

b. The Philosophical Arguments Method

This method assumes the truth of Xy and then postulates Xy as the only hypothesis which can explain the facts of uniformity and coherence in the world; or as the only hypothesis which can account for the facts in the areas of metaphysics, epistemology, logic and axiology.

Some, such as Cornelius Van Til, would give deductive force to this method. Others, such as Edward J. Carnell and Gordon H. Clark, would give only inductive (probability) force to this method.

c. The Biblical and Historical Evidences Method

This method assumes the truth of Xy, and then proceeds to enumerate evidences to confirm the truth of Scripture. It then seeks to establish the historical reality of the incarnation, deity, and bodily resurrection of Christ, and the reality of Xn experience, by both internal and external evidences.

Bernard Ramm, John W. Montgomery and Clark H. Pinnock use this method.

4. What Apologetic Method Shall We Employ?

a. Rational Arguments Method

The rational arguments, understood deductively, should be laid to a well-deserved rest.

b. Philosophical Arguments Method

The deductive form is simply invalid and should be dropped altogether.

The inductive form can be used with those capable of discussing philosophy, to vindicate the presuppositions of Xy, and to defend and vindicate Xy as a total world-view.

c. Biblical and Historical Evidences Method

This method can be used even with persons not philosophically inclined, to make specific replies to attacks on particular truths, and to defend and vindicate the system of Xn truth itself.