

The Pervasive Kingdom

A Bob Mumford Remix

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Sunday, July 29, 2007

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Different: audio vs. visual, emotional vs. intellectual

Apologies; slides on website

Interesting & relevant; ask questions!
There will be a quiz

The Kingdom of God

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Taking a shower in Pacific Grove
Excited and dismayed

Bob Mumford Remix
Concepts & Theme vs. Images and Narrative

American Theologian: Gary Larson



"You know, we're just not reaching that guy."

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THAT guy knows the Kingdom

Horrible circumstances

Satanic oppression

Joy in everything he does

For we wrestle not against
flesh and blood, but against
principalities, against powers,
against the rulers of the
darkness of this world,
against spiritual wickedness
in high [places].
– *Ephesians 6:12*

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Central concept

charismatic -> demonic forces

Non-traditional; suspend disbelief

ἀρχή (ar-che)

1. Beginning, origin
2. The person or thing that commences, the first person or thing in a series, the leader
3. That by which anything begins to be, the origin, the active cause
4. The extremity of a thing
5. The first place, principality, rule, magistracy

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Rule, Principle, System

English

- **arch**etype
- **arch**itect
- an**arch**y
- hier**arch**y
- mon**arch**, tetr**arch**
- patri**arch**, matri**arch**

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Design, Government, Kingdom

Ephesians 6

- Children and Parents
- Slaves and Masters
- Strong in the Lord
- Whole Armor of God
- Praying Always
- Bold Ambassador

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Authority relationships

Covering, protection, guidance

Submission, responsibility

Ernie's ἀρχή

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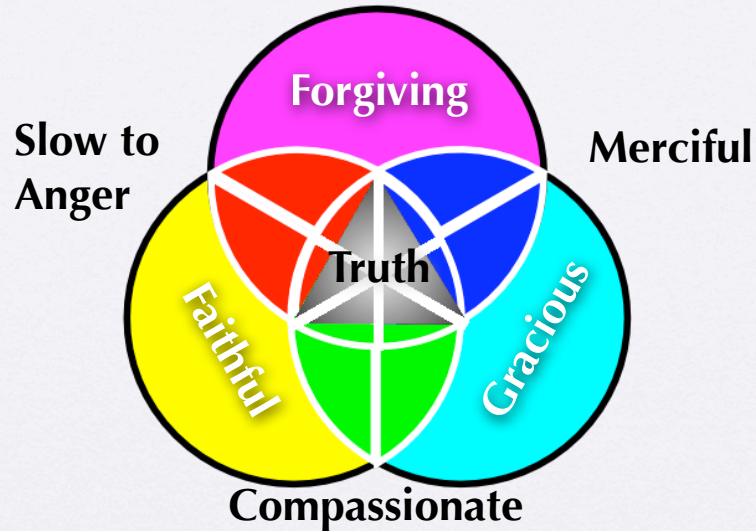
Personal: India, Rochelle, Cubs, Physics

Religious: Kingsway vs. MIT vs. Caltech

Professional: Personal, Anonymous, Ex Officio

God's ἀρχή = Name = Agape

Exodus 4:5-7



Father's Glory

Kingdom of God

Face of Jesus

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Bring all Arche under God's Agape == His Name

And the LORD...proclaimed
the name of the LORD... The
LORD, The LORD God, merci-
ful and gracious, longsuffering,
and abundant in goodness and
truth, Keeping mercy for
thousands, forgiving iniquity
and transgression and sin...
– *Exodus 4:5b-7a*

What We Wrestle With

- The World
 - Natural & Social Systems
- The Flesh
 - Personal & Human Systems
- The Devil
 - Spiritual & Religious Systems

These are what hinder God's Agape!

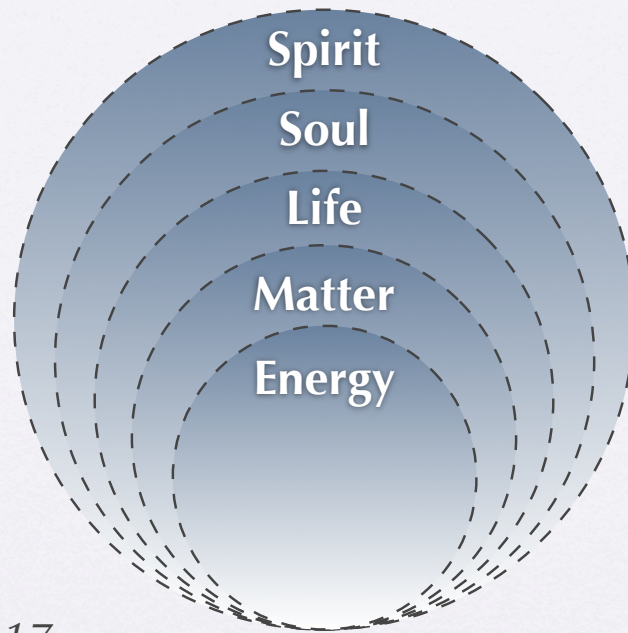
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Not all evil -- but all must submit

Focus on four

Natural Systems



- Theology
- Psychology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Colossians 1:17

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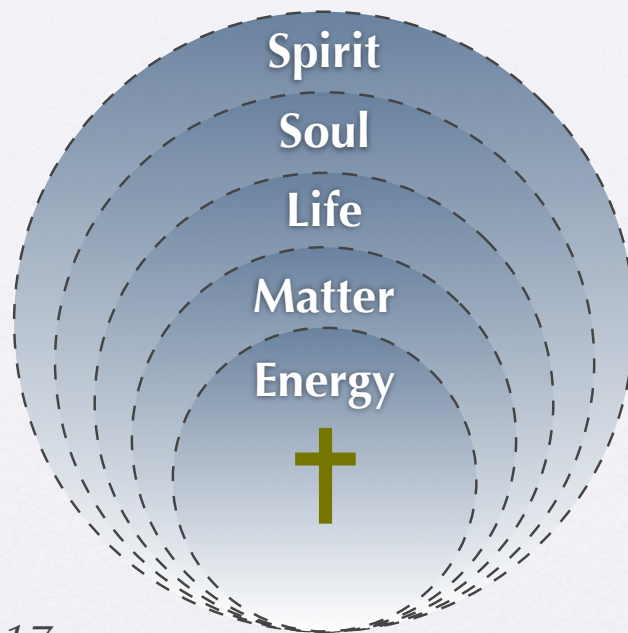
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God Created (6 days or 10 billion)

Human dominion

Christ in all

Natural Systems



- Theology
- Psychology
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics

Colossians 1:17

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12

God Created (6 days or 10 billion)

Human dominion

Christ in all

And he [Christ] is before all
things, and by him all things
consist.

– *Colossians 1:17*

Kingdom *Purpose*



Numbers 14:21

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14

Intended Adam to fill earth with God's glory

Instead, Adam fell & sin reigned

Now, Christ's glory -> sin's demise

Sure promise

Kingdom *Purpose*



Numbers 14:21

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14

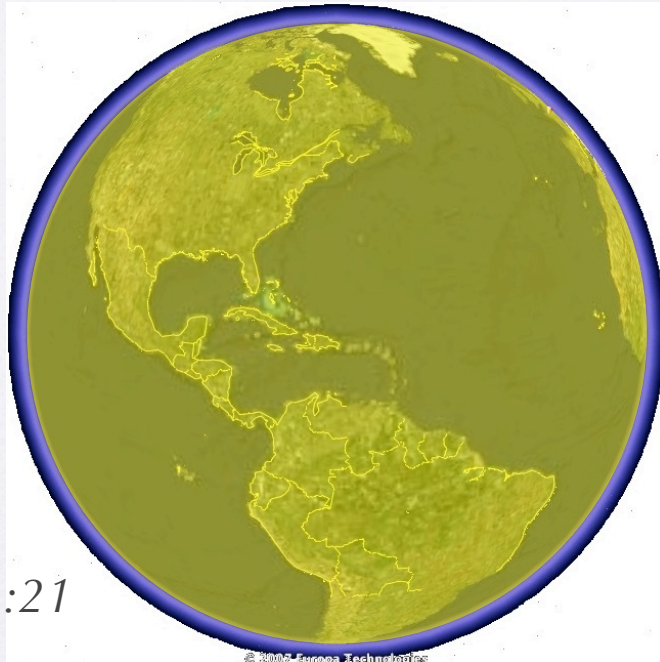
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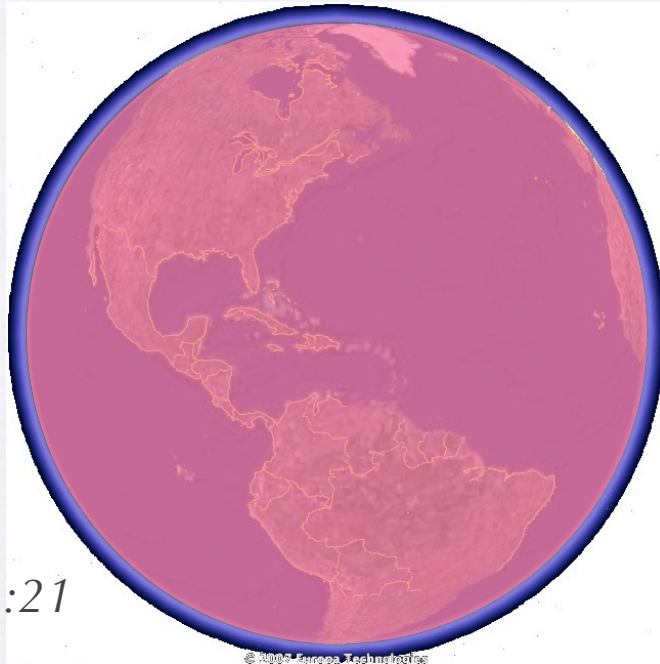
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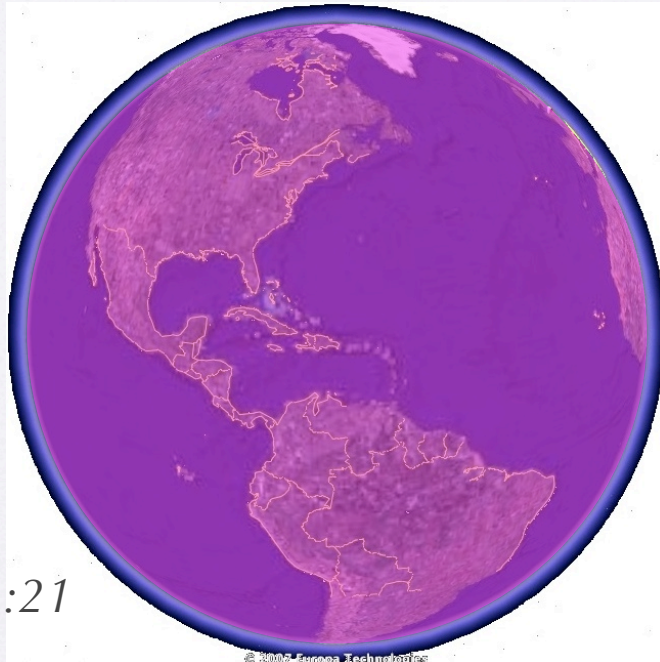
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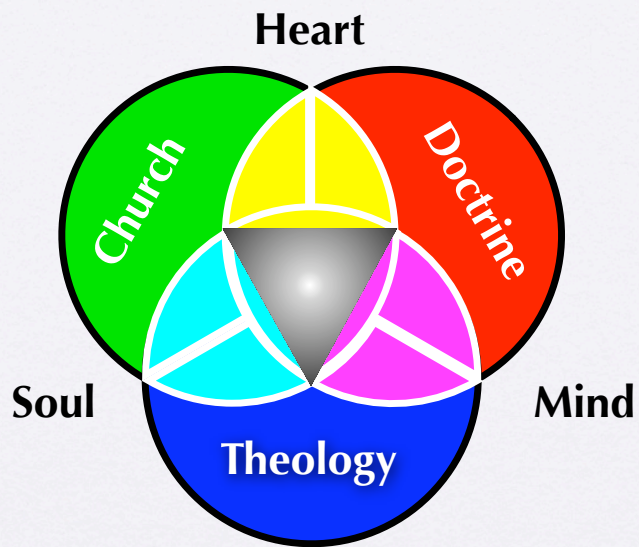
But as truly as I live, all the
earth shall be filled with
the glory of the LORD.
– *Numbers 14:21*

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Not just natural systems.

Religious Systems



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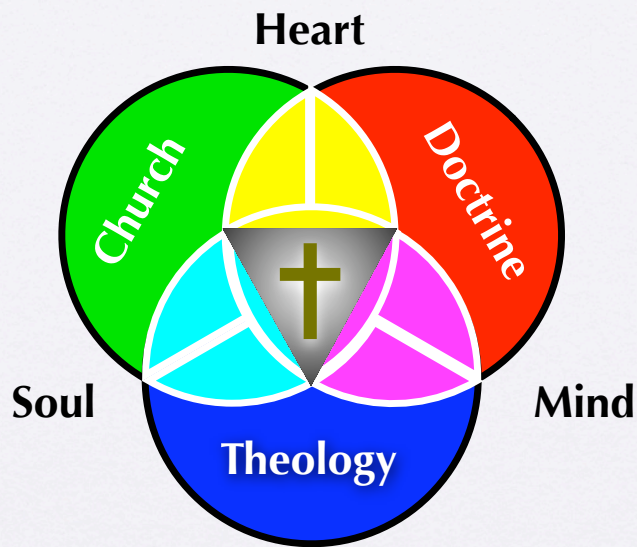
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Biggest obstacle is religious systems; hard, true.
Convict heart, thought mind, experience soul

Necessary, but incomplete.
Point to Christ
Deeper experience/understanding of God

Three examples

Religious Systems



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16

Biggest obstacle is religious systems; hard, true.
Convict heart, thought mind, experience soul

Necessary, but incomplete.
Point to Christ
Deeper experience/understanding of God

Three examples

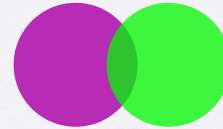
Kingdom *Presence*

Deism



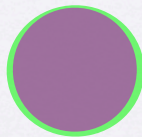
God \neq Nature

Theism



God \cap Nature

Pantheism



God = Nature

*Pan**en**theism*



God \subset Nature

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First, relation of God to Nature

God's immanent yet transcendent

Kingdom *Principle*

Radically
Modern



Profoundly
Orthodox

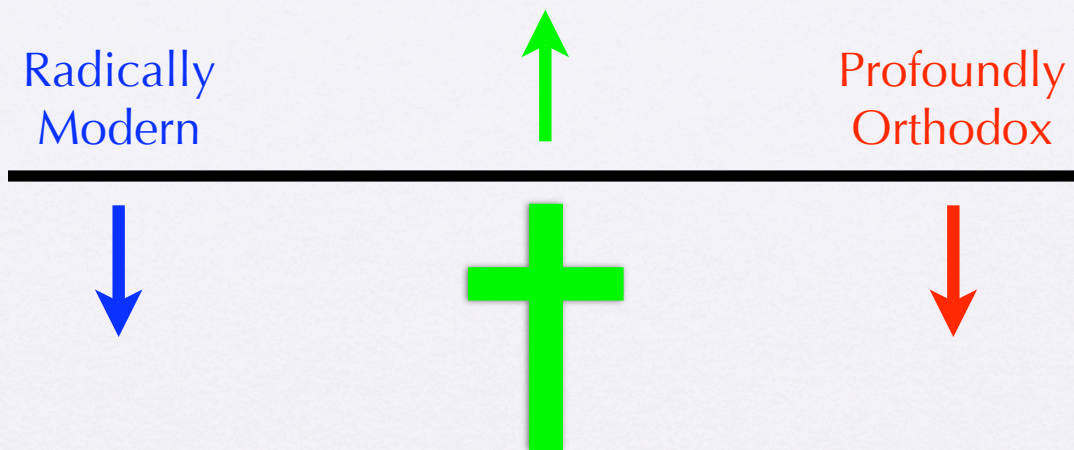


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Second, relation of Orthodoxy to Modernity

Kingdom *Principle*



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Second, relation of Orthodoxy to Modernity

Kingdom *Promise*

Church
(Owner)

Kingdom
(Steward)

Loss

Gain

Chairos
Moment

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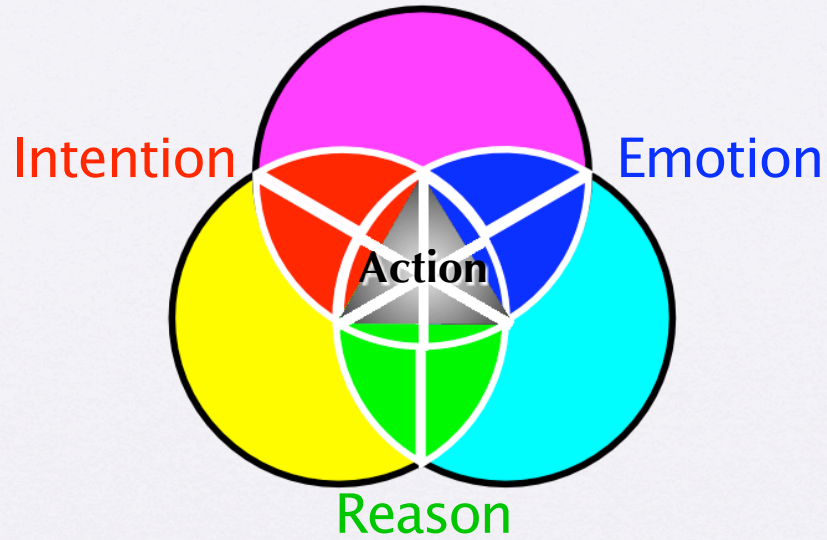
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Third, relation of Past to Future

Mother's convenience vs. Father's will

Loss: Death of apostles, fall of Rome, 100-yrs war - now?
End of Western Civilization -> Beginning of ?

Human Systems



Mark 12:30

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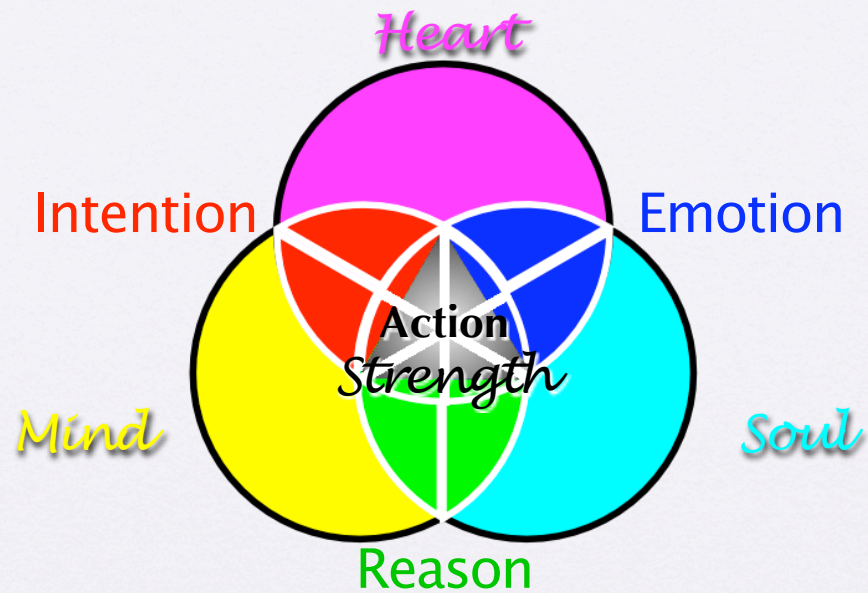
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Understand ourselves

Whole work of whole people of the whole God

Liberals (reason), Charismatic (emotion), Evangelical (intention)

Human Systems



Mark 12:30

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20

Understand ourselves

Whole work of whole people of the whole God

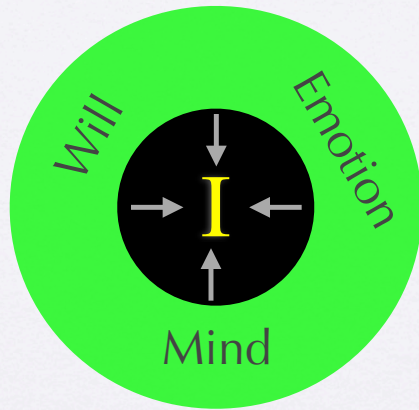
Liberals (reason), Charismatic (emotion), Evangelical (intention)

And thou shalt love the Lord
thy God with all thy heart, and
with all thy soul, and with all
thy mind, and with all thy
strength: this is the first
commandment.

– *Mark 12:30*

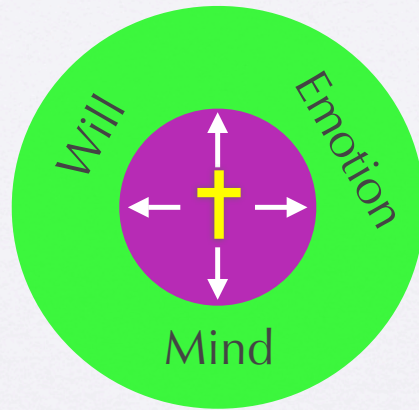
Kingdom *Product*

Soulish



Ungoverned Desire

Spiritual



Replicating Christ

Galatians 4:19

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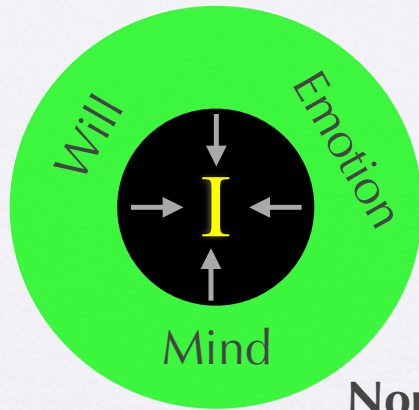
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Whose kingdom are we building?
Not what we do, but why we do it.

My little children, of whom I
travail in birth again until
Christ be formed in you,
– *Galatians 4:19*

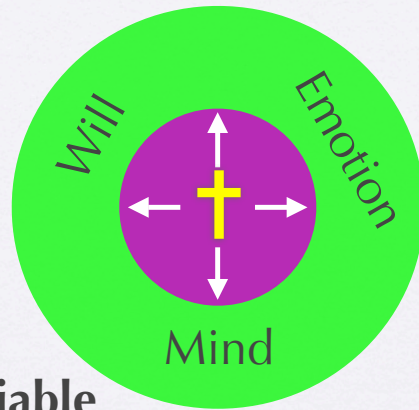
Kingdom *Process*

Owner



Right to Myself

Steward



Surrender to
the Father's Will

Non-Negotiable

Colossians 1:12-13

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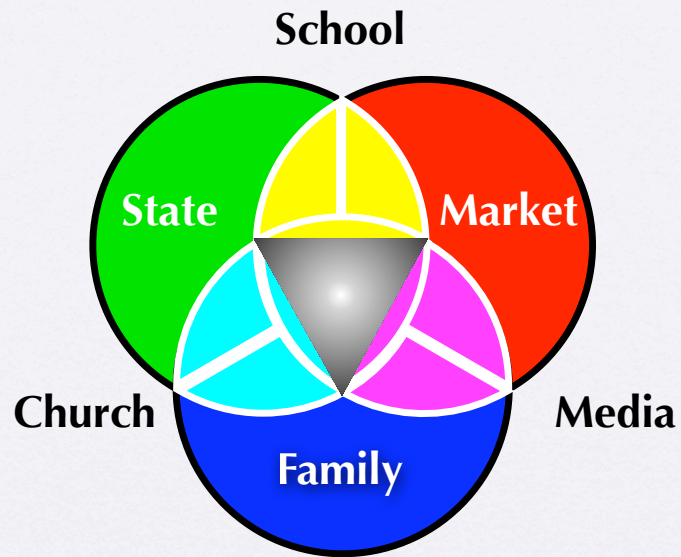
How do we get there?

Act of Violence against Self

Must choose.

Giving thanks unto the Father,
which hath made us meet to be
partakers of the inheritance of
the saints in light:
Who hath delivered us from the
power of darkness, and hath
translated [us] into the kingdom
of his dear Son:
– *Colossians 1:12-13*

Social Systems



Romans 12:2

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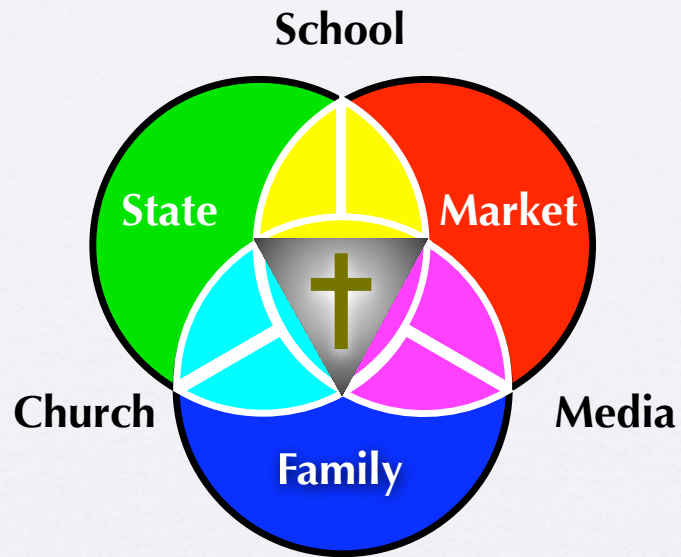
Six Institutions of Modern Life
Not just individual

Political, Educational, Economic, Cultural, Moral, Religious

cf. T-shirts

How do we redeem them?

Social Systems



Romans 12:2

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26

Six Institutions of Modern Life
Not just individual

Political, Educational, Economic, Cultural, Moral, Religious

cf. T-shirts

How do we redeem them?

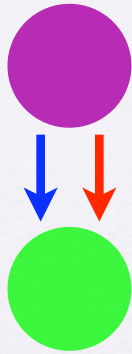
And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

– *Romans 12:2*

Kingdom *Providence*

Sovereign

Provident



Usage

I Corinthians 15:24-28

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Partial answer

Embrace duality of God's relation to Nature

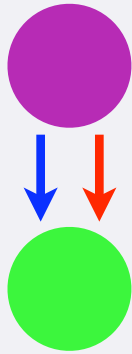
Command & control: power
Outside in

Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has **destroyed** all dominion, authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies **under** his feet. The last enemy to be **destroyed** is death. For he "has put everything **under** his feet."

Now when it says that
"everything" has been put **under**
him, it is clear that this does not
include God himself, who put
everything **under** Christ. When he
has done this, then the Son
himself will be made **subject** to
him who put everything **under**
him, so that God may be all in all.
– *1 Corinthians 15:24-28*

Kingdom *Providence*

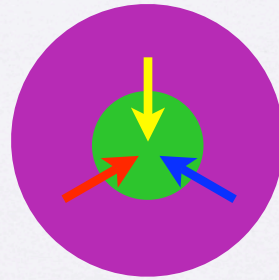
Sovereign



Usage

I Corinthians 15:24-28

Provident



Redemption

Romans 8:19-23

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Persuasion and relationship
Inside out

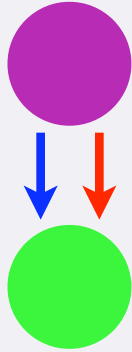
We treat the world as God treats us
Limited and/or expanded

The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed. For the creation was **subjected** to frustration, not by its own choice, but by the will of the one who **subjected** it, in hope that the creation itself will be **liberated** from its bondage to decay and brought into the glorious **freedom** of the children of God.

We know that the whole creation
has been **groaning** as in the pains
of childbirth right up to the present
time. Not only so, but we
ourselves, who have the firstfruits of
the Spirit, **groan** inwardly as we
wait eagerly for our adoption as
sons, the **redemption** of our bodies
– *Romans 8:19-23*

Kingdom *Providence*

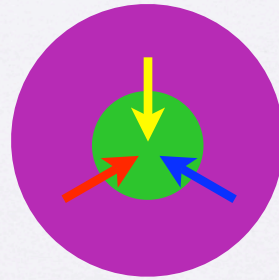
Sovereign



Usage

I Corinthians 15:24-28

Provident



Redemption

Romans 8:19-23

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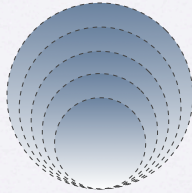
Balance the two

Move into a deeper providence

Express that in our relation to the world

What We Wrestle With

Natural Systems



Religious Systems



Human Systems



Social Systems



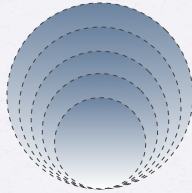
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Summarize, as on notes
World - Flesh Devil

What We Wrestle With

Natural Systems



Religious Systems



Human Systems



Social Systems



What God Transforms!

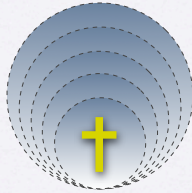
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What God Transforms!

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35

Summarize, as on notes
World - Flesh Devil

The Kingdom of God

1. Purpose: *God's Glory (Agape) Over All*
2. Presence: *Wholly Present yet Wholly Other*
3. Principle: *Orthodox **and** Modern*
4. Promise: *Lose Ownership, Gain Kingdom*
5. Product: *Christ-like Spirit vs. Selfish Soul*
6. Process: *Becoming Stewards, not Owners*
7. Providence: *Restoring God as all-in-all*

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Good news: He Has Overcome

Apprehend, not just Understand

Questions (In Pairs)

1. How can you expand God's Kingdom at:
 - Work, Home, Church
2. Which 'arche' hinder you?
 - World, Flesh, Devil
3. What ownership must you surrender?

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Quiz: One-on-one

Men with men, women with women
else, come to me

Take turns, one example from each category
Pray

Come back; one more thing to share

A Dream

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[band]

Restaurant, went outside, offices across the street

Crooked -> straighten -> collapse; most of block

Car w/Rich, Mid-east owner; blase, liked view

Own building? collapsed and cried out.

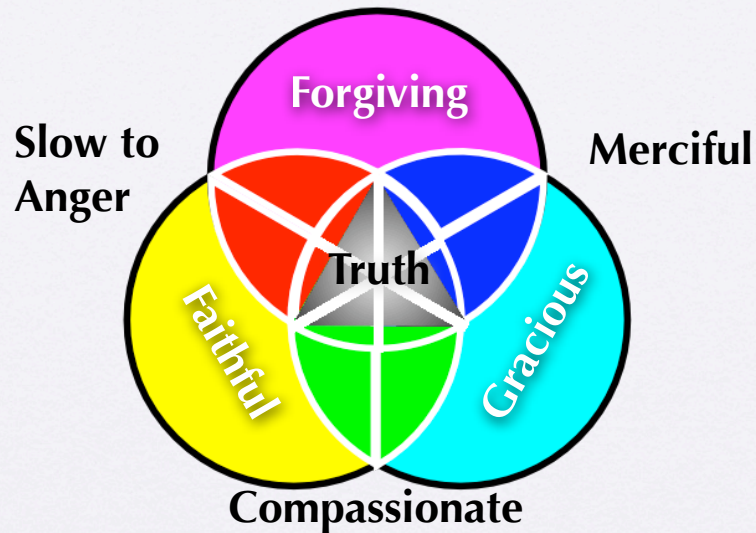
"Truly, truly, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat
falls into the earth and dies,
it remains alone;
but if it dies,
it bears much fruit."
– *John 12:24*

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Notes

God's Arche = Agape



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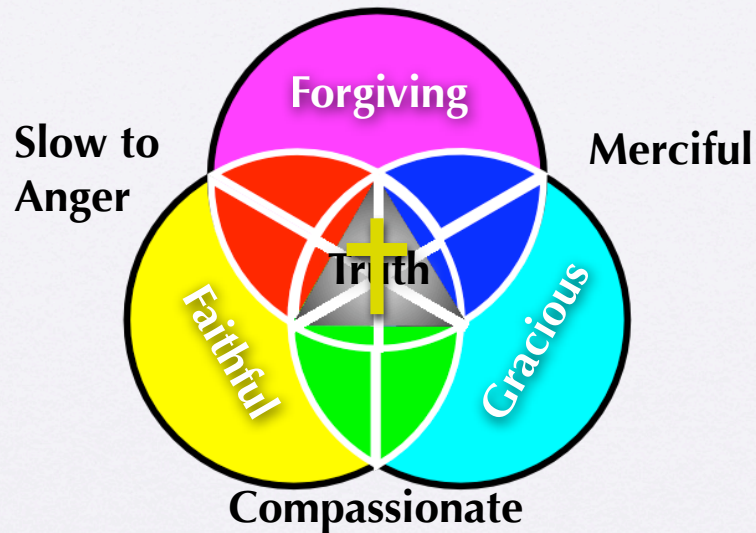
That's the difference.

Are we building our own Arche

Or dying to self, so God can build His Kingdom?

Do we truly know Him by Name?

God's Arche = Agape



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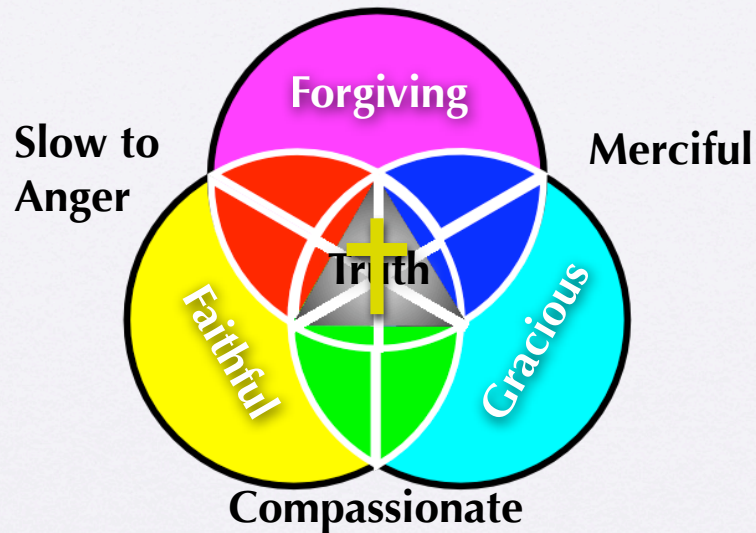
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God's Arche = Agape



Will You Surrender to Him?

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That's the difference.

Are we building our own Arche

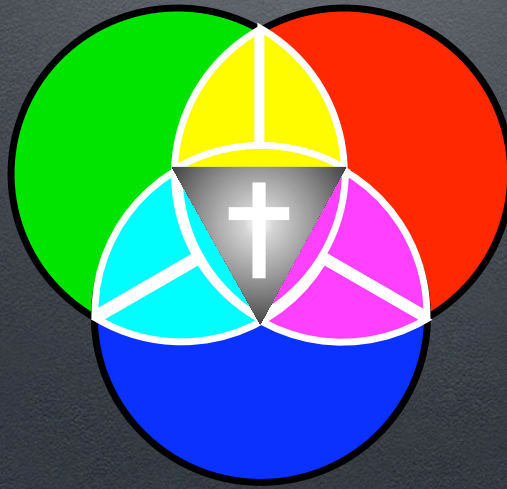
Or dying to self, so God can build His Kingdom?

Do we truly know Him by Name?

Our Father, who art in heaven
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done on earth as
it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread, and forgive us our
debts, as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but
deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and glory,
for ever and ever, Amen.



The End



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