

A·POL·O·GET·ICS

əˌpɔːləˈdʒetiks/

NOUN

**REASONED ARGUMENTS OR
WRITINGS IN JUSTIFICATION OF
SOMETHING, TYPICALLY A
THEORY OR RELIGIOUS
DOCTRINE.**

APOLOGETICS: NOT AN APOLOGY BUT AN ANSWER OF THE HOPE THAT IS IN ME!

(1 Peter 3:15) 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 3:16) Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ.

RESOURCES:

- Institute for Creation Research
- Sean McDowell – Truth to a New Generation
- Evidence That Demands a Verdict – Josh McDowell
- The Case For Christ- Lee Strobel
- Dr. Ken Hamm – Creation Museum
- Dr. Frank Turek – Cross Examined
- The End of Reason ; The Logic of God – Dr. Ravi Zacharias
- One Minute Apologist
- Truelife.org

WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE?

Bible

Jesus

Eternity

Sin

Heaven

Hell

Religions

Church

Life

Death

Creation

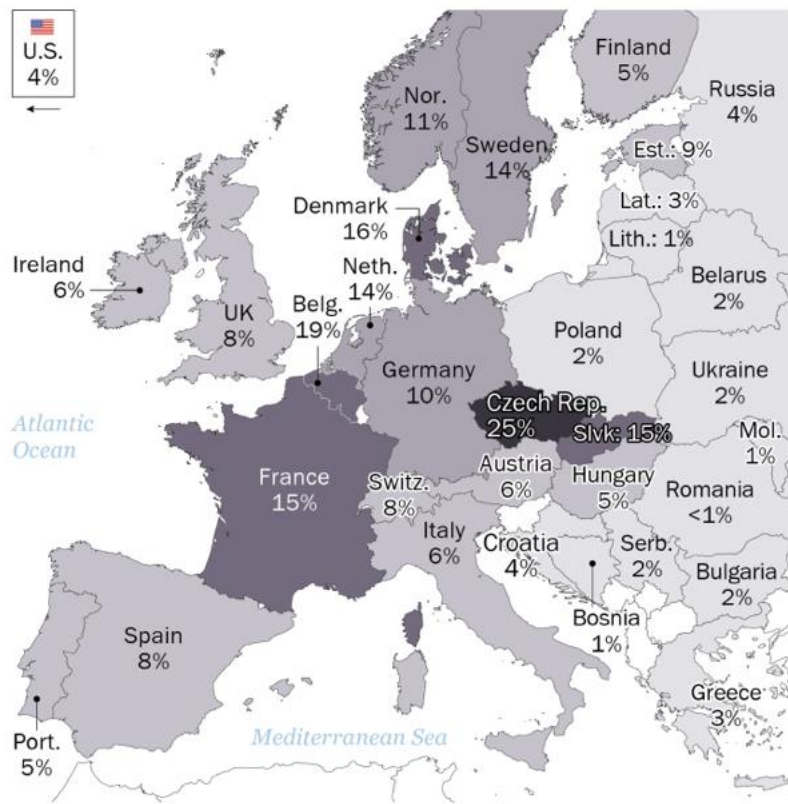
Evolution

Sexuality

Western Europeans more likely than Americans to identify as atheists

% who describe their religious identity as "atheist"

0-4% 5-9% 10-14% 15-19% 20%+ Non-surveyed country



Source: Surveys conducted 2015-2017 in 34 countries.

See Methodology for details.

"Eastern and Western Europeans Differ on Importance of Religion, Views of Minorities, and Key Social Issues"

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

<https://youtu.be/CqXZrnRaI5I>

<https://www.pewresearch.org/fact->

IF YOUR FAITH IS SO GOOD WHY MUST IT BE DEFENDED?

Man, through his sinful nature will try to excuse God and faith away through:

- ✓ Science
- ✓ Intellect Psalm 10:4
- ✓ Experience
- ✓ Hurt
- ✓ Traditions

WE MUST ESTABLISH A LEVEL OF PROOF?

1. WORD OF GOD
2. TRUTH
3. HISTORY
4. REASON
5. PERSONAL EXPERIENCE
6. PERSONAL OPINION

“You cannot insult someone to believe like
you”

WE MUST ESTABLISH A LEVEL OF PROOF?



THE IMPORTANCE AND DANGERS OF STUDYING

(Ecclesiastes 12:12) And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.

(Hosea 4:6) My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

(Acts 26:24) And as he thus spake for himself, Festus said with a loud voice, Paul, thou art beside thyself; much learning doth make thee mad.

THE IMPORTANCE AND DANGERS OF STUDYING

(2 Timothy 2:23) But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.

(Titus 3:9) But avoid foolish questions, and genealogies, and contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and vain.

THE IMPORTANCE AND DANGERS OF STUDYING

Your answers to unbelievers must be three fold:

- Biblical: relating to or contained in the Bible
- Logical: of or according to the rules of logic or formal argument.
- Practical: of or concerned with the actual doing or use of something rather than with theory and ideas.

THE IMPORTANCE AND DANGERS OF STUDYING

(Isaiah 1:18) Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.

How Did Jesus Reason with Unbelievers?

1. He encouraged questions Mark 2:8
2. He uses practical examples Mark 2:21
 - Old Clothing
 - New wine
3. He used their religious and historical knowledge as examples. Mark 2:25
4. He used logic. Why can't I heal a man on the Sabbath?
5. He excused their religious rules. Mark 3:6
6. He asked their opinions? Matthew 18:12-13

How Did Jesus Reason with Unbelievers?

The first appearance of the Herodians in Scripture is Mark 3:6, "Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus." Jesus had been doing miracles, which caused some of the people to believe in Him for salvation, and that threatened the power and position of the Pharisees, the Sadducees, and the Herodians. The Herodians again joined with the Pharisees to challenge Jesus, to see if they could trap Jesus in His words by a trick question, to either discredit Him or to get Him to stop preaching (Matthew 22:16). *Bible Answers, Towns*

Ask The Right Questions:

Types of Questions:

1. Rhetorical - a question asked in order to create a dramatic effect or to make a point rather than to get an answer (Example: Do you really believe that?)
2. Factual - Soliciting reasonably simple, straight forward answers based on obvious facts or awareness.
3. Leading: Answers may be different but point to one answer or conclusion.
4. Inconclusive - different answers or conclusions.
5. Evaluative - These types of questions usually require sophisticated levels of cognitive and/or emotional (affective) judgment.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Agnosticism

The position that neither affirms the belief in God nor denies the existence of God, but instead suspends judgement

Anthropology

The study of mankind

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Apologetics

(1) From the Greek apologia or apologeomai meaning answer or defense – not "excuse" as popularly conceived. (2) A reasoned presentation of the essential propositions of the Christian faith designed to answer objections, persuade unbelievers, and reassure believers

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Atheism

The philosophical position that denies the reality of the God of theism or other divine beings

Burden of proof

Legal term that indicates which party in a controversy has the responsibility of offering support for its position

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Contingency

In philosophical usage, an event that may or may not occur; an event whose occurrence is dependent on factors outside itself.

Cosmology

A subcategory of metaphysics that investigates the origin and process of existing things. (2) The study of cause and effect relationships with a view to determining ultimate causes.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Creationism

The belief that the universe and living organisms originate from specific acts of divine creation, as in the biblical account, rather than by natural processes such as evolution.

Darwinism

the theory of the development of biological life originated by Charles Darwin which holds that the mechanism of evolutionary development is made up of chance variations and natural selection involving competition for survival and reproduction.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Defense

An analysis of axioms of Christian theology with a view to defending Scriptural propositions as logically consistent. Example: A defense demonstrates that the simultaneous existence of God and evil are logically compatible.

Deism

A monotheistic anti-Trinitarian view of God that attributes to Him the attributes associated with transcendence, but denies His immanent involvement in the world through supernatural activity subsequent to the original act of creation.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Enlightenment

Eighteenth-century intellectual movement that emphasized the autonomy of human reason and questioned the role of traditional authorities.

Immanuel Kant and David Hume were among the most important thinkers of the Enlightenment, though it included such individuals as Thomas Jefferson as well. Kant's motto "Dare to use your own reason" expresses the attitude of the Enlightenment well. Kant and Hume both developed influential critiques of the rational grounds of religious belief, though Kant himself thought that in denying religious knowledge he was making room for rational religious faith.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Epistemology

The branch of philosophy that inquires into the nature of knowledge, its origin, foundation, and validity.

Ethics

Branch of Philosophy that concerns itself with questions of right and wrong, good and evil, virtues and vices.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Existentialism

An attempt to transcend atheistic nihilism by postulating that individual persons create their own meaning, values, and purpose in life without reference to a creator.

Extrabiblical

Outside of the Bible

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Fidelism

The view that faith takes precedence over reason

Gnosticism

A religious movement popular in the second and third centuries of the Christian church that emphasized a higher level of spiritual knowledge that is special and or secret

Hedonism

The ethical theory that identifies the good with happiness and understands happiness as the presence of pleasure and the absence of pain. Critics of hedonism argue that the hedonist confuses what is a byproduct and concomitant of the good with the good itself; we do not seek pleasure primarily, but we seek good things (love and friendship, for example) that give us pleasure. If we did not value those things intrinsically, they would not in fact give us pleasure at all. See also egoism.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Hermeneutics

The science of interpreting scripture

Hinduism

The dominant religious perspective of India, which teaches reincarnation or transmigration of the soul, and the goal of the religious devotee is seen as the deliverance of the soul from the cycle of reincarnation

Islam

Monotheistic religion that originated in what today is Saudi Arabia in the 7th century as a result of the teachings of Muhammad, recorded in the Qur'an

Jehovah's Witness

Jehovah's Witnesses is a millenarian restorationist Christian denomination with nontrinitarian beliefs distinct from mainstream Christianity.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Liberalism

Movement in Protestant theology since the nineteenth century that is dominated by the goal of modifying Christianity so as to make it consistent with modern culture and science. Liberalism rejects the traditional view of Scripture as an authoritative propositional revelation from God in favor of a view that sees revelation as a record of the evolving religious experiences of humankind. It sees Jesus more as ethical teacher and model rather than as divine atoner and redeemer.

Materialism

The doctrine that nothing more than material or physical entities exist. (2) a synonym of naturalism – a rejection of supernaturalism

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Metaphysics

The branch of philosophy that inquires into the nature of existence or being.
(2) The study of existing things with a view to categorizing all phenomena of human experience. In philosophical literature, metaphysics divides into two branches, cosmology and ontology.

Miracle

An event or effect in the physical world that defies all human or natural agency and whose cause must be supernatural in origin.

Modernism

A movement to modify Christianity to make it relevant and acceptable to modern peoples, emphasizing both science and social and political teachings. Modernism is closely linked with theological liberalism, but while liberalism is more exclusively tied to Protestantism, modernism enjoyed favor among Catholic intellectuals at the end of the nineteenth century and beginning of the twentieth.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Naturalism

(1) The physical universe of matter and energy is all that exists; nature creates and sustains itself. (2) A rejection of all supernaturalism. (3) Materialism, or the doctrine that nothing exists apart from material phenomena. (4) Atheism. The Naturalist worldview has a long history, dating at least to the Greek philosopher Epicurus and the Roman poet Lucretius.

Objective

(of a person or their judgment) not influenced by personal feelings or opinions in considering and representing facts.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Presupposition

(1) A belief held prior to investigation. (2) An assumption or criterion that precedes examination of a subject that conditions one's interpretation of that subject. Example: A Christian presupposes that miracles occur before he examines the historical evidence for Christ's resurrection. An atheist presupposes that miracles do not occur before he examines the historical evidence for Christ's resurrection.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Rationalism

(1) That form of knowledge acquisition which relies on intuition, deduction and the laws for logic. (2) a priori knowledge

Relativism

The denial of any absolute or objective standards, especially in ethics. (See objectivity.) Ethical relativists can be individual relativists, who hold that what is morally right is relative to the beliefs or emotions of the individual, or they can be cultural relativists, who hold that what is morally right varies with different societies. (See subjectivism.) Analogously, in epistemology relativism holds that what is true is dependent on the individual or the culture.

Scientific paradigms

The central doctrine of philosopher of science Thomas Kuhn which states that the formation of models is intrinsic to scientific inquiry. Science does not build by adding new information to old. Rather science changes as one model is replaced by another as a comprehensive explanatory filter for understanding a particular field of inquiry.

Singularity

The (so-called) originating point of the Big Bang, when matter, space and time were infinitely condensed into a single point.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Subjective

Based on or influenced by personal feelings, tastes, or opinions.

Worldview

A collection of answers to life's ultimate questions interpreted through a narrative that allows me to understand the world and my place in it.

APOLOGETIC TERMS

Humanism

An outlook or system of thought attaching prime importance to human rather than divine or supernatural matters. Humanist beliefs stress the potential value and goodness of human beings, emphasize common human needs, and seek solely rational ways of solving human problems.

Intelligent design

The theory that life, or the universe, cannot have arisen by chance and was designed and created by some intelligent entity.