

**BOOK REVIEW**

**CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS: A Comprehensive Case for Biblical Faith**

**By Douglas Groothuis**

**(IVP Academic/Apollos, 2011) ISBN 9781844745395**

**752 pages. Rrp. £24.99.**

If you are looking for a substantial, comprehensive treatment of this vital area of study and activity, this may well be the book for you. But before you part with your hard-earned money, you might like to know what you would be getting.

Groothuis is professor of philosophy at Denver Seminary and author of a number of books, including Truth Decay, Unmasking the New Age, as well as co-editor and contributor to In Defense of Natural Theology.

The first part of the book deals with preliminary matters such as the biblical basis for apologetics, apologetic methods, the Christian worldview and distortions of it, the importance of truth in postmodern times and the relationship between faith and rationality. The second part presents the case for Christian theism, using not only the traditional arguments for the existence of God, but also focusing on the person and work of Jesus, defending both the incarnation and the resurrection. The author’s discussion of the Design Argument includes a detailed examination of Darwinism which opts for the approach known as Intelligent Design (dismissing the idea of theistic evolution).

Part three faces objections to Christian theism from religious pluralism, Islam,

and the problem of evil.

An appendix looks briefly at the reality of hell.

Given the subject matter, this book is not too difficult for the average reader. It is well documented and referenced. For those who want or need something more detailed and thorough than the average popular paperback on apologetics, this would be a worthwhile investment.

Reviewed by John Baigent