

# Living with Wisdom in a Scientific World

How do I respond  
to attacks on the Bible?

How do I deal with gadgets?

How do I raise my children?



# A. Fundamental Principles: Living for God

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# Christ is Lord of All

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All authority in heaven and on earth  
has been given to me. – Matt. 28:18

# Live for the Glory of God

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So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. – 1 Cor. 10:31

# Desire for Gizmos

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For you may be sure of this, that everyone who is sexually immoral or impure, or who is covetous ( that is, an idolater), has no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. – Eph. 5:5

# Desire for Approval

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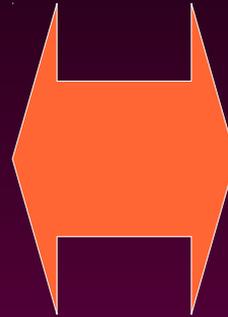
If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. – 1 Peter 4:14

## B. Materialism ("naturalism")

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# Physical Bottom

matter, energy,  
motion



God personally  
created and rules

no innate purpose

purpose

impersonalism

personalism

# Why Materialism?

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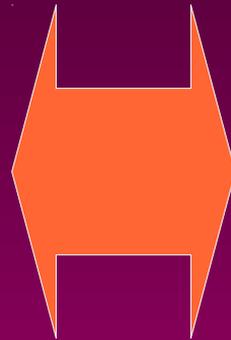
- Early scientists aware of providence
- Scientists praised God
- Stopped talking of God
- Stopped thinking about God
- Nothing buttery: matter only

# Materialism versus Science

## Philosophy: Materialism

starting assumption

reduction:  
matter, energy,  
motion alone--  
nothing more



## Science

starting principle

focus on  
matter, energy,  
motion

# Support for Materialism?

- Prestige of science used for materialism
- Many scientists materialistic in philosophical outlook
- Presentation of science in media

The cosmos is all that is  
or ever was or ever will be.  
– Carl Sagan, *The Cosmos*

"Mother Nature"

# Worldviews on Miracle

impersonalism

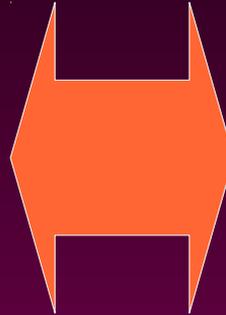
matter, energy,  
motion



mechanism



no exceptions:  
no miracles



personalism

God personally  
created and rules



personal purposes

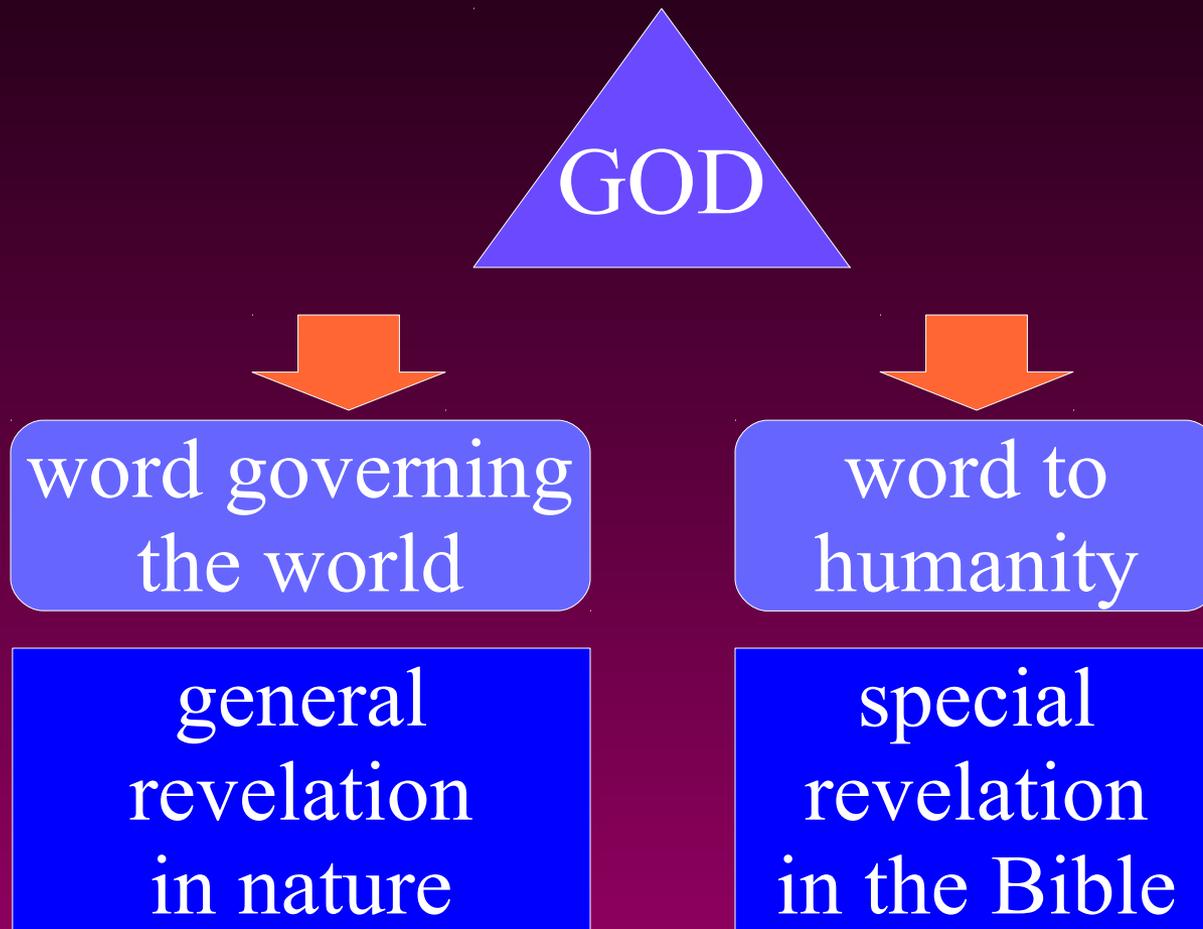


exceptions: miracle

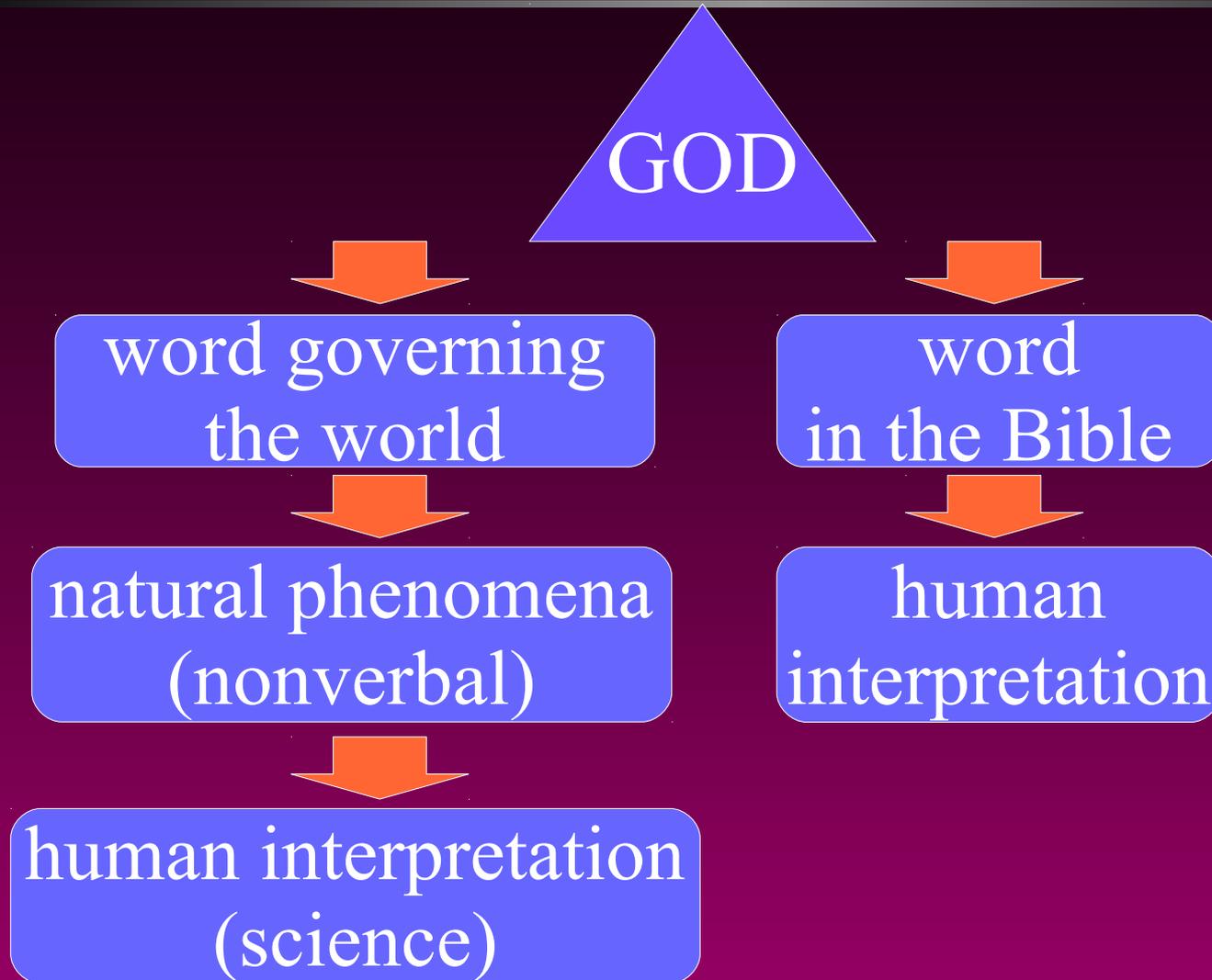
## C. Authority

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# General and Special Revelation



# Human Reception



# Difficulties

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- God's speech is infallible
- Human reception is fallible
- Interpretation is fallible in both the Bible and science
- God's word is directly accessible in the Bible

# Special Role for the Bible

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Man shall not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes  
from the mouth of God.  
– Matthew 4:4

# Role in History

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- Special instruction to Adam
- Personal fellowship with Adam and Eve
- Special instruction after the fall
- Special promise of redemption
- Calling for faith in the verbal promise
- The Bible as a permanent record

# Opposite Ways of Life (Gen. 3)

Oneself  
As Ultimate

trusting self



trusting human  
judgment



living  
accordingly

Receiving  
God's Wisdom

trusting God

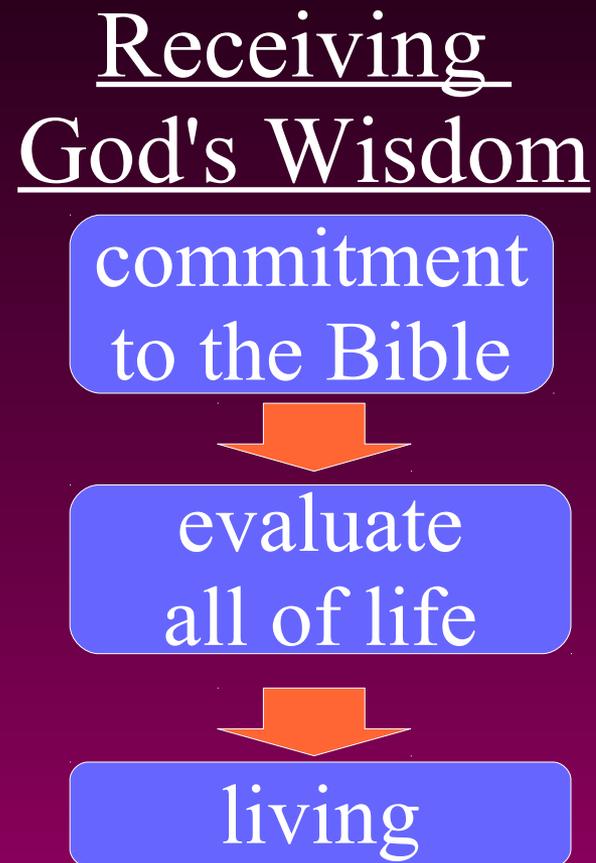


trusting God's  
word



living  
accordingly

# Opposite Ways of Life (modern)



# D. Practice

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# Steps along the Way

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- Ask for God's wisdom and guidance
- Investigate multiple options on hard questions
- There are believers with answers

# Guiding Young People

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- Keep listening and conversing
- Admit when you don't know
- Investigate colleges

# College Life

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- Out to the workplace?
- A real Christian college (not in name)
- A secular college with strong local church and strong on-campus group
- Self-control (vs. "free" sex)
- Humility
- Willingness not to conform