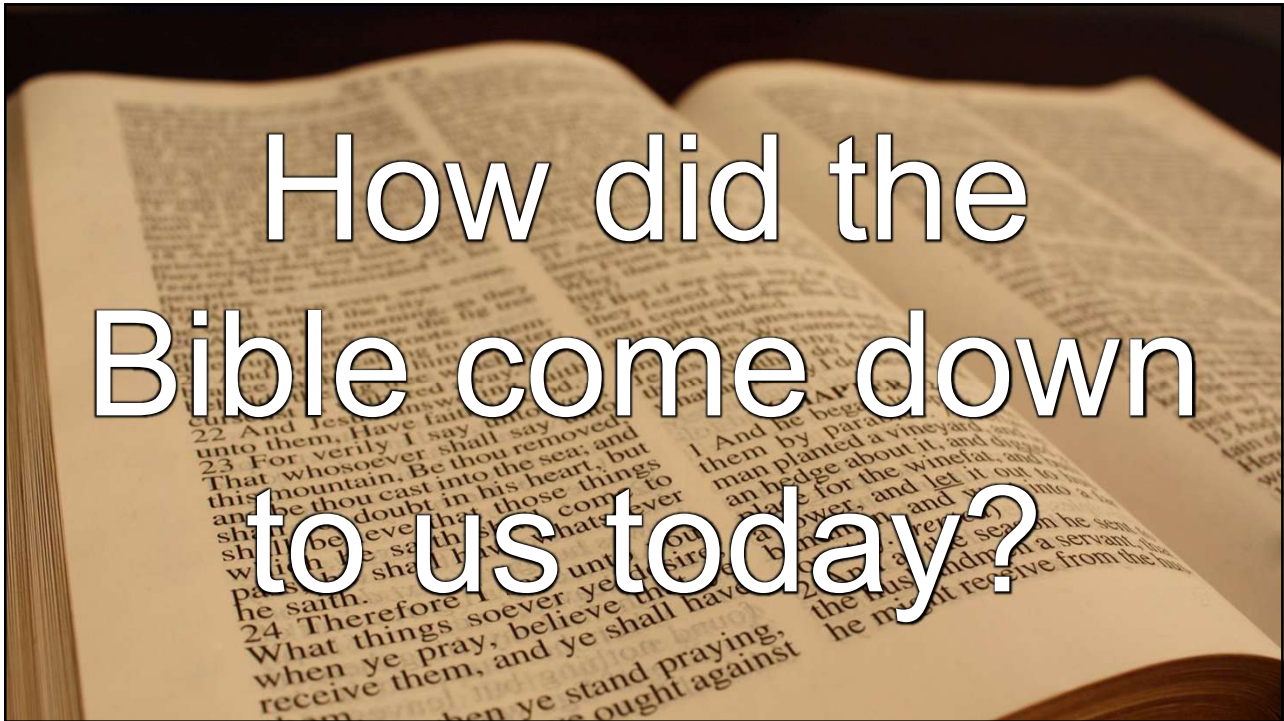




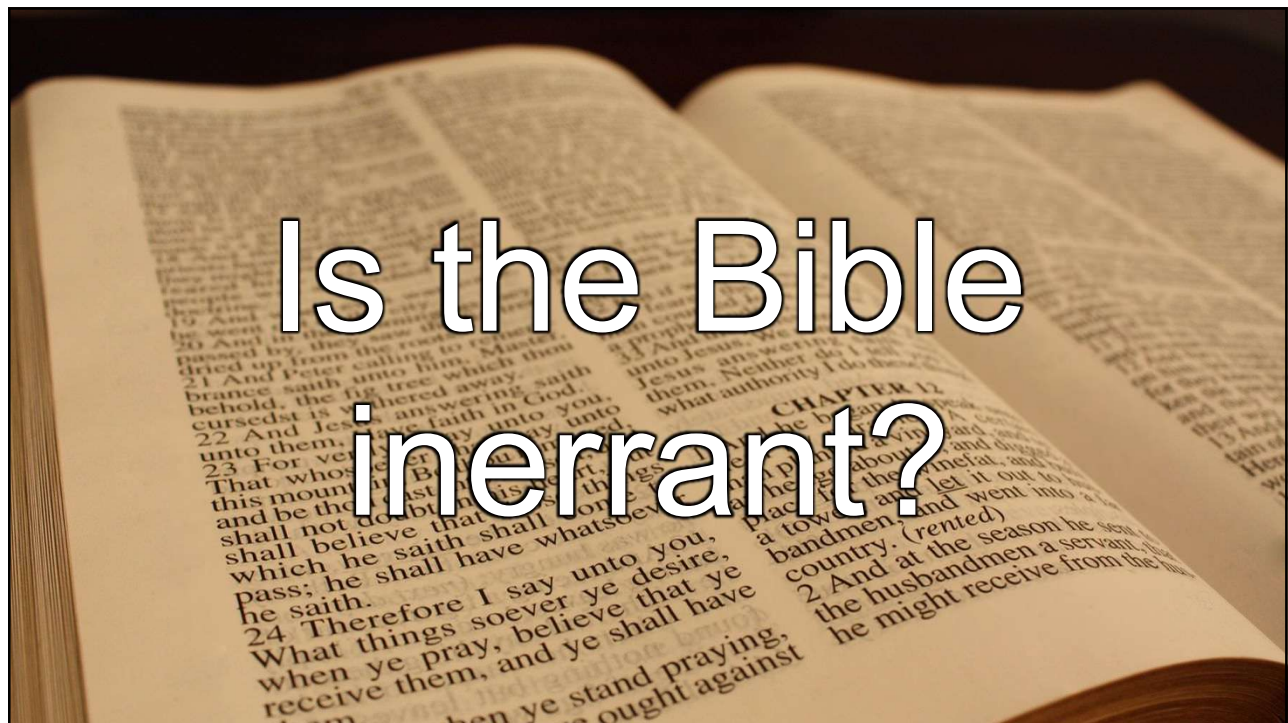
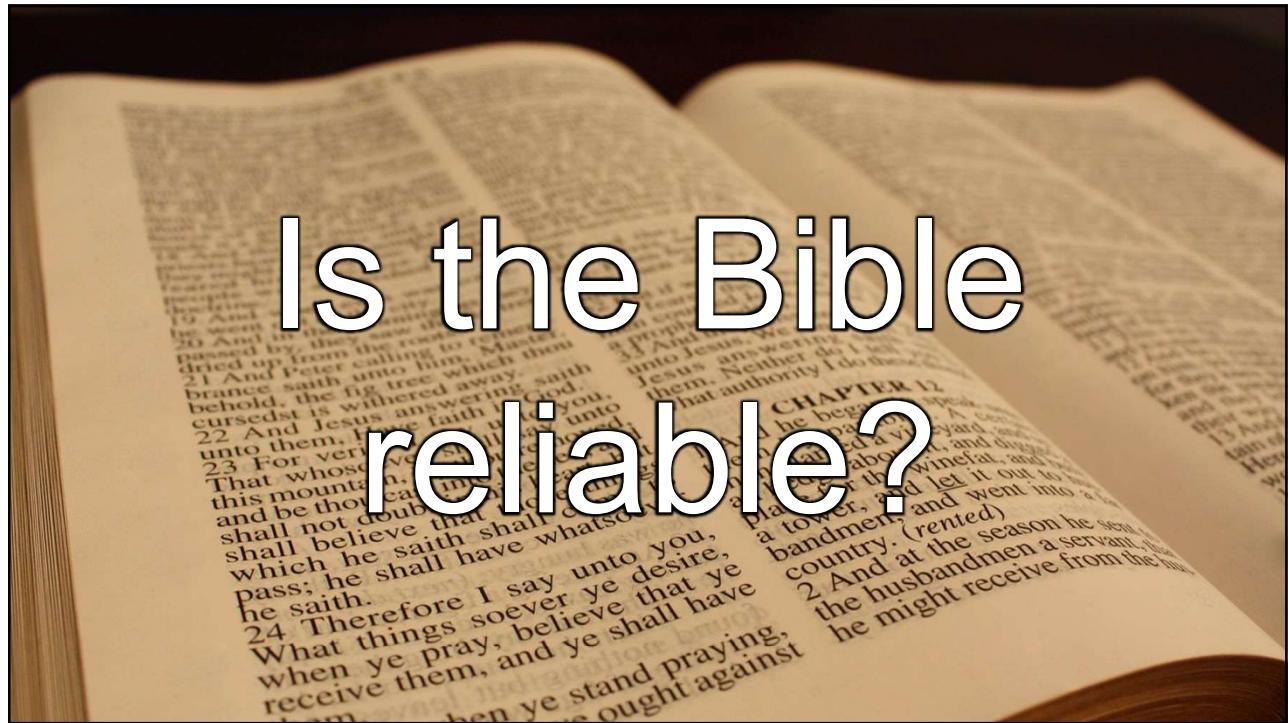


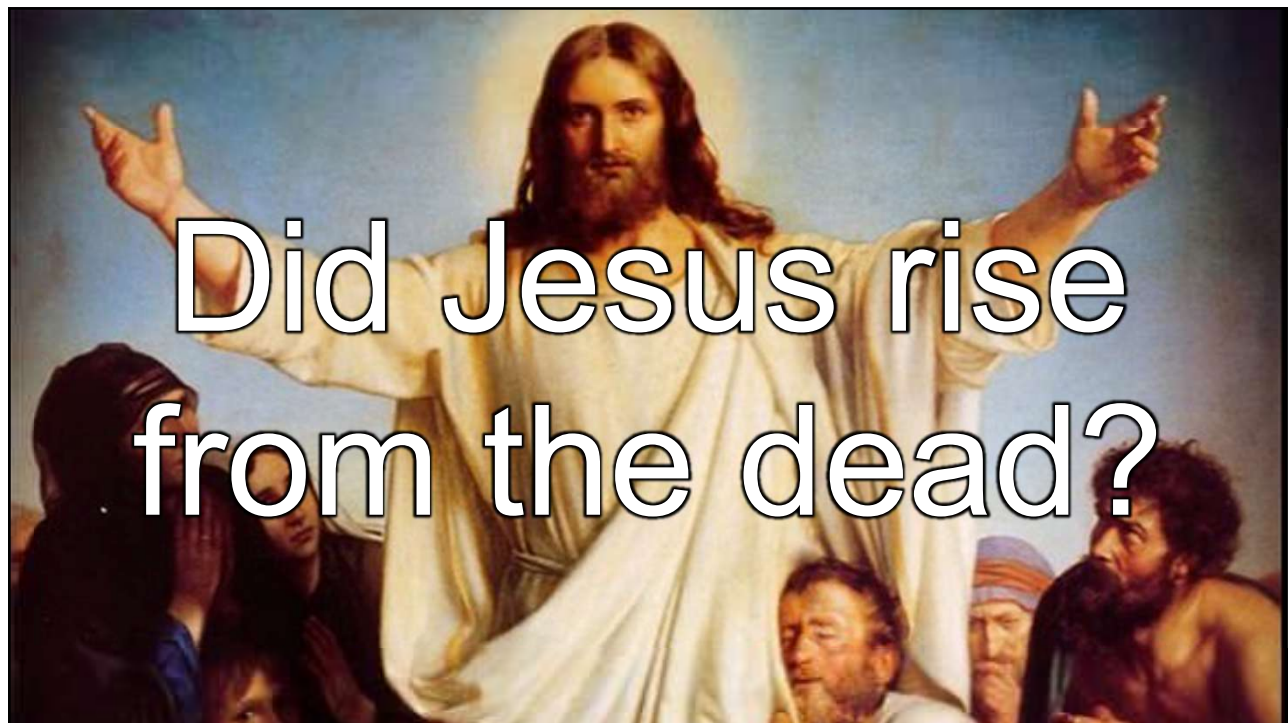
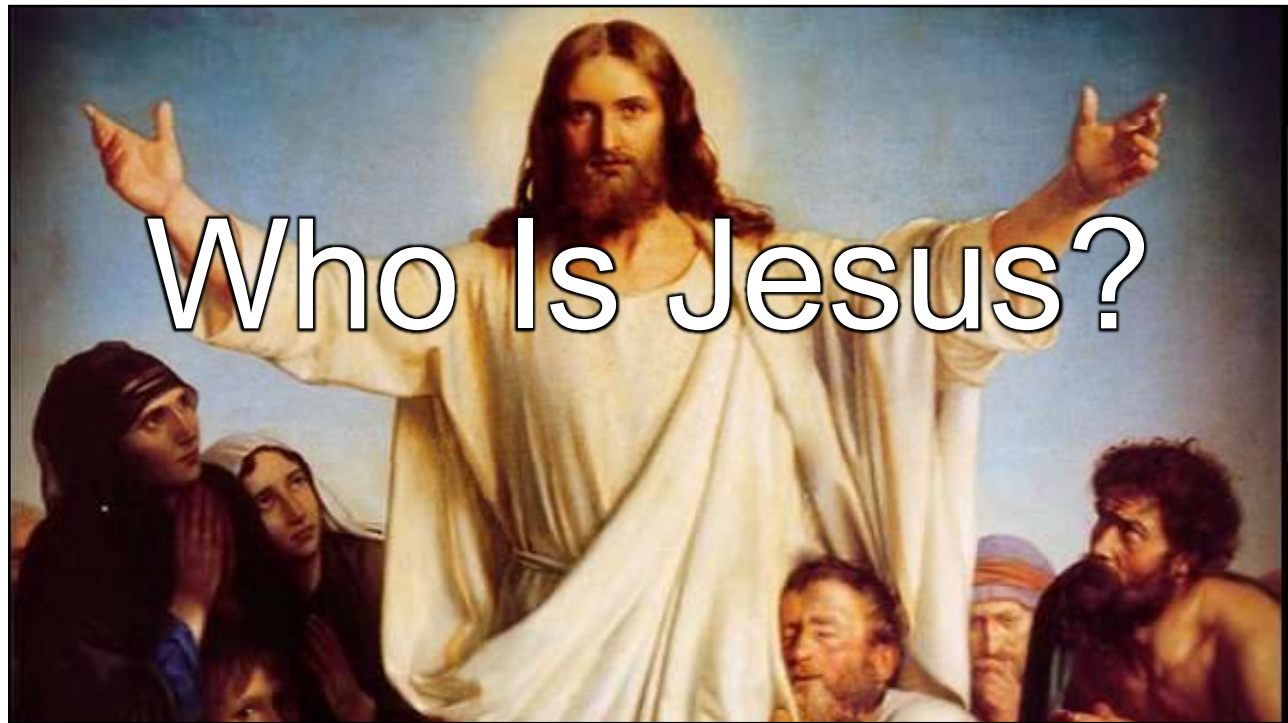


How was the Bible written?

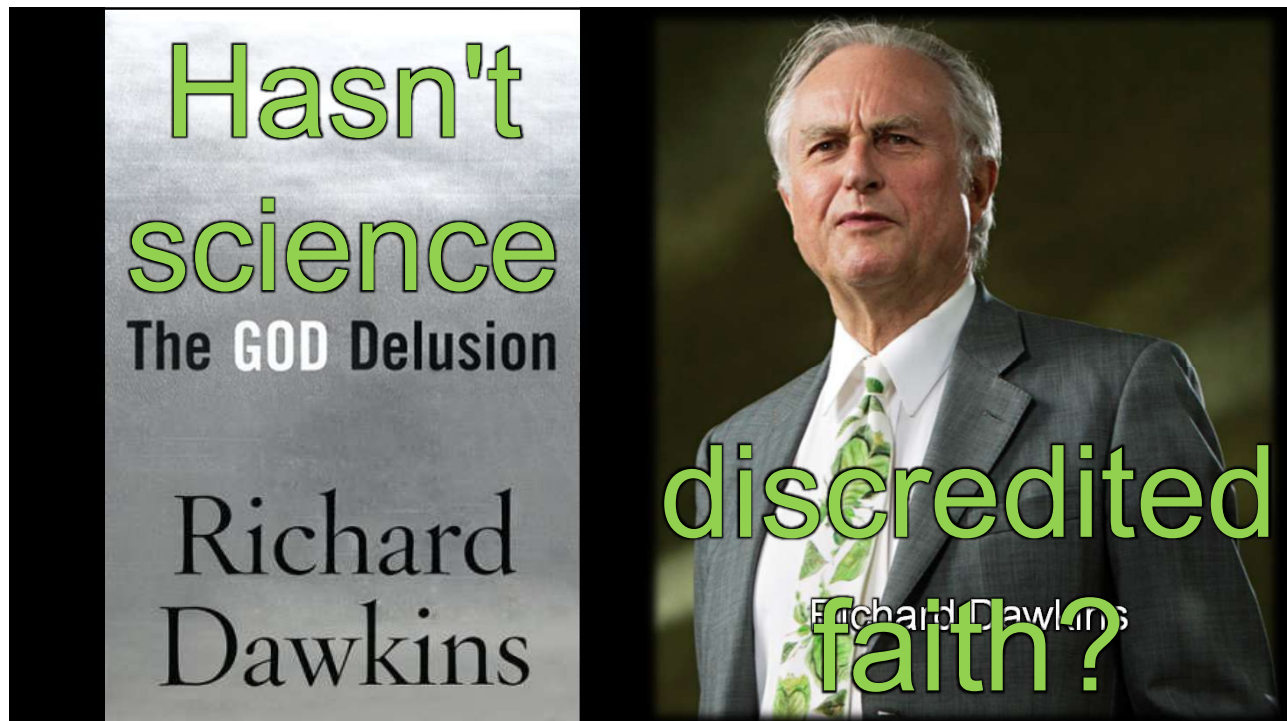
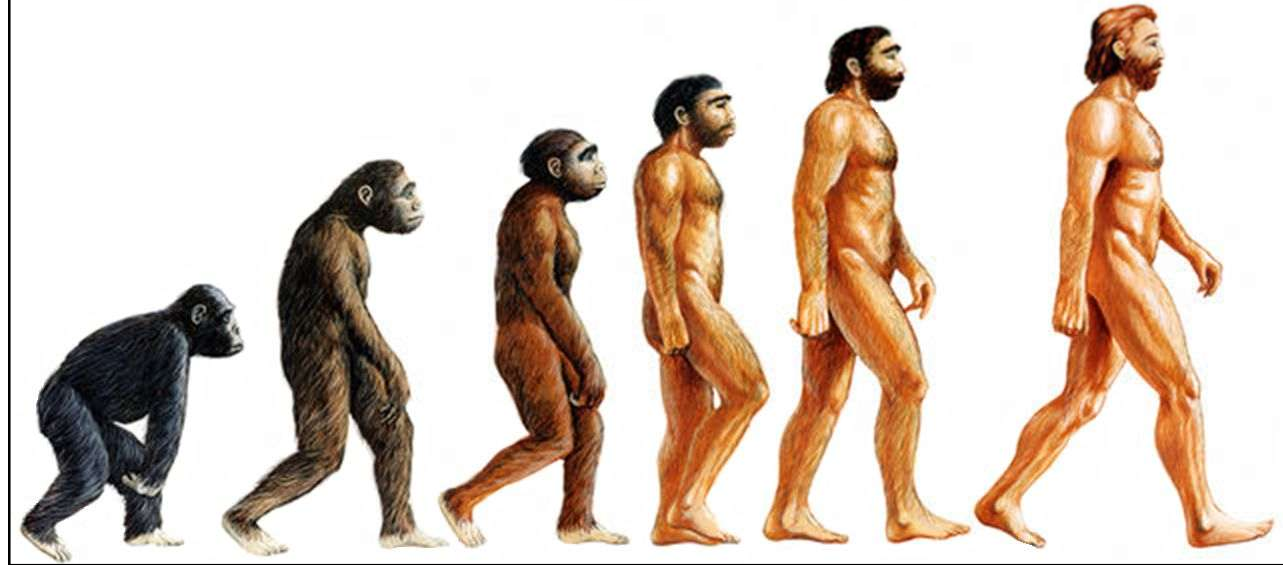
An open Bible is shown, with its pages slightly aged and yellowed. The text on the pages is in a classic serif font. Overlaid on the center of the Bible is a large, white, sans-serif text that reads: "How did the Bible come down to us today?". The text has a subtle drop shadow, making it stand out against the background of the Bible's pages. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the binding of the book.

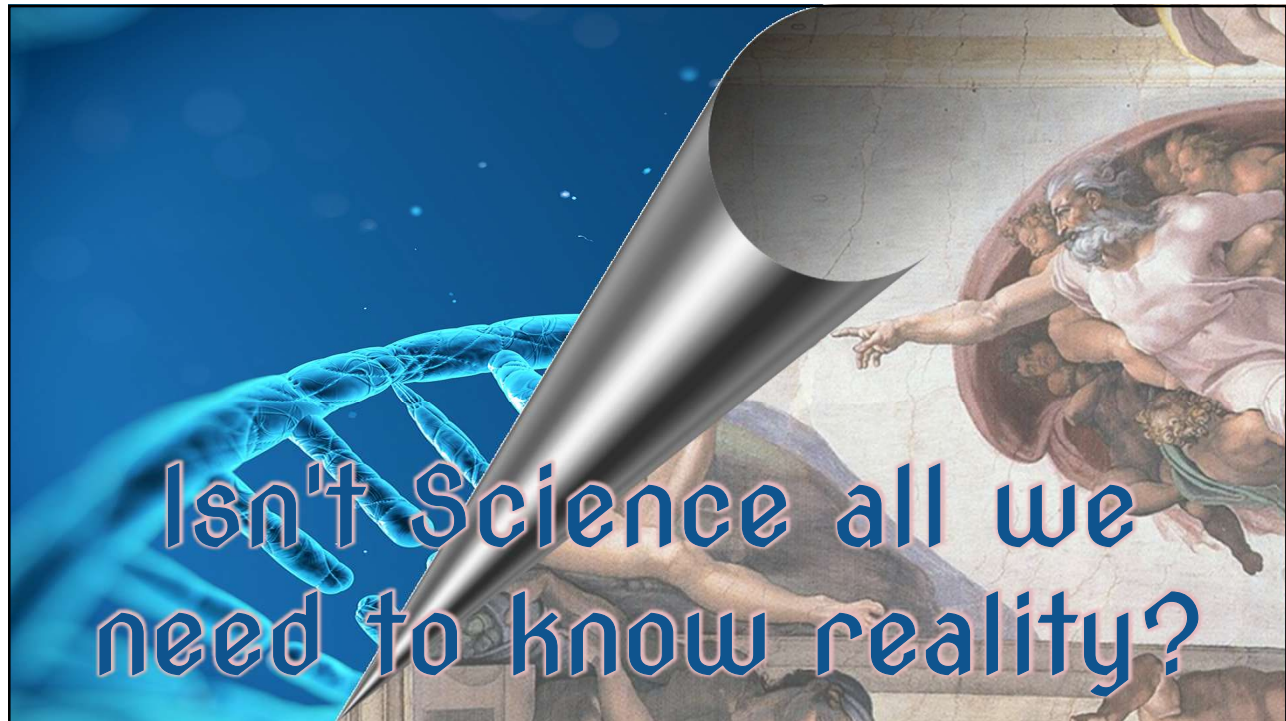
How did the Bible come down to us today?

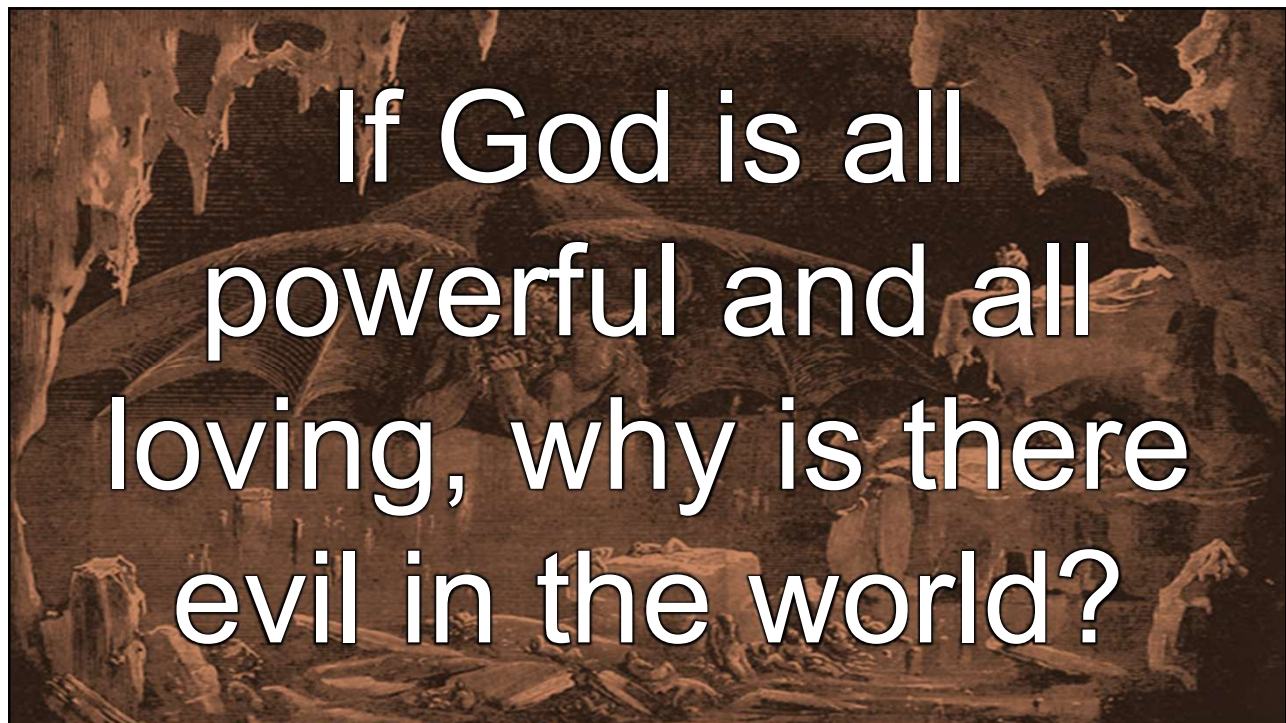




What about evolution?









Why Should We Do Apologetics?

***The Bible is clear
about defending the faith.***

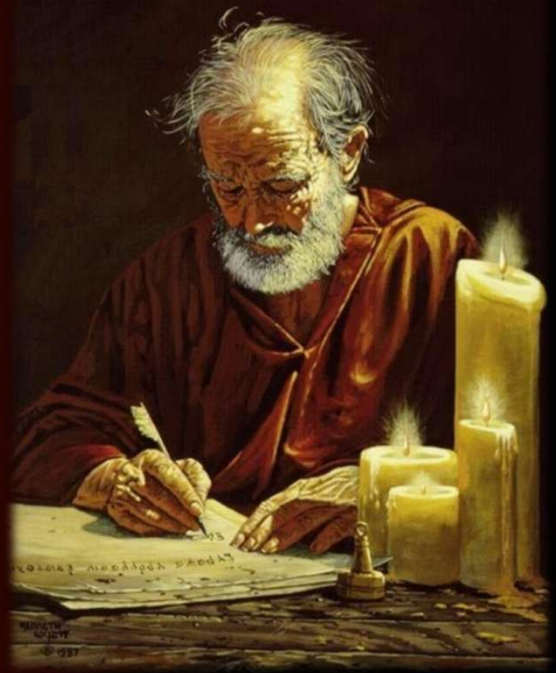
***The apostles engaged
in defending the faith.***

***The evidence is strong
for defending the faith.***

*The Bible is clear
about defending
the faith.*

*Beloved, while I was very
diligent to write to you concerning
our common salvation, I found it
necessary to write to you
exhorting you to contend earnestly
for the faith which was once for
all delivered to the saints.*

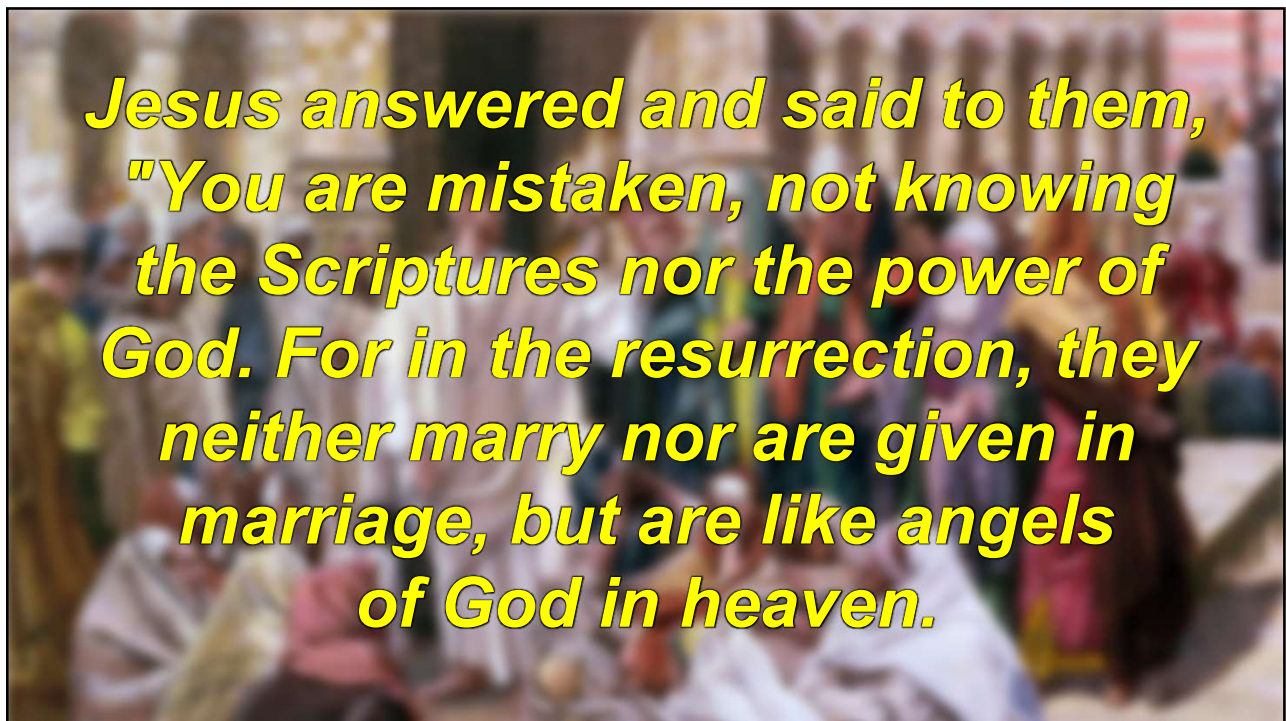
Jude 3



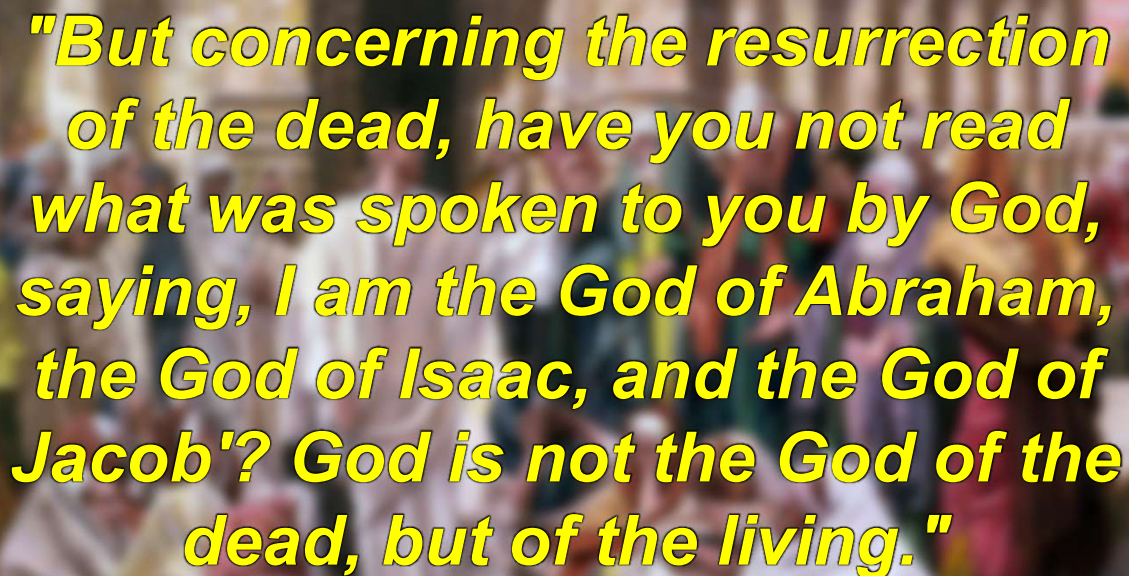


"For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, whose mouths must be stopped,"

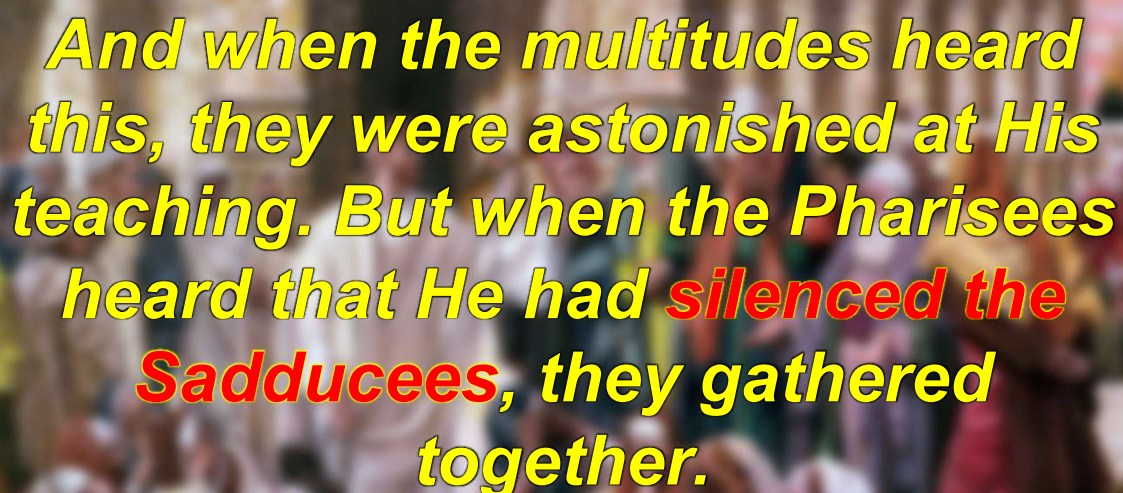
Titus 1:10-11a
(cf. Matthew 22:29-34)



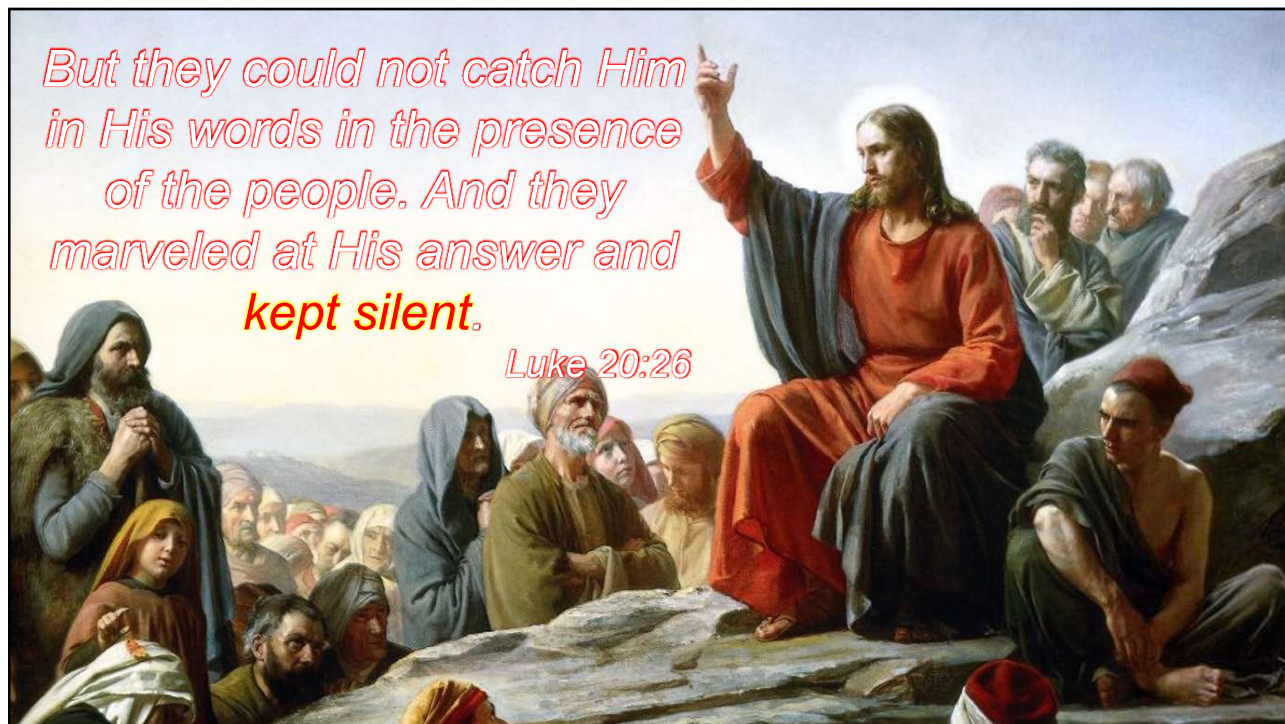
Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. For in the resurrection, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven."



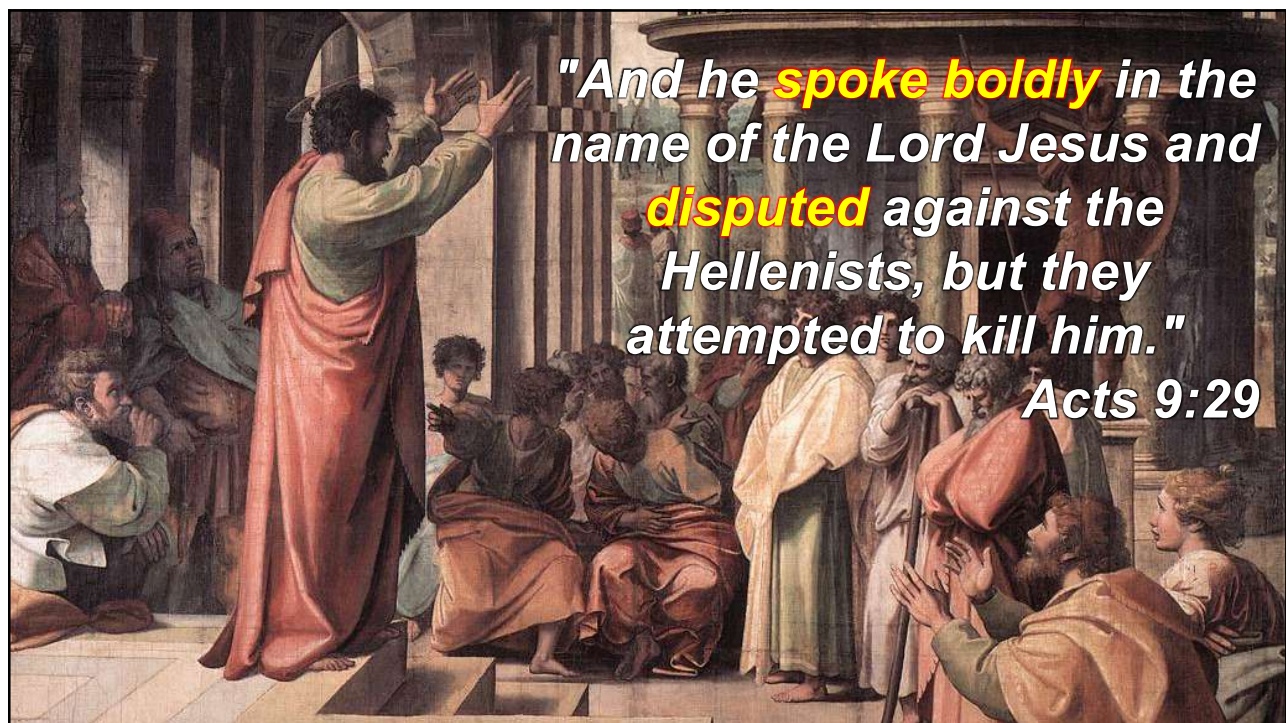
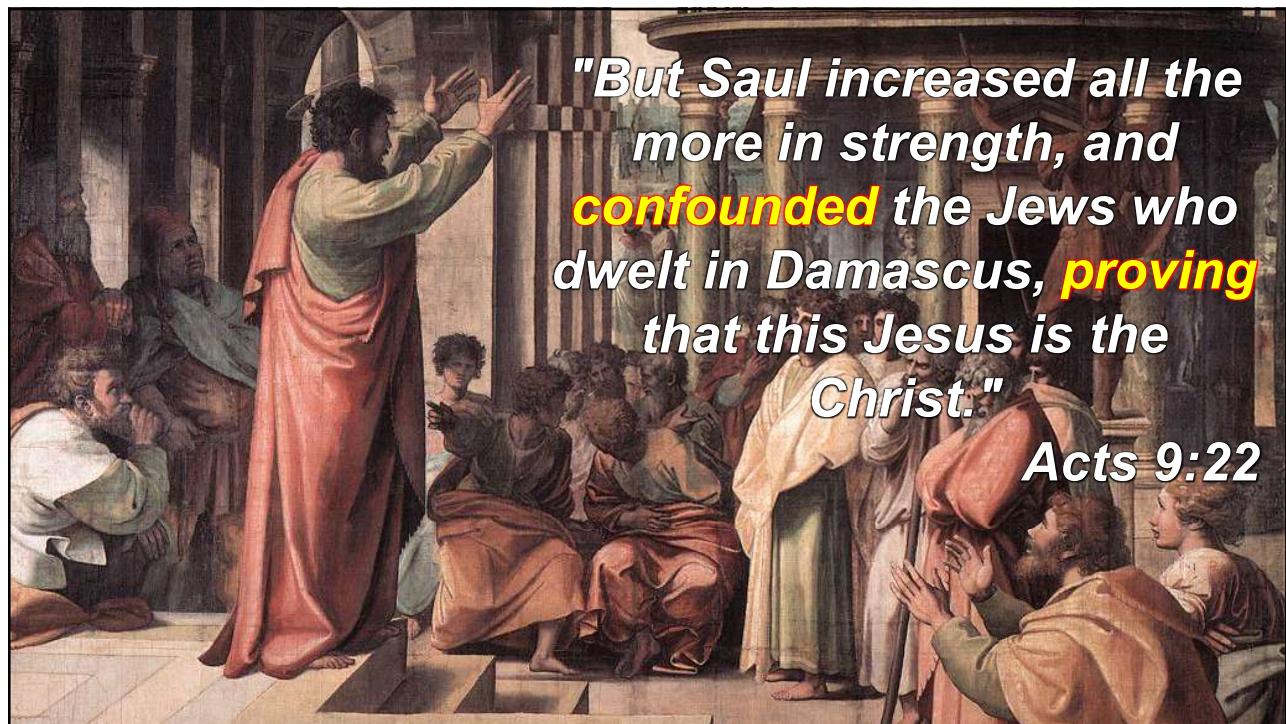
"But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying, I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living."

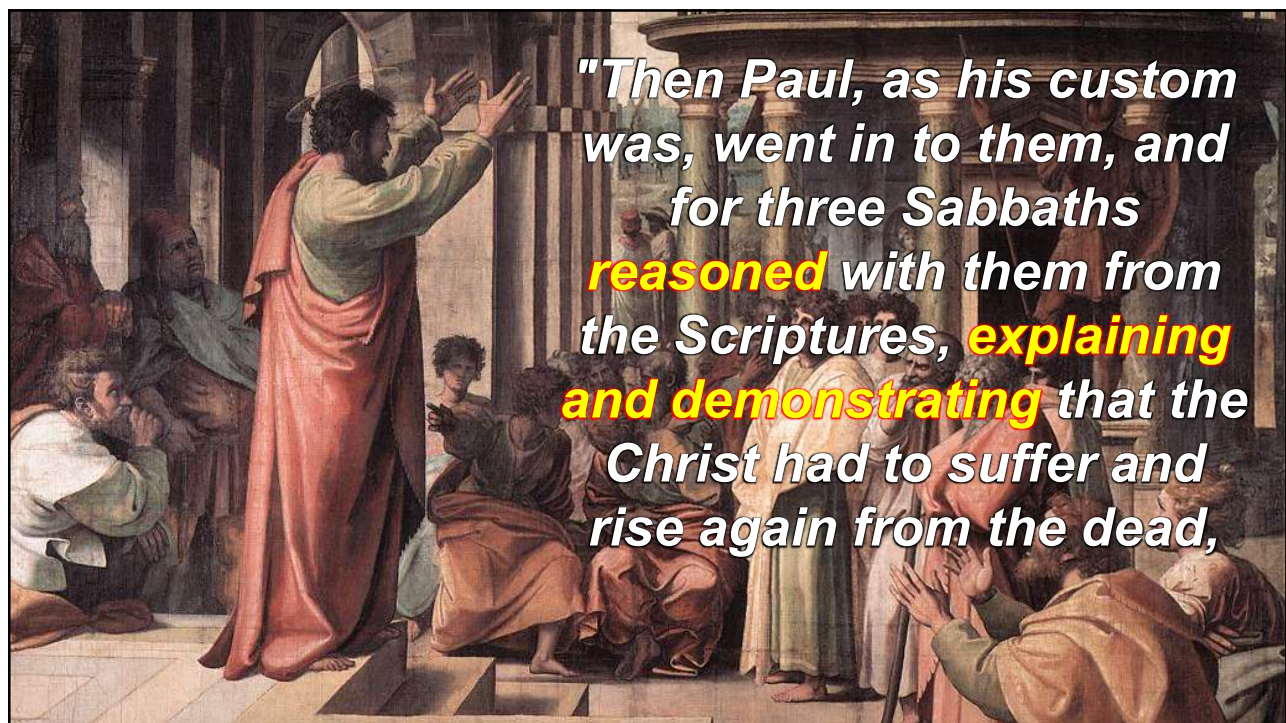
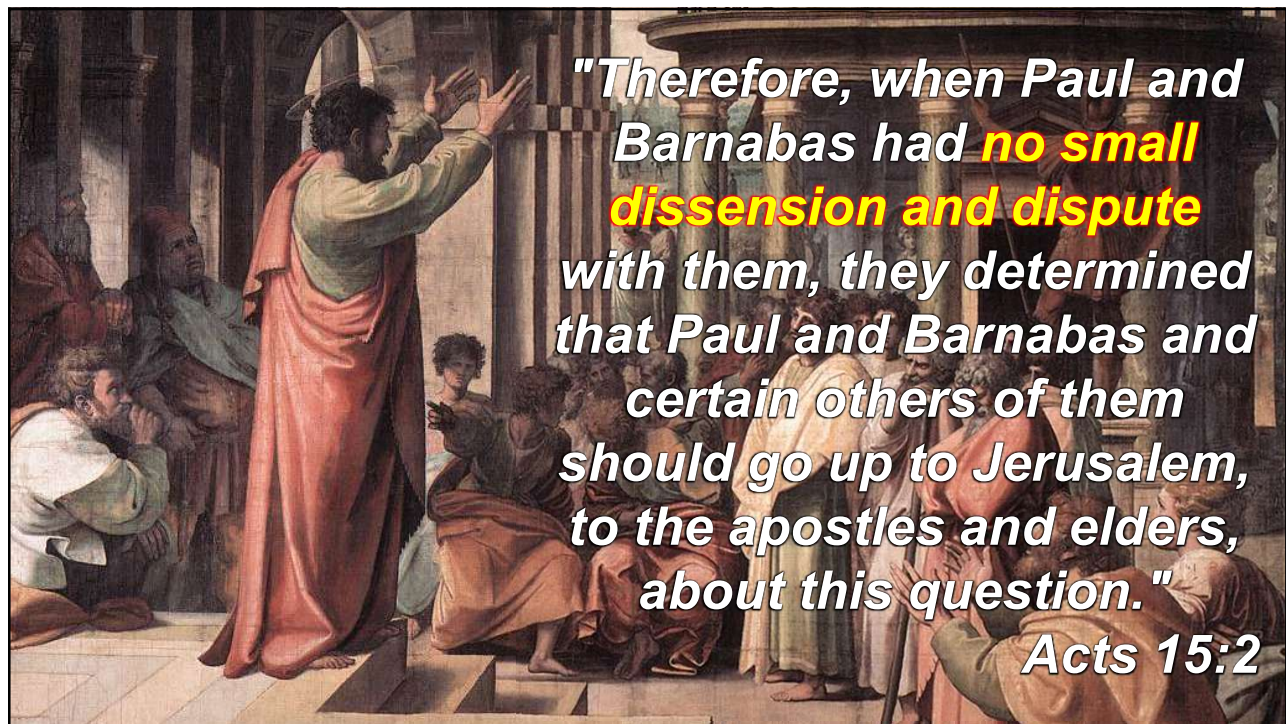


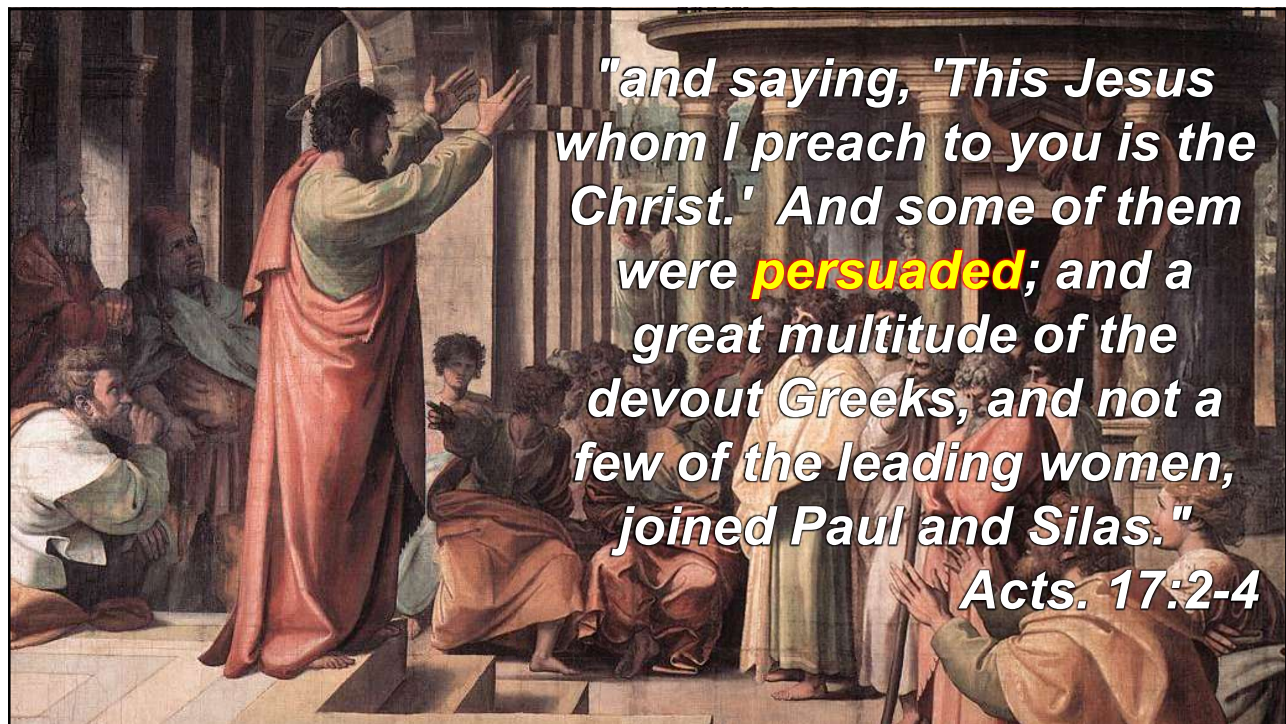
And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching. But when the Pharisees heard that He had **silenced the Sadducees**, they gathered together.



***The apostles engaged
in defending
the faith.***

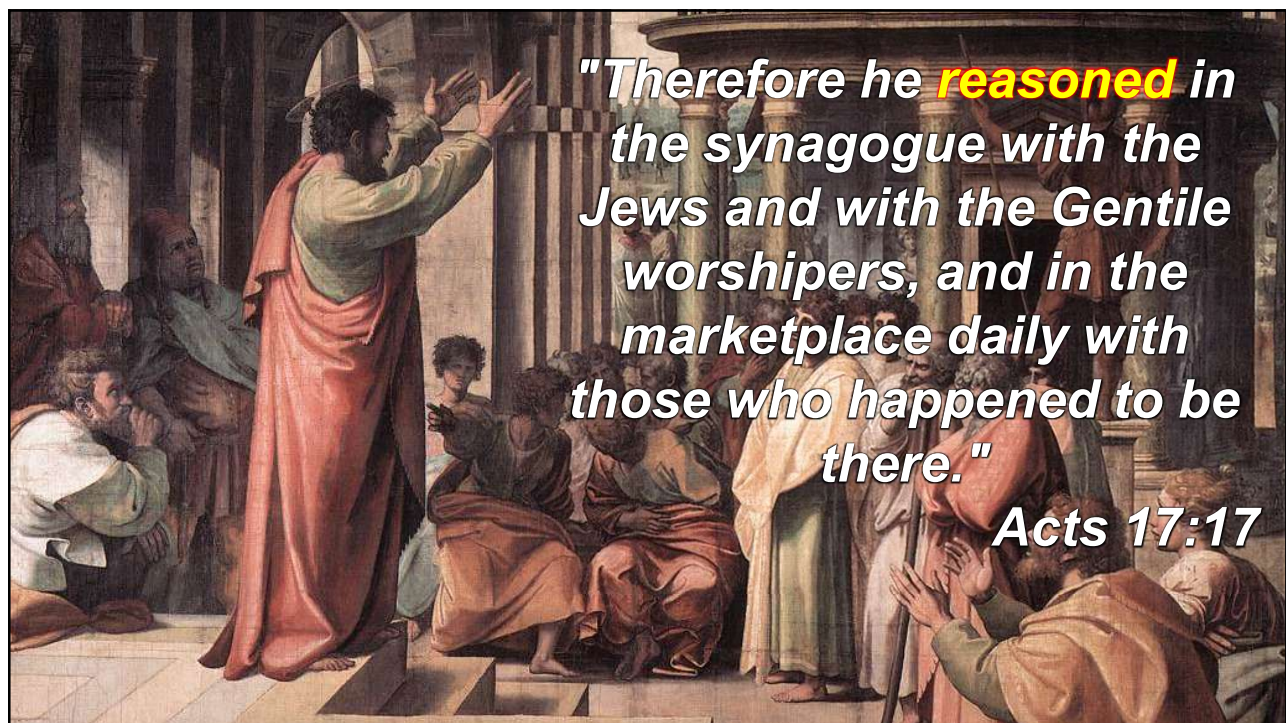






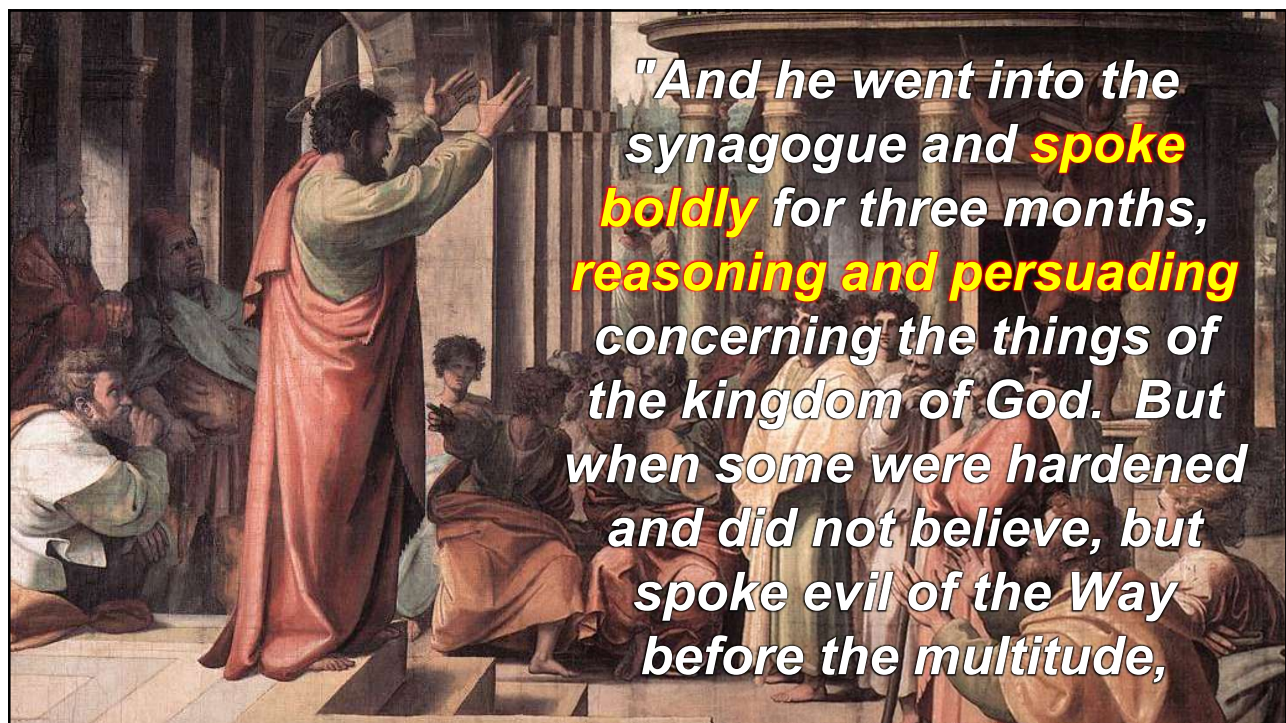
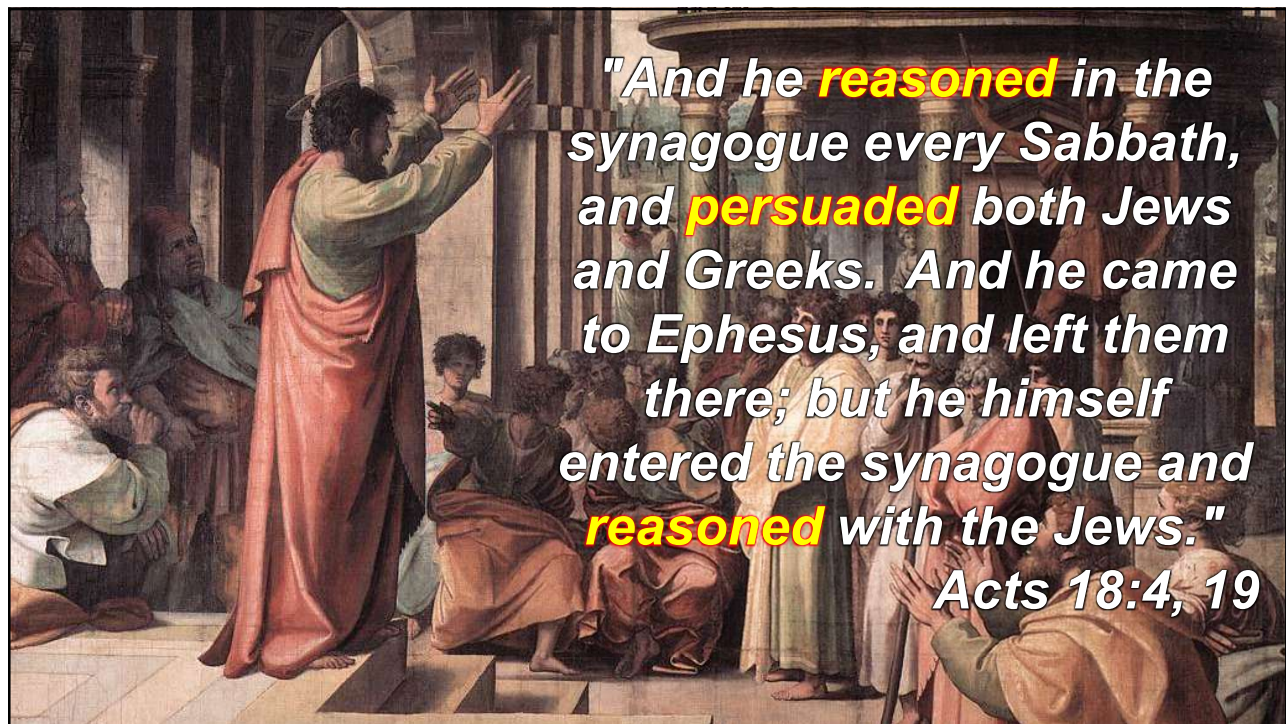
*"and saying, 'This Jesus whom I preach to you is the Christ.' And some of them were **persuaded**; and a great multitude of the devout Greeks, and not a few of the leading women, joined Paul and Silas."*

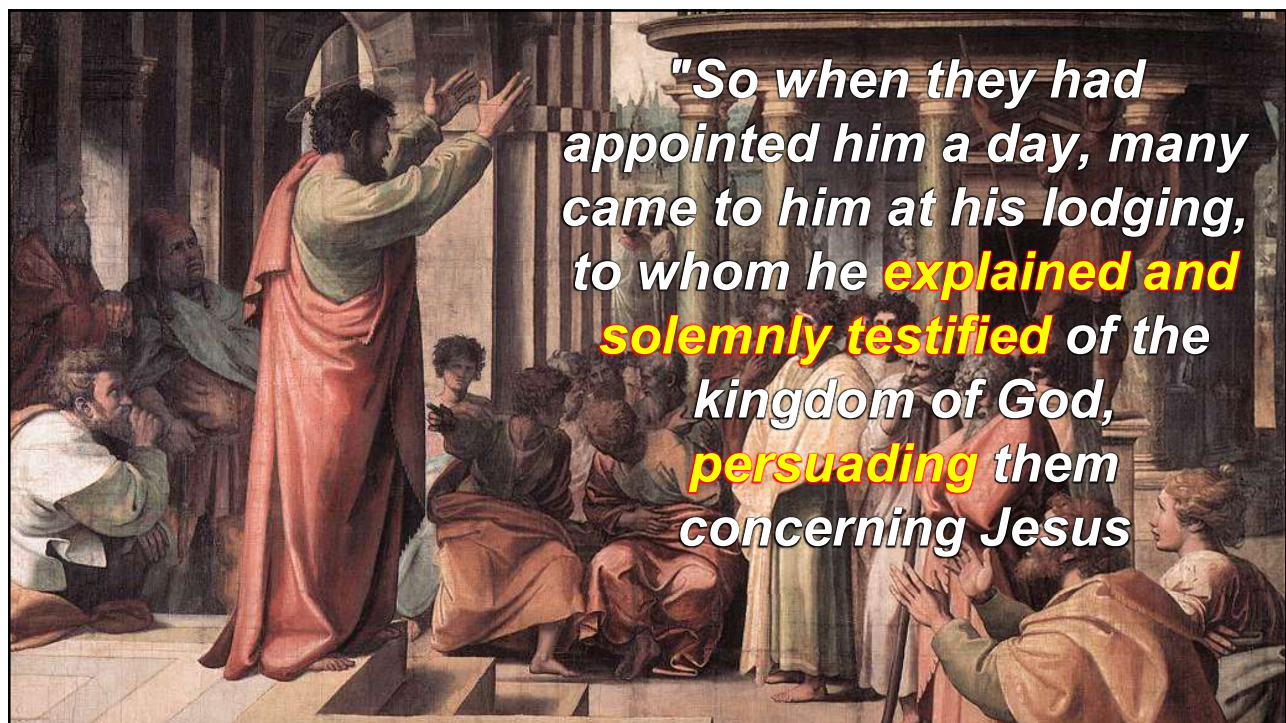
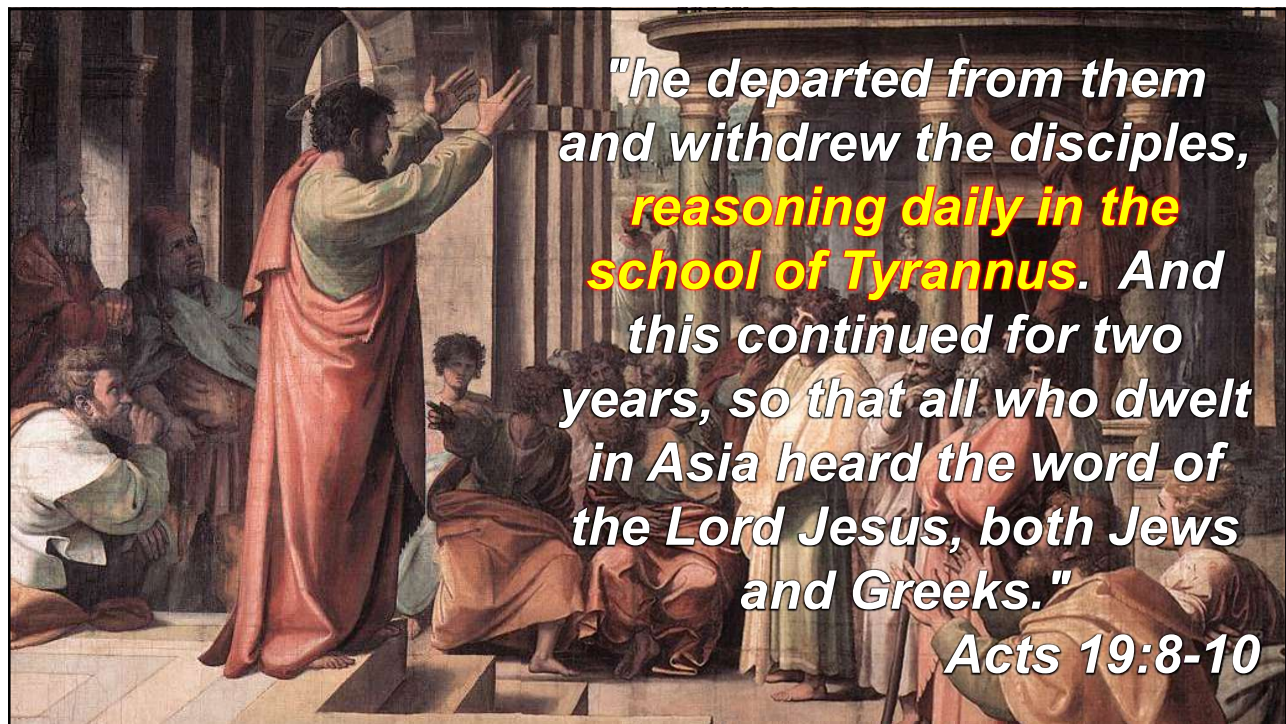
Acts. 17:2-4

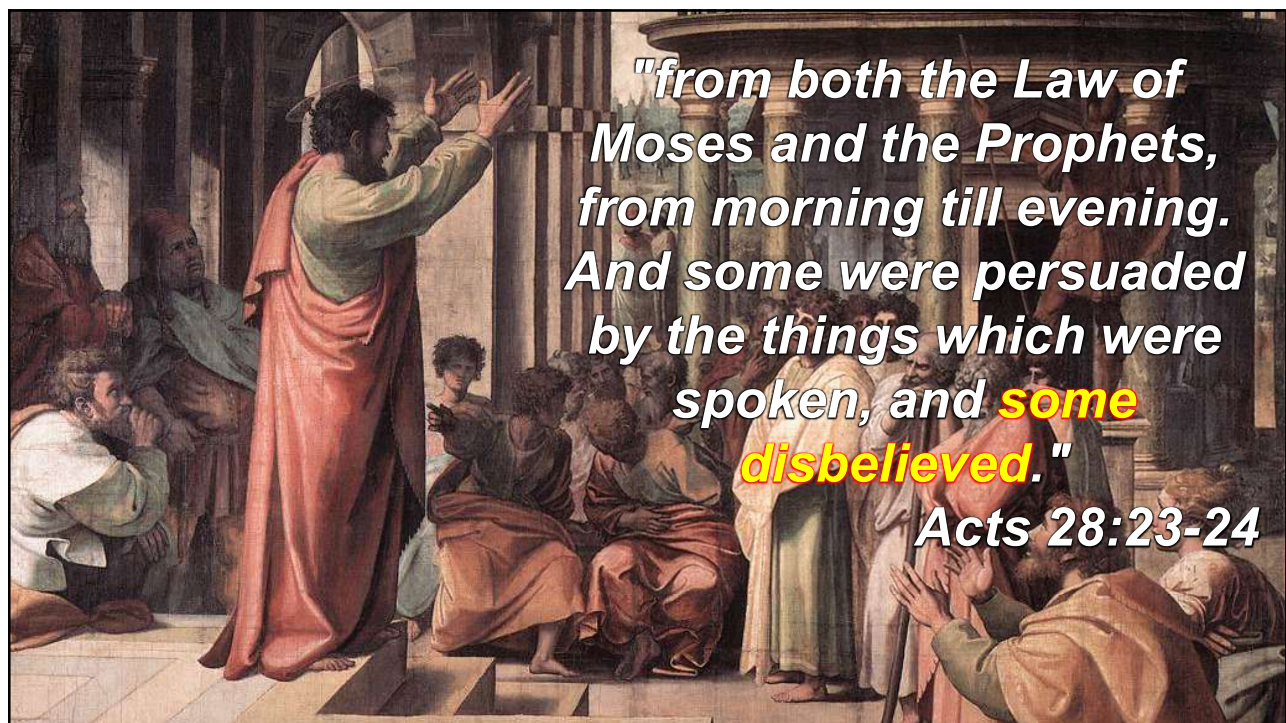
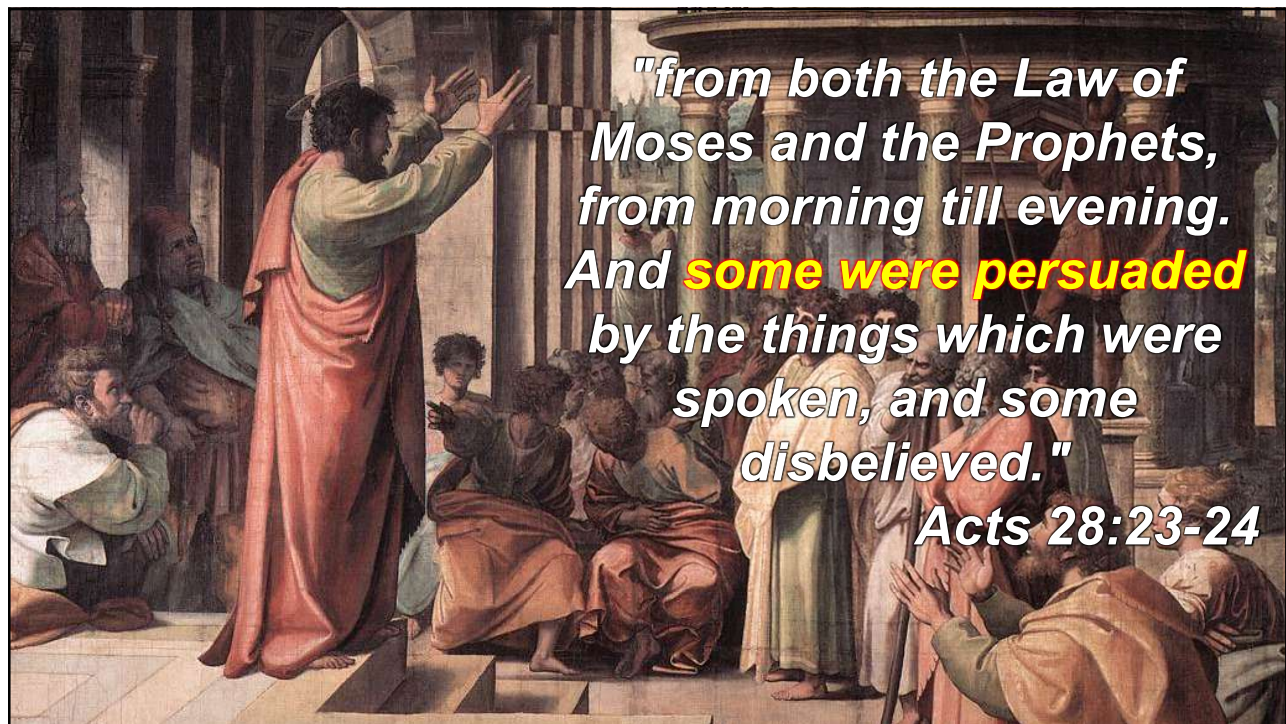


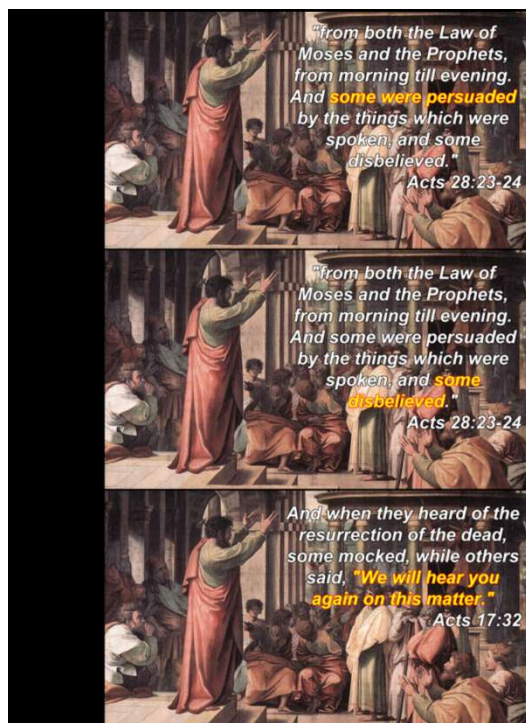
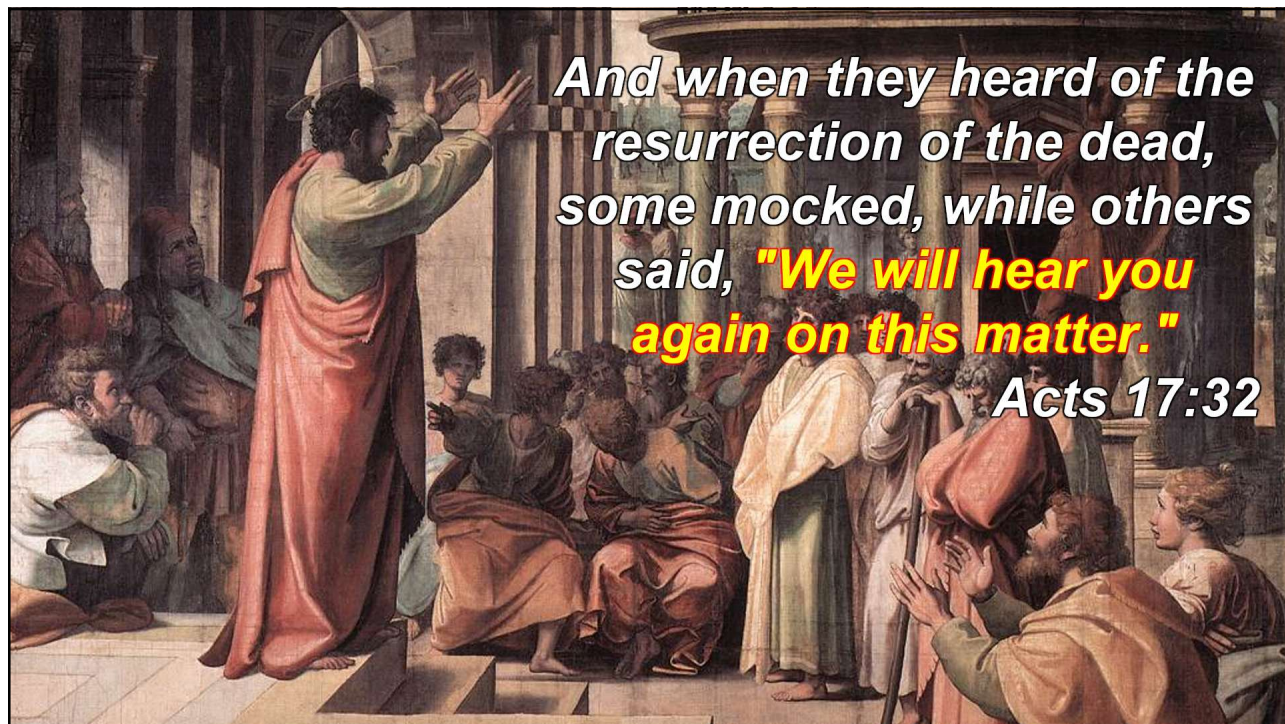
*"Therefore he **reasoned** in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there."*

Acts 17:17









Notice the three different responses to Paul's preaching and apologetics.

I submit that we should expect the same responses.

In other words, we will not win every argument!

***The evidence is strong
for defending
the faith.***

***Christianity is
supported by philosophy.***

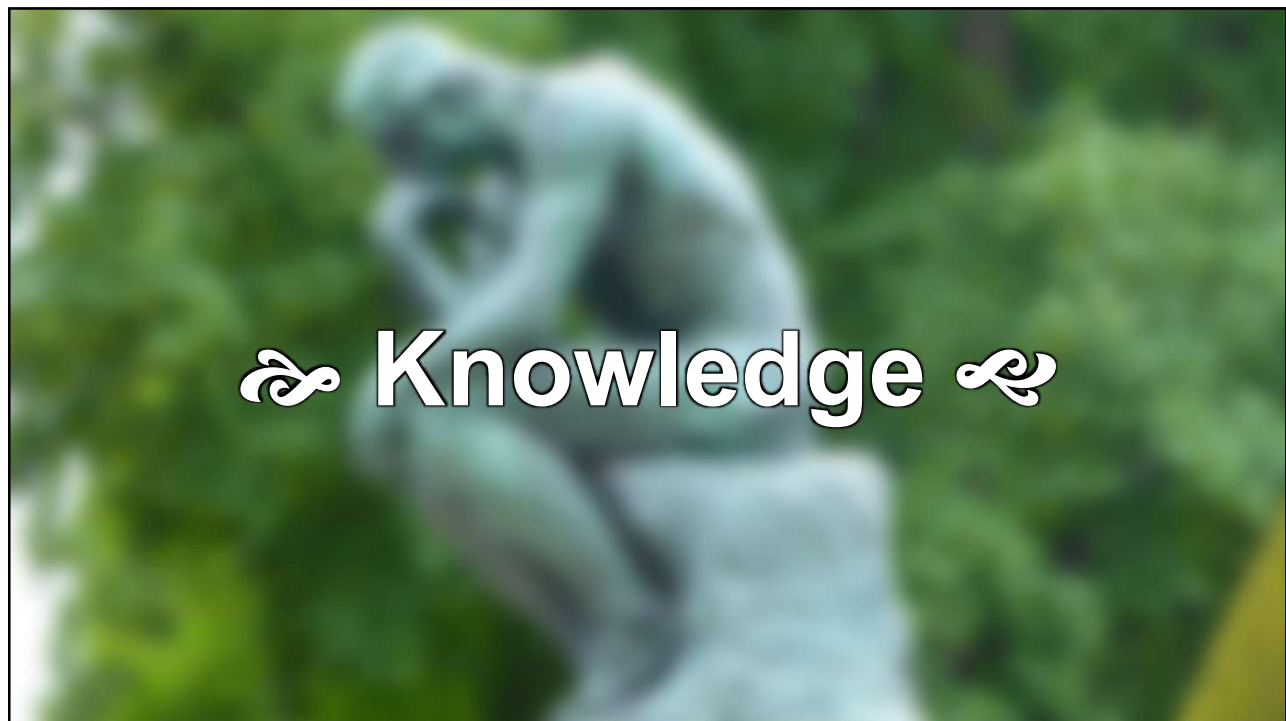
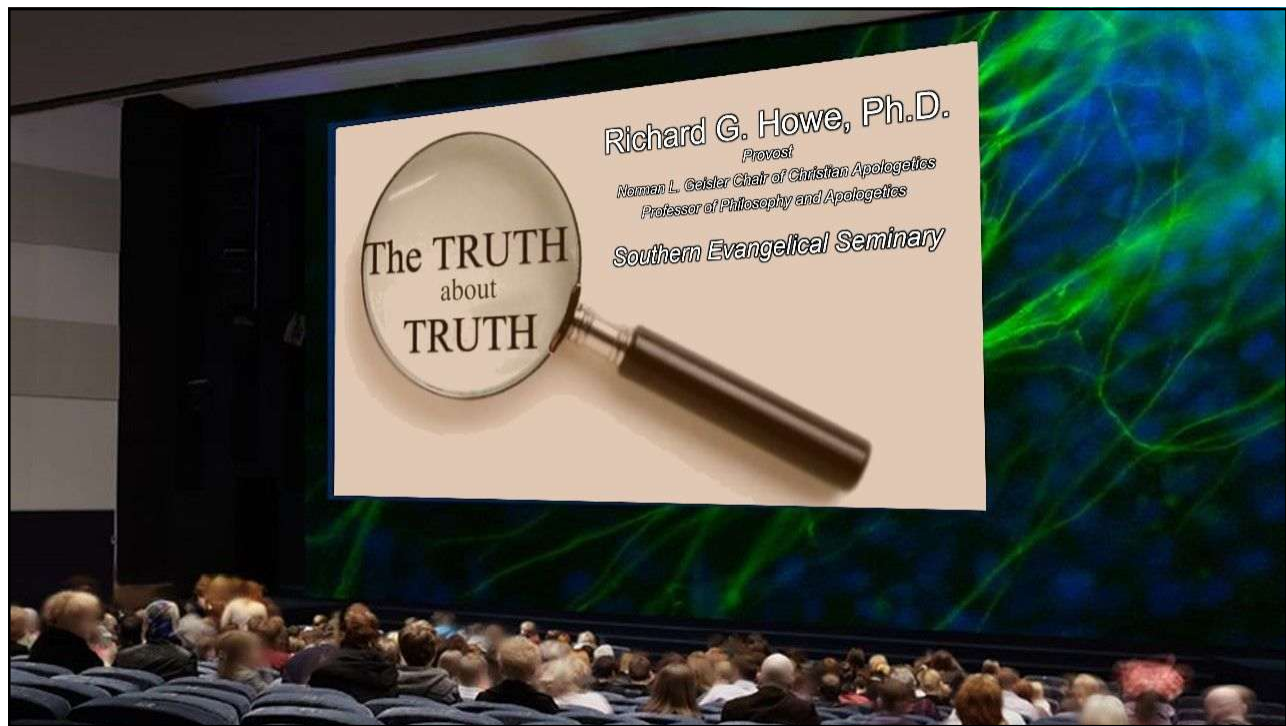
***Christianity is
grounded in history.***

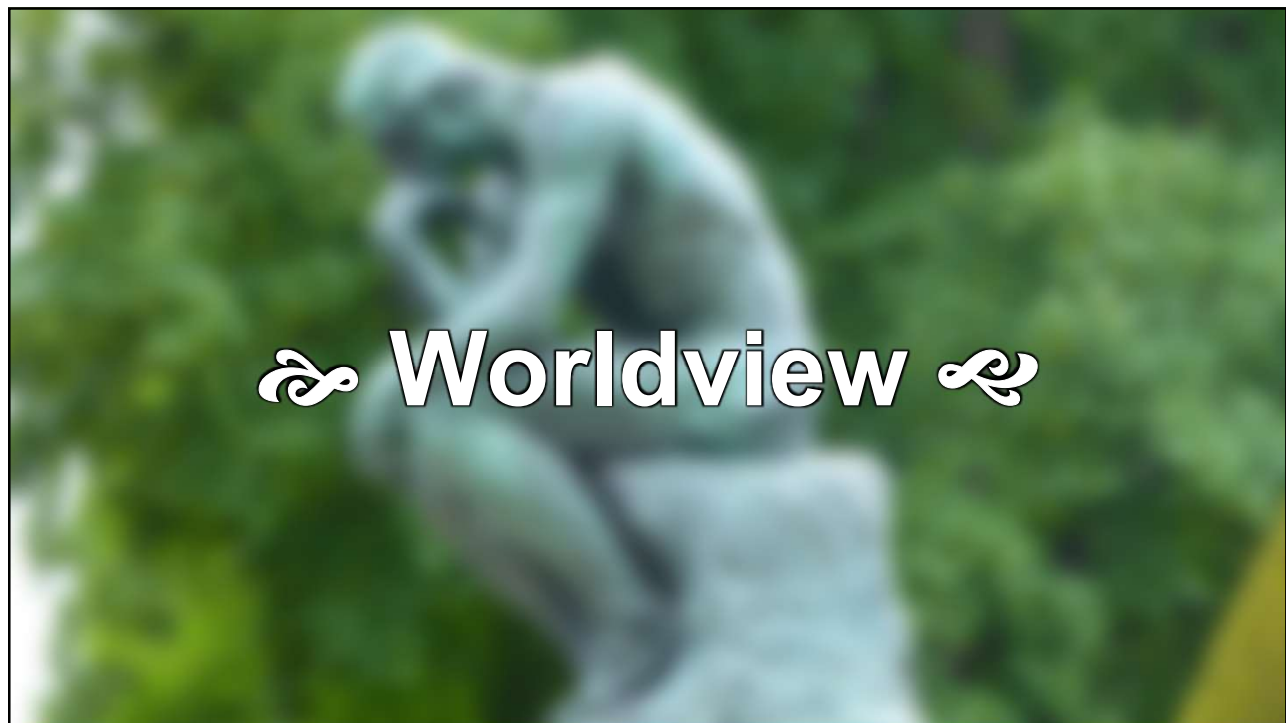
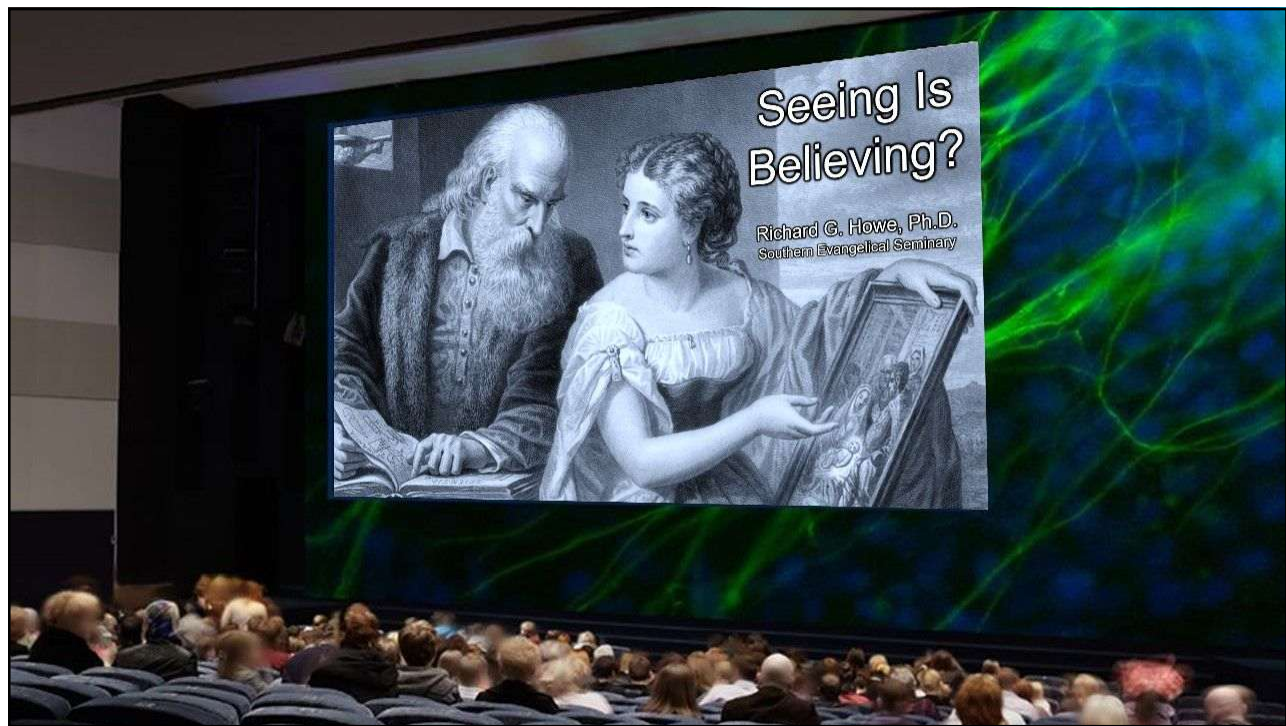
***Christianity is
corroborated by science.***

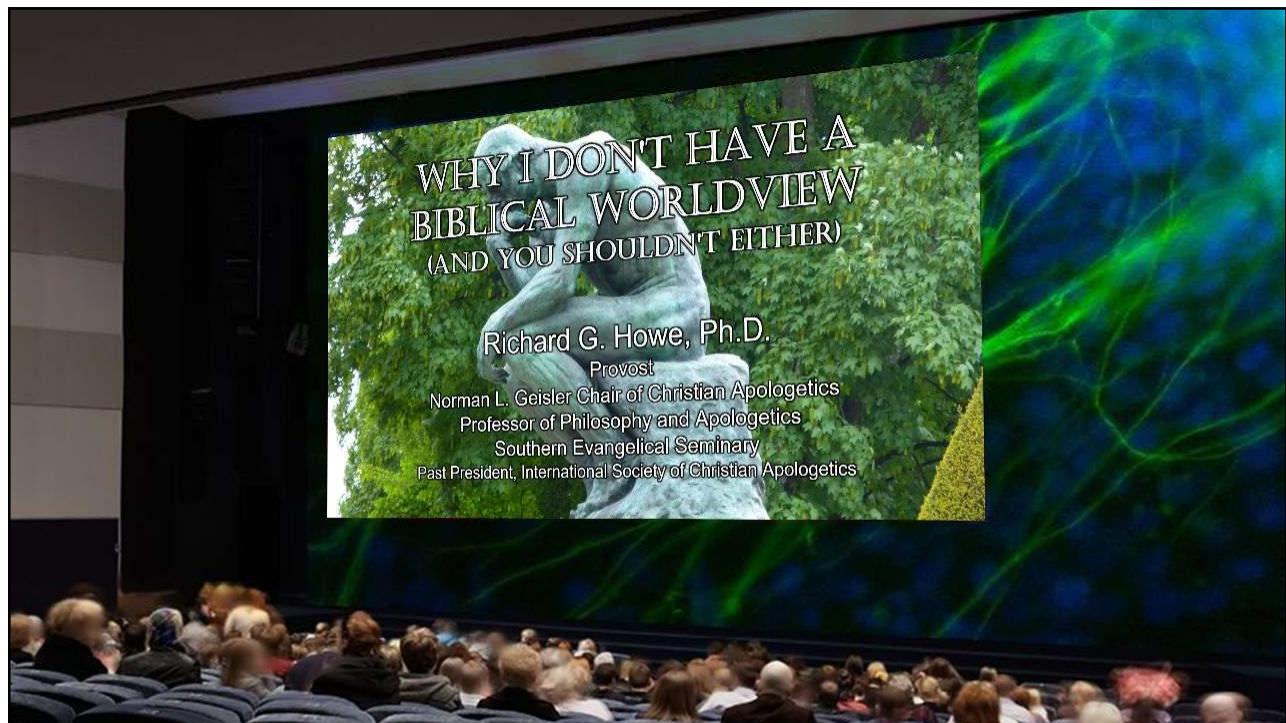
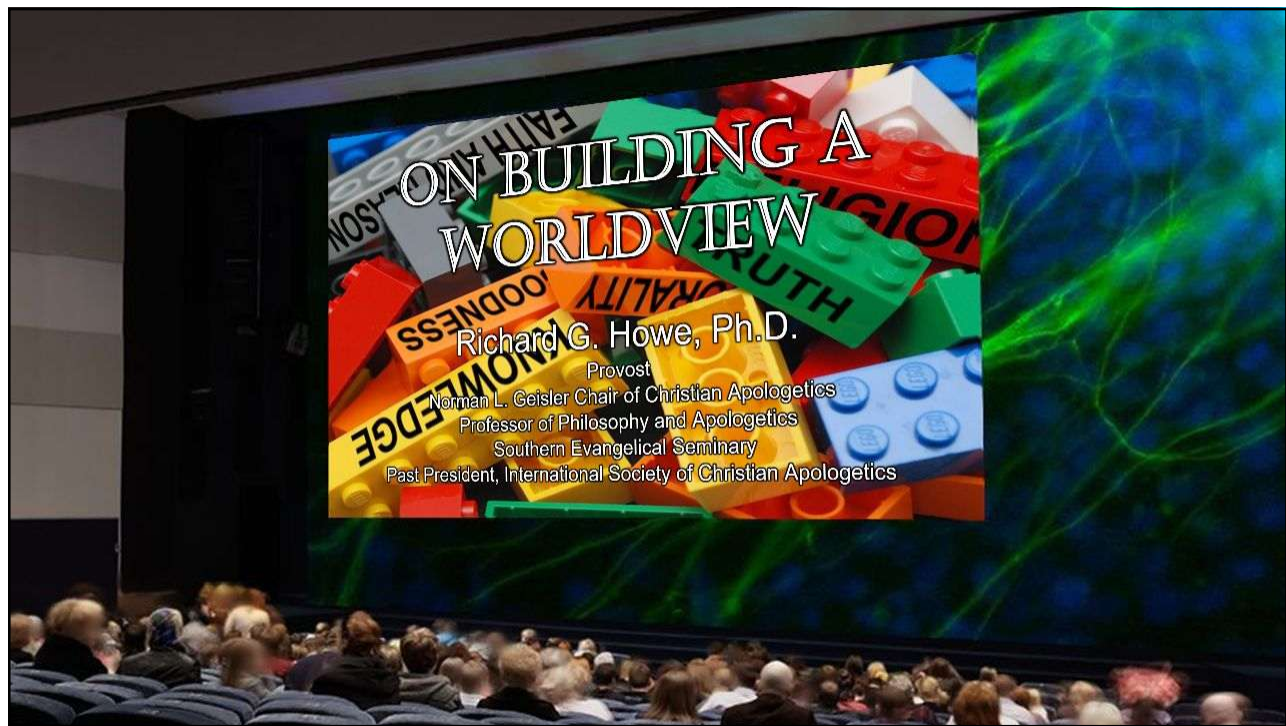
*Christianity is
supported by
philosophy.*

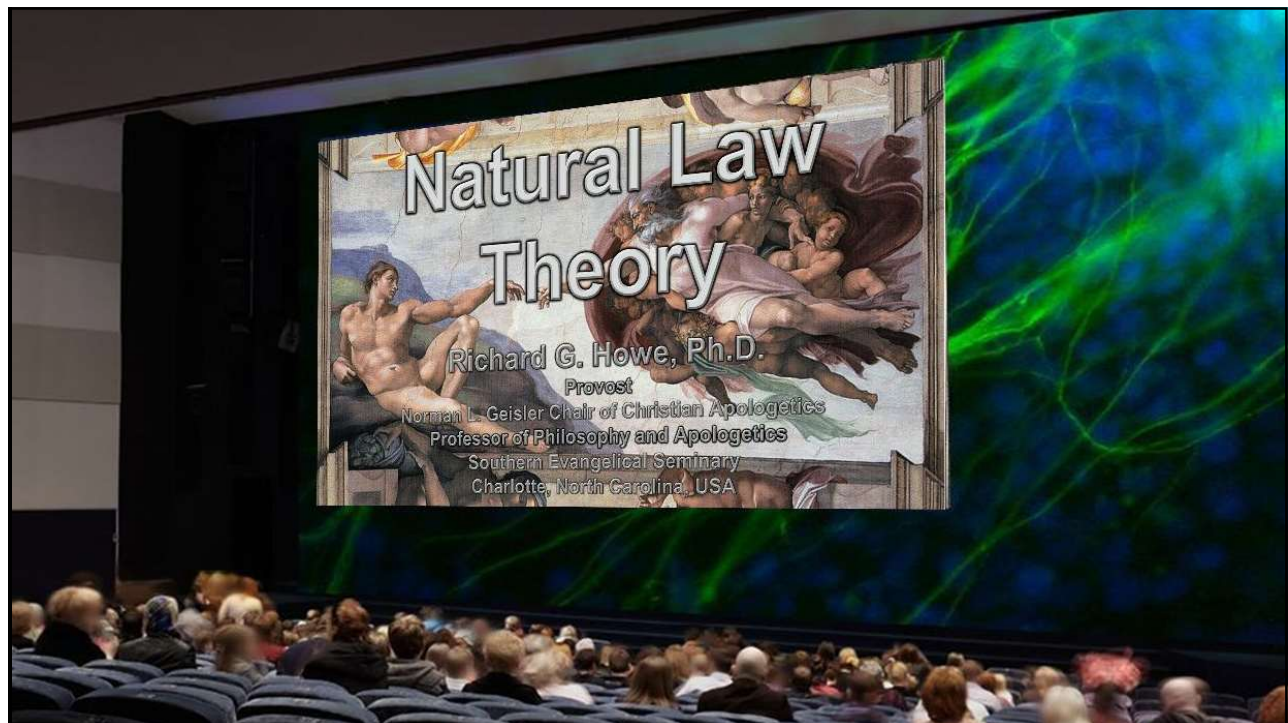


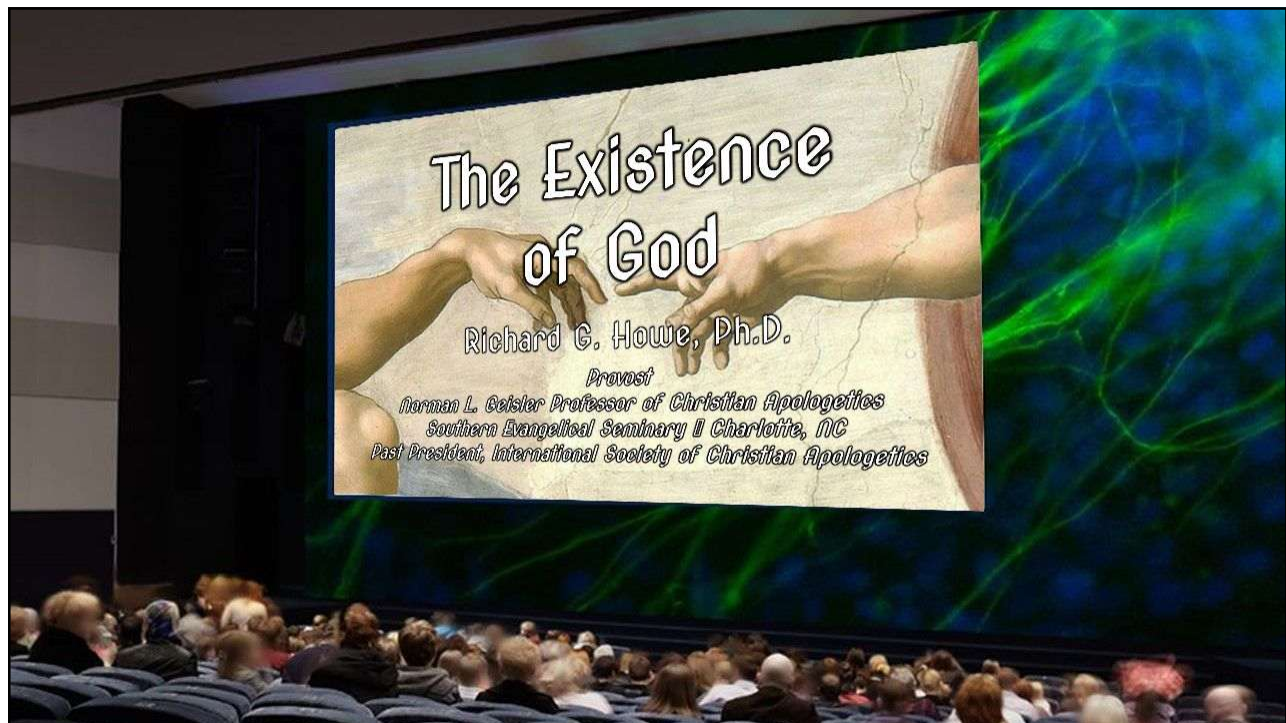
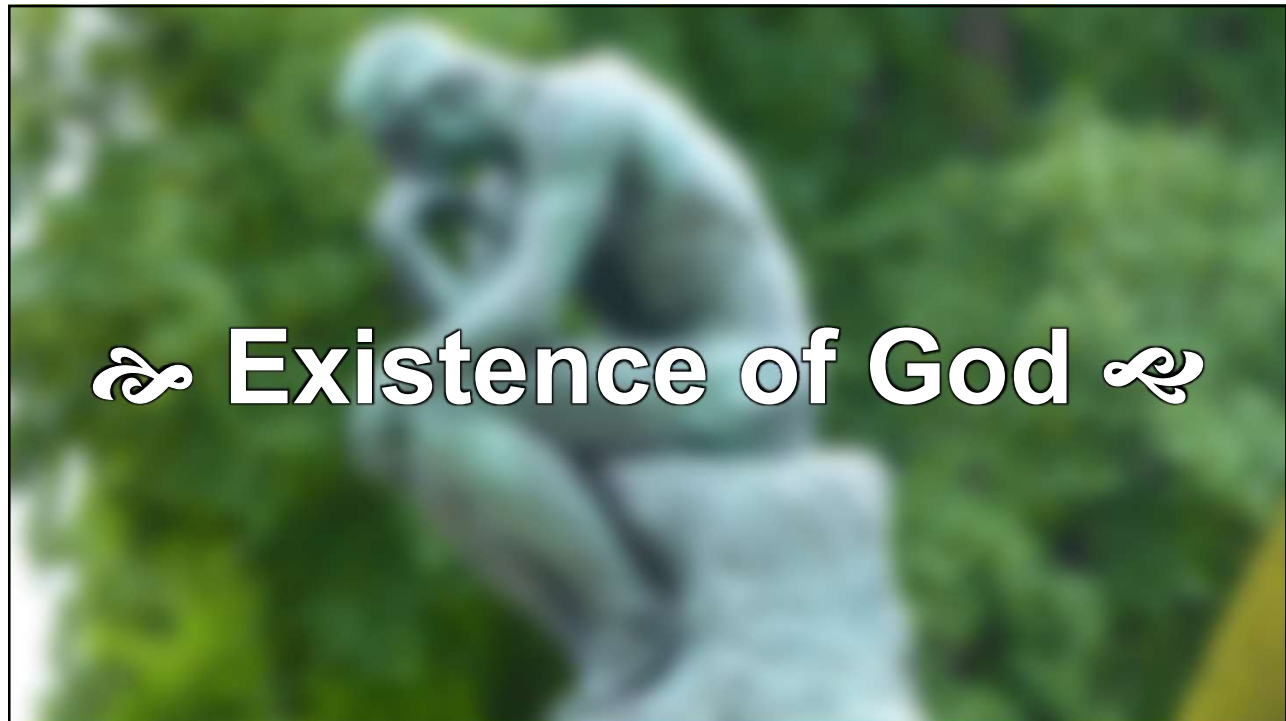
∞ Truth ∞

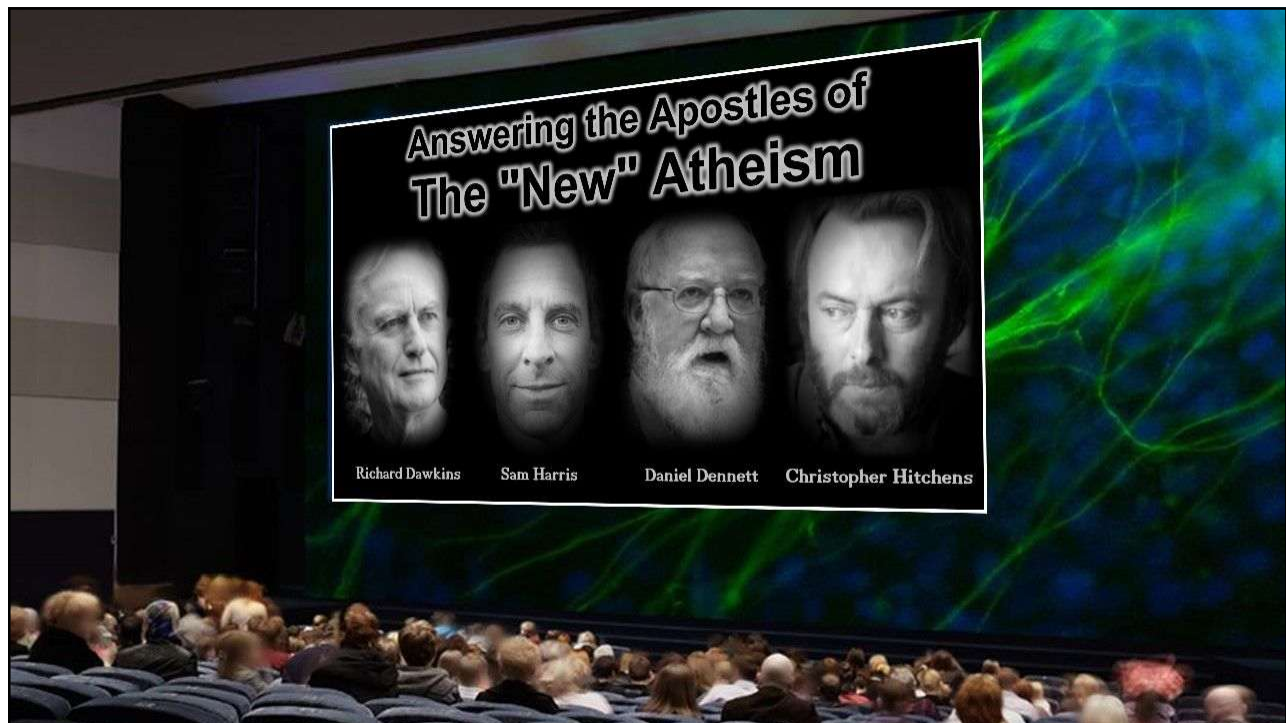
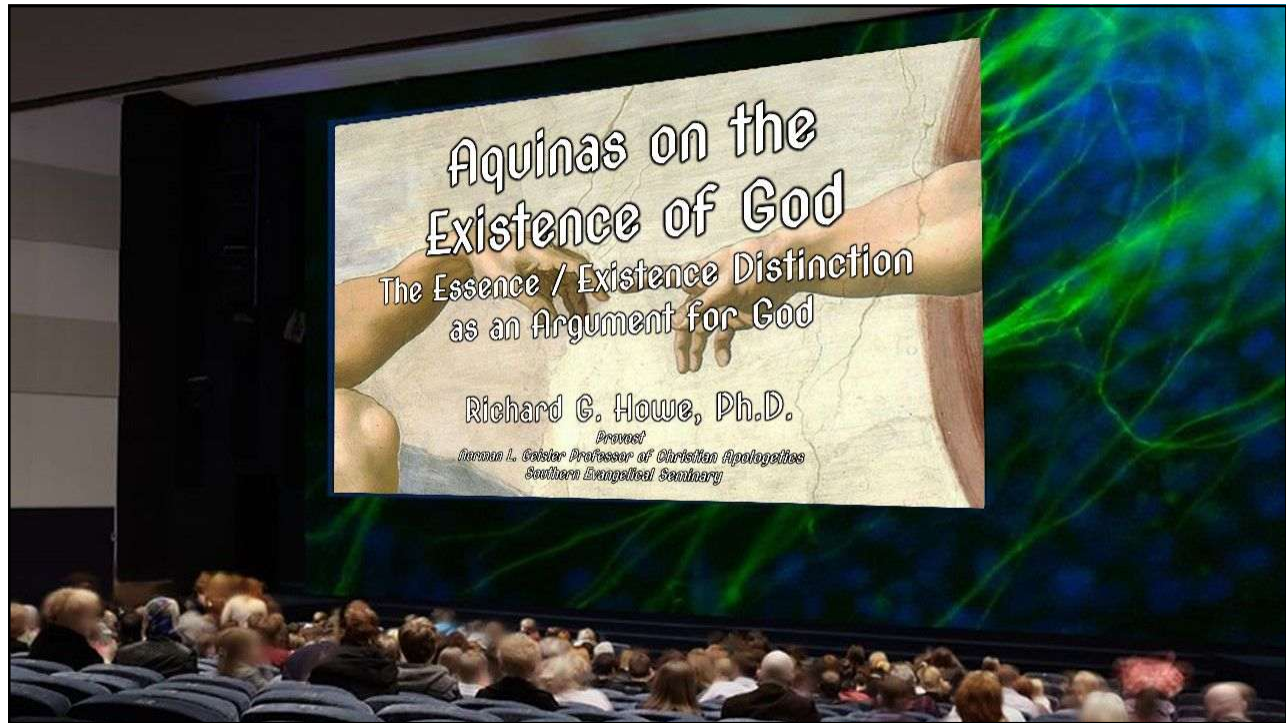


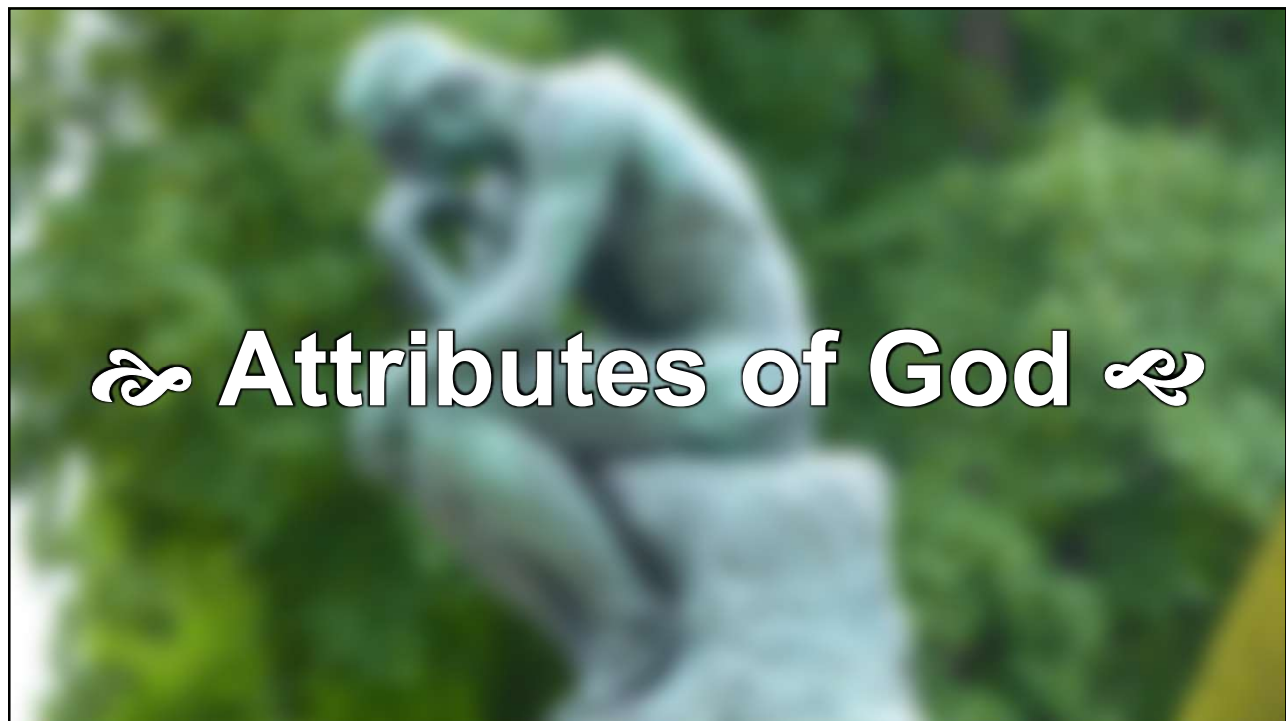
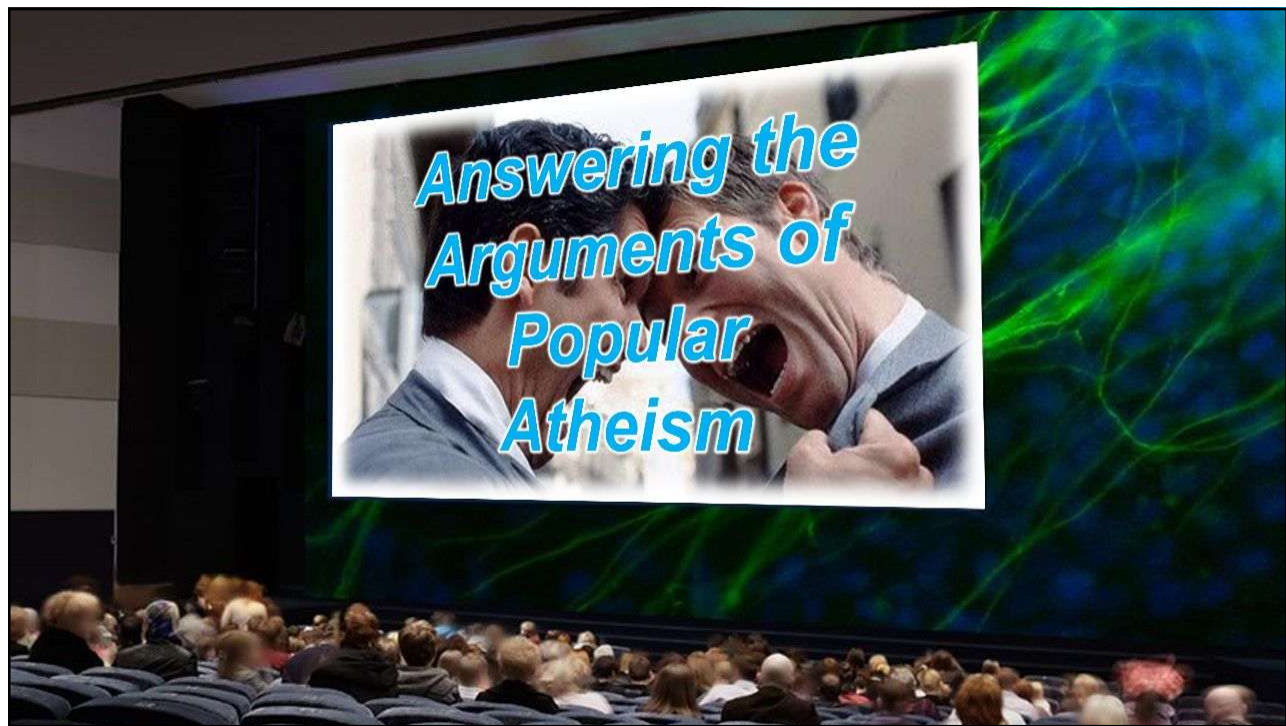


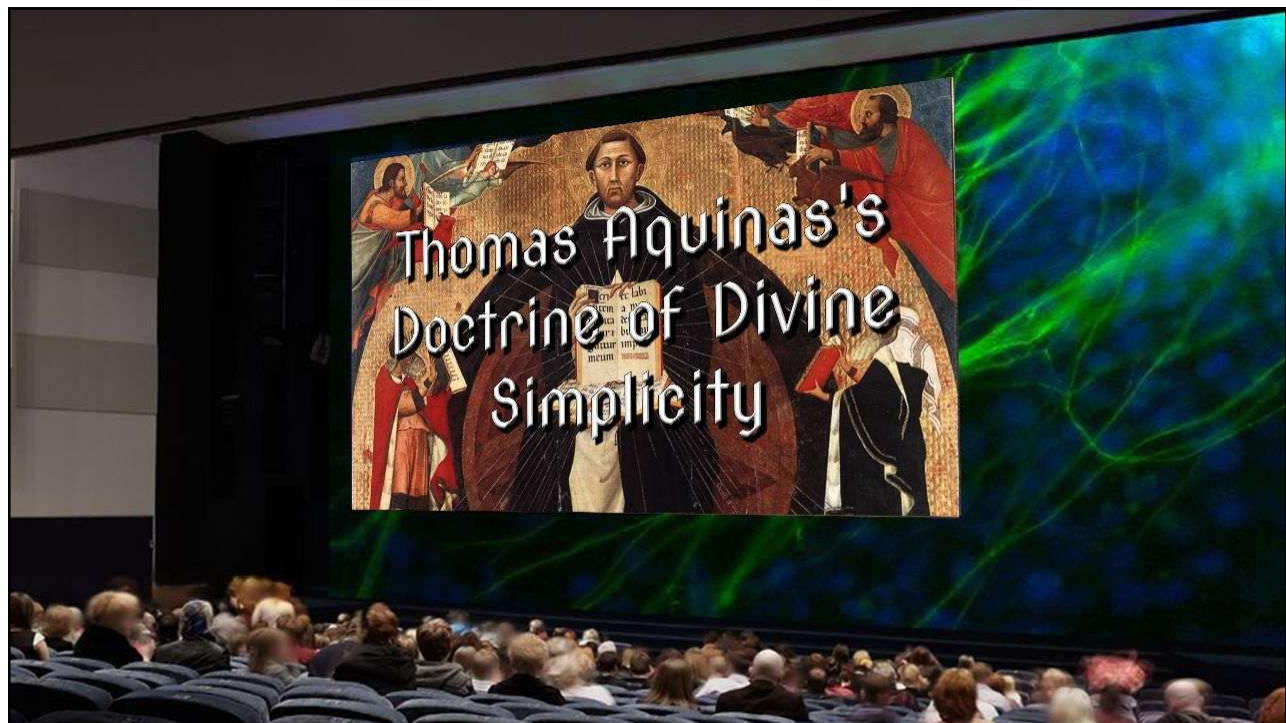
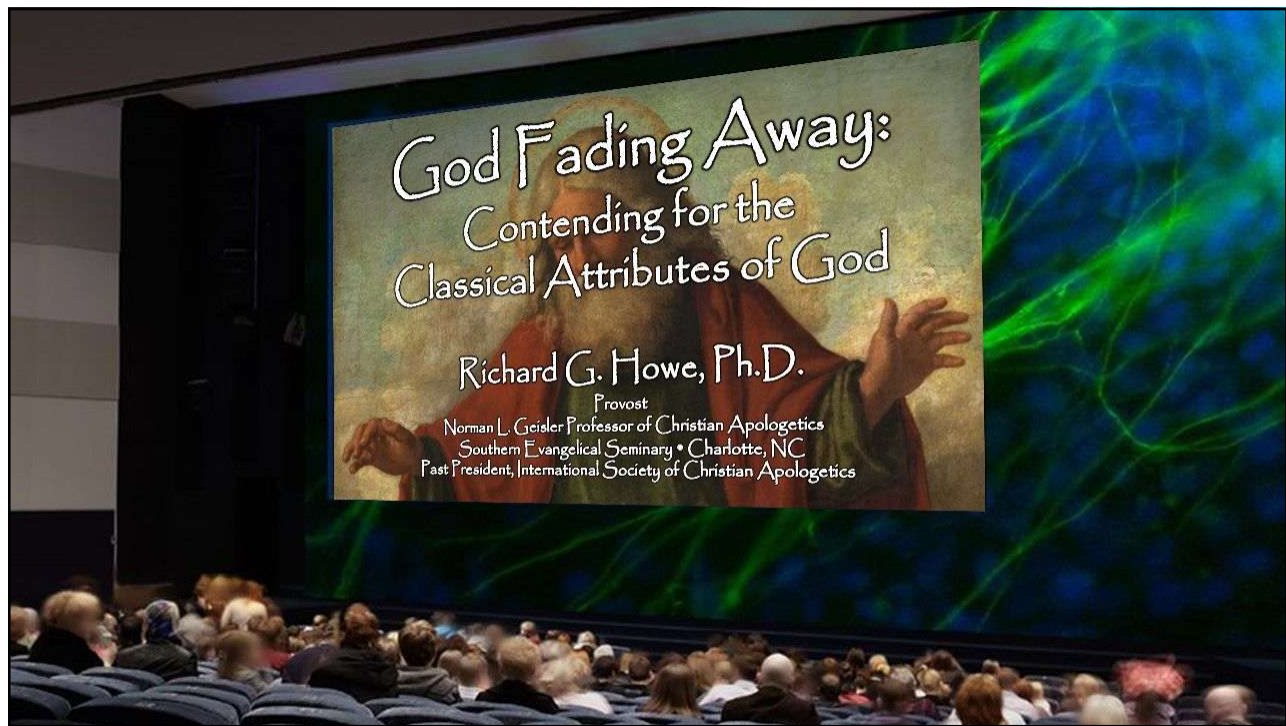


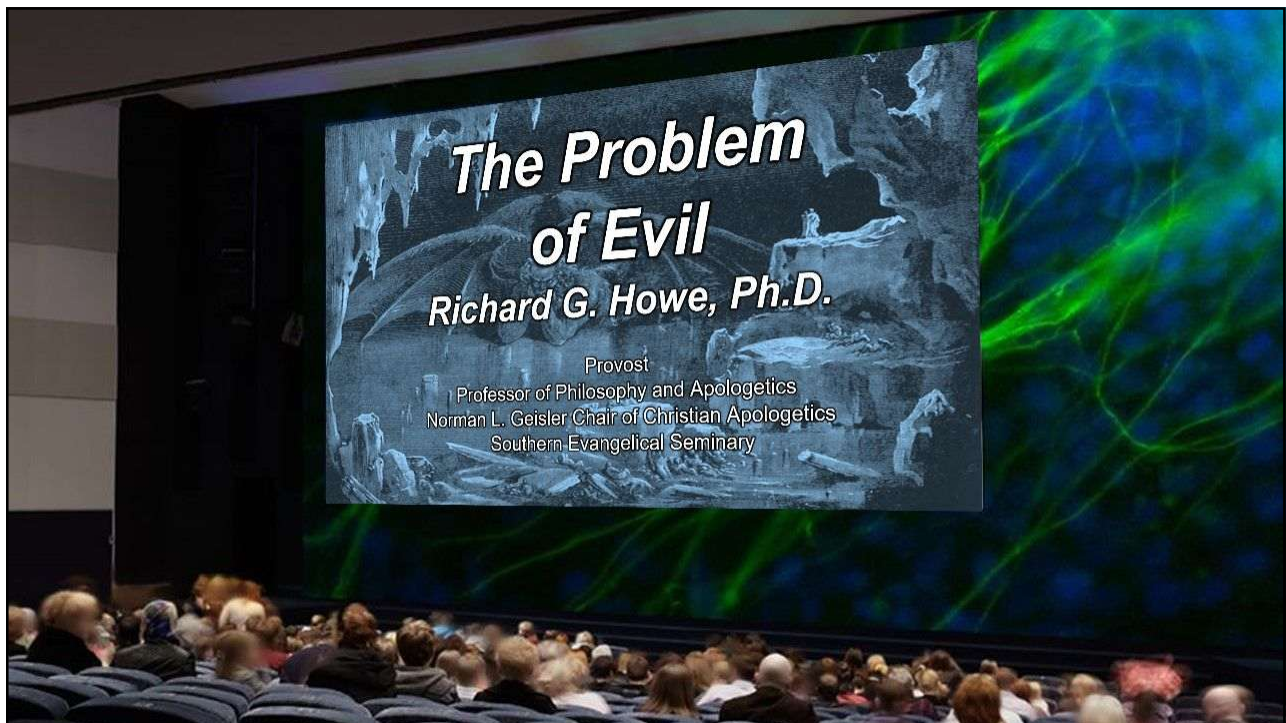


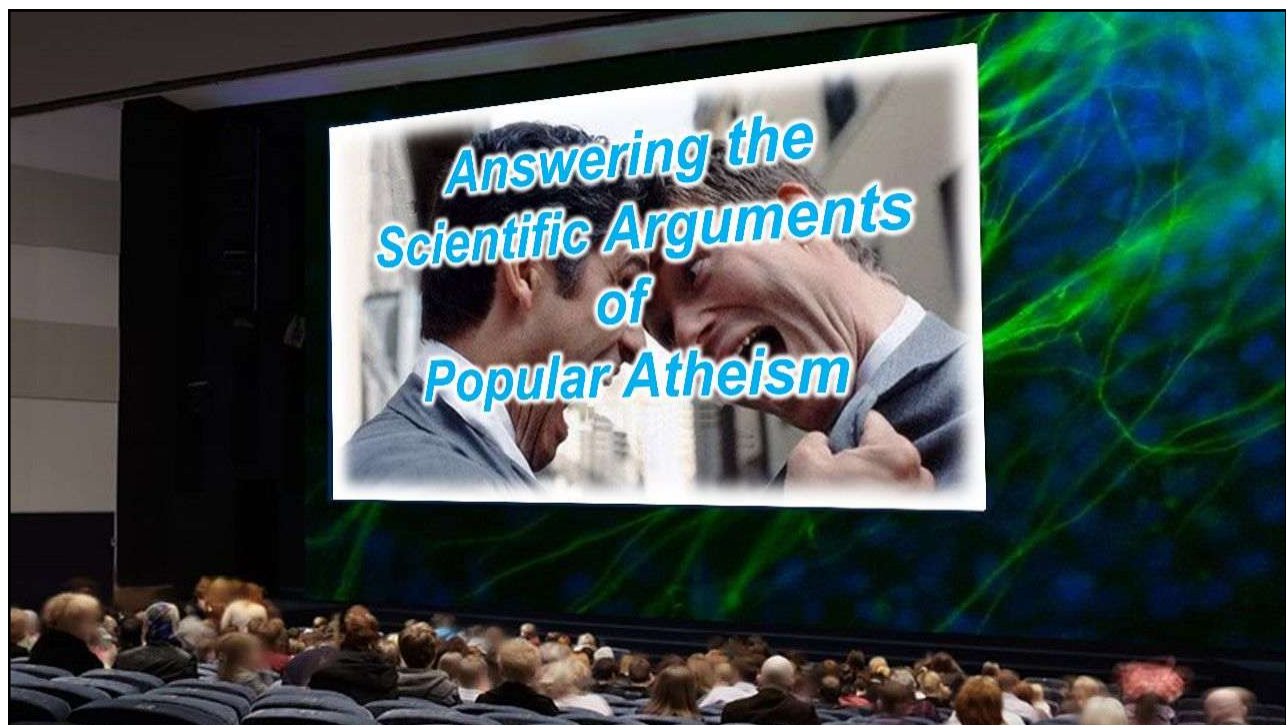
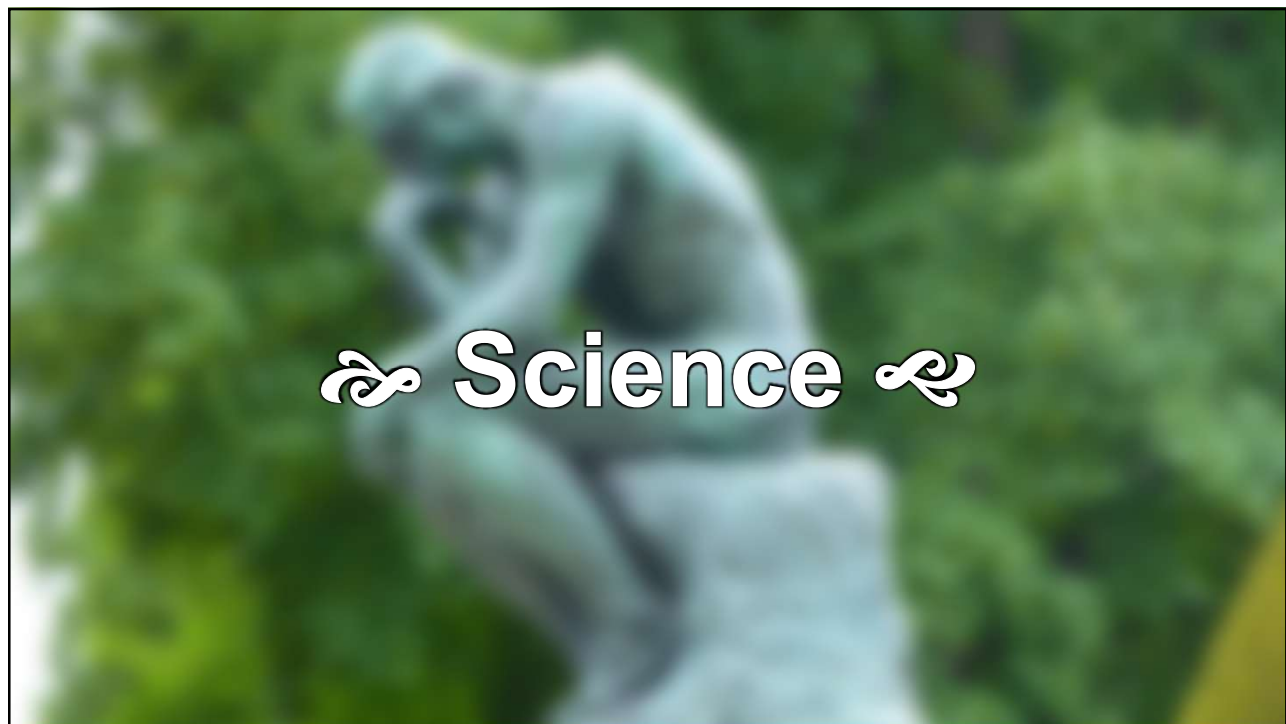












*Christianity is
grounded in history.*

*Eyewitness
Testimony*

"For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty."

2 Peter 1:16

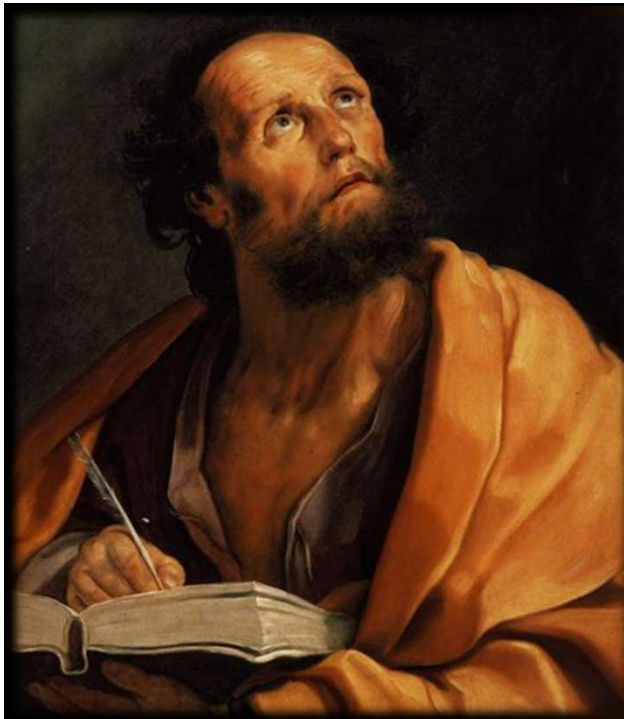


"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life; the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness,

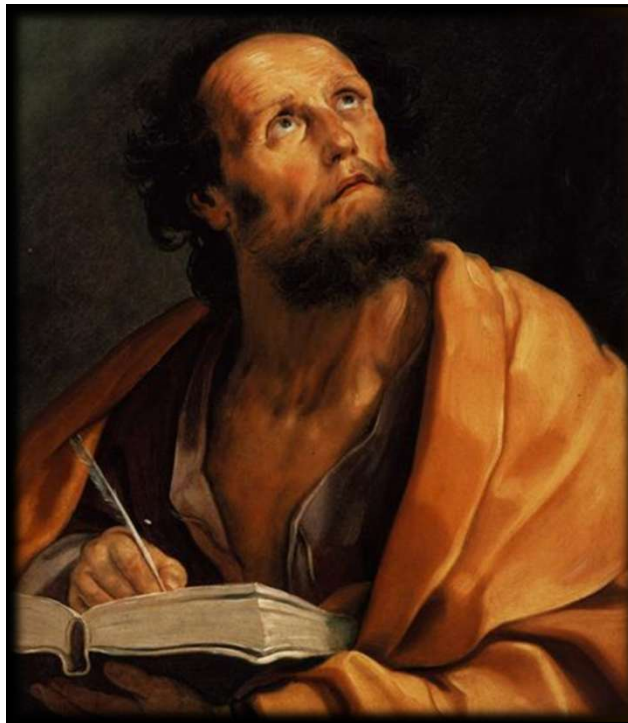


"and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us; that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ."

1 John 1:1-3

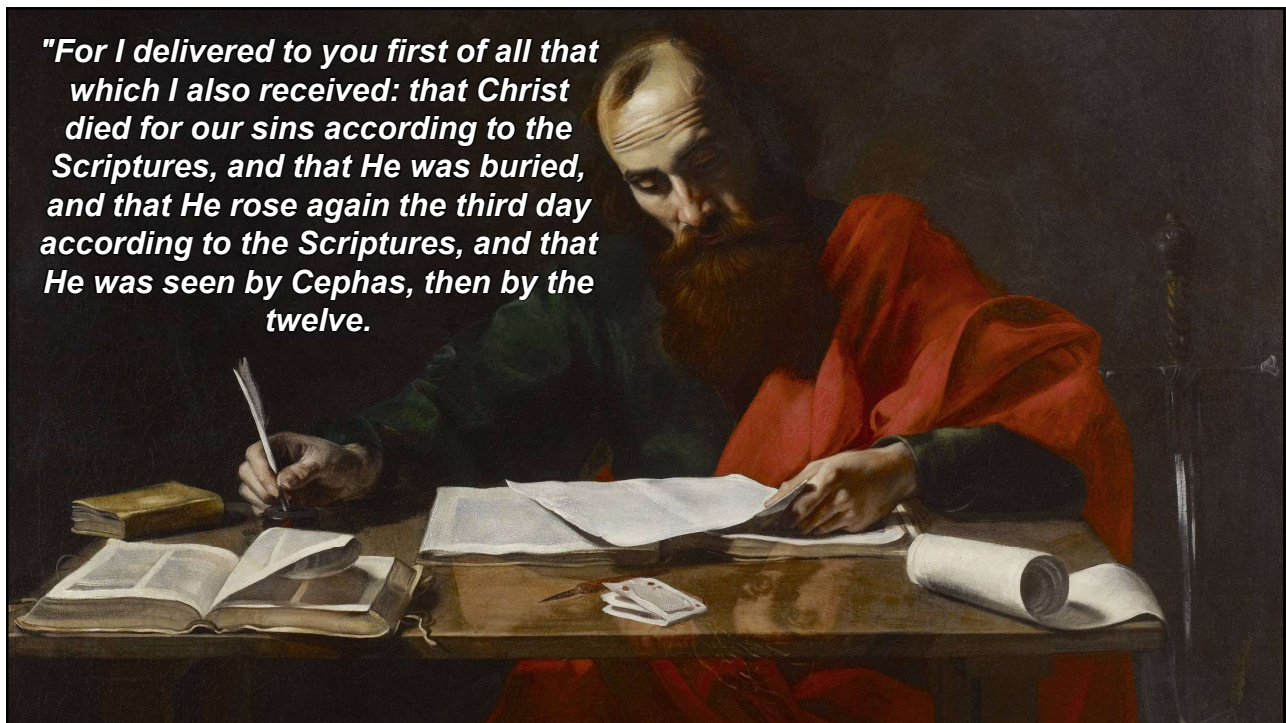


"Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which are most surely believed among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us,

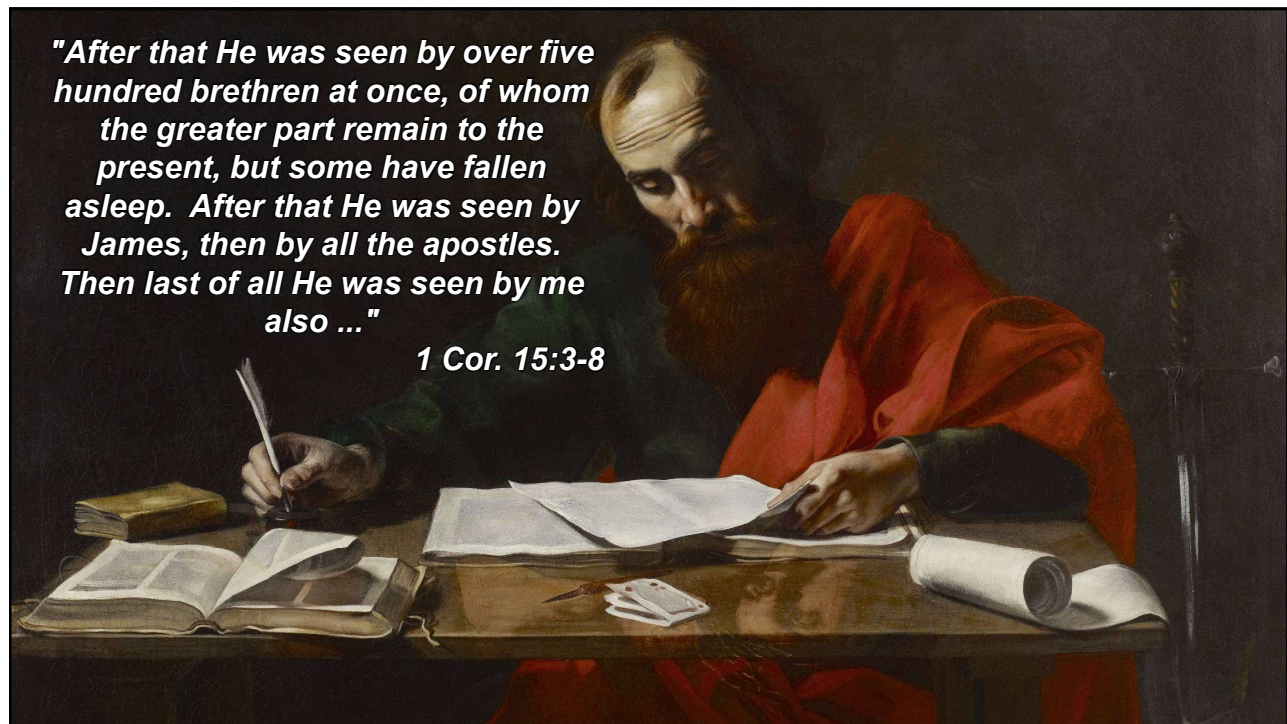


"it seemed good to me also, having had perfect understanding of all things from the very first, to write to you an orderly account, most excellent Theophilus, that you may know the certainty of those things in which you were instructed."

Luke 1:1-4



"For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen by Cephas, then by the twelve."



"After that He was seen by over five hundred brethren at once, of whom the greater part remain to the present, but some have fallen asleep. After that He was seen by James, then by all the apostles. Then last of all He was seen by me also ..."

1 Cor. 15:3-8

**Notice the Argument of
1 Cor. 15**

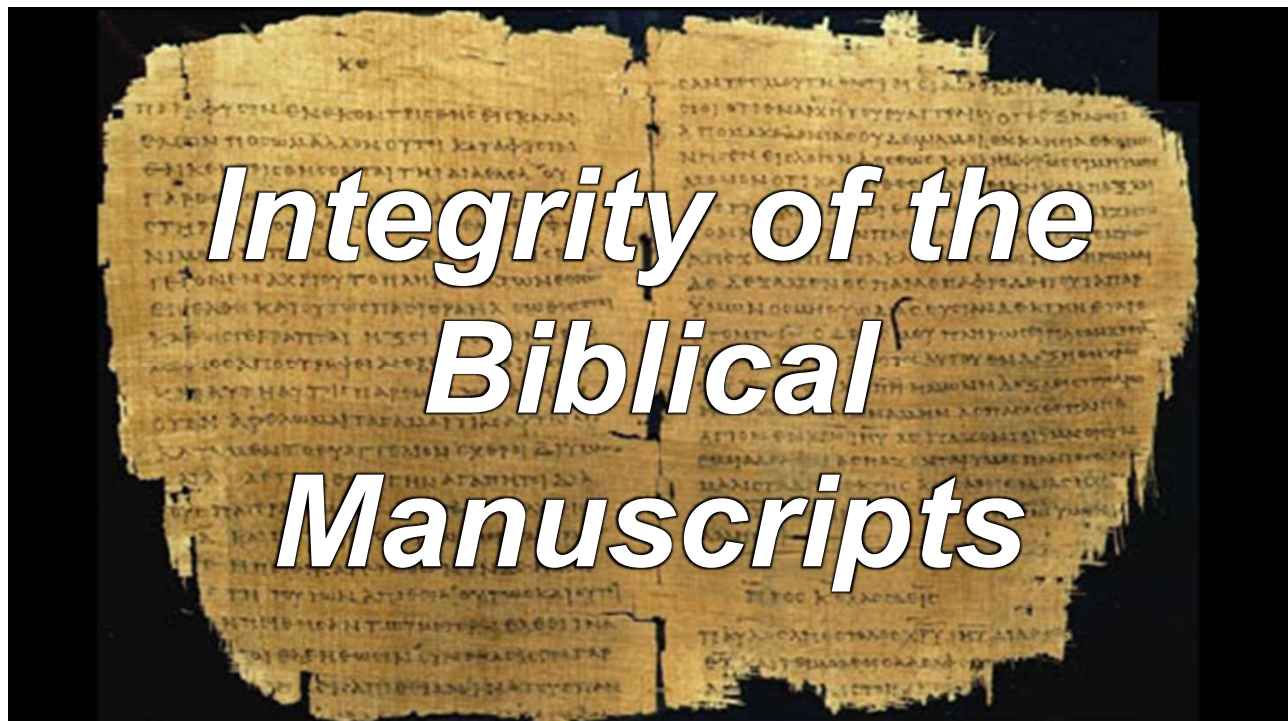
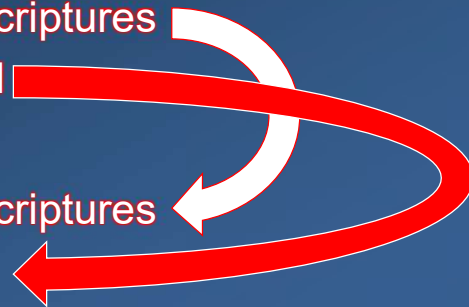
"... Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He was seen ..."

❖ Christ Died

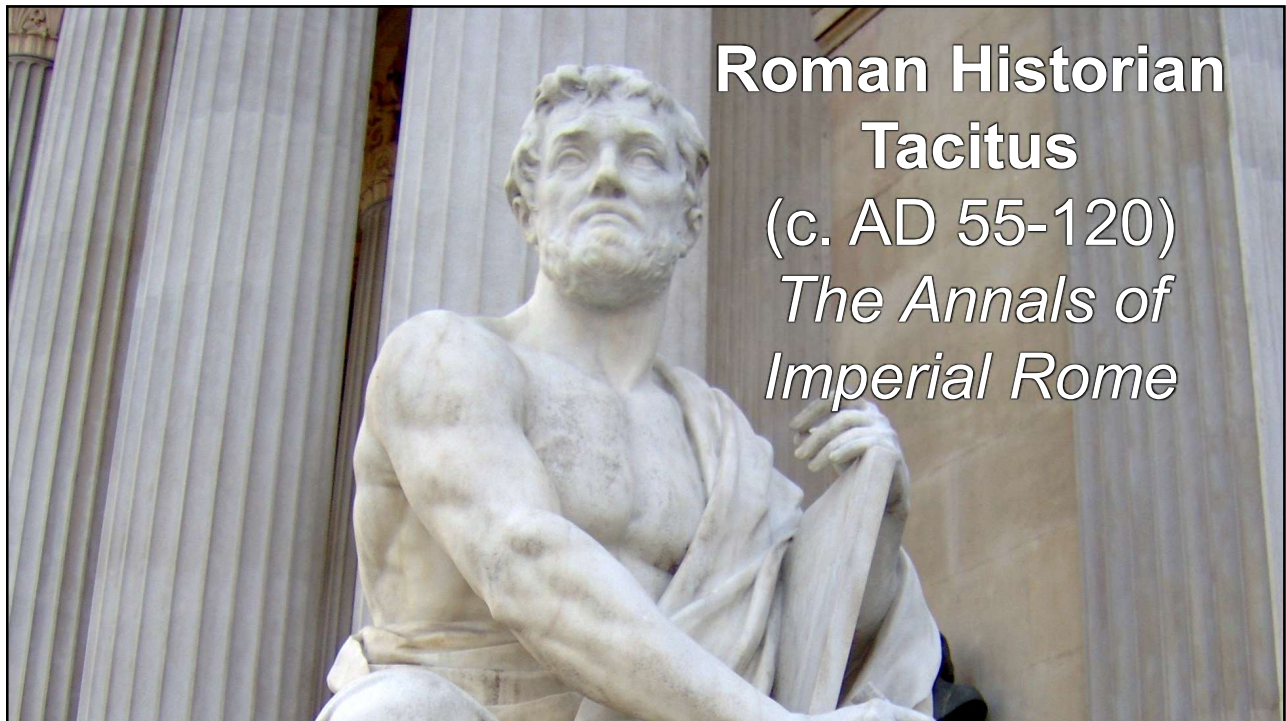
- according to the Scriptures
- and He was buried

❖ Christ Rose

- according to the Scriptures
- and He was seen

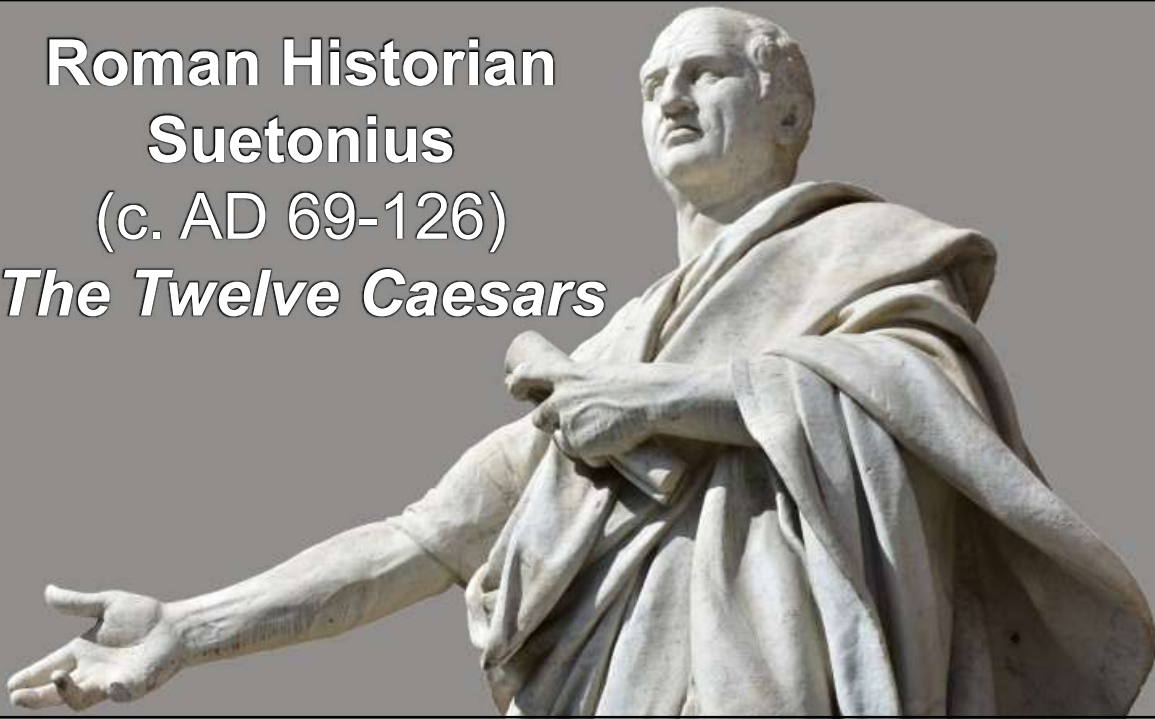


References Outside the Bible to Biblical People, Places, and Events

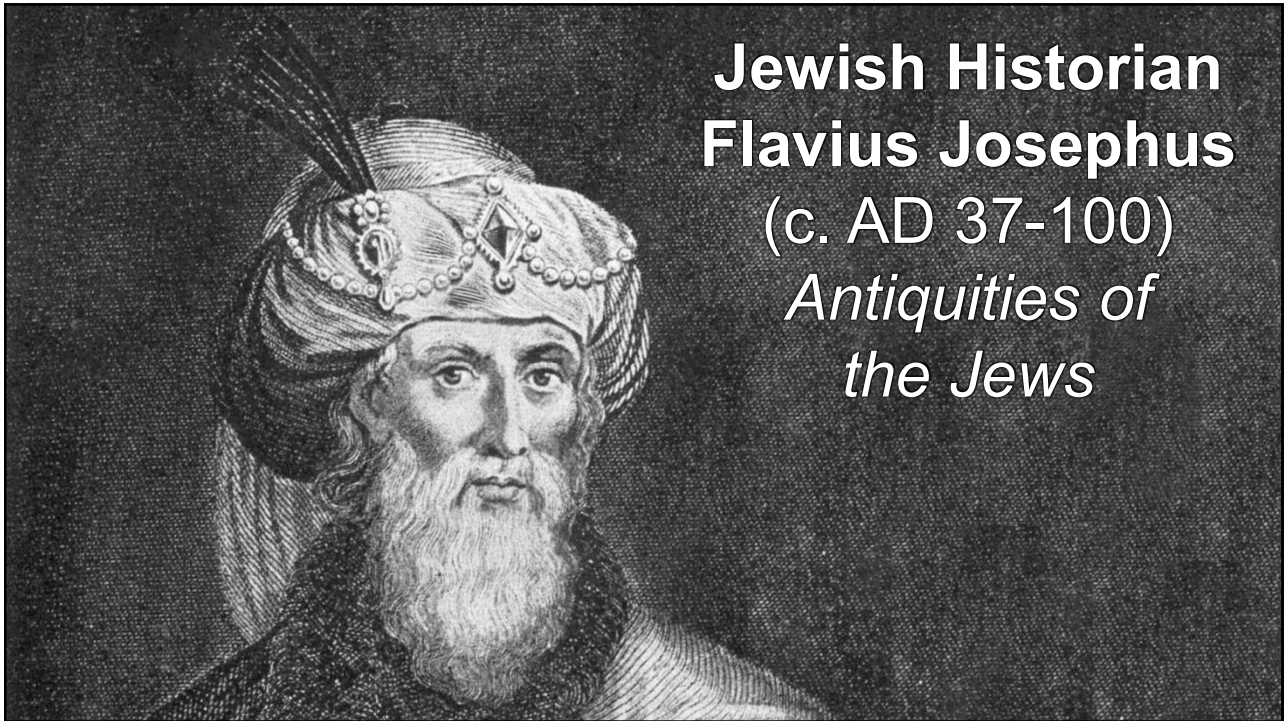


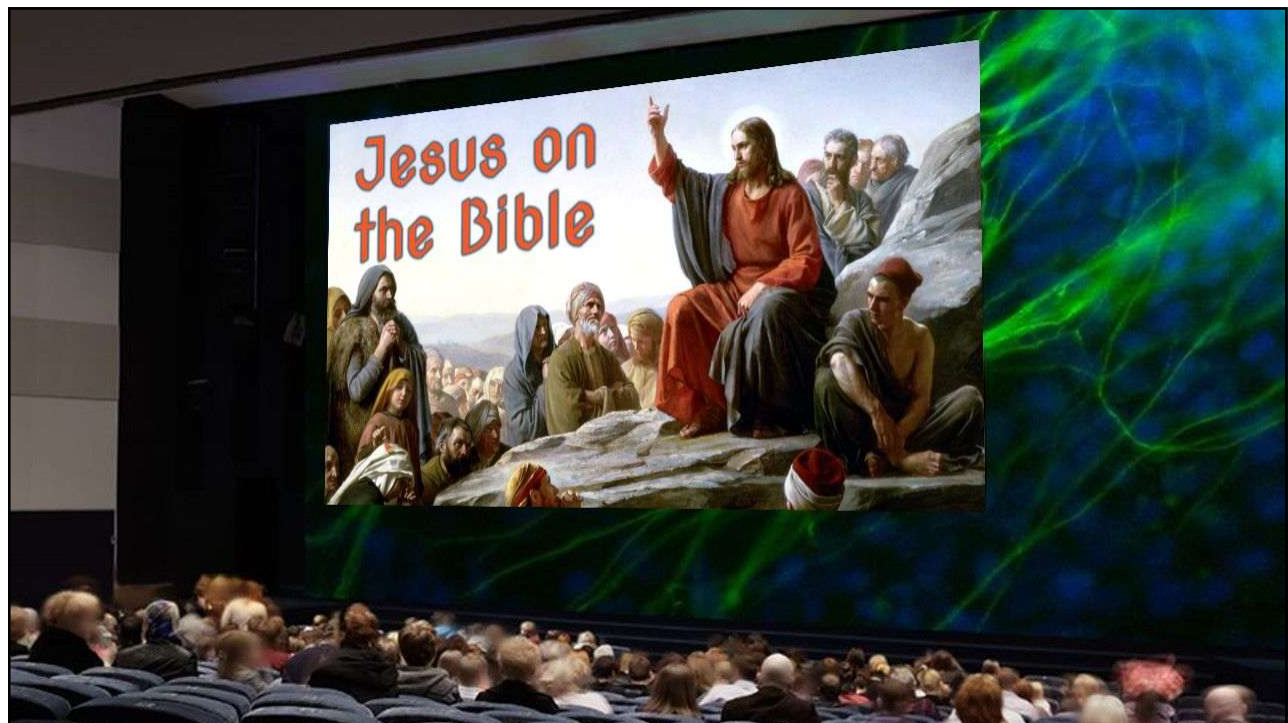
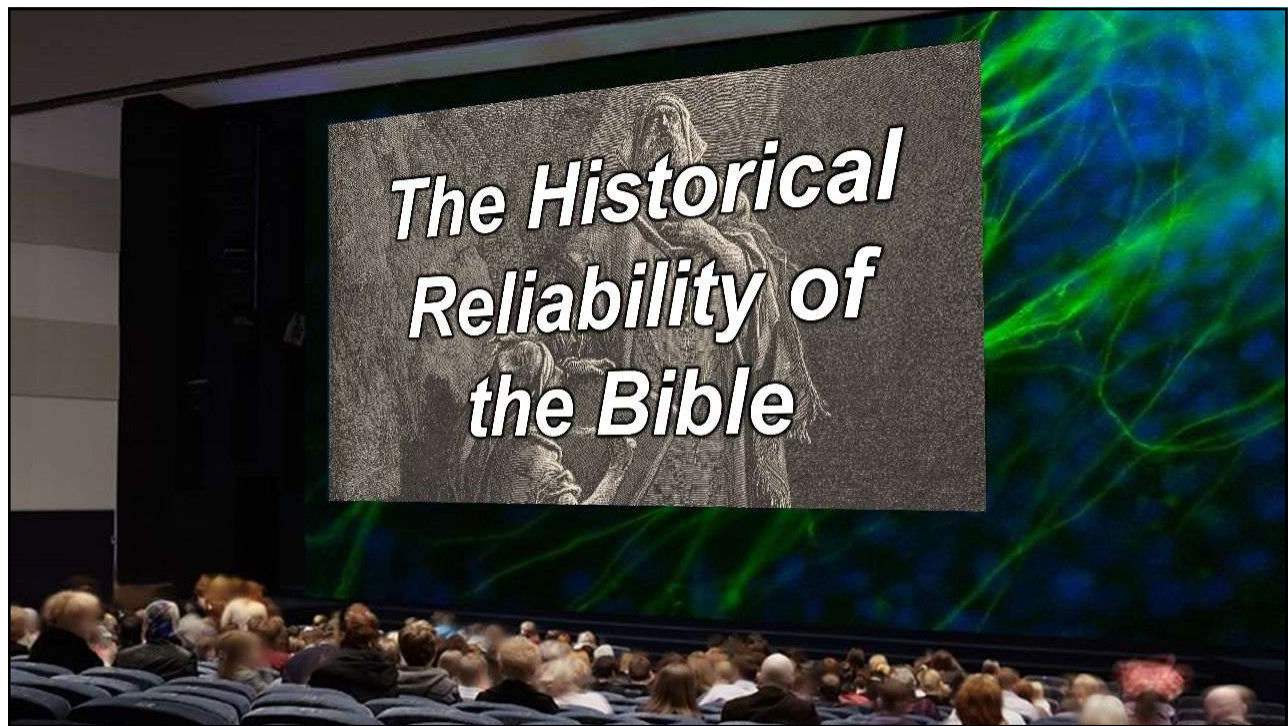
Roman Historian
Tacitus
(c. AD 55-120)
*The Annals of
Imperial Rome*

**Roman Historian
Suetonius**
(c. AD 69-126)
The Twelve Caesars



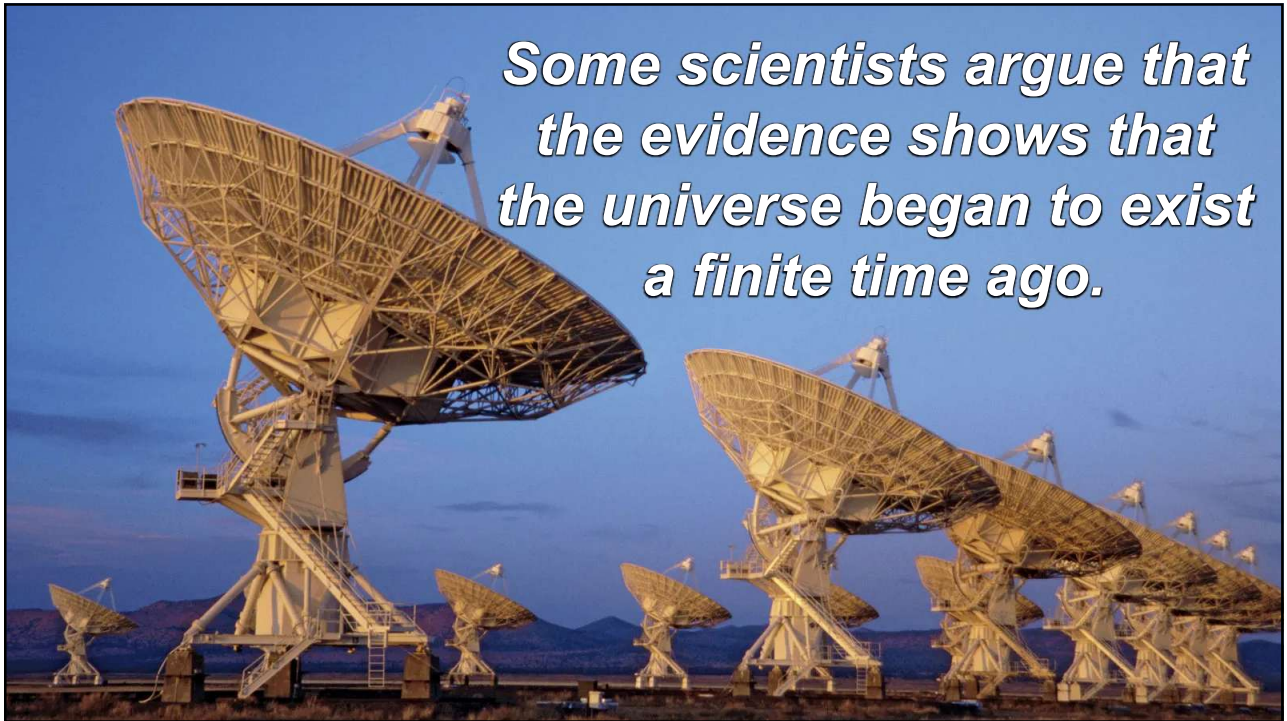
**Jewish Historian
Flavius Josephus**
(c. AD 37-100)
*Antiquities of
the Jews*

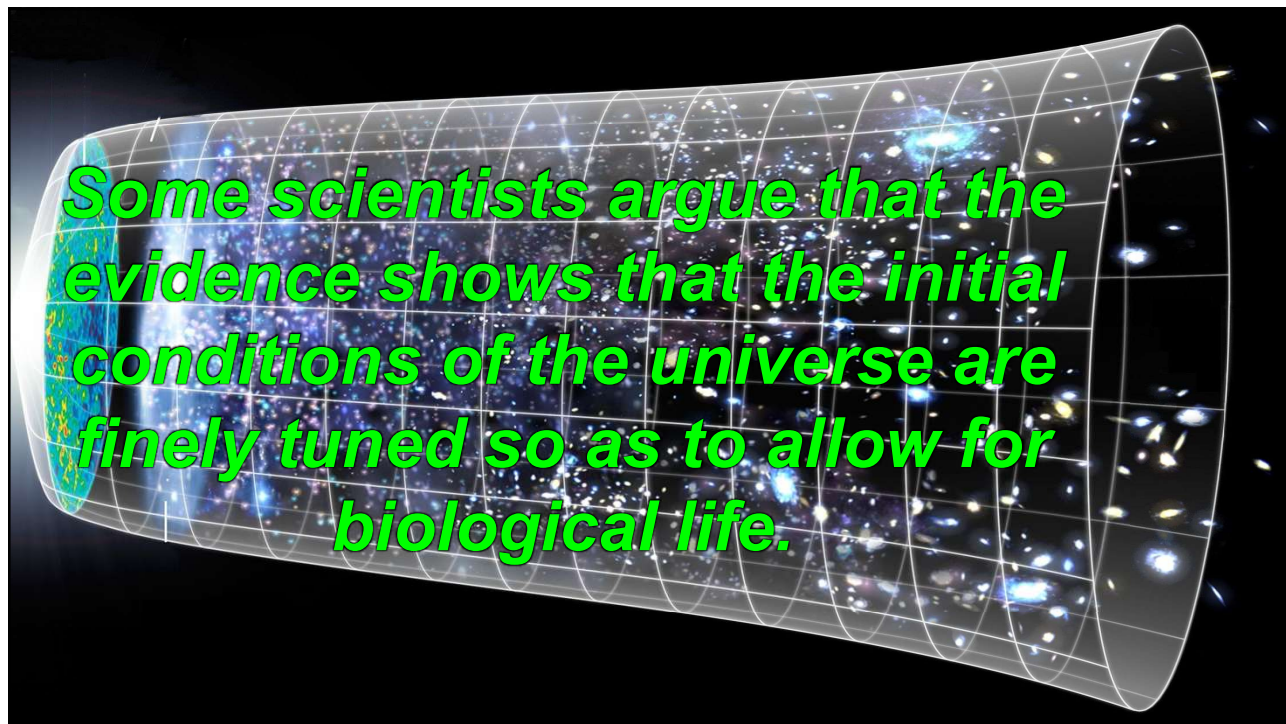


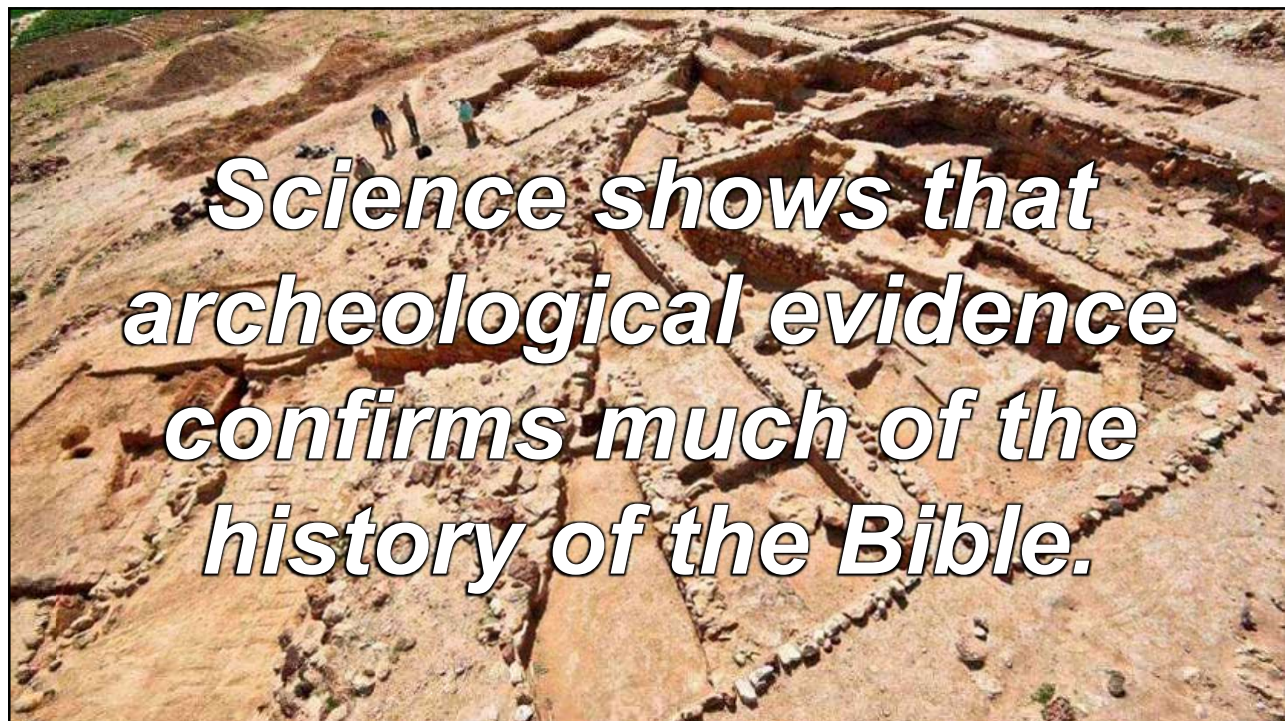
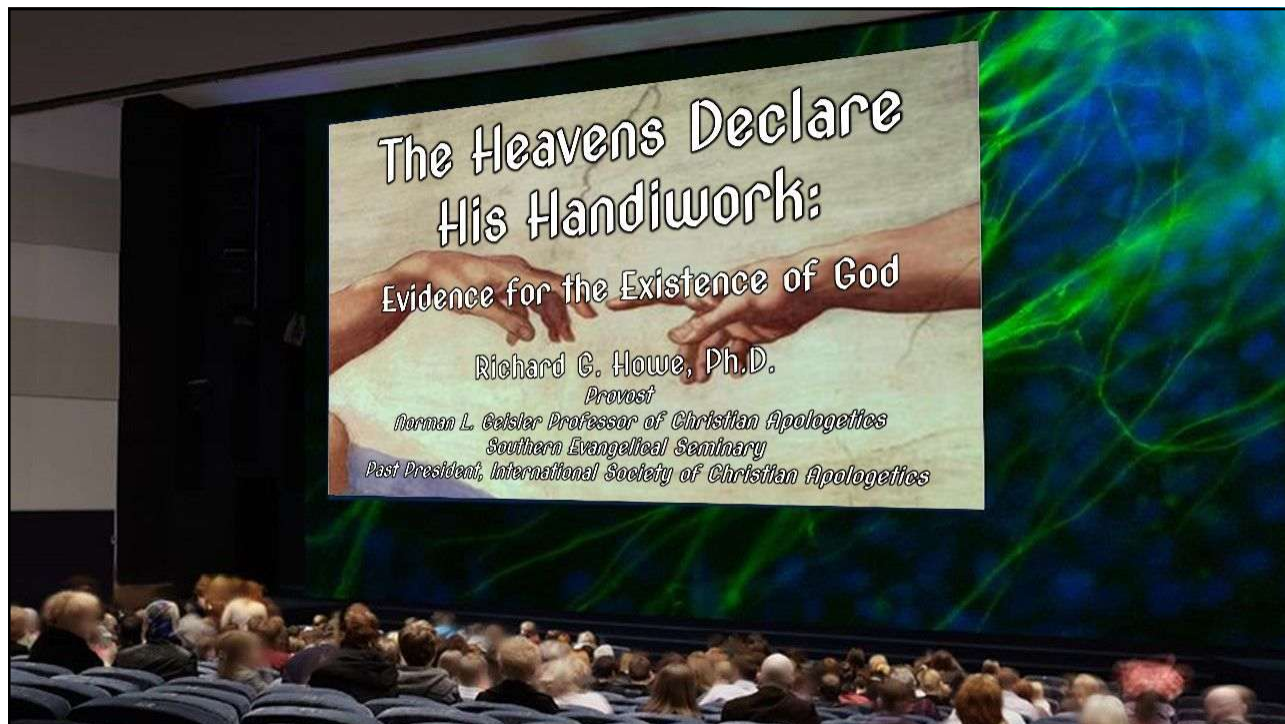


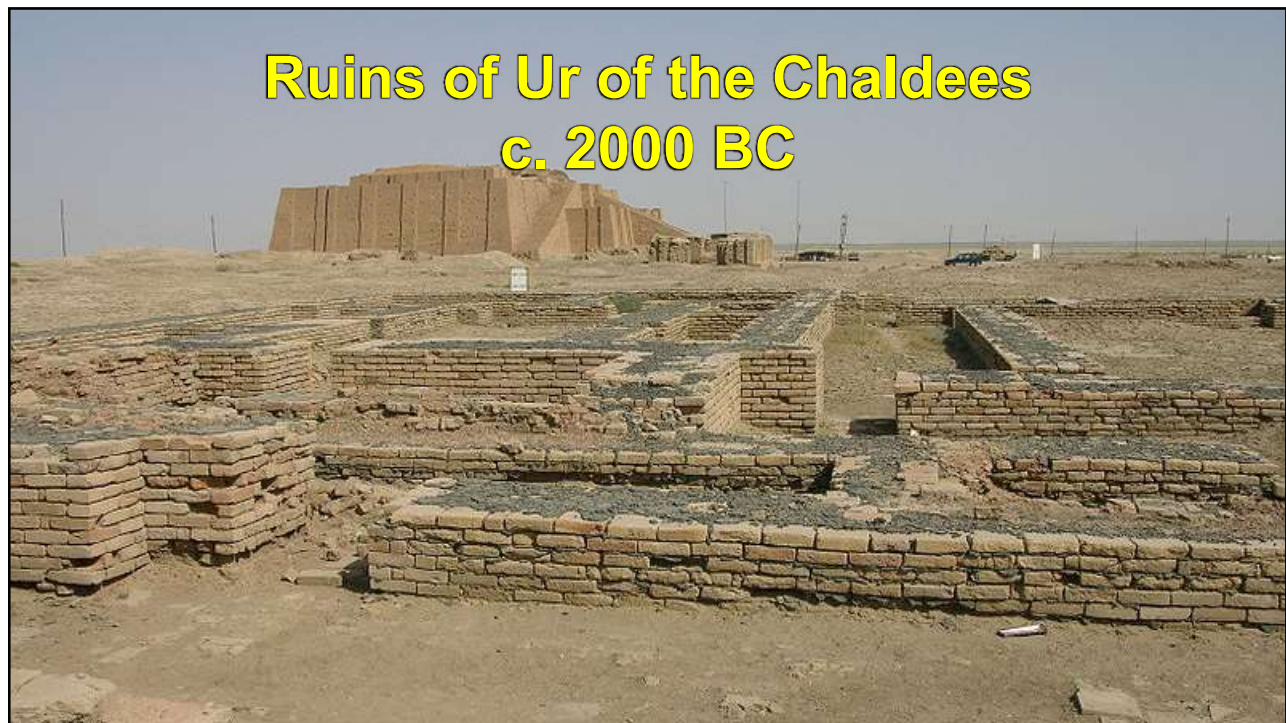
***Christianity is
corroborated by
science.***

***Some scientists argue that
the evidence shows that
the universe began to exist
a finite time ago.***









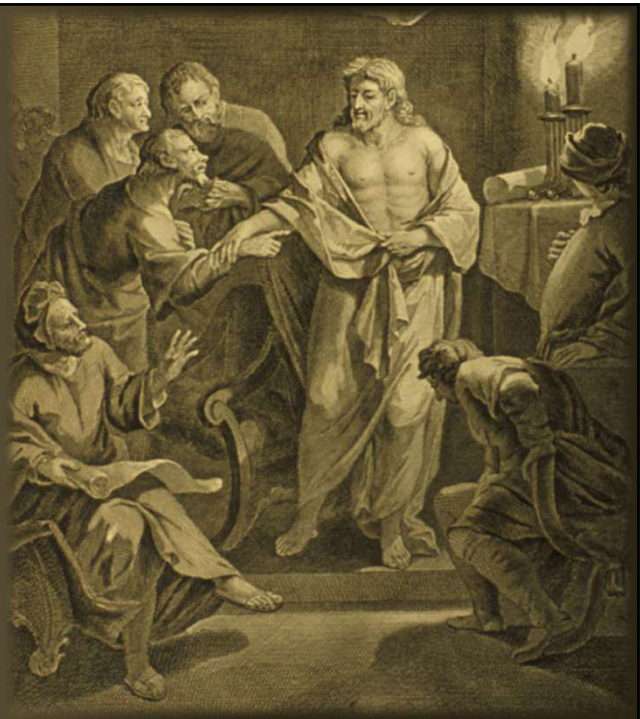






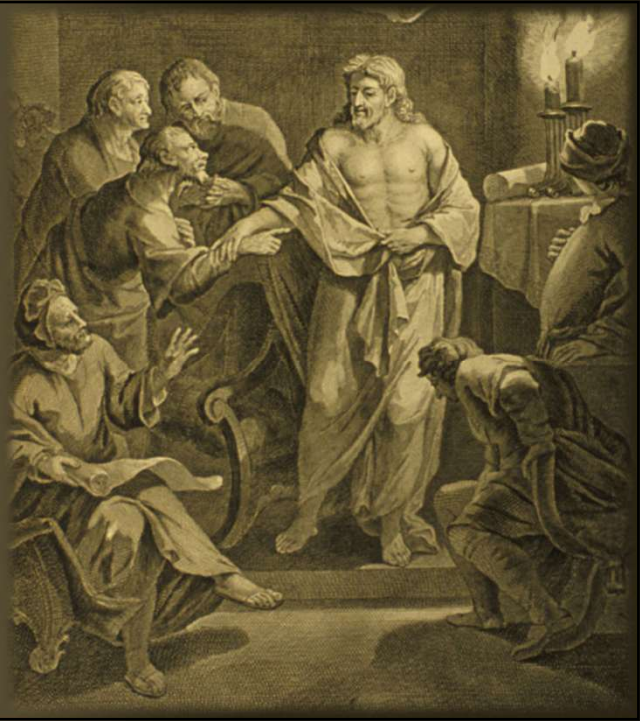
✎ John 20:24-31 ✎

Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."



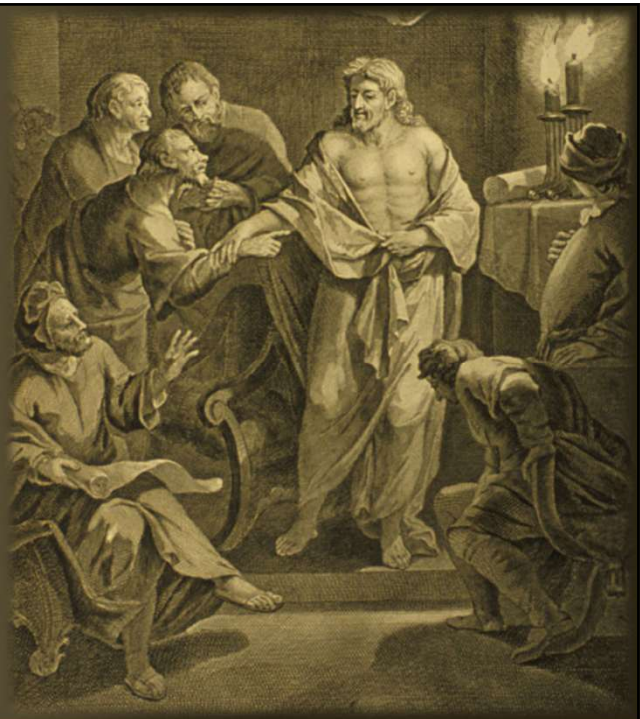
✠ John 20:24-31 ✠

And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."



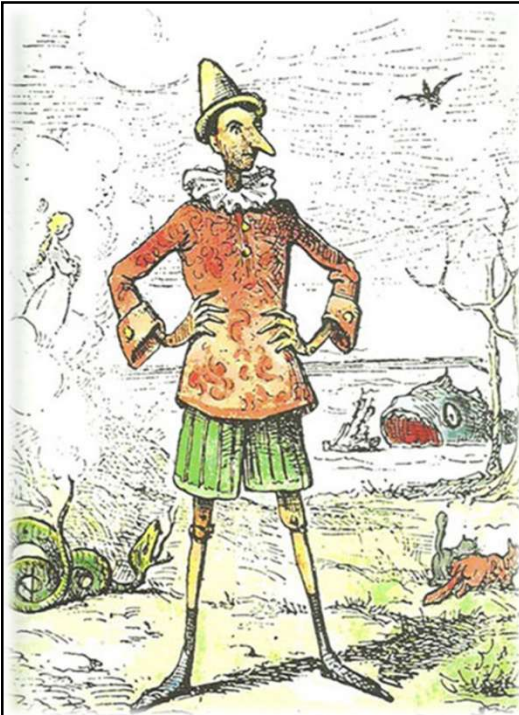
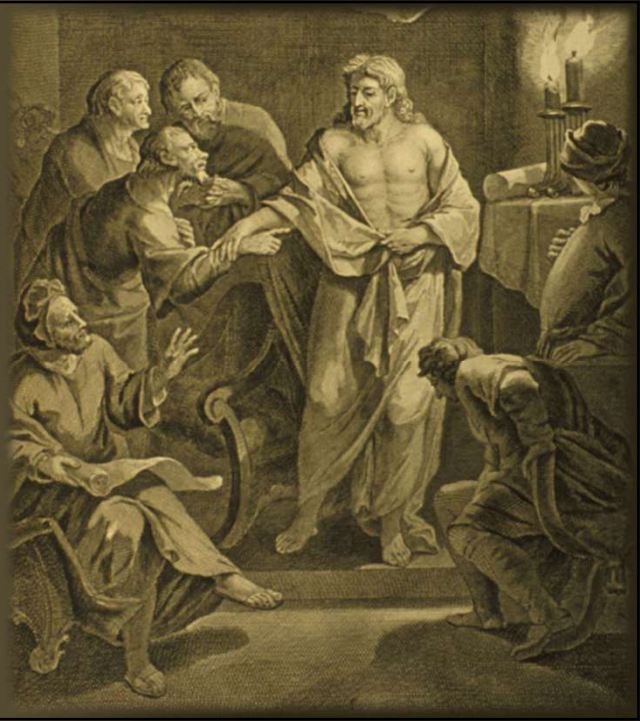
✠ John 20:24-31 ✠

And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



✠ John 20:24-31 ✠

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



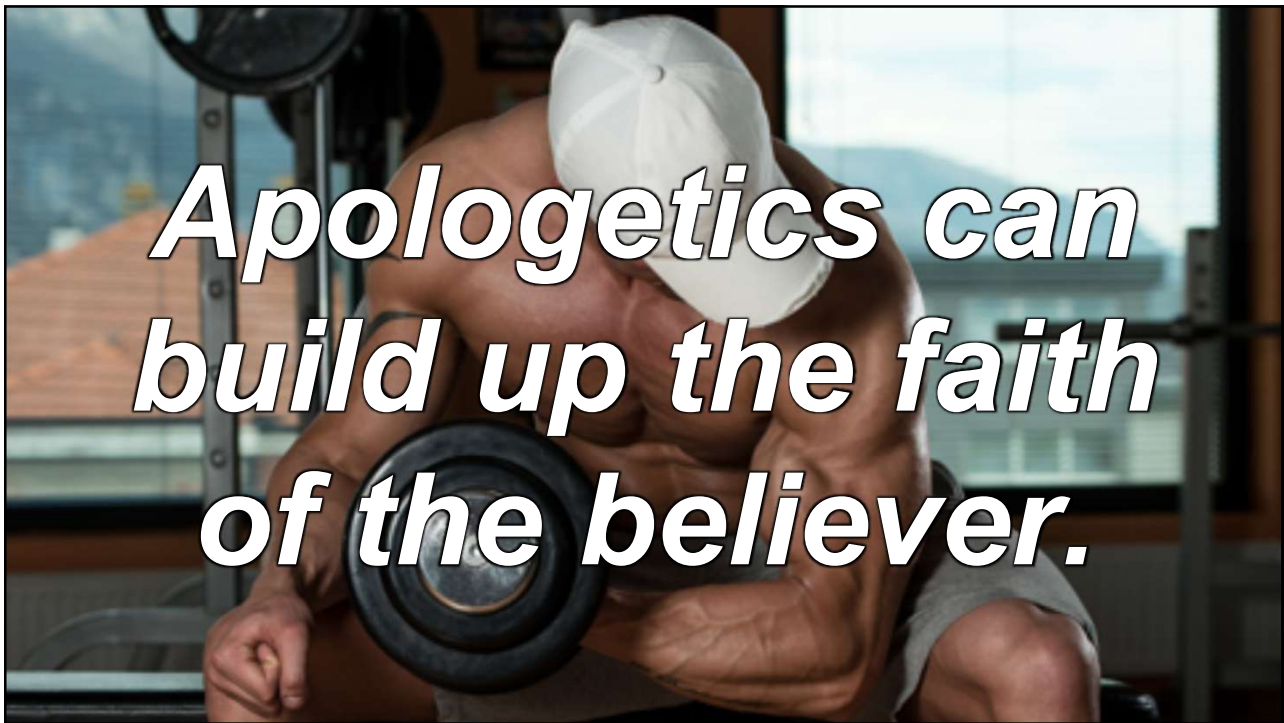
Apologetics
can expose
dishonest
questions.

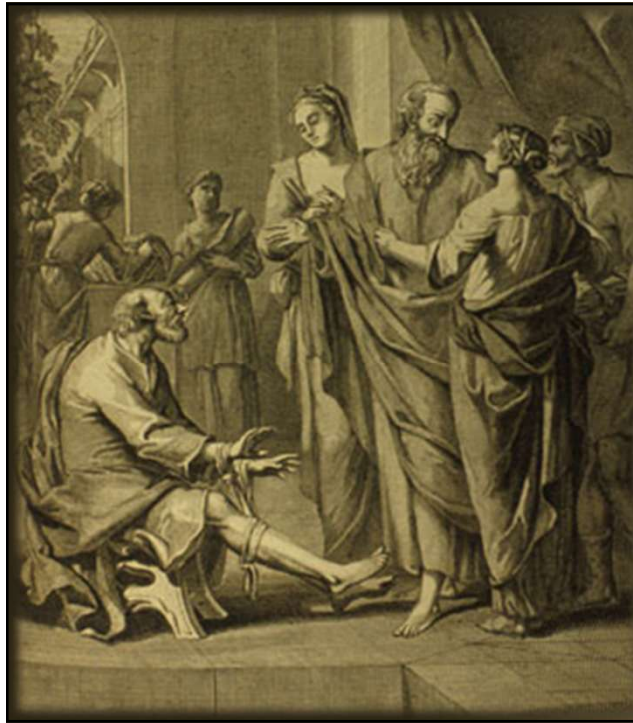
🌀 John 10:24-26 🌀

Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly." {25} Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me. {26} But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.



***Apologetics can
build up the faith
of the believer.***





☞ Acts 18:24, 26-28 ☞

*"And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, **he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.**"*



***But why should we
accept the Bible as
authoritative?***



➤ *Apologetics can't change the heart.*

*Now a certain woman named Lydia heard us. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. **The Lord opened her heart** to heed the things spoken by Paul.*

Acts 16:14



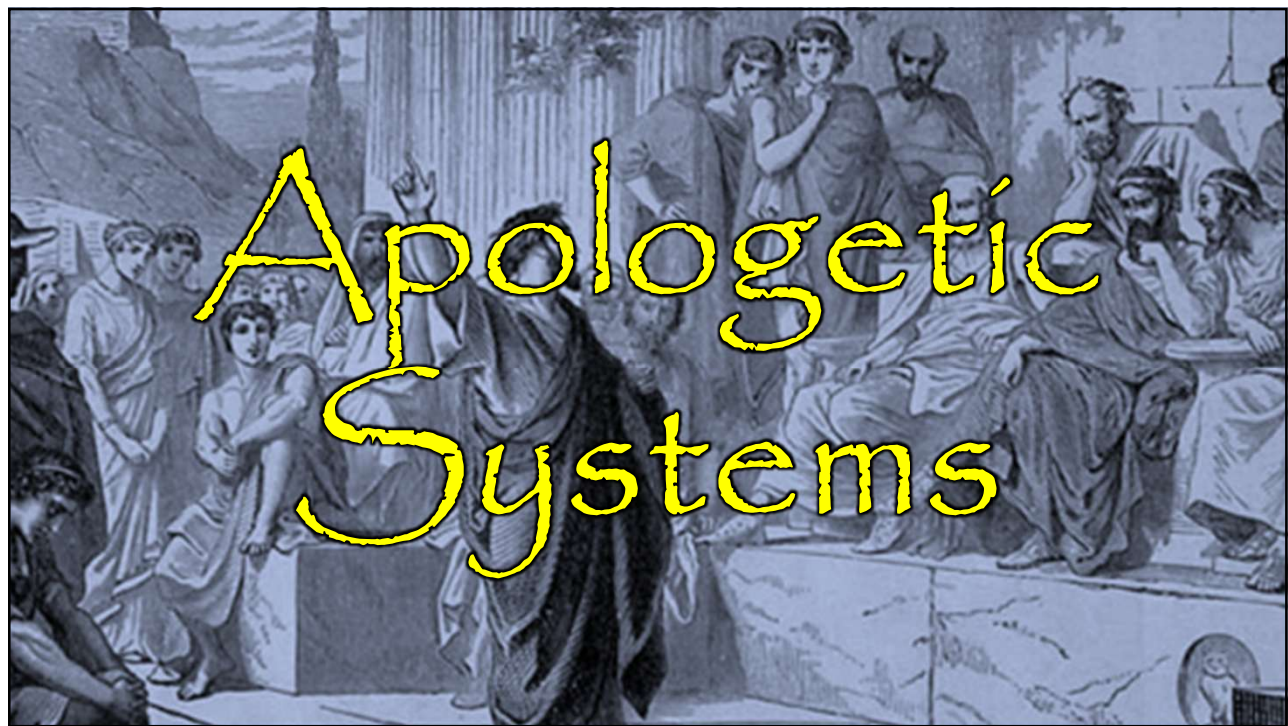
- *Apologetics can't change the heart.*
- *Apologetics can't make everyone believe.*

***"And some were persuaded
by the things which were
spoken, and some
disbelieved."***

Acts 28:24



- *Apologetics can't change the heart.*
- *Apologetics can't make everyone believe.*
- *Apologetics can't settle every doctrinal issue.*



Classical Apologetics
Evidentialism
Presuppositionalism
Reformed Epistemology

DIALOGUE

4 VIEWS

ON

APOLOGETICS





James White
Presuppositionalism



Randall Rauser
Reformed Epistemology

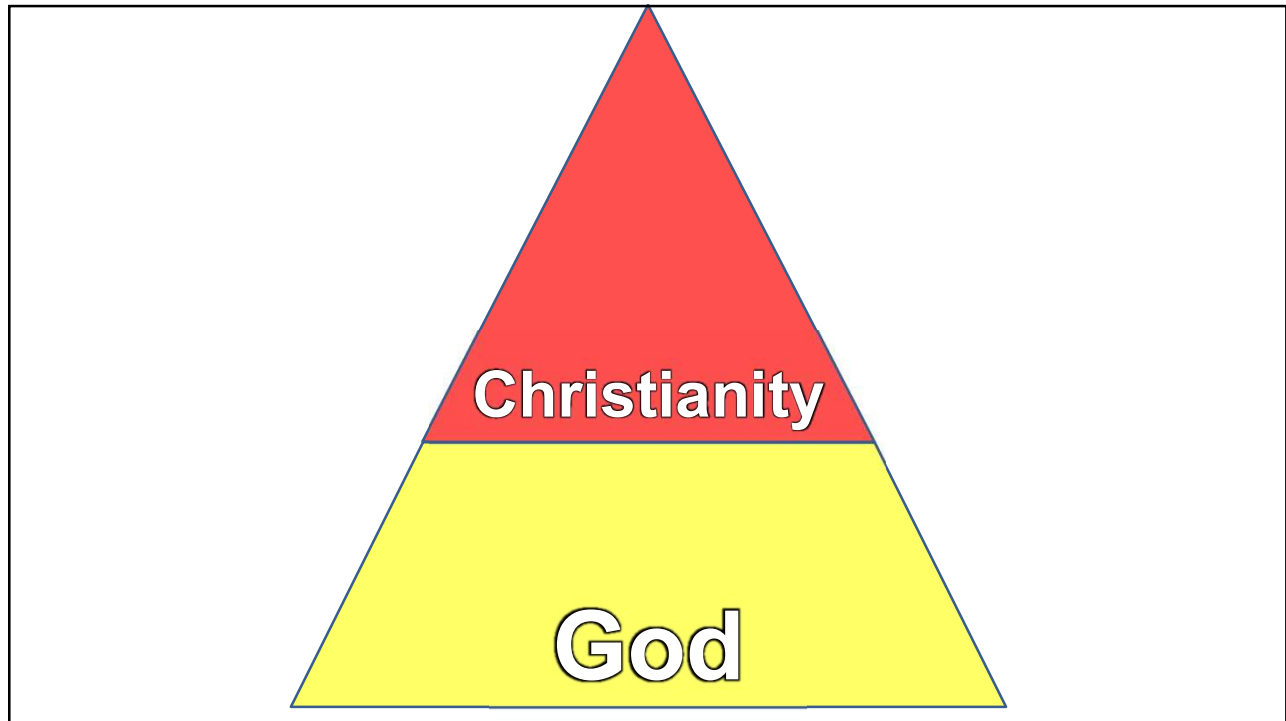


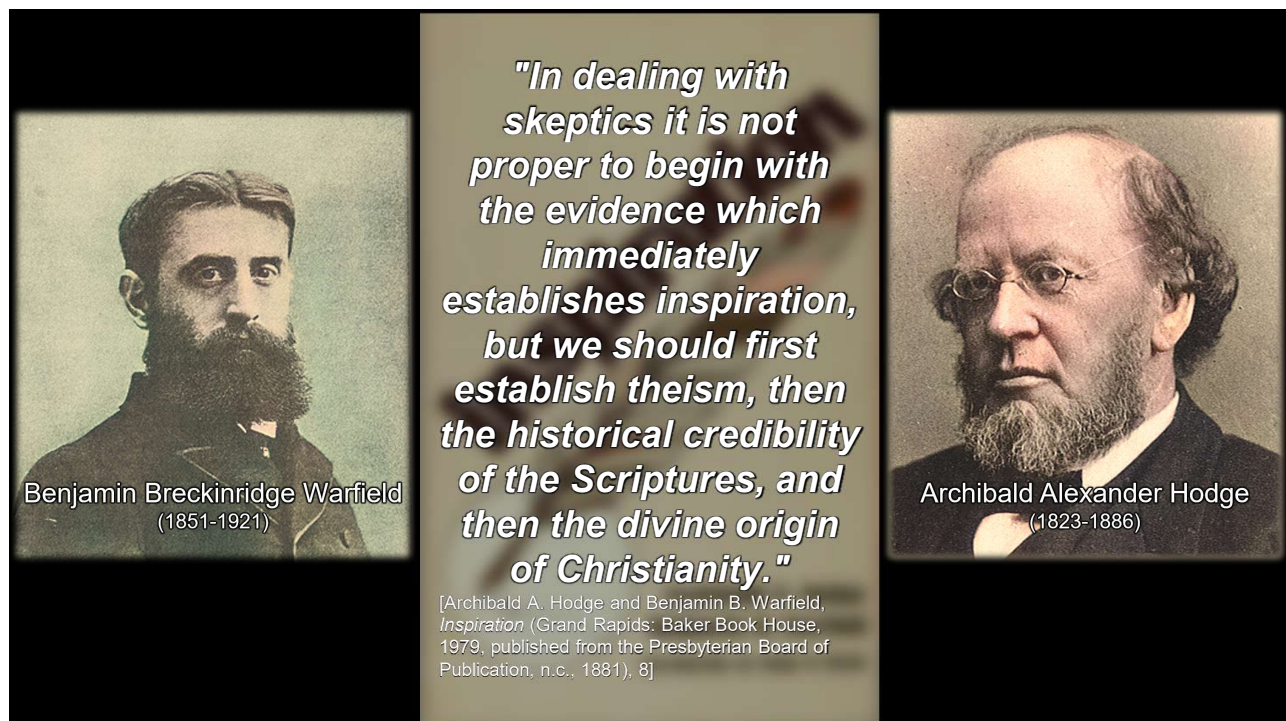
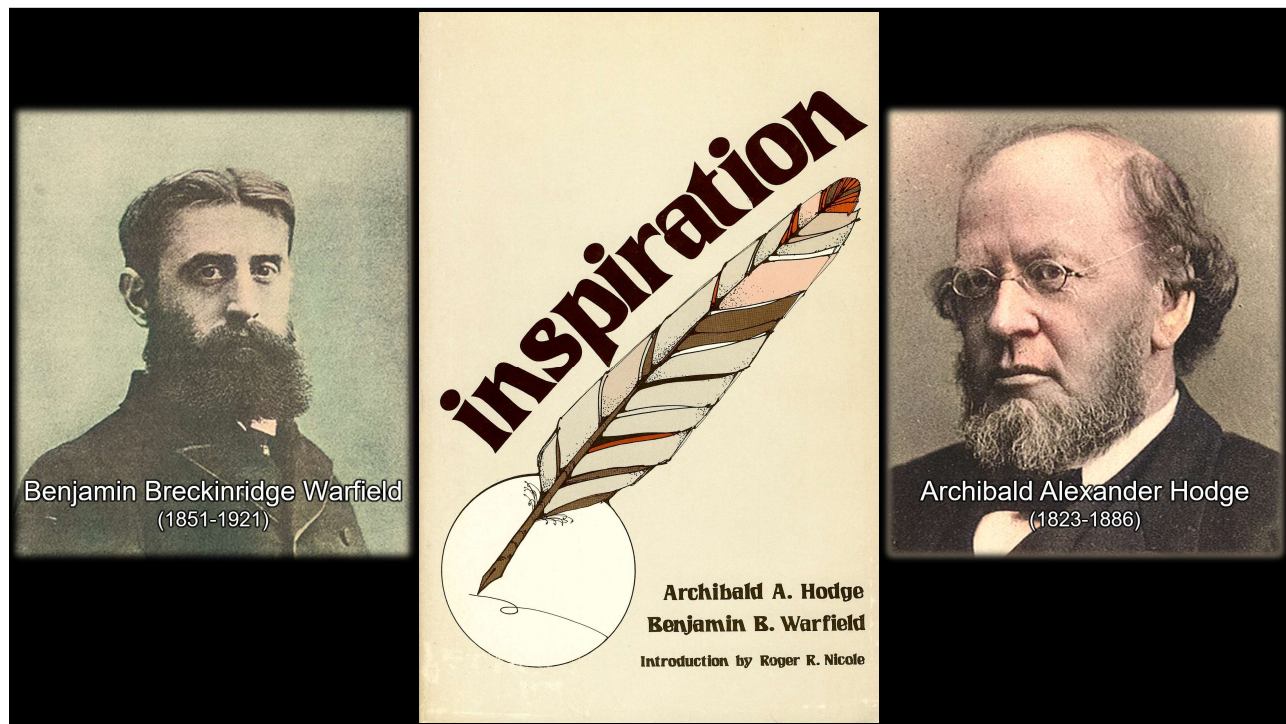
Richard G. Howe
Classical Apologetics

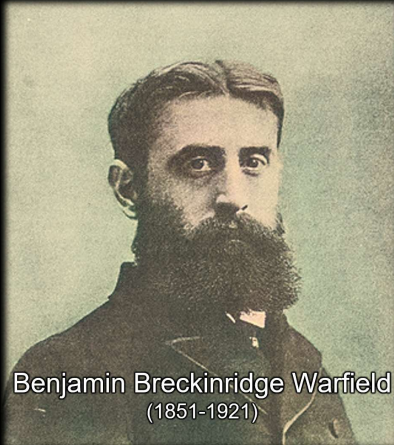


Jonathan Mclatchie
Evidentialism





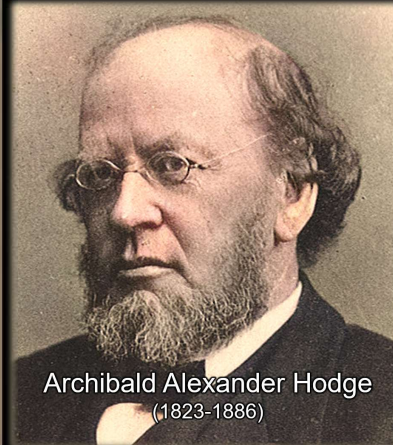




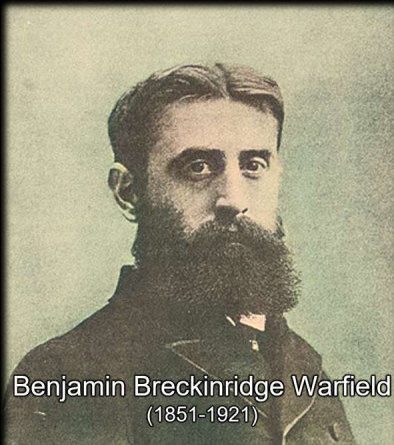
Benjamin Breckinridge Warfield
(1851-1921)

*"In dealing with skeptics it is not proper to begin with the evidence which immediately establishes inspiration, but we should first establish theism, then the **historical credibility of the Scriptures**, and then the **divine origin of Christianity**."*

[Archibald A. Hodge and Benjamin B. Warfield, *Inspiration* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979, published from the Presbyterian Board of Publication, n.c., 1881), 8]



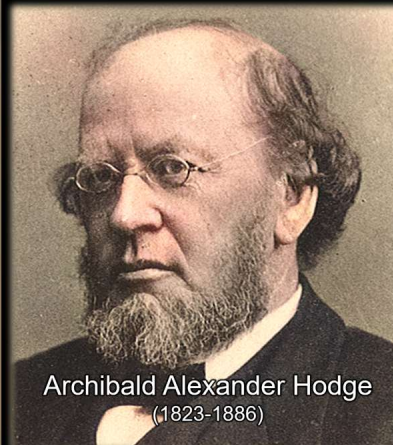
Archibald Alexander Hodge
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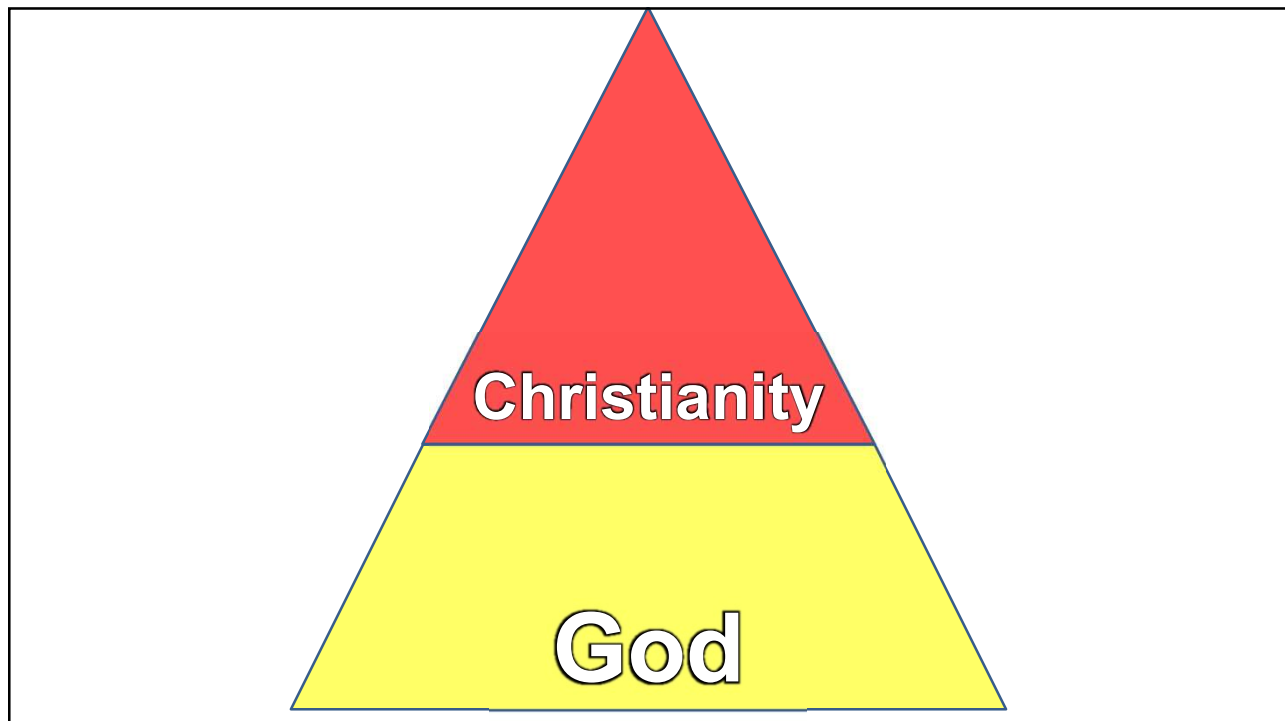
Benjamin Breckinridge Warfield (1851-1921)

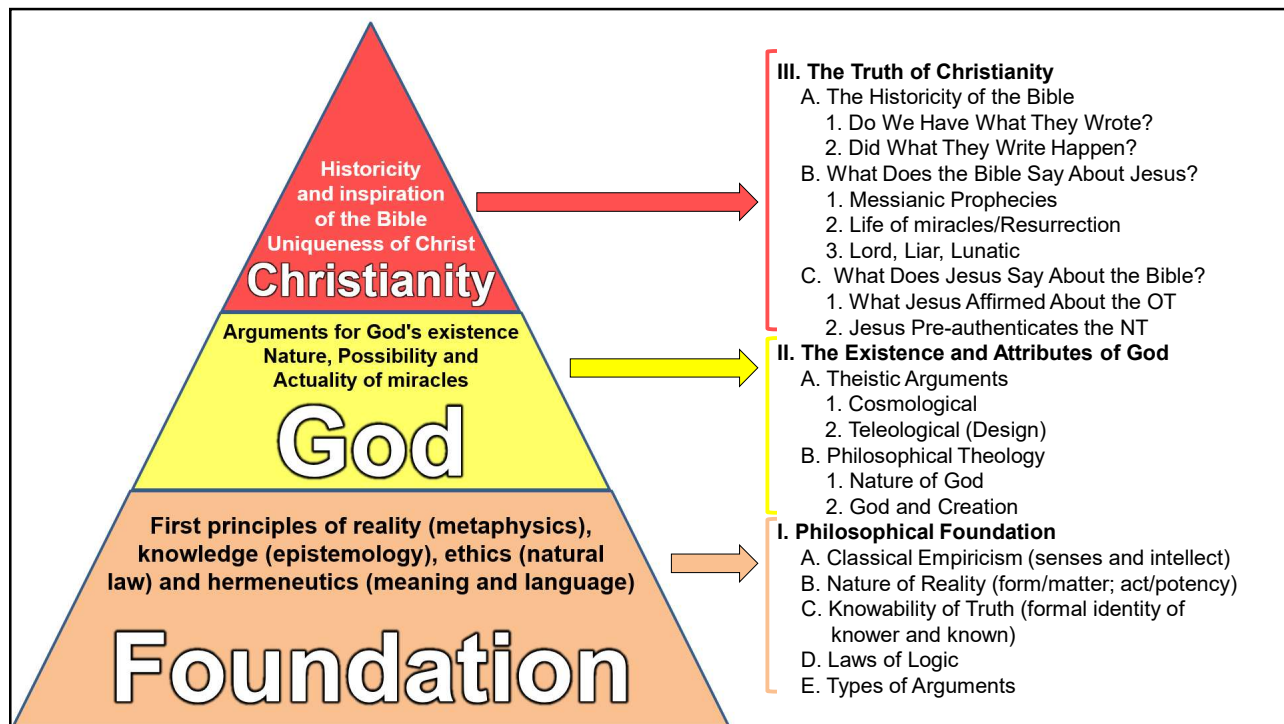
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Archibald A. Hodge (1823-1888)

These two moves were generally counted as the one step of demonstrating the truth of Christianity.

Archibald A. Hodge and Benjamin B. Warfield, *Inspiration* (Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1979, published from the Presbyterian Board of Publication, n.d., 1881), 8]





Christianity
 Historicity and inspiration of the Bible
 Uniqueness of Christ

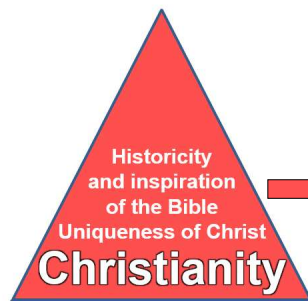
III. The Truth of Christianity
 A. The Historicity of the Bible
 1. Do We Have What They Wrote?
 2. Did What They Write Happen?
 B. What Does the Bible Say About Jesus?
 1. Messianic Prophecies
 2. Life of miracles/Resurrection
 3. Lord, Liar, Lunatic
 C. What Does Jesus Say About the Bible?
 1. What Jesus Affirmed About the OT
 2. Jesus Pre-authenticates the NT

God's Inerrant Word
 AN INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON THE TRUSTWORTHINESS OF SCRIPTURE
 Edited by John Warwick Montgomery

"The Case for Inerrancy: A Methodological Analysis"

John Warwick Montgomery (1931-2024)

R. C. Sproul (1939-2017)



III. The Truth of Christianity

A. The Historicity of the Bible

1. Do We Have What They Wrote?
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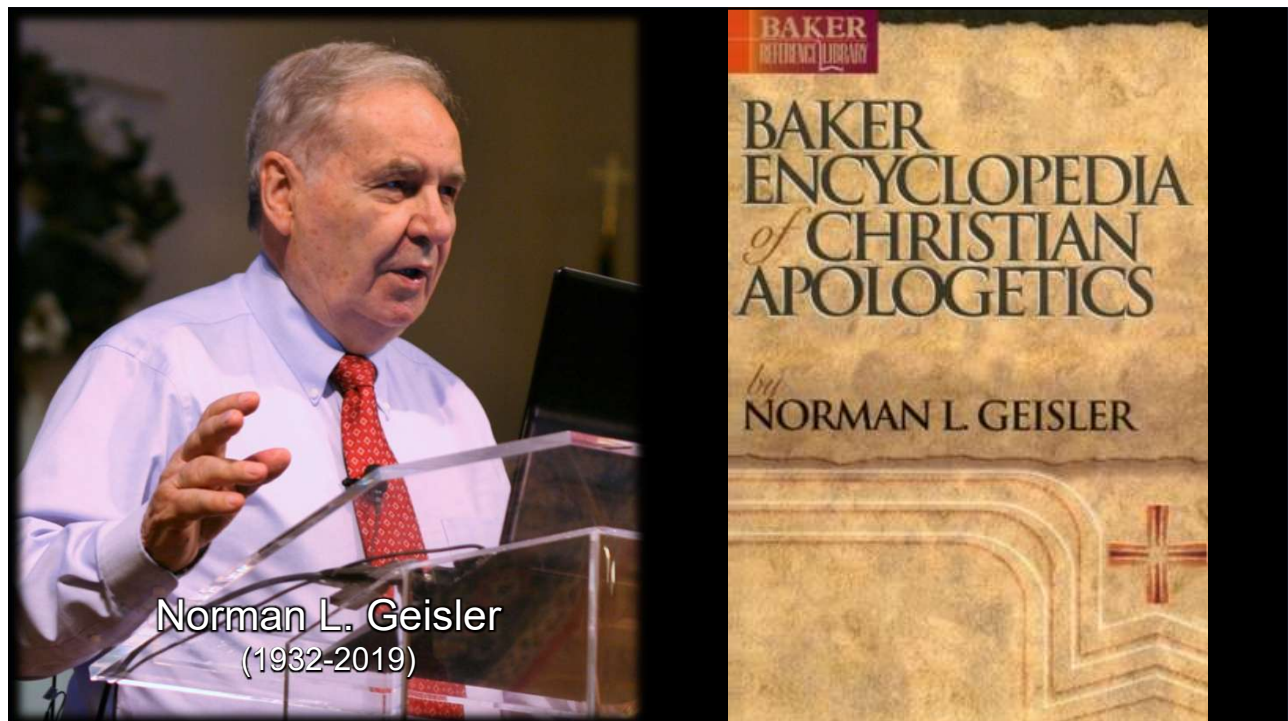
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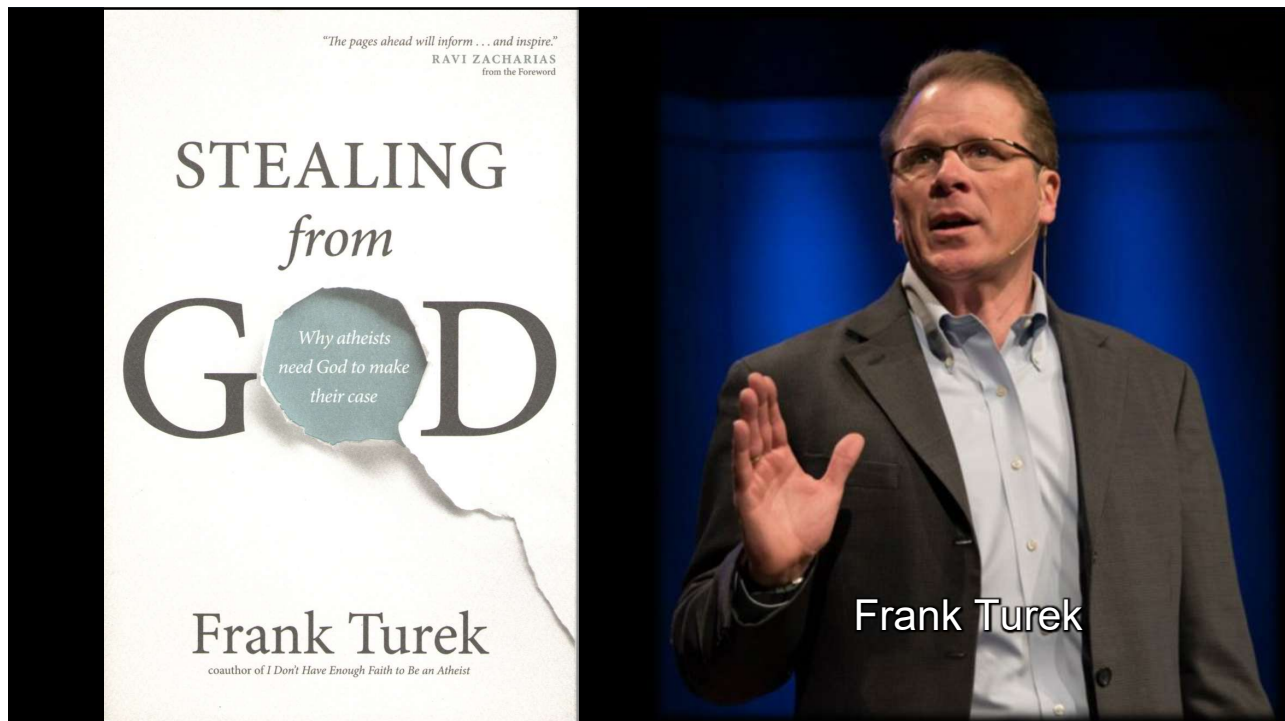
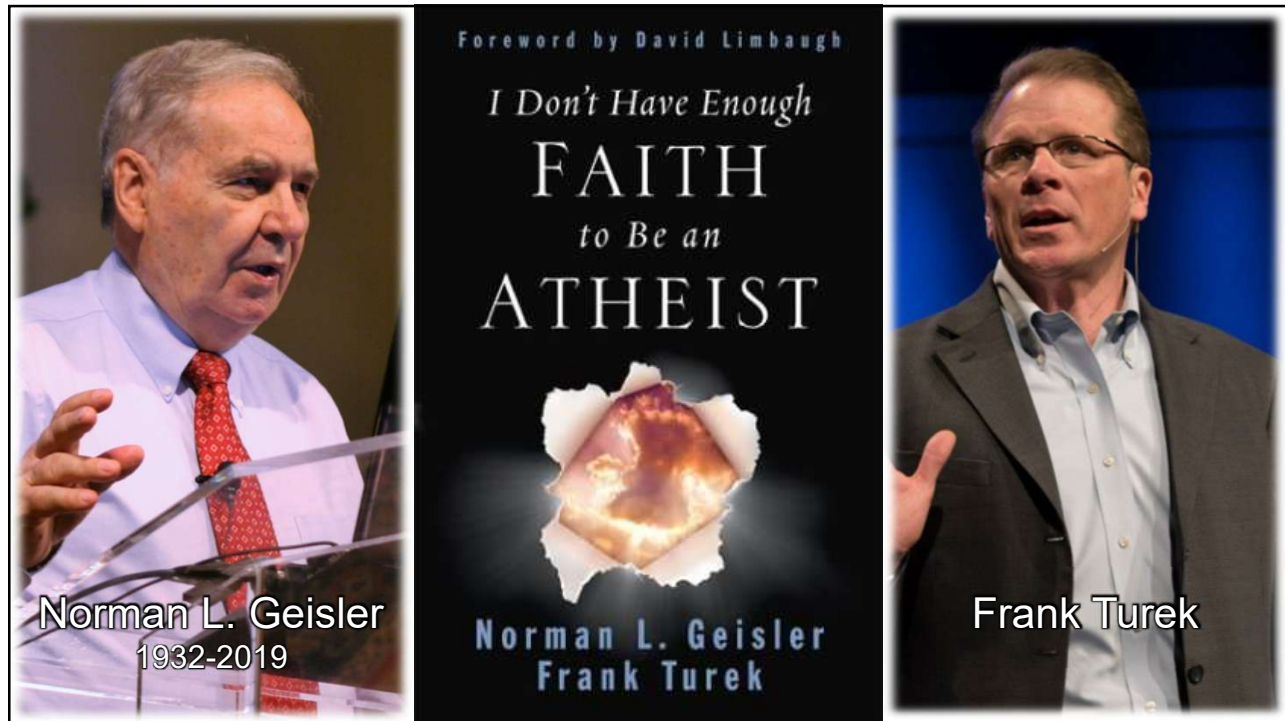
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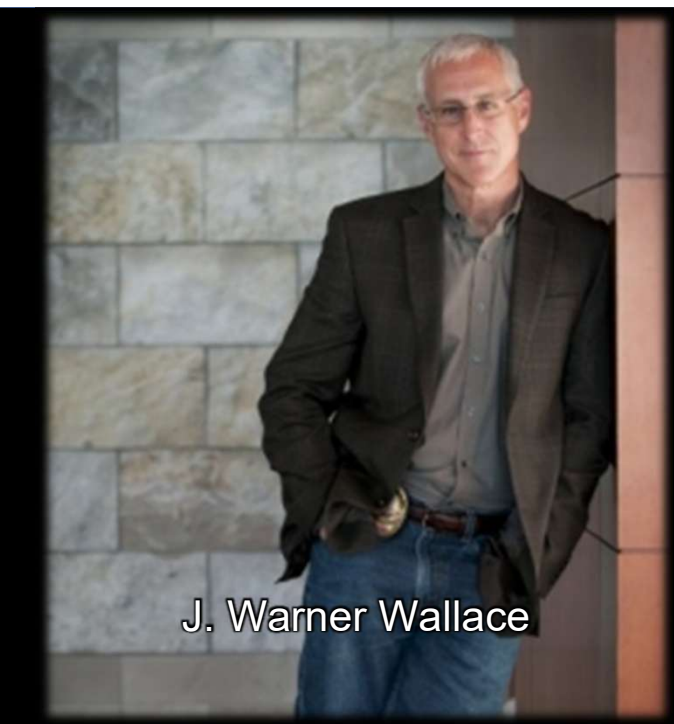
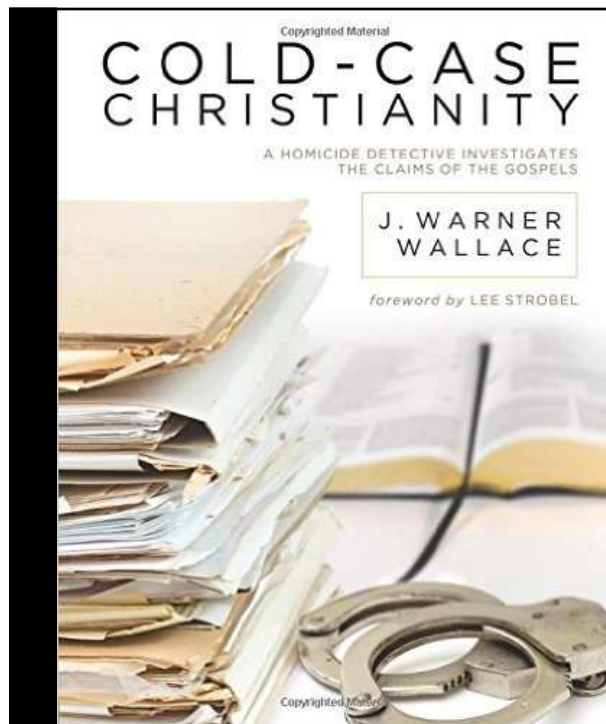
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It should be observed that this third step in the Classical Model is largely indistinguishable from the Evidentialist Model.

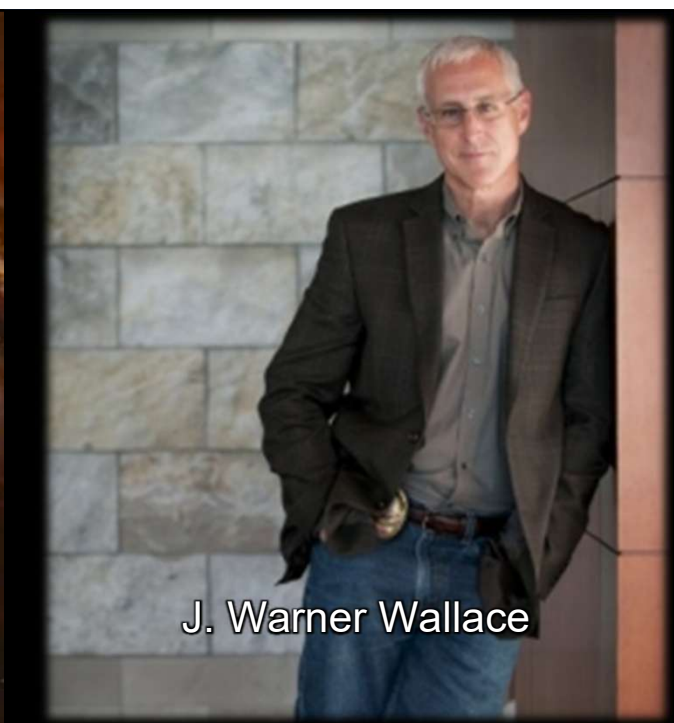
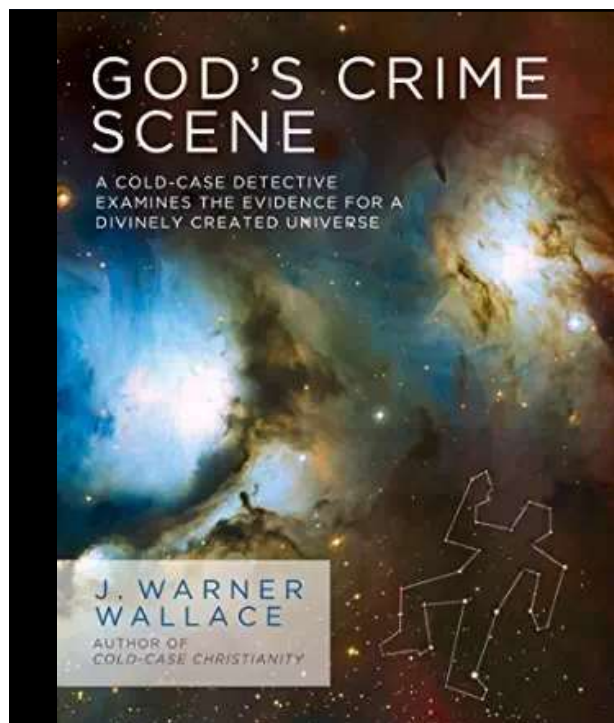








J. Warner Wallace



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