

**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**

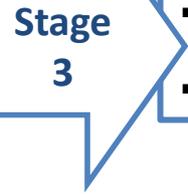
Hermeneutics
Linguistics
<b>Epistemology 6</b>
Metaphysics -32 Trans. 50
Reality –Logic 32, Truth 32

9/26/2013

**1. FBC and the Bible:** 1 Thessalonians 5:21, *But examine everything; hold to to that which is τὸ καλὸν*. Consider the implications of this passage as far as you, the WOG and the TGB.

**2. FBC and PR.** Our 20/50 (or 60/60/60) plan enables us to keep advancing in the Word while addressing pagan foundations that have corrupted our understanding of creation (act-potential, natures), man (abstraction, epistemology, dualism, “emotions”), spirituality (fideism, skepticism) and God (Existence/’Ehyeh connection with all existences, deism).

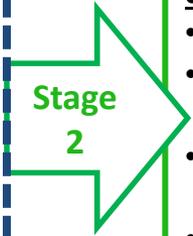
**3. FBC and the SL.** Every believer has been *permanently* given God the Holy Spirit to give him spiritual power to know and live in spiritual realities (Rom. 8:9). The HS is always there to lead and guide us in sanctification. What an encouragement to know that God has given us the power to truly live a supernatural life (Gal. 5:22-23). The HS is the source of all spiritual joy that does not depend on circumstances of life (John 15:11).



**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”

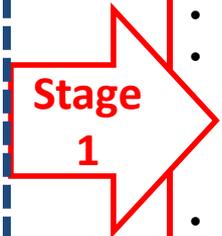
Holy Spirit  Bible Doctrine



**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.

**“Bud” - theistic and metaphysic lessons on natures, ID, telos, and act-potential  
(Act/potential, form/matter is all things, even inanimate beings like per uranium . . . lead )**



## EPISTEMOLOGY-6: Rene Descartes

### Epistemology 1-5

**Topic #1:** Epistemology is the science of knowledge, the science of justification of truth. For Christians the standards are even higher because we are not *merely* interested in justification, we are interested in correspondence truth.

**Topic #2:** Types of skeptics: iterative, local, global, antecedent, and consequent. Modus Tollens on objective morality/design and God (P, Q, -Q, -P). Modus ponens on miracles, if P then Q, P therefore Q.

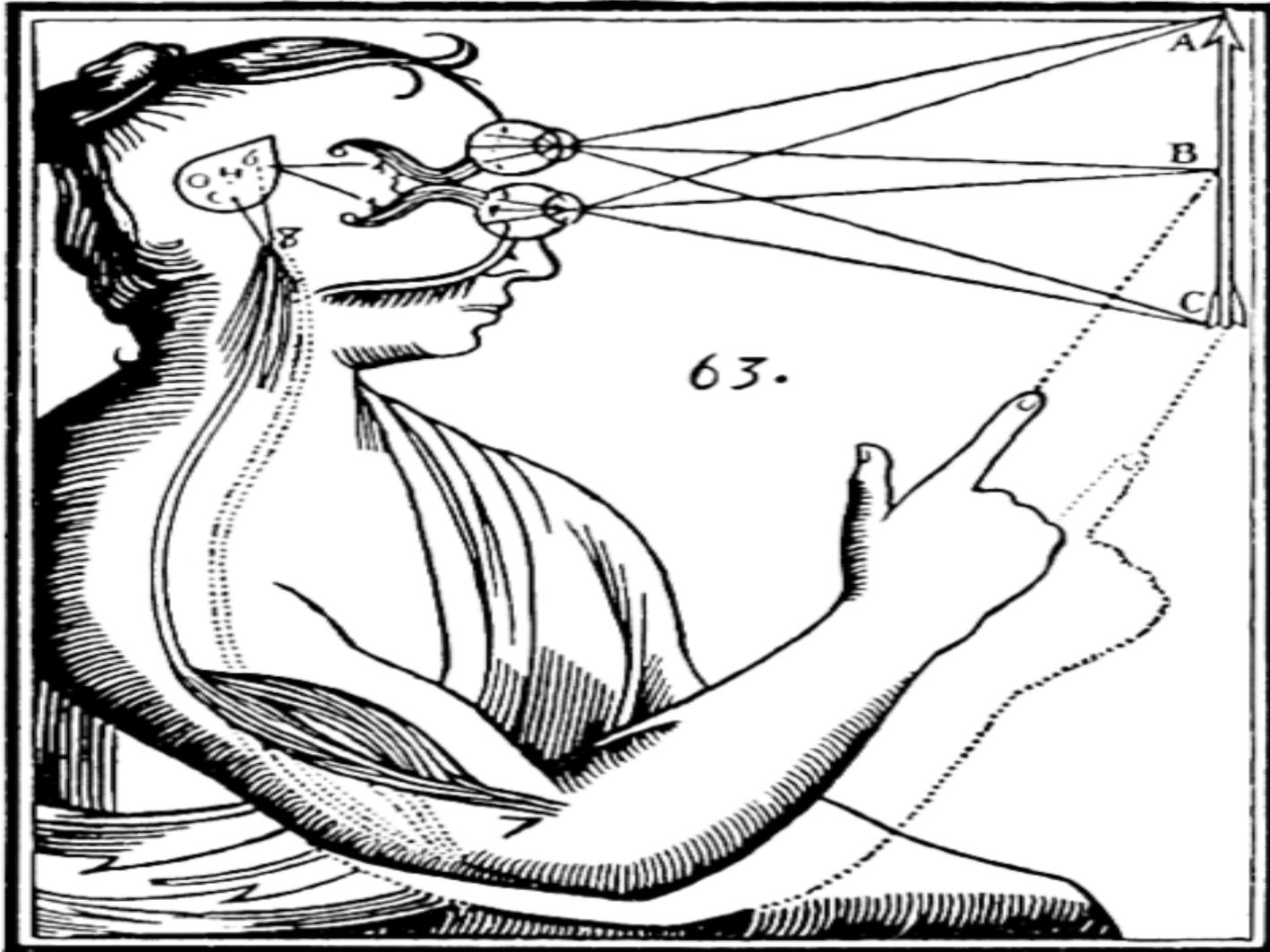
**Topic #3:** Man's epistemic duties—examine all things!

**Topic #4:** The amazing metaphysical world of epistemic certainty through PR.

**Topic #5:** The goal in epistemology is the development of normal, healthy, belief-producing faculties that track Reality and understand the marvelous spiritual mechanics in which we actually take in objects into our minds, though immaterially. We start with Descartes to set up skepticism and then move into the process after we deal with some of the pernicious influences of Descartes.

## RENE DESCARTES (1596-1650)

Topic #6: Before moving into epistemology proper, we are examining how Rene Descartes relocated the human soul to the pineal gland. Consider how one idea can have so many repercussions as per brain-death issues.



## EPISTEMOLOGY 6-Descartes

1. Descartes's deconstruction of man has worked its influence into brain-death issues because of the relocation and redefinition of the soul, as the soul is redefined from being the living principle throughout an organism to mental and rational activity, from somatic life-principle to psychology.
2. Does it really make a difference for a soul to be put in a pineal gland, thalamus gland or the whole brain?--Consider how the identification of man's soul with mind has worked its way "brain-dead" as a criterion of death—a great read is *Death and Donation* by S. Scott Henderson.

## EPISTEMOLOGY 6-Descartes

3. The placement of the soul in the brain and how the criterion of “brain-dead” for death fails on empirical, medical, biblical, and philosophical grounds.
  - The brain is not the organ that is responsible for the functioning of the organism as a whole. It is the soul that gives life and somatic integration to the organism as a whole. The brain does not confer unity, although it does enhance and persevere unity.
  - Overview of the history of the new criterion in the 1960s under pressures for organ procurement and donation.

## EPISTEMOLOGY 6-Descartes

3. The placement of the soul in the brain and how the criterion of “brain-dead” for death fails on empirical, medical, biblical, and philosophical grounds.
  - The switch from substantial view of man to psychological and rational view of man. From man with a nature that is greater than its parts to being a pile of parts with no nature.
  - Reactions of brain-dead patients when organs are well known and indicate life; often there is a need to administer general anesthetic and strap person down.
  - Somatic death and brain death are not the same.

## EPISTEMOLOGY 6-Descartes

3. The placement of the soul in the brain and how the criterion of “brain-dead” for death fails on empirical, medical, biblical, and philosophical grounds.
  - The clinic, empirical evidence of life in brain-dead patients is overwhelming:
    - Survival for brain-dead patients range from one week to 14 years.
    - Brain-dead pregnant women have continued to carry developing children to near full term delivery, up to 107 days. The organism as a whole must be functioning for uterus to remain a hospitable environment for developing fetus.
    - Continued growth of hair, fingernails, maintain cardiac and circulatory function, digest and absorb food, filter blood, through liver and kidneys, heal wounds.

## EPISTEMOLOGY 6-Descartes

3. The placement of the soul in the brain and how the criterion of “brain-dead” for death fails on empirical, medical, biblical, and philosophical grounds.
  - The classical and traditional Christian position is that a living person is an essential unity or a composition of body and soul.
  - The classical and traditional Christian position is that the soul informs or animates the body as the life-giving principle. As long as organizational integrity is intact, then the soul’s presence remains.
  - The classical and traditional Christian position is that “a human being dies when his body ceases to function as an organism with integrative unity.”
  - The classical and traditional Christian position is more in line with the standards for death prior to the 1960s when death was viewed in terms of irreversible cessation of circulatory and respiratory functions.

MIND



WILL  
The heart

Sanctification primarily deals with the **will** which includes 2 orders for us believers (see Romans 7:15ff). To change the will and affections, one must change the mind.

- 2<sup>nd</sup> order: the **will** and wishes you wish you had.
- 1<sup>st</sup> order: the **will** and wishes that you currently have

Experiential sanctification must be kept distinct from forensic justification (contra RCC). Before we move into the affections and passions, I am going to do my very best to make this distinction by the book of Romans, the greatest book every written. However, even with its greatness, if this is the only book taught, you end up with false views in Christianity.



Affections  
&  
Passions

“Emotions” is a Darwinian concept

# Distinctions between justification and sanctification

## JUSTIFICATION

### PERMANENT PERFECT STANDING

- God declares righteous, Rom 4:1-3
- God imputes righteousness, Rom 4:4-8
- Occurs outside believing sinner, 1 Cor 6:11
- One time event, Gal. 2:16
- Salvation from penalty of sin, Rom. 5:9
- Changes believer's eternal destiny, Tit 3:7
- Results in having peace *with* God, Rom 5:1
- Is absolute, 1 Cor. 1:2, 30
- Solely by grace through faith, Rom 3:24

## EXPERIENTIAL SANCTIFICATION

### PRACTICAL SANCTIFICATION

- God makes righteous, John 17:17
- God imparts righteousness, Heb. 13:21
- Occurs inside believer, Eph. 3:16
- Ongoing process, 2 Cor. 3:18
- Salvation from power of sin, Rm 6:11-13
- Changes believers present life, Gal 5:22
- Results in have peace *of* God, Phil 4:9.
- Increases as believers grow, 1 Thess.
- Solely by grace with resulting works, Rom 6:14

# **Romans 12:1 – from orthodoxy to orthopraxy**

## **From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

1. Romans 1 presents God's picture of Gentile sin and apostasy.
2. Romans 2 presents God's picture of Jewish sin and apostasy.
3. Romans 3 presents all men under sin, all are without +R. Then, God steps in with grace and provides forensic justification (3:21-31).
4. Romans 4 shows how Abraham is the pattern man for salvation.
5. Romans 5 gives us results of justification and God's love.
6. Romans 6-7 deals with sanctification in presenting self to God.
7. Romans 8 gives us eternal security.
8. Romans 9-11 gives us God's dealings of grace with Israel—a parenthesis.
9. Romans 12-16 deals with sanctification as the natural fruit of justification by grace. We go from forensic righteousness to living righteously. The book begins and ends with the grace of God.

# Romans 12:1 – from orthodoxy to orthopraxy

## From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

1. Romans 12:1- the spiritual virtue (will) of presenting self to God.
  - “Therefore” (οὖν): God’s connection of justification with sanctification; note how Paul passes from massive fabric of the doctrine of justification to sanctification; what must be the foundation of our lives, relationship with God or people? a word about fundamentals and liberals in doctrine and application.
  - “by the mercies of God” (διὰ τῶν οἰκτιρμῶν). The mercies of God are all instantiated in the gift of Christ. The sacrifice of Christ is the model. Christ, meditated on, accepted, introduced into will and heart, is the one power that will melt our obstinacy. The love of Christ controls us, 2 Cor. 5:14.

# **Romans 12:1 – from orthodoxy to orthopraxy**

## **From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

1. Romans 12:1- the spiritual virtue (will) of presenting self to God.
  - “present your bodies” (παραστήσαι τὰ σώματα ὑμῶν).
    - Aorist imperative.
    - Note the contrast with Romans 1.
    - Hylemorphism and the connection of the body with the spiritual life and virtue. Consider how the flesh can get us into carnality and distract us from the spiritual life. The body is a good servant but horrible master, cf., Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 8:12; 1 Cor. 9:27.
    - Philosophical realism and the body.
    - The distinction between PR’s mental states, affections, passions and Darwinian “emotions.”

# **Romans 12:1 – from orthodoxy to orthopraxy**

## **From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

1. Romans 12:1- the spiritual virtue (will) of presenting self to God.
  - “a living and holy sacrifice” (θυσίαν ζῶσαν ἁγίαν).
    - Imagery of sacrifice runs through this verse.
    - The contrast with Romans 1.
    - The “holy” shows the importance of fellowship with God.
    - This is giving self to God as instantiated in virtues in following chapters.

# **Romans 12:1 – from orthodoxy to orthopraxy**

## **From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

1. Romans 12:1- the spiritual virtue (will) of presenting self to God.
  - “well-pleasing to God” (εὐάρεστον τῷ θεῷ).
    - What God wants is you.
    - Now that you have been justified, He wants your life.
    - What pleases God is when believer voluntary gives his life to the Lord.
    - False views of Christian pleasure (Puritans)

# Romans 12:1 – from orthodoxy to orthopraxy

## From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

1. Romans 12:1- sanctification: the spiritual virtue of presenting self to God.
  - “which is your rational/logical service of worship (τὴν λογικὴν λατρείαν ὑμῶν).
    - Language of worship and sacrifice runs through this verse and teaches the priesthood of all believers.
    - This is in contrast to the false worship of Romans 1. False worship suppression of truth, and immorality are always linked.
    - Strong element of logical or rational worship in contrast to depraved minds of Romans 1. This is also a polemic against the irrational cult offerings of the pagan religions. LOGIKOS is a philosophical term that emphasizes mental and moral engagement with God.

## **From Justification to Sanctification**

### **From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

2. Romans 12:2- sanctification: the spiritual virtue of inner transformation.
  - “Transformed” refers to “transfiguration” (μεταμορφοῦσθε, present, passive, imperative) of the mind. Only the transfigured mind can live a transfigured life. Present tense shows it is a process.
  - “renewing of the mind” – another contrast to Romans 1. Before there can be spiritual virtue the mind must be transfigured through Truth. Mind includes affections, passions, thoughts, mental states. These must be renewed to love the Lord with all of our hearts, souls, and minds.
    - This will drive all of your desires, affections, and passions.

## From Justification to Sanctification From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

2. Romans 12:2- sanctification: the spiritual virtue of inner transformation.
  - “conformed” (συσχηματίζεσθε). The fact is that most Christians are more influenced by their culture than the Word of God. This should not be a surprise given 1 John 2:16, 5:19.
    - Not only do we have standards of kosmos diabolicus, we also have false philosophical foundations that deal with our concepts of God, creation, logic, man, and yes, love and emotions. Without PR you will traffic in nominalism rather than reality.
    - This requires PR to correct. This is why we work on getting rid of these pagan foundations.
    - We do not need religion or gimmicks!
  - Note that the transfigured mind enables the believer to see TGB of the plan of God. True sanctification always leads to greater understanding of TGB.

## From Justification to Sanctification From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

3. Romans 12:3-8-sanctification: spiritual virtue in the family of God.
  - The need for genuine humility, 3.
  - The need for proper function of 7 spiritual/grace gifts, 4-8.
    - 1) Prophet
    - 2) Server/doer
    - 3) Teacher
    - 4) Exhorter
    - 5) Giver
    - 6) Leader/administrator – loves to organize and lead
    - 7) Mercy/compassion – loves to care for those in need

## From Justification to Sanctification From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

4. Romans 12:9-10- sanctification: 4 more spiritual virtues.
  - 1) **Love without hypocrisy** (Ἡ ἀγάπη ἀνυπόκριτος) refers to honest love, 9. Our language of love should never exceed our affections. It is important to understand “affections” for proper view of love.
  - 2) **Abhor what is evil** (ἀποστυγοῦντες τὸ πονηρὸν) is hating evil, 10. One cannot love good without hating evil. Tolerance of evil is easy for those who do not have divine norms and standards. The believer than condones evil is not clinging to the good.
  - 3) **Cling to what is good** (κολλώμενοι τῷ ἀγαθῷ). Hatred of evil will correspond to your understanding of Good.
  - 4) **Give preference to one another in honor.** Esteeming and honoring fellow believers, especially those in the local church. Language of love here is one of natural affection.

## From Justification to Sanctification From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

5. Romans 12:11- sanctification: 3 more spiritual virtues.

- 1) **Not lagging behind in diligence.** Non-slothful. Slothfulness in the things of God is sin and a great evil.
- 2) **Fervent in spirit.** The term means “boiling.” This includes affections and mental states. Every Christian should have a fervent spirit regarding BD and Christian virtue. Lack of fervency or lack of any of these virtues is a result of not understanding justification and/or lack of presenting self to God. The problem of tepid Christianity and its intolerance for those who are really serious about the Lord. Tepid Christianity lack enthusiasm for God and the things of God. It is a great evil.
- 3) **Serving the Lord.** This is the Christ-centered life. Not living for the approbation of others. Rather, living your life for the Lord. This is connecting everything to the eternal perspective.

## From Justification to Sanctification From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced

6. Romans 12:12- sanctification: 3 more spiritual virtues.

- 1) **Rejoicing in hope.** The Christian life should be joyful because it is hopeful. The spiritual virtue of joy. How many recognize that this is actually a Christian duty? This goes beyond temporal hope, cf. Philip. 4:4. This joy is not about the circumstances of life. We have the power to choose to what to look at. You can look at your temporal troubles or move into the eternal perspective and lay hold of Hope.
- 2) **Persevering in tribulation.** The Christian life that is filled with joyful hope is a life that is patient and than perseveres in tribulations.
- 3) **Devoted to prayer.** The Christian whose life is filled with joyful hope and perseverance in tribulation will be life that is filled with prayers.

**From Justification to Sanctification**  
**From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

7. Romans 12:13-15- sanctification: 3 more spiritual virtues.

- 1) **Helping with needs of fellow believers, practicing hospitality, 13.**
- 2) **Meeting evil with good, 14.**
- 3) **Sympathy, 15.** This certainly includes affections as well as passions. Note how “emotions” does not work biblically.

**From Justification to Sanctification**  
**From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

8. Romans 12:16- sanctification: 3 more spiritual virtues.

- 1) **Like-mindedness or harmonious relations among fellow believers.**
- 2) **Cultivate genuine humility.**
- 3) **Avoid arrogance.**

**From Justification to Sanctification**  
**From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

9. Romans 12:17-18- sanctification: 3 more spiritual virtues.

**1) Overcome evil with good/grace, 17.**

**2) Be respectful, 17.**

**3) Live in peace, 18.**

**From Justification to Sanctification**  
**From Righteousness Imputed to Righteousness Practiced**

10. Romans 12:19-21- sanctification: 3 more spiritual virtues.

- 1) Turn over private wrongs to God, 19.**
- 2) Meeting hostility with grace-orientation, 20.**
- 3) Overcome evil with Good, 21.**

11. Romans 13- sanctification and government.