



Why American Churches Need Apologetic Ministries

Europe - Under 10% regularly practice Christianity.

United States - 85% of Christian churches are in decline, 10% are flat and only 5% are growing.

Christian students - More than 50% stop following their faith before they complete their public education.

Christian beliefs - 2/3 of Christians under 65 & 1/3 over 65 attending church accept evolution rather than the foundational biblical Genesis account of creation.

Absolute Truth - Less than 10% of youth believe this.

Evolution - The sole undisputed faith based religion in our schools is evolution.

Atheism - America's fastest growing belief system.

Promotion of Evolution Theory - Evolutionists aggressively promote their beliefs through the media, Internet, museums, and institutions of higher learning.

What's Wrong

- ▶ Most Christian churches and parents fail to properly equip Christian young people to defend their faith inside and outside the public school classrooms.
- ▶ 45% of Americans believe in biblical creation, yet have little choice but to send their children to public schools teaching evolution as the source of origins.
- ▶ Many churches are silent on the issue of evolution because they have not done their homework on the advancement and defense of Creation by God. To justify their silence they often infer that it's okay to accept evolution as long as you believe in salvation through Jesus Christ. They don't seem to grasp how difficult it is to accept the truth of Jesus Christ without the foundational belief in the truth of the Bible.
- ▶ Some churches are simply making the mistake of trying to fit evolution theory into the Bible. The Roman Catholic church is one example of this.
- ▶ Only about 1 in 10 churches carry any significant apologetic or Creation material in their libraries.
- ▶ Pastors/Priests and Christian leaders teach "what" we should believe, not "why" we can believe it.

Questions for the Modern Church

1. Why should Christians support churches that don't answer life's most pressing questions about origins?
2. Why should Christians support churches that remain silent on issues like abortion, definition of marriage, evolution being taught “exclusively” in public schools, etc.?
3. How can a church expect its followers to evangelize non-believers, not having been taught apologetics? 1 Peter 3:15 – Peter writes, *Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life, and if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.*
4. If the churches remain silent on the evidence and observable science supporting the Genesis account of creation, or issues of Science Vs. Religion, what can they expect of their members? Psalm 11:3 – David writes, *The foundations of law and order have collapsed. What can the righteous do?*
5. If churches teach the love of Jesus, but fail to persuade the lost that God is real and the Bible is trustworthy, is Jesus honored?
6. Genesis is proclaimed as the truth in the Gospels and by Jesus Christ Himself. If the Bible is the inspired Word of God, then on what basis is the Genesis account rejected by the church?
7. If churches redefine Genesis, then does that not make the entire Bible subject to revision?

How we can encourage Apologetics and share evidence for Creation by God

- ✓ Encourage churches, Bible colleges, seminaries and Christian book stores to increase the number of apologetic books, DVDs & magazines available.
- ✓ Encourage churches to run courses on apologetics and evidence for creation by God.
- ✓ Encourage oral and written church competitions on apologetic subjects to stimulate personal research and develop a better understanding of the Christian faith.
- ✓ Encourage support and donate to Christian apologetic ministries like AIG, ICR, CDI, CMI.
- ✓ Encourage Christian movie making and Christian television programming.
- ✓ Encourage church leaders and members to use apologetics in discussions about origins, age of the earth, global flood, suffering, the Bible's authority and other major Christian matters.
- ✓ Encourage Christian TV and radio stations to promote apologetic evidence for Creation by God to counter evolutionary “origins” taught in public schools.
- ✓ Encourage the display of apologetic pamphlets such as those distributed by the Creation Data Institute Inc.
- ✓ Take every opportunity to refute evolution theory. For instance, respond to *letters to the editor* mocking creationists. Ask if you can leave apologetic tracts or pamphlets in hotel rooms, doctor’s offices, etc.