Lesson 1 - Veritology: what is Truth?

Systematic: Carried out in a methodical and organized manner; deliberate and regular system of organization.

Truth temple illustration: a logical and graphic framework to organize Truth Project topics.

Comprehensive: Covering a wide area, all inclusive, large in scope.

Compass illustration: looking at life from a 360 degree perspective. A graphic means to illustrate that there is no area in life that God has not spoken.

Worldview: A comprehensive set of truth claims that purports to paint a picture of reality; the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world.

Truth: Correspondence to reality. Truth is that which is really real. Our actions reflect what we believe to be really real.

Idol: A false source of salvation, sustenance, or power. Isaiah 44 equates an idol to a lie. These lies lead us into insane notions.

Insanity: Losing touch with reality; believing the lie is real. Extreme foolishness or an act that demonstrates it.

Common Insanity: A sickness we all suffer from. We have bought into the lies of the world, the flesh, and the devil and therefore we live as if the lie is true, denying reality.

Delude: To lead from God’s truth into false beliefs; persuade somebody to believe in something that is untrue or unreal.

Spheres: Social institutions or systems that we live and interact in (family, church, state, labor, community, and the intimate relationship between God and man). Each sphere has distinct members with unique roles and responsibilities.

Pathology: Any condition that is a departure or deviation from the true design. Dr. Tackett uses “pathology” to describe areas of distortion within the social spheres.

Bifurcation: To divide or separate into two parts; to split or branch off into two parts.
Antithesis: The complete or exact opposite of something. The truth claims of God in direct opposition to the lies of the world, the flesh and the devil.

Cosmic Battle: Battle between God’s Truth and the lies and illusions of the world, the flesh and the devil. The arguments and pretensions that set themselves up against the knowledge of God, against His nature and His word.

Tour: Dr. Tackett likes to refer to each lesson as a tour in which he is our guide.

Jewels in the Cave: Dr. Tackett often refers to specific topics or truth claims that are of particular interest as “jewels in the cave.”

Veritology: The study of Truth; particularly the study of God’s character and His Word as it relates to reality.

Pell-mell: In a disorderly frantic rush; confused, jumbled or messy manner.

Pernicious Lie: The lie that man is basically good and that his greatest need is to self-actualize and get in touch with his inner desires.

Lesson 2 - Philosophy & Ethics: says Who?

Assumptive Language: Powerful and deceptive use of words in which a seemingly simple statement is made, hoping the hearer will buy the simple statement without recognizing the huge assumptions that come with it. When one buys the simple statement, you buy its assumptions without knowing it.

Hollow and deceptive philosophy: Philosophies that are based on human traditions and worldly principles that set themselves up against God’s truth claims. See Colossians 2:8.

Carl Sagan (1934-96): An American astronomer and proponent of scientific naturalism who promoted the Search for Extra-Terrestrial Intelligence (SETI). Cosmos was the most watched television show on PBS of all time (more than 600 million people have seen it since it first aired in 1980), and his novel Contact was made into a film of the same name in 1997 starring Jodie Foster.

Philosophy: The love of wisdom. The systematic examination of basic concepts such as truth, existence, reality, freedom, etc. Webster’s 1828 dictionary definition: “The objects of philosophy are to ascertain facts or truth, and the causes of things or their phenomena; to enlarge our views of God and his works…” True religion and true philosophy must ultimately arrive at the same principle.

William Provine: A professor of evolutionary biology at Cornell University who is an atheist and adamant opponent of intelligent design.
Cosmic Cube: The philosophy that has consciously or subconsciously captured our culture which says the material world is all that is, was, or ever will be; nothing exists outside of the box. This philosophical position has severely damaging implications.

Fundamental biblical presuppositions: God is and He has revealed Himself to us through His creation (general revelation) and through His Word (special revelation).

Transcendent: Existing outside, above and independent, of the material universe. God is transcendent, but also immanent (see "Immanent").

Immanent: Present in and involved in the created universe. God is at work, actively involved with His creation, but separate from it (see "Transcendent").

Naturalism: Truth and reality are derived from nature and natural causes. Rejects all spiritual and supernatural explanations of the world and holds that science is the primary basis of what can be known.

Spiritual Naturalism: Truth and reality are derived from nature and natural causes. Accepts a spiritual dimension to this world, but adds spirit inside the Cosmic Cube and, as a result, rejects a transcendent creator.

Universals: Broad “universal” truth claims that provide meaning to the smaller “particular” questions in life. “Universals” provide answers to the great philosophical questions we face.

Particulars: Individual truth claims; the small details that describe “particular” objects.

Ethics: The standard, the line, that which ought to be. The principles of conduct governing a person or group of people.

Morality: The rightness or wrongness of conduct; that which is. Habits of life or the practices of an individual or culture.

Postmodernism: cluster of philosophies with the underlying assumption that no one worldview or belief system (metanarrative) can claim to be the truth, which often results in relativistic thinking and the use of language as a power play.

Formal worldview: A comprehensive set of truth claims that purports to paint a picture of reality.

Personal worldview: The set of individual truth claims that you have embraced so deeply that you believe they reflect what is really real and therefore they drive what you think, how you act, and what you feel.

Biblical worldview: A formal worldview based ultimately upon that nature, character, and being of God as it is expressed in His infallible Word and His creation. It becomes the foundation for a life system that governs every area of existence.
Metamorphoo: Greek for “transformation.” Root of the word "metamorphosis." This is the primary goal of The Truth Project: for individuals to be transformed into the likeness of Christ by gazing on the face of God. This process is not easy and we often struggle with God’s Truth claims in the “cocoon.” Metamorphoo is used in Romans 12:2, where it is usually translated as "transformed."

Primary doctrine: Theology and Anthropology. Who is God and who is man? These are the two basic foundations for a person’s and a culture’s worldview.

Pragmatic: more concerned with practical results than with principles or truth.

Utilitarian: relating to or advocating the doctrine that value is measured in terms of usefulness, concerned with practicality.

Capricious: Impulsive, unpredictable, characterized or subject to whim. Not guided by steady judgment, intent or purpose.

Metaphysics: the branch of philosophy that examines the nature of reality, existence, and the relationship between mind and matter, time and space, fact and value.

Epistemology: the branch of philosophy that studies the nature of knowledge, its foundations, its presuppositions, and its extent and validity. How we know what we know.

Lesson 3 - Anthropology: who is Man?

Anthropology: the study of mankind, its nature, behavior, origin, physical, social, and cultural development.

States of man: May be referred to as “modes” of man. The different states through which man has passed or in which he currently exists: innocence, fallen, redeemed, and death (hell or glorified).

Dualistic: Biblical view of man that he is comprised of both natural and supernatural elements, both flesh and spirit.

Monistic: Humanistic and naturalistic view of man that man is simply material, made of one substance, and has no spiritual dimension. Man was not created but has evolved and is a product of chance. In religion monism is the view that all reality is one, such as in certain forms of Hinduism.

Abraham Maslow (1908-1970) : psychologist who developed the theory of Hierarchy of Human Needs in 1943 (portrayed as a pyramid shaped structure that illustrates human needs, where self-
actualization is the top of the pyramid). Not surprisingly, there is no clinical evidence to support his theory.

Carl Rogers (1902-1987): influential American psychologist who, along with Abraham Maslow, was the founder of the humanistic approach to psychology. Popularized the idea that “evil is not inherent in human nature” (i.e., people are basically good by nature).

Self-actualization: Humanistic psychology theory that advocates getting in touch with one’s inner-desires in order to help develop or achieve one’s full potential.

Imago Dei: Created in the image of God. Biblical perspective of man that we bear the divine image of God as his created beings (see Genesis 1:26). Though created in God's image, man is fallen by nature and in need of redemption.

Imago Goo: Del’s way of expressing the humanistic perspective of man that maintains human beings are simply random products of the stuff in the box. Views man as monistic, good by nature, and in need of self-actualization.

Lesson 4 - Theology: who is God?

Theology: The study of the existence, nature, and attributes of God.

Theism: Belief that God created and governs humans and the world.

Deism: The belief that God created the universe and has since assumed no control over life, exerted no influence on nature, and given no supernatural revelation.

Pantheism: Belief that God and the material world are one and the same thing and that God is present in everything; pantheism sometimes entails belief in many deities. A form of spiritual naturalism.

Westminster Confession of Faith: A confession of faith drawn up by the 1646 Westminster Assembly, which remains a standard of doctrine within many Protestant, churches. The full confession took more than five years to complete and provides advice on issues of worship, doctrine, government, and discipline for the church.

Eternal Life: To know the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom He sent to earth. A deeply personal and intimate relationship. See John 17:3.

El Qanna: A name of God: “For the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God” (Exodus 34:14). See also Deuteronomy 4:23-24 and Zechariah 8:2

Julius Wellhausen (1844-1918): A 19th century German liberal scholar who suggested the Documentary Hypothesis (JEPD), which theorizes that the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy) was not written by Moses but evolved over time and was
compiled from at least four sources written by various authors. Numerous scholars have refuted the theory.

Jesus Seminar: Started in 1985 in Berkley, California, by Robert Funk and thirty-five other liberal New Testament scholars. The Seminar,--which now includes about 100 members--meets twice a year to debate technical papers. At the close of debate on each agenda item, members vote using colored beads to indicate the degree of authenticity of Jesus' words or deeds.

Lesson 5 - Science: what is True?

Science: The systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment. Science and philosophy are both attempting to develop truth claims about reality; philosophy in the realm of universals, science in the realm of particulars.

Intelligent design: Scientific theory that nature and complex biological structures were intelligently designed and, as such, are not the result of chance. Proponents of intelligent design argue that there is empirical evidence that is subject to scientific investigation that complex biological systems and the information bearing properties of DNA could not have been created by natural selection.

Hypothesis: Very early assumption made on the basis of limited evidence used as a starting point for further investigation.

Theory: Idea or belief about something formed by speculation, conjecture, or deduction from certain facts within certain parameters

Law: A statement of scientific fact that a particular natural or scientific phenomenon is invariable under given circumstances


Great Cosmological Question: Where did the cosmos come from? The cosmos either had a beginning or has always existed.

Charles Darwin (1809-1882): British naturalist who proposed the theory of evolution through natural selection in his book The Origin of Species (1859). This book, and Darwin’s theories, have had massive ideological and philosophical effects on our world and humanity.

Paley’s argument for design: Named after William Paley (1743-1805), this is sometimes referred to as the watchmaker analogy: it is plain to see that the parts in a watch are designed and placed in relationship with each other for a purpose and that the watch therefore must have a maker. In
the same way, our universe bears evidence of design and purpose and, therefore, must have a maker.

Francis Crick (1916-2004): Co-discoverer of DNA who rejected the evidence of design. During the 1960s he became concerned with the origins of the genetic code and in the early 1970s proposed the theory of Directed Panspermia.

Directed Panspermia: Theory that suggests that highly-evolved life forms sent microorganisms or biochemical compounds from outer space to earth. Francis Crick developed this hypothesis to explain life on earth.

Molecular Biology: The branch of biology that deals with the formation, structure, and function of macromolecules essential to life; in particular the interactions between the various systems of a cell, including the interrelationship of DNA, RNA and protein synthesis and learning how these interactions are regulated

Michael Behe: American biochemist, senior fellow of the Discovery Institute’s Center for Science and Culture, and author of *Darwin’s Black Box*. Behe is a leading advocate and spokesperson for the intelligent design movement who is most well known for articulating the concept of irreducible complexity.

Irreducible Complexity: A complex system that could not function if it were any simpler, and therefore could not possibly have been formed by successive additions to a precursor system with the same functionality. An analogy often given in support of irreducible complexity is the mousetrap.

Fossil Record: The fossilized remains of plants and animals that provide the evidential means to understand when those organisms were alive, where they lived, and what they looked like.

Stephen Jay Gould (1941-2002): American paleontologist and evolutionary biologist who taught at Harvard University and worked at the American Museum of Natural History. He was an influential and widely read author that developed the theory of punctuated equilibrium (see glossary entry) due to the lack of evidence in the fossil record for gradual Darwinianism.

Punctuated equilibrium: A theory in evolutionary biology that says the appearance of new species occurs suddenly and without continuous slow variations; species will show little or no evolutionary change throughout history

Jonathan Wells: Biologist, senior fellow of the Discovery Institute, and author of *Icons of Evolution*. A prominent spokesperson for the intelligent design movement, Wells’ book proves that many of the most commonly accepted arguments for evolution are invalid.
Lesson 6 - History: whose Story?

Cocoon: Part of the worldview transformation process that Dr. Tackett describes: In order for a caterpillar to transform into a beautiful butterfly, it must undergo a struggle within a cocoon. Similarly, it is often a deep struggle to apply God’s truth claims to the reality of our beliefs and circumstances; Del refers to this long and arduous process as “the cocoon” or a “cocoon experience.”

Sovereign: Having supreme authority or power. In the context of God’s role in history, He is in ultimate control, fulfilling His purpose, and carrying out His plan.

Providence/Providential: wisdom, guidance, and control provided by God; involving divine insight or intervention.

Ex nihilo: From or out of nothing. Del is using this term in the context of knowledge; we know 11 is representative of the number eleven based on past teaching, we don’t recognized that this is an eleven “ex nihilo,” without some historical context.

Historical revisionism: a process where history is altered or the past is reinterpreted in order to accomplish a particular agenda or objective. If you rewrite the past, you can make people believe whatever you want in the present. There is a large liberal agenda to rewrite history in order to leave Christian themes and God out of public academia.

Passover Feast: Instituted so that the Israelites would remember God’s deliverance from the Egyptians. Most feasts were instituted by God to help His people remember a particular event when God worked in a powerful way. Exodus 12:24-27, Deuteronomy 4:9, 6:4-12

Covenant: A formal and legally binding agreement. Biblically speaking, a covenant can be conditional or unconditional and can be established between God and an individual or group of individuals (such as a nation) or between men. Theologians list several such covenants including the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants.

Pontius Pilate: The prefect (governor) of the Roman province of Judea from 26 AD until 36 or 37 AD during the reign of emperor Tiberius Caesar. As prefect, he was responsible for the estates in Tiberius, collecting taxes and maintaining order. Pilate is most commonly known for ordering the crucifixion of Jesus.

Paradox: A statement, proposition, or situation that seems to be absurd or contradictory, but in fact may be true; something that is contrary to or in conflict with conventional or common opinion.

Free agents: The human nature of free will, allowing individuals to make decisions, as opposed to behaviorism, where man is merely a stimulus-response mechanism.
Incredulity/Incredulous: Unable or unwilling to believe; skeptical.

Metanarrative: An over-arching story, philosophy or worldview that seeks to explain reality. Postmodernism denies the credibility of any metanarrative.

The Larger Story of God: Del uses this phrase to describe God’s grand story in which He is sovereignly in control. God’s people should be focused on living as part of God’s story instead of their own little story.

Myopia: Nearsightedness; the condition which the human eye cannot see distant objects clearly.

Natural Myopia: A sickness we all suffer from, where we have a tendency to see our own little story very well, but we loose sight of the larger story of God.

William Bradford (1590-1657): The leader of the Pilgrim settlers and Governor of Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts. He was a signer and the primary architect of the Mayflower Compact and author of the writings that formed *Of Plymouth Plantation*. He is also credited for the very first Thanksgiving.

*Of Plymouth Plantation*: The most complete story of the Pilgrims and the early years of the colony they founded. Composed of journal writings by William Bradford recounting the Mayflower voyage and their settlement in early America.

Stepping Stones: People who are lost in the larger story of God; “they [the Pilgrims] cherished a great hope and inward zeal of laying good foundations … even thought they would be but stepping stones to others in the performance of so great a work.”

Lesson 7 - Sociology: the divine Imprint

Order: An organized state, with elements arranged properly, neatly, or harmoniously.

System: A complex body of related elements arranged into a complex whole.

Social Order: God’s design of social institutions, the function of those social institutions within society, and the roles and responsibilities of individuals within those institutions.

Social Institutions/Social Spheres/Social Systems: Del lists six social systems: Family, Church, God and Man, State, Labor, and Community, with the triune nature of God as the 7th. Each of these systems are created by God and have distinct roles and responsibilities for the members within the sphere.

Qualitative: Relating to or based on the quality or character of something.
Visceral: Proceeding from instinct rather than reasoned thinking; dealing with crude or elemental emotions.

Trinity: The biblical understanding that God is one in essence, yet exists in three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Each are fully God, and each performs unique roles. All three are one in essence, not three separate gods.

Submission: A willingness to operate under the authority of another. This is a divine attribute of God as evidence by the Son submitting to the Father. Submission is therefore found in God’s design of social order, for example, the wife submitting to her husband.

The Divine Imprint/The Divine Mark: With respect to God’s design of social order, it is the relational aspect of our nature that reflects the relational community within the Godhead. This imprint has been stamped upon individuals and social institutions. Intimacy, union, communion, fellowship, love, and community, are all character traits we share with God.

Intimate Three: The three social institutions where the Divine Imprint of intimacy and oneness is clearly seen: God and man, family and church. The “oneness” in these three spheres (i.e. the husband and wife become “one”) reflect the “oneness” and intimacy within the triune nature of God.

Willy-nilly: In a disorganized, unplanned manner; haphazardly

Lesson 8 - Unio Mystica: am I Alone?

Unio Mystica: The mystical union that exists between God and man. Through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, God has invited us into an intimate, personal relationship with Him. In a larger sense, this mystery extends to the intimate union found within marriage and the church.

Tassels: God commanded the children of Israel to tie tassels on their robes in order help the remember the commands of the Lord. See Numbers 15:38-39.

Phylacteries: Small boxes containing slips of paper with scripture written on them that were fastened on the foreheads of scribes (see Numbers 15:38, Deuteronomy 22:12). Jesus references phylacteries in Matthew 23:1-7.

Hunger for Significance: A God-given, inherent drive within humans that desires recognition and relational significance. Dr. Tackett compares our significance drive to our sexual drive—holy and divine when fulfilled within God’s design. We often distort this drive and attempt to find our significance in material possessions, our career, our spouse, etc.

Prostitute: Somebody who receives money in return for sexual acts or a person who sells their abilities, talent, or skills for an unworthy purpose. When we look to other means of fulfilling our drive for significance, God says we are “prostituting ourselves.”
Buyer’s Remorse: A strong feeling of guilt or regret when one has made a purchase of something that would deeply satisfy, but it does not.

Lesson 9 - The State: whose Law?

Politics: “The science of government; that part of ethics which consists in the regulation and government of a nation or state, for the preservation of its safety, peace, and prosperity; comprehending the defense of its existence and rights against foreign control or conquest … and the protection of its citizens in their rights, with the preservation and improvement of their morals.” From Webster’s 1828 dictionary.

Boundary questions: Questions that address authority boundaries of particular social institutions. Examples: Can the state steal? Can the state murder? The story of Naboth’s Vineyard is an example. 1 Kings 21 – King Ahab had Naboth killed in order to take Naboth’s vineyard. In God’s perspective, King Ahab overstepped his boundaries and committed murder and theft.

Sphere Sovereignty: God has designed each social sphere for a particular purpose with unique laws, roles and responsibilities to fulfill that purpose. Therefore, a pastor has the position of authority in the sphere of the church, but does not have authority in the sphere of the State. This concept was originally developed by Abraham Kuyper (1837-1920).

That sphere has been given a sovereign charge to fulfill that purpose that another sphere should not breach. An example of the “breach” is found in the story of Uzziah. 2 Chronicles 26 – King Uzziah assumed authority in the sphere of the church. The Lord struck him with leprosy because he had overstepped the boundaries of his authority.

Civil Magistrate: The authority position of a nation or state.

Delegation of Authority: The formal grant of power, responsibility, and authority to someone else; this concept, like submission, is part of the triune nature of God. This grant is almost always carried out with a formal declaration (oath) and often with some mark of delegation (i.e. uniform).

Subjection: The bringing of a person or people under the control of another. Like submission and delegation, this is found within God’s social design because it is found within the Godhead (i.e. Jesus “subjected to” the Father).

Roles of the King/Civil Magistrate: God’s servant to punish evil and condone good. Based on Romans 13.

Rise of the State: Because the state has the means to garner vast wealth and power, it can also begin to think that it has ultimate authority over every other social sphere. When this happens,
the state will begin to see itself as God, with no boundaries and reject the idea of sphere sovereignty, bringing every other social sphere under its control.

Pervasive: To spread throughout, occupying a great area, permeate.

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**Lesson 10 - American Experiment: stepping Stones**

The American Experiment: An experiment conducted by the founding forefathers of the United States to establish a nation built on biblical principles reflecting God’s design for government.

Agent/Agency: Dr. Tackett uses this term to describe the authority position within the Sphere of the State. This lesson examines the biblical design of that agency, and how the Founding Fathers attempted to base the American experiment on biblical foundations.

New England Primer: Small textbook, first printed in 1690 and used through the 19th century to teach children the alphabet and how to read. It was the intent of the colonists that all children should learn to read because they believed that an inability to read was Satan’s attempt to keep people from the Scriptures.

Gouverneur Morris (1752-1816): As chairman of the committee of style during the Constitutional Convention, he was the author of large sections of the Constitution. He is widely known for his words in the Preamble: “We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union…”

Samuel Adams (1722-1803): Governor of Massachusetts, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and organizer of the Boston Tea Party; he was an American Patriot who played a major role in starting the American Revolution.

Benjamin Rush (1745-1813): Signer of the Declaration of Independence, attendee of the Continental Congress, physician and first Surgeon General, he had a major influence on the development of American governmental structure. (Rush believed that Americans should have the right to medical freedom in their Constitution, much as the right to freedom of religion is expressly guaranteed in that document).

Noah Webster (1758-1843): Often called “The Father of American Education”. He wrote the *Blue Back Speller (Elementary Spelling Book)* which helped standardize American spelling and was used by pioneer families and schools to teach children to read. Webster has become a household name since he first published *The American Dictionary of the English Language* in 1828.

John Adams (1735-1826): Member of the Continental Congress, drafter (with Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson) and signer of the Declaration of Independence, considered “Father of the Navy” because of his efforts to establish and strengthen the American Navy, and Second President of the United States.

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826): Governor of Virginia, first Secretary of State, principle author of the Declaration of Independence, and third President of the United States. Jefferson is often attributed for the concept of “Separation of Church and State” because of the phrase “wall of separation between church and state” in a letter he wrote to the Danbury Baptist Association in 1802. Jefferson believed the First Amendment had to be enacted in order to prevent the federal establishment of a national denomination; he had no intention of limiting, restricting or regulating public religious practices.

Charles Carroll (1737-1832): A lawyer, member of the Continental Congress, member of the first United States Senate, and signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Patrick Henry (1736-99): First governor of Virginia and member of the Continental Congress. Patrick Henry, Samuel Adams, and Thomas Paine were influential advocates of the American Revolution. He was an eloquent orator and instrumental in the adoption of the Bill of Rights.

Alexis de Tocqueville (1805-59): French political thinker who wrote *Democracy in America*. He was a major observer and philosopher of democracy, which he saw as an equation that balanced liberty and equality.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-90): Drafter and signer of the Declaration of Independence, Postmaster General of the Continental Congress, newspaper editor and publisher of *Poor Richard’s Almanac*. He formed the first library and first fire department. His interest in science and technology made him famous for his electricity experiments and invention of the lightning rod, Franklin stove and bifocals.

Daniel Webster (1782-1852): United States Senator and Secretary of State. Notable lawyer and one of the greatest orators of his time. His passionate patriotic devotion to preserving the Union led him to find compromises between the northern and southern factions of the country.

Federalist Papers: Series of 85 political essays written 1787-88 with the intention of persuading New York to approve the Federalist Constitution. Primary writers were Alexander Hamilton (51 essays) and James Madison (14 essays). The essays are still considered a classic work of political theory.

Declaration of Independence: The document in which the Thirteen Colonies in North America declared themselves independent of the Kingdom of Great Britain and explained their justifications for doing so. It was ratified by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.

United States Constitution: The founding political document which detailed the structure, roles and responsibilities of the American republic. It was drafted at the Constitutional Convention in
1787 and ratified by nine states in 1788. It created a federal union of sovereign states, and a federal government to operate that union. The preamble begins, “We the people…”

Bill of Rights: Term that refers to the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution ratified in 1791 and drafted by James Madison. These amendments explicitly limit the Federal government's powers, protecting the rights of the people by preventing Congress from abridging freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom of assembly, freedom of religious worship, and the right to bear arms, preventing unreasonable search and seizure, cruel and unusual punishment, and self-incrimination, and guaranteeing due process of law and a speedy public trial with an impartial jury.

Sir Edward Coke (1552-1634): An English jurist whose writings on the English common law were definitive legal texts for more than 300 years. He was a Member of the Parliament, Speaker of the House of Commons, and England’s Attorney General. Every lawyer in early America was trained from Coke’s books, and both John Adams and Patrick Henry argued from Coke’s treatises to support their revolutionary position against England.

William Blackstone (1723-80): An English jurist and professor who wrote Commentaries on the Laws of England. First published in four volumes from 1765-69, this historical treatise on common law still remains the most thorough treatment of the English law ever produced by one man. Every lawyer in early America studied from Blackstone’s Commentaries and this work served the basis of our legal profession.

Natural Law/Law of Nature/Moral Law: Theory that laws exist independently of political legislation, a society or a nation-state because they are fundamental to human behavior. Natural law is opposed to positive law, which is human-made, conditioned by history, and subject to continuous change. The phrase "all men are created equal and endowed by their creator with certain rights" expresses a natural law philosophy.

Positive Law/Legal Positivism: The claim that the state is the ultimate authority for creating, interpreting and enforcing law. The position that believes that all legal truth is based on the decision of the state.

James Wilson (1742-98): American jurist, member of the Continental Congress, and signer of the Declaration of Independence. Wilson is most well known for his part (with James Madison) in drafting of the United States Constitution. He also proposed the Three-Fifths Compromise at the convention, which made slaves count as three-fifths of a person for representation in the House and Electoral College. This proposal is greatly misunderstood today. Wilson and the non-slave states wanted to limit slavery and the power of the slave-states. They didn’t want the slave-states to count slaves thus gaining more representatives. The slave-states wanted to count slaves fully. The compromise was the non-slave states attempt to limit slave-state power, NOT to indicate slaves were only 3/5 of a person.

Charles Eliot (1834-1926): American educator selected as the President of Harvard in 1869. Under Eliot’s 40-year administration, Harvard developed from a small college into a modern university. Consequently Eliot was a proponent of Darwin’s evolutionary theories and began to
implement the teaching of them throughout his school. He hired Christopher Columbus Langdell to introduce this new understanding of law into the Harvard Law School.

Christopher Columbus Langdell (1826-1906): American jurist who taught at Harvard and introduced the new case study method of instruction. His curriculum was first adopted at Harvard, then Columbia law school, and remains today as the standard first-year curriculum at nearly all American law schools. Based on an evolutionary view of life.

Case Study Method: Method of studying law first proposed by Langdell, “Law, considered a science, consists of certain principles or doctrines…Each of these doctrines has arrived at its present state by slow degrees; in other words, it is a growth, extending in many cases through centuries.” This reflected Langdell’s belief that law was not based on absolutes but must be viewed as an evolutionary process in which one looks at how law has evolved and what it must next become.

Cycle of Nations: Biblical outline of attitudes and resulting events that a nation commonly experiences during its existence. God blesses a nation, that nation becomes satisfied and develops pride, the nation begins to forget God, and God brings judgment upon the nation in order that they might remember, repent and return to God. If they do not remember God, He will bring destruction.

Affront: An open insult or offense to somebody.

Lesson 11 - Labor: created to Create

The Labor Command: Usually referred to as “the Sabbath Command”; Exodus 20:9, “Six days you shall labor and do all your work …”

Johannes Gutenberg (c. 1397-1468): Named “Man of the Millennium” as a result of his 1455 invention of the printing press. The first book of the press was the Bible and God used Gutenberg’s work to providential spread the gospel to the entire earth.

Creative Steward: God has stamped His divine image of creativity upon us, giving us the privilege to be creative agents within this physical realm.

General Economic Model: God is the owner of everything, and we are given stewardship rights and responsibilities over His material goods.

Seven Economic Principles: 1 - All things belong to God. 2 - God appointed man to be a creative steward of His goods with ownership rights. 3 – Theft and coveting of another’s goods is wrong. 4 – Skills and abilities to work come from God. 5 – Work is profitable, good, and to be pursued; laziness is not. 6 – Love God and not your goods. 7 – Be compassionate and generous with your goods to those in need.
Steward: A person (or a group of persons) placed in a position of management authority over someone else’s property.

Economics: Management of the property that ultimately belongs to God over which He has placed a steward and over which that steward will be held accountable.

Lesson 12 - Community & Involvement: God Cares, do I?


Needy: The poor, orphans, widows, sick, prisoners, outcasts, unpopular, neglected, left out, homely, last, etc. See the Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37).

Tapeinos: Greek for humble. The same word is used by Jesus to describe his heart as well as the many verses that call us to be humble. For example “for I am gentle and humble in heart.” See Matthew 11:29, James 4:6 and Philippians 2:8.

Triclinium: A room in a Roman building used to entertain company. Hosts and guests would recline on pillows around three sides of a low square table; the fourth side of the table was left open to allow service to the table. Dining was the defining ritual in Roman domestic life, lasting from late afternoon through late at night. Typically, 9-20 guests were invited, arranged in a prescribed seating order to emphasize divisions in status.

William Wilberforce (1759-1833): An English parliamentarian and leader of the campaign against slavery.