

Keswick Convention 2018 (S1)

Apologetics and the Great Commission - Rodgers Atwebembeire (Rev) Seminar 1 - The Mission Field (meanings, mandate and moment)

(1) The meanings

(a) The Commission

Jesus' command to make disciples of all nations

It involves teaching, preaching, baptising and obedience

(b) Apologetics

The branch of theology that deals with the rational explanation and defence of the Christian faith

(2) The mandate

(a) Making disciples is everyone's responsibility (Matt 28:18-20)

(b) Defending the faith: every believer

Jude 3-4 - contend for the faith

Acts 20: 25-31 - guard the flock

Titus 1:5-11 - refute error

1 and 2 Timothy - sound

(c) The two work together

Few are equipped for the task of making disciples

(3) The moment

(a) A multi cultural call - the nations

Today's culture - relative, inclusive, naturalistic

Our message - absolute, exclusive, supernatural

(b) A multi religious call - alternative spiritualities

(c) Christianity is to challenge pre-existing religious claims

(4) The moment of truth

Addressing this culture requires apologetics

Understanding and answering the cults requires apologetics

Apologetics becomes a tool by which we fulfil the Great Commission

It becomes a 'must-have' in every believers life

Keswick Convention 2018 (S2)

Apologetics and the Great Commission - Rodgers Atwebembeire (Rev)
Seminar 2 - The Messengers

A tale of two missionaries:

The wicked ones (Matt 28:11-15)
Conflict, collusion and corruption
Distortions, denial and deception

The weak ones (Matt 28: 16-20)
Doubt (Matt 28:17)
Unbelief and stubborn (Mark 16:14-15)
Hopeless and helpless (Luke 24: 19-21)
Fear (John 20: 19-21)
Confusion (Acts 1:6-8)

The tools necessary
The promise of the Holy Spirit and authority
The presence and person of Jesus
Apologetics

Establishing the credibility of our faith
The giving of reasons for what we believe and why we believe it
The convincing of non-believers about the truthfulness of our message

There are other missionaries in the field
Most of them are counterfeits
We have the power of Christ on our side

Keswick Convention 2018 (S3)

Apologetics and the Great Commission - Rodgers Atwebembeire (Rev) Seminar 3 - The Message

(1) What it was

A - A Christ centred message

B - A call to forgiveness and repentance C - A challenge to obedience D - A communion of saints E - A compassionate lifestyle

(2) What it has become

A - A mass crusade evangelism - the battle for numbers B - A hyper-grace theology versus a call to obedience C - A man-centered worship experience (prosperity theology and prophetic appeal) D - An individualistic self-contained

(3) What it must become again

A - A call to discipleship for discernment and defence B - What does the Bible say:

(I) By growing in spiritual maturity (Heb 5: 12-14)

(ii) By learning to interpret God's word (2 Tim 2:15 and Acts 17: 10-11)

(iii) By learning the basics of

(Iv) By learning to test prophets (1 Thess 5:19-22; Deut 13:1-3; Deut 18:21-22; 1 John 4:1-3; 2 John 1:7)

(V) By holding to the sufficiency of Scripture (1 Pet 3:16 and Heb 4:12)

(Vi) By teaching God's word (2 Tim 2:2 and Deut 6:1-9)

(Vivi) Always being today to make

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Apologetics and the Great Commission - Rodgers Atwebembeire (Rev) Seminar 4 - The methods

- (1) The missionary model - going to the nations
- (2) The missional model - the nations are here (therefore "as you go")
- (3) Two approaches:
 - (a) Proclamation
 - (I) Grounded in the Scriptures
 - (Ii) Glowing in the Spirit
 - (b) Defence
 - (I) Common ground
Identifying and addressing mutual concerns
 - (Ii) Contending
Explaining away objections to the Christian faith
Promoting the Christian faith in its uniqueness
Encouraging thinkers to believe and believers to think (Ravi Zacharius)
 - (Iii) Contextualising
Addressing worldviews
Appreciating cultural differences and expressions of worship
Unity in essential, liberty in non essentials, and charity in all things
 - (Iv) Compassion
Cultivating a biblical mindset for interaction and relationships