

Cosmological System of Morality

- ❖ Human beings are valuable because God created them and at great value redeemed them.
- ❖ Due to their value by right of creation, human beings are to be loved, respected, and treated fairly and kindly.
- ❖ Divine commands create and empower.
- ❖ Divine commands are not arbitrary but derive from the way things work.
- ❖ Everything fits and conforms to function and role.
- ❖ Basis of morality are the eternal, internal, and dynamic principles of love, truth, and trust.
- ❖ Because the basis of morality is love, truth, and trust, the system is authentic, real, and viable resulting in authentic people.
- ❖ Because God loves all those He has created—both good and bad, justice is fair, equitable, and loving, seeking the best good of all. Any consequences to evil are natural, inevitable, and thus stem from what one is and does.

Human Systems of Morality

- ❖ Human beings are valuable because of what they have accomplished, become, earned, or according to how much power they have to control others.
- ❖ Because value is earned or acquired, human beings must earn respect, love, and fair treatment.
- ❖ Human commands demand compliance
- ❖ Human commands are arbitrary and sometimes artificial.
- ❖ People and things are forced to fit and function.
- ❖ Basis of morality is externally enforced rules. It is thus inherently arbitrary.
- ❖ Because the system is arbitrary, it is artificial and contrived in which hypocrisy abounds.
- ❖ Because the system is arbitrary and backed by enforcement (as opposed to empowerment), justice is retributive, meting one's penalty according to what one deserves.

Cosmological Models

1. Creation

- Natural laws of cause and effect (inevitability)
- Internal locus of control
- Interconnection and interdependency
- Love, nurture, and unselfishness
- Foundation-stones of reason and morality
- Human beings created in God's image

2. Family

- Marriage (intimacy, trust, teamwork)
- Parenting (nurturing, development, love)
- Growth and maturity
- Love, trust, trustworthiness
- Genuine relationships (friendship)
- Source of moral character
- Modeling, imaging, transformation

3. Sabbath

- Freedom
- Equality
- Rest, enjoyment, celebration, rejuvenation
- Non-hierarchical societal structures
- Time for relationships
- Friendship with God instead of slavery
- Ultimate meaning for life and personal value

Invented Models

1. Economy

- Nothing is fixed or stable
- Arbitrariness is the basis of reality and values
- Self-centeredness, dependency, indebtedness
- Competition, substitution, inflation
- Stratification of society, slavery
- Objectification of persons into objects

2. Hierarchy and Kingship

- One person may rule over and control others
- Whoever has the most power is most valued
- Levels of human value
- External locus of control
- Rights to punish and control subjects
- Angry kings must be appeased
- Pretense, posturing: fake relationships.

3. Contractual Relationships and Judicial Systems

- Control and exercise power by contract
- Obedience is forced through fear of penalty
- Imposed stipulations is the basis of trust
- Changes from time to time, place to place
- Love and trust are demanded, not won
- Way to control and protect self-interests
- Self-righteousness and judging others