

# Week 14 Contemporary Issues and Christian Apologetics

## 1. Overview

- 1) Modern society is rapidly changing, presenting complex social, ethical, and cultural challenges.
  - 2) Christianity must go beyond personal belief and actively defend the truth while engaging the world.
  - 3) This lecture explores contemporary issues through a biblical lens and applies Pauline apologetics to respond effectively.
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## 2. Learning Objectives

- 1) Understand major contemporary issues
  - 2) Develop a biblical worldview for each issue
  - 3) Apply practical apologetics in real-life contexts
  - 4) Communicate truth with both conviction and love
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## 3. Key Topics

### 1) Major Contemporary Issues

- (1) Postmodernism and denial of absolute truth
- (2) Gender ideology and sexual ethics
- (3) Bioethics (abortion, euthanasia)
- (4) Scientism and humanism
- (5) Religious pluralism and relativism

### Characteristics

- (1) Shift from God-centered truth to human-centered values
  - (2) Weakening of biblical authority
  - (3) Emphasis on personal experience
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### 2) Establishing a Biblical Worldview

- (1) God-centered truth (John 14:6)
- (2) Creation order and human identity (Genesis 1:27)
- (3) Sin and redemption framework
- (4) Absolute moral standards

### Key Principle

- (1) Scripture is the final authority
  - (2) The Gospel, not culture, is the standard
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### 3) Pauline Apologetic Approach

- (1) Understand context and culture
- (2) Find common ground (Acts 17 – Areopagus)
- (3) Present logical arguments
- (4) Proclaim the Gospel and call for response

#### Characteristics

- (1) Persuasive, not aggressive
  - (2) Uses cultural and philosophical language
  - (3) Gospel-centered conclusion
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### 4) Apologetic Strategies for Key Issues

#### (1) Relativism

- ① Does truth exist?
- ② Expose logical contradictions
- ③ Present Christ as absolute truth

#### (2) Gender & Sexual Ethics

- ① Emphasize creation order
- ② Affirm human dignity
- ③ Distinguish sin from identity

#### (3) Bioethics

- ① God as the author of life
- ② Sanctity of human life

#### (4) Science vs Faith

- ① Different domains, not contradiction
- ② Rationality of creation

#### (5) Religious Pluralism

- ① Are all religions equal?
  - ② Emphasize exclusivity of salvation
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### 4. Discussion Questions

- 1) What is the most challenging issue today?
  - 2) How should we respond to relativism?
  - 3) How can truth and love be balanced?
  - 4) How should the Church engage cultural issues?
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#### 5. Assignments

- 1) Analyze one contemporary issue biblically
  - 2) Prepare a 5-minute apologetic presentation
  - 3) Record real-life apologetic conversations
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#### 6. Conclusion

- 1) Christian apologetics is not merely argumentation but a mission to proclaim truth.
  
- 2) While the world changes, the Gospel remains constant. Believers must respond to contemporary challenges with wisdom, courage, and love.