

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: Psalm 73:24; 1 Jn 4:10, 19; Dt. 6:5-7; Lam 3:19-24; Hab 3:17-18; Rom. 8:35-39.

Preparation for Bible class: motives in conduitism vs. concurrence: Col. 3:23.

1. Spiritual foundations (1 slide): Conduitism, concurrence, virtue, wills/volitions, the local church.
2. Philosophy of language-29 (1 slide): Cratylean vs. eidetic/Scriptural methodology on love.
3. Heaven-24:— Heaven: Eternal love and honor perspective vs. the small life without God.

Spiritual foundations: virtue and the local church.

1. In the conduit model for spirituality, the believer is but a channel of God’s attributes. They are never really part of the believer’s nature. If conduit were true, we should expect huge changes in a whole person’s attitude when in and out of “fellowship” for there are no grounds for stable Christian virtue. Moreover, this system approach tends to solve problems so one can love God.
2. The concurrent model for spirituality is much different. God Himself infuses supernatural virtues *into* the believer’s nature. Thus, there is a basis for stability of supernatural character, unlike the toaster model. Moreover, the focus is directly on God for cultivation of intimacy (with/before/after) rather than mediation through a power grid. This is Scriptural and Real!
3. The locus of virtue is in man’s will: Isa 29:13; Rom. 1:18-20; Prov. 4:23. However, there are four aspects of the will/volition (will1-volition1; will2-volition2). We see 3 of them in Romans 7:15-22:
  - **Romans 7:15** For that which I am doing (**v1**), I do not understand; for I am not practicing what I *would* like to *do* (**w2**), but I am doing (**v1**) the very thing I hate (**w2**).<sup>16</sup> But if I do (**v1**) the very thing I do not wish *to do* (**w2**), I agree with the Law, *confessing* that it is good.<sup>17</sup> So now, no longer am I the one doing it (**w2**), but sin which indwells me (**v1**).<sup>18</sup> For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh; for the wishing (**w2**) is present in me, but the doing of the good (**v1**) is not.<sup>19</sup> For the good that I wish (**w2**), I do not do (**v1**); but I practice the very evil (**v1**) that I do not wish (**w2**).<sup>20</sup> But if I am doing (**v1**) the very thing I do not wish (**w2**), I am no longer the one doing it, but sin which dwells in me.<sup>21</sup> I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wishes to do good (**w2**).<sup>22</sup>
4. The local church and the enormous responsibility of the pastor-teacher, Heb. 13:17.
5. The healthy, dynamic, local church filled with believers with supernatural virtue (from **w1** to **w2** to **vol2** to **v1**), Acts 2:42-47; John 13:35; 1 Cor. 12:20-27.

5: Hermeneutics

4: Language-29

3: Epistemology 32  
 - Existence 50  
 - History 50

2:Metaphysics 32  
 - Trans. 50

1: Reality  
 - Logic 32,  
 - Truth 32

# Philosophy of Language-29 (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.

## Cratylus: the relationship between language and reality illustrated with the term "love."

1. The importance of making a distinction between *onomata* approach to reality (Cratylean) and eidetic (direct/realistic) approach to reality.
2. Just because a language may be more precise than another language in structure does not mean that it is superior in its ability to communicate the metaphysics of reality.
3. Consider the Greek sentence:
  - "I love the Father" = ἀγαπῶ τὸν πατέρα, Jn. 14:31.
  - "I love the Father" could also be written τὸν πατέρα ἀγαπῶ.
  - The word order does not matter in the Greek for the verb "love" or "Father."
4. Now, consider the English sentences:
  - "I love the Father," "you love the Father," "Father loves I/me"
  - Note how the meaning is changed by word order and the verb "love" is not definitive. "Love" is spelled the same way in "I love" and "you love."
5. So, structurally there are more precise aspects of the Greek language. However, there are also inadequacies as well, like no capital "F" in biblical Greek for "Father."
6. However, the advantages of the Greek structure does not get one one inch closer to the metaphysics or essence that the word is pointing to.
7. The idea that Greek can express aspects of reality that the English is unable to is manifestly false. What is more clear?
  - The Greek for "It is finished" (τετέλεσται, Jn 19:30), written with a perfect tense which *sometimes* emphasizes continued action or the English phrase "it is finished in the past with the results that continue forever."
  - The Greek words for love which sometimes emphasizes certain kinds of love, *but not always*, or the English terminology "unconditional love or spiritual love or family love or romantic love."
8. Note the metaphysical or philosophical realist approach to love in the Word of God: John 3:16; 15:13; Rom. 5:8; Eph. 5:2, 25; 1 John 3:1, 16; 4:9-10. Note the lack of appeal to etymological studies or history of word usage by writers of Scripture.

**Warnings:**  
**Matt 6:19-34**  
**Rev. 14:13**  
**2 Cor 5:10**  
**Rev. 19:8**



**Temporary Heaven**  
**John 17:24; Philip 1:21-23; 2 Cor. 5:8; Rev. 1-19**



**Eternal Heaven/Earth**  
**Rev. 21-22**

The single greatest source of disappointment, frustration, depression, hopelessness, FSH, and pseudo living is making this in-between world the primary focus of your life.

This is especially egregious on the part of the bride of Christ, who is to get her identity, self-esteem and value from the Lord as she prepares herself in the in-between world to be with Him for all of eternity as His honored and exalted wife.



**Temporary Hell**  
**Luke 16:19-31**



**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. <sup>2</sup> Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

**Eternal Hell**  
**Rev. 20:11-15; Matt 10:28-30**



**Warnings:**  
**Matt. 7:13-14; Luke**  
**12:16-34; Luke 14:18-20**

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

1. It is imperative that every believer understand his life, God, and human history in terms of the Greatest Love Story of all time. Last class we noted the recurring theme of God's people, graphically depicted many times as betrayers of their most intimate love relationship with God. We need to look at God more in terms of a Lover, rather than simply as Potter, Father, Lawgiver, Rock, Provider, Sustainer, Protector, or even Lamb:

Jeremiah 2:2 "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,

Jeremiah 2:23 "How can you say, 'I am not defiled, I have not gone after the Baals '? Look at your way in the valley! Know what you have done! You are a swift young camel entangling her ways, <sup>24</sup> A wild donkey accustomed to the wilderness, That sniffs the wind in her passion. In *the time of* her heat who can turn her away? All who seek her will not become weary; In her month they will find her.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

Ezekiel 16:25 "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.

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."

James 4:4 You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

1 John 2:15 Do not love the world, nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will hold to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.

Colossians 3:5 Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies in *the power of* the evil one.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

### 2. The Greatest Love Story of all time: **Act 1—love within the Trinity.**

- ❖ The perfect, infinite love of God “begins” in the inter-trinitarian relationship. This is where the sacred romance and all true love begins. This love is perfect, infinite, and immeasurable. All true love flows within and from the triune Godhead.
  - John 1:1-2 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was face-to-face with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.
  - John 17:5 "And now, glorify Thou Me together with Thyself, Father, with the glory which I had with Thee before the world was.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

3. The Greatest Love Story of all time: **Act II—divine love set on the people of God, Eph. 1:3-14**. This occurred in eternity past. The reason man was created was that God desired to share His inter-trinitarian love with others, analogously like a married couple would desire to share their love by adding children to their love.
  - ❖ God created man to share in the love and joy of the inter-trinitarian love within the triune Godhead. Man was created to join in the love of the Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit. Man was created to share in the love in the trinity. This is truly Home and what we all long for since birth.
  - ❖ As image bearers we are relational beings, which the church restores in a magnificent way. We long for intimacy because we are made in the image of the triune God. For there is an eternal and infinite intimacy in the Godhead.
  - ❖ As image bearers we also get our identity through relationships, starting with God. No one can live beyond his identity.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

4. The Greatest Love Story of all time: **Act III—creation and fall of angels.**
  - ❖ God first opens His love to others by creating a vast heavenly host of angels. We see them serving God and filled with joy at creation (Job 38:7).
  - ❖ However, one angel rose up against the Creator. This is the first act of betrayal. He sowed discord among the angels. Untold legions followed him in his war against Heaven and departure from God, Rev. 12:7.
  - ❖ Satan is cast out of Heaven. His lack of virtue comes from fragmentation of 2<sup>nd</sup> order will and volition.
  - ❖ Love always provides freedom. Analogically speaking, God open Himself and thus made Himself vulnerable by granting free will. He could have made all beings robots or could have destroyed them all after they rebelled.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

5. The Greatest Love Story of all time: **Act IV—the creation, Fall and redemption of man.** This begins with man having the most perfect relationship with God. God, out of His love, places man in paradise. However, for one to love there must be freedom. Love always complicates the situation. God paid dearly for giving the angels freedom. He does the same thing for man.
  - Note the sense of betrayal in Genesis 3:13 Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this you have done?" And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."
  - God, motivated by His love and grace, seeks to win man back by promising a Redeemer and by pursuing man throughout human history. Again, and again, He removes the obstacles by means of grace.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- All of history is a record of God as a Lover pursuing His people in love, all the while giving them the freedom to accept Him or reject Him. We see this with Lucifer freedom, the fallen angels, Adam, Eve, Cain, Lamech, the generation of Noah and every generation thereafter.
- Time after time we see betrayal, not just acts of sin but betrayal with the enemies of God.
- Before Satan or anyone can ever leave God, they must first kill their desire (will<sup>2</sup>) for God. Having done this, man then flees from God.
- God in His love, enters the darkness of man via incarnation. The incarnation was invasion into our darkness. Love is behind the entire incarnational enterprise.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- God so desires communion with us that He is willing to allow difficulties in His life (incarnation) and ours to draw us to Him, Rom. 8:35-39.
- God's love is the motivation behind His grace. God expresses His love by means of grace, Rom. 5:1-11.
- God gives us the power to love Him by means of the Holy Spirit, Rom. 5:5.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- Evidence of God's great love is not only manifested in providing salvation, it is manifested in His great desire to be with us where we are. This is what motivated the great incarnation.

**John 14:3** "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.

**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,

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

6. Satan works relentlessly to keep us distracted away from loving God. He has no qualms about getting us involved in all kinds of activity just as long as we do not love God first, Rev. 2:1-4. He is out for our hearts/wills, to keep us from loving God first and foremost.
  - a. Before Satan could rebel, he had to kill the desires of his own heart toward God. His whole policy of lies revolves around slander God and reality as such (John 8:44). His whole strategy is to kill our desires for the Lord, which is basically the essence of godlessness. He separates truth from reality and beauty from truth.
  - b. Satan has many tools like vanity and pride and the self-directed life. However, the whole objective is to get us involved in the small stories of life instead of God's grand story.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- c. Satan's demons are always taking bits and pieces of our lives to make a false narrative of our lives, to move us into small lives with flat horizontal perspective. This is why there is so much hopelessness and despair, because all meaning and purposes are tied to this life. We erroneously think we do not matter.
  
- d. The enemies' deception is that it is just us down here struggling with all of these things by ourselves. If life *here* is not fulfilling, then life cannot be fulfilling. Many live defeated lives because of shame and contempt of self, never realizing the value God puts on His bride, never living in the reality of just how uniquely privileged we are as brides of Christ!

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- e. Satan's policy is always to keep our focus on the small stories of life as if that was all there was. Or to get us to make up or write our own story— instead of responding to God's love. So, he is behind the role playing and motivations that are involved in writing our own scripts.
  
- f. We are the ultimate Cinderella story and Satan, his minions, and the world are like her sisters always trying to tell her that she is unworthy. She had no idea how different she was both on the inside and outside. The Lord sees us, His bride, with great beauty and significance and desires intimacy with us.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- g. By getting believers to focus on the DOL and temporal life issues, and spending most of their energy doing this or that, Satan can be very effective in getting us to forget about our special bridal love relationship with the Lord. So, we end up with small stories for our lives based on performance and programs.
- h. By destroying true concept of fellowship (with, before, after), he can keep us from living with God and developing relationship with Him.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- i. The only road to recover is the eternal perspective, which is only possible through constant exposure to the Word of God, which alone can deal with will<sup>1</sup>, will<sup>2</sup>, volition<sup>2</sup>, and volition<sup>1</sup>—all tied to the complexity of human desires, feelings, affections, sentiments, and passions.

2 Timothy 3:16 All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; <sup>17</sup> that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.

Isaiah 55:11 So shall My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it.

1 Peter 1:7 that the proof of your faith, *being* more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

### 7. More on the Bride of Christ

- The bride of Christ is a special class of believers. It includes all those who have put their faith in Christ in this age of surpassing grace, which had its beginning at Pentecost and will continue until the Bridegroom comes to receive His bride to Himself to consummate the marriage.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- The metaphor of the bride of Christ speaks more than any other metaphor of the infinite sacrifice of Christ as the expression of infinite love.

**Ephesians 5:2** and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you, and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

**Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself (explicates His love) up for her; <sup>26</sup> that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- Paul prayed that the bride of Christ would come to know the knowledge-surpassing love of Christ

**Ephesians 3:18** may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fulness of God.

- Christ did not love the church/bride because it was perfectly lovable, but in order to make it such

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- The bride is to 'make herself ready,' indicating that there is something for the bride to do in preparation for this ceremony, 1 John 3:3; Jude 21; 2 Cor. 7:1.
- The righteous acts that will adorn the bride consists of her rewards that she receives at the JSJC, 1 Cor. 3:8; 4:5; 2 Cor 5:10; Philip 2:12-13. The bridal dress with which she arrays herself is a gift from Christ in return for her righteous acts in true fellowship. It is what she has done with her life on earth.
- The bride of Christ will go from the JSJC to the marriage supper and then into the kingdom and then into eternity in full enjoyment of eternal companionship and union of the deepest nature with her husband, the Lord Jesus Christ. The actual marriage takes place in the present Heaven.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- It will be the bride's exalted privilege to be exalted before the eyes of the universe as Christ expresses His love to His bride, "I have loved you with an everlasting love."
- It will be the bride's exalted privilege to reign with the King of Kings. There is a sense in which the bride is a co-sharer of reign whereas everyone else is a subject of the King.
- It will be the bride's exalted privilege to spend eternity in Christ's palaces and on His throne. We are to be companion and partners with Christ for all of eternity. He is preparing us for that now.
- The challenge is to set aside the small stories of life and embrace His story, a story love, sacrifice, and ultimate happiness filled with everlasting wonder and adoring love.

## HEAVEN 24 (Bridegroom and Bride)

- All of life is to prepare us for the wedding supper of our Lord where we, as brides, will be celebrated before the universe with the Lamb, our eternal groom.

**Revelation 19:7** "Let us rejoice and be glad and give the glory to Him, for the marriage of the Lamb has come and His bride has made herself ready." <sup>8</sup> 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.