

SLIDE	NOTES
1	<p><b>TITLE</b></p> <p>This module covers chapters 3-5 of the book (which has more detail).</p>
2	<p><b>BRANCHES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* In the previous module, we used the analogy of philosophy as a filing cabinet to systematize the organization of information.</li> <li>* The following are the five branches of philosophy.</li> <li>* You will need to memorize these Branches...We will be referring to them often in the rest of this course.</li> <li>* This course will deal with the first 3 of the 5 major Branches of Philosophy (Metaphysics, Epistemology, Ethics). We will not be covering Politics and Aesthetics in this course.</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>FILING CABINET</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* You can also think of the 5 Branches of Philosophy as a "Toolbox" or a "Filing Cabinet" with the 5 drawers arranged in a funny way. The funny arrangement is to show the dependencies of each branch.</li> <li>* Metaphysics and Epistemology are the base upon which Ethics depends.</li> <li>* Politics and Aesthetics depend on Ethics, Epistemology, and Metaphysics.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anim:</b> <b>Quote:</b> Brigham Young</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* METAPHYSICS: If you say something is real... Or if you tell someone to get real... Or you provide a reality check... File that under Metaphysics</li> <li>* EPISTEMOLOGY: If you say something is True or False... File that under Epistemology</li> <li>* ETHICS: If you say something is good or bad, right or wrong, virtuous or vicious... File that under Ethics.</li> <li>* POLITICS: Dealing with other people...If you say something is just or unjust... File that under Politics</li> <li>* AESTHETICS: If you say something is well made or sloppy made, Beautiful or Ugly File that under Aesthetics</li> <li>* David Call was a professional plumber for many years. He described how when he showed up to a job site any, of the professionals working there were expected to show up with their toolbox ready to go to work.</li> <li>* Although these are mental tools we will be learning, the same principle applies. You are expected to show up with these ready to go to work applying them.</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>PHILOSOPHY MAN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Everything we know about anything fits into one of these five branches. Knowing these five branches of philosophy greatly simplifies much of the complexity in life, because it reduces everything you may come across down to a system of five simple categories.</li> <li>* To help you memorize the 5 branches we have a simple block figure called "Philosophy Man" showing the hierarchical dependency of the philosophical branches.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anim1:</b> In an upcoming module we will discuss <b>AXIOMS</b> which are the <b>self-evident facts</b> that are the starting point for everything else. Axioms are the ground upon which everything else rests.</p> <p><b>Anim2:</b> Next comes <b>METAPHYSICS</b> are <b>self-existing facts</b> which deal with BEING, or existence, or reality.</p>

**Anim3:** Next is **EPISTEMOLOGY**, which are **discovered facts** that deal with KNOWING.

**Anim4:** Central to Philosophy man is **ETHICS**, which are pursued facts that deal with VALUING, DESIRING, ACTING

**Anim5:** One arm of Philosophy Man is **POLITICS**, which are **protected facts** that deal with GOVERNING.

**Anim6:** The other arm of Philosophy Man is **AESTHETICS**, which are **celebrated facts** that deal with CREATING.

**Anim7:** The branches are necessarily the way they are because of the unique nature of man's conceptual faculty including man's ability to reason...Squirrels wouldn't have these branches. Animals only have instinct.

\* UNIT ECONOMY: "The range of what man can hold in the focus of his conscious awareness at any given moment is limited. The essence of man's incomparable cognitive power is the ability to reduce a vast amount of information to a minimal number of conceptual units which is the task performed by his conceptual faculty." (Ayn Rand Introduction to Objectivist Epistemology p.62)

**Q: What happens if you remove any of the component parts lower down in philosophy man?**  
Everything built above that component falls away.

\* Ethics is the central because it tells us how to act (where the rubber meets the road). This is the branch that most people love to debate, but often it is difficult to come to a clear Ethical conclusion because many times the problem actually arises from a problem down in one of the Axioms, Metaphysics or Epistemology.

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## **ETERNAL ROUND**

**Some people may want to complain that the 5 branches are nowhere in Latter-day Saint Theology.**

Well, the branches actually are! We have the exact same concepts just in religious language instead of philosophical language.

**Anim1:** We talk about the 5 branches of philosophy as the **E's of Eternalism**

**Anim2:** With principled thinking, you always start in **Metaphysics**. In Theological language this is "Eternal Laws", and the Nature of God.

**Anim3:** Eternal Laws Give Rise to:

**Anim4:** Eternal Truths (**Epistemology**)...

**Anim5:** Implementing these truths makes possible...

**Anim6:** Eternal Lives (**Value Ethics**)...

**Anim7:** You live your life within the dominion of...

**Anim8:** Eternal Kingdoms (**Politics**)

**Anim9:** Kingdoms exist amidst the Glory of...

**Anim10:** Eternal Creations (**Aesthetics**)...Upon creation of the Earth, they called it "beautiful, glorious"

**Anim11:** Organized in accordance with...Eternal Laws

**Anim12:** Making all Philosophical Branches one great whole...or Eternal Round. The nature of our consciousness allows us to abstract and compartmentalize, but reality is all just one big unified thing.

6	<p><b>PRIMACY DEFINITION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Primacy issues are all about “putting first things first”. That is, putting things in their proper rank, order or sequence.</li> <li>* The particular order of primacy issues is not about demeaning or disparaging what comes second as though it is of no consequence.</li> <li>* Primacy is not an “either/or” proposition. Both of the items are necessary. It is simple which do you do first. (like a sorted list) This seems simple enough, but people get it wrong all the time, and it causes a mess.</li> </ul> <p><b>Anim1:</b> For Example (practical realm):  <b>Q: Which has primacy, the Horse or Cart?</b>  Tier 1 Means what is put 1st, Tier 2 means what is put second</p> <p><b>Anim2:</b>  *If you want to get your vegetables to market, putting the Horse 1st and the cart 2nd is the practical thing to do. If you put the cart before the horse you will never get there.</p> <p><b>Anim3:</b> <b>Q: Which has primacy, Socks or Shoes?</b>  <b>Anim4:</b> Giving Socks Tier 1 Status (putting them on first) is practical. Your feet won't get blisters.  * Giving Shoes Tier1 status (putting them on first) then Socks over the top of your shoes is impractical. It will both ruin your socks, and cause your feet to get blisters.</p>
7	<p>Example (religious realm):</p> <p><b>Anim1:</b> <b>Q: Which has primacy, the Kingdom of God or All Else?</b>  <b>Anim2:</b> According to Matthew 6:33 The Kingdom of God receives Tier1 Status.  <b>Anim3:</b> True Piety gets this primacy issue right. Putting anything before the kingdom of God is called Idolatry (false worship).</p> <p><b>Anim4:</b> <b>Q: Which has primacy, the Justice or Mercy?</b>  <b>Anim5:</b> According to Alma 42:25 Justice receives Tier1 Status.  <b>Anim6:</b> Putting justice first makes God's Kingdom lawful.  * Putting Mercy before Justice makes his kingdom willful...chaos...anything goes. Once you let people off the hook from having to obey law, they and everyone else will want the rules not to apply to them either.</p>
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Now that you are aware of primacy, you are going to see it everywhere. The scriptures are full of primacy issues. Most “sin” and “thous shalt not” are actually primacy issues warning you about some pitfall in reality.</li> <li>* “Not” is a reversed primacy issue.</li> <li>* D&amp;C 11:21 What happens if things are given before you ask?</li> <li>* D&amp;C 6:7 Mysteries word again.</li> </ul>
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* When you go to the doctor what is the first thing they do. A checkup (blood pressure, pulse, weight, etc.)</li> <li>* We are now going to do the same thing with regard to your philosophical tool. You will now take a quiz to assess your first Philosophical checkup.</li> </ul> <p>Introduce The Primacy Quiz</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* We reviewed the practical reason why Horse gets Tier1 status and the Cart gets Tier2 status.</li> <li>* We reviewed the practical reason why Socks get Tier1 status and the Shoes get Tier2 status.</li> <li>* Remember, the words listed are not “Either/Or”...They are which one comes first.</li> <li>* Try out your new philosophical primacy tool and assign Tier1 and Tier2 status to the remaining primacy issues by circling the one that gets the primacy correct.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pause Here</b> <b>Take The Primacy Quiz</b></p>

10	<p><b>METHODOLOGY DISCUSSION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* After eight years of giving the philosophical checkup to upper division BYU philosophy class students, a huge disparity was evident...Unbeknown to the students, the philosophical checkup is purposely divided into two parts:</li> <li>* Part One (the first eight questions) represents one level of gospel understanding (basic doctrinal arithmetic)</li> <li>* Part Two (the second set of eight questions) represents a deeper level of gospel understanding (doctrinal algebra).</li> <li>* The average percent of correct responses over this eight year period showed a 97% correct response to the first level questions (questions 1 thru 8) and a mere 53% correct response to the second level questions (questions 9 thru 16).</li> <li>* This is interesting philosophically and much of the reason for creating this Eternalism course. The last 8 Gospel Primacy Issues are also <b>major Philosophical issues</b> that have been going on for thousands of years in human history.</li> </ul> <p><b>Quote:</b> President Kimball We will analyze each of the second set of 8 questions in order to get us off the first plateau and onto a higher, more fundamental plateau.</p>
11	<p><b>ANSWERS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Here are the correct answers to Primacy Quiz...</li> <li>* <b>If any of these offend you at this point I suggest it is too early in the course to be offended. We will go through each of these individually in the modules that follow and substantiate them.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Animations</b> (results one by one)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* In dealing with the second set of primacy issues, we will examine the branches of Philosophy which deals specifically with each issue.</li> </ul>
12	Questions? Rating?