

Twice Born Ministry

AP-504: Philosophy of Religion

Course Code: AP-504

Credit Hours: 3

King James Version (KJV) — Sola Scriptura Curriculum

Generated 2026-06-30

Course Description

AP-504: Philosophy of Religion

Course Description

Cosmological; moral; ontological arguments

This course is part of **Layer 2 — Theology & Ministry** in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School catalog. It develops college-level competence aligned with historic evangelical systematic theology (Grudem/Ryrie/Chafer lineage) and KJV study standards.

Course Details

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion, students will be able to:

Define and biblically defend key terms and doctrines covered in the syllabus.

Exegete representative passages using literal-grammatical-historical method.

Connect this course's themes to the broader storyline of Scripture (creation → fall → redemption → glorification).

Apply doctrine to personal holiness, local church ministry, and evangelistic witness.

Complete written, oral, and collaborative assessments demonstrating mastery at 70% or higher.

Module Structure

Each lesson includes exposition, historical theology notes, application, discussion prompts, and module-aligned quizzes. Assignments require research, ministry projects, and peer interaction where noted.

Assessment Overview

- **Module quizzes:** 10 questions each (multiple choice + short answer); keys provided.
- **Assignments:** 3–4 graded projects with rubrics.
- **Group projects:** 2 collaborative exercises.
- **Final exam:** Comprehensive short and extended responses.
- **Video supplements:** 3–5 instructor scripts for optional video production.

Christian Guardrails

- • King James Bible as citation standard.
- • Christ-centered, gospel-proclaiming instruction.
- • Respectful engagement with other traditions without compromising essential doctrines.
- • No completion of academic work on behalf of others; AI tools may assist study but not replace original exegesis and reflection.

Instructor Notes

Professor Shepherd AI instructor shortcode: [tb_ai_instructor course_code="AP-504"]

Twice Born Ministry Bible School — Layer 2 Theology & Ministry

Course Modules

AP-504 — Lesson 1: Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 1 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Ephesians 1:3-14 complements the lesson theme: The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate

harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 1 Summary: We examined **Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

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Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Historical Figure Spotlight

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AP-504 — Lesson 2: Worldview Foundations

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 2 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Worldview Foundations**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Worldview Foundations did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Worldview Foundations

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Worldview Foundations**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **1 Peter 2:4-10**. Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Jude 3-4 complements the lesson theme: Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Worldview Foundations** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Worldview Foundations**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

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Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Worldview Foundations** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 2 Summary: We examined **Worldview Foundations** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Ministry Case Study

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

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Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

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AP-504 — Lesson 3: Evidence and Reason

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Historical and Theological Context

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Core Teaching

Main Theme: Evidence and Reason

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he

might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

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Systematic Connections

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Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Ephesians 1:3-14**. The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

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Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Evidence and Reason** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

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Summary and Memory Work

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Historical Figure Spotlight

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Worship Integration

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Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

AP-504 — Lesson 4: Presuppositions and Starting Points

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 4 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Presuppositions and Starting Points**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Presuppositions and Starting Points did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Presuppositions and Starting Points

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Presuppositions and Starting Points**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

1 Peter 2:4-10 complements the lesson theme: Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Presuppositions and Starting Points** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Presuppositions and Starting Points**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Presuppositions and Starting Points** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Presuppositions and Starting Points** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 4 Summary: We examined **Presuppositions and Starting Points** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

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Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

AP-504 — Lesson 5: Historical Apologetics

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 5 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Historical Apologetics**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical

literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Historical Apologetics did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Historical Apologetics

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Historical Apologetics**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Colossians 1:15-20**. Christ is preeminent in creation and redemption—firstborn, reconciler, head of the body. Against false teaching, Paul exalts Christ's sufficiency. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Jude 3-4 complements the lesson theme: Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Historical Apologetics** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Historical Apologetics**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Historical Apologetics** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Historical Apologetics** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 5 Summary: We examined **Historical Apologetics** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their

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Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies

biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

AP-504 — Lesson 6: Cultural Engagement

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 6 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Cultural Engagement**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Cultural Engagement did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Cultural Engagement

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Cultural Engagement**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **1 Peter 2:4-10**. Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Colossians 1:15-20 complements the lesson theme: Christ is preeminent in creation and redemption—firstborn, reconciler, head of the body. Against false teaching, Paul exalts Christ's sufficiency. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Cultural Engagement** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Cultural Engagement**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Cultural Engagement** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Cultural Engagement** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 6 Summary: We examined **Cultural Engagement** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the

Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

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Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

AP-504 — Lesson 7: Objections and Responses

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 7 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Objections and Responses**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Objections and Responses did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Objections and Responses

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Objections and Responses**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Ephesians 1:3-14 complements the lesson theme: The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Objections and Responses** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Objections and Responses**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity

cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Objections and Responses** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Objections and Responses** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 7 Summary: We examined **Objections and Responses** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

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AP-504 — Lesson 8: Conversations and Courtesy

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 8 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Conversations and Courtesy**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Conversations and Courtesy did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Conversations and Courtesy

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Conversations and Courtesy**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **1 Peter 2:4-10**. Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Ephesians 1:3-14 complements the lesson theme: The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Conversations and Courtesy** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Conversations and Courtesy**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Conversations and Courtesy** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Conversations and Courtesy** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 8 Summary: We examined **Conversations and Courtesy** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

AP-504 — Lesson 9: TBM Apologetics Integration

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 9 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **TBM Apologetics Integration**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

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Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

TBM Apologetics Integration did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

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Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: TBM Apologetics Integration

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **TBM Apologetics Integration**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **1 Peter 2:4-10**. Believers are living stones in a spiritual house, a holy priesthood offering spiritual sacrifices. Ecclesiology and identity merge in worship language. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Ephesians 1:3-14 complements the lesson theme: The triune God blesses, chooses, redeems, and seals according to His gracious will. This passage integrates election, adoption, and inheritance in doxological prose. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **TBM Apologetics Integration** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **TBM Apologetics Integration**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **TBM Apologetics Integration** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

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Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **TBM Apologetics Integration** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 9 Summary: We examined **TBM Apologetics Integration** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

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Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Ministry Case Study

Imagine a congregant confused about this lesson's topic after watching online teaching that contradicts historic evangelical doctrine. Draft a pastoral response email that (1) expresses empathy, (2) clarifies biblical teaching with two references, (3) invites in-person conversation, and (4) avoids condescension. Pastoral communication is part of theological training, not an optional soft skill.

Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

AP-504 — Lesson 10: Apologetics Capstone Presentation

Introduction

Welcome to Lesson 10 of **Philosophy of Religion**. In this session we examine **Apologetics Capstone Presentation**—a topic essential for faithful ministry in the Twice Born Ministry Bible School curriculum. This course belongs to the **Apologetics** track and assumes completion of BS-FND-100 (Introduction to Bible School), with the King James Version as our primary study text unless otherwise noted.

Systematic theology serves the local church. We study doctrine not to win arguments in abstraction but to love Christ more deeply, preach more accurately, counsel more wisely, and defend the faith with

gentleness and reverence (1 Peter 3:15). Each lesson builds toward measurable outcomes: biblical literacy, doctrinal clarity, and ministry readiness.

Before proceeding, pray for illumination. Ask the Holy Spirit—the divine Author who inspired Scripture—to guide your understanding. Read assigned passages aloud when possible. Take notes in a dedicated theology journal; you will use these notes for assignments, quizzes, and your final integrative exam.

Historical and Theological Context

Apologetics Capstone Presentation did not emerge in a vacuum. Justin Martyr and Tertullian engaged pagan philosophers with Scripture-saturated reason. The scholastic tradition produced ontological and cosmological arguments; the Reformed tradition emphasized presuppositional critique of unbelief. Twice Born Ministry adds tested evangelistic frameworks for Catholic, Islamic, Mormon, and secular contexts drawn from church experience and published apologetics volumes.

When reading secondary sources—including standard systematic theologies in the Grudem, Ryrie, and Chafer traditions—always verify claims by exegesis. Tradition may inform; Scripture judges. The Twice Born Ministry approach welcomes helpful summaries while insisting that confessional statements remain servants, not masters, of the biblical text.

Students should note how cultural pressures reshape doctrinal debates. In every era, the church faces temptation to soften uncomfortable truths—hell, sin, exclusivity of Christ, biblical authority. Historical study strengthens courage: saints before us contended for the faith once delivered (Jude 3) under worse conditions than most Western students face today.

Core Teaching

Main Theme: Apologetics Capstone Presentation

Peter commands believers to 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 3:15). Apologetics is worshipful witness—defending truth without arrogance. The goal is not winning debates but clearing obstacles so the gospel may be heard.

Paul models contextual apologetics on Mars Hill (Acts 17:22-31): he quotes poets, exposes idolatry, proclaims creation and judgment, and calls for repentance. He becomes all things to all men that he might save some (1 Corinthians 9:22), yet never compromises the resurrection or exclusivity of Christ.

Colossians 2:8 warns, "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." Worldviews must be tested by Scripture. Twice Born Ministry apologetics applies this grid when engaging Catholic authority claims, Islamic monotheism, Mormon revelation, and secular humanism.

Systematic Connections

Doctrine is interconnected. A shift in bibliology eventually alters soteriology; a flawed Christology undermines assurance; pneumatology affects worship and ethics. As you study **Apologetics Capstone Presentation**, map at least three connections to other loci (doctrine areas). Use cross-references in a chain reference Bible or equivalent study tool.

Evangelical systematic theology organizes truth for teaching while preserving the biblical storyline. Dispensational and covenant theologians may disagree on ecclesiology and eschatology yet affirm Nicene Christology and Reformation soteriology. Charity in disagreement, clarity on essentials, and partnership in evangelism mark mature students.

Exposition and Cross-References

Primary Passage Walkthrough

Consider **Romans 1:16-17**. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel because it is God's power unto salvation. Righteousness is revealed from faith to faith—justification by faith stands as the article by which the church stands or falls. Read the paragraph aloud, noting verbs, connectives, and repeated words. Ask: Who is acting? What is promised? What response is commanded?

Secondary Passage

Jude 3-4 complements the lesson theme: Contend earnestly for the faith once delivered. Apologetics and ecclesial vigilance belong together—false teachers creep in unnoticed. Use the analogy of faith—Scripture interprets Scripture. Clearer passages illuminate harder ones; narrative, poetry, epistle, and apocalyptic each contribute distinct lenses.

Word Study Hint

Select one theologically loaded term from **Apologetics Capstone Presentation** (e.g., grace, holiness, justification, church, revelation). Use a concordance to trace its usage across Testaments. Note semantic range but anchor meaning in the specific context of your primary passage. Avoid importing English connotations anachronistically.

Common Questions and Objections

Students routinely ask hard questions when studying **Apologetics Capstone Presentation**. Pastoral theology addresses minds and hearts.

"Isn't doctrine divisive?" Division over pride is sin; division over truth is sometimes necessary (Romans 16:17-18). Unity without truth is mere sentiment. Pursue both biblical fidelity and Spirit-produced gentleness.

"Can't I just love Jesus without theology?" To love Jesus is to love the real Christ, not a self-generated image. Doctrine describes who He is and what He has done. Superficial familiarity cannot sustain martyrs or missionaries.

"What about contradictions?" Apparent tensions (e.g., sovereignty and human responsibility) invite humble systematic reflection, not hasty rejection. The Bible is coherent; our finitude is the limit.

Document one objection you have encountered in ministry or personal study. Answer it in 200 words using at least three scripture references. This exercise prepares you for the short-answer portions of module quizzes and the final exam.

Application for Life and Ministry

Knowledge without obedience puffs up (1 Corinthians 8:1). **Apologetics Capstone Presentation** should change how you pray, preach, parent, counsel, and witness.

Personal devotion: Write a one-paragraph prayer responding to God's character and commands in this lesson. Identify one sin to mortify and one grace to cultivate.

Local church: Discuss the lesson in Sunday school or small group. Teach one insight to a newer believer without using unexplained jargon.

Evangelism: Prepare a 60-second explanation connecting this doctrine to the gospel's bad news (sin) and good news (Christ crucified and risen).

Homeschool band: Parents adapt concepts for age-appropriate catechism. High school students complete scripture memory; younger students draw storyline comics for narrative doctrines.

Twice Born Ministry Apologetics Integration

Apply this lesson when engaging alternative worldviews taught in TBM True Faith and Worldviews tracks. Test every claim by Scripture (Isaiah 8:20). Distinguish persons from systems—Catholics, Muslims, Mormons, and secular friends bear God's image and deserve respectful witness. Confront ideas, love people. Prepare one thoughtful question and one gospel bridge statement from this lesson's content.

Discussion Questions

How does **Apologetics Capstone Presentation** reshape your understanding of God, humanity, Christ, or the church?

Which scripture from this lesson is most convicting? Most comforting? Explain.

Where have you heard this doctrine distorted in popular culture or religious media?

What preaching or teaching error would correct application of this lesson prevent?

How would you explain this topic to a twelve-year-old believer? To a seminary-trained pastor?

Summary and Memory Work

Lesson 10 Summary: We examined **Apologetics Capstone Presentation** through biblical exposition, historical theology, systematic connection, and ministry application. Truth learned must be truth lived.

Memory Verse: Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic.

Preview: In the next lesson, continue building the cumulative framework of this course. Review prior quiz questions before advancing—Tutor LMS progress assumes mastery at 70% or higher on assessments.

Soli Deo gloria.

Ministry Case Study

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Worship Integration

Select a hymn or worship song rich in biblical doctrine (e.g., "Holy, Holy, Holy," "And Can It Be," "A Mighty Fortress"). Analyze its lyrics for theological accuracy in light of this lesson. Lead family worship using that hymn, reading one supporting passage before singing. Theology should enliven corporate praise, not remain abstract.

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Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their

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Supplemental Reading and Reflection

Assign one chapter from a standard systematic theology textbook or equivalent lecture notes. Summarize the author's definitions, note where Scripture proofs appear, and evaluate whether the Bible truly supports each claim. Theology students must read widely yet judge all teaching by the Word. Write a half-page response connecting supplemental reading to this lesson's theme.

Historical Figure Spotlight

Research one defender of orthodoxy related to this doctrine—Augustine, Athanasius, Luther, Calvin, Spurgeon, or a modern missionary martyr. Write 150 words on how their context shaped their

emphasis. Standing on their shoulders, we inherit confessions forged in controversy. Imitate their courage and Scripture saturation, not necessarily every cultural application.

Appendix A — Assignments

Week 01

Week 01 Assignment — Reflection Journal

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 1: Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **analyze** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 1: Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Analyze: Write a 300–500 word reflection on **AP-504 — Lesson 1: Philosophy of Religion: Biblical Mandate for Apologetics**. Include at least two KJV citations and one personal application.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Philosophy, Religion

Week 02

Week 02 Assignment — Memory Verse Application

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 2: Worldview Foundations

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **apply** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 2: Worldview Foundations** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Apply: Recite Memory Verse:** Select one verse introduced this lesson. Write it on an index card; review daily until verbatim recall is automatic. from memory, then write 250 words explaining how it applies to daily discipleship.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Worldview, Foundations

Week 03

Week 03 Assignment — Expository Outline

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 3: Evidence and Reason

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **outline** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 3: Evidence and Reason** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Outline: Produce a structured outline (400+ words) for the main passage in **AP-504 — Lesson 3: Evidence and Reason**. Include pericope titles and one-sentence themes.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Evidence, Reason

Week 04

Week 04 Assignment — Discussion Response

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 4: Presuppositions and Starting Points

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **explain** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 4: Presuppositions and Starting Points** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Explain: Answer two discussion prompts from the Week 4 reading in 200 words each. Cite KJV only.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Presuppositions, Starting

Week 05

Week 05 Assignment — Practical Ministry Step

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 5: Historical Apologetics

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **demonstrate** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 5: Historical Apologetics** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Demonstrate: Complete one practical ministry action tied to **AP-504 — Lesson 5: Historical Apologetics** (visit, prayer walk, family worship, or service). Submit a 200-word report plus optional photo upload.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Manual review (practical/upload).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Week 06

Week 06 Assignment — Witness Outline

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 6: Cultural Engagement

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **construct** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 6: Cultural Engagement** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Construct: Draft a 3-minute spoken witness outline using this week's theme. Include gospel bridge, one objection with biblical answer, and call to faith.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Cultural, Engagement

Week 07

Week 07 Assignment — Cross-Reference Study

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 7: Objections and Responses

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **compare** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 7: Objections and Responses** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Compare: Find three cross-references that illuminate **AP-504 — Lesson 7: Objections and Responses**. Write 400 words comparing themes (OT + NT).

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Objections, Responses

Week 08

Week 08 Assignment — Historical Context Brief

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 8: Conversations and Courtesy

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **describe** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 8: Conversations and Courtesy** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Describe: Write 350 words on historical/literary context for **AP-504 — Lesson 8: Conversations and Courtesy**. Minimum four KJV citations.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Conversations, Courtesy

Week 09

Week 09 Assignment — Christological Connection Essay

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 9: TBM Apologetics Integration

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **evaluate** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 9: TBM Apologetics Integration** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Evaluate: Explain how **AP-504 — Lesson 9: TBM Apologetics Integration** points to Christ in 400–600 words. Use literal-grammatical-historical method.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Apologetics, Integration

Week 10

Week 10 Assignment — Teaching Prep

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 10: Apologetics Capstone Presentation

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **design** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 10: Apologetics Capstone Presentation** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Design: Prepare a 5-minute teaching outline for **AP-504 — Lesson 10: Apologetics Capstone Presentation** suitable for a small group or homeschool lesson.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Apologetics, Capstone

Week 11

Week 11 Assignment — Integration & Review

Course: AP-504 · Philosophy of Religion

Week focus: AP-504 — Lesson 10: Apologetics Capstone Presentation

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **synthesize** course content from **AP-504 — Lesson 10: Apologetics Capstone Presentation** with KJV integration and measurable evidence in the submission.

Task

Synthesize: Synthesize the top five themes from Philosophy of Religion. 600 words, minimum six KJV citations, one paragraph on personal growth.

Submit: Text via LMS assignment form. PDF upload optional for longer work.

Grading

Grading mode: Auto-grade eligible (written text).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Auto-grade hints

Keywords for automated pre-check: KJV, Christ, Scripture, God, Lesson, Apologetics, Capstone

Week 12

Creative Ministry Project — AP-504

Course: Philosophy of Religion

Code: AP-504

Learning objective (Bloom's taxonomy)

Students will **create** an original ministry artifact synthesizing course themes with KJV fidelity and scholarship-gallery quality.

Overview

Complete an original **Creative Ministry Project** demonstrating what you learned in this course. Select one project type when submitting your assignment. Approved work may appear in the [Scholarship

Gallery](<https://twicebornministry.com/bible-school/scholarships/>) so supporters can **donate toward student scholarships** — you retain credit and ownership of your work.

> This is ministry education, not a sale of intellectual property. Donations fund scholarships.

Project types

Requirements

Original work — cite all Scripture in KJV; footnote other sources.

Course connection — explicitly tie your project to at least two module themes from AP-504.

Ministry focus — aim to edify believers or reach seekers with the gospel.

Upload — submit via the **Creative Ministry Project** assignment at the end of the course; select your project type in the form.

Length guides:

- Written: 800–1500 words
- Audio/Video: see durations above
- Photography: 1–3 images + caption
- Application: working prototype + 300-word user guide

Grading rubric (100 points)

Pass: 70%

Scholarship gallery

If your project is approved, it may be listed at /bible-school/scholarships/ with a **Support this student** donation button. Supporters give toward the scholarship fund for your project type — not to purchase your content.

Prayer

> *"Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer."* — Psalm 19:14 (KJV)

Grading

Grading mode: Manual review (creative upload).

Pass: 70%

Rubric (100 points)

Creative Ministry Project

Creative Ministry Project — AP-504

Course: Philosophy of Religion

Code: AP-504

Overview

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Original work — cite all Scripture in KJV; footnote other sources.

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- Written: 800–1500 words
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- Photography: 1–3 images + caption
- Application: working prototype + 300-word user guide

Grading rubric (100 points)

Pass: 70%

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