

28700 Christian Apologetics

Final Examination

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ESSAY ONE

5 points

Which of the following three options is most compatible with Scripture, in your perspective? Which of the following three options is least compatible with Scripture, in your perspective?

- (1) Classical apologetics,
- (2) Evidential apologetics
- (3) Presuppositional apologetics

Summarize each approach; then, make your argument for the *most* and the *least* compatible with Scripture from the Scriptures, from course reading notes, and from course lecture notes.

ESSAYS 2 AND 3

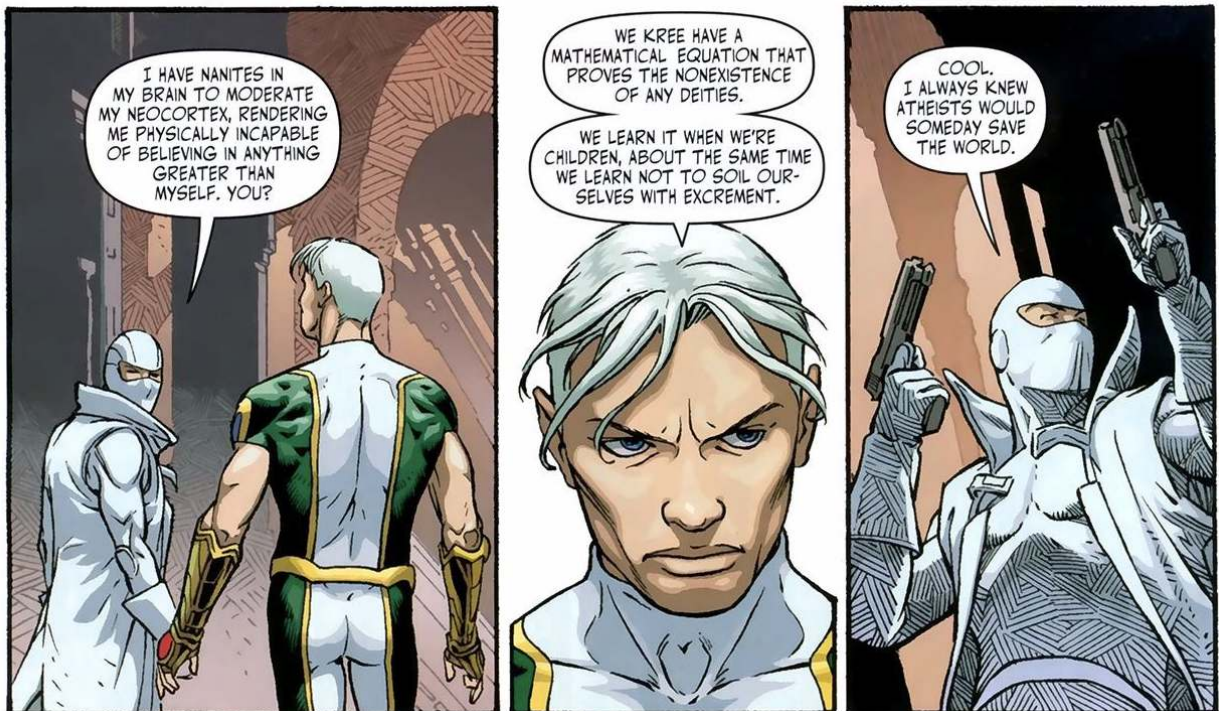
10 points each

Select and thoroughly respond to *two* of the following four prompts.

PROMPT 1: In this dialogue between Fantomex and a Kree warrior, theism is presented by the Kree warrior as mathematically falsifiable (“a mathematical equation that proves the nonexistence of any deities”) and immature (“we learn it when we’re children, about the same time we learn not to soil ourselves”).

In what ways does this presentation of theism exemplify the “coming-of-age narrative” and “scientism,” as described in *Apologetics at the Cross*?

Write an argument refuting the claim that theism is disprovable through mathematical means. Then, build on this refutation by providing a relevant classical argument for theism. Use notes from course lectures and notes from *Apologetics at the Cross*, chapters 3 and 12.



PROMPT 2: Following the death of her brother Vin, Viv engages in theistic practices even though she does not believe the claims that sustain these practices. In the graphic below, she and her father Vision are apparently unable to live consistently within their naturalistic worldview; in a time of grief, they find themselves drawing from the resources of the very theistic worldview that they deny. Use this dialogue between Viv and Vision as a starting point to develop a presuppositional argument for Christian theism. Use your notes from the course lectures, as well from the article “Christianity and Van Tillianism,” and *Apologetics at the Cross* chapters 4 and 5.



PROMPT 3: Develop a reverent, reasonable, and humble response to the meme below. Your response should begin with historical evidences connected to the New Testament Gospels. Building on these evidences, your response should culminate in an argument for the historical reliability of Scripture, with no embarrassment or hesitation when it comes to affirming the plenary inspiration and inerrancy of Scripture. Your notes from course lectures, from C.S. Lewis’s essay “Fern-Seed and Elephants,” and from the book *Why Should I Trust the Bible?* will be helpful.



PROOF

Trying to prove God with the bible is like trying to prove Superman with a comic book.

PROMPT 4: In the two *Peanuts* comic strips below, how does Lucy Van Pelt explain the existence of suffering in light of the assumed goodness and omnipotence of God? What causes suffering, according to her way of thinking? Suppose that a member of your church has a similar perspective as Lucy on the reasons for pain and suffering. Drawing from course lecture notes and from your notes on *Apologetics at the Cross* chapter 12 and *Urban Apologetics* chapter 7, develop a response that would help such a person have a more biblical understanding of suffering and evil.

