

1 Peter Series

Lesson #089

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Dean Bible Ministries

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# GIVING AN ANSWER – PART 7

**OLD TESTAMENT:**

**GOD CONFRONTS PAGANISM**

**1 PETER 3:15; EXODUS 4; 8–11**



**1<sup>ST</sup> PETER**

**LIVING IN LIGHT  
OF ETERNITY**

# Introduction to Apologetics

- 1. What is *Apologetics*?**
- 2. Why should we learn about apologetics?**
- 3. Why do some people object to apologetics?**
- 4. The Bible doesn't use apologetics, why should we?**
- 5. What is the difference between Apologetics and Christian Evidences?**
- 6. On what basis do we defend, support, argue, that Christianity is the one and only TRUTH?**

**This means that to some degree the fallen human has some realization of his situation, spiritual death, and the reality that he is under condemnation.**

- **The unbeliever knows within him (Rom. 1:19–21)**
- **The God of the Bible (not just “a god”) is the Creator of the world**
- **The world is controlled by God’s providence**
- **The world is witness to a nonsaving grace of God**
- **Man is responsible for evil**
- **There is a need for God**
- **And man’s failure to honor God results in eternal punishment (Notaro: 34)**

**Thom Notaro, *Van Til and the Use of Evidence***

# The Basis of Knowledge

	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
Autonomous Systems of Perception	<b>RATIONALISM</b> Classic Apologetics- Logic and reason	Innate ideas Faith in human ability.	Independent use of logic & reason
	<b>EMPIRICISM</b> Evidentialism- Facts, history, science	Sense perceptions External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	<b>MYSTICISM</b> Fideism-just believe, apart from reason or evidence	Inner, private experience; intuition Faith in human ability	Independent, nonlogical, nonrational, nonverifiable
Divine Viewpoint	<b>REVELATION</b> Presuppositionalism- Presupposes the truth of Scripture	Objective revelation of God	Dependent use of logic & reason

# Revelational/Presuppositional

What is their common ground?



Christian  
Missionary

Infallible Truth of  
Special Revelation

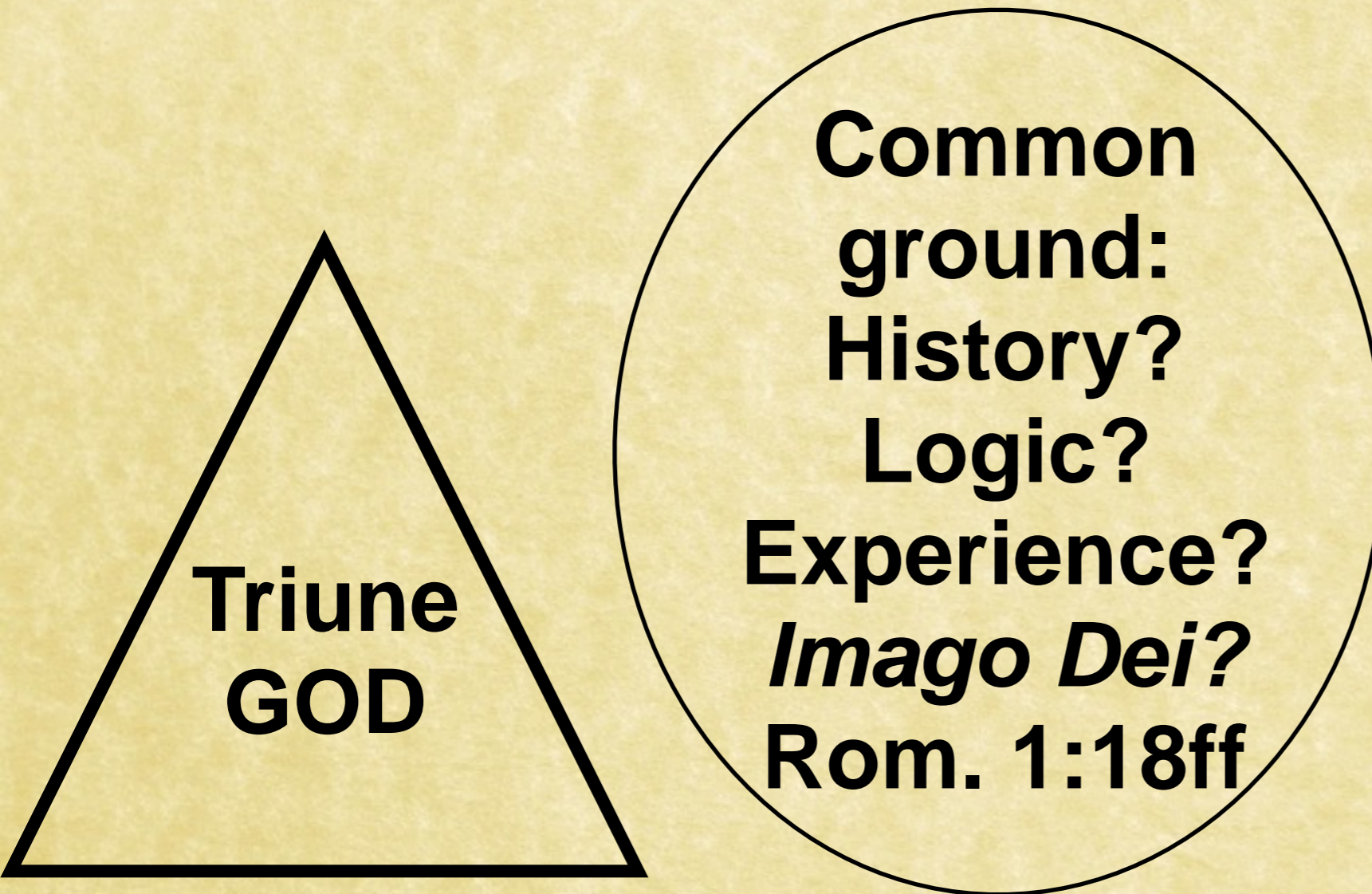
The unbeliever is in  
the image of God and  
knows God exists, and  
that he is a sinner.

God the Holy Spirit  
convincing them of  
the truth



Pagan  
aborigines;  
Your neighbor

# Divine Viewpoint vs. Human Viewpoint



**Is the common ground  
apart from God or is it the  
Creator–God who made  
man in His image?**

**Ancient humans  
Adam and Eve**

## **Examples:**

**Gen. 1:1–2:4 The Creation account directly challenges all human viewpoint (HVP) ideas of origins.**



# Examples:

## **Gen. 3:8–19 with Rom. 1:18–23**

- **People already knew they are sinners (Gen. 3:8)**
- **People are not morally or spiritually neutral (reject God, negative volition, futile thoughts, darkened hearts—Rom. 1:21)**
- **God/Jesus often uses rhetorical questions to expose human flaws (Job 38–44; John 3:1–16)**
- **God uses general revelation, historic facts, various evidences, to expose mankind's sin, rebellion, and responsibility (Rom. 1:18–23)**

**John 16:7**, “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.

**John 16:8**, “And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

**John 16:9**, “of sin, because they do not believe in Me;

**John 16:10**, “of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;

**John 16:11**, “of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”

# **God provides facts and evidence for His existence:**

- **Creation**
- **The Fall**
- **The Flood**
- **The Exodus**

**Josh. 4:9, “Then Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests who bore the ark of the covenant stood; and they are there to this day.”**

**Josh. 6:25, “And Joshua spared Rahab the harlot, her father’s household, and all that she had. So she dwells in Israel to this day, because she hid the messengers whom Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.**

**Josh. 7:26, “Then they raised over him a great heap of stones, still there to this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Achor to this day.”**

**Judg. 6:24, “So Gideon built an altar there to the LORD, and called it The–LORD–Is–Peace. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.”**

## THE TEN PLAGUES

SCRIPTURE	PLAGUE	ISRAEL EXEMPT?	EGYPTIAN GODS INVOLVED
1. 7:14-24	Nile River to Blood	No	Hapi—spirit of the Nile Khnum—guardian of the Nile
2. 7:25-8:15	Frogs	No	Heqt—form of a frog Hapi—spirit of the Nile
3. 8:16-19	Swarms of Lice/Gnats	No	Uncertain; perhaps attack on Egyptian priests
4. 8:20-32	Flies	Yes	Uatchit—a god who manifested himself as a fly
5. 9:1-7	Disease on the Cattle	Yes	Apis bull revered; Sacred bulls and cows Ptah, Mnrvis, Hathor
6. 9:8-12	Boils/Sores on Man and Animal	Yes	Sekhmet—goddess with power to heal. Serapis—healing god
7. 9:13-35	Destruction of Crops and Cattle by Hail	Yes	Seth—protector of crops Nut—sky goddess
8. 10:1-20	Destruction of Crops by Locusts	Yes	Isis—goddess of life Seth—protector of crops
9. 10:21-29	Darkness	Yes	Re—sun god. Atum—god of setting sun.
10. 11:1-12:36	Death of the Firstborn	Yes—if blood properly applied	Osiris—giver of life Pharaoh also was considered deity

## **The Plagues and the Gods and Goddesses of Egypt (*Bible Knowledge Commentary*)**

- 1. Nile turned to blood—Exodus 7:14–25**  
*Hapi* (also called *Apis*), the bull god, god of the Nile; *Isis*, goddess of the Nile; *Khnum*, ram god guardian of the Nile; and others
- 2. Frogs—Exodus 8:1–15** *Heqet*, goddess of birth, with a frog head; *Hapi*, god of the Nile
- 3. Gnats—Ex. 8:16–19** *Set*, god of the desert
- 4. Flies—Ex. 8:20–32** *Re*, a sun god; or the god *Uatchit*, possibly represented by the fly



# The Plagues and the Gods and Goddesses of Egypt

5. **Death of livestock—Ex. 9:1–7** *Hathor*, goddess with the cow head; *Apis*, the bull god, symbol of fertility; perhaps *Ptah*, *Mnrvis* also
6. **Boils—Ex. 9:8–12** *Sekhmet*, goddess with power over disease; *Sunu*, the pestilence god, *Isis*, goddess of healing
7. **Hail—Ex. 9:13–35** *Nut*, the sky goddess; *Osiris*, god of crops and fertility; *Set*, god of storms
8. **Locusts—Ex. 10:1–20** *Nut*, the sky goddess; *Osiris*, god of crops and fertility
9. **Darkness—Ex. 10:21–29** *Re*, the sun god; *Horus*, a sun god; *Nut*, a sky goddess; *Hathor*, a sky goddess

# The Plagues and the Gods and Goddesses of Egypt

**10. Death of the firstborn—Ex. 11:1–12:30** *Min*, god of reproduction; *Heqet*, goddess who attended women at childbirth; *Isis*, goddess who protected children; Pharaoh's firstborn son, a god

# **The Plagues and the Gods and Goddesses of Egypt**

- **Their religious systems is a testimony that they know there is a God, but suppress that truth. Rom. 1:18–23.**
- **They are not morally or spiritually neutral.**
- **The purpose of the confrontation is to change Pharaoh's mind.**
- **God directly challenges the false religious systems and demonstrates their impotence.**
- **This is showing the weaknesses of the human viewpoint system.**
- **The plagues provide historic facts and evidence to expose their sin and rebellion against God.**
- **The unbeliever is not in neutral ignorance, but willful ignorance.**