

Introduction to Apologetics

SESSION 3: WHAT IS REVELATION?

3C: How does General Revelation Serve Apologetics?

1. A Maxim for Apologetics: All truth is God's truth.
2. GR serves as handmaiden to SR by:
 - a. GR in the study of physical nature:
 - i. The study of physical nature serves SR through Biology, Physics, Chemistry, Geology, Mathematics, Music, etc.
 1. Design: Biology, Mathematics
 2. Purpose: Physics, Geology
 3. Awe: Music, Art
 - b. GR in the study of human nature:
 - i. The study of human nature serves SR through Philosophy, History, Archaeology, Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, etc.
 1. Conscience/Judicial Sentiment: Ethics, Logic (Philosophy)
 2. Looking for Meaning in the Past: History, Sociology
 3. Longing for Better in the Future: Anthropology, Psychology
3. GR serves as an aid to reason (passionally understood).
4. GR provides a "wing" of reason to join with the other "wing" of faith; the two "wings" bring us to God (specifically, the God of Scripture).
5. Recall doxastic voluntarism (we choose what we will believe):
 - a. GR always serves as implicit evidence.
 - b. GR can (and should) serve as explicit evidence.
6. GR must be a handmaiden and not a mistress.
 - a. Wooden and radical concordism (the teaching that current science is always viewed through the lens of Scripture and will align with Scripture when properly understood) is to be avoided when looking at GR.
 - b. It is true that GR, properly understood, will never contradict SR.

