

Sermon Notes

Fall Apologetics Series - Answering Bart Ehrman Week 1 - "Yes, Jesus is Historical"

Every believer is to be ready to give a defense of their faith and it is responsibility of the pastor to equip the saints.

Bart Ehrman is a well known NT scholar who argues that pastors do not teach their congregations what the scholars know.

Week 1 - Is Jesus Historical?

Scripture Reference: 1 Corinthians 15:14

Attack 1: No Contemporary Biographical Accounts

1) The Gospels are contemporary accounts.

2) Established historical figures, such as Hannibal, have contemporary accounts of their lives.

Attack 2: Writer 'X' was silent on Jesus.

The fact that anyone mentions Jesus is monumental, with there being at least nine.

Suetonius, Tacitus, Pliny the Younger, Thallus, Lucian of Samosata, Mara Bar Sarapion, Josephus, Sanhedrin 43a, Sanhedrin 107b.

Attack 3: No historical Jesus Mentioned by Early Christians.

Scripture Reference: Galatians 2:7

Scripture Reference: Romans 25:23

Scripture Reference: 1 Corinthians 2:8

The reason why Jesus' historicity is important is because God coming in the flesh is central to the message of salvation.

Scripture Reference: 2 John 1:7

Even Bart Ehrman agrees that Jesus was historical person.

Challenge:

Take time this week to truly appreciate that God took on human flesh, because in all things he knows and loves us.