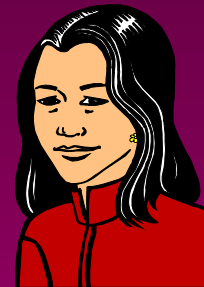


Living with Wisdom in a Scientific World

How do I respond
to attacks on the Bible?

How do I deal with gadgets?

How do I raise my children?



A. Fundamental Principles: Living for God

Christ is Lord of All

All authority in heaven and on earth
has been given to me. – Matt. 28:18

Live for the Glory of God

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. – 1 Cor. 10:31

Desire for Gizmos

For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous (that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. – Eph. 5:5

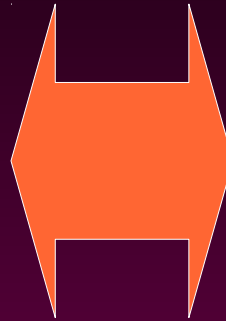
Desire for Approval

If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. – 1 Peter 4:14

B. Materialism ("naturalism")

Physical Bottom

matter, energy,
motion



God personally
created and rules



no innate purpose



purpose

impersonalism

personalism

Why Materialism?

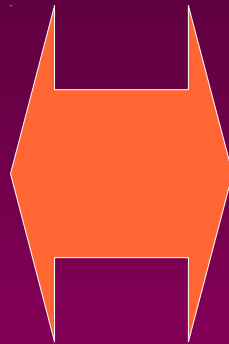
- Early scientists aware of providence
- Scientists praised God
- Stopped talking of God
- Stopped thinking about God
- Nothing buttery: matter only

Materialism versus Science

Philosophy: Materialism

starting assumption

reduction:
matter, energy,
motion alone--
nothing more



Science

starting principle

focus on
matter, energy,
motion

Support for Materialism?

- Prestige of science used for materialism
- Many scientists materialistic in philosophical outlook
- Presentation of science in media

The cosmos is all that is
or ever was or ever will be.
– Carl Sagan, *The Cosmos*

"Mother Nature"

Worldviews on Miracle

impersonalism

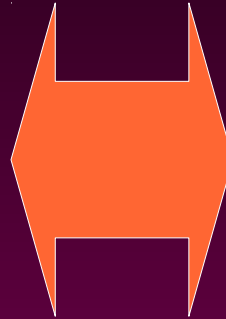
matter, energy,
motion



mechanism



no exceptions:
no miracles



personalism

God personally
created and rules



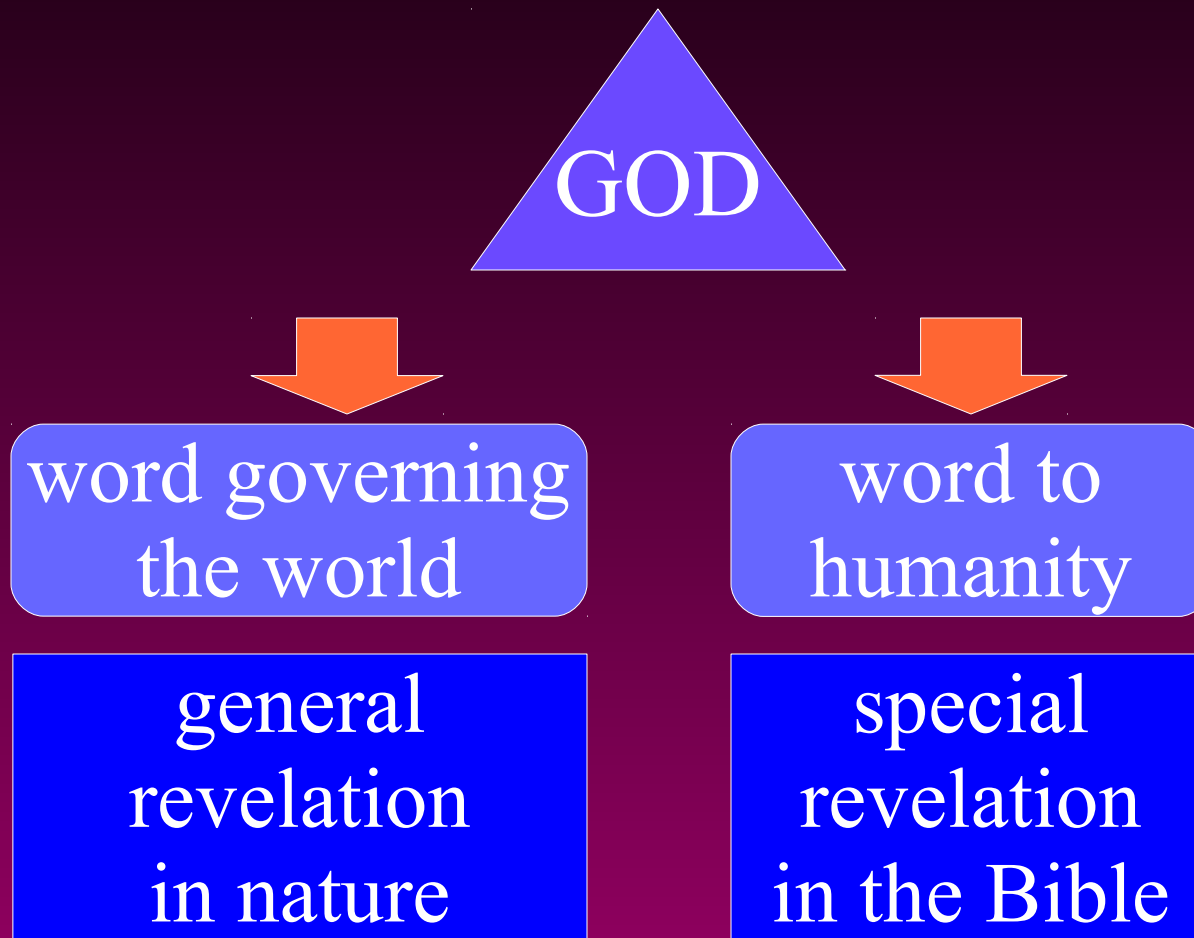
personal purposes



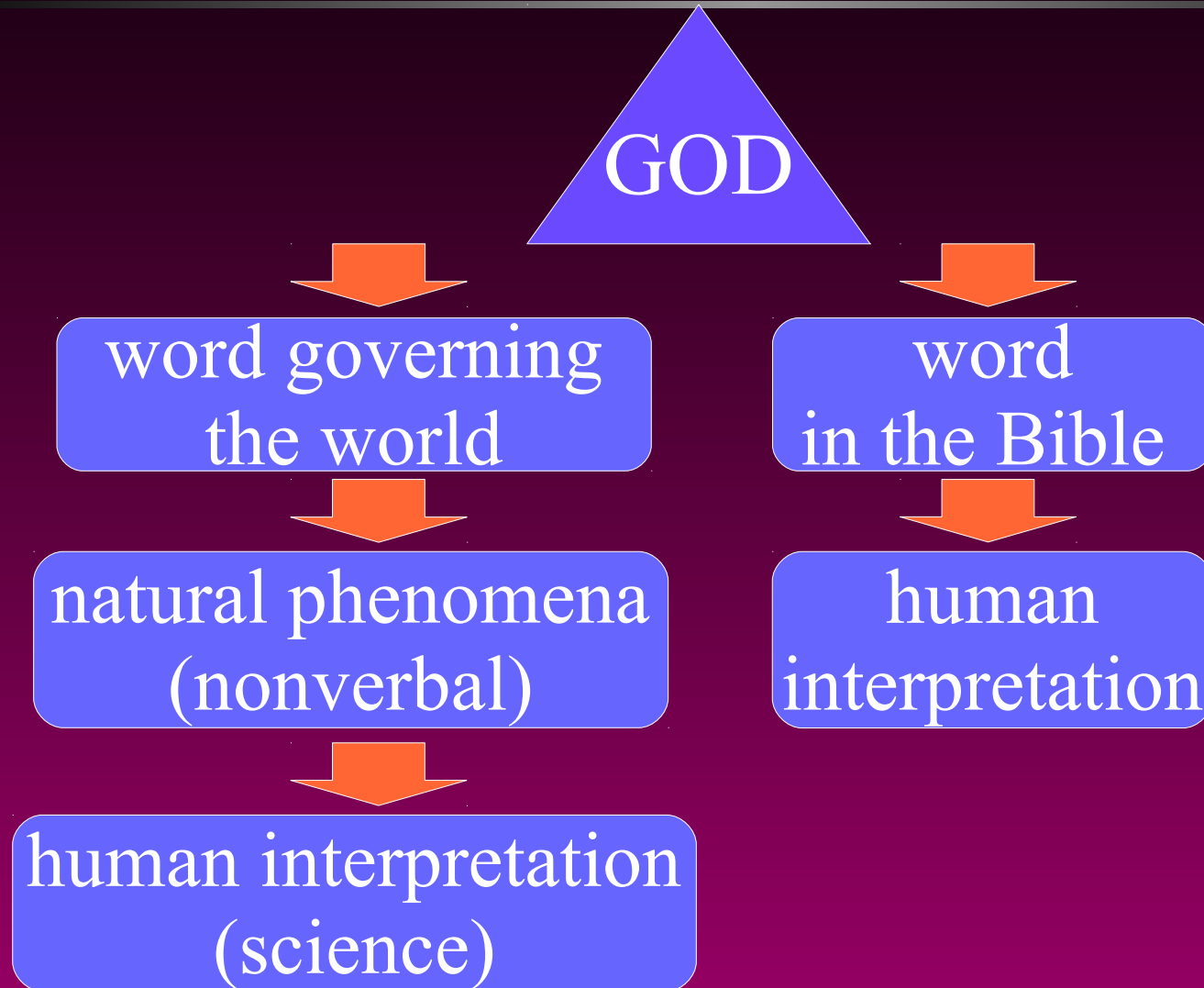
exceptions: miracle

C. Authority

General and Special Revelation



Human Reception



Difficulties

- God's speech is infallible
- Human reception is fallible
- Interpretation is fallible in both the Bible and science
- God's word is directly accessible in the Bible

Special Role for the Bible

Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes
from the mouth of God.
– Matthew 4:4

Role in History

- Special instruction to Adam
- Personal fellowship with Adam and Eve
- Special instruction after the fall
- Special promise of redemption
- Calling for faith in the verbal promise
- The Bible as a permanent record

Opposite Ways of Life (Gen. 3)

Oneself
As Ultimate

trusting self



trusting human
judgment



living
accordingly

Receiving
God's Wisdom

trusting God



trusting God's
word



living
accordingly

Opposite Ways of Life (modern)



D. Practice

Steps along the Way

- Ask for God's wisdom and guidance
- Investigate multiple options on hard questions
- There are believers with answers

Guiding Young People

- Keep listening and conversing
- Admit when you don't know
- Investigate colleges

College Life

- Out to the workplace?
- A real Christian college (not in name)
- A secular college with strong local church and strong on-campus group
- Readings beyond classroom claims
- Self-control (vs. "free" sex)
- Humility
- Willingness not to conform