

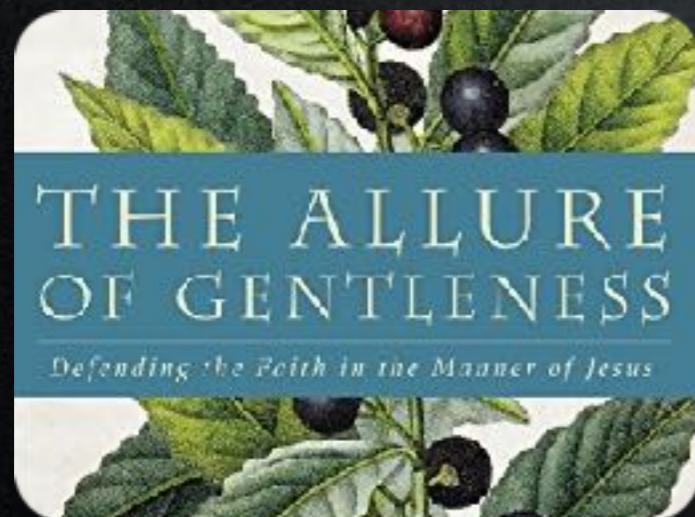
WELCOME to a 7 week Course sponsored by  
Dallas Willard Ministries & Jesus College



Ch. 1 – Apologetics is a **HELPING MINISTRY** of **KNOWLEDGE WITH JESUS** in His Kingdom!

Ch. 2 – Apologetics is for everyone in a **CONTEXT** of **FAITH** in the **REALITY** of **KINGDOM PEACE ...**

*“Why are you so hopeful?”*



Ch. 3 – Biblical Apologetics uses **REASON** to **HELP** people **DEAL** with serious, difficult **DOUBT**, not proving, bullying, or evidences, but served with humble, generous, open, loving confidence in God.

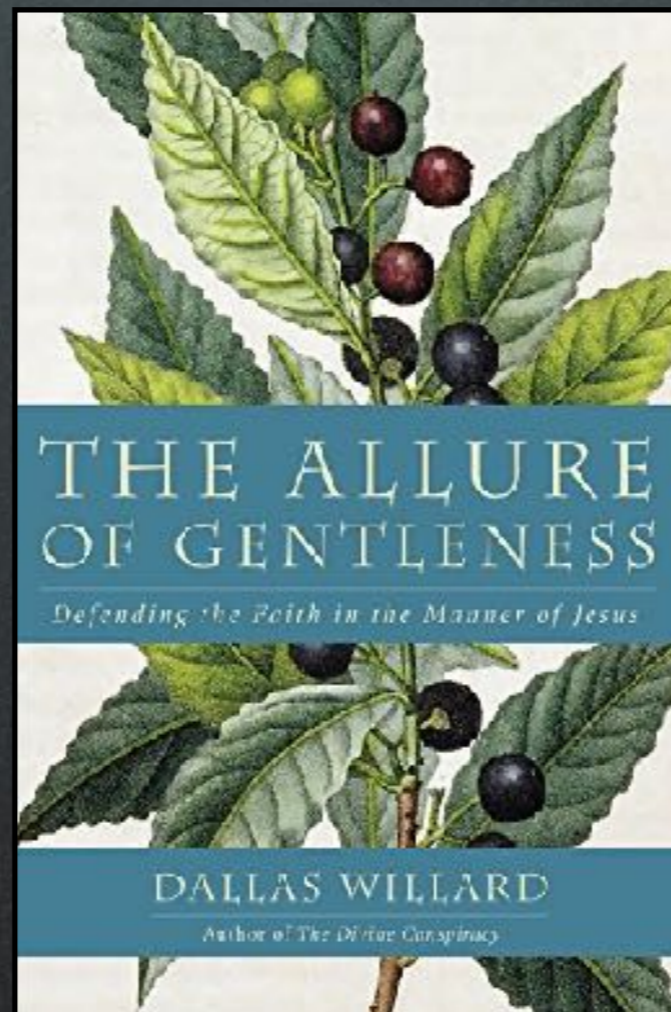
Ch. 4 – The **Self-Subsistent** “I AM” God...

...not obvious to those who do not want to see Him, He gives **SPACE** to **SEEK** and **FIND** Him.

# THE ALLURE OF GENTLENESS

## Session 5

### Chapter 5 - “*Communication Between God and Humanity*”



Apologetics beyond the issue of God's existence...  
less a matter of 'proof' and more 'making sense'.

(83)

# **THE ALLURE OF GENTLENESS**

Chapter 5 - *“Communication Between God and Humanity”*

**A History of God in a Covenant People**

**&**

**The Bible**

Using our reason to help people to come to faith in their confidence in the God of the Bible...  
a faith in the reality of the Kingdom.



## **GOD'S PURPOSE IN HISTORY**

A Relationship between Creator & Created (88-89)

“Why do evil & suffering exist in the world?” (91)

“What could be the good purpose of human history be?” (92)

A self-subsistent, personal Creator creating human history for good and constantly guarding against evil. (91-92)



## **Humankind - The Crown Jewel of Creation**

“4 But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us 5 even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— 6 and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, 7 so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.” Ephesians 2:4-7


People Choosing & Seeking Him

(95-96)



Christlike people living together with the kind of love that the members of the Trinity have for one another and enjoying that full, shared, self-subsistent being that characterizes God Himself as God dwells in those people.

(95-96)



You are part  
of that! You  
share in that!

“Why are you so happy even when suffering?”

“Because God is present through me  
and my community of fellowship!”

This is what creation, reality, human life, and  
human history are all about.

(96)



Oh, that is what [history] is all about...that He might  
create a larger community of the redeemed,

...a community of love that chooses to be His,  
that diligently seeks until it finds Him,  
and in Him the fullness of life,

...people who have experienced free development  
of Christlike character.

Not rocks or robots, redeemed people.

## *Chapter 4 Flashback*

### **WHY GOD IS NOT MORE OBVIOUS**

He is not obvious to those who do not want to see Him. (65)

God gives us space...to seek Him and find Him. (67)

**A COVENANT PEOPLE:  
ABRAHAM – THE FRIEND OF GOD**

*Luke 24:27, 47; Isaiah 42:5-7; Acts 17:24-28*

Friend → Family → Jewish People → Culture

There are no people on earth like the Jews.

The highest iteration of God that has ever been given to humanity is in the Old Testament. And the New Testament, once you understand the Old, is simply a natural consequence.

(99)



## **JEWISH CULTURE**

Psalm 23 - The content of the Old Testament  
as expressed at its highest. (99)

Animal Sacrifices [with no clergy] – God to meet people  
where they were and work through human history to bring  
about His purposes in the world. (101-102)



## GOD WORKS in CULTURE

*“Aching Achan in Achor”* (Joshua 7) - A cultural norm.  
God uses history to allow people to approach Him  
in a way that will not consume them. (103)



God is working through the whole of human history to  
develop a people who freely choose Him, live for what is  
good, and trust in Him alone. (104, 96, 127)



If you want to stay up all night worrying about  
where Cain got his wife, be my guest.

Dallas Willard on The Bible







## **Originally Perfect — Authenticated by History**

When God approaches humanity, He sets things up in such a way that men & women have to seek God.

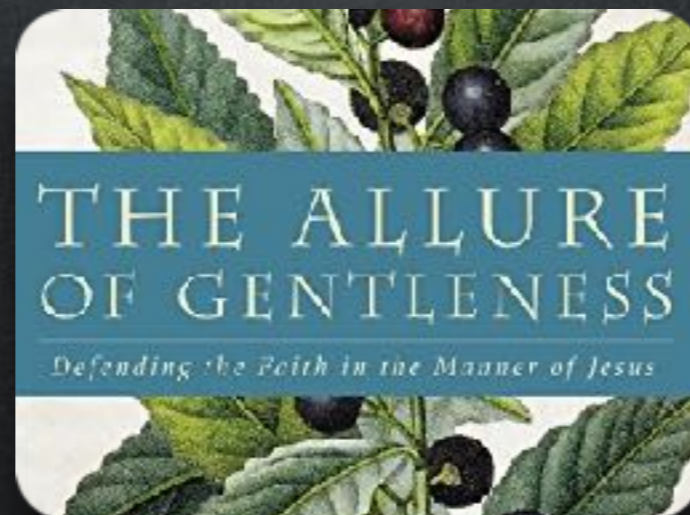
*Deuteronomy 4:27-29; Jeremiah 50:4*

God's approach to humankind is one that allows us to hide, to not see Him, but also to seek Him.

*II Chronicles 15:15, Matthew 6:33, Acts 17:27*

In apologetics, the real issues are not in the details. They are in the big issues: what the premises are, what the conclusions are, what the real questions are about, what doesn't make sense, and how to make sense of it all.

(107)





You have...

- Testimony of a historically reliable record,
- Statements about itself are now reliable,
- We know they are inspired. (108)

That goes hand in hand with anyone who approaches the Bible for the purpose of finding God will indeed find Him and will be spoken to by God through the scriptures.

(108-109)

# Q&C

Your Questions & Comments are welcome!

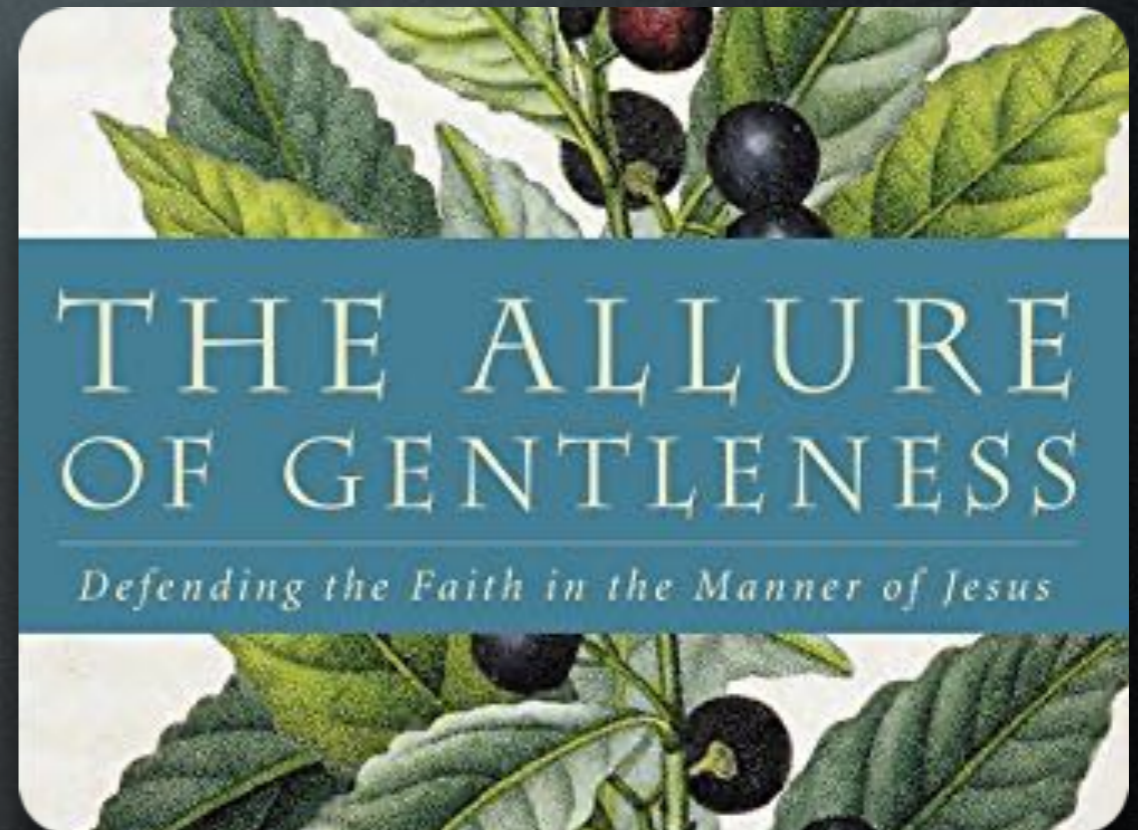
(Use the Q&A on the bottom of your Zoom screen)



Q&A

## Chapter 5 Summary

God is working for the good of His Crown Jewel of Creation in history through culture and His historically reliable Word to create a community of love that seeks Him and finds life in Him.



**Meditation** — *Isaiah 42:5-7, Acts 17:24-28*

**V-I-M in your next 10,000 minutes...**

**VISION** — How much more do I now see and value in history from studying this book by Dallas?

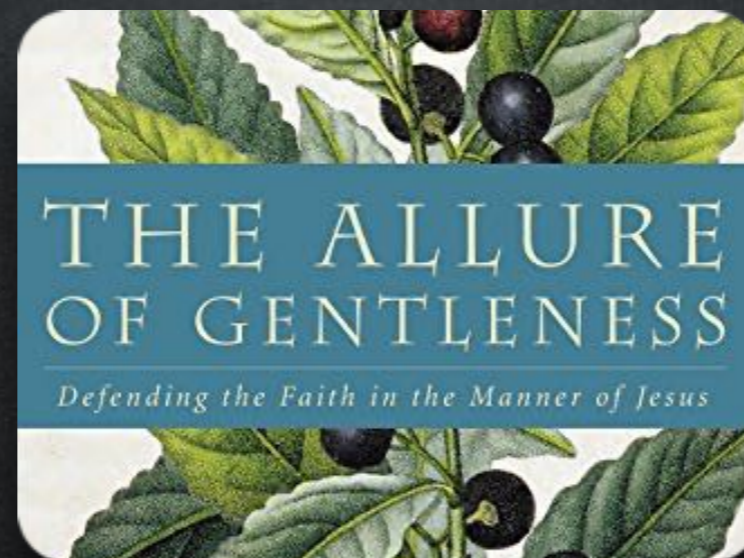
**INTENTION** — Why is “friendship” so important to God and how much will I cultivate my quietly, transforming, conversational friendship with Jesus this week?

**MEANS** — How can I study the Covenant of Abraham to better understand God’s purposes?



**Next — Session 6 of 7**

Chapter 6 - The Problem of Pain & Evil  
(pp. 111-139)



At this moment in history when the longest reigning monarch is passing from a Queen to her son the new King, may you be profoundly, powerfully, and personally aware of your eternal reign as a Crown Jewel in our Father's Kingdom,

*Doug*

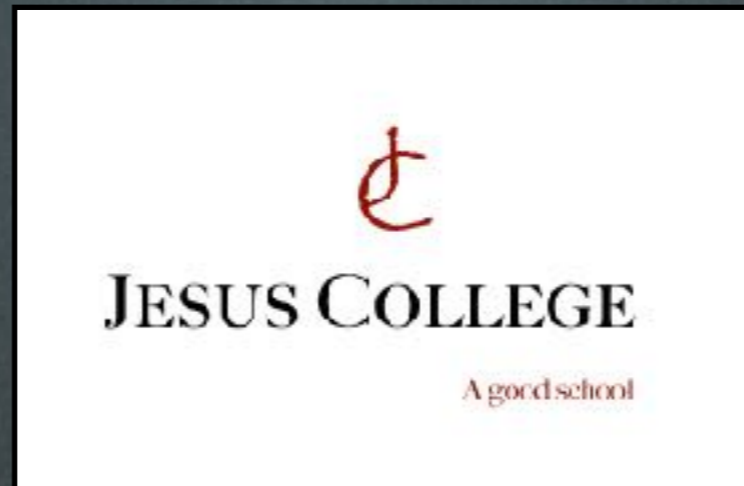




# THE SCHOOL of KINGDOM LIVING

**Information...Registration** — [JohnC@dwillard.org](mailto:JohnC@dwillard.org)





Apprentice to Master Love — //Nouns  
*“A Student of the Superior Benefactor”*

Apprentice to Master Love — //Verbs  
*“Training to be proficient in willing the good”*

## **“Master’s in the Master”**

A 3 year spiritual training as a student of history’s greatest teacher for apprentices who take their spiritual formation seriously.

A self-paced, spiritual transformation track through (15) courses to grow in Christlikeness guided by the works of Dallas Willard. This is a non-accredited but fully accountable and affirming journey with Jesus and fellow apprentices from around the world.



**JESUS COLLEGE**

A good school

**The Mission of Jesus College** - To Empower Apprentices to Master Love by knowing Jesus as the One, great truth and live a good life found in such truth.

**The Vision of Jesus College** - To equip Trainers (Ministry, Business Leaders, Parents) to mentor Leaders (Senior Apprentices) to disciple Apprentices to Master love.

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