



January 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express support for the apologetics ministry of Roger Overton. Roger is a young apologist with a keen mind and a passion for Christian truth. He already is capable of defending the Christian faith at a high level of intellectual sophistication, and he has great potential to become even more effective as he continues his studies and acquires further speaking experience.

Roger recently spoke to a fellowship meeting at my church. The topic concerned the importance of standing for the objectivity of biblical truth in a culture that supposes religion to be nothing more than a question of individual choice. Roger presented his ideas in way that was clear, precise, and winsome. He also handled questions well. It was evident that he had thought long and hard about the issues that were being discussed, and that he was thoroughly conversant with the relevant literature. We are considering ways of using Roger more extensively in our church's ministry.

As Nancy Pearcey has argued in her recent book *Total Truth*, one of the most urgent tasks of the church today is to overcome the fact/value dichotomy that assigns religion to an intellectual "upper story" where it is unrelated to the real problems of modern life. Christians need to think through the implications of their faith for every realm of life, and they need to develop apologetic strategies that uncover the contradictions at the heart of secular thinking.

Because this is such an urgent matter for the church, we need to do all we can to encourage and equip those among us who are especially gifted at apologetics and the related fields of philosophy, theology, and the history of ideas. Roger is such a Christian. I pray that God will make him more and more powerful in his defense of the Christian faith. I wholeheartedly commend his ministry to all who are concerned with training Christians to be prepared to give a reason for the hope that is within them.

Sincerely,

David Clotfelter
English Pastor, Chinese Christian Alliance Church

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