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Science and Faith: IV. Mankind

Creation, Genesis 1-2

Creation of Human Beings

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." (Gen. 1:26)

image of God

dominion

Creation of Human Beings

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Gen. 1:27-28)

Implications of Human Creation

Genesis 1:26-28



Direction for Man

Genesis 2:15

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

work it

keep it

Implications for Man's Direction

Genesis 2:15

work it



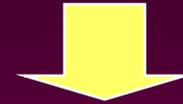
creative
development



human use,
beautification

imitation of God

keep it



preservation,
protection



respect

Activity of Adam

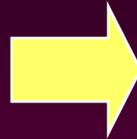
So out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. (Gen. 2:19-20a)

man's naming

Implications of Adam Naming

Genesis 2:19-20

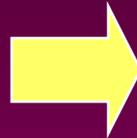
God's naming



descriptive
meaning



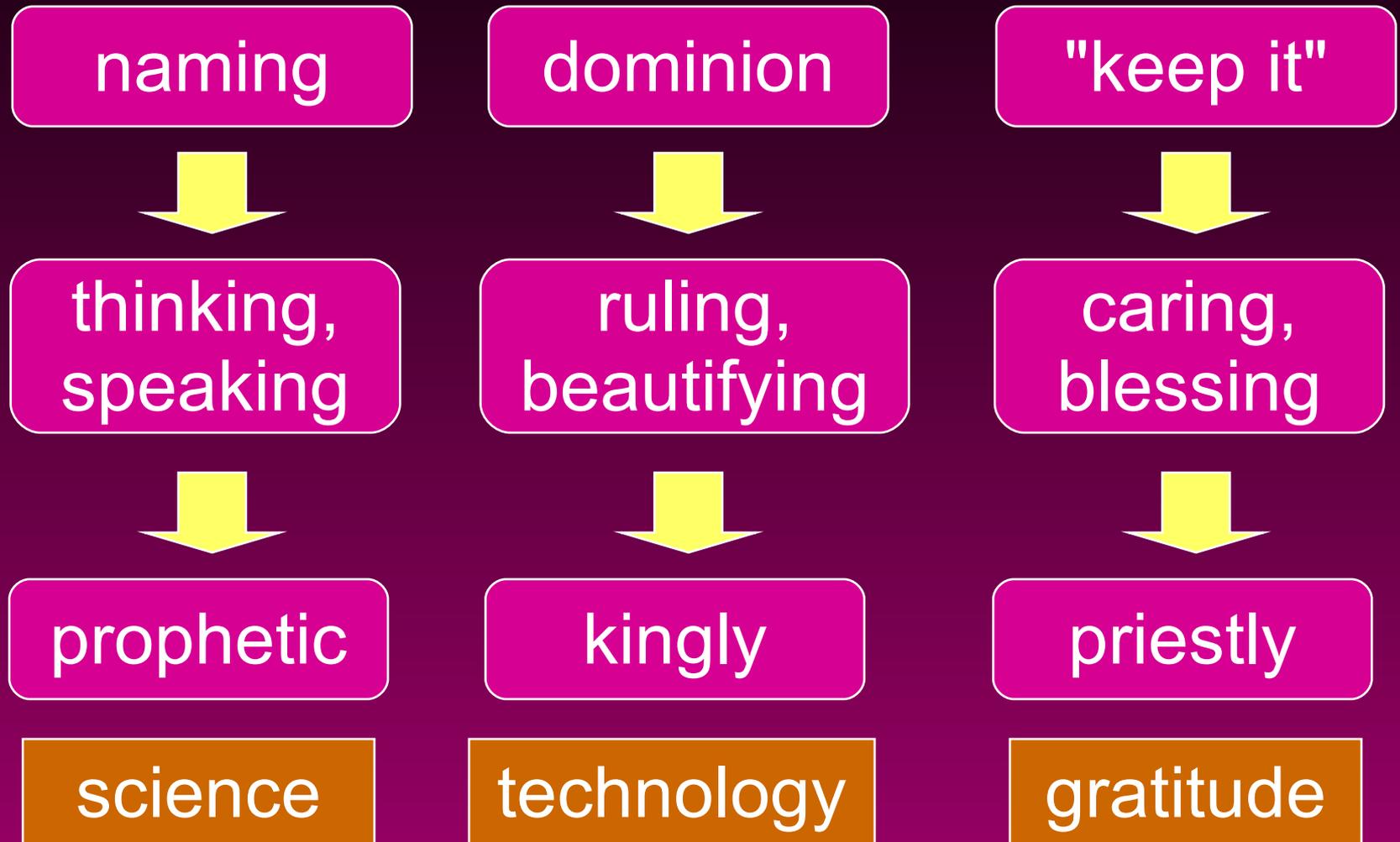
man's naming



imitative
descriptive
meaning

beginning of science:
zoological taxonomy

Offices Imitating God



Fall, Genesis 3

Rebellion

Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" (Gen. 3:11)

The Good and the Bad

Expectations for Human Beings

Created by God;
potential to know



scientific
knowledge

In rebellion against
God;
potential to corrupt



corruption
in science

Subtle Flaws in Knowledge

Law of God



scientific
knowledge

Idolatrously
distorted law



corruption
in science

Subtle Flaws in Ruling

dominion
in God's name



justice, beauty,
enhancement

dominion
in man's name



achievements,
plus oppression

Gen. 11:4

Continuation of Rule

And God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. The fear of you and the dread of you shall be upon every beast of the earth and upon every bird of the heavens, upon everything that creeps on the ground and all the fish of the sea. Into your hand they are delivered. (Gen. 9:1-2)

Sin and Redemption

Development

Abel, shepherd (animal husbandry), 4:2

Cain, tiller of the soil (agriculture), 4:2

Cain, builder (construction), 4:17

Jabal, herdsman, 4:20

Jubal, musician (music), 4:21

Tubal-cain, metal-worker (metallurgy), 4:22

Babel building (architecture), 11:4-5

Artisanry

Hands-on (experimental)

New ideas

New techniques

Passing it on verbally (prophetic)

Passing it on by training (kingly)

But hindered by selfishness, famine, theft,
war, destruction, death

Solomon (1 Kings 4:29-34)

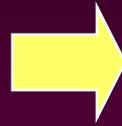
And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all other men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol, and his fame was in all the surrounding nations.

Solomon (cont.)

He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish. And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.

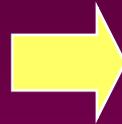
Analogies

Adam as
scientist



good beginning,
then corruption

Solomon as
scientist

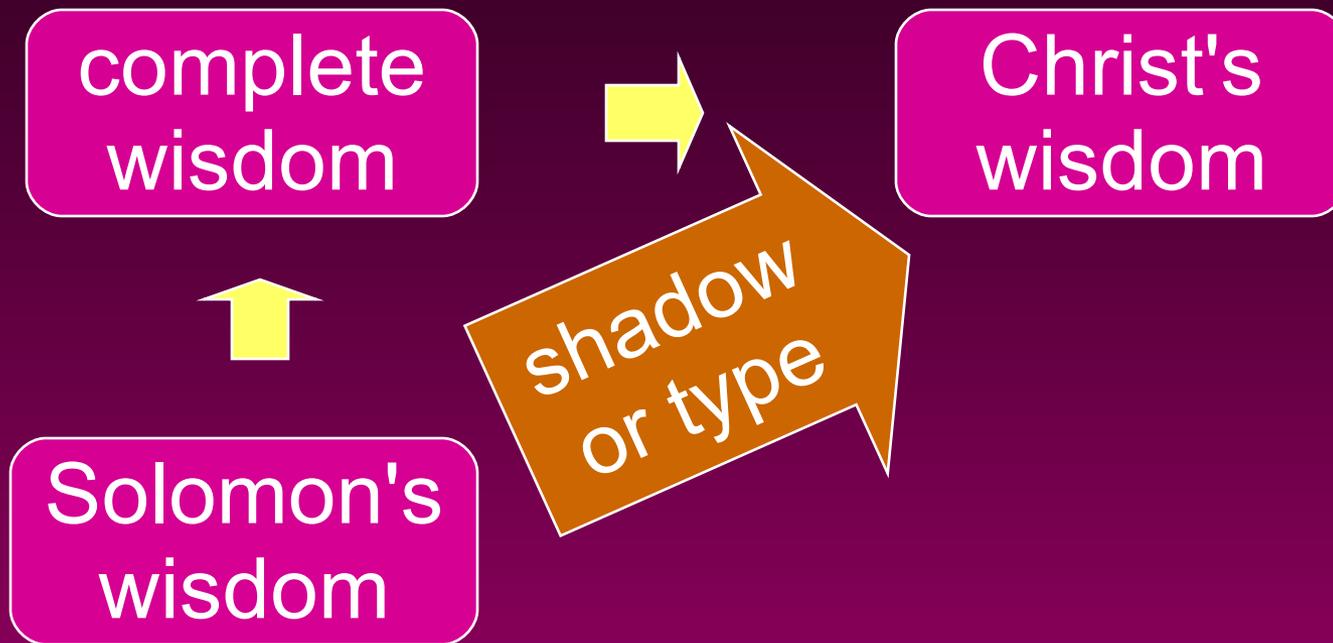


good beginning,
then corruption

Fulfillment

Final Solomon

Matt. 12:42: "something greater than Solomon is here."



Christ's Wisdom

... the knowledge of God's mystery,
which is Christ, in whom are hidden
all the treasures of wisdom and
knowledge. (Col. 2:2-3)

wisdom

First and Last Things

First: Psalm 8:6-7

You have given him
dominion over the
works of your hands;
you have put all things
under his feet,
all sheep and oxen, ...

Last: Ephesians 1:22

...
and he put all things
under his feet ...

Also Hebrews 2:7-9

Two-Stage Fulfillment



Fulfillment

wisdom

dominion

in Christ,
Col. 2:3

in Christ,
Eph. 1:22

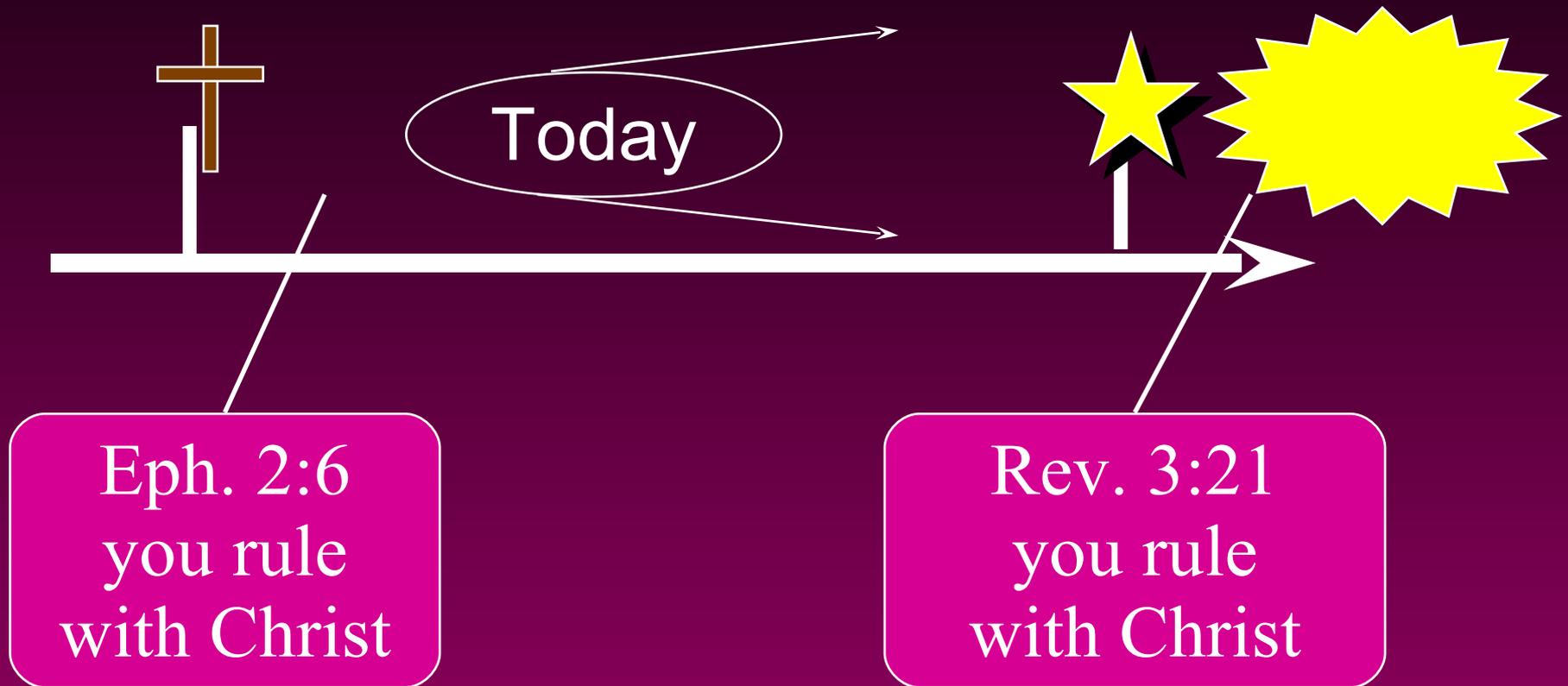
all scientific
achievement

all technology

in you,
1 Cor. 1:30; 2:16

in you,
Eph. 2:6

Two-Stage Blessing for Us



Two Mandates

Adam

Genesis 1:28-30
dominion
(cultural
mandate)

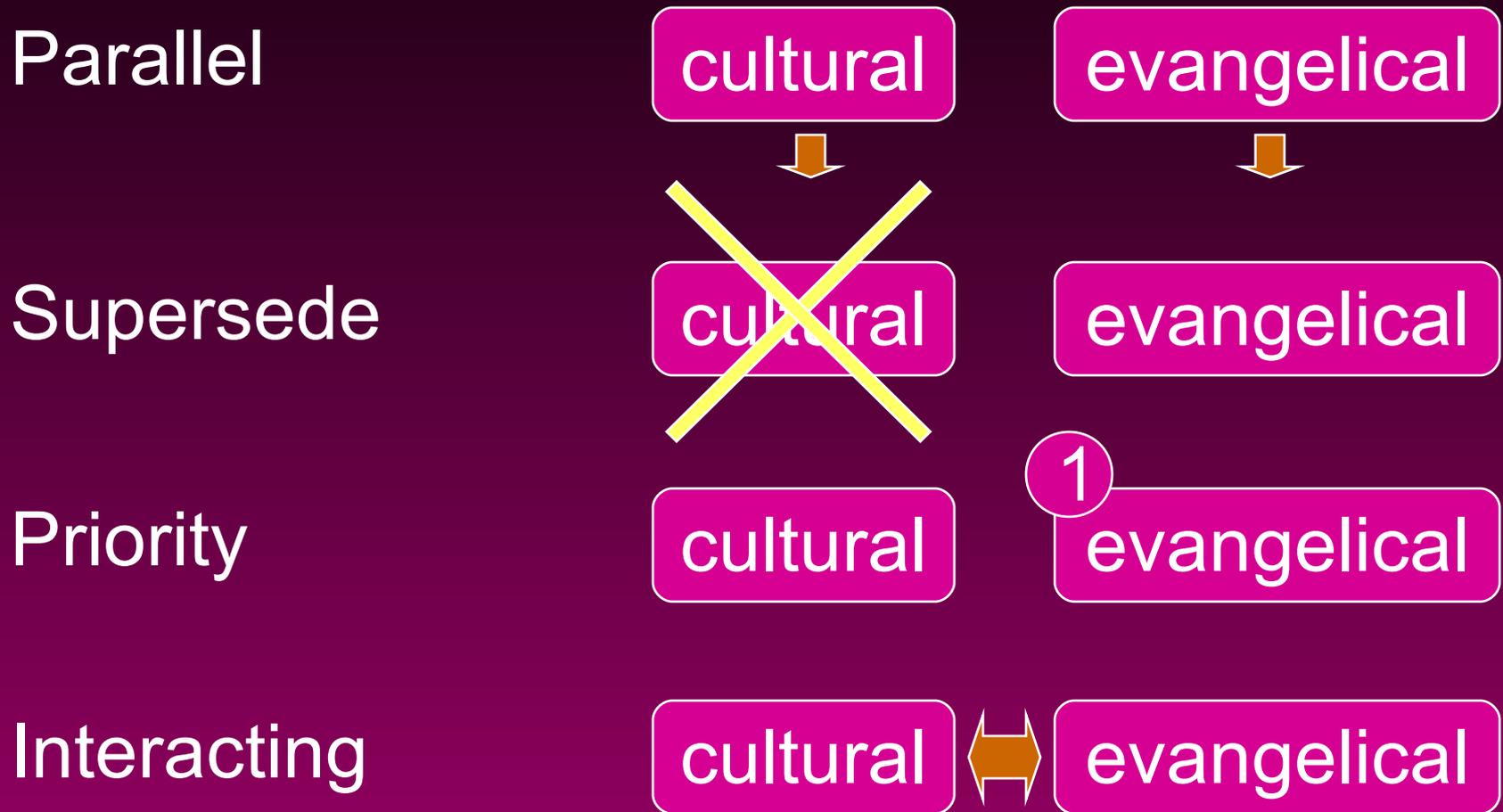
your job

Christ,
the Last Adam

Matthew 28:18-20
make disciples
(evangelical
mandate)

your sharing
the gospel

Ideas about Two Mandates



Understanding the Mandates

Inclusive

cultural

evangelical

following Christ

for the church

obey
all God's law

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you."

Christ at the Center

Reconfigured

cultural

evangelical

in Christ

dominion

basis

filling the earth

filling: Eph. 1:23

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore ...

And behold I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Your Role

Christ,
the Last Adam



your job



your sharing
the gospel

energizing,
transforming,
teaching,
supplying gifts,
in personal
fellowship

through the Holy Spirit

