

SLIDE	NOTES
1	<p>TITLE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The great tragedy of Western Civilization is that its great thinkers could not decide between Plato and Aristotle (Primacy of Consciousness or The Primacy of Existence). * So they split Western Civilization into two contradictory realms by following first Plato's lead (Primacy of Consciousness) in the religious and the moral realm. * Then, secondly following Aristotle's lead and conceded the Primacy of Existence to science and the practical realm. * In this module we will discuss the tragedy of living life with a split personality, or what we call "Mixed Premises".
2	<p>* PREMISE DEFINITION</p> <p>Anim1: So Western Civilization was saddled almost from the get-go with the tragedy that comes from harboring contradictions (mixed premises). Unable to decide, most end up with the Pragmatist approach...A grab bag of ideas that you guess how to use in some situations but not in other situations (situational ethics).</p> <p>* The constitution is very "Primacy of Reality", and any form of socialism is very "Primacy of Consciousness". As our society attempts to mix the two things that don't go together we end up with a society in turmoil.</p> <p>Q: Where does this approach lead?</p> <p>Anim2: James 1:8...A shotgun approach...An unstable, unreliable, cowboy way of life.</p>
3	<p>Q: Remember our Philosophical Barrel?</p> <p>Now think of it as the kids game "Barrel of Monkeys"</p> <p>Anim1: The Barrel is our Ontological Framework, including the branches of philosophy</p> <p>Anim2: The bottom of the barrel is our 3 axioms</p> <p>Anim3: The monkeys are our Seven philosophical primacy issues</p> <p>Anim4: The chain of monkeys are linked in a hierarchy based on their philosophical branch. Each primacy issue (monkey) is coherently (logically) linked to the next one (holding hands)</p>
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * There are two competing barrels of monkeys...a Green clan, and a Red clan...constantly warring over philosophical control of your mind. * The Apostasy and the Restoration each represent a consistent, but opposite set of principles. * The alpha male is the first Primacy Issue (God/Reality)...Once the alpha male is chosen, all of the other primacy issues in the clan logically follow, linked arm-in-arm with the one that preceded it.
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * As a preview to help you understand what is coming in later modules... * Working with the RED clan, let's number each monkey...and work the chain backwards to the alpha male, showing how they are dependent.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Working with the GREEN clan, let's number each monkey...and integrate them, working the chain backwards to the alpha male, showing how they are dependent.
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Mixing monkeys leads to instability... * If a double-minded MAN is unstable...How much more is a double-minded CIVILIZATION unstable. <p>Anim1: The Apostasy and the Restoration each represent a consistent set of principles.</p>

	<p>Anim2: Problem is the RED principles are highly impractical to live consistently, so we cheat.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * We quickly find the impracticality of consistently living one's false religious ideals Monday through Saturday. * So we end up with a split personality...Trying to live the False Platonic ideals on Sunday for our Moral and Religious outlook, but conveniently slipping to the practical Aristotelian principles during the rest of the week. <p>Anim3: LDS church members end up falling into this trap as well as we unwittingly absorb the false religious ideals without realizing it.</p>
8	<p>To visualize this let's go back to our Primacy Chart with Plato and Aristotle as philosophical figureheads, The first three branches of Philosophy, and the seven major philosophical primacy issues</p> <p>Anim1: Suppose we are unsure of our primacy issues. So we pick and choose...Some from the ones above and some from the ones below.</p> <p>Anim2: Choosing Plato for our Moral and Religious outlook.</p> <p>Anim3: We quickly find the impracticality of consistently living one's religion Monday thru Saturday (i.e., the war between the moral and the practical as well the war between science and religion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * So we choose Aristotle when it suits us (in our careers, practical life and scientific studies). <p>Q: Where does this leave us?</p> <p>Anim4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * This is what we call the tragedy of mixed premises. Where we walk around throughout the week feeling guilty for not being able to live our religion every day of the week. * A split personality. "Sunday Christians" where on Sunday we live "yin", but the rest of the week we live "yang". * Sunday Christian is a derisive term used to refer to those Christians who will attend Church services on Sundays while not strictly adhering to the doctrines, teachings and beliefs of their religion during the rest of the week. * This derisiveness is supposed to work on their conscience and motivate these "once-a-weekers" feel guilty for not adhering to their religious beliefs all the time if they are not to face the judgments of God with hell, fire and damnation in the next life. <p>Anim5: This way, we attempt to be practical, building our careers, building the infrastructure of our lives and civilization...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * At the same time sprinkling in a bit of Duty Ethics throughout the week here and there, motivated by guilt. Then on Sunday we hit the church, and start the mixed cycle over again.
9	<p>This is what we call a "Junk Heap Of Contradictions"</p> <p>For example: (all the crossing lines coming up)</p> <p>Anim1: LOVE We finally made it through the week and on Saturday morning we get an early morning (last minute) phone call asking us to pitch in on a service project to put in a sprinkling system for an inactive member in the Ward...So we put down the hose are watering our own lawn with and go spend the day digging trenches in your neighbor's yard in order to show love.</p> <p>Anim2: LIFE Then the rest of the week we switch to our industrious, practical, pioneer spirit mode, go to work, chasing things that will build a better life for ourselves.</p> <p>Anim3: OTHERS On Sunday in a Quorum Lesson on Giving Selfless Service...We are told we know we have given the correct fast offering amount when it starts to hurt. If we don't feel the budgetary pain we know we aren't giving enough.</p> <p>Anim4: SELF Then we start the week again, working and planning how to come up with the next great idea that will build a great business.</p>

	<p>Anim5: GOD Sunday hits again...We are told to feel guilty for seeking material wealth, so we tell God if he helps us become wealthy, we will quit our job and serve the rest of our lives as Sr. Missionaries.</p> <p>Anim6: HAPPINESS The rest of the week, we take comfort having God's will on our side to help mold reality for us as we chase the good things that we think will help ourselves progress and be happy.</p> <p>Anim7: DUTY Then we discover it is nearly the last day of the month, and we haven't done our home teaching yet. So we put all of our entrepreneurial plans on hold for a night while we go out and do our duty before the month is over.</p> <p>Anim8: DUTY While we are at it, out of a sense of duty we tackle all of the other things we have neglected to do. We bake bread for the neighbors (but none for our own family), and so on.</p> <p>Anim9: FAITH We run into some unexpected troubles, so we crank up our favorite country song "Jesus Take The Wheel" and we ask God to take over our life for a bit and untangle this mess we got ourselves into.</p> <p>Anim (5 more) ...And so on. And So on.</p> <p>Anim: We end up living a Junk Heap of Contradictions...Oscillating between guilt to do our Duty, and desire to chase Happiness for ourselves.</p>
10	<p>We end up confused, often walking around in a fog, constantly second guessing ourselves. * We look for scriptures to interpret according to this mixed view of life.</p> <p>SCRIPTURES</p>
11	<p>Which we misinterpret, out of context and run with, expecting REALITY to cater to our CONSCIOUSNESS.</p>
12	<p>This is called "conceptual cherry picking" as we conveniently gloss over other scriptures which contradictorily present opposite interpretations...Such as D&C 131:6</p>
13	<p>* We discount evidence that contradicts the favorite version we are currently running with. * When faced with contradictions, instead of doing the intellectual work to harmonize them and figure out what is going on...We apply them in a mixed manner, subjectively here and there when we think it is suited to the situation (situational Ethics).</p>
14	<p>These mixed premises result in a mixed emotional roller coaster in our life.</p> <p>Q: So what do many of us do with Mixed Emotions driving us crazy?</p>
15	<p>We have trouble handling the emotional roller coaster, so we suppress the roller coaster with Prescription Drugs.</p>
16	<p>Quote</p>
17	<p>Quote</p>
18	<p>* Personal mixed premises are just part of a much larger, long standing war in Western Civilization itself. We see it especially poignant as it all bubbles up into Politics (Democrat, Republican, Conservative, Liberal...A Primacy of Reality constitution being torn apart by a Primacy of Consciousness "progressive movement"). * Science and Religion at war, Reason and Faith at War, Practical and Moral at War</p> <p>Anim: The individual junk heap of contradictions is just a small scale version of the confused state of our society.</p>

19	<p>* In Summary, God outside the Box requires Two realities for you to try to live at the same time: (1) Religion and Moral existing outside of the box (on Sunday) (2) The practical and logical inside reality with us (for the rest of the week)</p> <p>* "God Inside the Box" is a single reality. Livable on all days of the week...Unless we allow mixing of premises, where Primacy of Consciousness ideas creep into our life without our paying attention.</p> <p>* In this course we have all agreed to become principled thinkers. Knowing what we consistently stand for also tells us what we consistently stand against. Principled thinking means taking a consistent Philosophical and Theological Stand Against Mixed Premises. Being a Principled Thinker means not allowing soul destroying contradictions and inconsistencies into your life. Mixed-Premises is the worst of all worlds.</p> <p>Anim: SCRIPTURE In scriptural language, Revelation 3:15-16 admonishes us to at least be consistent (either hot or cold).</p>
20	Questions? Rating?