

SLIDE	NOTES
1	<p>TITLE</p> <p>We are now going to dive into study of our first Philosophical Primacy Issue (God / Reality)</p>
2	<p>For over 2,500 Years Western Civilization has been torn apart, dived into two camps, constantly in conflict with each other.</p> <p>Anim1: Plato and Aristotle set the stage for this 2,500 year fight.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The fight is over a seemingly simple primacy issue between the two foundational branches of philosophy (Metaphysics and Epistemology). * All over which has primacy CONSCIOUSNESS or EXISTENCE? <p>Anim2:</p> <p>Q: Who's bucket holds water?</p> <p>Q: How can we know?</p> <p>Study outcomes...</p>
3	<p>PLATO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Plato and other early Greek philosophers struggled with how to categorize the thoughts we conceive in our minds, compared to the real physical world we observe which is constantly changing or in a state of flux. <p>Anim1: QUOTE (Mortimer Adler)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * These two worlds consist of a higher world of ideal forms (Platonic Ideals or perfect ideas) and a lower world of imperfect change. Everything in this lower world of change is an imperfect copy of the perfect idea present in the unseen world of forms. The imperfect copy is always working in some way, changing to try and meet it's perfect nature. <p>Anim2: QUOTE (Ayn Rand Lexicon)</p>
4	<p>ARISTOTLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Aristotle took the opposite position from his teacher. <p>Anim: QUOTE (Leonard Peikoff)</p>
5	<p>Raphael captured this in his famous painting "The School of Athens"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Plato - Is pointing to the heavens, at his supernatural but impractical world of "ideals" Aristotle - Is pointing down to Earth, at the "tangible, practical world" (down to earth) but missing the "moral ideal". * In studying outcomes: <p>Anim1: PLATO: Eternalism will show that the Primacy of Consciousness, is a false belief...Inviting "Unprincipled Willfulness" where those who practice this false philosophy attempt to become a "Law Unto themselves".</p> <p>Q: From a Gospel perspective what is the outcome? We will see that this leads to everlasting death.</p> <p>Anim2: ARISTOTLE: Eternalism will show that the Primacy of Existence, is a true belief...Inviting "Principled Lawfulness" where those who practice this true philosophy attempt to learn the already existing laws of reality, abide by them, and abound (progress/prosper).</p> <p>Q: From a Gospel perspective what is the outcome? We will see that this leads to Eternal life.</p> <p>Anim3: In Eternalism, we follow Aristotle's reasoning and declare that consciousness is the faculty of awareness of "something outside of itself"...</p> <p>Anim4: Western civilization is still divided over this primacy issue. We now find ourselves in a Philosophical house divided. Hence the Philosophical war between Religion and Science, Faith and Reason, The Moral and Practical.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * MORAL: The traditional moral and religious worlds siding with Plato. Traditional religion with origins in the great apostasy sided with Plato. Apostate Christianity kept Plato's two separate worlds by just moving

	<p>Plato's "World of Perfect Forms" into the consciousness of God (God Outside the Box) and, viola, the philosophical origins of Christianity's creeds concerning the Godhead.</p> <p>* Their God performs supernatural miracles giving God the primacy over reality that defy the laws of nature as a matter of divine will.</p> <p>* These are the creeds which Christ declared to the prophet Joseph Smith to be an "abomination in his sight." JS-History 1:19</p> <p>* SCIENTIFIC: The scientific and practical worlds siding with Aristotle with their measuring, discovering, and observation of reality.</p>
6	<p>Tragically all 3 of the Monotheistic (single God) religions place God over reality.</p> <p>APOSTACY</p> <p>Anim1: Traditional Christianity says God was <i>outside</i> reality and created reality ex nihilo "out of nothing"</p> <p>Anim2: In Theological terms, this is "The Absolutism" of God. In Philosophical terms it is called "The Primacy of Consciousness".</p> <p>Anim3: Quote from early Christian Councils...</p> <p>Anim4: Quote from Descartes...</p> <p>Wouldn't it also be true to say "The chair doesn't think, therefore it is not"....In that case since the chair isn't real are you OK of I hit you over the head with it?</p> <p>Anim5: Quote "a tree that falls"</p> <p>Q: Do you see the Philosophical contradictions a "God Outside the Box" inevitably causes?</p> <p>* What is a God who is outside of existence? How can something exist outside of existence?</p> <p>* What of the problem of Evil? A being who creates Evil is...What?</p> <p>* Why do we need an Atonement to overcome rules that were created out of nothing in the first place. Why not just re-write the rules when you need to instead of dictating an Atonement?</p> <p>Q: What does Mormonism and the Restoration say?</p> <p>RESTORATION</p> <p>Anim6: Mormonism says God created things <i>ex materia</i>, or <i>within</i> the universe out of already existing Eternal element.</p> <p>Anim7: In Theological terms, this is "The Absolutism" of Reality. In Philosophical terms it is called "The Primacy of Existence".</p> <p>Anim8: Quote: D&C 93:33</p> <p>Anim9: Quote: King Follett Discourse</p>
7	<p>This is the Ontology of Eternalism.</p> <p>Q: What does it mean practically?</p> <p>Anim1: D&C 88:66 Abide by the rules of reality...And Abound = "progression in abundance"</p> <p>Anim2: Francis Bacon described very well the framework of Eternalism when he said...Essentially "obey the laws of reality and you will excel"</p>
8	<p>In putting structure to all of this, it is important to recognize that each of the remaining Gospel Primacy issues has an identical equivalent in Philosophical Language. For example:</p> <p>Anim1: When we say "Absolutism of Reality" in a gospel context, the Philosophical Equivalent is "Primacy of Existence" which is also the same thing as "God Inside The Box."</p> <p>* This means that "Reality makes the rules...And God works according to those rules". This is the metaphysical equivalent of Lawfulness.</p> <p>Anim2: When we say "Absolutism of God" in a Gospel context, the Philosophical Equivalent is "Primacy of Consciousness" which is also the same thing as "God Outside The Box".</p> <p>* This means that "God invents the rules (does whatever he wants) outside of reality". This is the metaphysical equivalent of Willfulness.</p>

9	<p>Now that you are aware of these concepts...You are going to start to see them everywhere in Mormon Doctrine</p> <p>Anim1: John Taylor Quote</p> <p>Q: <i>Eternal Laws that even the Gods must obey?</i></p> <p>Anim2: Kenneth Johnson Quote.</p> <p>Anim3: Christofferson Quote...Gods commandments are for obeying reality's laws.</p>
10	<p>Quote: The reason primacy issue #1 was chosen. Greatest TRUTH and HERESY known to man. Either the greatest truth or greatest lie.</p> <p>* If you get God wrong, the odds are low you'll get anything else right.</p>
11	<p>Quote: Father of all Heresies</p>
12	<p>Here is our primacy issue chart</p> <p>Anim1: Our first true primacy issues is the greatest truth</p> <p>Anim2: Our first false primacy issue is the greatest heresy</p> <p>* If you want to remember Primacy issue #1...the simple terms to remember are "<i>Lawfulness or Willfulness</i>"...</p> <p>* This issue is the starting point for all of the other Primacy Issues to follow. You are going to see this repeated down the linkages through the other branches of Philosophy <i>through the other primacy issues</i> we will be discussing.</p> <p>* Depending on which side you are on (willfulness or lawfulness) logical consistency starts causing a huge divide into Epistemology and Ethics (as we will see)</p>
13	<p>Questions? Rating?</p>