

CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED
Potential Question & Answer Guide
1 Peter 3:15 – “always be ready ...”

How Do You Know God Exists?

- creation bears witness in the order and design of the cosmos (Romans 1:18-20; Psalm 19:1-4)
- inward recognition of objective moral law (conscience) (Romans 2:14-15)
- requirement (and working assumption) of an objective standard of justice, goodness, beauty, truth, and morality
- testimony of Scripture (God has revealed Himself by speaking) (2 Timothy 3:16)

How Do You Know The Bible Is True?

- accuracy of current text validated by the abundance of manuscripts
- historical accuracy of its content confirmed by archaeology
- claims eyewitness testimony to the risen Lord Jesus (later martyred for their faith)
- multitude of fulfilled prophecies and types
- unity of its content despite written by various authors and in various time periods (Westminster Confession of Faith I.5 & Westminster Larger Catechism Q. 4)
- if Jesus is regarded as a good moral teacher, His view of the Bible confirms its reliability and truth (for example, His affirming the historicity of Adam and Eve and the story of Jonah) (John 10:35; Mark 10:1ff.; Matthew 12:39ff.)

If There Is A God, Why Is There Evil?

- admitting to evil presupposes the reality of goodness and justice (and an objective standard for them)
- God has a morally justifiable reason in allowing evil (cf. Job): the reason itself is a mystery within all religious frameworks
- God is not indifferent or uncaring about evil and suffering but enters into it in the person of Christ
- evil and suffering is introduced into creation not by God but by the sin and rebellion of man
- God has triumphed over evil through the work of Christ (evil is not the first word or the last word in creation, but is temporary)

Don't All Roads Lead To God? Why Is Jesus The Only Way?

- it is not essentially that Christians say Jesus is the only way, but that Jesus Himself and the Bible say it (John 14:6, Acts 4:12)
- humanity's problem must be defined as the need for righteousness and holiness because of who God is (a right theology) and as man's sinfulness (a right anthropology): Christianity alone proclaims salvation from sin by a Savior who bestows divine righteousness (Romans 3:21-24)