Beginnings – ORIGIN (Where did we come from?)

- Only Two Choices
- Realize the Significance
- Is it Faith or Science?
 - o LAB Lookable, Accessible, Breakable
- **G**uess at the Evidence
- Inspect the Evidence
 - O Universe = "Decay"
 - Age of the Earth = "Can't Say"
 - Origin of Life by Chance = "No Way"
 - Evolution of Species and Man = "Lacks Genes and Tweens"
- No Compromise

DON'T - <u>D</u>eath, <u>O</u>rder of Creation, <u>N</u>ames in genealogies, <u>T</u>en Commandments refer to seven-day week

Intent of Life - LIFE (Why are we here?)

- Love GOD and MAN
- Increase GROW
- Faithfulness Time, Talent, Treasure
- Eternity Past, Present, Future

Authority – POWER (Who's in charge?) A God Who is:

- Personal and Loving
- Omnipotent
- Wise and All-Knowing
- Everywhere and Eternal
- Righteous and Reliable

Standards – RULES (What are the rules?) God's rules are:

- Revealed supernaturally, not derived by reason
- Universal and apply to everyone, everywhere, all the time
- Loving
- Enforced
- Steadfast

Conclusion

We live in a world that is a battleground of worldviews. All of these worldviews have consequences, and all of them argue that they have the answers to life's big questions. For many people it is overwhelming to figure out how to live "rightly" in a world that seems so complex and that offers so many options on how to think.

But as we discussed at the beginning of this book, there are really only two options for determining the best "bias" or worldview. Either:

- 1. We try to "figure it out" using our finite reasoning, or
- 2. We trust the Infinite One who claims to know it all and who has revealed the answers to us.

Unlike those who deny the True God, Christians know that there are absolute rights, wrongs, and truths. I encourage my family and other followers of Christ, as ambassadors for Christ, to learn to be prepared to give an answer to those who ask for a reason for the hope that we have. We live in a world that is poised for destruction (and deserves it), and when people look for an alternative to other worldviews we should be ready to share the Truth with them.

The contents of this book have been helpful to me in developing a worldview that:

- Is sufficient to address most "big picture" questions
- Can explain the reasonableness of my faith
- Gives me a memorizable outline that I can carry with me

Hopefully this outline will help you prepare to answer life's big questions with a Christian BIAS:

Beginnings - Where did I come from?

God created me and everything else just as He said in the Bible.

Intent - Why am I here?

God put me here to love Him and others, to grow, to be faithful, and to play my part in His eternal story.

Authority - Who's in charge?

God is. He is personal and loving, omnipotent, wise and all-knowing, everywhere and eternal, righteous and reliable. But He is also much more than we can ever describe.

Standards - What are the rules?

God's rules are in the Bible, His Word written for us. His rules are revealed supernaturally, are universally applicable, are motivated by love, are ultimately enforced, and are steadfast forever.

We have the privilege of proclaiming the wisdom of God to the world, and we should be prepared to show the reasonableness of our faith when we have the opportunity. We're to be faithful - the results are up to God.

The apostle Paul said it like this:

For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

Amen.

How Do You Become a Christian?

Becoming reconciled to God does not involve a complicated process or a certain set of words. If you want to be reconciled to God you can be sure He is drawing you to Himself. So you simply and humbly respond to Him. Any honest conversation with God is OK. If you need some help you can use the GRACE acrostic from the "Eternity" section as a starting point:

God, I recognize that you are my Creator and that you own me and everything else. I know I have sinned and deserve death and Hell, and I want you to forgive me and make me holy. I know that Jesus paid for my sins and that I can't "earn" forgiveness. I want to wholeheartedly acknowledge Jesus as my Lord and Savior and accept, by faith alone, the gift of salvation He offers me. Thanks for putting in me the desire to be reconciled to You. Please grow me to be the person You created me to be, and enable me to do the things You ask me to do.