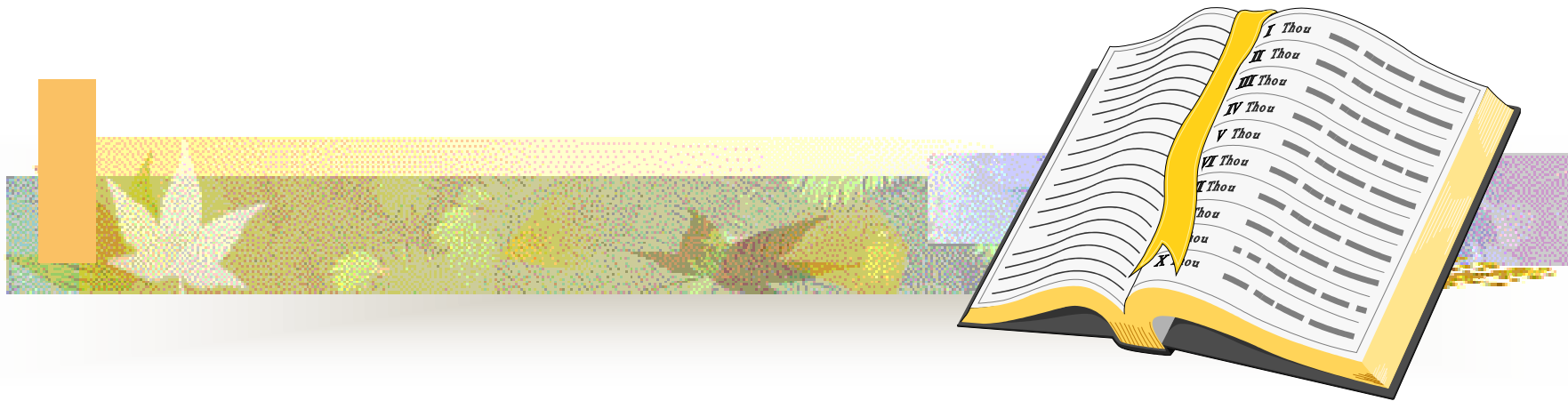


Teaching Christian/Creation Apologetics Overseas



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Teaching Overseas

- The Needs/Opportunities
 - Education on selective topics
 - Short term teaching assignments
- The Venues
 - Bible Colleges, Churches, Universities
- The Subject Matter
 - Christian Apologetics
 - Creation vs. Evolution
 - Biblical Worldview
- The Experience
- Some Guidelines



The Needs/Opportunities

- Underfunded Bible Schools
- Short supply of teachers
- Culture steeped in Evolution and Atheism
- Lack of courses on specialized topics
- Matching teachers with the needs
- Ideal for short term assignments



Bible Schools + Seminaries

- Schools founded by missionaries
- Schools founded by local Christians
- Schools founded by denominations
- Schools founded by overseas ministries
- The Master's Academy (TMA)
- Greater European Missions (GEM)
- ABWE-sponsored Bible Schools



The Master's Academy (TMA)

Training Centers

- Albania - Southeastern Europe Theological Seminary
- Brazil - Instituto Ekklesia
- Croatia - Theological Biblical Academy (TBA)
- Germany - European Bible Training Centre
- Honduras - Ministerios Evangelicos de las Americas
- India - Pastoral Training Institute
- Italy - Italian Theological Academy



More TMA Training Centers

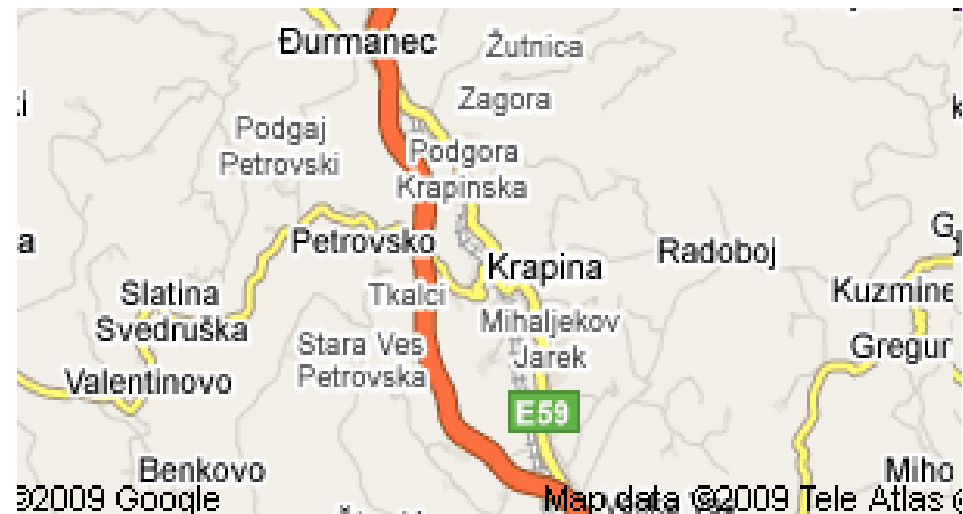
- Japan - Hamadera Bible Institute
- Mexico - Word of Grace Biblical Seminary
- New Zealand - The Shepherd's Bible College
- Philippines - TMAI – Philippines
- Russia - Word of Grace Bible Institute
- Russia - Samara Preachers' Institute & Theological Seminary
- South Africa - Christ Baptist Church Seminary
- Ukraine - Irpin Biblical Seminary (Irpen)

TBA School in Krapina



Croatia – part of
former Yugoslavia

Krapina – north of
Zagreb, the capital



TBA in Krapina, Croatia

Dr. Misko Horvatek,
Founder/President of TBA



- TBA founded in 1997
- Training Croatian pastors for the ministry
- 3-year biblical program
- 4-year theological program





Bible Schools Founded by GEM

- Greek Bible Institute in Pikermi
 - Outside of Athens, Greece
- Zaporozhye Bible College & Seminary
 - Zaporozhye, Ukraine
- Tyndale Theological Seminary
 - Outside of Amsterdam, Netherlands
- Others in Europe

Greek Bible College in Athens

- Founded in 1973 by GEM
- Programs offered
 - Four-year degree
 - One-year Alpha program
- 40 to 50 students
- Greek and foreign teachers



<http://www.alphaprogram.eu/>

Greek Bible College

- The Alpha Program
 - One-year course in Bible
 - Classroom, seminars, research, outreach
- Equip students for life and ministry
- Designed for overseas students
 - Low cost
 - Transferable credits
- Very intensive program
- All teaching in English
- Greek teachers + foreign teachers



Zaporozhye Bible College

- Founded by GEM and the Baptist Union
- Bible College & Seminary
- Courses designed for pastors, Christian education workers, worship leaders
- Largely staffed by outside teachers



Teaching Opportunities

- Two-Week Modular Teaching Opportunities For North American Pastors and Teachers
- Three & four year courses
- A Ministry of Greater Europe Mission





Selected Subject Matter

- Courses developed based on
 - Perceived needs
 - Personal interests
- Topics chosen
 - Creation vs. Evolution
 - Christian Apologetics
 - Biblical Worldview

[These topics need to be taught in the US and Canada as well as overseas]



Stumbling Blocks in Coming to Faith in Christ

1. Lack of intellectual knowledge of God
2. If God is all-loving and all-powerful, why is there so much pain, suffering, and evil?
3. Other Christians – their perceived hypocrisy
4. Sin: accepting Christ would require turning away from sin
5. Perceived conflict between Science and the Bible, e.g. Creation v. Evolution



The Reality!

- According to pollster George Barna:
 1. Only 9% of “born again” teenagers believe that absolute truth even exists
 2. At least 60% of the children from evangelical homes are estimated to leave the church once they leave home [largely because of indoctrination by secular/evolutionary teaching]



More Statistics

- About 40% of Christians renounce their faith before graduating from college
- Christians are thinking more and more like humanists
- Among adults, 32% of those who claim to be “born again” believe in moral absolutes [compared to 15% of others]
 - Among teens, 9% and 4%



The Solution

Teach The
Truth in the Bible
from the very first verse!

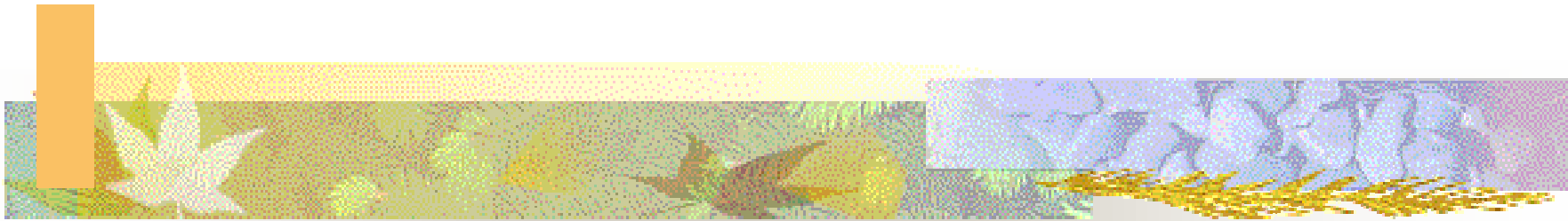
We Have A Missions
Field Right Here



Courses Developed

- Creation vs. Evolution
 - Science – scientific method vs. origins
 - Assumptions
- Christian Apologetics
 - Evidence-based **
 - Philosophical
 - Presuppositional
- Biblical Worldview [*under development*]
 - What is it?
 - Compared with other worldviews

Creation/Evolution – What is the Controversy and Why Does It Matter?



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Overview

- Creation/Evolution Controversy
 - What, history, importance
- Biblical Basis for Creation
 - Reliability, archaeology, special revelation
- Evidence for a Global Flood
- Scientific Basis for Creation
- Compromising Theories of Origins
- Intelligent Design Movement
- The Impact of Evolution on Society
- How Then Should We as Christians Respond?

Some Common Misconceptions

- Skeptics and unbelievers think:

“The Bible is an antiquated religious book, filled with scientific fallacies and mistakes reflecting the naïve cosmology of the primitive tribes of the Near East.”
- Even some professing Christians think:

“The Bible is a book of true religion dealing solely with spiritual subjects and that, where it seems to touch on matters of science and history, it must be interpreted spiritually or allegorically, rather than literally.

Evolution is Science

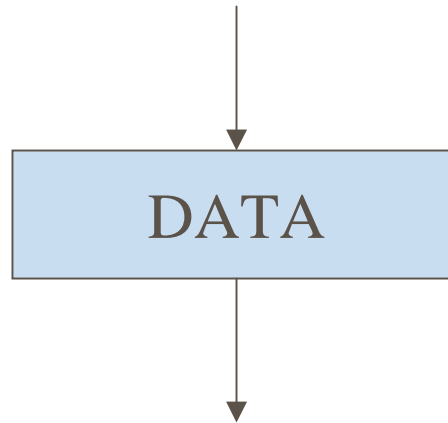


Creation is Religion



How Our Thought System Works

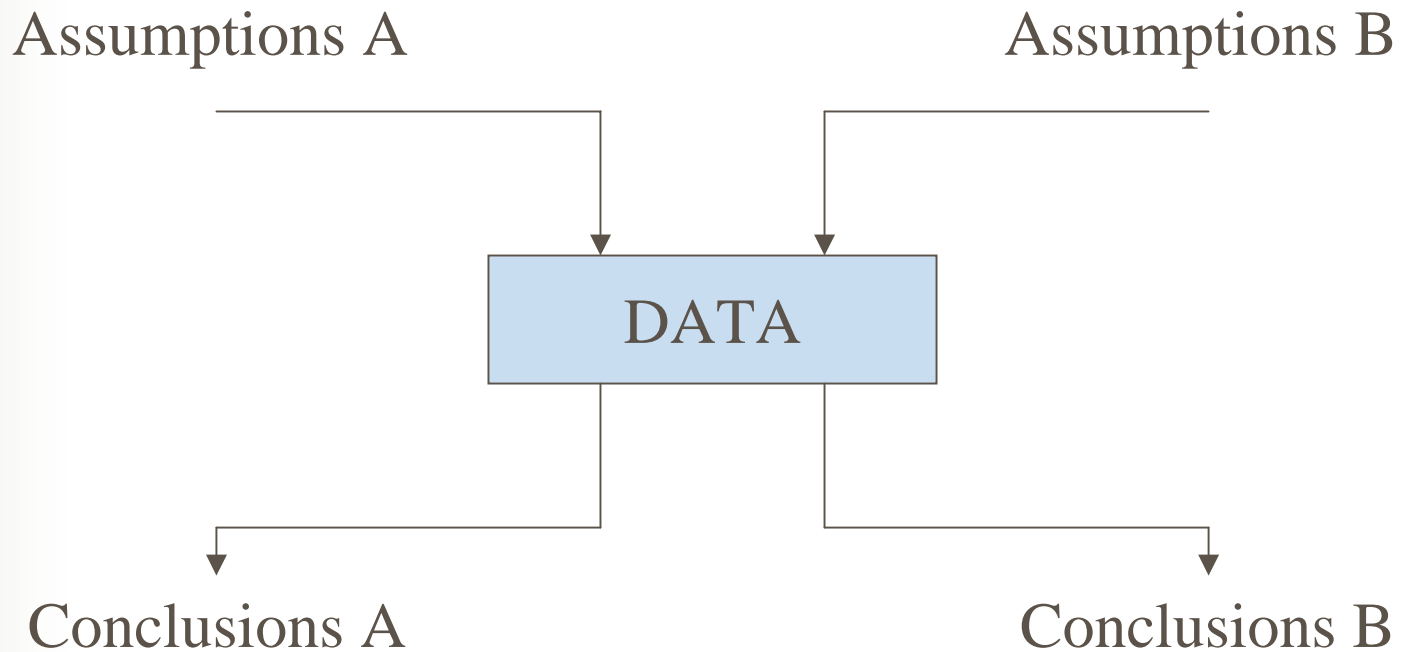
Assumptions (held by faith)



Conclusions

Logical thought is the means by which we draw conclusions from the facts/data after starting with certain assumptions.

Creation/Evolution Controversy





Two Thought Systems

■ Creator Acted

- Supernatural origins
- Design
- Miracle
- Event
- Creation

■ Creator Didn't Act

- Naturalistic origins
- Chance
- Properties of matter
- Natural process
- Evolution



Abuses of Scientific Theory

- Dogmatism
 - Theory equated/confused with fact
- Extrapolation
 - Theory extended to areas in which it is not known to apply
- Exaggeration
 - Theory accorded higher degree of verification
- Subjectivism
 - New facts explained as “error of observation”
- Exploitation
 - Theory used to justify activity in other arenas



3rd World Country Cultures

- Communist background
- Secular education
- Taught that evolution is a fact
- Religious beliefs
 - Atheism
 - Pantheism
 - Reincarnation
 - New Age
 - Nihilism, existentialism, animism, etc.

Does Your Truth Match Reality?



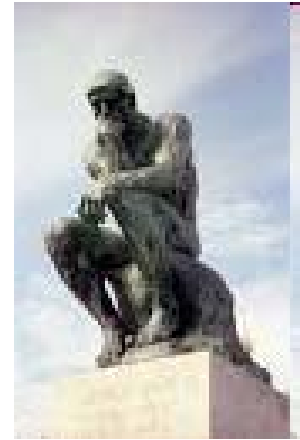
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Overview

- What is the issue?
- Introduction to Apologetics
- Arguments for God's existence
- Why Apologetics?
- What is truth?
- Contrasting views of truth
- How do we know truth?
- How do we know the Bible is true?
- Does the Truth in the Bible match reality?
- What is the evidence for Truth in the Bible?





The Truth Issue

- Your “truth” is what you believe to be true
- How do you know it is true?
 - Based on presupposition?
 - Verified by credible evidence?
- Is the Christian Truth true?
 - Looking at the evidence
 - Does the evidence support Christian Truth?
- What about Atheism? Evolution? Creation?
- What about Mormonism? Hinduism? Buddhism?



Apologetics

- *Apologia* (Greek) – speaking in defense
- Apologetics is a defense of beliefs by arguments, evidences, and reasons for why we believe what we believe
- Why Apologetics?
 - Explain basic Christian beliefs
 - Defend beliefs from those who attack them
 - Defend beliefs from heretical beliefs



Topics/Questions Covered

- Jesus' Credibility – Is He God?
- Prophecies Come True – Messianic + Others
- Christ Rose From the Grave – What is the Evidence?
- Is the Bible God's Word?
- Does Archaeology Verify the Bible?
- Creation Apologetics
- Is the Bible Reliable Scientifically?
- If God is All-Loving and All-Knowing, Why Do We have Evil and Suffering?



The Thailand Experience

- Church in Bangkok
 - Sermons
 - Sunday School
- Weekend Church Camp
 - Selected Christian Apologetics topics
- Remote village in northern Thailand
 - Karen tribes
 - Selected topics

Weekend Church Camp



Teaching at Church Camp



Quilts at Mountain Village





The Greek Experience

- Greek Bible College
 - In Pikermi, outside of Athens
 - One year Alpha Program
 - Two-week course on Christian Apologetics
- Weekend talks on Creation vs. Evolution
 - The Scientific Case Against Evolution
 - The Scientific Case For Creation
 - God's Incredible Creatures

Breakfast with Alpha Students



Testimony At Chapel Service



Gerda Teaching Quilting in Greece



Ministry at Brothels in Greece



Ruins of Ancient Corinth





The Croatian Experience

- Theological Biblical Academy
 - In Krapina, outside of Zagreb
 - Four Year Bible Program for Christian Workers
 - Two-week course on Christian Apologetics
- Weekend Talks in Petrinja & Krapina
 - Sermon on The Good Samaritan
 - Sermon on Celebration of the Reformation
 - Does Archaeology Verify the Bible?
 - Why is There So Much Pain and Suffering?

Teaching in Krapina



Women's Bible Study and Craft Session



Worship Before Sermon – Petrinja





Preparing for Short Term Teaching

- Be active in missions
- Be active in SS teaching
- Determine the needs in selected areas
- Prepare the material
- Teach the material in SS classes
- Develop the overseas connections
- Explore funding options



More Information

- ICR – Institute for Creation Research
 - www.icr.org
 - Acts and Facts articles on Creation
- Answers in Genesis
 - www.answersingenesis.org
 - Books, seminars, articles on Creation
- Creation Research Society
 - www.creationresearch.org
 - Publication of peer-reviewed creation articles
- Dr. Heinz Lycklama's Lectures
 - www.osta.com/creation & www.osta.com/apologetics
- True Origin Archive
 - www.trueorigin.org
 - Exposing the myth of evolution



**Thank you
for your
attention!**

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