The Logic of Faith
Reasoning in the Scriptures

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Disclaimer

This presentation is very elementary and short compared to what the subject deserves. Seekers of truth and wisdom will start with the suggested sources at the end and pursue this subject further.
“COME NOW, AND LET US REASON TOGETHER, SAITH THE LORD”
ISAIAH 1:18
“PRODUCE YOUR CAUSE, SAITH THE LORD; BRING FORTH YOUR STRONG REASONS, SAITH THE KING OF JACOB.”

ISAIAH 41:21
“PROVE ALL THINGS;
HOLD FAST THAT WHICH IS GOOD.”

I THESSALONIANS 5:21
“BUT SANCTIFY THE LORD GOD IN YOUR HEARTS: AND BE READY ALWAYS TO GIVE AN ANSWER TO EVERY MAN THAT ASKETH YOU A REASON OF THE HOPE THAT IS IN YOU WITH MEEEKNESS AND FEAR.”

1 PETER 3:15
What is Logic?

- The science that deals with thinking.
- The rules that govern right reasoning.
- Rules to divide correct thinking from false.
- The methods to persuade an opponent.
What is Reasoning?

- A statement used to argue or prove a point.
- The intellectual power of the mind to think.
- Thinking in a connected and logical way.
- To work to persuade a person to see a point.
What is Rhetoric?

- A lost “R” that the three “R’s” miss.
- The art of using language to persuade.
- The rules for persuasive speech or writing.
- The basis for eloquent argumentation.
Is It Important?

- You cannot interpret the Bible without it.
- You cannot persuade a person without it.
- Men have corrupted doctrine for 2000 years.
- The devil and men are deceivers by illogic.
- Deceivers and deceived are getting worse.
## Sample Verses about Logic

<table>
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<tr>
<th>I Sam 12:7</th>
<th>Job 9:14</th>
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<td>I John 4:1-6</td>
<td>Jude 1:3,15</td>
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God is truth. 2+2=4 for God as well as us.

His ways are equal. Our ways are often not.

He dares men to bring their best arguments.

He mocks the lies of foolish men reasoning.

He is independent truth and evidence Himself!
The Bible Is Logical

- It is logical in its content throughout.
- It has examples of godly men reasoning.
- It establishes doctrine by logical extension.
- It refutes error by logical refutation.
The Bible Is Logical

- The Bible is logical in several different ways.
- Logic helps **interpretation** ... *God’s thoughts.*
- Logic helps **understanding** ... *your thoughts.*
- Logic helps **converting** ... *others’ thoughts.*
The Bible is Logical

- The Bible is accurate, consistent, unified.
- It is the most reasonable set of facts.
- Men without faith are unreasonable.
- Atheists must divide faith and reason.
Truth Requires Faith

- Arguments from faith must be received.
- Men without faith are unreasonable fools.
- Reasoning from revelation results in truth.
- Reasoning from evolution indicates insanity.
Truth Never Fails

- Seven reasons cannot persuade a sluggard.
- Raging or laughing cannot persuade a fool.
- Paul always won ... even in death to death.
- The truth is the truth ... but some are fools!
- God laughs last and best ... and us with Him!
Truth Is a Privilege

- Reject foolish and unlearned questions
- Reject scorners who resent correction
- Do not waste holy pearls on dogs and pigs
- Answer a fool to shut his mouth
- Leave a fool lest you stoop to his folly
Science Serves the Bible

- True science is not the enemy of truth.
- Evolution, psychology, etc. are not sciences.
- They repeatedly violate scientific method.
- God marked them science falsely so called.
- They are crazed speculations of God-haters.
Reject the Dark Ages

- Catholicism separates faith and science.
- They must for teaching transubstantiation.
- Weeping statutes and shrouds become easy.
- Their logic begins with church authority.
- Our logic begins with the scriptures.
Effeminate compromisers worship emotion.

Thus the current rejection of doctrine.

Thus a total obsession for entertainment.

Thus creeps taking captive silly women.

Thus ever learning without finding truth.
Humanists Are Insane

- They start reasoning from a space vacuum.
- Even valid arguments result only in insanity.
- We start with God’s existence as a given.
- Anyone denying God’s existence is hopeless.
- God and the Bible are proven by evidence.
Their Faith Is Insanely Great

- They are unreasonable and wicked.
- Diapered idiots reasoning from a big-bang-guess produce hallucinations.
- It takes great faith to believe their dreams.
- We reason from the First Cause of all things; they reason from Nothing Caused all things!
Their Faith Is a Devilish Lie

- Objective knowledge is hated today.
- Absolute truth is hated today.
- Satan is the father of lies (John 8:44).
- His arguments are subtle ... but false!
- His are deranged and oppose themselves.
Logic

Faith-based connect-the-dots
We Should Learn Logic

- It is the rules for thinking and persuading.
- Faith is the logical result from God’s word.
- Scripture + logic = truth.
- We want to start right ... and reason right.
- Let us cause some pain to illogical heretics!
Christians Never Apologize

- We never need to apologize for our faith.
- We have the perfect source of knowledge.
- Bible Christians make great philosophers.
- We know the past, present, and future of all.
- We must reason rightly from the scriptures.
Logic Is Like Math

- It is based on some of the same rules.
- Rules are added to rules to reach outcomes.
- Axioms you hated to memorize ... love them!
- Logic applies intelligence to right thinking.
Basic Rules of Logic

- **Identity**: A thing is itself ... A=A ... one meaning. Define your terms. Be precise.

- **Contradiction**: True or false ... A is not B. Things that are different are not the same.

- **Excluded Middle**: No middle ground ... T or F. Truth is not partly false and vice versa.

- **Inference**: If A=B, and B=C, then A=C ... useful.
Penguins are black and white. Some old TV shows are black and white. Therefore, some penguins are old TV shows.

Logic: another thing that penguins aren’t very good at.
Deductive Reasoning

- Argue from general rules to particular facts.
- Most powerful and sure form of reasoning.
- Absolute axioms applied to individual cases.
- The general method of Bible interpretation.
- Syllogisms are common way of illustrating.
Deductive Reasoning

- Rule of Inference ... if A=B and B=C, then A=C.

- Dogs cannot talk; Spot is a dog; Spot cannot talk.

- **Major premise:** No reptiles have fur.
- **Minor premise:** All snakes are reptiles.
- **Conclusion:** Therefore, no snake has fur.

- This form of deductive reasoning can get difficult.
Deductive Reasoning

- Baseball players are rich.
- John Doe is rich.
- Therefore, John Doe is a baseball player.

- False! ... John Doe is a doctor!

- The major premise is not exclusive to ball players.
- It must be formed - ONLY baseball players are rich.
God created all things (John 1:3).
I am a thing.
Therefore, God created me.

The wages of sin is death (Rom 6:23).
I have sinned.
I must die.
Did Jesus die for sinners (I Tim 1:15).
- Judas was a sinner.
- Therefore, Jesus died for Judas.

The conclusion does not follow ... this is illogical reasoning ... for the major premise is too vague.

Did Jesus die for all, most, some, or no sinners?
Inductive Reasoning

- Argue from particular facts to general rules.
- A weaker form of reasoning that is not final.
- Collect as many observations as possible to suggest universal rules satisfying them all.
- A dangerous way to reason from the Bible.
Do saints sin after conversion?

- Noah sinned.
- Moses sinned.
- David sinned.
- Peter sinned.
- Ananias sinned.

Conclusion: saints do sin after conversion.
Inductive Reasoning

Do saints sin after conversion? Consider ...

1. The Bible records some saints without sins.
2. We have not examined every single saint.

So, the conclusion has not been proven.

It would be much better to go to I John 1:10! Then you could add illustrations if desired.
Inductive Reasoning

- Caution must be used with this reasoning.
- We desire inspired propositions for proof.
- Have we sampled the Bible adequately?
- Have we properly interpreted the sample?
- Have we drawn the right conclusion?
- Have we identified any or all exceptions?
Men love inductive reasoning to prove error.

They come to the Bible with their opinion.

They then look for example events to fit it.

We go to the Bible to find what is true.

We use inductive reasoning from an axiom.
Bible Uses of Reasoning

- Many scriptures were given earlier.
- God reasoned for repentance (Isaiah 1:18).
- God challenged idolaters (Isaiah 41:21).
- God and great saints reasoned extensively.
Paul’s standard method was reasoning!

“And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.”

Acts 17:2-3
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Paul’s Standard Approach

- *He reasoned* – used logical arguments to persuade men.
- *Out of scripture* – assuming it to be totally true and valid.
- *He opened* – introduced his assertions and conclusions.
- *He alleged* – provided evidence to support his assertions.
- These are legal terms describing the pleading of a case.
- *He did not expect* belief by his witness or his miracles.
- *He reasoned* – that it was necessary for Christ to suffer.
- *He reasoned* – that the Christ must also rise from the dead.
- *He reasoned* – Jesus of Nazareth satisfied the arguments.
Gospel Preaching

- It is reasoning out of the scriptures!
- It is not a chalk talk!
- It is not a sob story!
- It is not a staged event!
- It is not sentimental appeal!
- It is not personal testimony!
- It requires an audience that fears God!
Gospel Preaching

- Nehemiah 8:8
- Acts 17:2-3
- II Timothy 2:15
- II Corinthians 10:4-6
Paul at Mars’ Hill - 1

- The most intellectual audience to ever hear the gospel.
- He opened by accusing them of superstition and proving it!
- He assumed existence of a single, personal, Creator God.
- He assumed the wise and total sovereignty of God.
- He rejected Greek idols and temples as poppycock.
- He rejected Greek superiority by lumping men together.
- He quoted a minor Greek poet, but no Bible, when useful.
- He condemned all men as ignorant and needing to repent.
- He gave an invitation based on the final judgment of God.
Paul at Mars’ Hill - 2

- He introduced Jesus’ resurrection as proof of judgment.
- The specific logic tools he used would be a good study.
- Most of the hearers rejected and mocked him.
- But some believed and they are named.
- Paul could not be answered – they had to mock him.
- Be encouraged and resolute when men must mock you.
- With Jews Paul presumed on scriptural authority (17:2-3).
- With pagans, he presumed on the assumed nature of God.
Examples of Logic

“And he reasoned in the synagogue every sabbath, and persuaded the Jews and the Greeks.”

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Acts 18:24

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But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus.”

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“And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.”

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“And when they had appointed him a day, there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening.”
Acts 28:28
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Job 32:10-12
Example of Jesus Christ

- Jesus was the Master Logician of all time.
- Jesus was the Greatest Rhetorician ever.
- God gave Him the tongue of the learned.
- No man ever spoke like Jesus Christ.
- Men marveled when blessed to hear Him debate.
- Men were astonished when He preached.
“And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots: And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears: But with righteousness shall he judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and he shall smite the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips shall he slay the wicked. Isaiah 11:1-4
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Example of Jesus Christ

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Example of Jesus Christ

- His authoritative reasoning astonished people.
- He perfectly applied the principle of mercy.
- He asked questions that silenced His opponents.
- He used parables Pharisees knew were for them.
- He appealed to de facto law to silence Herodians.
Example of Jesus Christ

- He crushed the Sadducees fallacious argument.
- He applied an ancient verb tense to crush them.
- As Pharisees jumped in, He asked them of Christ.
- No man could answer Him a word!
- No man dared ask Him any more questions!
Example of Jesus Christ

- He perfectly applied the principle of intent!
- Jesus commended a scribe with a discreet answer!
- He asked and answered difficult questions at 12!
- When finished, His adversaries were ashamed!
- Enemies could not answer His ox in a pit!
He promised to help His apostles silence any man!

He gave learned disciples glorious heartburn!

He opened the understanding of His apostles.

He easily dispatched men accusing a woman.

He used “gods” from David to defend Himself.
“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:”

I Peter 3:15
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I Peter 3:15
Instructions to Logic

“Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.”
I Thessalonians 5:21
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“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.

Therefore many of them believed; also of honourable women which were Greeks, and of men, not a few.”

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Acts 17:11-12
“Bow down thine ear, and hear the words of the wise, and apply thine heart unto my knowledge. For it is a pleasant thing if thou keep them within thee; they shall withal be fitted in thy lips. Have not I written to thee excellent things in counsels and knowledge, That I might make thee know the certainty of the words of truth; that thou mightest answer the words of truth to them that send unto thee?”

Proverbs 22:17-21
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Proverbs 22:17-21
Bible Use of Logic

- Prophets reasoned by analogy to magnify offences.
- Jesus argued from lesser to greater various ways.
- Paul argued from lesser to greater various ways.
- Jesus argued from greater to lesser about hatred.
- Paul argued from greater to lesser about judging.
Jesus argued **deductively** from David’s son as Lord.

Jesus argued **the rank** of healing to forgiving sins.

Jesus **destroyed the accusation** He had Beelzebub.

Peter argued **inductively** from David at Pentecost.

Paul likewise argued **inductively** at Antioch.
Bible Use of Logic

- Paul argued deductively about “rest” in Hebrews 4.
- Paul argued lesser to greater throughout Hebrews.
- Paul argued deductively from “new” against O.T.
- Paul argued deductively of priests to a “necessity.”
- This list of examples could be multiplied greatly.
Applications of Logic

Divorce and Remarriage

- Deductive premises of mercy and intent of Jesus.
- Inductive reasoning aligns Sabbath and marriage.
- Inductive reasoning from shewbread confirms.
- Inductive reasoning of strict language confirms.
- Inductive reasoning of Pauline exception confirms.
Applications of Logic

Interracial Marriages

- Deductive premise – Moses married Ethiopian.
- Inductive – division of races, languages, nations.
- Inductive – God allowing things like polygamy.
- Inductive – God allowed Israel to have a king.
- We conclude it is not a sin, but neither is it wise.
Applications of Logic

Footwashing Tradition

- Is John 13 inductively sufficient for an ordinance?
- Is I Timothy 5:10 an further inductive evidence?
- No! I Timothy 5:10 deductively proves otherwise.
- John 13 inductively shows its humility and service.
Logic

PART-TO-WHOLE FALLACY

They’re paper clips! You can’t make something beautiful out of paper clips!
Fallacies of Logic

- One of most useful aspects of logic study.
- Easily the most fun aspect of logic study.
- Fallacies in reasoning are everywhere.
- Especially in our sound bite generation.
- Websites and books are available for more.
- Most have Latin names, but not necessary.
Imagine a world without religion......
Faulty Syllogism

Major Premise:  God is eternal.
Minor Premise:  Jesus is God.
Conclusion:  Therefore, Jesus is eternal.
Faulty Syllogism

Major Premise: *God is eternal.*
Minor Premise: *Jesus is God.*
Conclusion: *Therefore, Jesus is eternal.*

False! Because Jesus is not simply or only God; He is the Godman, and as such is not eternal.
Logic

2 = A NUMBER
1 = A NUMBER

2 = 1
**Fallacies of Logic**

**Non Sequitur**

- Latin for *it does not follow*.
- Such an argument makes no sense.
- It lacks proper connections in reasoning.
- The illogical connection varies greatly.
Major: *Baptism leads to all other commandments.*
Minor: *Duties of church members are commands.*
Conclusion: *Baptism results in church membership.*
Major: *Baptism leads to all other commandments.*
Minor: *Duties of church members are commands.*
Conclusion: *Baptism results in church membership.*

False! Baptistion does not create all roles possible.

False! Baptistion does not lead to marriage duties!
Non Sequitur

Major: *Church membership results in salvation.*
Minor: *Baptism results in salvation.*
Conclusion: *Baptism results in church membership.*
Non Sequitur

Major: Church membership results in salvation.  
Minor: Baptism results in salvation. 
Conclusion: Baptism results in church membership.

False! There are various salvations in the N.T.

False! Then it also causes perseverance (Ma 24:13)!
Fallacies of Logic

Non Sequitur

- False reasoning can be crafty and difficult to find.
- False reasoning can be stupid and difficult to find.
- Any reasoning from Scripture must agree with it.
- There are no contradictions, so remember rule #1.
- There is no substitute for know the Bible ... all of it.
Can we let a shrimp like this run our great country?
Fallacies of Logic

**Faulty Dilemma**

- Allows only two possibilities, when there are more.
- Example: Either vote for it, or we will have war!
- Example: No resurrection or seven husbands!
- Example: Election is wrong, or I can live wickedly.
- Look for use of “or,” when there are more options.
Fallacies of Logic

**Begging the Question**

- Reasoning in a circle by assuming the conclusion.
- The error is saying A=B without proving evidence.
- Example: Evolution is true, for it cannot be false.
- Example: Col 2:16 cannot mean weekly Sabbaths!
- Example: The wine Jesus drank had to be juice.
Fallacies of Logic

**Argumentum Ad Hominem**

- *Against the man,* attacks the person instead.
- When reasons fail, some attack character instead.
- Prove me the devil’s brother, but my reasons stand.
- Example: Festus told Agrippa Paul was mad!
- Example: The Jews said Jesus was a Samaritan!
Logic

Statement 1: Most of the Green is touching the Red. \textbf{TRUE}

Statement 2: Most of the Red is touching the Blue. \textbf{TRUE}

Logical Fallacy: Since most of the Green is touching the Red and most of the Red is touching the Blue, most of the Green must be touching the Blue. \textbf{FALSE}
Fallacies of Logic

Poisoning the Well

- Against the origin or source, instead of reasons.
- Example: Don’t listen to him, his family is Mormon.
- Example: Don’t vote Bush, he drank in college.
- Example: Can any good thing come from Nazareth?
- Example: They are wrong ... their church is a cult!
Argumentum Ad Baculum

- Argument of the club, appeals to fear or harm.
- Example: Accept Allah’s religion or die, infidel!
- Example: Admit our cracker god or burn for it!
- Example: Reject Jesus or lose place in synagogue.
- Example: If you reject Easter, you’ll lose friends.
Fallacies of Logic

*Argumentum Ad Verecundiam* - 1

- *Appeal to revered authority* ... other than scripture!
- The only revered authority we know is Jesus Christ.
- Example: The magisterium says Mary ascended.
- Example: But the 1689 Baptist Confession says!
- Example: We follow Moses. God spake to him.
- Example: Have any rulers or Pharisees believed?
Fallacies of Logic

Argumentum Ad Verecundiam - 2

- Scripture blasts all authority but God and itself!
- Rome’s church fathers are a morass of heresy.
- Good and godly men are irrelevant (Ps 119:98-100).
- Creeds and confessions are nothing to scripture.
- A majority or crowd of heretics is no improvement!
Appeal to Pity

- Evoke sorrow for an argument rather than answer.
- Example: If I do not get an “A,” it will ruin my g.p.a.
- Example: I need this job; I have five kids at home.
- Example: But what of those with a gift for piano?
- Example: If no Christmas, what for my children?
- Example: I could not believe in a God that elects.
Fallacies of Logic

Red Herring

- *Introduce irrelevant information to sidetrack.*
- Example: If I believed *this*, I’d have to believe *that*.
- Example: But what about ...? But what about ...?
- Example: “Thou wast born in sin.” [So what!]
- Example: We can’t do that, Charismatics do it.
Logical reasoning and rhetoric are great to learn.

Be an attentive, critical, and questioning hearer.

Look for fallacies everywhere. Demand true proof.

God must open the mind (Luke 16:31; II Tim 2:25-26), and this includes you as well as those you talk to.

How do you get men to ask (I Pet 3:15). Live holy!
For Further Study

**Introductory Links about Logic**

Other links to logic on the web ... [http://www.fallacydetective.com/articles/read/logic-on-the-web/](http://www.fallacydetective.com/articles/read/logic-on-the-web/).

**Links about Fallacies**

Introduction to 42 fallacies ... [http://www.nizkor.org/features/fallacies/](http://www.nizkor.org/features/fallacies/).
Another intro to fallacies ... [http://www.logicalfallacies.info/](http://www.logicalfallacies.info/).
Another intro to fallacies ... [http://onegoodmove.org/fallacy/toc.htm](http://onegoodmove.org/fallacy/toc.htm).
Excellent out-of-print book ... [http://members.core.com/~tony233/Dont_You_Believe_It!.htm](http://members.core.com/~tony233/Dont_You_Believe_It!.htm).

**Articles for Truth of Christianity**