ETERNALISM SLIDE NOTES: MODULE_09

SLIDE	NOTES
1	TITLE In the last module, we described the tragedy, and troubled life when harboring mixed premises. Now that we understand what mixed premises are, we will discuss how to identify and eliminate them.
2	APPARENT CONTRADICTIONS How about this scripture? It is riddled with primacy clues that seem contradictory. Does someone want to attempt explaining the apparent contradictions here?
3	Huh? Now what comes first and what comes second again? We will come back to this scripture after we have a chance to learn another tool. To do so, let's return to the simpler Horse and Cart example.
4	Which one (horse or cart) gets Tier1 Status and which Gets Tier2?
	Anim. It depends on your ontological framework. * You may not have realized it at the time when we presented this primacy issue, but at that time we stated our ontological framework as "going to market".
5	Going to Market The horse has primacy. (The Ontological Framework sets up the Ends and Means) * Going to market we are willing to stare at the back- <i>End</i> of the horse as a means of our making a living.
6	AT the Market The Cart has primacy (The Ontological Framework sets up the Ends and Means). * At the market, no one wants to see or smell the END of the horse while they are inspecting and purchasing their vegetables.
7	* The apparent contradiction comes from the same objects in two different Ontological Frameworks. * 3-Tier Thinking better explains what is going on, by marrying the two ontological frameworks together. Anim1: Going to market is the "Beginning of My Work" Anim2: At the market is the "Last of My Work" Anim3: Merging the two ontological frameworks yields "3 tiers" showing correct primacy for all of it. Anim4: Notice the horse appears BOTH as a Tier1 AND as a Tier3Same object DIFFERENT context (or ontology). Primacy order is critical. A similar diagram could be used for our simple shoes and socks example
	* When putting ON shoes and socks (the beginning of my work) the socks have primacy before shoes. * When taking OFF shoes and socks (the end of my work) the shoes have primacy before socks.
8	Now let's return the D&C 29 apparent contradiction from the first of this module. The key to understanding this scripture is recognizing that it is talking about the spiritual and temporal work at TWO DIFFERENT TIMES and in TWO DIFFERENT CONTEXTS.
	Anim1: Here is the 3 tier resolution. God uses three-tier thinking terminology in explaining the spiritual and temporal nature of ALL his creations.
	Anim2: Tier1-2 (at the Beginning of His creation work): In a tier 1-2 sense, all things were created spiritually first before they were created physically in this mortal existence.

Anim3: Tier2-3 (at the Last of His creation work):

Then in a tier 2-3 sense, the Lord is describing his temporal work of salvation where a mortal proving ground was provided. The Work of Salvation means we pass through mortality so our spirits can learn the necessary lessons.

* Spiritual Reward comes after this Temporal testing phase

You will often hear the claim "if everyone would just read the Bible and do what it says, individuals and society would be just fine".

Anim1: Quote Geoffrey Thomas
Anim2: Quote Wayne Grudem

What do you think of this solution to mixed premises?

Didn't they have the Bible for many hundreds of years, even before Joseph Smith?

In practice this is what happens:

Anim3: Quote Joseph Smith

Anim4: Quote Elder George Q. Cannon

We need to understand that it requires something more than the Bible to guide man to Eternal Life...We need the Comprehensive, Systematic, Principled, Coherent and Axiomatic Philosophy of the Restoration.

10 Lao Tzu quote...Let's learn skills that will feed us for a lifetime.

Anim1: Think of the fish as a primacy issue you snag as you go through life.

Anim2: As you work through the issues, you color them Red or Green, and then apply what you learn consistently from then on.

11 Anim1: WHAT: The ones you snag every now and then are the WHAT?

Anim2: SO WHAT: After you figure them out they become the SO WHAT that guide your life.

Anim3: LIFE OR DEATH: Consistently implementing correct principles simplifies your life and progresses you step by step to eternal life.

* Consistently implementing incorrect principles walks you down the path of Everlasting Death.

12 * This is the NOW WHAT tells you which primacy issues to keep and which to throw back.

There's an old English Proverb:

* "A fish rots from the head down"

Other variants:

- * "If the servant is disorderly, it is because the master is so"
- * "When an organization fails, it is the leadership that failed" .

Anim1: In our metaphor, Tier1 issues are the Head from which everything else follows.

Anim2: With regard to primacy, the danger is always Tier1 (the head).

* For Piranhas, that is where the teeth are.

13 Let's practice Fishing skills!

Anim1: Often, confusing emotionally charged issues come up. Don't let the fish (issue) distract you. Instead, concentrate on your skills as a fisherman.

* Ask Two Questions:

Anim2: in Which philosophical branch does the object belong in?

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Which philosophical branch has primacy?

Step by step process:

- (1) Identify parts
- (2) Identify branches of parts
- (3) Properly prioritize

Anim3: For example, take the earlier issue of Christ and the Pharisees conflicting over the Sabbath.

* Follow the steps. In Which branch does man belong?

In Which branch does the Sabbath belong?

Anim4: Man is Metaphysical, Sabbath is Political (Social Convention)

- * Metaphysics has Primacy over all else.
- * Christ's version is "Worship **ON** the Sabbath"...Based on VALUE ETHICS...Politics and Morality based on what is **GOOD FOR YOU**. (which we will learn about in a later module)
- * The Pharisees version is "Worship **OF** the Sabbath"...Based on DUTY ETHICS...Politics and Morality based on rules **THAT ARE INDEPENDENT OF YOU** (which we will learn about in a later module)
- 14 Becoming a defender of the Faith means:

Anim1: Principled thinking means taking a philosophical and theological stand against mixed premises. This means that once we have identified what we stand FOR, we consistently and courageously know what we stand AGAINST.

Anim2: This often means our principled thinking must go against popular opinion.

Anim3: You may have to swim upstream (against the piranhas).

It is true that identifying and eliminating contradictions (mixed premises) can be dangerous especially in theological conversations with others who may have opposite viewpoints. There is only one thing more dangerous than identifying and eliminating contradictions...That is not identifying and eliminating them!

15 Questions? Rating?