

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

By knowledge & love! Jn 17:3; Mt 22:37-39; Jer 9:23-24; John 14:23-24; Eph. 5:10; 1 Jn 3:16-18.
Outline of Bible class (and a few words about the interplay between knowledge and love in my life).

1. Spiritual foundations (1 slide)—morality and virtue of Realism in contrast to Cartesianism.
2. Philosophy of language-18 (1 slide)—Cratylean epistemology and metaphysics.
3. Heaven-13:—the critical need for the eternal perspective for an authentic, robust Christian life.

Spiritual foundations: morality, virtue, and supernaturally infused virtue.

1. Level 1: Morality/ethics is related to external factors rather than true desires (the will). A person can be moral but fragmented in his intellect and will and thus needs constant confession of sin before God. In morality man attempts to live under external codes rather than his true desires.
2. Level 2: Virtue/integrity is characterized by integration of the intellect (N&S), with the sentiments, affections, and passions around the Good. Not only does a person know what is good, but he desires the good. In regard sexual temptations, consider how one’s view of incest affects one’s sentiments, affections, feelings, and passions.
3. Level 3: Supernatural/infused virtue (spirituality) is having the right thinking, sentiments, affections, and passions from the supernatural source of God the Holy Spirit (Rom. 14:17; Matt. 16:13-17; 1 Cor. 2:7-16). The Holy Spirit raises up understanding in the intellect as well as desires of the will to a supernatural level. However, God never overrules a person’s 2nd order will. Supernatural virtue brings supernatural comprehension in the intellect, which then affects the will, desires, affections, sentiments, and even passions.
4. The problem with the ungodly (Cartesian, physicalistic, positivistic category of “emotions.”
 - a. Historical/philosophical views: David Hume, William James vs. modern cognitivists.
 - b. Consider how easy it is for a conservative biblical exegete who operates according to theologism to be so unbiblical. He has no idea that by thinking in terms of “emotions,” makes him unbiblical. Moreover, he has no concept of how man’s affections, passions, and sentiments are vital to the development of virtue in the life. He has no clue on the relationship between man’s affections and passions to happiness, morality, virtue, vice, sin, sin nature, infused grace, and moral theology in general.
 - c. God views man holistically (hylomorphism) and places emphasis on man’s affectivity for development of virtue (Dt. 15:7; Mat. 9:13, 36; Rom 12:15; Eph. 4:31-32; 1 John 3:16-18).

5: Hermeneutics
4: Language-18
3: Epistemology 32 - Existence 50 - History 50
2:Metaphysics 32 - Trans. 50
1: Reality - Logic 32, - Truth 32

Philosophy of Language-18 (Plato's *Cratylus*)

Outline

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ What is philosophy of language?

✓ Theories of meaning

✓ Plato (428-348 BC)

Aristotle (384-322 BC)

Ferdinand de Saussure (1857-1913)

Gottlob Frege (1848-1925)

Bertrand Russell (1872-1970)

Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951).

Martin Heidegger (1889-1976).

W. V. O. Quine (1908-2000).

Noam Chomsky (1928-)

Realist view of meaning.

Foundation of meaning.

Communication of meaning.

Elements of language.

Function of language

Meaningful God-talk.

Analytic Philosophy

Conclusion.

Analogy.

Metaphysical analogy.

1. We seem to have a problem with the various philosophies of language presented in *Cratylus*.
 - a. Cratylus's naturalistic onomata epistemology is untenable for several reasons. One is that many of those who originally coined the names had false views of the things they named. Two, many of the name givers (e.g., legislatures) were Heraclitian, which means that they denied that things have natures, since all is in flux. Third, is it not true that one must know what something is before naming it?
 - b. Hermogene's conventional onomata epistemology is untenable as well. For there must be some connection between words and their referents for us to engage in meaningful conversation about things. We simply cannot call anything what we want!
 - c. Socrates's eidetic epistemology sounds good. However, there is a crucial problem with his theory of knowledge in that it claims to be an unmediated eidetic knowledge, yet it is mediated by words through the process of rhetoric. Just exactly how one go about doing this remains a mystery, at least as far as *Cratylus* is concerned.
 - d. Thus, *Cratylus* leaves us without resolution on the nature of language and reality.
2. The rest of history of philosophy of language is an attempt to resolve this issue. The main focus is always *meaning*, which is an immaterial activity, which is why chimps cannot understand language (cf., H.S. Terrace and the Sebeoks's study of claims re: Nim Chimpsky) and will never have libraries. Only the immaterial intellect can penetrate sense data.
3. Apart from metaphysics, the modern biblical exegete will default to Cratylean methodology in his exegesis. My critique of Cratylean epistemology and metaphysics should never be taken as an attack on conservative exegetical movements. There have been many wonderful biblical truths that were discovered using a Cratylean epistemology. However, there have also been many serious false views and distortions of the Word and reality as such.
4. My goal is always to move us to move deeper into Truth, the Whole Truth, the Total Truth, REALITY of the Word of God, God/Esse, creation, man, the spiritual life, virtue theology, and life in general. This can only be done by classical metaphysics. History has demonstrated that those who ignore or reject classical metaphysics *always* end up buried by false metaphysics (materialistic or idealistic) and end up with very foolish views of reality, God, and the spiritual life. Another thing: no believer should ever feel bad for following a system that promises objectivity through the original languages. God always honors 2nd order desire. ²

THE PRESENT HEAVEN – Separated from earth



FUTURE HEAVEN:

United with earth:

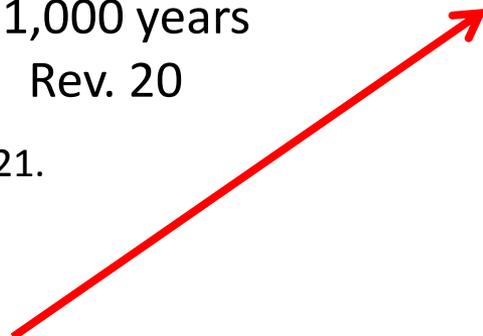
1. Pure/perfect: Matt. 6:10; 2 Pet. 3:13.
2. Christ-centered: Rev. 21:22-22:4.
3. Universal worship of Christ: Dan. 7:14

What the Bible says concerning the present Heaven:

1. Epistemology: John 3:11-13, 31, 6:38.
2. Metaphysics: John 14:1-3; Acts 7:55-56; John 11:43
3. Continuity and activity: Luke 23:43; 2 Cor 5:8; John 17:24; Philip. 1:23-24; Rev. 6:9-11;; Rev. 18:20; 19:1-5.
4. The spiritual/Christian life: Heb. 11:10-16; Matt. 6:19-25; Col. 3:1-3; Luke 10:20; Philip. 3:17-21.



Church Age	Rapture	Tribulation	Millennium
		7 years	1,000 years
			Rev. 20



Warnings regarding lack of eternal perspective:

1. Treasures, heart, and life before God, Mat. 6:19-21.
2. Hell: Matt 7:13, 10:28.
3. Excuses: Luke 14:18-20
4. Verdict: "Fool," Luke 12:16-34.

PRESENT HELL/TORMENTS

1. Ecc. 12:7; Luke 16:19-31; 2 Pet. 2:4.
2. Matt. 10:28; Rev. 20:11-15

FUTURE HELL

1. Rev. 20:10-15, 21:8
2. Matt. 13:40-42,
3. Matt. 25:41, 46
4. John 5:29b
5. 2 Thess. 1:9
6. Mark 8:36-37

WE LIVE IN THE IN-BETWEEN WORLD

HEAVEN-13

1. Note the critical relationship between man's heart, life, attitude to God, and his heavenly eternal perspective (cf., Matt 6:19-25; Col. 3:1-3; 1 Cor. 3:12-13).
2. Discussion of life, sufferings, death, and the glory of God in light of the eternal heavenly perspective, John 17:24; Philip 1:21-25; 3:1-20;.
3. Major adjustments need to be made regarding the modern view of the spiritual life as per the doctrine of faith-rest. The doctrine of faith-rest, apart from a dominant eternal reference point, is seriously flawed (cf., Matt. 5:1-16; Luke 12:16-31; Heb. 11-12:2). Heaven must be our direct line of sight! This is impossible apart from the Holy Spirit and cultivation of understanding over time—instead of waiting till the end of life. It is unfortunate that many people take more time thinking about and planning a vacation trip to Disneyworld than the final trip of their lives, which is forever.

HEAVEN-13

4. More discussion on what God says about death, Heaven, and Hell.

Hebrews 2:14 Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives.

Revelation 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!'" "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.

HEAVEN-13

Revelation 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne, saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is among men, and He shall dwell among them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be among them, 4 and He shall wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there shall no longer be any death; there shall no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away."

Isaiah 25:8 He will swallow up death for all time, And the Lord God will wipe tears away from all faces, And He will remove the reproach of His people from all the earth; For the LORD has spoken.

1 Corinthians 15:55 "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" 56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; 57 but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

HEAVEN-13

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

2 Corinthians 5:6 Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord-- 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight-- 8 we are of good courage, I say, and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

HEAVEN-13

2 Timothy 4:6 For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; 8 in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing. . . . 13 When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments.

Ecclesiastes 12:6 Remember Him before the silver cord is broken and the golden bowl is crushed, the pitcher by the well is shattered and the wheel at the cistern is crushed; 7 then the dust will return to the earth as it was, and the spirit will return to God who gave it.

Hebrews 11:16 But as it is, they desire a better country, that is a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them.

Colossians 3:1 If then you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Matthew 25:46 "And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Luke 16:24 "And he cried out and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue; for I am in agony in this flame.'

Matthew 7:13 "Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. 14 "For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.

Matthew 3:12 "And His winnowing fork is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; and He will gather His wheat into the barn, but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Matthew 7:21 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.
22 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'
23 "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.'

Matthew 25:41 "Then He will also say to those on His left, 'Depart from Me, accursed ones, into the eternal fire which has been prepared for the devil and his angels;

Revelation 6:15 And the kings of the earth and the great men and the commanders and the rich and the strong and every slave and free man, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains; 16 and they said to the mountains and to the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the presence of Him who sits on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb; 17 for the great day of their wrath has come; and who is able to stand?"

Revelation 21:8 "But for the cowardly and unbelieving and abominable and murderers and immoral persons and sorcerers and idolaters and all liars, their part will be in the lake that burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."

Revelation 20:11 And I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, from whose presence earth and heaven fled away, and no place was found for them. 12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead which were in them; and they were judged, every one of them according to their deeds. 14 And death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. This is the second death, the lake of fire. 15 And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

5. It is self-evident and undeniable that one cannot live the transcendent Christian life apart from the transcendent eternal perspective. In fact apart from the eternal perspective, no one can really find or understand himself, Matt. 10:39. The eternal perspective changes everything, not only with regard to our lives, but how we view everything else.

6. Only the eternal perspective can provide incurable transcendent optimism through the living certain knowledge of living happily every after with unending happiness, beauty, glory, and gratification. Only with the eternal perspective can the believer look beyond his sickness and pain and difficult circumstances, cf. 1 Pet. 4:13.

7. We are to gain more joy from our eternal perspective than spiritual victories in our lives.

Luke 10:19 "Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you. 20 "Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven."

8. Only the eternal perspective can really destroy temporal issues such as suffering, boredom, and attitudes of insufficiency and unimportance.

9. The eternal perspective should serve as a challenge or wakeup call for both believer and unbeliever.
- Do you daily reflect on your mortality? You are dying!
 - Do you realize there are only 2 destinations?
 - Do you remind yourself that this world is not your home and everything in it will be burned up?
 - Do you realize that your choices and actions have a direct influence on your life in the world to come?
 - Do you realize that your life is being examined by Christ and will be appraised for next life?
 - Do you daily reflect that your ultimate home will be the New Earth, where you will see God and serve Him as a resurrected being in a resurrected human society, where you will overflow with joy and delight in drawing close to God and studying Him and His creation?
 - Are you looking forward to being with your Lord?
 - Is your value related to the eternal perspective?

10. Note the transcendent eternal incentives.

2 Peter 3:11 Since all these things are to be destroyed in this way, what sort of people ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, 12 looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, on account of which the heavens will be destroyed by burning, and the elements will melt with intense heat! 13 But according to His promise we are looking for new heavens and a new earth, in which righteousness dwells. 14 Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless,

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 25 choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin; 26 considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.

1 John 3:2 Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. 3 And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

11. Note the eternal perspective and rewards: an overview of the various motives, incentives and the nature of the concurrent activity involved in gaining rewards, Jer. 17:9-10; Matt. 6:1-7, 16-18, 19-34, 19:21, 25:14-23; Luke 6:35, 14:12-14, 16:9-11, 19:17-19; **Rom. 14:10-12; 1 Cor. 3:12-15, 4:5, 6:3; 9:24-27; 2 Cor. 4:16-18; 5:9-11; Eph. 6:7-8; Col 3:22-24;** 1 Tim 6:6-19; 2 Tim. 2:12, 4:6-8; **Heb. 6:10-12;** James 1:12, 2:14-26; 3:13; 1 Pet. 5:1-4; 2 Pet 1:3-11, 3:10-14; 1 John 2:28; 2 John 8; Rev. 2:10, 2:23, 3:11, 21, 14:3, 19:7-8.