BIBLICAL APOLOGETICS: Know What You Believe

Session #1

Apologia

Apologetics comes from the root word "apologia" which is a Greek term meaning "______"

"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect..."

1 PETER 3:15

The hope that you have _____

Be prepared to give an answer _____

Reason for the hope _____

... with gentleness & respect _____

WHY STUDY APOLOGETICS

- 1. Apologetics is a tool that God uses to foster _____
- 2. Apologetics can ______ an unbeliever's ______ in their ______
- 3. Apologetics can ______ the faith of _____

Understanding Textual Criticism

All literature from the ancient world is reconstructed through common process called Textual Criticism. A Textual Critic takes surviving manuscript copies and compares their variants to be able to ascertain what the original would have said.

Manuscript _____

The New Testament has over _____ manuscripts in the original Greek.

Homers Illiad is the runner up with _____ manuscript copies .

Most writings from antiquity have only _____ manuscript copies to compare.

Manuscript _____

The New Testament has copies dating as close as ______ years to the original autographs

It's not uncommon to see time gaps of _____ years when surveying most literature from the ancient world

If Emperor Diocletian had successfully destroyed every single copy of the New Testament writings as he had intended, we could still re-assemble the entire New Testament with 99.999% confidence because of the writings of ______ who quote the New Testament _ in their writings!

IN SUMMARY

The Bible in your hand today is NOT passed down through a game like 'telephone'. It is a direct translation of the original Greek text from which we have vastly more manuscript copies and closer dating to the originals than any other document from antiquity BY FAR.

Additional Notes