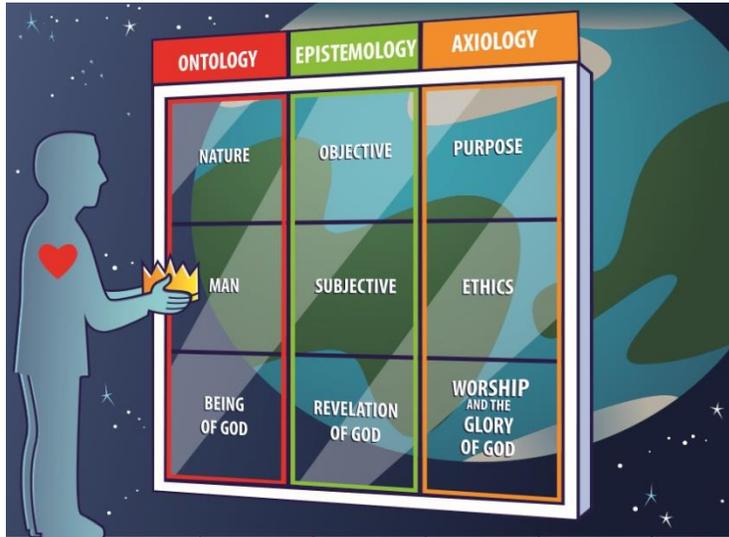


Thinking Upstream

J Term Summer Class - 2019
Pastor Dodds – Class 3 – Authority



I. Review

II. The Source of the Standards

a. Two options

i. G _____

ii. M _____

III. Authority

a. Description

i. **The intrinsic, assumed or delegated right to create and/or enforce standards.**

Thinking Upstream

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IV. This is the Core Issue in Apologetics...

- a. ...(man's) own ultimacy is the most basic presupposition of his entire philosophy. (Van Til)
- b. Apologetics is at base an intellectual conflict over ultimate authorities for knowing and living. (Bahnsen)
- c. Apologetics, in many ways, is simply a battle over authorities. It involves making plain just where we stand, or better, where we rest, with regard to what we claim. It also involves encouraging our opponents to make plain where they rest their own case. The authority issue is always primary. (Oliphant)
- d. "Augustine recognizes that trusting authority lies at the root of all epistemology." (Fesko)

I. ...and in the New Testament

- a. **Matthew 7:28-29** ²⁸ And so it was, when Jesus had ended these sayings, that the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹ for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.
- b. **Matthew 21:23** ²³ Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?"
- c. **Matthew 28:18** ¹⁸ And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.
- d. **John 19:10-11** ¹⁰ Then Pilate said to Him, "Are You not speaking to me? Do You not know that I have power to crucify You, and power to release You?" ¹¹ Jesus answered, "You could have no power at all against Me unless it had been given you from above.

II. Why would we think this way?

III. If there is a God.....

IV. If there is no God.....

V. What Does the Bible Say?

- a. **Romans 1:21** ²¹ because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened.