

Spirit in the heart. The formula which describes this approach is:

FAITH PLUS NOTHING

b. Pure Evidentialist Approach

This view usually begins with reason attempting to prove the existence of the self, of the world, of the soul, and of God; and then proceeds to attempt to prove that the Bible is the Word of God. Once the Bible is proved, its truths are accepted by faith. The first truths are therefore articles of knowledge; the truths of revelation are articles of faith. The formula which describes this approach is:

REASON PLUS REASONABLE FAITH

c. Combination Presuppositional-Evidential Approach

This view presupposes the truth of Xy, but offers reasons, evidences or arguments to show the reasonableness of faith and to confirm the truth of the Xn presuppositions, the meanwhile emphasizing the necessity of the work of the Holy Spirit to make reasoning fruitful. The formula which describes this approach is:

FAITH PLUS REASON

(to show that faith is reasonable)

2. What Apologetic Approach Shall We Employ?

With the above definitions, all of the recent and contemporary apologists for Xy may be classified as proponents of the third approach above, the combination of Presuppositional and Evidential!

This includes apologists from Charles Hodge and A. B. Bruce to Gordon H. Clark and Cornelius Van Til. Admittedly the former are near the evidentialist end of the spectrum and the latter near the presuppositionalist end.

3. What Apologetic Methods are There (within the context of the combined presuppositional-evidential approach)?

a. The Rational Arguments Method

This method assumes the truth of Xy and then uses the rational arguments (deductive type) to show that Xy's first principles are reasonable.

Floyd E. Hamilton and Stuart C. Hackett use this method