

### CHAPTER ONE HOW DO I KNOW THAT CHRISTIANITY IS TRUE?

#### I. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1. After reading this section, summarize some of the basic alternatives for understanding how reason and faith relate. Up to now which of these alternatives is closest to your own thinking? How would you have answered the question in the chapter's title?

#### II. ASSESSMENT

1. Key to this chapter is the distinction between knowing and showing Christianity to be true. (31) Explain the difference.
2. At the most fundamental level, how does one know that Christianity is true? (31-36)
3. What, then, is the role of argument and evidence in our knowing Christianity to be true? (36)
4. Some object that Christian claims of a self-authenticating experience of the Holy Spirit are invalidated by analogous non-Christian claims, or by artificially-induced experiences. How can one respond to this objection?
5. Explain how one shows Christianity to be true. (38-46)
6. What is the difference between a deductive and an inductive argument? (38-39)
7. What two prerequisites are there for a sound deductive argument? (38)
8. Try to formulate a valid deductive argument for Christianity.
9. Construct an argument for a Christian hypothesis like "God raised Jesus from the dead" using Bayes' Theorem. (41-44)
10. Why is it not enough to present sound arguments to show Christianity to be true? What more is required? (45)
11. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in our showing Christianity to be true? (46-47)
12. How might one respond to the objection that believers and unbelievers have no common ground on which to argue?
13. What points of discussion do you have?