



SESSION 2

Norman Geisler often used a “_____” tactic to show that certain skeptical claims “plummet” when applied to themselves.

The roadrunner tactic is a method of argumentation that exposes a self-defeating statement by turning the claim back on itself. The name references the classic cartoon in which Wile E. Coyote often runs off a cliff but only falls after he realizes there is no ground beneath him. The tactic works on the principle that a statement that fails to meet its own standard is inherently contradictory and cannot be true.

How it Works

The tactic involves two main steps:

1. _____ the claim: Clearly understand the statement being made.
2. _____ the claim to _____: Question whether the statement lives up to its own criteria.

By applying the claim to itself, one can reveal its internal inconsistency.

Key Aspects of the Road Runner Tactic:

- **Definition:** It is a technique for responding to _____ - _____ statements by turning the claim on itself.
- **Examples of Usage:**
 - **Claim:** "There are no absolute truths."
 - **Response:** "Is that an absolute truth?"
- **Purpose:** It is primarily used in Christian apologetics to challenge postmodern _____ and _____ viewpoints.
- **Basis:** The tactic relies on the law of noncontradiction, which states that _____ claims _____ both be _____ in the same sense.

Additional examples of self-refuting arguments:

Challenge: There is no truth.

Defense: Is that true?

Challenge: There are no absolutes.

Defense: Is that absolutely true?

Challenge: All truth is relative.

Defense: Is that an absolute truth?

Challenge: You should doubt everything.

Defense: Should I doubt that?

Challenge: You shouldn't judge!

Defense: Isn't that a judgment?

Challenge: You should only believe things that are empirically verified.

Defense: Is that empirically verified?

Challenge: You should not impose your morals and beliefs on people.

Defense: Then why are you imposing your morals and beliefs on me?

Norman Geisler used _____ primary classical arguments to challenge the atheist's naturalistic worldview. We cannot go into detail on these tonight. This is simply an introduction.

1. **Cosmological** (_____): There must be a _____ cause for the beginning of the universe (_____ *argument*).
2. **Cosmological** (_____): There must be a _____ _____ for the universe's ongoing _____.

NOTE: The vertical cosmological argument focuses on why the _____ exists *right now* (*sustaining cause*), while the _____ argument focuses on how the universe _____ in the past (*originating cause*).

3. _____: The extreme complexity and "_____ - _____" of the universe suggest an intelligent designer.

4. _____: The existence of objective moral laws necessitates an objective moral Lawgiver.
5. **Ontological (_____ Being)**: Based on the idea of a maximally perfect being.
6. **Ontological (_____ Being)**: If something finite and contingent exists, an infinite and necessary Being must exist to ground it.

NOTE ON 5 & 6: An ontological perfect being (e.g., Anselm/Descartes) is the greatest conceivable being, defined by possessing all _____, including necessary _____, to avoid the contradiction of being less than perfect. An ontologically necessary being is one whose non-existence is impossible.

5 common arguments against Christianity

The five common arguments against Christianity—the _____ of _____, perceived lack of evidence, church _____, *biblical* _____, and _____ truth claims—are robustly addressed by Christian apologetics. Defenders use _____, _____, and _____ to argue that God is not _____, evidence _____, and faith is _____ defensible.

Here are the five top arguments and their corresponding apologetic defense.

1. The Problem of _____ and _____: If God is all-_____ and all-_____, why does evil and suffering exist?

Defense: God has given humans _____, which is necessary for _____ love and _____, but it _____ for _____ choices. Furthermore, God can use _____ for personal _____ or ultimate _____ (e.g., the Cross) and will bring ultimate justice.

2. Lack of _____ for God/Evolutionary Science: Science, particularly evolution, makes God unnecessary.

Defense: The _____ of the universe (_____ - _____) and the existence of objective moral _____ point to an _____ designer rather than _____ chance. Science and faith are not mutually exclusive; many scientists believe science reveals God's creation.

NOTE: YoungHoon Kim is reported by multiple sources to hold the highest officially recognized _____ in the world, with a score of _____.

YoungHoon Kim is an outspoken _____. In June 2025, he publicly professed his _____ on social media, declaring, "_____ is _____, the way and the truth and the life."

Brilliant scholars who are Christians or Theists: Many famous historical and contemporary scientists believed in God or a higher power, including Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein (though his belief was more pantheistic/Spinozan), Galileo Galilei, Johannes Kepler, Michael Faraday, Gregor Mendel, Francis Collins, and Louis Pasteur, often viewing faith and science as complementary paths to understanding truth.

Check out the book, _____ MYTHS: 30 Ph.D. _____ who _____ in the Bible.

What percentage of the world is theist?

Approximately _____ % to _____ % of the world's population identifies with a religious group, generally considered theistic or holding spiritual beliefs, according to data from 2020-2025. Major religions include _____ (approx. 29-32%), _____ (24-26%), and _____ (15%). Roughly 16% to 24% of the global population is religiously unaffiliated, a group that includes atheists and agnostics.

3. Hypocrisy and Misdeeds of Christians: Christians have committed atrocities (Crusades, Inquisition, slavery) and are hypocritical.

Defense: The _____ of followers do not _____ the truth of the message itself. Christianity holds that all _____ are _____ in need of grace; therefore, _____ in the church are _____, not _____ against it.

4. Biblical Contradictions and Reliability: The Bible is written by ancient, ignorant people, contains contradictions, and is not historically reliable.

Defense: Most alleged _____ are resolved by understanding the _____, _____, and _____ languages. The Gospels are considered early, eyewitness-based accounts that hold up to historical scrutiny.

5. Exclusive Truth Claims (Exclusivism): It is intolerant and arrogant to claim Christianity is the only way to heaven.

Defense: Truth is inherently exclusive (2+2=4 is not _____ of the number 5). If Jesus is God, His claim to be "the _____, the truth, and the life" is not arrogant, but simply _____. Christianity teaches that salvation is a gift of grace, not a reward for superiority.

Who are we _____ on when it comes to apologetics?

1. _____: Increasing our faith and growing closer to God.
2. _____: Someone who does not believe in any god or divine being.
3. _____: Someone who believes it is impossible for humans to know for sure whether or not a god or spiritual beings exist.
4. _____ religions: Those who follow false gods or heretical teachings.

APOLOGETICS KIT: What do we want to possess in our apologetics kit?

1. Remember, the _____ is a _____
2. _____: Pray for _____ opportunities to reveal God to others. And to use you to win those you know, and those you don't know yet, to the Lord. Also, pray for God to use other believers to witness to others.
3. **Holy Spirit:** Pray that the Holy Spirit would _____ hearts, _____ them to Him, and bring _____ and _____ into their lives that would draw them to God.
4. **Don't _____:** Persistence and _____. Strive to fulfill the Great Commission, and don't let what seemingly is a negative interaction with someone else cause you to give up on your passion to win others to Jesus.
5. **Kindness:** Don't be _____, _____, unloving, unmerciful, and _____. Remember, "People don't _____ how much you _____, until they _____ how much you _____."
6. _____: If we have all the knowledge regarding God, _____, _____, and every other dimension of biblical apologetics, but don't tell anyone else, it doesn't do any good. Have a clear, direct, concise understanding of the Gospel message. And ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in your evangelization. And then share it with others.
7. _____: properly defined love. Remember that what can sound loving from the perspective of inclusion can be harmful.
8. _____ and know the Holy Bible and study other supplemental sources of knowledge to help you become a better defender of the faith.
9. _____ a godly role model/example.
10. Have solid arguments to _____ God's _____.
11. Arguments to prove Christ _____, _____, _____ again, and was _____ in the flesh and the _____ of mankind.
12. _____ questions and _____ answers: Defense for other common challenges to the faith, such as suffering, hypocrisy, exclusivity of Christianity, creation, perceived contradictions in the Bible, moral and ethical challenges to God, and the historicity of the Bible.

This gives you a good foundation.