

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

Psalm 73:24; Gen. 5:24; Rom. 8:18.

Preparation for Bible Class. John 13:3-17

Prayer:

3 Parts to Bible Class.

Part I: The importance philosophical realism for Bible doctrine and survival of Western Civilization.

Part II: The importance of a foundation of PR for language for Total Truth in Bible doctrine/exegesis.

Part III: The importance of development of TT in Bible doctrine on finances, value, and eternal rewards

Part I: The need for philosophical foundation for Bible study and for Western Civilization.

1. The Reidian/Baconian system (CS+I) is proving to be an unmitigated disaster both for American society as well as for even the most dedicated student of God’s Word.
2. As far as American society, it is all but lost in relativism and conventionalism. Objective truth and natural law has all but disappeared from the landscape. Our age very much resembles the pre-Socratic age, the other non-philosophical age of relativism and rejection of CT.
3. As far as modern biblical Christianity, it is all but lost in establishing an objective foundation of truth on which to understand and use the data of Scripture to construct an understanding of the spiritual life, God, and creation. Heresies are rampant among those who seriously believe the Word of God is absolute and are dedicated to Bible-onlyism. Liberal churches are increasingly accepting aberrant lifestyles. CS+I has gone to seed.
4. As far as Christianity in general, it is all but lost the ability to engage the culture regarding basic moral issues apart from the mindset of fideism and mantra of “freedom of religion.”
5. The very existence and survival of Western Civilization, as well as biblical Christianity is at stake.
6. The only way to save both Western Civilization and biblical Christianity is a return to the realism of the Socratic tradition.
7. Overview of the nature and history Socratic tradition.
8. Exposing anti-Christian myth #5: ‘Christians in the Middle Ages held the medical study of human anatomy and medicine for 300 years’ (Andrew Dickson White, Senator Arlen Specter).

5: Hermeneutics

4: Language-50

3: Epistemology 32
 - Existence 50
 - History 50

2:Metaphysics 32
 - Trans. 50

1: Reality
 - Logic 32,
 - Truth 32

Part II: Philosophy of Language-50 Aristotle (*phantasm*)

Outline

- ✓ Introduction
- ✓ What is philosophy of language?
- ✓ Theories of meaning
- ✓ Plato (428-348 BC) - Cratylus
- ✓ Aristotle (384-322 BC)

Modern theories of meaning

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

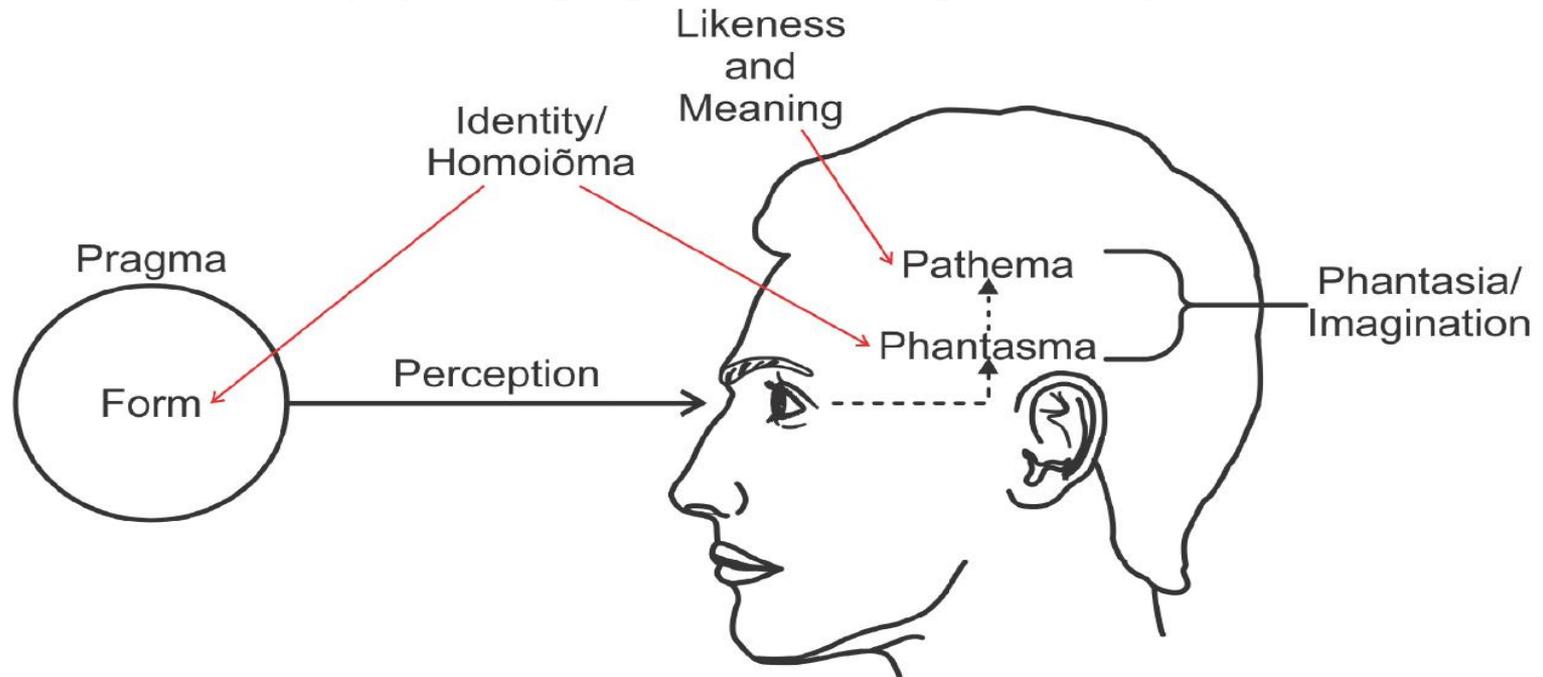
Meaningful God-talk.

Analytic Philosophy

Conclusion.

Analogy.

Metaphysical analogy.



1. "Phantasm" is a word used in traditional Scholastic philosophy to refer to sensory knowledge from which the intellect can abstract an idea. It does not have any reference to fantasy. It is the subordinate and instrumental cause of the idea.
2. Realism deals with real language and meaning as such. Linguists do not study real language and meaning as such, for example:

If I ask for a loaf of bread, I could do so in a study of linguistics, in which case bread is a noun which signifies the idea of bread. But if I pose the same question to a grocer, bread does not signify the idea of bread; it signifies bread, and it does not signify it through the idea of bread. That is its meaning directly and immediately. Real language immediately signifies, not thought, but things. Moreover, this power of conceiving of the universal must be as immaterial as the universal itself as per metaphysics. One cannot make the physics of language correspond to the metaphysics of thought. By removing metaphysics, modern linguists are lost in subjectivism as well as real language/meaning.

EP: Salvation and works

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, that no one should boast. ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

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."

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." 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.



Temporary Heaven

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



Eternal Heaven/Earth

Rev. 21-22



Temporary Hell

Luke 16:19-31



EP: Eternal damnation and works.

Revelation 20:12 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.

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."

Eternal Hell

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



Heaven 44: EP: Finances and Eternal Rewards

1. The modern American church does a great disservice to the people of God by not placing before them, front and center, the eternal perspective (EP).
 - a. Without the EP, the believer will attempt to find meaning and purpose in the temporal/horizontal realm and attempt to define self and values in terms of his culture or some clique, dooming him to a frantic search for happiness (contra Paul in Philip 1:19-21; 3:1-11). To see your life through the lens of eternity changes all of your values radically.
 - b. Without the EP, the believer will lose his love for God and be deprived of a robust spiritual life, Col. 3:1-3; Matt. 6:19-24.

- c. Without the EP, the believer is not only ill-equipped to deal with his problems (Matt. 6:31-32), he is set up for a huge crisis at the end of his life, at death, Heb. 2:14-15.

- d. Without the EP, the believer will succumb to the pressures of the kosmos, which will continue to erode and undermine his faith in Christ, God, and Christianity—he will suffer attrition of the faith, cf. Demas.

- e. Without the EP, the believer will end up living in some type of perfunctory religious life at best.
- f. With the EP, we can daily shape our eternal future.

Ephesians 5:16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

- g. Only through the EP can the believer move into transcendent strength and perspective to live the supernatural life and enter into the enlightening ministry of the Holy Spirit, 1 Cor 2-6-3:4.
- h. He who lives for this life, but takes no care for eternity is wise for a moment but a fool forever, so says Jesus Christ. It is the fool who tries to hold on to what he cannot keep only to lose what he could have eternally gained. Yet, this is exactly what people do. So, we live in a world of stupid people, stupidity on the worse level.
- i. We have but one autobiography to write for our lives and it will last for all of eternity. We are writing it daily: by how much we study and live out the Word of God and what we do with our resources. This life is our one choice that will last for all of eternity. We can daily edit our “obituary.”

2. This loss of EP among modern Western Christians is startling. Many Christians think and act as if there is no eternity or as if what we do in this present life has no eternal consequences. The trend is to focus on our present circumstances rather than our eternal future. Yet Scripture teaches that eternal reality should influence our character—right down to every word we speak and every action we take.

Matthew 12:36 "And I say to you, that every careless word that men shall speak, they shall render account for it in the day of judgment.

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." 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.

2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

3. When the modern western man does think about Heaven, he usually thinks of it in unreal, ambiguous, and ghostlike terms, so otherworldly as to be unreal. Of course, this is all part of Satan's machinations. Consider the insidiousness and extent of damage he can accomplish simply by getting believers to set their hearts on this temporal life. What does the Bible say about this?

Philippians 3:18 For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* enemies of the cross of Christ, ¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* appetite, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.

Matthew 6:19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ "But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; ²¹ for where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

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.

4. We must never forget the importance of grounding our lives in the Total Truth of God's Word. Apart from this foundation, Christ warned about an eventual great fall.

Matthew 7:24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine, and acts upon them, may be compared to a wise man, who built his house upon the rock. ²⁵ "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded upon the rock. ²⁶ "And everyone who hears these words of Mine, and does not act upon them, will be like a foolish man, who built his house upon the sand. ²⁷ "And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and burst against that house; and it fell, and great was its fall." ²⁸ The result was that when Jesus had finished these words, the multitudes were amazed at His teaching; ²⁹ for He was teaching them as *one* having authority, and not as their scribes.

5. We must never forget that we were made for a Person and for a place and for a grand plan. Heaven is our home, the place of perfect acceptance, security, refuge, and great memories. Christ is not only the Perfect Creator, He is the Perfect Carpenter.

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.

6. We must never forget that our lives are very short here. Our lives can be portrayed in two parts: as a dot and as a never ending line.

Isaiah 40:6 A voice says, "Call out." Then he answered, "What shall I call out?" All flesh is grass, and all its loveliness is like the flower of the field.
7 The grass withers, the flower fades, When the breath of the LORD blows upon it; Surely the people are grass. 8 The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever.

James 4:14 Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

Psalms 90:10 As for the days of our life, they contain seventy years, Or if due to strength, eighty years, Yet their pride is *but* labor and sorrow; For soon it is gone and we fly away.

7. However, the brevity of our life here does not mean that this life does not matter. It matters very much because it will determine all of eternity. There is a sense in which the doors of eternity do swing on the hinges of this present life. God cares much for our lives here as indicated by the emphasis throughout Scripture on rewards. Eternity will hold for us what we invested, how we lived, on Earth. Our stay here is extremely important.

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."

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." 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.

8. Just as no piece of a puzzle can be understood apart from the whole, so it is with our lives: our lives cannot be understood apart from the greater context of eternity in Heaven. The door of eternity swings on the hinges of this present life.

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.

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.

9. Any life that is not preparing a man for his death and the next life is a wasted life. Moreover, it is headed for a great fall.

Hebrews 9:27 And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes* judgment,

Luke 12:16 And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a certain rich man was very productive. ¹⁷ "And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ "And he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry.'" ²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! This *very* night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?' ²¹ "So is the man who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

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.

10. Eternal rewards and finances: it is very important for every believer to strive for a purer doctrinal understanding what Jesus and the rest of the Bible says about our finances—this can be difficult in our time of religious hucksterism who take advantage of the ignorant and weak.
 - a. Jesus Christ not only taught more about Hell than anyone in the Bible, He talked more about money than anyone in the Bible.
 - b. Because of the present climate regarding Christianity and money, there is always the risk of offending believers. However, the price of keeping silent about the Whole Truth of the Word of God is far too high of a price to pay to avoid the topic. The tradeoff is not only in failing to move deeper into the Total Truth of God's plan, the consequences are eternal as far the believers' rewards.

- c. The very passage we have noted for the last few months, Matthew 6:19-24, deals most directly with money. Christ says do not focus on treasures here because if you do you will end up loving Mammon and not God. There are a thousand ways to serve Mammon, but one thing they all have in common is focus on this life to the point that it is what is truly relevant—to focus on Hollywood, sports, the kind of car we drive, how much money we have, how we look to the world, etc. ad nauseam. For the Mammon driven person, it really is all about this life and this does not preclude using God to solve problems *for this life*.

- d. It is very easy to suppress Truth about Heaven and get so attached to this world that we live for the wrong kingdom. We forget about our Bridegroom preparing a place for us (John 14:1-2). We lose desire to depart to be with Him (Philip 1:21-23). It is very easy to suppress the undeniable truth that every day we are another day closer to being with Him.

- e. Take time to ponder on what the Bible actually says about our finances—the focus as well as what it says about a man’s character, treasure, and eternal rewards. Jesus does not call all of us to give up our possessions for God, but He does say that the things of God must come before money. The Lordship of Christ does extend over our money. We are accountable for our lives and resources and that most certainly includes our finances.

Acts 20:35 "In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

James 1:26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his *own* heart, this man's religion is worthless. ²⁷ This is pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father, to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.

2 Corinthians 9:7 Let each one *do* just as he has purposed in his heart; not grudgingly or under compulsion; for God loves a cheerful giver.

Acts 2:42 And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ And everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all those who had believed were together, and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ and they *began* selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.

Mark 12:41 And He sat down opposite the treasury, and *began* observing how the multitude were putting money into the treasury; and many rich people were putting in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which amount to a cent. ⁴³ And calling His disciples to Him, He said to them, "Truly I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the contributors to the treasury; ⁴⁴ for they all put in out of their surplus, but she, out of her poverty, put in all she owned, all she had to live on.

Luke 12:16 And He told them a parable, saying, "The land of a certain rich man was very productive. ¹⁷ "And he began reasoning to himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ "And he said, 'This is what I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry.'" ²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! This *very* night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?' ²¹ "So is the man who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Philippians 3:4-8, although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless. 7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ,

Matthew 13:44 "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has, and buys that field.

1 Timothy 6:18 *Instruct them* to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is life indeed.

Philippians 4:17 Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.

Luke 12:33 "Sell your possessions and give to charity; make yourselves purses which do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near, nor moth destroys.

Matthew 10:42 "And whoever in the name of a disciple gives to one of these little ones even a cup of cold water to drink, truly I say to you he shall not lose his reward."

Proverbs 19:17 He who is gracious to a poor man lends to the LORD, And He will repay him for his good deed.

11. While God condemns works for salvation, He commends works done by believer done with the right attitude. How seriously are we taking His mandates. Other passages to consider regarding *eternal* rewards.

Hebrews 6:10 For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.

Matthew 25:21 "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things, enter into the joy of your master.'

2 Peter 1:10 Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble; ¹¹ for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.

1 Corinthians 3:15 If any man's work is burned up, he shall suffer loss; but he himself shall be saved, yet so as through fire.

James 1:12 Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him.

1 Corinthians 9:24 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but *only* one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. ²⁵ And everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then *do it* to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

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.

1 Peter 5:1 Therefore, I exhort the elders among you, as *your* fellow elder and witness of the sufferings of Christ, and a partaker also of the glory that is to be revealed, ² shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of* God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; ³ nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

Revelation 3:11 'I am coming quickly; hold fast what you have, in order that no one take your crown.

2 John 1:8 Watch yourselves, that you might not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.