

Bible Doctrines (The True-Good-Beautiful)

T/G/B

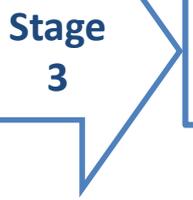
- Eschatology
- Thanatology
- Ecclesiology
- Israelology
- Dispensationalism
- Doxology
- Hodology
- Soteriology
- Hamartiology
- Natural Law
- Anthropology
- Angelology
- Pneumatology
- Christology
- Paterology
- Trinitarianism
- Cosmology
- Theology Proper
- Bibliology

P.R. - 32

- Hermeneutics
- Linguistics
- Epistemology
- Metaphysics -32
- Reality –Logic 32, Truth 32

8/10/2013

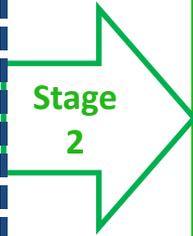
1. **Warning:** Colossians 2:8 *See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary principles of the world, rather than according to Christ.* What would it take for a Christian to care? I am the best illustration of how BD by itself does not solve problem; solution ...
2. **The unique opportunities at FBC** for whole truth (PR+SFL+BD), which always leads to the true, good, beautiful in doctrine, life, & reality.
3. **Metaphysics 32** (whats and ises of beings: Jn 1:3; Acts 17:28; Rom. 1:20; 11:36; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3; Rev. 4:11). We made it! My appreciation for all of you who did not give up☺
Metaphysics drives everything: reality of beings, God, Bible, theology, apologetics, ethics, anthropology, HU, soteriology. All thinking centers on what things are. Meta. gives us the distinction btw what something is & that it is.
4. **The spiritual life.** The need for and nature of supernatural virtue for integration, Gal. 5:22-23.



Stage 3 – Christian metaphysician = life of glory!

- Metaphysical understanding of God.
- Virtuous love for God: Intellective, volitional, emotional love of God. Enduring fellowship.
- Life of “above all you could ever ask or imagine”

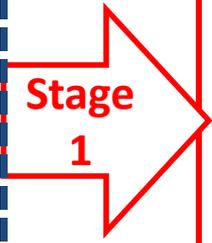
Holy Spirit Bible Doctrine



Stage 2 – Christian doctrinal believer = life of doctrine!

- Nominal understanding of God.
- Through BD this believer has gained a great deal of perinoetic truth about God & the spiritual life.
- However, he continues to have some pagan views about God’s *nature* due to lack of metaphysics.
- He has become more stable, but still very dependent on others for confidence in absolute truths.

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.

60 Truths that we have gained through metaphysics (alone)

1. Understanding the pernicious influences of human materialistic philosophies (on me personally & as a exegete of WOG).
2. Understanding God as 'Ehyeh, Esse, Pure Act. This by itself is worth all of the effort.
3. Understanding how God is connected to all of reality (Pure Act giving act to all potentiality)
4. Understanding the relationship between the true, good, and beautiful (cf., 50 classes on trans.)
5. Understanding how the pursuit of truth always ends in the vision of the TGB in God and reality.
6. Understanding the metaphysics of Rom. 1:20; Acts 17:27; Heb. 1:3, et al. Sustaining power of God.
7. Understanding the distinction between perinoetic and dianoetic knowledge.
8. Understanding essentialism vs. untenable atomism and the ramifications.
9. Understanding the metaphysics of beings and life from stones, plants, animals, to human beings.
10. Understanding souls in animals vs. mechanistic or materialistic view of life.
11. Understanding the unextended rational nature of man.
12. Understanding of the 3 acts of the immaterial mind.
13. Understanding the nature of immaterial abstraction to gain knowledge of realities/essences.
14. Understanding intellective virtue and the evils of mental sloth (anti-intellectualism).
15. Understanding the mind's *telos* for Ultimate Truth.
16. Understanding the unextended nature of man's will.
17. Understanding the will's *telos* for Ultimate Good and the nature of sin, e.g., sin and hate.
18. Understanding the will as the "heart" in the Bible (Heb. 4:12).
19. Understanding what volitional virtue is and requires.
20. Understanding the imaging nature of all animals, cf. Clever Hans effect, and Goodall's chimps.

60 Truths that we have gained through metaphysics (alone)

21. Understanding natures through “be is as be does” (natures) instead of by physical appearances.
22. Understanding man’s “emotions” e.g., affections, passions, experiences, mental states.
23. Understanding the nature of “emotional” virtue.
24. Understanding the “emotional” life of Jesus Christ.
25. Understanding the difference between substance and accident.
26. Understanding Job, the answer to the POE, and the wonders of creation.
27. Understanding the evils of Platonic depreciation of the sensible world and anti-intellectualism.
28. Understanding the evils of assuming believers just need to be told what to do (only SL principles).
29. Understanding the need for believers to understand Total Truth, not just spiritual life truths.
30. Understanding the need for believers to be able to think metaphysically about Bible and reality.
31. Understanding the power, beauty, and place of logic as a tool for Truth and the SL (Isa 55:8-11).
32. Understanding how to move believers into deeper realities beyond the original languages.
33. Understanding the timelessness of God.
34. Understanding the insufficiency of Dakean and Baconian methodology (ICE, cf. “firmament”).
35. Understanding my own anti-intellectualism over the past 30 years.
36. Understanding the nature of true philosophy, which gains its truth only by reason and reality.
37. Understanding the nature of happiness and how good and God are coterminus with happiness.
38. Understanding the metaphysics of love and hate.
39. Understanding love in terms of offices.
40. Understanding the metaphysics of sin, e.g., love can be sinful, and hate can be virtuous.

60 Truths that we have gained through metaphysics (alone)

41. Understanding the two orders of the will.
42. Understanding the need for integration of the first and second order will.
43. Understanding the nature of fragmentation.
44. Understanding my own shortcomings better and God's methods of correcting them.
45. Understanding the nature of pride.
46. Understanding what loving others really means.
47. Understanding the nature of boredom and frustration.
48. Understanding the nature of intellectual appetites and sense appetites.
49. Understanding the ultimate motive of all people.
50. Understanding the perniciousness of seeing God in terms of utility or duty or pleasure.
51. Understanding Job's transformation in seeing God's love even in horrible tragedy.
52. Understanding the need for virtue ethics.
53. Understanding reality as a whole instead of in fragmented or mechanistic/materialistic terms.
54. Understanding my own contingency as esse.
55. Understanding the need for offsetting Good in the face of sufferings and privations.
56. Understanding that issue of loving God is primarily in the will, not in the mind.
57. Understanding what needs to be done to correct the bad philosophies that corrupt our minds.
58. Understanding the evils of just following others, no matter how great they might be.
59. Understanding the metaphysics of God's love working on us constantly.
60. Understanding how love for God always leads to joy and peace, always.

NO IMMATERIAL INTELLECTION

No intellection

Animal souls show no evidence of spiritual intellection: no language, no science, no philosophy, no ability to engage in thoughts of God.

4-Internal senses: cortex

- Central sense for awareness.
- Imagination to see objects not present
- Sense memory to access past experiences
- Estimative power at the sensory level



5 external senses: end organs

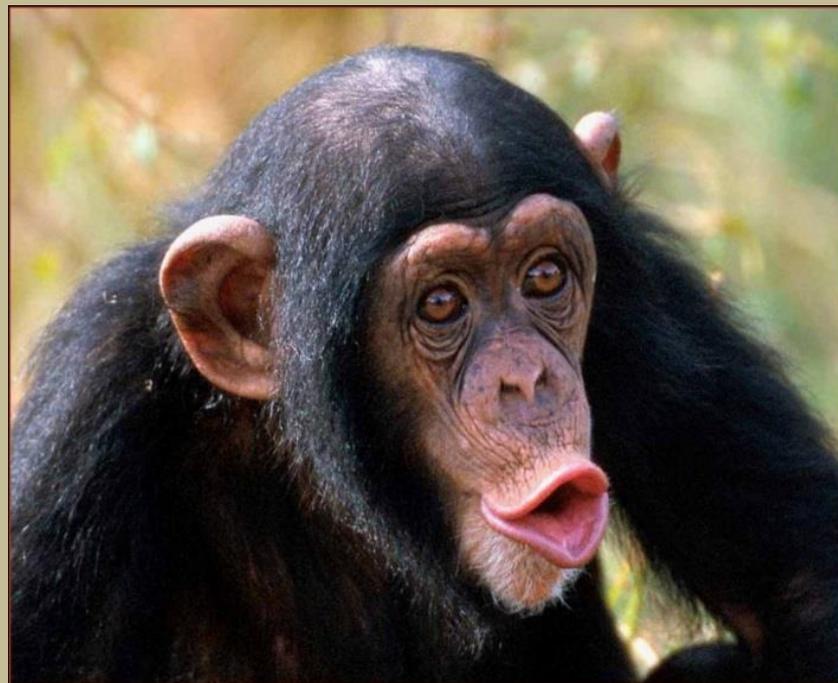


A horse is a horse, of course: Wilhelm von Osten and Clever Hans.

NO IMMATERIAL VOLITION

No free will

Lacking intellects, animals have no wills. Just as their cognitive powers do not rise above sense perception, so their appetitive powers do not rise above the level of sensual desires and urges of bodily passions or emotions.



Immaterial activities demand Immaterial source

INTELLECT

- Knowledge
- Judgment
- Reason

Mind
Rises above matter

- 3 acts of mind
- Immaterial thinking
- Concepts, e.g., "Duckness"
- Language
- Ethics
- Timeless thinking
- Metaphysics
- Beauty, imagination, art-
- Potentiality to be scientist, lawyer, engineer, teacher, doctor.



Will
Rises above matter

- Intellective will**
- Fairness
 - Love

2st order

- Desire for courage
- Desire for knowledge/ wisdom

1st order

- Easily frightened
- Easily confused



Soul



Ava



The nature of Ava's soul (cf. Adler)

Sensitive Will

- Dolls
- Sweets
- Hugs

Towards Good

- love
- desire
- delight

Desire fulfilled

Away from Evil

- hate
- aversion
- sadness

6 basic emotions

Difficult to attain good

Difficult to remove evil

5 intensive emotions

- hope
- pleasure
- joy
- peace

or

- despair
- suffering
- misery

- fear or courage
- pleasure
- joy
- peace

- anger

Man's intellection has four natural capabilities that give positive proof of its utterly immaterial/spiritual existence.

#1, the ability to develop true speech. No animal has shown ability to develop arbitrary or conventional signs of language. They have had plenty of time. Language requires dianoetic knowledge.

#2, ability to make genuine intellectual progress. Only man does this. All other creatures can only imitate and repeat images.

#3, ability to understand relations. This deals with cause and effect, cf. chimp and cardboard, spider with no plan B. $A > B$, $B > C$, $C > D$, $A = D$

#4, capacity for knowledge of immaterial objects. Neither apes nor any animals pursue science, morality, universals, politics, or God. They can only deal in images. No capacity for immaterial knowledge.

If only one of these qualities is lacking, it would be positive proof of lack of intellective ability. Apes and chimps lack all four and therefore do not have intellective ability. Only man, by nature, demonstrates capacity for all four. His intelligence is not mere more, it is totally different in kind. Again, the difference is not in degree but in kind.

❖ TO GRASP THE UNIQUENESS OF MAN'S INTELLECTIVE IMMATERIAL NATURE, ONE MUST UNDERSTAND THAT A CONCEPT IS NOT REDUCIBLE TO AN IMAGE

The key to understanding the difference between intellectual/conceptual knowledge and sensed/image knowledge is understanding the difference between an image and a concept. These are two radically different ways of thinking. To get this is to grasp the uniqueness of man and his spiritual intellection (dematerialized way of thinking about things that are not extended in space or matter, not located anywhere). People don't ask "Did you get my image?" rather, "Did you get my meaning?" "Did you understand what I *meant*?" Language is all about communication of meaning. This is key to understanding reality behind linguistics. Very important to see that concept cannot be reduced to image.

Images (knowing in sensible order, animals)

1. Sensible appearances (this duck)
2. Sensible qualities as singular (color, hardness)
3. Singular (this triangle, this animal)
4. No degrees or extension (only this horse)
5. Can be produced extra-mentally (make a triangle)
6. No distinction in image, no abstraction
7. Concrete particular in time and space
8. Fleeting, changing, variable
9. Succeed one another by association
10. Can be varied w/o interruption of thought
11. No necessity of clarity of thought
12. Can vary (man, *anthropos*, *aner*)
13. Alone does not make speech possible
14. Alone makes translation impossible
15. Alone inability for the 2nd act of the mind
16. Alone inability for the 3rd act of the mind

Concepts (knowing in the intellectual order, man)

1. Nature/whatness/universal (duckness)
2. No sensible qualities (justice, cause, loyalty)
3. Universal (triangularity, animal predication)
4. Universal (applies to all horses, mammals)
5. Cannot be produced (refers to all triangles)
6. Essence abstracted (pull out of the concrete)
7. Abstracts from concrete, not-locatable
8. Permanent, logical, consistent, coherent
9. Follow by laws of reason; argumentation
10. Meaning is changed with conceptual change
11. True understanding; conceptual clarity
12. Stable through variation (man)
13. Speech requires understanding concepts
14. Concepts enable translation; words = concepts
15. Enables subject and predicate: two concepts
16. Enables reasoning, the nexus of propositions

Intellect
MIND



Volition WILL

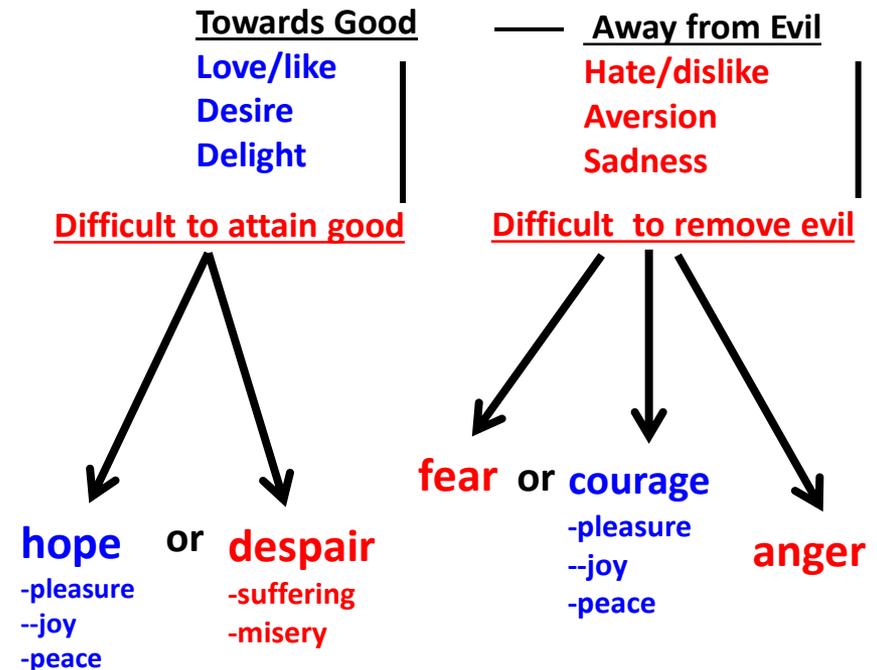
-Intellective appetite

-Sense appetite

Affections Human
Passions Experiences

1. The will (or volition) is what is known as the heart in the Bible, Deut 4:29; 8:12-14; 1 Sam 16:7; Jer. 17:10; Matt. 22:37; Heb. 4:12; Rev. 2:23. The problem of fragmentation and the need for integration, which is sanctification.

- The reason sanctification takes so long is because of the will. The issue with the will is bringing first order desires in line with higher order desires. The higher desires must see God as Ultimate Good, which it does for the first time at regeneration.



Intellect



Will - Volition

MIND

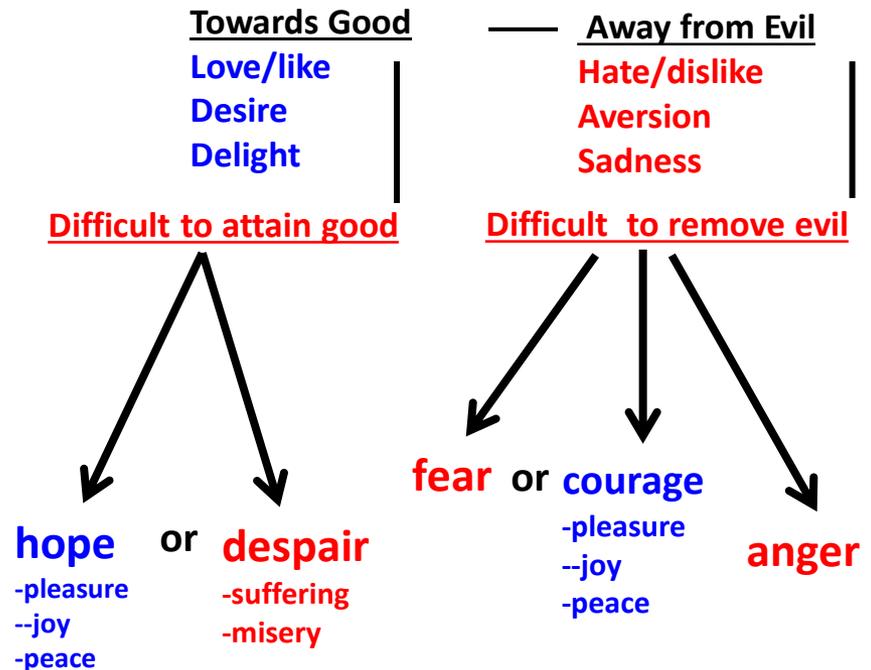
2. The will (γῶη, θέλημα, θέλω, βουλεύω, βούλημα) is an immaterial attribute of the immaterial intellect which wills, wishes, desires, wants, plans, decides, resolves, purposes, and determines what is good and how to pursue it. One can see right away why the will is the single greatest issue in life.

- I suspect very few Christians understand that the will, aka volition, is an intellectual power that functions appetitively rather than cognitively. Nor do they realize how it cooperates with affections, as the intellect cooperates with sense perception, images, memory and imagination.

- Intellective appetite
- Sense appetite



Affections Human
Passions Experiences



MIND ↔ WILL

Knowing

Understanding

Judging

Reasoning

Desiring

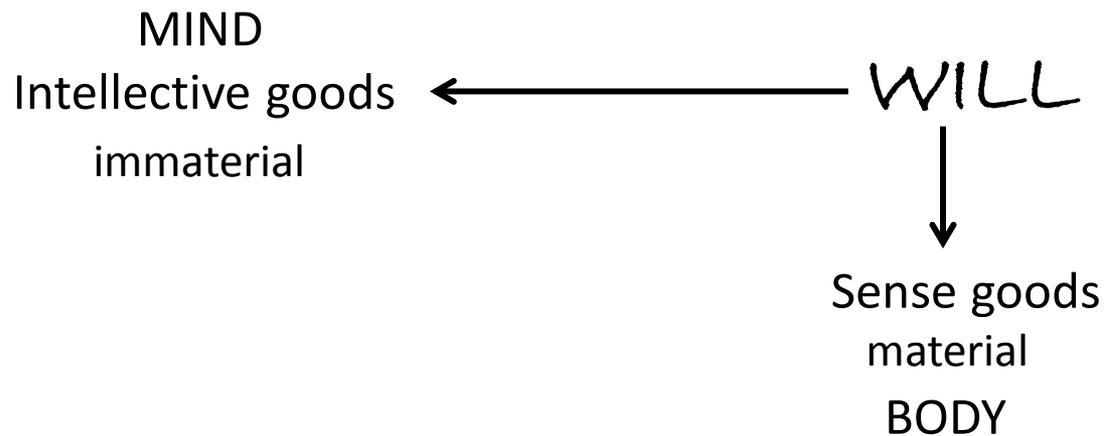
Seeking

Deciding

Choosing

3. More on the ontology of the will.

- ✓ The human intellect has two distinct powers: mind and will.
- ✓ Proof of the utter immateriality of man's intellective will. We have both philosophical proof as well as the testimony of the God's infallible Word. Since God testifies to this fact, we should expect to see empirical and rational testimony. If fact, we do. To reject the spiritual nature of man's intellect and will is to reduce him to mere materiality (brain activity alone) and destroy man's uniqueness as an image bearer of God, his freedom, values, meaning, purpose, and any hope in this life or life beyond. No one lives like this, no one can, though existentialists try. It is literally irrational to deny the immateriality aspects of man's mind and will. Thus, the benefit of metaphysics 😊



- ✓ There are two levels of the will: intellective and sensitive.
- ✓ Since animals do not have immaterial intellects, they cannot arise above the sense level. Therefore, their wills are totally nonvoluntary.
- ✓ Because man has an intellective will that is not bound by any materiality, he can rise above the sense level. Therefore his will is free. He literally has immaterial deliberation.

- ✓ The two levels of man's will, intellective and sensitive, explain both the determinism and free will aspects of man. Man is causally determined in the realm of material things. Yet, man possesses true freedom in the immaterial realm (acts of the will).
- ✓ Man's intellective will is motivated by intellective appetites for goods (justice, love, goodness, God, love of God and country). This is where man engages in pure immaterial deliberations about values and what actions should be taken. Man is absolutely free in his intentions. Intentions are completely inexplicable on material grounds alone.

- ✓ Man's sensitive will is motivated by sense appetites for material "goods" (addictions, visceral urges, hunger, thirst, sex).
- ✓ Man is free because, unlike animals, he can use his intellective will to overrule, guide, and transform his sensitive will through virtue.
- ✓ Virtue and vice. In virtue, the intellective virtue rules the sensitive will. In vice, man's sensitive will rules his intellective will. This is anti-intellectualism or sloth and is one of the greatest evils a man can engage in. He reduces much of himself to the level of animals.
- ✓ Vices of anti-intellectualism (sloth, sensatism) are characterized by making the ultimate objectives in life things like the maximization of pleasure, money, fame, or power with no interest or goal in increased knowledge and augmented understanding, sought for their own sake without some ulterior practical purpose.

4. Pride is greatest perverter of the will (Isa. 14:12-14; Eze. 28:14-17; Rom. 1:18-25; 1 Tim. 6:3-5; 2 Tim. 3:1-7; Js 1:21; 4:13-17).
- Pride disorients a person to reality (cf. words for pride).
 - Pride will rejects absolute Good of God and grace resources.
 - Pride rejects fellowship with God.
 - Pride destroys capacity to see God as truly Good.
 - Pride destroys capacity to love the Word of God as such.
 - Pride destroys capacity for life, love, and happiness (due to view of self).
 - Pride destroys capacity to truly love others due to exaggerated views of self characterized by sins of jealousy, vindictiveness, and slander.
 - Pride renders a person unteachable and thus moves believer into ignorance, heresy, and apostasy.
 - Pride is the antithesis of grace. In pride believer does not live by grace.
 - Pride keeps any believer from growing in grace, the thing he needs the most.

5. Only believers who see God and the POG as Ultimate Good will freely give Him their wills. These believers will receive from God the supernatural virtues required for sanctification, integration, and transformation, which is necessary before anyone can see God's offsetting goods as far greater than any temporal privation, pain, and suffering, Psa. 16:11; 37:4; Lam. 3; Matt. 6:3-12; 1 Cor. 2:9; Gal 5:16-23; Eph. 3:20; 5:20; 2 Cor. 12:7-10; Col. 3:1-5; Philip. 4:4, 11-13; Heb. 11:6; James 1:2-4; 4:10; 1 Pet 1:6-8; 4:13-14; 5:6; 2 Pet. 1:5-11.

6. All suffering is located in the will. It is not what we are going through, it is our will that is the issue. It is impossible to have victory over suffering until and unless the will is changed. Mechanics alone does not change the will, 2 Cor. 12:7-10; Philip. 4:13; James 1:2-4.

7. The will and integration. Before one can love God thoroughly, there must be integration around the Good. Lack of integration results in disorder mind, will, and “emotions,” James 1:8; 4:8. Overview of 1st and 2nd order wills.

James 1:8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.

James 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

8. The ultimate goal of all suffering in the providence of God is to remove impediments to loving God. All suffering comes from the love of God to make us better (virtue) and draw us to Him (love). Since the will is all about love, the will is what God is after. God's allowance of suffering is always about loving Him. Job humbled his will and it transformed him.

Job 42:5 "I have heard of Thee by the hearing of the ear; But now my eye sees Thee; 6 Therefore I retract, And I repent in dust and ashes."