Apologetics Night 1

Presented By Eric Douma

Introduction To Logic

- Logic is not "man-made" but "God-made" and "man-discovered."

- Definition of Logic: Logic is the study of right reason or valid inferences and the attending fallacies, formal and informal.

- Logic is a policeman of thought. It tells us at times, "You can't go there."

Introduction To Logic

- The Laws of Logic: These laws are fundamental to right reasoning. They cannot be discarded or "gotten behind" because they must be assumed to be true in order to deny.

1. Law of noncontradiction = If A then not non-A at the same time and in the same relationship.
2. Law of identity= A is A.
3. Law of excluded middle= either A or non-A.
4. Law of rational inference= Going from what is known to what is unknown using inferences.
5. Law or Causality= Every effect has a cause.

Understanding the Laws

> Law of noncontradiction= If A then not non-A at the same time and in the same sense.

1. Misunderstanding = Matthew 10:39 He who has found his life will lose it, and he who has lost his life for My sake will find it.

Different Sense: Temporal Life   Eternal Life
                        lose it   gain it

2. Misunderstanding = Trinity: some claim in error, "You believe in one God and three Gods at the same time."

Different Sense: God   Person
                      One   Three

Understanding the Laws

Correct understanding: 1st Corinthians 15:12-13

Now if Christ is preached, that He has been raised from the dead, how do some among you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? {But if there is no resurrection of the dead, not even Christ has been raised…}

> If there has been a resurrection (of Jesus)   A
> Then it is not true that there are no such things as   -A resurrections!

Understanding The Laws

> Law of Non-Contradiction:

2nd Corinthians 1:18 But as God is faithful, our word to you is not yes and no.

If yes (A), then not non-yes (no) (-A) at the same time and in the same sense.

> Law of Excluded Middle:

Matthew 12:30 He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters.

Either for Christ (A) or against Christ (-A)

Understanding the Laws

➢ Law of Causality: Every effect must have a sufficient cause.

Misunderstanding: 1. Everything needs a cause
                     2. God is a thing
       Conclusion: God needs a cause

- Law of Causality is misstated in the first premise.
- God by definition is not an "effect," He is eternal!
  "I am" = Yahweh

Deduction versus Induction

Deduction	Induction
From general to particular	From particular to general
From general to general	From particular to particular
From cause to effect	From effect to cause
a priori reasoning	a posteriori
Philosophical reasoning	Scientific reasoning
Necessary conclusions	*Probable conclusions*

Arguments

➢ Argument = The providing of reasons for the basis of a conclusion.
➢ Syllogism = Made up of three propositions. Two premises and one conclusion.

Example: Premise 1: No Christians are unsaved
         Premise 2: Some people are unsaved
      Conclusion: Some people are not Christian

Arguments

- Valid argument: An argument that is structured without error. If its two premises are true, its conclusion *must* be true.
- Sound argument: An argument that is both *valid* and *true.*

Example: Premise 1: No Christians are unsaved
Premise 2: Some people are unsaved
Conclusion: Some people are not Christian

Syllogisms

- Syllogism = Made up of three propositions. Two premises and one conclusion.

Three Types of Propositions:
1. Categorical = "This is that"
2. Hypothetical = "If this, then that"
3. Disjunctive = "Either this or that"

The Composition of Propositions

1. Subject – The thing or thought about which the assertion is made.
2. Predicate – That which is asserted about the subject.
3. Copula - The linking verb that connects subject and predicate.
4. Quantifiers – The extent, or number of the subject (all, some, none).

quantifier   subject   copula
All Baptists *are* baptized.
predicate

Understanding The Propositions: Always Look At The Copula!

A- Universal Affirmative: All men <u>are</u> sinners.

All men <u>are</u> non-righteous.

E- Universal Negative: All men <u>are not</u> righteous.

No men are righteous.

* *No* and *not* go with the copula
* *Non-* and *un-* go with subjects and predicates

Understanding The Propositions:

A- Universal Affirmative: <u>All men</u> are sinners.

E- Universal Negative: <u>No men</u> are righteous.

I- Particular Affirmative: Some men are saved.

O-Particular Negative: Some men are not saved.

* *No* and *not* go with the copula
* *Non-* and *un-* go with subjects and predicates

The Four Types of Propositions

	Type	Subject	Copula	Predicate	
		distributed			
ua	A	All dogs	are	animals	undist.
un	E	No dogs	are	reptiles	dist.
		undistributed			
pa	I	Some dogs	are	mean	undist.
pn	O	Some dogs	are not	nice	dist.

Examples

1. All Christians are saved.
2. No Baptists are Presbyterians.
3. Some people who attend church are not true believers.
4. Salvation is a free gift.
5. Bertrand Russell is an atheist.
6. Some people are non-Christians.
7. Some Hindus are not pantheists.
8. Logic is not used by everybody.
9. Many unsaved people are good neighbors.
10. All nonbelievers are non-Christians.

Three Categories To Keep Straight

❖ <u>Contradiction</u>: An irreconcilable proposition that is an absurdity and can be ruled out a priori. This is like saying you have a round square.

❖ <u>Paradox</u>: An apparent contradiction which upon closer examination is actually no contradiction at all.

❖ <u>Mystery</u>: Something that cannot be known because of lacking data/revelation. This is not a contradiction.