

Theology

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Thanatology
Ecclesiology
Israelology
Dispensationalism
Doxology
Hodology
Soteriology
Hamartiology
Natural Law
Anthropology
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December 17, 2017

Opening Prayer.

A. Life with God—by 2nd person proper knowledge and proper love

1. Loving God and others (Matt 22:37-40; 1 Pet 2:17; Psa 5:11-12).
2. Following Jesus Christ (Luke 6:36-49).
3. Whole Truth/Total Truth orientation, (Acts 20:27; Prov. 1:23, 2:1-10; Psa 73:24-25).

B. Through the Bible, verse by verse, Ephesians 2:11-22

- The church as a building (7 principles).

C. Bible Doctrine: Wisdom-13, Prov. 2:10-22.

- The importance of Wisdom (11 principles).

D. Philosophical Foundations: Hermeneutics: Natural Law 42, Rom 2:14-15.

- Natural law and government (9 principles).

12-17-17

A. Life in, with, and before God—by proper knowledge and proper love.

1. Loving God and others, Matt 22:37-40; 1 Pet. 2:17; Psa 5:11-12.
2. Following Jesus Christ, Luke 6:36-49.
3. Whole Truth/Total Truth orientation, Acts 20:27; Prov. 1:2, 2:1-10; Psa. 73:24-25.

B. Through the Bible, Eph. 2:11-22.

1. The Church as a building.
2. The importance of unity and equal privileges in the Church.
3. The foundation of the Church includes New Testament apostles and prophets.
4. Each NT believer is part of the building.
5. The chief corner-stone, Jesus Christ, determines the other stones.
6. The building is also a Temple, the permanent abode of God, 2:22.
7. In the OT, Israel had a building in which God dwelt, but in the NT the church is the building in which God dwells.

C. Bible Doctrine: Wisdom-11, Prov. 1:20-2:10.

1. **Wisdom literature is the most philosophical in the Bible.**
2. Review of the Realist methodology and goal in this study of Wisdom.
3. Wisdom requires the ability to accept rebuke and correction.
4. Consider the connection between wisdom and goodness.
5. Lack of wisdom entails lack of orientation to goodness, which, then, affects one's faith in God and ability to grow spiritually.
6. Consider the stated benefits of Wisdom in our passage.
7. Consider the connection between folly and sensatism.
8. Sensatism is not only a roadblock to Wisdom, it blocks the believer from an abundant and profound mental life with the Lord—loving God with all of our minds (Matt 22:37-39; Rom 12:1-2; 1 Pet 3:15)
9. The 8 characteristics of sensatism.
10. Evil undermines and destroys both speculative knowledge and practical knowledge.
11. The only alternative to the suicide of folly and sensatism is in heeding to Lady Wisdom's call—we need to ignore Lady Folly.

D. Philosophical Foundations: Hermeneutics—Natural law 42 (Rom. 2:14-15)

1. The nature of natural law lies in the ontology and teleology of human nature.
2. That which defines law is reason and intelligence because there is an established order actualized by Esse (Pure Act).
3. Natural law and government. 3 metaphysical options on the relationship between the citizen and government—*e pluribus unum*.
 - a. Individualism. In individualism, the focus is on the individual to the exclusion of the good of the whole. The emphasis is on each part, the goal of govern is each part. This leads to chaos and the strong and influential running the show for themselves. This coupled with materialism will destroy the nation through its own

- utilitarianism. Try that in a marriage or family. Secular conservatives tend to move in this direction.
- b. Collectivism. In collectivism the focus is on the whole to the exclusion of the value of each part. This leads to communism and totalitarianism. Secular liberals tend to move in this direction.
 - c. Personalism. This refers to the inherent value and nature of each human being. Man is a social being and government is designed to recognize and protect the value of inherent rights of man.
4. The conflict between the three orientations is always a matter of values.
 - a. In individualism one sees as a first and foremost the most absolute principle of man being free to do as he wishes.
 - b. In collectivism one sees as first and foremost the most absolute principle the social body.
 - c. In personalism one sees first and foremost spiritual dignity of each person working in concert for the good of each and society. In personalism there is both the right and the duty for the common good.
 5. These 3 groups inevitably will accuse each other of ignoring certain essential rights of the human being and society.
 6. Both individualism and collectivism lead to utilitarianism, destruction of human rights, and eventually totalitarianism.
 7. Utilitarianism and consequentialism destroy both personalism and the common good for each.
 8. Personalism must be the 1st fundamental principle of any government.
 9. Historical look at natural law vs. voluntarism.
 - a. Greeks: Antigone and the Stoics.
 - b. Middle Ages: Thomas Aquinas vs. William of Ockham.
 - c. Industrialism and imperialism (1400-): Feudalism, mercantilism, capitalism, imperialism.
 - d. American Revolution and Founding: mixed bag of natural law and voluntarism.
 - e. French Revolution. Attempt at natural law and rights without God.
 - f. American Civil War. Bible voluntarism with a vengeance.
 - g. The Bolshevik Revolution and the USSR, 1917.
 - h. Contemporary America: Mixed bag of natural law, voluntarism, utilitarianism, and materialism. We have come a long way and all of our major successes has been due to natural law.