

# GRADE SUMMARY

September 30, 2020

Dear: CHRISTOF BUCHERER Degree Program: Ph.D.

Enclosed please find your final grade for the course:

## KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE (CHRISTIAN APOLOGETICS II)

This grade was a result of an average of the following scores:

78 Test Questions

100 Outline

100 Essay

100 Book Report

\_\_\_\_\_ Work Book

\_\_\_\_\_ Thesis

\_\_\_\_\_ Dissertation

Final Grade 91

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Know What You Believe

Outline

Christof Bucherer

Jacksonville Theological Seminary

Doctor of Theology

August 31, 2020

## Know What You Believe

## I. Lesson One

## The Bible

- A. We trust the Bible because it is the word of the LORD
- B. The Bible is opened to us by the Holy Spirit
- C. The Hebrew Bible was composed within 1100 years. The New Testament within 100 years.
- D. The Apocrypha of 12 books are not part of the Bible
- E. Protestants believe the Hebrew Bible of 39 books and the New Testament of 27 books

## II. Lesson Two

## God

- A. God is YEHOVAH. YEHOVAH is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit
- B. God is personal (he hears us when we pray to him)
- C. God is transcendent, immanent, omnipotent, omniscient, eternal, infinite and unchangeable
- D. Jesus Christ revealed God. Jesus Christ is the creator (Hebr. 1:10), forgiver (John 1:29) and eternal King Almighty. (Rev. 11:15; Rev. 1:8)
- E. Without Jesus Christ we would know about God

## III. Lesson Three

## Jesus Christ

- A. Jesus Christ is God and man.
- B. Jesus Christ has the same attributes of God
- C. Jesus Christ was also the LORD (YEHOVAH) of the Old Testament (Hebr. 1:19)
- D. Jesus Christ was creator, is forgiver of sins, healer, supernatural, eternal King and the Almighty God. (Rev 1:8) There is no division between him and his father (John 10:30; 14:9)
- E. God has revealed himself in Jesus Christ (having been made flesh, 1 Tim 3:16; John 1:18)

## IV. Lesson Four

## Jesus Christ's Death

- A. Jesus Christ is God who died for us
- B. Since we men are sinners God died for us as a substitution of our penalty

## Know What You Believe

- C. We need to believe in God's substitution, Jesus Christ on the cross, to be saved
- D. Christ's death is the greatest work of God in history
- E. To live for God we communicate this love of God to others in work, word and prayer

### V. Lesson Five

#### People and Sin

- A. We as people are made by God
- B. Sin came into being by our disobedience
- C. Adam and Eve were the first sinners
- D. In Christ (by asking the Lord Jesus into our lives) we are a new man – 1 Cor 5:17
- E. By the grace of God we can live a new life

### VI. Lesson Six

#### The Holy Spirit

- A. The Holy Spirit is God (Joh 4:24)
- B. The Holy Spirit is sent by the Father and the Son (John 14:16; 16:7)
- C. By the Holy Spirit we are baptized into the church 1 Cor 12:13
- D. There are three passages, which speak about the gifts of the Spirit 1 Cor 12, Rom 12 and Eph 4. The fruit of the Spirit is in Gal 5:22-23.
- E. The laying on of hands is practiced to 1. receive the Holy Spirit, for 2. receiving the ministry (1 Tim 4:14) as well as of 3. praying for the sick (Mar 16:18 "they shall lay hands on the sick")

### VII: Lesson Seven

#### Salvation

- A. Salvation is by the Lord Jesus Christ by grace and truth Joh 1:17
- B. By faith we are righteous. It is not our own act.
- C. As we follow the Lord Jesus, we are sanctified by the Holy Spirit day by day
- D. When we die, we will be glorified and see the Lord Jesus as he is
- E. Calvinism and Arminianism have one same point: we are saved solely by God

### IIX. Lesson Eight

#### Satan, Angels and Demons

- A. Angels are creatures by God

## Know What You Believe

- B. Satan is a fallen angel with his demons
- C. Cherubims have four wings and Seraphim 6 wings
- D. The Archangel Michael (Jude 9) and Gabriel are the names of two angels in the Bible
- E. There were many angels in the time of Jesus earthly ministry

## IX. Lesson Nine

## The Church

- A. The church is a people and not a building
- B. The head of the church is Jesus Christ
- C. The church started at the day of Pentecost, it was predicted by Jesus in Matt 18:16
- D. The church has elders and deacons. Hands are laid on elders, deacons and missionaries
- E. There are three church forms: with 1. Bishops, 2. Presbyters, 3. Congregational, and the two ordinances are believers-baptism and the Lord's supper as a memorial until Jesus returns

## X. Lesson Ten

## Things to Come

- A. Jesus Christ is coming back
- B. Before he comes, the Antichrist will come
- C. There will be a seven year tribulation before the millennium
- D. Some Christians, like me, believe in a "rapture"
- E. The eternal stated if the everlasting life with God or everlasting eternal fire

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Know What You Believe

Essay

Christof Bucherer

Jacksonville Theological Seminary

Doctor of Theology

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## **Know What You Believe**

**By Paul E. Little**

First, the **Bible** is a codex of the Jewish-Christian faith. God had it composed by over 40 people with 1600 years. The Hebrew Bible was translated into Greek after 250 before Christ by 72 Hebrew Scholars in Alexandria, Egypt. The New Testament quotes mostly Greek Bible verses. The New Testament has 32% of Old Testament Scripture quoted. Athanasius made a list of New Testament Scripture in A.D. 367. Archeology confirms Scripture. With checking up words and content we understand much more of it. There are two ways to read Scripture: A.) literal, B.) Allegorical. There are more ways, like poetry and prose, parable and story. There are two verses which help us to see the importance of the inspired word of God: 2 Peter 2:20-21 and 2 Tim 3:16. The Bible is inspired: “plenary”, means fully and “verbally” which means word by word. In the book of Job we have Jehovah (Yehovah) speaking, the devil speaking, Koine Greek the 4 friends of Job speaking and Job speaking. Only when Job speaks, Jehovah speaks also. At Jesus time people spoke a late Hebrew (Aramaic) and the people around in the Roman Empire spoke Koine Greek.

Second, **God** is a personal God who revealed himself in Jesus Christ. By the Holy Spirit we are the Church of Jesus Christ. Unbiblical terms, like “trinity” and that God exists in “three persons” make the worldwide Church godless. The reason is that people pray to the Father in the name of Jesus, when actually in the New Testament we learn to pray to Jesus: John. 20:28; Acts 7:59. 1 Corinthians 1:2, Revelation 7, Revelation 22:20. Since nobody in the English world prays to the Lord Jesus daily, it tells us what A. W. Tozer says: "Among the gospel churches Christ is in fact little more than a beloved symbol ... The Lordship of Jesus is not quite forgotten, but it has been mostly relegated to the hymnal where all responsibility toward it may be

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discharged in a glow of pleasant religious emotion." <sup>i</sup> Since Christians only praise Jesus in their songs and not in their prayer, that fact that Jesus Christ is God YEHOVAH, is not present in the church today. **This is not so in my Church here in Berne, Switzerland.** Here in Berne, Jesus Christ is the only confession of the Church. And our pastors pray to the “**Lord Jesus**” in our Sunday worships. <sup>ii</sup> Since God is Jesus Christ, he has all the attributes of God: transcendent (when he walks through a closed door in John 20), near (through the Holy Spirit), omnipotent, in that he will defeat the antichrist (in Revelation 19), omniscient (in that he could tell, who touched him, when the lady from Tyre was healed, eternal (Dan 7:14; Rev 11:15), infinite (Matt 28:20 I am with you always, even to the end of the age.), unchangeable (the Light in John 1.4-5; Rev 21:23 “The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it.”). God is not only personal but also loving, holy, divine. The extra-biblical word: “trinity” can be explained by “There are not three individuals but *three personal self*” which are **one** God.

Third, **Jesus Christ** is the God I follow and pray to. I pray to him: “Lord Jesus”. (Acts 7:59; Rev 22:20). Jesus Christ is YEHOVAH, who is mentioned 6828 times in the Old Testament. Zech 12:10 says, that those who “pierce me” is repeated in John 19:37 “those who pierce him”. Hebr 1:10 says that he is LORD/YEHOVAH/KYRIOS and God in verse 8 and 9, quoted from Psalm 45. In English I do not find people who pray to the LORD Jesus daily. I do not know why! Since Jesus is the father (John 10:30), we, as Christians, pray to the Lord Jesus. This is also proclaimed in 1. Cor 1:2b “together with all those everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ—their Lord and ours”. Since Christians only pray to one God, then this God is the LORD Jesus. Since as Christians we have formed the Church on the day of Pentecost by the Holy Spirit, we now know that only one name saves us: Jesus. Acts 4:12

Since the Lord’s prayer does not end: “in the name of Jesus. Amen”, we, as Christians must not pray the Lord’s prayer in public. Jesus even tells the disciples in Matt 6, that we should only pray to the father in private (keep our doors locked). But this was a rule in Jewish times, when

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Jesus only served Israel before his death. They fashion, that the Lord's prayer has become a public prayer in some churches, is wrong! Instead of quoting Scripture about Jesus Christ, the Church has started to form *creeds*. In USA almost every church has a creed on their website, despite the rule of Baptists is that they have no creed. So, instead of quoting a creed, I give you Bible passages. I just give you passages of the Textus Receptus version, since the other modern versions are almost all "Alexandrian", like Codex Vaticanus etc.

Fourth, **Jesus Christ's Death** happened in about the year 30 according to the author of this book. Jesus Christ is God who died for us. 1 Tim 3:16 "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, Justified in the Spirit, Seen by angels, Preached among the Gentiles, Believed on in the world, Received up in glory." Jesus Christ was born to a woman. He was the seed of a woman, Mary (Gen 3:15). He lived a sinless life and was offered like a lamb. He died on the cross and rose on the third day. He ascended to heaven, to sit at the right hand of God with his offering as our high priest. Hebr 9:11 "But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation." Our holiness exists only through Jesus Christ: Hebr 10:10 "And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." The sacrifice had to be made by blood: Hebr 9:12 "He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption." He will come to again, to judge the people from the Church age and reign for 1000 years. After that he will judge all people as God of the world. In the New Jerusalem in the new eternal world he will be the Light (God and the Lamb) for all his people. Only people he will forgive will be saved. He said: the last will be the first. There is no reason for the love of God, since it is what God told us by Jesus Christ we believe, as he has told us. So, the New Testament gives the whole explanation. The Hebrew Bible (the

Old Testament) was the Bible at Jesus time. The new church had not New Testament, only the testimony of the Apostles, who had seen Jesus Christ risen from the grave. Without the resurrection of Jesus we would not know, that we live eternally in a new body, which we will get, when Jesus Christ comes back. His death meant suffering, but since he was God, it was in Gods power to suffer, despite Jesus was a human being. 1 Cor 1: 18 “For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.”

Fifth, **People and Sin** came by God’s a) creation and the b) fall of man. Man was made out of dust with the breath of God. John 1:3 says, that the Word has made all things and without him nothing was made, that was made. The Word is God in the flesh of Jesus Christ. Jesus never sinned, but Adam and Eve sinned. Since man has two parts, body and “soul and spirit”<sup>iii</sup>, and because sin meant death, every man has to die. The body turns to dust and the soul/spirit lives on. At the resurrection, God raises some to everlasting bliss and other to everlasting damnation. The seed of Eve is Jesus Christ, who forgave our sin, if we asked him into our lives. “Sin” is not sins (multiples sins). Sin is what is in every man. Even when one becomes a Christian, he has to battle with sin. But by the Spirit of Christ, Christians can overcome sin. Jesus Christ is God. So, by neglecting Jesus in our lives, we neglect God. Pelagians (Pelagianism is a heterodox Christian theological position which holds that the original sin did not taint human nature and that humans have the free will to achieve human perfection without divine grace.) do not believe in “original sin”. They come up with the verse: “The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin.” Deut 24:16 Only through Jesus Christ and our constant communication with him our lives change. This book says that Roman Catholics are semi-Pelagians. But the Roman Church explicitly condemns the errors of the semi-Pelagians.<sup>iv</sup> Augustine taught that sin has reached all men by

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transmission. “Sin is something original, in which all men participate, and which makes them guilty before God.”<sup>v</sup> It is not what we did, but what we **are**. We are born as sinners. Jesus was not the seed of a man but of the Holy Spirit. Mary just **bore him**, but the Holy Spirit said that Jesus will be the Savior and the “Son of God”. Luke 1:35. **As sons and daughters of Adam we are sinners. But Jesus, as the Son of God is God.** Since Adam died, we die. But accepting Jesus as our Lord, we will live (in heaven), even if we die. Rev 3:21 “To the one who is overcomes, I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I was victorious and sat down with my Father on his throne.” As Christians we need to see, that we overcome with the Spirit of Christ. Christ gave us an example and the Holy Spirit helps us to live a sanctified life.

Sixth, the **Holy Spirit** is God. Joh 4:24 As Christians we receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit puts us in the body of Christ; 1 Cor 12.13 we then receive biblical gift. 1 Cor 12, Romans 12 and Eph 4 speak of these gifts. **There are mainly three sections of the baptism of the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts** on a huge amount of people. **1.** On the day of Pentecost, 3000 were baptized with the Holy Spirit into one Church. **2.** To this church were added the Samaritans in Acts 8 and **3.** In Cesarea the nations were added. (fourth would be Ephesus in Acts 19 with laying on of hands, see below) Each step was a point, where first the Jews received the Holy Spirit, then the “added Jews” from Samaria and then the nations. “Samaritans” were Assyrians who were taught the laws of Moses. They came from Mesopotamia. 2 Ki 17:24 “And the king of Assyria brought men from Babylon, and from Cuthah, and from Ava, and from Hamath, and from Sepharvaim, and placed them in the cities of Samaria instead of the children of Israel. 28 Then one of the priests whom they had carried away from Samaria came and dwelled in Bethel, and taught them how they should fear YEHOVAH.” Acts 8:5 “Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ to them. 6 And the people with one accord gave heed to those things which Philip spoke, hearing

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and seeing the miracles which he did. 12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John: 15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Spirit: 16 For as yet he was fallen on none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.” (compare John 4) The Holy Spirit had to be administered in the first early church by “**Peter**”. Matt 16:18 “And I say also to you, that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 And I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” Now the third time, the Holy Spirit was administered to many people was in Cesarea: Acts 10:33 "Immediately therefore I sent to you; and you have well done that you are come. Now therefore are we all here present before God, to hear all things that are commanded you of the Lord. 34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: 35 But in every nation he that fears him, and works righteousness, is accepted with him. 44 While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Spirit fell on all them which heard the word. 45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Nations also was poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit. 47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Spirit as well as we? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ." Note, that in Samaria, water baptism came before the Holy Spirit fell, and in Cesarea water baptism came after the Holy Spirit fell! The Holy Spirit only moves after his own will and was at first only directed by Peter! The falling of the Holy Spirit was always in “tongues” (like an Acts 2 and 10, which was there in Samaria, but it is not mentioned! But “tongues were also in Samaria!”, for the sign of the Spirit in the first church was “tongues”). And Peter had to be present in each of the three

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cases: 1. the Jews, 2. the Samaritans, 3. the Nations. This is, because Jesus said: "But you shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come on you: and you shall be witnesses to me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth." Since Jesus made an order of who will be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and this order is: "Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and to the uttermost part of the earth". An extra account we find in Ephesus: The Holy Spirit did not come on the disciples of Ephesus, because they have not heard of the Holy Spirit, as they were only baptized in the baptism of John the Baptist. Acts 19:6 "And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them; and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied." **First**, the Holy Spirit comes, when "hands are laid on them". Since modern "non-charismatic" Churches don't do this, I do not know if their members are really baptized with the Holy Spirit! (5 Reasons charismatic churches are growing.<sup>vi</sup>) Laying on of hands is very important! There are churches, which forbid laying on of hands, because they believe, that the laying on of hands makes them one with another person: "They say that when you lay hands on someone you're participating in their sins and whatever spirit is in them can transfer to you."<sup>vii</sup> So, the "touching" of another body, makes these people to only hold hands about 10 cm above the head of a person!

**Second**, Mar 16:18 "they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover". Jam 5:14 "Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him (meaning: laying on of hands), anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.". **Third**, An Elder/Bishop is only ordained by laying the hands on him.<sup>viii</sup> 1 Tim 4 teaches that the ministry in the Church is practiced only with the "laying on of hands": 1 Tim 4:14 Neglect not the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with "the laying on of the hands" of the presbytery (all the elders/Bishops). The Holy Spirit make a minister to endure his hardship.

Seventh, **Salvation** (saving our souls) is by the Lord Jesus Christ alone. He has died for our sin. Jesus Christ is the son of God who was Yehovah God before he came on this earth.

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So, the LORD (YEHOVAH) the Father at the same time is also the Son. Since the LORD is also the Spirit of God, they are one God. Christians only pray to one God. So, salvation is by asking the LORD to come into our lives. In Rev 3:20 he says: "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." In Rev 3:21 he says: "To **him that overcomes** will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne." To overcome means "sanctification". Before "sanctification" we have been made "righteous" by the blood of the Lamb at our conversion. I accepted the Lord Jesus when I was 10 years old. You must talk to the Lord Jesus and say: "Dear Lord Jesus, come into my life". This is "faith". Faith is, when we believe and trust in Jesus. When we die, we go to heaven and are "glorified". Eph. 2:8 "For by grace are you saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast." The glorification is described in Rev 19:7 "Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honor to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife has made herself ready. 8 And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Christians in the life are "saints". The word: "saint" = set apart, does not mean, that we have reached heaven. But in Christ we are "saints". Because God looks at Jesus Christ instead of us, we are saved. Jesus Christ offered his own blood and was also the High Priest to bring to offering to God. Hebr 10:10 says: "By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all." This offering has been done and cannot be repeated, as the Roman Catholics believe by their "mass". The Lord's Supper is only a means to remember Jesus Christ until he comes. Baptism is the same confession of faith that we have died with Christ and have gained a new life, by raising out of the water. By sanctifying ourselves, we can remember these two Bible passages: Hebr 10:26 "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remains no more sacrifice for

sins." But verse 39 says: **"But we are not of them who draw back to perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."**

Eighth, **Satan, angles and demons** – Angles are creatures of God. The fallen angles are Satan and demons. Man is made a little lower than the angles. Psalm 8:5 "For you have made him (man) a little lower than the angels. Angles have a male gender. The origin of Satan some find in Isaiah 14:9 "Hell from beneath is moved for you to meet you at your coming... 12 How are you (the king of Babylon) fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!" Ezekiel 28:6 "Because you (Tyros) have set your heart as the heart of God; ... 8 They shall bring you down to the pit. 15 You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, till iniquity was found in you. 17 Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty, you have corrupted your wisdom by reason of your brightness: I will cast you to the ground, I will lay you before kings, that they may behold you." The devil has many names, Satan (going against something), Lucifer, Beelzebub, Bellial, the tempter, the evil one, father of lies, murderer. Demons help Satan. Satan said to God, if Job would be tempted, he would stand against God, which Job did not. Satan was also defeated by Jesus in the desert and at the cross. Angels help single people or peoples groups. Since they transcend people often don't realize, that when they read Scripture, that it was angles who helped. Recently a preacher spoke about about Lazarus and the rich man. He tried to explain the whole story, but he did not notice the angle. The angel bore Lazarus into Abraham's bosom. So, when someone dies, Scriptures about angles will help people to see, that God cares for dead people. Angles stand in front of God for each child. Matt 18:10 "See that you do not look down on any of these little ones. For I tell you that their angels in heaven always see the face of my Father in heaven." Angles can also appear today and in the future. Jesus will judge the nations with his heavenly host, the angles. Rev 19:13 "And he was clothed with a clothing dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him on white

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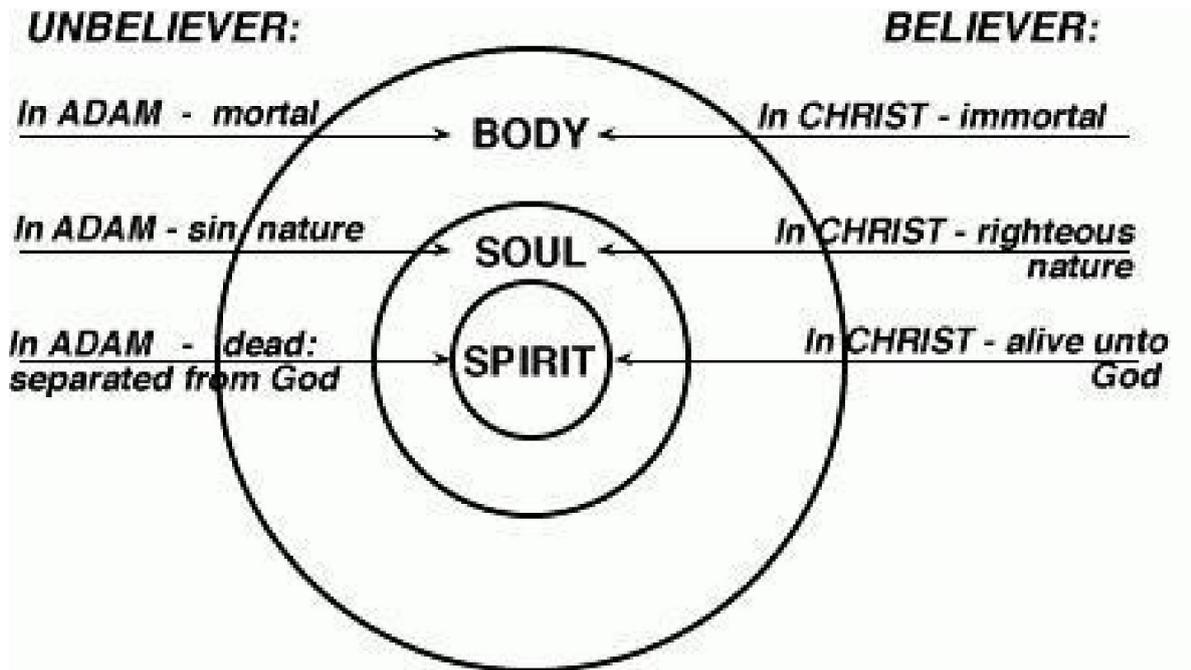
horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.” The Angel of the LORD was not Michael, as the author suggests on p. 154. The Angel of the Lord (YEHOVAH) is YEHOVAH himself: “in a flame of fire out of the middle of a bush”, for he said: “14 "I WILL BE WHO I WILL BE" and 15 "Thus shall you say to the children of Israel, YEHOVAH God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you...". Christians cannot be demon possessed. Satan attacks Christians, but the Holy Spirit possesses Christians. So, they can be demon surrounded.

Ninth, **the Church** is a people and not a building. Jesus Christ is the head of the church. The body of believers in Jesus Christ are *one union*. “For where two or three are assembled in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matt 18:20 The church was promised by Jesus Christ in Matt 16: 18 And I say also to you, That you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my *church*; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. The Greek word is “ekklesia”. It means, the “called out”. It is an “assembly”. As Christians we are *called out* to be children of God. The God we worship is Jesus Christ. Jesus said: “He that has seen me has seen the Father.” John 14:9b Disciples assembled with Jesus. Then in Jerusalem there were 120 who assembled before Pentecost. On the day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit fell on the assembled believers. 3000 accepted the Lord Jesus by repenting, being baptized in His name and being filled with the Holy Spirit. In Acts 4 they were already 5000. They spread fast over the Roman Empire (Pax Romana – relative peace under Roman rule<sup>ix</sup>). Baptism in the name of the “Trinity” (Matt 28:19) is not biblical, since this is not the only time, where Jesus has commissioned the disciples. The word: “trinity” is not biblical and was only created in the third or fourth century. The first church was guided by the Apostles and then seven deacons. Hands were laid on them (seven deacons, starting with Stephen) and also on Barnabas and Paul in Acts 13:1-3. Hands were also laid on Timothy. 1 Tim 4:14 “Neglect not the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.” There are three types of church government: 1. Bishops, 2. Presbyters, 3. Congregational. In the congregational model the congregation elects elders and deacons. One or more than one elder are “teaching elders” = pastors.

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Ordinance of the church are the Lord's Supper and Believers-Baptism. They are a sign of what the Lord Jesus had done. With Baptism: "Or don't you know that all of us who were *baptized into Christ Jesus* were baptized into his death? 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Rom 6:3 As a church body, Christians can use their gifts. They can care for each other, spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ and pray to him. The church is the bride of Christ. Rev 19:7 "Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."

Tenth, **the things to come** are the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, the judgment and the new heaven and the new earth with the New Jerusalem. Jesus said in Matt 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21, that he is coming back. Every Christian awaits this coming. There are various views about his coming. There are millennialists, postmillennialists and a-millennialists. I belong to the millennialists. I do though not believe, that the temple of Ezechieel 40-48 belongs to the millennium, as many believe. Before Jesus comes back there will be a rapture. Some believe that this rapture will be seven years (the seventieth week of Daniel 9:27) before Christ come. Some believe, that the Antichrist will reign and in the middle of it, when he puts his image in the temple to be worshipped (1 Thess 2:3b "and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition 4 Who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God *sits in the temple of God*, showing himself that he is God."); Rev 13:15 "And he had power to give life to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not the *worship the image* of the beast should be killed."). God judges through Jesus Christ every man (Acts 17:31). Pre-millennial people see a division between the first resurrection before the millennium und the second resurrection of all remaining living. There is no soul-sleep. There is only eternal life with God and the Lamb or the lake of fire. The decision, where we will be in eternity, falls in this life. There are Christians who believe in "Christ-like" behavior" of people of all the ages. The reason is, that God is just and Acts 17:30 says: "And the times of this ignorance God winked at". But when we have heard of Jesus, we must believe in him. We must say to Jesus: "Dear Lord Jesus, I recognize that you are God. Please come into my life. Amen."



**Man** – the line between Soul and Spirit should be like: - - - (stroked).

<sup>i</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A. W. Tozer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/A._W._Tozer)

<sup>ii</sup> <http://fegbern.ch>

<sup>iii</sup> [http://buchererpianos.ch/Man\\_Body\\_Soul\\_Spirit.jpg](http://buchererpianos.ch/Man_Body_Soul_Spirit.jpg)

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/library/what-is-semipelagianism-978>

<sup>v</sup> <https://www.monergism.com/transmission-sin>

<sup>vi</sup> <https://careynieuwhof.com/5-reasons-charismatic-churches-are-growing-and-attractual-churches-are-past-peak>

<sup>vii</sup> <https://www.christianforums.com/threads/is-the-laying-on-of-hands-dangerous.7854250>

<sup>viii</sup> [http://buchererpianos.ch/Christof\\_Bucherer\\_Ordination.jpg](http://buchererpianos.ch/Christof_Bucherer_Ordination.jpg)

<sup>ix</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax\\_Romana](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pax_Romana)

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Know What You Believe

**Book Report**

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**Title of Book: "The God Who Is There" by Francis Schaeffer**

## 1. Introduction

### Who wrote the book?

Francis August Schaeffer (January 30, 1912 – May 15, 1984) from USA.

### About the Author

Francis Schaeffer was evangelical theologian, philosopher, and Presbyterian pastor. He was of German and English ancestry. He became a Christian with 17 years of ag. He graduated 1935 from Hampdenä-Sydney College. The same year he married Edith Seville, born in China (1914-2013). Together they had four children. He enrolled at Westminster Theological Seminary. In 1937, Schaeffer transferred to Faith Theological Seminary, graduating in 1938. He served pastorates in Pennsylvania (Grove City and Chester) and St. Louis, Missouri. In 1948, the Schaeffer family moved to Switzerland and in 1955 established the community called L'Abri (French for "the shelter"). Schaeffer was opposed to theological modernism. He wrote many books, taught many people, made movies<sup>i</sup>, was for art and received numerous honorary degrees. In 1954 (age 42), he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Highland College in Long Beach, California. In 1971, he received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree from Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts. In 1983 he received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the Simon Greenleaf School of Law, Anaheim, California in recognition of his apologetic writings and ministry. Schaeffer died of lymphoma on May 15, 1984, in Rochester, Minnesota.

## 2. The Focus of the Book

The focus of the book is how the modern world has declined to believe in God. This has had effects in the culture, in art, the law and worship of God. Many people have therefore left God. The book focusses on: I. The intellectual and cultural climate of the second half

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of the twentieth century, II. The relationship of the new (modern) theology of the intellectual climate, III. How historic Christianity differs from the new theology, IV. Speaking historic Christianity into the twentieth century climate, V. Pre-evangelism is not soft option, VI. Personal and corporate living into the twentieth century climate.

### **What did I learn from the book?**

#### **a) What are the key points of the book?**

### **SECTION I**

## **THE INTELLECTUAL & CULTURAL CLIMATE OF THE SECOND HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY**

### **1 THE GULF IS FIXED**

Dr. Schaeffer thinks that Europe started to brake a "line of despair" in 1890 in Germany, England and in 1935 in USA, giving up all hope of achieving a rational unified answer to knowledge and life. In the end result, Hegel's philosophy produced a **synthesis** as opposed to antithesis which could be arrived at by reason. This happened by starting at Philosophy, then Art, the Music, then General Culture and in the end Theology. Before the Chasm, "Pre-suppositional Apologetics" (Scriptures is used as axiom of their system of self-evident truth as proof. Theologians and philosophers strongly influenced by Dr. Clark include Francis Schaeffer, Carl F. H. Henry, Ronald Nash, Fuller Theological Seminary President Edward J. Carnell, R. C. Sproul and John Robbins of the Trinity Foundation.), would have stopped the decay line of despair of unity and disunity in rationalism tendency towards a uniform culture. It created a new methodology. We live in a fogy world. The non-Christian first supposition was that there were absolutes. They were reasoned together on the classical basis of antithesis. These standards are not rejected, but meaningless. So, there was a "shift". This shift affected the lives of men. The shift also spread geographically. They spread through society, from the real intellectual to the more educated, down to the workers, reaching the middle class last

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of all. This can be seen in the diagram, from philosophy to the theological fashion.

Rationalism and humanism is the unity within non-Christian thought. Above the line of despair were rationalistic optimists. Philosophy stood there prior to our area. Philosophy developed. They departed from the classical model of antithesis. There is a tendency to a **unified culture**. Today's world becomes more unified.

### 2 THE FIRST STEP IN THE LINE OF DESPAIR

The philosophy, Kant and Hegel influenced it. Now not antithesis but **synthesis** dominates the time. Truth is to be sought in the line of a synthesis. Hegel thought that truth could be arrived by reason. The doorway then was Kierkegaard. He believed that everything of real importance will be found by a "leap of faith."

===== Line of Despair =====

He quoted Abraham who had to "sacrifice" Isaac (an existential experience). Now "existentialism" was in. "Philosophy became anti-philosophy." The first man below the line is the existentialism of Jaspers, Sartre and Heidegger. First we look at the secular and then the theological world, considering Karl Barth. The secular are: the Swiss, the French and the German. Karl Jaspers (1883-1969) in Switzerland who taught in Basel. He taught the "final experience". But there is no "final experience"! Actually, it is an "existential" experience. Schaeffer's experience is "a personal relationship with God and on the finished work of Jesus Christ in space-time history." p. 33 In France we have Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980) and Albert Camus (1913-1960). They are left with the "antirational". In Germany it was Martin Heidegger (1889-1976). He became an existentialist by the feeling of "dread". Fear has an object, but dread has none. Then the anti-philosophy of the Anglo-Saxon world, the use of drugs and what "does and does not happen" in these experiences, destroyed the original philosophy. Two main types are "logical positivism" and "defining philosophy". They are not "existentialistic" but they are an "anti-philosophy". p. 35 The American "positivism" has no "data", it is only a "blip" and the discussion about this "positivism" ends. p. 35 It operates by "reason" - it is

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just as much a leap of faith, as is existentialism. Schaeffer is saying after the line of despair, everything is built on a "hypothesis" (my word). "Defining philosophy" is more important in England and USA. Many make a "strong position for optimistic humanism". But what they actually do is: "faith". Also "evolutionary humanism" has the same. It is an assumption. p. 36 Sir Julian Huxley says, it is good, if man has a "religion". But now we must define the "divine". Also by putting our existence on a "assumed god", it is an irrational leap of "faith" again. Aldous Huxley said we should use drugs. The "Tibetan Book of the Dead" suggests that. People destroy themselves using drugs. The wall can be overcome by an "irrational leap of faith". **I would discuss, if not the theological is before the philosophical.** In traditional Christianity this was wo.

### 3 THE SECOND STEP

Is in Art. Van Gogh (1853-1890) committed suicide. Maybe because Gauguin (1846-1903) stole a woman he was interested in. Gauguin, like Van Gogh, tried to form a new religion, which they did not achieve. One of his paintings is: "What? Whence? Wither?"<sup>ii</sup> Cézanne (1839-1906) with "The Bathers"<sup>iii</sup> and Picasso (1881-1973) left off from there. Picasso discussed the works of Cézanne in 1905 and 1907 in Paris. He brought together parts of the noble savage of Gauguin, the geometric form of Cézanne and something of the African masks from Paris from 1906-1911<sup>iv</sup>. These men have reached the point of despair. Picasso's paintings in his older age show his brokenness. Mondrian (1872-1944) Dada (The word "dada" was pieced out of a dictionary and means: "rocking horse"), Marcel Duchamp (1887-1968), and the "Happenings" (a happening is a performance, event, or situation art, usually as performance art).

### 4 THE THIRD & FOURTH STEPS

Music & the general culture of music. Debussy (1862-1918) is the doorway into the field of modern music. Jazz in the thirties and forties was the doorway to modern jazz. Music Concrète is taken apart into nothing. Henry Miller (sexual pornography, man

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becomes a toy) Philosophic Homosexuality (the line of despair has moved from dual sex to homosexuality. It means, man and women are the same: unisex) John Osborne (about drama) Dylan Thomas (modern poem), modern Cinema, the Mass Media (Internet?) and the Beatles (no meaning, sometimes put in religious form). Léopold Sédar Senghor from Senegal, Marxism and Pierre Teilhard de Chardin use both the **dialectical method**.

### 5 THE UNIFYING FACTOR IN THE STEPS OF DESPAIR

Romanticism is dead. Christianity is not romantic but realistic. It says that if there is no truth, there is no hope. That Christ's body cannot be found gives us Christians hope. With an antithesis we have something left to say. "the moment that we accept Jesus Christ we pass from death to life." God exists.

## SECTION II

### THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE NEW THEOLOGY TO THE INTELLECTUAL CLIMATE

#### 1 THE FIFTH STEP:

Departure from biblical Christianity. "Modern existential theology finds its origin in Kierkegaard, as does secular existentialism." p. 65 So, there is a "leap of faith" in theology, too. The system as system is wrong. It has a wrong methodology. Naturalistic liberal theology had formed a new system of uniformity of natural causes as a closed system. They rejected the supernatural of God and Jesus Christ. Now they tried to find a "historical Jesus". If one would subtract the supernatural, there would be no Jesus left. The liberals divided the concept of truth. A third step between reason and meaninglessness has led to modern thought of mysticism with nothing there.

#### 2 MODERN MYSTICISM:

Despair Beyond Despair. Theology and Semantic Mysticism. "Words" give an illusion of communication. Carl Gustav Jung (1875-1961) speaks of a collective unconscious. A

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certain memory of culture is carried on in language. This happens by the use of words and symbols. "Relativity" was a new word Einstein formulated. "God behind God" (Tillich). "...orthodoxy is concerned with the whole man, including the rational and the intellectual, in his relationship to God." p. 75 "The new theology is a jump into an undefinable, irrational, semantic mysticism." p. 76 The Origins of Semantic Mysticism: - Leonardo da Vinci Nature and Grace. Leonardo (a homosexual) never found a unified field of knowledge which included both the universal and the particular. He was not able to. But there is an unbroken line from humanism from Renaissance and modern philosophy. Romanticism never gave up a unity between the upper and lower story. p. 78 Byzantine thinkers were on the heavenly things. "After Thomas Aquinas (1227-1274), men spent much time in seeking the relationship and possible unity of nature and grace." p. 78 Faith is something which we focus on something and not something, which has nothing to focus on. So, Schaeffer asked a man when he went to bed with his wife, if she was just some kind of small universe for him. He said no. But this was his believe, that man is just a universe and there is nothing behind it.

Schaeffer quotes Paul saying that he pointed out to 500 people who saw the resurrected Jesus. So, our Christian faith has this object, in a bodily resurrection of God and man. p. 84

### 3 MODERN MYSTICISM IN ACTION:

Art & Language, the tension of being man: Mysticism in Art - Paul Klee (1879-1940) believed that art is a kind of Quija board. He believed that the universe would push through a painting. For him it is an automatic writing without anybody being there. He and Salvador Dali (1901-1989) brought mysticism in language. Pantheism from the west and east come together. This would form the new mysticism. Salvador Dali painted his wife as "A Basket of Bread". It was a lovely picture of his wife with an open breast and a wedding ring. Then he painted "Christ of Saint John of the Cross" by which he meant the Eucharist, by which he was "jarred" into a modern type of mysticism. He went further

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than Picasso. He made out of the "ordinary" (love) a modern type of mysticism. In "The Sacrament of the Last Supper" one can see Jesus "with the background showing through him; he is a mist. Above him stands a great human figure with arms outspread, its head cut off by the top edge of the picture." "Yaksi" connect vegetable life with man on one side and the complete concept of pantheism on the other. His view was that matter is reduced to energy. So, life has become no meaning. But by "faith" he grasps to some ideas, which have meaning, despite that they have no meaning. So, by grabbing "Christian ideas" and making them relevant, without a "risen Jesus", this "faith" is meaningless. In Martin Heideggers (1889-1976) new thinking he believed that there was a "being", and language would make this being known. So, one "being" would make the next "being" known. So, one ought to listen to the poet, because the poet would bring the universe to the people. Language is now the speaking from an unknown universe.

#### 4 MODERN MYSTICISM IN ACTION:

Mysticism in Music - Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) and John Cage Jr. (1912-1992):

Leonard Bernstein has created modern Kaddish. Art is seen as the one surviving miracle god has left. Jackson Pollock (1912-1956) put his canvases horizontally on the floor and dripped paint on them by chance. After doing this for some time, he felt he had exhausted the chance method. He committed suicide. With Cage there is nobody out there in the universe to speak. The music means nothing, because it is pure chance. Cage stopped collecting mushrooms because they would eventually kill him. So, chance was not practical with mushrooms.

Mysticism in Literature - Henry Miller (1891-1980). Miller had succeeded in murdering everything which is meaningful, including sexual things. Poesy and art become more the truth than religion. This new mysticism are pantheistic cycles. There is no individual man. Miller uses biblical terms and phrases. "It uses Christian symbols to give an illusion of meaning to an impersonal world which has no real place for man." p. 97

## 5 THE NEXT PHASE OF MODERN THEOLOGY

God is dead - or almost so! Paul Tillich (1886-1965), before he died, he was asked, if he ever prayed. And he said, "No, but I meditate." The atheist theologians use Jesus Christ as "the man for others". But he is not God to them. So, on every story there is a "mist" and nothing anymore! They are either atheists or pantheists. Bishop Robinson writes that God is transcendental. He says man is also transcendental. This equals "non-transcendental". A quest by the upper-story men today's opportunity for the New Theology. Modern theologians "manipulate biblical language as a help towards present existential experience." p. 103 Historic Christianity is now a minority group. Contrary to the teachings of Christ modern theologians bring in the "new" morality.

## SECTION III

### HOW HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY DIFFERS FROM THE NEW THEOLOGY

#### 1 PERSONALITY OR A DEVILISH DIN

Systematic theology used to have the flow of related statements. Modern theology has no adequate basis "upon which to give answers which will stand up to the test of rationality and the whole of life as we must live it." Basic Christianity has "a God who is a personal on the high order of Trinity related all else." This Trinitarian God created man in his own image. Man "is the image of this kind of God, and so personality is intrinsic to his makeup. God is personal and man is also personal." p. 111 If there is no God, then "men is left with personality coming from the impersonal (plus time, plus chance)". p. 112 If this is the case, "man's personality is no more than an illusion". Sir Julian Huxley as an atheist concludes that man is better off with a "God". The logical end of denying personality.

#### 2 VERIFIABLE FACTS & KNOWING

"God has spoken, in a linguistic propositional form, truth concerning himself and truth

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concerning man, history and the universe." p. 116 Since God is a personal God, he treats man as personal, since they have been made in his image. There is a true relationship between him and man, and also between man and man. All things are created under man. There is a chasm between man, animals, plants and machines. Whereas in the view of an infinite god, there is a chasm between this idea and man, animals, plants and machines. Human personalities are created finite but not because they are personal. Divine and human communication love is more than a word. Because man is a person, God had to become man in his son to save him. God who has created man communicates the truth about himself. "...when God wrote the Ten Commandments on stone or Jesus spoke to Paul on the Damascus road in Hebrew language, a real language was used..." p. 120 Because we can communicate between man, we must understand, that God can also communicate to us. Because of the Trinity which existed before the world, we know love existed. Because God also loves man, there is also love between men (since we were created in God's image). So, as humans we do not understand the depth of the love in God. "Love" with God exists in the love between the Father and the Son. Love has therefore existed since eternity. (C. S. Lewis says that same). The modern theology give no facts for love. "Christianity and the new theology have no relationship except the use of a common terminology with different meanings." p. 123

### 3 THE DILEMMA OF MAN

#### The Scandal of the Cross Historic Christianity and Man's Dilemma

Man has a great "dilemma" today. "Personality" and "knowledge" disagree between Christianity and the new theology. Modern theology describes Christ's cross not "in history" but in "agony". The French art historian and poet, Charles Baudelaire (1821-1867): "If there is a God, he is the Devil." p. 125 In Albert Camus's book, "The Plague" "he confronts the reader with a serious choice: either he must join the doctor and fight the plague, in which case, says Camus, he will then also be fighting God; or he can join with the priest and not fight the plague, and thus be an antihumanitarian." (see the Corona-

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Virus!) p. 126

The new theology says: "God is the Devil". (as Baudelaire) Now they say because "God is good" they act by a blind faith and call it the "scandal of the cross". But God is not against reason! In every generation people start a rebellion against God. You can preach as long as you want. So, there is no guilt in modern theology, but only "guilt feelings".

So, the death of Christ on the cross takes an entirely different meaning. Modern theology forms now two things: either a "sociological motivation" or a means for "psychological integration" in both ways using "religious words". The manipulators control the "words". There are "guilt-feelings" without "guilt". p. 127

The modern theology has no place for an "antithesis". "We must beware of evangelistic enterprises which force us into a position of accepting the new theology as a Christian."

p. 127 Modern theology has no place for a "moral problem". They say, all is only "metaphysical". They have either an "implicit or explicit" universalism regarding salvation. No one is finally condemned or justified.

I believe, this means, in the modern institutions worldwide which teach theology, they have no theological system. The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) has no basement of faith. Dallas Theological Seminary, Fuller Theological Seminary and Princeton Theological Seminary all stick to ATS and have totally different confessions of faith. Since ATS does not require a "confession of faith", these seminaries can all teach what they want. My seminary (Luther Rice), where I did my two masters, is with TRACS, which has a definite confession of faith! Luther Rice is about 3 1/2 times as big as Princeton Theological Seminary. But famous is only Princeton, despite that they educate atheists, like: Bart D. Ehrman<sup>v</sup>. So, also we in Switzerland and Germany have pastors, which are practically all "universalists". They have to hold "burial services" all the time, and preach those souls all into heaven, even if these people never went to church.

For the historic Christian, man's dilemma has a moral cause. The modern theology

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teaches that God created man as a non-determined person, either by chemical or psychological factors. p. 129 Dr. Sigmund Freud has been very influential through his sex-philosophy. Man is a machine and has been influenced. So, man is not responsible for his "drive". But Christianity says that man has a moral guilt. If you take away the first three chapters of the Bible, you have no Christian answer nor give a Christian position.

### 4 GOD'S ANSWER TO MAN'S DILEMMA

The moral commands of God are an expression of his character. Man has to live by choice on the basis of what God is. p. 130 Those things which do not conform are immoral. Man, in the modern thinking is reduced to less than the biblical concept of guilty man. There is a solution from God's side. Jesus died in space and time. There is an "expiation (payment), in propiation (the act of appeasing God) and substitution (act of replacement)" p. 131. The guilt is "finished" as Jesus said: "it is finished". Rom 3:36 "To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believes in Jesus." God communicates what things match up. They are like parts of a book coming together.

### 5 HOW DO WE KNOW IT IS TRUE?

The nature of proof is the illustrations of a book. Schaeffer suggests that scientific proof, philosophical proof and religious proof follow the same rules. First we must have a theory which is non-contradictory.

We must be able to live after this theory.

1. Theory: "the impersonal plus time plus chance produce a personal man." (impossible!)
2. Theory: "man is not personal, but dead; that he is in reality a machine, and therefore personality is an illusion."
3. Theory: "that man in the future will find a reasonable answer."
4. Theory: "that the scientific theory of relativity may in the future prove to be a sufficient answer for human life."

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All these theories are invalid. p. 138 There may be other answers.

Only the solution which **"the Bible gives answers the problem of the universe and man."** p. 139

Romans 1 says "that the existence of the external universe and its form and the "mannishness" of man demonstrate the truth of the historic Christian position."

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse." Romans 1:18-20

"Rationality is needed to form a vital relationship with God." p. 139

Figure of speech needs to be in relation to a rational context. By giving people a right response, some of them will find the right way. God communicates what things match up. They are like parts of a book coming together.

## SECTION IV

### SPEAKING HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY INTO THE TWENTIETH - CENTURY CLIMATE

#### 1 FINDING THE POINT OF TENSION

Communicating to one of my kind logical conclusions torn by two consistencies. We have to speak to persons because Jesus Christ teaches us to love them. It opens to temptations and pressure. Carl Gustav Jung has correctly observed that two things cut across every man's will - the external world with its structure, and those things which well up from inside of himself. "Every person is somewhere along the line between the real world and the logical conclusion of his or her non-Christian presuppositions." p. 148 It is

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like a balance act. Camus is nearer to "The real world - the external world and man himself" and Sartre to "the logical conclusion of a man's non-Christian presuppositions." "When a man says he is a machine or nothing, he makes himself less than the Bible's view of fallen man." p. 151 (I had an experience at "All Nations Christian College". We had some people coming to the college to tell us about "abortion". They said an embryo is nothing. So, we can abort it until the ninth month, because it is only a "vegetable". I was very upset about these people and I opposed.)

### 2 FROM THE POINT OF TENSION TO THE GOSPEL

"In practice you will find a place where you can talk." p. 151 We need to bring the gospel to people. We must read the Bible every day to know our Christian position for talking to non-Christians. (I do it every day on facebook)

### 3 APPLYING THE GOSPEL

Christianity is truth. This is the reason to spread the gospel. We must first bring "God is there" (title of the book) before we say: "accept Christ as Savior". We must not change the teaching but the approach how to communicate.

First we need to teach God and then man's morals, man's dilemma. The Philippian jailer asked: "What must I do to be saved?" Answer: "believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your house." The basis of faith is "the work of Jesus Christ". The solution is from God's side.

Four points:

1. Do you believe God exists
2. Do you acknowledge your guilt
3. Do you believe, Jesus died for your sins
4. Cast yourself on this promise.

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When a person has become a Christian, four things will help him:

1. Regular Bible study,
2. Regular prayer,
3. Talk to others about God's solution,
4. Regular attendance at the church where the Bible is believed.

### SECTION V

#### PRE - EVANGELISM IS NO SOFT OPTION

##### 1 COMMENDING THE CHRISTIAN FAITH TO OUR GENERATION

Defense of the Faith Communication of the Faith

There are two purposes: A) Defense, b) Communication.

A) In Defense, answers must be given to a particular generation. Children often do not get the real answers. So, we must train them.

B) About communication we must be in contact with the present generation. It is our effort that new generations convert to Jesus Christ. As Christians we tell proven things. Knowledge preceded faith. Our knowledge is in proven history and this history is written in the Bible. Our faith is based on this knowledge.

##### 2 THE IMPORTANCE OF TRUTH

Truth Stands Before Conversion Truth and Spirituality

Before evangelism there must be pre-evangelism. A "spirituals experience" must be based on truth. We start by "what is there" and who is "He". So, now "conversion" comes. It is an individual decision of every person to accept Jesus Christ. Since God is there, we have found the importance of faith. So, orthodoxy or the Bible are not God. First we need the justification of our faith in God. Then we need to communicate with him from moment-by-moment.

The God Behind Truth

God is there in opposition to modern theology. We must also reflect ourselves as man,

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who can have a relationship with God. Then we must ask: “What is the purpose of man?”.

Jesus says: “Love YEHOVAH your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength.” (וְאָהַבְתָּ אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכָל לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ.)

The first word is “love”. God and man can love. This gives meaning to our lives.

## SECTION VI

### PERSONAL & CORPORATE LIVING INTO THE TWENTIETH - CENTURY

#### CLIMATE

##### 1 DEMONSTRATING THE CHARACTER OF GOD

###### Salvation Does Not End with the Individual

As Christians we should also look at corporate relationships. Through sin, man was separated from God, from himself, from other men and from nature. Jesus Christ brings healings in all these fields. Man is justified by salvation in Jesus Christ. Schaeffer writes: “God as judge declares that his guilt is gone”. p. 182 Schaeffer sees Jesus only a savior and not as the judge. Read John 5, 22 “Moreover, the Father judges no one, but has entrusted all judgment to the Son.” He does not see, that Jesus is YEHOVAH God (Zech 12:10). People may see no perfection in us but reality in the society. In our relationships other people should see healing.

###### The Visible Quality Realism in Exhibition

Our lives should be godly, since we know God. They may not be perfect, but God has justified us and therefore we can love ourselves and others.

###### Personality Is Central

Through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, we have communion with God. “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit is with us all.” 2 Cor 13:14

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### 2 THE LEGAL, BUT NOT ONLY THE LEGAL

#### Human People in Our Culture

The church should be the place of a relationship between Christians, as marriage should be the relationship between man and women. Conversion is the beginning. But living an existential relationship with God is very important. And then “Love your neighbor as yourself”<sup>vii</sup>. People should say about us: “these are human people”. p. 191.

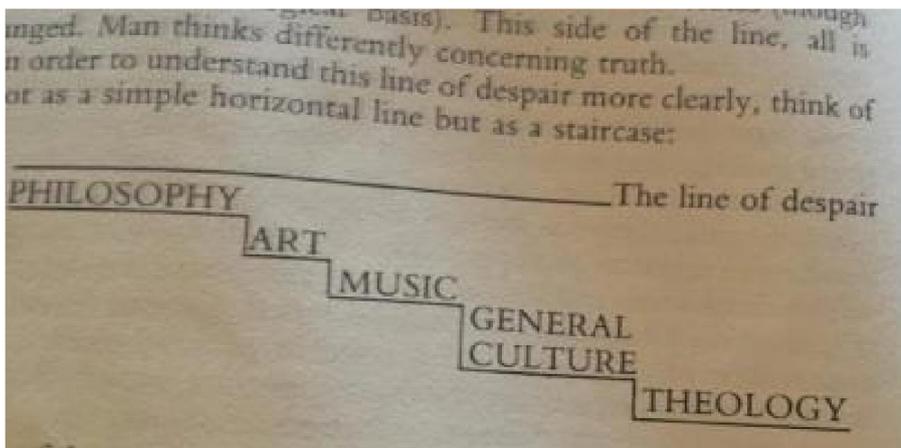
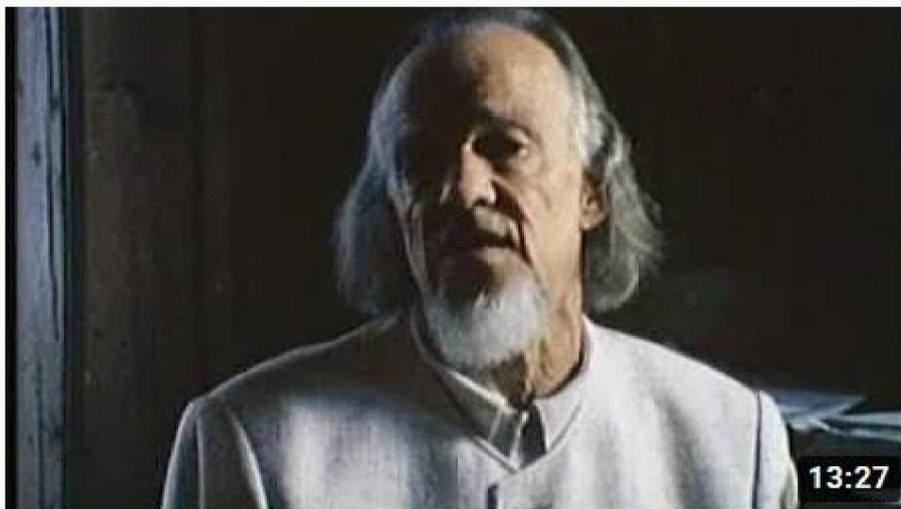
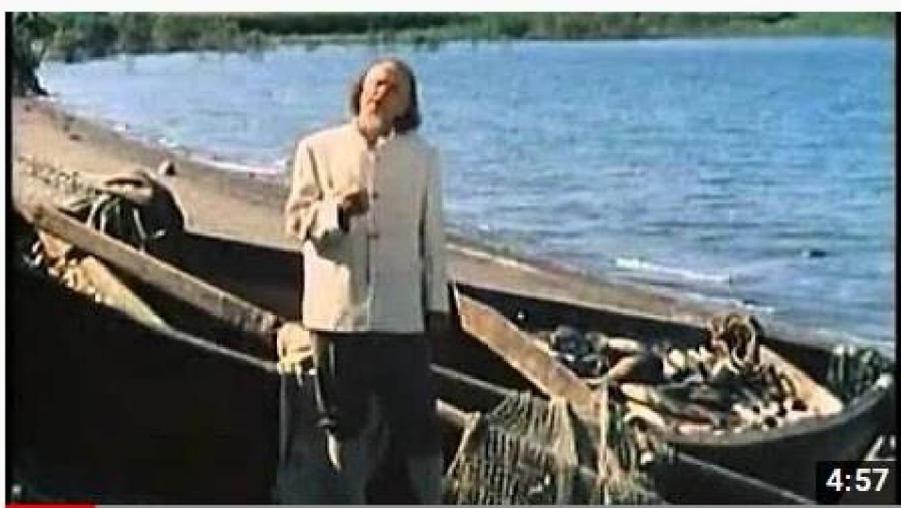
#### **b) What do I take away from the book?**

It is a book I wanted to read more exactly my whole life. I only knew about the beginning of the book, about Kant, Hegel and Kierkegaard and knew the overview of it. I knew about the line of despair and that it affected modern theology, philosophy, art, music and society. I knew that the book is serious about God, Jesus and the Bible. So, what I read now, confirms what I have been thinking. I do not think that I ever missed the points of this book. So, it is just a confirmation. It also speaks about confessing Jesus Christ. The father and Jesus Christ are a bit to separate for me in this book. Jesus said, “He who has seen me has seen the Father.” John 14:9

#### **3. How does the book relate to the course of my program?**

This book speaks mainly about God, man and Jesus Christ. Bible, Salvation, and Church are also mentioned. The emphasis is about God and “a god”. Modern man believes in “a god”. Prayer has become “meditating”. It shows the line of despair from theology over philosophy, art, music, drugs to meaninglessness. It is not a book about “dogmas” in the orthodox faith, starting with the Bible, God, Trinity, Jesus Christ, Holy Spirit, Man, Salvation, Church and Last Things. Last Things are not touched upon. Also baptism and the Lord’s Supper is not mentioned, as well as the structure of a church. But it touches on God, Jesus Christ, man, society and it’s functioning. It does not politicize by emphasizing on a particular party. But it is against communism.

The God Who Is There



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<sup>i</sup> [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caRzih0W1nY&list=PLxHkdEXvO\\_4zve-cE7r3tOhmr26z2aNbu](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caRzih0W1nY&list=PLxHkdEXvO_4zve-cE7r3tOhmr26z2aNbu)

<sup>ii</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Where\\_Do\\_We\\_Come\\_From%3F\\_What\\_Are\\_We%3F\\_Where\\_Are\\_We\\_Going%3F#/media/File:Paul\\_Gauguin\\_-\\_D'ou\\_venons-nous.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Where_Do_We_Come_From%3F_What_Are_We%3F_Where_Are_We_Going%3F#/media/File:Paul_Gauguin_-_D'ou_venons-nous.jpg)

<sup>iii</sup>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Bathers\\_\(C%C3%A9zanne\)#/media/File:Paul\\_C%C3%A9zanne,\\_French\\_-\\_The\\_Large\\_Bathers\\_-\\_Google\\_Art\\_Project.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Bathers_(C%C3%A9zanne)#/media/File:Paul_C%C3%A9zanne,_French_-_The_Large_Bathers_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg)

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.moma.org/collection/works/79766>

<sup>v</sup> <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qQ-KqL9qN-w>

<sup>vi</sup> [http://www.daat.ac.il/daat/olam\\_hatanah/perekT.asp?sefer=5&perek=6](http://www.daat.ac.il/daat/olam_hatanah/perekT.asp?sefer=5&perek=6)

<sup>vii</sup> <https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Leviticus+19%3A18&version=NKJV>