

SESSION #28 (14 Sep 10); Deut 1:1 – 11:32; A Review after the Break

Last lesson (#27) back on 8 Jun 10; we're at a ½ way point in our study. No class 28 Sept.

I. INTRODUCTION & REVIEW

1:1-5 Introduction to God's spokesman, the 1st Prophet Moses
1:6-4:40 1st Exposition of the Torah = <u>motivation to obey from (1) past gracious actions of Yahweh and (2) sovereign destiny of the nation (future gracious actions of Yahweh)</u>
1:6-3:29 Historical analysis of Israel from Sinai to the Transjordanian victories
1:6-18 From Sinai to Kadesh
1:19-46 Kadesh and the wasted years
2:1-23 Negotiating already-allocated lands—honoring the Abrahamic Covenant's "land grants"
2:24-3:11 1 st "holy war" victory surprises
3:12-22 Settling Transjordan & Joshua's commission
3:23-29 Moses excluded from the land with the rest of the 1 st generation
4:1-40 Implications for the future of the nation
4:41-49 Editorial comment on context of 2nd Exposition of the Torah
5:1 - 26:19 2nd Exposition of the Torah = proper response to Yahweh in heart and soul
5:1-11:32 Loving Yahweh with <u>all the heart</u>
5:1-33 The Mt. Sinai event & ramifications
6:1-25 "Living in the Word"
7:1-26 Joining in Yahweh's war—requirements & resources
8:1-20 Surviving success by maintaining the mental attitude of creature-hood
9:1-10:11 Surviving success by maintaining the mental attitude of <i>fallen</i> creature-hood in need of God's grace
10:12-11:32 Concluding appeal

A. Setting of Deuteronomy

1. Framework perspective → Creation to Consummation → _[Meaning, significance, purpose to existence.]

Bertrand Russell "A Free Man's Religion" (1903) in Mysticism and Logic (1917) pg. 45-46

"Amid such a world, if anywhere, our ideals henceforward must find a home. That Man is the product of causes which had no prevision of the end they were achieving; that his origin, his growth, his hope and fears, his loves and beliefs, are but the outcome of accidental collocations of atoms; that no fire, no heroism, no intensity of thought and feeling, can preserve an individual life beyond the grave; that all the labours of the ages, all the devotion, all the inspiration, all the noonday brightness of human genius are destined to extinction in the vast death of the solar system, and that the whole temple of Man's achievement must inevitably be buried beneath the debris of a universe in ruin – all these things, if not quite beyond dispute, are yet so nearly certain, that no philosophy that rejects them can hope to stand. Only within the scaffolding of these truths, only on the firm foundation of unyielding despair, can the soul's habitation henceforth be safely built."

The metaphysical question: "What is the purpose of life—your life?"

Everyone needs some metaphysical scheme to make sense of his _[generalizations] (nouns), _[processes & cause-effects] (verbs), and _[relationships] (prepositions)—but it's rarely discussed out in the open.

2. Framework perspective → Internally self-consistent “show-and-tell” revelation → personal interaction & communication → epistemological “calibration” for a ___ [*foundation of truth*]_

If all we know is by sense experience interpreted by our individual minds, then truth in the sense of enduring information can't [exist] → absolute Subjectivism

Francis Schaeffer: “*The present chasm between the generations has been brought about almost entirely by a change in the concept of truth.*”

The epistemological question: “*Is there real truth and can you and I attain knowledge of it?*”

Contrast between paganism’s cyclical view of history and the biblical view.

B. Historical Importance of OT revelation

1. A revelation of the Kingdom of God

Entire nation in this “contract,” not [individualistic]_

Sufficiently long history to expose the [cause-effect processes]_ of God’s rule

Whenever this structure is violated, there is [suffering]_ & increased [economic costs]_

- “Social justice” is NOT economic equality; it is [impartiality]_ of law based upon God’s standards.
- Labor and poverty
- Most important is the [heart attitude]_ (hence 1st ½ of the book)—Kingdom of God cannot come unless this transformation occurs first.

Applications:

Marxism fails to take into account the priority of the heart and resulted in massive corruption and lack of productivity in the USSR.

Islamic Shariah fails to take into account the priority of the heart and results in a tyrannical enforcement against corrupt hearts by leaders with corrupt hearts.

Socialism fails to take into account the priority of the heart and results in theft-by-civil gov’t, corrupt bureaucracy, inefficient economy, and lazy citizens.

Our heart is the battleground for our “holy war” against “cosmic thinking.”

II. END OF THE 1ST HALF OF MOSES’ EXPOSITION ON “LOVING” YAHWEH (10:12-11:32)

A. Loving God (Yahweh) and Man (10:12-22)

B. God has proved and will further prove His side of the Abrahamic Covenant in a dramatic way if you obey Him (11:1-12)

11:2-7 is one very long sentence dealing with the **past** “show-and-tell”

11:8-9 deals with **future**

C. Closing emphasis upon Israel's responsibility under the Mosaic Covenant: blessing for obedience, cursing for disobedience. (11:13-32)

Principle: we have true freedom of choice, but can't dictate the consequences; there is *[rational]* structure in the ethical realm that implies *[rational]* structure in every other realm.

Summary scheme of blessing and cursing (11:13-17)

Opportunity to perpetuate a godly culture (11:18-21)

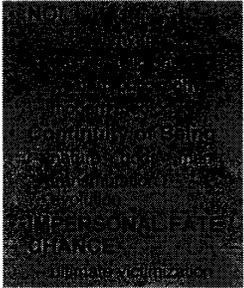
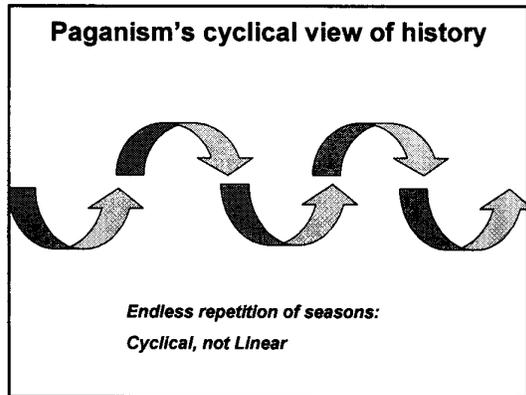
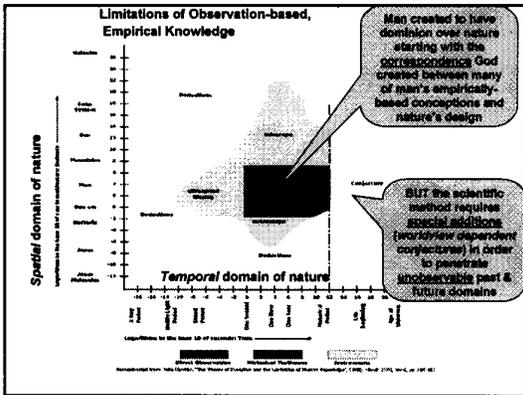
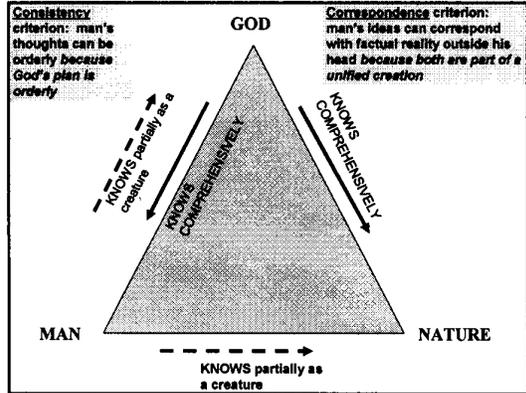
Opportunity to have total victory in the coming conquest (11:22-25)

Warning of continued responsibility for blessing or cursing (11:26-32)

III. CONCLUSION

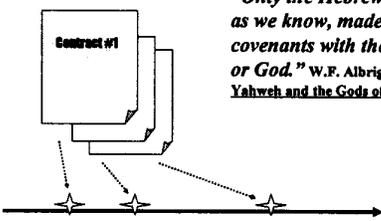
Shall I Bow To My Creator?

- **YES!**
 - ancient monotheism
 - ancient Israel
 - Bible
 - Fundamentalism
- **CREATOR/creature**
 - God || man | nature
 - everlasting distinctions
- **PERSONAL SOVEREIGN**
 - ultimate responsibility

THE ONLY SOURCE OF A JUSTIFIABLE PLAN OF HISTORICAL PROGRESSION: THE BIBLE !

CREATOR & REDEEMER



"Only the Hebrews, so far as we know, made covenants with their gods or God." W.F. Albright, Yahweh and the Gods of Canaan.

- ## Great Ideas that raised Western Civilization out of Underdeveloped Status & Poverty
- **A purposeful created existence controlled by God's Providence**
 - **Confidence in economic cause-effect and permanent (unchanging) law**
 - **Optimism concerning historical progress [Marx borrowed this]**
 - **Dignity of labor**
 - **Future hope for savings and investing the profits of labor**
 - **Sanctity of contracts and private property**