

Q/A Time June 21 2021

- The discussion began, after the presentation, with a discussion of the Ontological Argument for God's existences. The question was in relation to if "Jesus could be the Greatest Possible Being (GPB)". Joseph stated yes; in fact, God becoming flesh is a wonderful way to see the GPB. Jesus, who is God, is not just an abstract concept, but one who became flesh/material. Even though Anselm's argument was not arguing for a material or experiential example, this seems like a reasonable application of the Ontological Argument.
- This conversation turned to a fascinating discussion on whether or not one should use the Bible when talking to unbelievers. Meaning, since unbelievers, especially today, do not adhere to the authority of Scripture, should Christian use the Bible when arguing, discussing, and practicing apologetics? In summary, Joseph stated that it depends on the individual and the circumstance. Joseph stated that he practices both Presuppositional and Classical Apologetics when dealing with unbelievers; the goal of these apologetics is to challenge the worldview foundation of these unbelievers. Thus, when you show them (i.e. the unbeliever) that their worldview is invalid/inconsistent, you show and demonstrate your biblical worldview is valid and consistent. One should bring in the Bible, but do it wisely. As Jesus told us on the Sermon of the Mount, "Cast not your pearls before swine" (Matthew 7:6); we do not throw our pearls (our precious Bible) before swine (those who would dismiss and trample underfoot the Bible).
- Lastly, a fun conversation occurred regarding the Declaration of Independence. It was asked if it was a problem that the Declaration's statement "by their Creator" was too vague/generalized. Joseph stated that yes, it is too vague, especially in our modern day context. The problem for today is that we do not consider the meaning of words of the past nor their worldview. Yes, the Founding Fathers understood the "Creator" to be the God of the Bible, but since they did not say explicitly "which God is Creator", modern people may not understand that our founders say this new nation as being under God's authority and that human rights come from him and not by Presidents, Legislators, Supreme Court, or a collective culture. Rights come from the God of the Bible, who became flesh to redeem his people from the sin.