

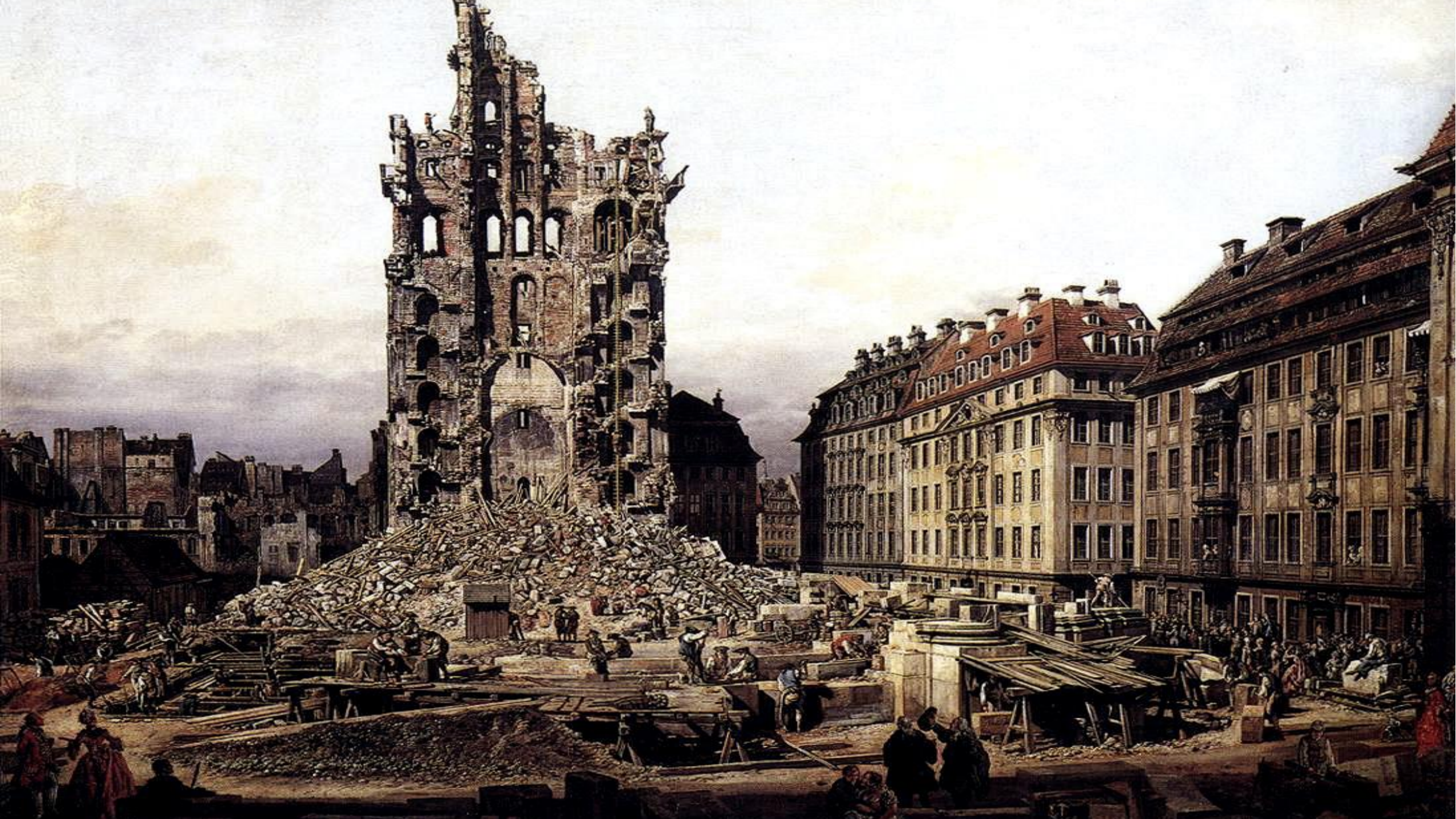


STANDFAST

Christ & Culture

TEACHING AND DISCUSSION SERIES

with GEORGE GRANT





“Faithfulness is a virtue rarely produced in a state of calm, unruffled repose. It flourishes in adversity. It kindles in the hour of danger and rises to deeds of renown.”

THOMAS CHALMERS



STANDFAST

Christ & Culture

THE STRATEGY OF THE ROBES
& SUDDEN ONSET SYNDROME

with GEORGE GRANT



STANDFAST

Christ & Culture

AMUSING OURSELVES TO DEATH:
ORWELLIAN & HUSLEYAN THINKING

with GEORGE GRANT



STANDFAST

Christ & Culture

HOW SHOULD WE
THEN LIVE?

with GEORGE GRANT



RESISTANCE:

“Do not be conformed to this world.”

REFORMATION:

*“But be transformed by the renewing of your minds
so that you may be able to prove what the will of God is,
that which is good and acceptable and perfect.”*



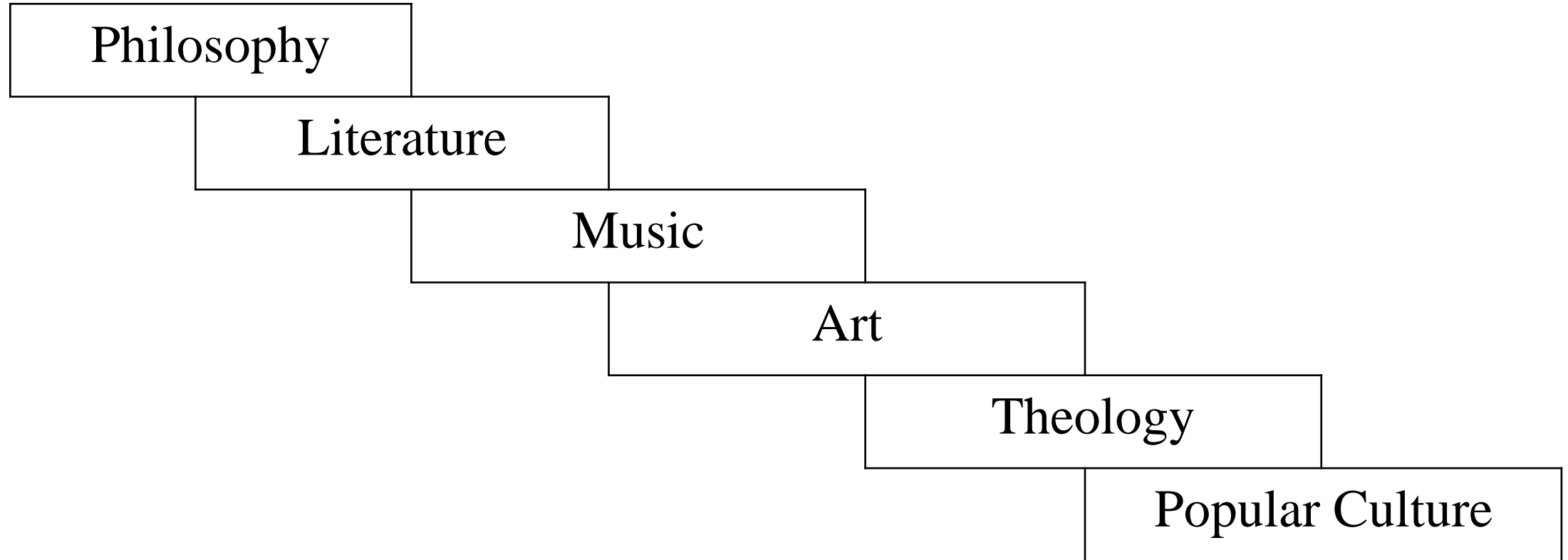
“Pontius Pilate’s question, ‘What is truth?’ is everywhere on the lips of relativists who do not believe there exists a principle which affords certainty for any kind of knowledge, factual or ethical. Descent into irrationality and idolatry is thus unavoidable.” Herbert Schlossberg

“In a society in which idolatry runs rampant, a church that is not iconoclastic is a travesty. If it is not against the idols it is with them.”

Herbert Schlossberg

“Because it lacks the element of outrage, the modern church needs to be reminded that, if her life and institutions are being strangled by a dying culture, then she is choking on the very truths which she has herself betrayed.” Os Guinness

Schaeffer's Cultural Progression



From Francis Schaeffer, *The God Who Is There* (1968)

Revolutionary Failures

Jacobin Revolution: Paris and Marseilles 1789-1798
Saxon Peasants Revolt: Dresden and Leipzig 1790
Serbian Revolution: Belgrade 1804-1811
Decembrist Revolt: St. Petersburg 1825
The July Revolution: Orleans and Paris 1830
Communist International Revolutions: 1848
Garibaldi Insurgency: Rome and Naples 1859
The Paris Commune: Tours and Paris 1871

Revolutionary Failures

Easter Rising: Ireland 1916

Bolshevik Coup: St. Petersburg 1917

German Revolution: Berlin 1918

Hungarian Soviet Republic: Budapest 1919

Bavarian Soviet Republic: Munich 1919

Livorno Syndicalist Revolt: Tuscany 1919

Avanti Directorate: Lombardy 1920

Mongolian Revolution: Ulan Bator 1921

Beer Hall Putsch: Munich 1923



Cultural Hegemony: The Strategy of the Robes

“By the Victorian Age, modernist conspirators focused their efforts on capturing the cultural robes.”

Carroll Quigley

Darwinian-Freudian-Marxism

Friedrich Nietzsche	1844-1900: German Classicist and Philosopher
	Dionysian v. Apollinarian Culture
	<i>Ubermensch</i> and the Will to Power”
Max Mueller	1823–1900: German Philologist
	Comparative Religion and Biblical Criticism
	New Age Spiritualism: Science of Thought
Sigmund Freud	1856-1934: Austrian Neuropathologist
	<i>Id, Ego, Super Ego</i> , and Psychoanalysis
	Oedipus Complex and Wish Fulfillment



The Frankfurt School

“The Revolution will not happen with guns, rather it will happen incrementally, year by year. We will infiltrate their schools and bureaucracies, transforming them into Marxist entities as we move toward universal egalitarianism.” Max Horkheimer

“Cultural hegemony necessitates enforced repressive toleration.” Herbert Marcuse

The Frankfurt School

Frankfurt Institute for Social Research	Failed German and Bavarian Revolutions: 1919
	Carl Grünberg and Felix Weil
	Goethe University Frankfurt: 1923
	<i>Staatliches Bauhaus</i> : 1924
Rival Socialisms	German Workers Party: 1919
	National Socialist German Workers Party: 1920
	Anti-Semitism and Nazism: 1933
Columbia University	John Dewey: 1859-1952
	Wilhelm Reich: 1897-1957
	Herbert Marcuse: 1898-1979

Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937)

“I hate the indifferent. I believe that living necessarily means taking sides. Indifference and apathy are but parasitism and perversion. And thus, indifference is the deadweight of history.”

“The old world is dying, the new world struggles to be born: now is the time of monsters.”

“I am a pessimist because of intelligence, but I am an optimist because of will.”



“War is the continuation of politics by other means.” Carl von Clausewitz

“Politics is the continuation of war by other means.” Saul Alinski

“War and politics are continuations of culture by various means.” Antonio Gramsci



Gramsci's Cultural Hegemony

Turin and Venato	Sardinia to Turin: 1911
	Italian Socialist Party: 1913
	Break with Economic Determinism: 1918
Moscow	Third International <i>ComIntern</i> : 1919
	Avanti Directorate: 1920
	Stalin and Trotsky: 1926
Arrest and Detention	Mussolini's Suppression of Rivals: 1926
	<i>Prison Diaries</i> : 1935
	Joseph Buttigieg: 1992-2007

Cultural Hegemony: Capturing the Robes

Academic	Appearance of Intellectual Heft
	Scientific Reputation
	Mentoring the Generations
Judicial	Established Legal Precedent
	Governmental Force
	Legislation of Morality
Ecclesiastical	Moral High Ground
	Transformation of Virtue and Vice
	Marginalization of the Church



The Bloomsbury Group

“The men and women of the Bloomsbury Group, in undertaking to undermine Christianity, utilized essentially Christian means to do so.” Hilaire Belloc

The Bloomsbury Group

“Lytton Strachey’s great ambition was to puncture the absurdity of a smothering Christian influence in society” John Maynard Keynes

The Bloomsbury Group First Begins Meeting: 1906

Leonard and Virginia Woolf launch Hogarth Press: 1917

Community

Unity of Vision; Diversity of Calling

Evangelization and Discipleship

Fellowship and Accountability

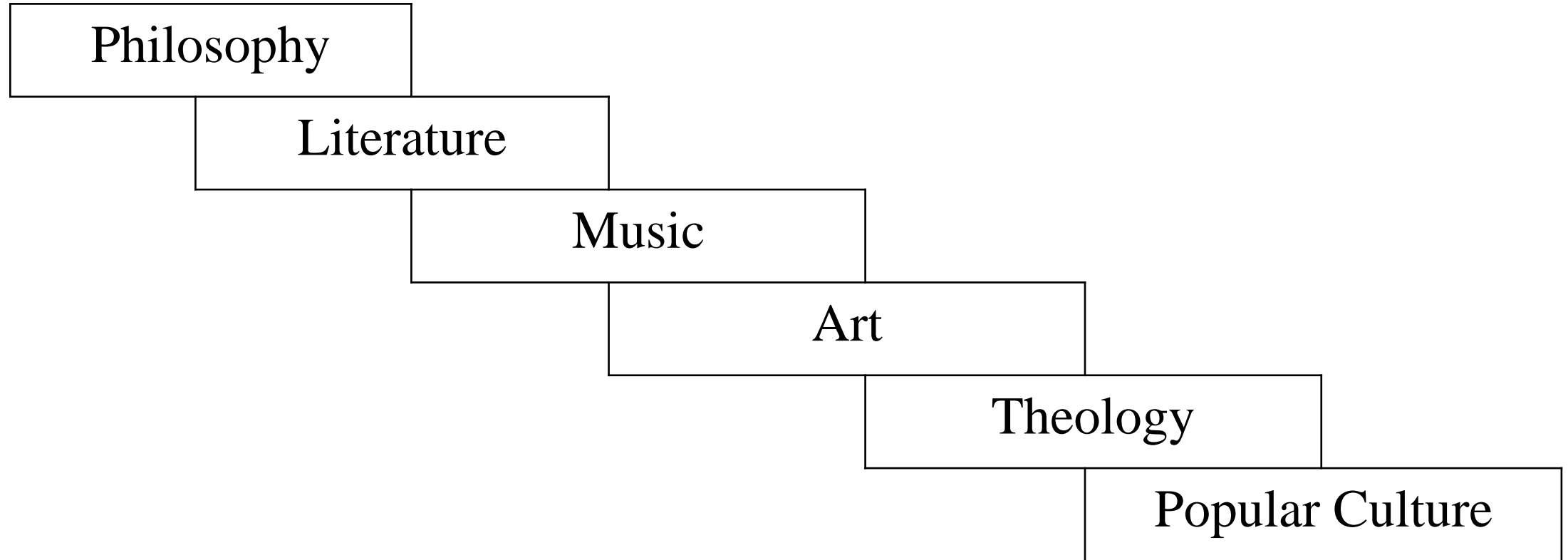
Strategy

Capture the Centers of Influence

Utilize the Mediating Institutions

Maintain Singleness of Message

Schaeffer's Cultural Progression



From Francis Schaeffer, *The God Who Is There* (1968)

Ideas

Have

Consequences

***Worldviews
Matter***

Culture

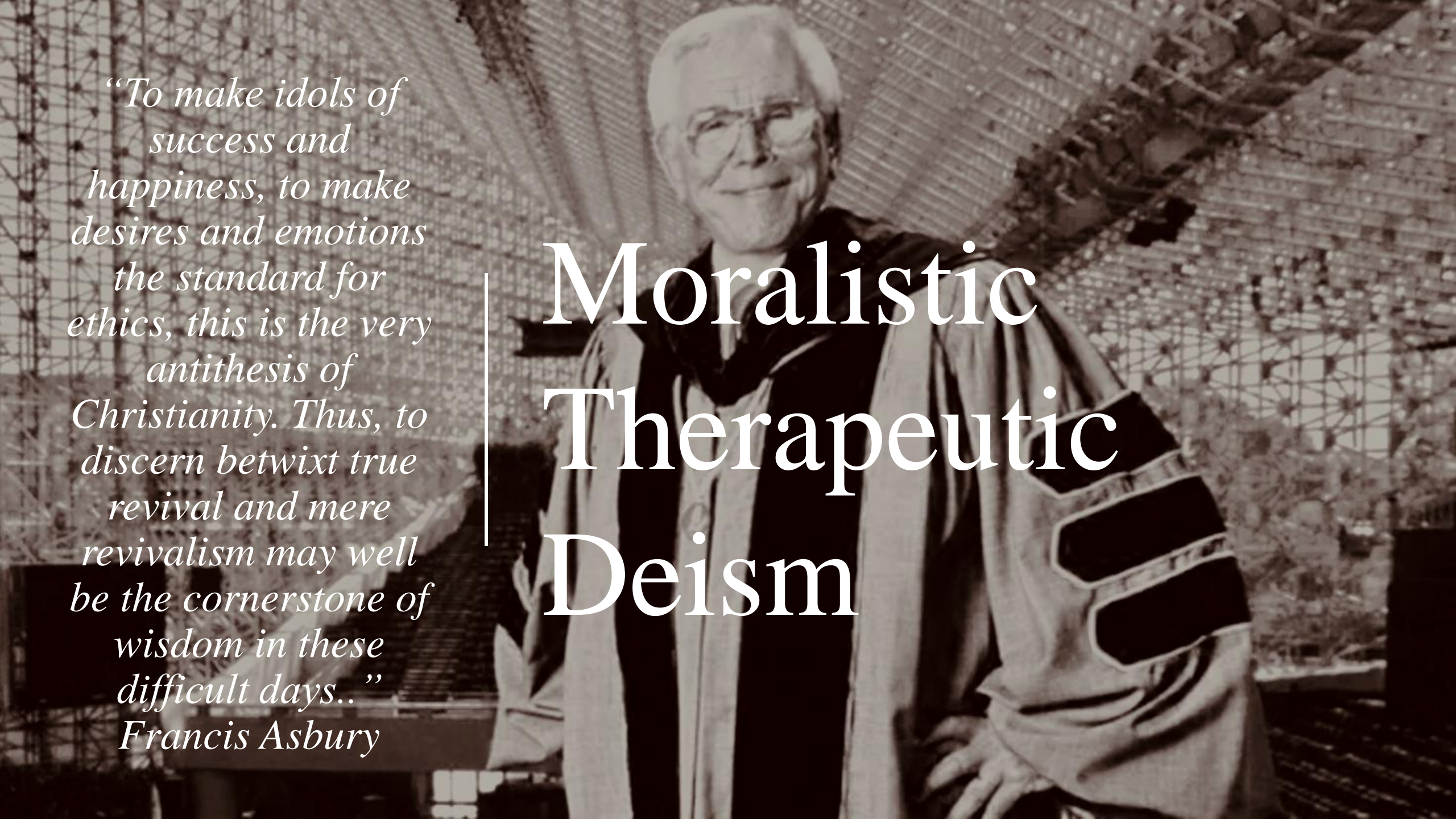
Is Religion

Externalized

“In a society in which idolatry runs rampant, a church that is not iconoclastic is a travesty. If it is not against the idols it is with them.”

Herbert Schlossberg

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*“To make idols of
success and
happiness, to make
desires and emotions
the standard for
ethics, this is the very
antithesis of
Christianity. Thus, to
discern betwixt true
revival and mere
revivalism may well
be the cornerstone of
wisdom in these
difficult days..”
Francis Asbury*

Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

Modernist v. Fundamentalist Crisis

Social Progressives	Sojourner Truth (1797-1883)
	Jacob Riis (1848-1914)
	Jane Addams (1860-1935)
Modernists	Walter Rauschenbusch (1861-1918)
	Washington Gladden (1836-1918)
	Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933)
Reformers	Thomas Chalmers (1780-1847)
	B.B. Warfield (1851-1921)
	J. Gresham Machen (1881-1937)
Testimony Publishing	The Stewarts, Dixon, and Machen

Principles of the Social Gospel

Jesus was epistemologically, not ontologically unique.

His value lies in His social and ethical teachings.

Sin is primarily selfishness, to be overcome ethically.

Man is basically good and perfectible.

Men of goodwill can establish the Kingdom of God.

Reason and science are reliable sources of truth.

Darwinism has an inevitable social dimension.

The Bible is a human product.

All the great religions are morally equivalent.

Principles of Moralistic Therapeutic Deism

There is a God who created and ordered our world.

God is love and cares for us and our world.

God wants us to be loving, nice, and tolerant, as taught in the Bible (and by all major religions).

Anything else is hateful. Hate is the only sin.

God wants us to be happy and to feel good about ourselves.

What is right and true for you may not be what is right and true for me.

Good people are spiritual, but not necessarily religious.

God doesn't need to be particularly involved in our lives except during times of difficulty or crisis.

Good people go to heaven when they die.

“To try to improve society is not worldliness but love. To wash one’s hands of society is not love but worldliness.” Fred Catherwood

“It is often asserted that the church needs a social strategy. But the church is a social strategy. The great dilemma of our day is that the church has left off actually being the church.” J.I. Packer

Lessons from the SG and MTD

- “Christian ideas” are not always altogether Christian which is why “Sola Scriptura” remains an essential truth for the Church to teach and practice.
- Just because a position is advocated for Christian reasons, by Christians, for Christians, in a great Christian cause, does not necessarily make it a Christian position.
- The right things done in the wrong ways will almost always end in disaster.
- The ordinary means of grace are the most powerful caveats to the idolatrous worldviews of Modernity.

Principles of the Biblical Gospel

“All Scripture” is inspired, or “God-breathed.”

It is useful or “profitable” for teaching.

It is useful or “profitable” for rebuking or reproof.

It is useful or “profitable” for correcting.

It is useful or “profitable” for training in righteousness.

Thus, believers may be “thoroughly equipped.”

And thus, it is sufficient to facilitate “all good works.”

This is to be taught and entrusted to all faithful believers.

(2 Timothy 2:2; 3:16-17)



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“Hope in the Scriptures always is a confident expectation; the word hope never carries even the connotation of uncertainty that adheres to our English term—as when we say cautiously, ‘I hope so.’ There is no ‘hope so’ about the Biblical promises.”

JAY ADAMS



RECOMMENDED READING

Carl Trueman, *Strange New World*, Crossway, 2022

Voddie Baucham, *Fault Lines*, Salem Books, 2021

C.S. Lewis, *The Abolition of Man*, Harper One, 1943, 2001

J. Gresham Machen, *Christianity and Liberalism*,
Eerdmans, 1923, 2009

Nancy Pearcey, *Love Thy Body*, Baker Books, 2019

Paul Johnson, *Intellectuals: From Marx and Tolstoy to Sartre and Chomsky*,
Harper Collins, 1989