

Dear Friend,

The story goes that on the first day of his apologetics classes, Cornelius Van Til would ask his students, **“Who gets to define what truth is? Is it Plato? Is it Nietzsche? Or, is it Christ? You *must* decide.”** At Westminster Theological Seminary, students walk daily in and out of Van Til Hall, which houses our classrooms and auditorium. In each of those classrooms, we continue to teach students the infallible truth of Christ in his Word.

This concept—knowing Truth comes by knowing Christ—is foundational to all the work we do in every classroom at Westminster Seminary. Van Til wrote, “The Bible is thought of as authoritative on everything of which it speaks. Moreover, it speaks of everything.”

From its founding in 1929, Westminster has been a distinctive institution in the cohesiveness of its curriculum. Apologetics, biblical theology, systematic theology, church history, practical theology, and biblical counseling all share the same foundation, an assumed trust in the authority of God’s Word, and in the personal God. Van Til’s work in apologetics undergirds everything we do here—all of life is lived before the face of God; God makes himself known to every person, all the time (Rom. 1:18-20).

Westminster has always been dependent on the Lord’s provision for the funds to keep its doors open, and this is an especially urgent time of financial need in its history. Our fiscal year ended with an overall deficit of \$209,000 leaving us limited in our ability to implement new strategies of serving our students.

If by God’s grace you are sharpened by what you read in this book, you have been sharpened by the truths we teach at Westminster. Your gift of \$25 or more makes a great impact in increasing Westminster’s effectiveness to train men for gospel ministry and men and women for lives of Christian service.

Westminster is a place where Christ changes students’ lives through the power of his Word. Our students have gone out across the United States and to sixty-six countries. They know that Christ who inaugurated his Kingdom is the same one who goes before them as they minister to others.

Our students have not come to the conclusion that the God of Scripture is the true God by their own reasoning. They have, by the Spirit of God, come to the conviction that the God of Scripture is

the true God. They know they have been converted from death to life, by his personal, covenantal love for them through Christ.

Every gift to Westminster Seminary is a great encouragement to the seminary community. Thank you for your interest in *Covenantal Apologetics*, and the work of Westminster Theological Seminary. We hope you will support our work with a contribution of \$25 or more today. You may give online at www.givewts.com.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Scott Oliphint". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

K. Scott Oliphint
Professor of Apologetics and Systematic Theology

P.S. – Recently, I had the opportunity to discuss *Covenantal Apologetics* at the annual Westminster Ministry Update. The discussion is available at www.wts.edu/covenantalapologetics.