

LOGIC 4

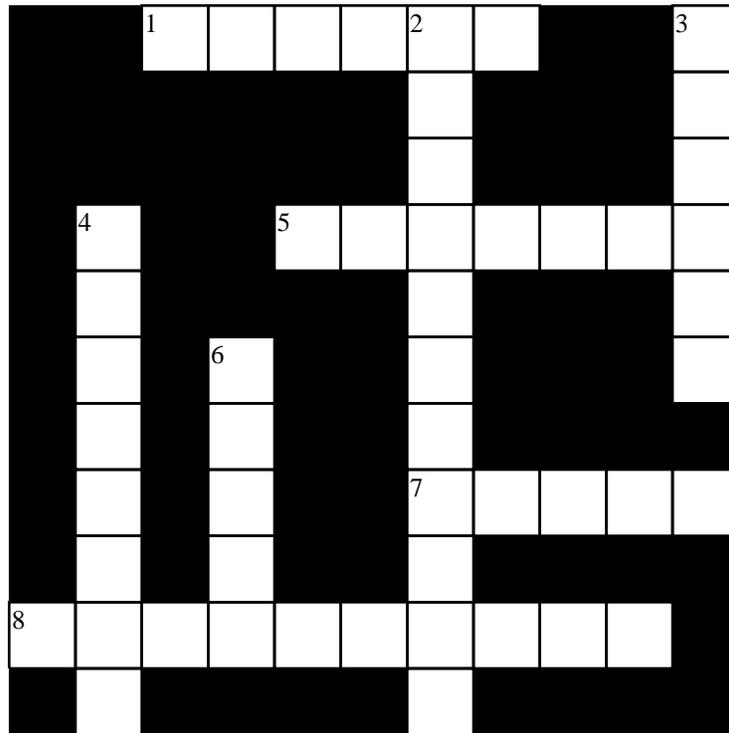
1. Logic is the science of sound reasoning. It is objective and follows established rules of inference for moving from premises to a conclusion. Knowing logic enables one to construct and evaluate arguments for validity and soundness. This is especially important in detecting errors in those whose authority in a given area you must trust.
 - a. Consider the pastor-teacher: Chances are that you are not going to have the expertise in the Bible, biblical languages, isagogics, systematic theology, and philosophy that your pastor does. Logic is the only tool you have to detect error. If a pastor-teacher is teaching something false, it will always contradict some area of known truth. It is important for every pastor-teacher to be approachable and be able to answer any question you might have.
 - b. Consider the college professor: Regardless what course you take, when you begin you are not going to know as much as your professor on the subject matter. Take evolutionary biology: It would be very easy for the prof to bury the student with technical vocabulary. However, with logic the student could point out the various logical inconsistencies. After my last Bible class, a young lady came up to me and told me that her biology teacher remarked that philosophy was garbage. I pointed out to this young lady that that was a philosophical statement, not a biological statement. Hence, her remark was self-refuting. I am always amazed at how naturalists slam philosophy, and yet they cannot do any of their work without it. To denigrate philosophy is to denigrate logic.
 - c. Logic enables one to not only detect errors in arguments from others; it enables one to catch them in one's own arguments. The more I learn logic, the more I am aware of the need to restate some of my points. One of the members of FBC noted that my logic courses may come back to bite me, she is right. But that is OK! The more one practices logic, the better one is able to think clearly about Bible doctrine and truth as such, which is really what it is all about.
2. Logic is not synonymous with Rationalism.
 - a. Rationalism as an epistemology believes that we can know things about reality apart from the senses.
 - b. Rationalism as a philosophical bias (e.g., "Enlightenment rationalism") is an attitude wherein human reason is the final arbiter of truth.
 - c. Using *logic* in our pursuit of that which is true and reasonable is not the same as a commitment to Rationalism (of either variety).

- d. Logic is ultimately a tool, a “human instrument,” for securing knowledge about reality.
3. Logic builds the mental habit of thinking in an orderly way. Whatever your future plans, this will be beneficial.
4. Logic has the power of proof and thus persuasion. This power is rightly used to win the truth and defeat error; it is wrongly used to win the argument and defeat your opponent.

In ‘Ehyeh,

Pastor Don

See next two pages for puzzle over this lesson and the answers

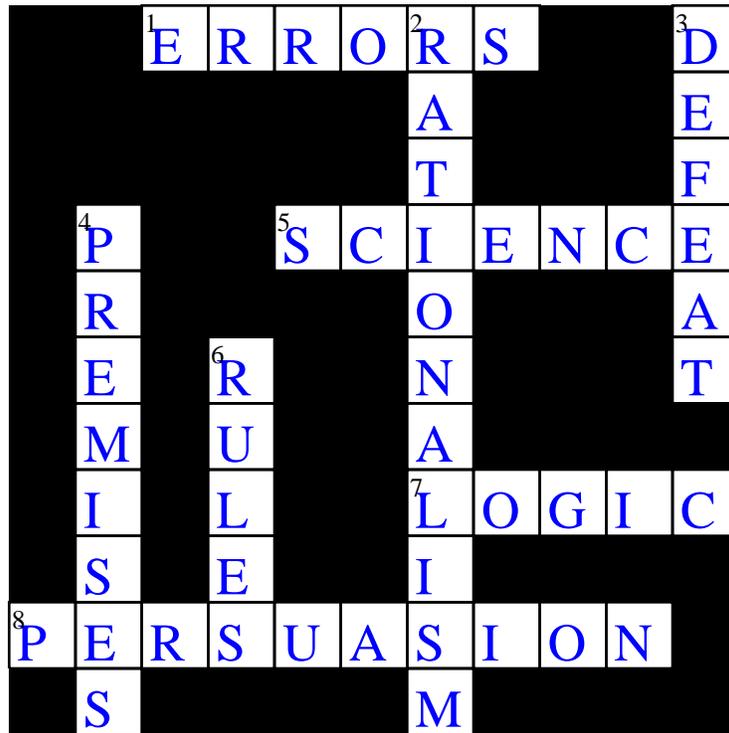


Across

- 1 Logic is a great protection against the ____ of those who influence you.
- 5 Logic is the ____ of sound reasoning.
- 7 To denigrate philosophy is to denigrate ____.
- 8 Logic has power for ____ .

Down

- 2 Logic is not the same thing as philosophical ____ .
- 3 Logic is rightly used to win truth and defeat error and not to ____ your opponent. We do not wish to win an argument and lose the opponent.
- 4 Logic moves from ____ to conclusion.
- 6 Logic does not consist of something just sounding right; there are established ____.



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