

Apologetics -13.2- Apologetics Review – Part 2  
Transcription

The “A” in maps is archaeology. The more archaeology that happens, I love it; I’m a total freak on archaeology. But the more archaeological discoveries, the more the Bible comes true. We showed you a lot of those. P is Prophecies. We covered prophecy. The “S” is statistics. I showed you that it’s impossible that any of this could be coincidental. Okay? Then we did a study when Jesus’, what does it mean in the Apostle’s Creed when it talks about Jesus descended into hell. What is the tomb? And do we have immortality? There is one immortal, there is Jesus Christ, but we will one day have that kind of immortality. We will have new bodies and have all those things and I’m kind of whipping past all those pages very quickly because I want to make sure we get to everything, because I want you to have a little Q & A at the end, if you want. And at the back I wrote everything in a little more detail if you want, the prophecy of Christ and His coming, how that proves the inspiration of the Bible. So what I have just done in the last 40 minutes, 36 minutes is to try to cover everything that we covered, but I –I’m guessing right now that some of this is vague and some of you are probably glassing over, your eyes are glassing over because you are thinking, I missed that which means that I am not going to get it all. I’ve got all this stuff on DVD and I’ll give you guys copies of the DVDs if you want copies of the DVDs. But did anyone of you as you go through here, what I want to do right now is that I am a cultist. Okay, we’re going to do the easy stuff first right? And we’re going to do the entire debate in Hebrew tonight. No, I am a cultist, doing the whole thing in Hebrew, wouldn’t that be weird? But I don’t speak Aramaic! Okay, tonight what I want to do is just go ahead and cover a couple of things. I’m a cultist; let’s say that I’m from the Mormon religion. Okay? Now, does anyone know the basics, let’s say the top three points of Mormonism that stand out? Many gods, Jesus and Satan are brothers, and we all become gods. Okay, good. Now what we have is, would you say that that goes against Biblical doctrine? Okay. So I’m a Mormon, and I just walked up to you and actually I’m your neighbor. I want to just tell you something, let me just tell you

something real quickly. Thinking of the neighbor next door. And he sits on the back porch and my heart goes out to him actually. He's a really cantankerous guy. Really cantankerous. And he screamed at Maria once on the phone. I wasn't here. I was in Oklahoma City. And he was, I could tell he probably had a twelve pack or something and he was screaming at Maria. And anyway he came over and he was really mad. But I mean he was like, "what's with you and those people on Saturday night"? Who are those people? And I said, these people, oh, it's ummm. "Are you throwing a party or painting the house or something?" I said yeh, kind of. And I could tell that he was really angry, his face was really red. He said, "Well you know what? I am going to do something about that! And I said what are you going to do? Well, one of them drove across my lawn. No actually that happened Saturday morning. I said, I've already called the police and everything else. He says, "No it didn't." I said, "Yeh it did." He said no, it didn't, it was one of those Saturday night people. And I said, actually, I've got a police report; they talked to the people across the street so why don't you talk to them? It happened Saturday night... and he says "I don't care what those people say, I know what happened and it happened Saturday night." Is this true? It happened just like that. Now how do you argue with someone who says, "I don't care what the facts are!" In my opinion, it happened Saturday night. There's no way to argue with that. He's got to be a lawyer. He's probably a Democrat, no just kidding. And so, I'm just joking, for those of you who are. So I just smiled and I was very gracious to him and so we invited him to come. But he's not here tonight. He goes, "I'm not going to come there. Are you Catholics?" And I said, "We're believers". And I wasn't really sure at first, but it was interesting, it's the phrase where he says, "I don't care what the everybody says, I mean the bottom line is that I think it was Saturday night people." And it dawned on me, you're actually going to come across people with Apologetics where they say, "I don't care what the evidence is, I don't believe it." Now I'm going to give you a tender story that really affected my heart. I prayed for this guy, I want him to meet the Lord and I just hope he doesn't meet the Lord early, he might not meet Christ because of the way he talked to my wife, but I want him to meet the Lord. But years ago, there was a...I don't

know if I told you all this story but there was a couple of Jehovah's Witnesses that came here and one was a young African American kid, he must have been 19 or 20 years old. 19 maybe. And that kid came into the house and of course I did the thing where we, "oh, how are you doing?" And he says, "Well we're with the witnesses and I said, "oh really, what do you believe?" And so, you know we love these moments it's like, kids come on, and so we invited them in and locked the door behind us and we take over and we have coffee with them. I want to tell you never turn away JW that come to your door. I'm going to tell you the truth; God sent them to you to meet Christ. That's why we have those moments. So we sat down and we're talking to them. I got to tell you it's the funniest thing because as I said, "oh really? Where does it say that in the Bible?" And they go, "yeh, this is where". And I said, man, you know, wasn't there some where in the Bible where it said God was, Jesus was God or something? "Oh no, he never claimed to be god." And I go, "oh no, I guess not, but wasn't I at some Bible study ... and I turn to John 8:58 and by the time I've gotten in the pattern, they're like, "what's going on here" you know. So anyway the young man I could tell and we'd just a couple of months before been with a young man who had just become a believer. Several were from Bulverde that we had led to Christ and the elder stood up real quickly. You know they go with an elder and a younger so the younger can learn from the elder. And so they are heading for the door and I could tell this young man has been affected. I know, I mean his eyes are like, lighting up and he's starting to ask questions and this really made the elder say, "we're going out of here." Because he didn't want to have to put up with me answering a bunch of questions with this kid and convert him to the Christian faith. You know, so he's like, "we have to go now." He was slowly going out the door and he was saying, "Come on son, come on." And so the young man hesitates for a moment at the door and elder walks to his car. And I showed the boy, and I said, "You know it's true. I said, do you know who Christ is?" You're aware of who he is. He actually turned to me and he said, "I believe what you're saying is true." And, but there was something in his voice, I got to tell you the truth, he says, "Jehovah's Witnesses are a family to me, ever since I was 15, I was down and out, my dad left us and my mom abandoned

us and Jehovah's Witnesses came in and they have loved on me and they have cared for me. I can't leave them, because I love them, and they love me. I've got to tell you the truth, it was the most startling time and I thought that's what the Word ought to be about Christians, right there. He saw the truth, now he was different than my neighbor that said, "I don't care what the facts are, I'm going to believe what I'm going to believe." And the other kid said, I do care what the facts are, but I'm going to believe what they believe because they are my family. That's the word he used, he said, "they are my family." And then he just walked away. And as he walked away, it was a big huge moment because we often see these people in a vacuum, where they are like, "aw come on if we just show them the truth, they'll believe the truth." Let me just tell you something, there's a lot more to it, and it's because this is family to them. JW and Mormons they find family there. So remember when you talk to these people, these people are intrinsically involved in the cult, for more reasons than the intellectual. I've got to tell you the truth, 9 out of 10 don't even know what they believe. Did you hear that? I mean they really can't even tell you what they fully believe. They love Jesus, that'll be a phrase; they love God, that'll be a phrase. But when it gets down to doctrine, most of them will go "huh?" I told probably 200 Jehovah's Witnesses, I mean Mormons that Mormonism teaches that Jesus and Satan are brothers. And they go, "it does not". And they're like, "oh stop it, I mean you've got to be kidding me." I mean they're not really mad or offended they're just like, "it does not." I'm like, "yeh, it does, look it up." No, but then it always comes back to, well; I guess it's not that important. So if I can encourage you in something, just remember you talk with people, a lot of them are in the cult because the cult loves them. Or they think it does. See you're dealing with an emotional issue as well. So, I'm a Mormon, no, I'm a JW and I've come and you pick Mormons or JWs, it doesn't matter because they kind of merge together in bad theology. So I come to your door, okay? You've all had somebody come by and you say "hi". I mean, okay, and the first thing is...Petra, do you want to do this with me?" You did this when you were younger. Okay, you have somebody else with you. Who else wants to be with her? Let's have 2 or 3 people, I'm not going to debate you. I'm really coming

up... Elizabeth. Okay, you guys are buddies. Okay, these are two elderly retired sisters. And um, okay and she's my partner okay? I'm the older, she's the younger. And we're coming to your house and you can go ahead and sit down and we're going to make believe that we're here. And you guys have said hi, and what do you.... Just say "can we help you". I mean I want you guys to really do this. You don't want to look like when you walk away from this conversation your going to have the opinion of, "he's the most interesting guy". Why? Because I asked questions about her. Does that make sense? I mean it's good in business too, I'll guarantee it. It's a business technique. Here we are so I'm going to say hi, listen ... and you say "come on in". And I'm going to say...huh?..Yeh, yeh, okay. Get me a glass of water, that's good. Give me a diet coke or something like that. And then, you're just going to ask me...I'm going to probably say "hi, I'm with the Church of Latter Day Saints, and we're just going around the neighborhood and encouraging people. We're very family-oriented and we want to encourage you all and your families, and this is how they approach you. They don't go, "we're from the moon, Joseph Smith was our leader." No, they're going to start off by saying, no, we believe in families and just want to encourage you all and your neighborhood and so we just want to encourage you. And if you want to make your families stronger, and I'm going to tell you the brilliance of the communication that they are using is, they're going to hit, now a days, you can actually read Mormon literature like there used to be a place on line you can pick it up and everyone else is picking it up, so I don't know if they do it in magazines now, but it was very clear, they said, they'll ask you how the children are, ask you how the grandchildren are and how their family situation is and then they base everything their teaching on that. In other words, they'll probably say "so how are things going?" Do you guys really love your family? I mean we're really into families in our ministry. Do you have a bunch of kids? Because I have four children. What happens people tend to think, I don't know this guy. And so they'll go I have four children, two boys and two girls and it's really neat, but at that time I'll either hand you a track. The Mormon track will say nothing about their theology. It's going to talk about families, it's going to talk about love, its going to talk about this day and

age, the world is falling apart. That's what you're going to get. With Jehovah's Witnesses, you're going to get, you know the Watch Tower which talks about the world is about to go to Hell in a hand basket. Yeh, the world is going to explode and everyone is going to die at the end and you want to be in the 144,000. But the Mormons are really going to do this family thing. If you really don't remember how to do things, they are going to suck you into this thing and you're going to be like, yeh, I really agree with you. And they're going to, in ten minutes, if it's a man and a woman especially, you'll be telling them, "well, you know I've got teenagers. What you have just told them is, you have problems. And when you go like (sigh) well you know boys will be boys. What you just told them is, we expected our kids to be rotten, our kids are rotten. And we can't do anything about it. The breath and the body, you know, that's what they teach you in acting school. If you can't go on long dialogues when you're making a film, so you do the "look thing" and with that one look you just told a story. So that's what they're taught to look for, is where is the story? So, "how's your family doing and everything?" Do you really believe strongly in the family? Good, good. Well you know the Mormon Church; we just built a brand new one over here on Stone Oak Parkway. We're really into family activities. We just wanted to stop by and let you know, and we're not trying to convert you to our religion or anything, else, we just want you to know that we have youth activities and everything else. And that brochure there, we're not going to ask you for money or anything else, but if you would like to come, you know, we're here just to encourage you. And to encourage your family. Have any of you ever read the book of Mormon? Yeh, because we've had a lot of that, have you seen their ads on T.V.? Now why do you think they say that? I'll tell you, because marketing is credibility. Why does Coca Cola and Pepsi Cola still have ads on TV? Are they actually asking us to run out and grab a six pack? No. They need to stay in front of you because you think if you see it every day on television, they're spending millions of dollars, they must be credible. Obviously they wouldn't stay in business right? So the Mormons have had huge campaigns. Call this number right now and you'll get a book on Mormon, I mean you've got a book of Mormon. You know what they do that for? It wasn't just for

conversions, it was for credibility. The Mormon Church grew dramatically after that. But not from the people who got the free Bible, it was from people who had seen the ads and when those churches came to their neighborhoods, they remembered it and went to that church. Does that make sense? Marketing is everything. Have you seen those ads? Well it shows like Jesus came to the Americas, you've seen what has happened after about a minute and a half, I'm already getting the theology, but it's general theology that has to do with families. They say he came to a lot of families and he appeared to them, he appeared to the Indians and he appeared to the Americans. He had come to the Americas. So that's what the great news is about the Book of Mormon. They would love to show you that Jesus cared about families. But not just in Israel, he cared about families in America for us right here. Well they just transitioned here, from a book about a culture that you can't relate to in the Middle East, to Jesus in America. Now you'll find this is a commonality. Okay, well I've just come into your home; I'm carrying your conversation. Okay? What would you suggest that you do, right now, you're listening, by the way is the answer. You're smiling and you're listening. What would you say that you do to try to transition into reaching me? Jesus. Questions. This is where you ask questions that you already know the answer to. But what you do know because I'm telling you right now is and its easily provable, two of these publishers in New York State still have copies of his mom's book that she took to be published as a novel. It didn't sell as a novel. So Joseph Smith who is a huckster, this guy was the ultimate hustler. He could sell anything to anybody. He had literally sold snake oil one time. Joseph Smith took that book and sold it as a religious document that had been under inspiration of the angel Moroni, that it was written by him. Under the inspiration of this angel. So that's what you know the Book of Mormon is. It's really a poorly written novel. That's excellent. So anybody have any ideas right now? Well let's say that you all have asked, how long has this religion been around? So do you all believe in the Bible too like the Book of Mormon is? Oh absolutely. You know we believe that both are inspired by God and they keep attaching themselves to the Bible. Because they know it's like Coca Cola, it's credible. Read by a billion people, you know like

McDonalds. Billions sold. So they say absolutely, the Book of Mormon is like the Bible and we believe very strongly that everything in the Bible is true. The Book of Mormon is the fulfillment of it. Just like the New Testament is the fulfillment of the Old Testament. Do you see how I just did that? I just attached, it's like the Old Testament, New Testament, the Book of Mormon. Old Testament is really old; the New Testament is 2,000 years ago, the Book of Mormon just a little while ago. See, what it is, is the fulfillment of prophecy. If you're not really careful it sounds logical. But there are huge flaws in it which are in the doctrine. So, that's how I'm going to answer your question. And we hold to the Bible cause and that's why we go to the Book of Mormon because it explains so much more about who Jesus is. It just tells more tales about his life. That was a, that's a good return. Okay, that's good because what you're doing is going right into the "Jesus is God". That's good. Okay? Anybody else have any other ideas about this? Because we will all take it from this transition. They say that the Old Testament is actually stories of God. Inspired to write down in the New Testament were true stories of God and the Book of Mormon is true stories that God wrote down and they are in sequence with one another. In other words you can not have a Bible without the Book of Mormons is what they are saying. If you really want to know who Jesus is, you need the Book of Mormon. And so that, does that make sense to you? Let me give you the perfect example. You know, let's say that Rachel is a really gifted actress and she is. And you know that Petra is a gifted actress. And somebody said to me, you're daughter is a loser. Do you think I'm going to sit and talk to you? You know I'm a believer right now and I probably would have reacted differently years ago, but to tell you the truth, I'm not going to give you anymore of my time. I'm going to step on you and you know, I'm just going to be angry, if that is what's going on here. You have got to remember, this is deep and this is emotional. They're not coming to your door because they have nothing else to do, they are coming to your door because they really believe they have the truth and they want to give it to you. So you've got to remember that paradigm. They love this faith, like I love my kids. Your purpose here is to delude it. Your purpose here is to question it to the point that they don't have an answer and that you do.

Does that make sense? That's really what your purpose is. That's a good question. So, let's say that she says, "But you're right". I mean you're going to be thinking that you've got to be kidding, but don't forget, this is what they've been taught. They've been taught a lie. So let's say that you believe, what was your question? Yeh, you might connect it to him, say see you also believe that Jesus is God like the Bible says. Okay? Try not to act, and I'm going to try to tell you in the last ten minutes here, the trick is to try to not act knowledgeable. Too knowledgeable. But just act naïve. And the reason I say that is because, you know, Paul did this on a hill on Mars Hill at Areopagus where he says, men I know the unknown god. But he really, if you look at it, he was walking around up there and philosophers were looking at him like who are you? You're not a philosopher and he was like, I –dah dah dah and he was looking around and says, "Guys, guys you know. He doesn't go, "look at the idols, kill them all!" Because he is by himself without 1800 other people and so goes up there and looks and he notices this statue to the unknown god and he goes, "see the unknown god?" Yeh. I know him. Oh guys, hey, hey, over here. I know this one. What the Greeks did is that they did all the idols to all of the gods except they thought, "what if one of the gods got ticked off if you forgot them?" So let's just add one to the unknown god so in case one god says "where's my idol, where's my monument?" Oh, it's that one. They just forgot me. I'm serious, that's exactly what was going on here. So there would be a monument to the unknown god so they wouldn't irritate the gods. So he goes "hey I know the one you forgot." Oh really? Because they wanted to find out. But Paul in his gentleness, in an almost naiveté act, in his brilliance, he spoke in a naïve fashion. And I think that's the key to reaching them. He didn't go, "hey guys, you're a bunch of losers." If he would have told them that he would have lost them. There would have been no future for Paul. You know what I mean. They almost killed him afterwards anyway once they caught on to what he was doing. But he did make his point. So, what I want to do here is, you know, you're saying what you believe in, do you also believe in God? Ask him...Excellent. Because when you just said the word "too" really implies is, like all Christians, and like you must be one of us. And now what I'm going to say at this point is "absolutely." Jesus

is the most wonderful man to have ever lived and I got to tell you the truth that's why our gospels are also written about him and he was a fantastic god. What they are going to do is they are going to go "smudge". And they are actually going to use phrases like, they may actually have the nerve to say "a god" there. But they will say "oh sure." They will look you right in the eye and say they know what you are saying. That way it looks like they got, ...a really clever Mormon is simply going to look at you and say "that's what we believe." Because in the back of their mind they are saying "a god". And they don't know what I'm talking about and if I get them to the church it doesn't really matter anyway. And so you say oh, I thought Mormons believed that there are a lot of, that there is more than one god or have you heard of any difference between it? You should at that point go, "oh they've heard something." So they'll usually say, "Yeh, we believe that Jesus evolved and became a great god and that we actually have that potential ourselves." Now I want to just tell you this in ten seconds, we don't have enough time to study this but, what's actually going on in Christianity today is a movement that we are gods and have the potential to become gods. It's a huge, huge, huge movement. A network, the president of a major Christian network actually believes and has stated on the air with a couple of evangelists because they've come...Do you remember when I said to you that there is imperfect logic? Like red is a color therefore all colors are red. It's not pure logic. Red is a color, simply red is a color. It doesn't mean that all colors are red. They have actually come to the point where they say, "Since Jesus is the son of god, and he's god, and we're the sons of the children of god, we must be gods. That's their logic. Do you follow? The flaw in that, clearly is Jesus is called God in the Bible, we never are. I can't part the red sea. I'd love to, but I can't do it. Because God can do it and only God can do it. And so what you and I are seeing now is, you just simply say to them, "that's interesting." At this point you hit the god thing, okay? So you say, "You believe the same thing that we all have the potential to become gods." Oh really? Is that what the Bible teaches? You ask them as if you don't know. And then they are going to say, the Mormon will say "yeh, that's what the Bible teaches, because the Bible never claimed that Jesus was God." The only God. I mean we love him and respect

him, that's how they phrase it. They want to come back to you like we're on your side. It's just a little different side, but we're on your side. That's when...what would you do next? Excellent. Start using "the frame."

Right, right, is John in the book? You know what, I've asked the Father to forgive me if this was sin, but I've gone, "honey, is that the New Testament or the Old Testament?" Is that the front part or the back part? I mean I actually came across a Bible verse, because I thought these guys were on to me right up front. And so I said, "is that the front or the back?" Remember we came, there was like a Bible study and so I said to them, we've been there a couple of Bible studies, churches and stuff but there was this verse. I remember it was over here and then I find it. And I say, "I just don't get this one." You don't say, "This proves you wrong." Because it means that you are in control, they suddenly are going to pull back. If they think that you're in control. And so what you do is, like when you go fishing, you throw that line out and slowly reel, slowly reel, the fish chases it because it thinks its in control. It's not until the hook is in its mouth that he realizes that I was wrong. You know. And so what you want to do is, you don't want to say to him "oh this proves that Jesus is God." What you do is ask the question. I don't understand this and they state it, so you know the simplicity of this discussion actually comes down to hit John 8:58 said Jesus claimed to be God. Prove it in Exodus. And if they say okay, he's one of many gods. Go to Isaiah 43:10, but God said there are no other gods. Period. This is not a translation issue. You know what there's a light standing right here, there's a wall right there, this is not a translation issue. It's not. I'm a guy, she's a girl. This is not a translation issue. This is not complex. It's not esoteric. So what Rick was saying, that's a very good point Rick, what he was sharing with you is a smoke screen. Give it to them, say, "oh you think that's more inspired, basically than these?" "Yeh. Okay, once again he says this is inspired, could you help me with this? It says Jesus claimed to be God. Is he a liar or is this book wrong? See those are your two options. Either Jesus is who he said he was, or he lied. Do you see what I'm saying? There's no fuzz here, there's no fuzz in the middle. It's just not right. I'm either in this room, or I'm outside. But as long as I'm sitting here, I can not be both. I can not be both. Because I'm finite, I'm

limited and his logic can not be in both places at once. So once again, welcome them to your house. Let them sit down and be friendly with them. And if they try to pull the trick saying, “well we think this a better translation.” Say “okay, I’m not really thinking about translations, I’m thinking about really simple stuff, that’s in here that’s real obvious, like Jesus is a Jew and Jesus is God. I mean it says it all over the place. How do you explain it and then show it to him. And if you do it enough, they are going to eventually have to say, “the Bible’s not inspired.” At that time, they expose themselves, they are not Christians. Because Christianity is based upon the Bible as we know. It’s based upon the truth of Scriptures. So, I would guess though that 6 out of 10 are going to end up being that clever. They’re just simply going to try to hustle and hide behind; he’s one of many gods. Isaiah 43:10 is your answer. The Bible says there is only one God. There are not many gods. And you’ve got them. And usually, I’ll tell you don’t be disappointed, 9 out of 10 of Jehovah’s Witnesses and Mormons get up and go. “I’m sorry, we couldn’t help you” and they leave. Do you know what you’ve just done though? It’s what Satan does with Christians, and with good people. Except, you’ve used the technique which originally God established. You’re setting seeds of doubt in their mind about the lie. And the seeds of doubt are true. I know Satan has set seeds of doubt, except its evil. God put seeds of doubt that are good. And many JWs, trust me are being converted. We had them up in Bulverde, yeh; we had JWs that became born again. And they don’t right at first necessarily.