

## Apologetics in Church History

1. God has blessed his church with some great thinkers and defenders
  - a. God promised to preserve his church (Matthew 16:18)
  - b. Not many called are *wise*, but some are (1 Corinthians 1:18-25; Philippians 3:4-8)
  - c. Disclaimer
  
2. A timeline of apologetics in church history (see chart)
  - a. The New Testament Era
    - skeptics, Judaizers, deniers of the resurrection, deniers of Christ's deity
  - b. The Early Church through the Middle Ages
    - deniers of Christ's deity, Greek philosophy, Gnosticism, Pelagianism
  - c. The Reformation through the Present Era
    - medieval superstition, Enlightenment rationalism, skepticism, modernism, atheism
  
3. Christianity is a time-tested, well preserved faith
  - a. Many modern challenges are rehashed heresies from the past:

Modalism	Oneness theology
Arianism	Moral teacher/JW denial of divinity
Pelagianism	Graceless, works-based righteousness
Gnosticism	Enlightenment reasoning/science; New Age

- b. Christianity is able to withstand the onslaught of critics, both ancient and new

## **Apologetics in Church History**

Resources:

### Apologetics in Church History

*Faith Has Its Reasons*, Ken Boa and Robert Bowman

*Thinking about Christian Apologetics*, James K. Beilby

### Historical Theology

*Historical Theology: An Introduction to the History of Christian Thought*, Alister McGrath

*Historical Theology: An Introduction to Christian Doctrine*, Gregg Allison

### Readings in Church History

*Early Christian Doctrines*, JND Kelly

Christian Classics Ethereal Library (ccel.org)

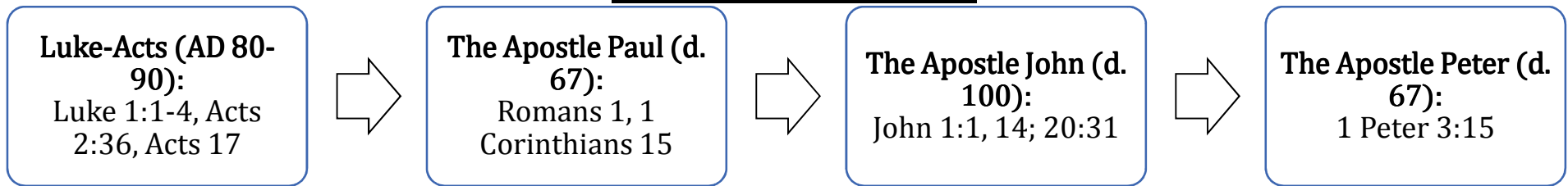
### Heresies in History

*Heresy: A History of Defending the Truth*, Alister McGrath

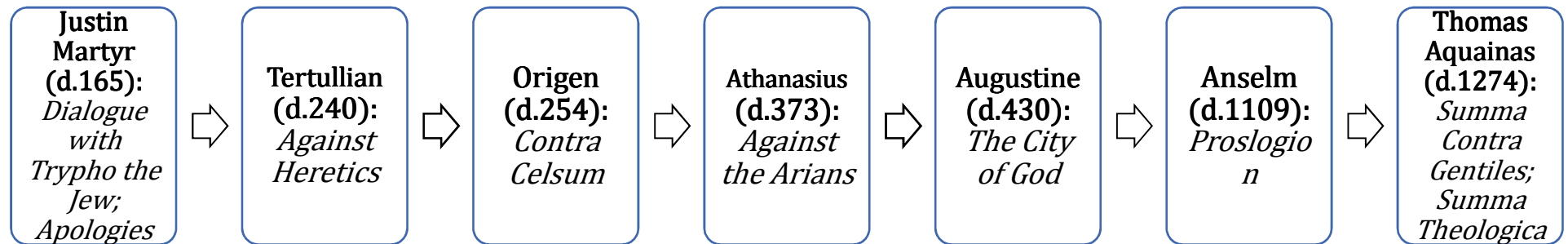
*Heresies: Heresy and Orthodoxy in the History of the Christian Church*, Harold OJ Brown

## Apologetics in Church History

### The New Testament Era



### The Early Church through the Middle Ages



### The Reformation through the Present Era

