



# School of Prophets

## Prophetic Apologetics

Professor: David James

### Course Purpose

This course is designed as an introduction to apologetics as a defense of Christianity in general, with a specific emphasis on defending pre-millennial, pre-tribulational dispensationalism specifically and responding to various challenges to this particular system of theology.

### Scope of the Course

In 10 class-hours, the student will first be introduced to the broad discipline of apologetics as an approach to defending biblical Christianity worldview against the truth claims of competing worldviews. Then the discussion move to logical fallacies that need to be avoided in both defending or challenging any view, with specific application to typical fallacies employed when either defending or attacking dispensational theology. In addition, an in-depth discussion of anti-dispensational rhetoric will be critiqued and responded to, followed by a discussion of specific challenges to pre-trib dispensationalism and corresponding arguments that can be used to defend pre-trib dispensationalism as a theological system.

### Course Components

#### Reading ..... 20%

**Master's program:** Read *Five Views on Apologetics*, as well as 20 articles in *The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics*.

**Doctoral level:** Read *Five Views on Apologetics*, 30 articles in *The Popular Encyclopedia of Apologetics*, *Three Views on the Rapture* and *Three Views on the Millennium and Beyond*

#### Paper ..... 80%

**Master's level:** Develop an 18 (minimum) to 22 (maximum) page paper evaluating and responding to one alternative views to the pre-tribulational rapture position (i.e., Mid-trib, Pre-wrath or Post-Trib) and one alternative view to Pre-millennialism (i.e., Post-millennialism or Amillennialism).

**Doctoral level:** Develop a 24 (minimum) to 30 (maximum) page paper evaluating and responding to the three alternative views to the pre-tribulational rapture position (Mid-trib, Pre-wrath or Post-Trib) and the two alternatives views to Pre-millennialism (Post-millennialism or Amillennialism).

### Paper Guidelines

**General citations and endnotes (not footnotes):** Because this is a research paper, except for those ideas, concepts, conclusions, etc., that are completely the student's, any statements, ideas, concepts based on the researched material that would probably not be common knowledge by the general public needs to be appropriately cited (with end notes). Due to the relative brevity of the paper, total quotations from any sources should not make up more than 10% of the paper.

**Biblical citations:** As a research paper, an accepted academically credible translation (not paraphrase) of the Bible should be used consistently throughout. Preferred versions would include the KJV, NKJV, NASB, and ESV. The NIV (original version) is acceptable, but not preferred.

The paper should not contain long block quotations from Scripture as it is assumed the reader of the paper will have access to the text. The quotation of one or two verses in-line to make a particularly strong point is acceptable. Otherwise,

summarize the main point of a longer passage and just refer to the passage.

**Note concerning sources:** Primary source material is that which is first said, generally by a proponent of a position, while secondary sources are quotes of the primary source by other proponents, opponents or neutral reporters or commentators. Primary sources can include books, articles (print or internet), blogs and comments. When a secondary source refers to a primary source, good practice is to confirm the quote is accurate and cite the primary source. This is not always possible, so in this case, the format would be "...[primary source] as quoted by [secondary source] in ..."

**FORMATTING:** In general you should follow the *MLA Handbook* guidelines.

**Paper size/type:** 8 ½ x 11

**Font:** 12 point Times Roman or Arial (or the equivalent of these)

**Margins:** .75" for all margins

**Spacing:** Double-spacing

**Length:** At least 12 pages and no more than 18 full pages (papers which are shorter will receive 1 full letter grade reduction for each page or portion of a page less than 12; longer papers will not receive higher grades or extra-credit.)

**Spelling and grammar:** Correct spelling and grammar are important and mistakes could affect your grade on the paper. Use your spell-checker, and when in doubt, look up the word.

**Citations - Use endnotes (not footnotes) and a bibliography:** If you use sources for your material, they must be referenced. Endnotes should be used, rather than footnotes - and do not count toward the length of the paper. If you use word-for-word what someone else has written, it must be quoted. If it is longer than two sentences, it should be a block quote. The total of all quotes should not be more than 10% of the paper. You may use abbreviated endnotes for the first citation in the following format:

Abbreviated endnotes: Author's full name, *Title of the book*, pages.

Biblical references: 3-4 -letter book abbreviations - chapter:verse(s)

An abbreviated bibliography in alphabetical order should be included at the end in the following format:

Author's last name, first name. *Book title*. Most recent publish date.

NOTE: Endnotes and bibliography do not count toward the required pages.

**A cover page should be used according to MLA guidelines with your name, date, and course title and number**

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