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Integration of Psychology and Theology: A Survey: OA

Essays: Chapter 2 & 3: Entwistle

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1. The story of Galileo being recant because of his belief was interesting to read about because I feel like in the world and society today, we all get our beliefs challenged and some people choose to deny or not defend their faith and beliefs and others stand firm in what works for them. Putting myself in the position where I have had people tell me that what I believe in is wrong, what I practice or view as traditions were wrong and tainted, but that did not make me conform to their opinion to change my mind. I had experiences and proven facts of what God can do for me and on my spiritual walk, I did not even bother to put up a fight with these people because I have nothing to prove to narrow-minded people. I think the Church was threatened by Galileo's views because they were ignorant and could not believe that someone as such nature found such fascinating information and not them so in their eyes it was falsified and cannot be proven. I also feel the same way that people are so threatened and envious of the unknown or cannot believe that people walk around with so much knowledge they do not have.
2. Draper's view of the relationship between science and Christian faith was that you cannot put science and religion together because religion puts a halt on the scientific aspect view. On the other hand, Whitehead's views are that without religion there would be no expansion to be able to analyze or have the inquisition of thoughts and questions to be able to explore these theories and methods of research. A lot of people's beliefs are that they cannot put science and faith together so I would say they are enemies, but I have a very well-rounded perspective where I am open to all cultures, religions, beliefs, etc., so I try to see the common mutual ground that connects everything in life, I like to see the connection that the things God does for me does for someone else in their life even if their beliefs is different. With that being said, I am leaning more towards Whitehead's views because the world was not created by man, science could not have just happened, God gave us the resources and tools to be able to expand and learn about who we are, what is our purpose, etc. The argument that Christianity laid the groundwork for science has merit and validity in my book.
7. *Fides et ratio* gave a good summary that we can only study as human so much, but we can always find the connection or find God as the center source of us. In the last semester of General Psychology, the topics and the reading made sense of the current situations that was happening in my life or the insight I got learning the material helped me see in my daily life. Learning that we're made in God's like-image and our core values/beliefs should always draw us back to are we doing righteous acts or are portraying God within us. Recently I had a friend that took their distance to figure things out in their life and they reached out and a lot of people were/are against me having interactions because I previously got hurt with this friend, but I always ask myself what if God did not show me Grace when I was stuck in a

situation where I wanted someone to hear my truth and they disregarded it, or if God had not shown me forgiveness in situations where I messed up then what? I try to live my life finding God in all ways to improve my experience of life.

Chapter 3

10. The Church and our personal choices in our lives seem to clash some of the times. Like in the beginning of this chapter with Pam, Ray, and Ian there was a similar encounter I also had with members of the Church give me strange reactions when I did participate in going to service. As a child I was obligated to go to Sunday service and I knew who God was/is as well as learned how to pray, it was no stranger in my household to the talks about God, but because I was younger, I did not desire a relationship with God because I felt like it was forced only because my environment told me so. As I got older, I drew even more away from my relationship with God because I came out as part of the LGBTQ+ community and the Church was opposed or those who known me outside of the Church could not believe that I could be a child of God and be involved in such a, "worldly sin". I know that God loves me, and the old ignorance cannot define who I am and the God I serve, nor to pass judgement on me for who I love based off gender, I was truly shocked that out of all environments and places to feel safe and embraced with loving arms I felt the least unity and acceptance. When everyone told me it was a phase that I liked females I feel like emotionally over the years I grew stronger because I know who I am and identify as because at first I would get upset and my response was that God does not love me nor the support system I had was genuinely being there for me, but those people who showed ignorance to me eventually came around understanding who I am and what I stand for.

12. This was interesting because experimentalists, like Wundt, was more interested in how the mind work in an experimental aspect vs. the metaphysical questions. I see how this could have been a threat to traditional theological formulation because it would replace the foundation of confessionals and certain one-on-one sessions with the clergy to counselors and practitioners. Christians also seem the emergence of clinical psychology as a serious threat because they felt like this would be the new religion in society but could not argue the point that evil was real, and people do possess and battle mental illness (demons).

14. The Evangelic response to psychology and psychotherapy stood out to me because they completely tried to shut out psychology field in general because of their broad perception of Christian traditions formed by fundamentalist-modernist controversy. Fundamentalist were very critical of Christians who did not express their distrust of psychology and anything out of their doctrine fold was considered not of interest due to their lack of social concerns (like psychotherapy as a treatment method)