

Name: _____ Answer Key _____
Course: PHREL 4373, Christian Apologetics

Due: Beginning of class, 9.05.06
Instructor: William A. Dembski

Quiz_2006.09.05

Use the space allotted to answer the following questions—do not go outside the given borders. Be concise. Type or write legibly. This quiz is open-book. In turning it in, you acknowledge, on pain of divine judgment, that it is entirely your own work: no looking on other quizzes; no consulting with other students or persons.

Answer the following questions [2 points each]:

What does it mean to say, as Phillip Johnson does, that naturalism is a “metaphysical doctrine”?

Metaphysics addresses the nature of reality – what exists and what are its causal powers. Naturalism, in asserting that nature is all that exists, therefore constitutes a metaphysical position or doctrine.

Define “theistic realism”?

The view espoused by Phillip Johnson that because God is real, our understanding of the world must factor in this fact, and any worldview that fails to acknowledge this fact is woefully deficient.

What is the strongest argument, in Phillip Johnson’s view, against theistic realism?

The success of science. Science is supposed to have shown that God is superfluous.

What is the thesis of the book The End of Physics?

That physical theories are increasingly out of contact with the data of science and thus, in some cases, constitute a technically sophisticated mythology.

What is the key to staying unintimidated?

Realizing that people are just people – that they are not gods and will never be gods. Only God is God and it is he alone that we are to fear. “The fear of man brings a snare.” (Prov. 29:25)