

I. Original Opponents of Christianity

A. Jewish

1. OBJECTION: Christianity is blasphemous because it worships a man as God.
2. RESPONSE: Apologists sought to prove from Scripture that Jesus was the Messiah and God in human flesh.

B. Romans

1. OBJECTION: Christians worshiped Jesus as King, thus, they were revolutionaries who did not give Rome and the emperor the proper allegiance.
2. RESPONSE: Christians could worship Jesus and still be good earthly citizens.

C. Greek Philosophy

1. OBJECTION: Physical matter is inferior to the spirit, thus, the idea of a bodily resurrection is absurd.
2. RESPONSE: Matter is not evil; in the resurrection there is both matter and spirit.

D. Gnosticism

1. OBJECTION: Matter is evil. RESPONSE: God created matter and declared it "good."; it is not evil.
2. OBJECTION: Christ only appeared to have human flesh (Docetism). RESPONSE: Jesus did come in the flesh.
3. OBJECTION: The God of the Old Testament is not the God of the New Testament. RESPONSE: The God of the OT and NT is one.
4. OBJECTION: The resurrection is spiritual only. RESPONSE: The resurrection is physical and spiritual.