

Bible Doctrines (The True-Good-Beautiful)

T/G/B

- Eschatology
- Thanatology
- Ecclesiology
- Israelology
- Dispensationalism
- Doxology
- Hodology
- Soteriology
- Hamartiology
- Natural Law
- Anthropology
- Angelology
- Pneumatology
- Christology
- Paterology
- Trinitarianism
- Cosmology
- Theology Proper
- Bibliology
- Natural Theology

Opening: the greatest issue in your life and mine is an intimate relationship with God that is characterized by a mind that clearly knows God and a will/heart that loves Him. Such knowledge and love thrives in the context of reciprocal divine love (1 Jn 4:19; 2 Cor. 5:14; Rom. 5:8; 8:38-39; Eph. 5:2; 1 Jn 3:16).

2 Parts to Bible class:

1. 10 min on spiritual foundations + 15-20 min philosophical (history of epistemology and implications in loving God).
2. Biblical (supernatural knowledge): God's espousal love for the believer.

Spiritual foundations: The concurrent model for learning Bible doctrine is very active.

1. The concurrent model of spirituality as it is related to learning Bible doctrine and gaining wisdom of God, Mat. 11:25, 18:4; 2 Tim. 2:7; Prov. 2:1-5; Matt 7:7-12.
2. Distinction between concurrent model and the popular conduit model on loving God, others and with regard to 1 John 1:7 and 1:9. My goal and motives in critiquing the conduit model is to advance the believer in the Truth and thus the spiritual life.

5: Hermeneutics
4: Linguistics
3: Epistemology 32
- Existence 50
- History 47
2:Metaphysics 32
- Trans. 50
1: Reality
- Logic 32,
- Truth 32

Stage 3 – Christian metaphysician = life of glory!

- Metaphysical understanding of God, creation, the spiritual life, man, and Bible doctrine.
- Transcendent relationship with God rather than nominal relationship with God.

Stage 3

Holy Spirit Bible Doctrine

Stage 2 – Christian doctrinal believer = life of doctrine!

- Still Nominal understanding of God. Increase in perinoetic truth about God & the spiritual life. However, still plagued with pagan philosophy in view of God's nature due to lack of metaphysics, which is due to modernism's philosophical assumptions. He has become more stable, but still very dependent on others for confidence in absolute truths.
- Orientation still more about words than the reality.

Stage 2

Holy Spirit Bible Doctrine

Stage 1 – Christian baby = life of ups and downs.

- Utilitarian understanding of God.
- All baby believers have a great deal of pagan views of God due to pagan horizon of meaning. All baby believers are tossed here and there by kosmos diabolicus, Eph. 4:14.
- For baby believers it is primarily about pragmatism. In other words, if it works or feels good , they think it must be true.

Stage 1

Philosophical Foundations for a Realist Christian Worldview (Epistemology: History-47--Summary)

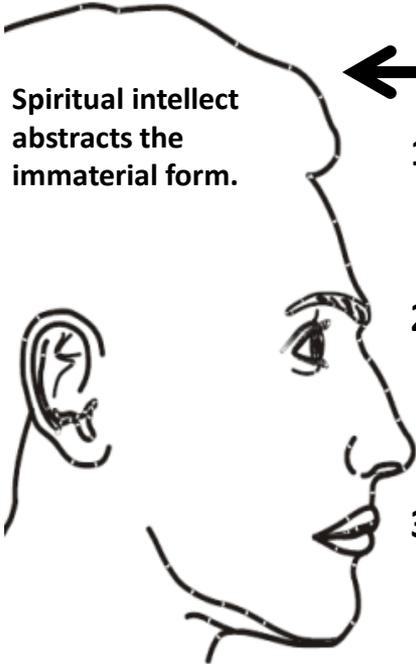
1. Realist epistemology: 1st principles of being & laws of thought.

**Primacy of the
extra-mental
world, what is.**

Realism is the only objective, biblical epistemology



Spiritual intellect
abstracts the
immaterial form.



1. Realism is the only epistemological framework that places primacy on the extra-mental world. Moreover, since there is no dichotomy between soul and body, it avoids the endless speculations found in modern philosophy.
2. In Realism the intellect's first act is to know being, reality, because an object is knowable only in the degree that it is actual. Being, entity, reality, is the first and proper object of understanding, just as sound is the first object of hearing.
3. The first principles of Realism: From being, the intellect seizes at once its opposition to non-being, called the principle of contradiction: being is not non-being, and from this we move to other first principles of being and laws of thought: identity, and sufficient reason.
4. Realism is primarily concerned with what is real, correspondence Truth. It therefore avoids exegetical fallacies (Platonizing words) and pragmatism.
5. Because Realism operates according to the first principles of being and laws of thought, it provides the true basis for objective biblical studies that is absent from *all* of the other systems (Descartes' mind, Bacon's particulars, Comte's naturalism, Reid's intuitionism, Kant's subjectivism, Locke's empirical minimalism).

2. By advancing into Realism, the Judeo-Christian classical metaphysics (Exod. 3:14), the believer is able to move out of the various kosmic mindsets that distort the believers' understanding of reality, the Bible and God, and thus knowledge of and love for God.
 - a. By advancing into Realism, the believer will be able to leave D__ rationalistic epistemological framework (spatial, mechanical) & be able to move into a deeper knowledge of & love for God.
 - b. By advancing into Realism, the believer will be able to leave B__ inductive epistemological framework (fragmented, arbitrary) & be able to move into deeper knowledge of and love for God.
 - c. By advancing into Realism, the believer will be able to leave C __ positivistic epistemological framework (naturalistic, flat) & be able to move into deeper knowledge of & love for God.
 - d. By advancing into Realism, the believer will be able to leave R__ intuitive epistemological framework (autonomous) & be able to move into deeper knowledge of and love for God.
 - e. By advancing into Realism, the believer will be able to leave K__ subjective epistemological framework & be able to move into deeper knowledge of & love for God.
 - f. By advancing into Realism, the believer will be able to leave L__ minimalist/empirical epistemological framework (neo-deism) & be able to move into deeper knowledge of and love for God.

Love 24

1. 1 Cor. 13:6-8, 13 “[love] does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth, bears all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails . . . But now faith, hope, love, abides these three; but the greatest of these is love.
2. What is required for full faith, hope, and love in God is recognizing God as the Ultimate Good above all else. However, no man can see God as his greatest good to the level that is needed for such faith, hope, and love lest he understands just how much God loves and desires an intimate relationship with him, so deep and sacrificial so as to be compared to marriage with its one-flesh relationship. To grasp this is also to see the seriousness of charge of betrayal in language of adultery.

Ephesians 5:31 For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh. 32 This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.

3. The Bible is the inspired record of the greatest love story every told with God depicted as a loving Bridegroom pursuing His bride. The various stages include forgiving the bride, betrothing Himself to her, her betraying Him, and then God forgiving again and renewing her because of *His* love, compassion and grace. All of human history is a story of His amazing love that culminates with a Giant Wedding Supper where God weds Himself to His people for eternity. Consider the language used of the divine bridegroom and the betrayal of the bride.

Exodus 24:6-11 And Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and the other half of the blood he sprinkled on the altar. 7 Then he took the book of the covenant and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!" 8 So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words." . . . and they beheld God, and they ate and drank.

Isaiah 54:5 "For your husband is your Maker, Whose name is the LORD of hosts; And your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel, Who is called the God of all the earth. 6 "For the LORD has called you, Like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit, Even like a wife of one's youth when she is rejected," Says your God. 7 "For a brief moment I forsook you, But with great compassion I will gather you. 8 "In an outburst of anger I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting lovingkindness I will have compassion on you," Says the LORD your Redeemer.

Hosea 2:14 "Therefore, behold, I will allure her, Bring her into the wilderness, And speak kindly to her. 15 "Then I will give her her vineyards from there, And the valley of Achor as a door of hope. And she will sing there as in the days of her youth, As in the day when she came up from the land of Egypt.

Exodus 32:1 Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled about Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us a god who will go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." 2 And Aaron said to them, "Tear off the gold rings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." 3 Then all the people tore off the gold rings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. 4 And he took this from their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and made it into a molten calf; and they said, "This is your god, O Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt." 5 Now when Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD." 6 So the next day they rose early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and to drink, and rose up to play.

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Jeremiah 2:1 Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, 2 "Go and proclaim in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the LORD, "I remember concerning you the devotion of your youth, **The love of your betrothals**, Your following after Me in the wilderness, Through a land not sown.

Ezekiel 16:8 "Then I passed by you and saw you, and behold, you were at the time for love; so I spread My skirt over you and covered your nakedness. I also swore to you and **entered into a covenant with you so that you became Mine,**" declares the Lord God.

Hosea 1:2 When the LORD first spoke through Hosea, the LORD said to Hosea, "Go, take to yourself a wife of harlotry, and have children of harlotry; for the land commits flagrant harlotry, forsaking the LORD." 3 So he went and took Gomer the daughter of Diblaim, and she conceived and bore him a son.

Isaiah 1:21 How the faithful city has become a harlot, She who was full of justice! Righteousness once lodged in her, But now murderers.

Jeremiah 2:32 "Can a virgin forget her ornaments, Or a bride her attire? Yet My people have forgotten Me Days without number.

Jeremiah 3:20 "Surely, as a woman treacherously departs from her lover, So you have dealt treacherously with Me, O house of Israel," declares the LORD.

Ezekiel 16:15 "But you trusted in your beauty and played the harlot because of your fame, and you poured out your harlotries on every passer-by who might be willing. 16 "And you took some of your clothes, made for yourself high places of various colors, and played the harlot on them, which should never come about nor happen. 17 "You also took your beautiful jewels made of My gold and of My silver, which I had given you, and made for yourself male images that you might play the harlot with them. 18 "Then you took your embroidered cloth and covered them, and offered My oil and My incense before them. 19 "Also My bread which I gave you, fine flour, oil, and honey with which I fed you, you would offer before them for a soothing aroma; so it happened," declares the Lord God. 20 "Moreover, you took your sons and daughters whom you had borne to Me, and you sacrificed them to idols to be devoured. Were your harlotries so small a matter? 21 "You slaughtered My children, and offered them up to idols by causing them to pass through the fire. 22 "And besides all your abominations and harlotries you did not remember the days of your youth, when you were naked and bare and squirming in your blood. 23 "Then it came about after all your wickedness ('Woe, woe to you!' declares the Lord God), 24 that you built yourself a shrine and made yourself a high place in every square. 25 "You built yourself a high place at the top of every street, and made your beauty abominable; and you spread your legs to every passer-by to multiply your harlotry. 26 "You also played the harlot with the Egyptians, your lustful neighbors, and multiplied your harlotry to make Me angry.

4. Understanding Jesus Christ as the long-awaited divine bridegroom incarnate. Why did John, as the appointed herald, use “Bridegroom”?

John 3:28 "You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, 'I am not the Christ,' but, 'I have been sent before Him.' 29 "He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, **rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice**. And so this joy of mine has been made full. He must increase but I must decrease.

- Jeremiah 33:8-11 'And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity by which they have sinned against Me, and I will pardon all their iniquities by which they have sinned against Me, and by which they have transgressed against Me. 10 "Thus says the LORD, 'Yet again there shall be heard in this place, of which you say, "It is a waste, without man and without beast," **11 the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the voice of those who say, "Give thanks to the LORD of hosts, For the LORD is good, For His lovingkindness is everlasting"; and of those who bring a thank offering into the house of the LORD. For I will restore the fortunes of the land as they were at first,' says the LORD.**
- Jesus came not only to teach, but to forgive and restore the unfaithful bride of God, Israel.

John 2:1-11, Christ, the Jewish Bridegroom and the wine of salvation.

- ✓ The Old Testament prophesies of a time when the Bridegroom, God, would come and provide a superabundance of wine for the banquet of salvation (cf., Joel 3:18 and Isa. 62:4-6).
- ✓ Mary asks Jesus to assume role of Bridegroom. She is asking Him to provide the supernatural wine of “salvation” prophesied in the OT, which the Jews were anticipating. She is not just concerned so much with the details of this wedding, she is looking forward to the Kingdom.
- ✓ Jesus provides between 120-180 gallons of wine to point to Him as the divine Bridegroom.
- ✓ However, it is not yet His hour, which is all about His sacrificial work on the Cross, where the new marriage covenant is established.

John 13:1 Now before the Feast of the Passover, Jesus knowing that His **hour** had come that He should depart out of this world to the Father, having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end. His hour:

- Matthew 26:26 And while they were eating, Jesus took some bread, and after a blessing, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." 27 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; 28 for **this is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for forgiveness of sins.**
 - They would have understood this immediately in term of the covenant at Mt. Sinai. The Lord's Supper is the covenant banquet meal between God and His people based on the death of Christ instead of bulls and goats.
- 1 Corinthians 11:25 In the same way He took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant **in My blood**; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

John 14:1 "Let not your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me.
2 "In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. 3 "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

- The custom of the groom preparing place for the bride.
- He will return for us at the Rapture. He is preparing our eternal dwelling place.

Revelation 22:3 And there shall no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His bond-servants shall serve Him; 4 and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on their foreheads.

- The eternal state will be characterized by three things: service, contemplation, and likeness.
 - a. #1: Serving Him (λατρεύουσιν αὐτῷ). This term is never used in reference to the service of any man. It is used exclusively for service to God alone. This is the life of worship of God where all activity will be characterized as service to Him. Throughout eternity we will desire to please Him in all things. It is to be our ambition “whether present or absent.” Serving Him will be the worship in heaven, just as it is here.

- b. #2: Contemplation (ὄψονται τὸ πρόσωπον αὐτοῦ). Our vision of Christ is now mediated, but then face to face, direct and more than we could possibly ever attain now. This is far higher communion than we can enjoy now. We will be able to supernaturally abstract what *Esse* is.
- c. #3: Likeness: “His name shall be on their foreheads.” This point to likeness. We will perfectly resemble the LJC in His glorified humanity. He will cleanse us from all sin and weakness and our human nature will be perfected, “We shall be like Him for we shall see Him as He is.” 1 John 3:2.
- ✓ These three elements are not different in kind from what we enjoy now: we live to please Him in all things, we contemplate Him, and we grow in His likeness through sanctification.
 - ✓ Right now counts forever: *Revelation 19:8 And it was given to her to clothe herself in fine linen, bright and clean; for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.*