

NCFCA APOLOGETICS TOPICS

Tournament Directors will make selections from the topics posted on this site for use in league sanctioned competition.

Category 1: EXISTENCE AND NATURE OF GOD

Definitions

1. Explain the meaning and significance of the trinity.
2. Explain the meaning and significance of the omniscience of God.
3. Explain the meaning and significance of the omnipotence of God.
4. Explain the meaning and significance of the omnipresence of God
5. Explain the meaning and significance of the transcendence of God
6. Explain the meaning and significance of the immanence of God.
7. Explain the meaning and significance of the eternity of God.
8. Explain the meaning and significance of the immutability of God.
9. Explain the meaning and significance of the infinite nature of God.
10. Explain the meaning and significance of the holiness of God.
11. Explain the meaning and significance of the righteousness of God.
12. Explain the meaning and significance of the justice of God.
13. Explain the meaning and significance of the sovereignty of God.
14. Explain the meaning and significance of the mercy of God.
15. Explain the meaning and significance of the grace of God.

General Questions

1. In what ways has God revealed Himself to man?
2. If God is real, why can't people see or touch Him?
3. If God is holy, why did He allow sin in the world?
4. How can God be both merciful and just?
5. How can God be one and yet three (unity versus trinity)?
6. Open theology states that God is constantly changing and growing with His creation. Respond to this Biblically.
7. Open theology states that God is constantly growing and changing with His creation. Respond to this logically and pragmatically.
8. Why is the unchanging nature of God critical to who He is?

Statement Analysis

1. Analyze and respond to the statement, "The existence of God and of a future life is everywhere recognized in Africa." David Livingstone
2. Analyze and respond to the statement, "The Old Testament God is a God of hate while the New Testament God is a God of love."

3. Analyze and respond to the statement, "Gods are fragile things. They may be killed by a whiff of science or a dose of common sense." Chapman Cohen
4. Analyze and respond to the statement, "If God did not exist, it would be necessary to invent Him." Voltaire
5. Analyze and respond to the statement, "What we believe about God is the most important thing about us." A.W. Tozer
6. Analyze and respond to the statement, "God is merely an impersonal force in the universe. He is untouchable and unapproachable."
7. Analyze and respond to the statement, "God set the universe in motion but He has no interest in it."
8. Analyze and respond to the statement, "If God understands my humanity and sin nature better than I do, why does He still hold me accountable for what I cannot help doing?"

Category 2: SCRIPTURES

Definitions

1. Explain the meaning and significance of inerrancy.
2. Explain the meaning and significance of verbal, plenary inspiration of Scripture.
3. Explain the meaning and significance of divine inspiration.
4. Explain the meaning and significance of Biblical canon.
5. Explain the meaning and significance of higher criticism and lower criticism.

General Questions

1. Jesus clearly demonstrated His belief in the authority of Scriptures. Defend this statement with evidence.
2. If the Bible was written by men, how could it also be written by God?
3. How did the church decide what should be included in the canon of Scripture?
4. How can the Bible be trustworthy when it has been translated so many times?
5. What is the foundation for accurate Bible translation?
6. Provide evidence for the historical accuracy of the Bible.

Statement Analysis

1. Analyze and respond to the statement, "No man ever believes that the Bible means what it says; he is always convinced that it says what he means." George Barnard Shaw
2. Analyze and respond to the statement, "The Bible is no different than any other holy book."
3. Analyze and respond to the statement, "The Bible is simply the work of a great conspiracy, where people sought to create a religion of their own."
4. Analyze and respond to the statement, "The Old Testament is merely a set of myths made up by the Jewish people to establish a national identity and give themselves a feeling of superiority."

Category 3: THE NATURE PURPOSE AND DESTINY OF MAN

Definitions

1. Explain the meaning and significance of the image of God.
2. Explain the meaning and significance of the depravity of man.
3. Explain the meaning and significance of original sin.
4. Explain the meaning and significance of the sin nature.
5. Explain the meaning and significance of sanctification.
6. Explain the meaning and significance of repentance.
7. Explain the meaning and significance of regeneration.

General Questions

1. Do all men have a longing for God?
2. Do all men have a conscience?
3. If God is invisible, (1 Timothy 1:17) how can man be made in the image of God?
4. If man is inherently sinful, why do most men lead relatively good lives?
5. What is the purpose of man?
6. What is the destiny of man?
7. Why would a loving God create hell?
8. What is the essential duty of man?
9. What is meant by the "fall of man"?

Statement Analysis

1. Evaluate and respond to the following statement, "All men were born with ten fingers and toes but no one was born with the knowledge of God." Voltaire
2. Evaluate and respond to the following statement, "...whatever a man sows, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7
3. Evaluate and respond to the following statement, "Heaven is only a state of mind."
4. Evaluate and respond to the following statement, "He's only human." (as a justification for sin and the need for leniency).
5. Evaluate and respond to the following statement, "When man dies, he simply ceases to exist. There is no immortality or eternal life."

Category 4: SALVATION or HOW TO KNOW GOD

Definitions

1. Explain the meaning and significance of justification.
2. Explain the meaning and significance of atonement.
3. Explain the meaning and significance of propitiation.
4. Explain the meaning and significance of redemption.

General Questions

1. How can a man know God?
2. Can a man become right with God by keeping the Ten Commandments?
3. Isn't it narrow minded to believe there is only one way to heaven?
4. Why does man need salvation?

Statement Analysis

1. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "It doesn't matter what you believe as long as you are sincere."
2. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "There are many roads to God."
3. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "Every charitable act is a stepping stone to heaven." Henry Ward Beecher
4. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "I commune best with God when I am out in nature. I don't need organized religion or a list of do's and don'ts."
5. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "I know that all of the good vibes he sent out will return to carry him off to a better place." Comment made after to death of Bob Hope.
6. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "Christianity is the opiate of the masses." Karl Marx
7. Analyze and respond to the following statement, "Jesus said, 'I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father except through me.'"

Category 5: THE PERSON OF CHRIST

Definitions

1. What is the meaning and significance of the deity of Christ?
2. What is the meaning and significance of the virgin birth?
3. What is the meaning and significance of the Incarnation?
4. What is the meaning and significance of Jesus' claim that He is "the Son of Man?"
5. What is the meaning and significance of Jesus' claim that He is "the Son of God?"
6. What is the meaning and significance of Jesus as the Mediator?
7. What is the meaning and significance of Jesus as the Messiah?
8. What is the meaning and significance of Jesus as the Word of God?
9. What is the meaning and significance of Jesus as the Lamb of God?

General Questions

1. Why is the resurrection essential to the Christian faith?
2. If God is infinite, how could He limit Himself in the person of Christ?
3. How could Jesus be both God and man?
4. Why did Jesus have to die to provide salvation for men?
5. What evidence is there for the historical existence of Jesus?

6. What evidence is there for the resurrection of Jesus?
7. Did Jesus attain deity by His sacrificial death or was He God from the beginning?

Statement Analysis

1. Analyze and respond to the following statement, “Jesus’ life and death are merely examples to us that we should all live sacrificial lives.”
2. Analyze and respond to the following statement, “Jesus was a good man and a good teacher but certainly not the Son of God.”