

COURSE SYLLABUS

Christian Evidences

Course Lecturer: Victor M. Matthews, STD
Former Professor of Systematic Theology at Grand Rapids
Theological Seminary in Grand Rapids, MI

Course Description

Christians are told to give an explanation for the hope they have in Christ and believers through the ages have prepared themselves accordingly for such a task. In this course, Dr. Victor Matthews introduces learners to apologetics as he shows the solid evidences for the Christian faith. Students will grapple with the relationship between faith and facts and understand the role that apologetics has played in the meaning of biblical Christianity.

Course Objectives

Upon completion of the course, you should be able to do the following:

- Understand the meaning of biblical Christianity.
- Answer objections to supernatural intervention in human affairs.
- Explain the importance of Christian apologetics.
- List the most important evidences in support of the Christian faith.

Course Lecturer



Victor M. Matthews, STD (1921-2008)

Education:

- Chicago Lutheran Theological Seminary, STD
- Calvin Theological Seminary, ThM
- Grand Rapids Baptist Seminary, BD
- Calvin College, AB

Teaching Career:

- Professor Emeritus, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary (1990-2008)
- Professor of Systematic Theology, Grand Rapids Theological Seminary (1949-1989)
- Taught courses in apologetics, biblical studies, and theology
- Volunteered thousands of hours teaching weekly night Bible classes to the general public in addition to training Christian businessmen and community leaders

- Launched Thursday Evening Bible Class (TEBC), which remains active today in Western Michigan
- Studied in Israel and taught courses in Liberia, West Africa

Other Career Highlights:

- Ordained Baptist preacher
- Pulpit supply pastor
- Pastor in Seattle, Washington
- Active member, Evangelical Theological Society (53 years)
- Member, American Statistical Association
- Board Member and Secretary of the Board, Galilean Baptist Mission
- Regular speaker at various conferences, retreats and camps throughout the Midwest
- Nationally recognized as a leading expert on spiritual warfare
- Cornerstone University named its auditorium in his honor and designated its highest athletic scholarship after Dr. Matthews and his wife, Bonnie

Publications:

- Various church and ministry publications, including booklets on “Biblical Inspiration,” “Textual Inerrancy,” and “Theological Integrity”
- Numerous books, including *Confessions to a Counselor*, *Personal Success*, *Plant My Feet on Higher Ground*, *Growth in Grace*, and *Neo-Evangelicalism*
- The famous “Warfare Prayer”

Course Methods

The lecture content for each lesson is provided in two easy-to-use formats: audio and PDF text (if available). Students can choose the medium (or combination of media) that most closely aligns with their individual learning styles.

Course Assessment and Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Listening to all 12 audio lectures.
2. Completing a final self-assessment form in which you will reflect on the content in the course and evaluate your life in light of what you have learned. The specifics of this assessment are provided in the course materials.

Course requirements noted in this syllabus will be validated before a Certificate of Completion is awarded to any student.