

Anna-Lena Gilbert

Professor Maret

Integration of Psychology and Theology: A Survey

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## **Essays: Unit 2**

### **CHAPTER 2**

#### **#1**

Galileo attempted to share and educate his discoveries about a heliocentric world at a period when the Church had authority over many individuals and ideas. The Church had many adherents and extremely strong convictions throughout this period. They were adamant about obeying the scriptures and the Bible. When Galileo attempted to demonstrate his new notions of a heliocentric cosmos, which directly contradicted the church's belief of an Earth-centered universe, the Church was not pleased. If I were in this scenario, I believe I would continue to present my accurate notion with proof even if the church asked me to recant. Even if the Church were so powerful, I would refuse to follow the incorrect ideology like everyone else. It would be wrong to have proof of a scientific finding and then deny it out of prejudice. I would just keep displaying the new discovery's proof and hope that folks ultimately realized the truth. However, I did not live in that time and can only imagine under what pressure Galileo was from the church, so I do not blame Galileo for finally recanting. I believe he had to recant due to the Church's coercion and intimidation. Back then, the Church was a large and powerful organization. They had complete control over most ideas and discoveries made by their own "scientists" who were also Church adherents. I believe the Church was so alarmed by Galileo's theories because they desired to maintain control over all thoughts and

discoveries. They also desired that everything adhere to the texts and the Bible, and that their writings not be proven untrue. They were so certain of their views that they did not want to be concerned about fresh scientific discoveries that contradicted them.

## #2

In my perspective, the belief that religion is superior to other means of acquiring information because it is based on divine revelation is less popular nowadays. Today's globe has more scientists and evidence than in the past. They believed in faith more in medieval Scholasticism and just trusted what the Church taught. They also strictly adhered to the Bible and made no attempt to study anything else. I do not believe this viewpoint is widely held now since we live in a time when science and physical proof are valued. People strive to actively study topics with proof and believe specialists in their fields. The belief is founded on the assumption that individuals before them obeyed religion and the Bible and were informed that they should do the same. People just trusted the Bible when it declared God was all-powerful and created everything. The Church believed in it and encouraged its adherents to do the same. The religious folk did not actively seek to learn from many sources. They had complete confidence in God and the Bible. These assumptions were probably justified at the time because that is all they were instructed to believe. They did not have anything else to go on, so they trusted the Bible. But, once actual scientists began making findings based on facts, I do not believe it was necessary. They had genuine persons and facts in front of them, but they refused to trust them. After that, it only demonstrated that they were too blinded by religion and should have listened to genuine science.

## #5

Learning new knowledge about the Earth, science, and other topics might lead to individuals discovering God in other areas as well. As one learns how God created that object, studying how things are created or how they work can lead to a sense of wonder and awe. Learning about humans and the objects on Earth may immediately show you how detailed God crafted such things. Because we now grasp such things, we are filled with wonder and reverence. Learning new things brings you closer to what God decided and did. When I was in high school, one of the times I felt wonder, and reverence was in psychology class. We were studying how the human brain can perform so many things and how science contributes to this. I learned how the brain causes individuals to feel, think, and experience things. I was in wonder after learning that since God created our thoughts to be so comprehensive and magnificent. It seemed incredible to me that something in our minds could achieve all of that while yet allowing us to live our lives. This prompted me to praise since I believe God accomplished it for us and formed us with such mature, incredible sentiments and ideas. Learning can help individuals feel in awe of God's creations and the way he formed them.

**CHAPTER 3****#10**

Pam, Ray, and Ian had quite different experiences regarding what their church thought about them majoring in psychology and maybe working in the field. My personal meeting with members of my church was most comparable to both Ray's and Ian's. Unlike the individuals in this narrative, I am a member of the Catholic church, but I have the same beliefs. Anyone I've told has been sympathetic and has encouraged me to go out and assist people, which is like Ray's tale. I genuinely do not want to go into therapy; instead, I want to go into a field that few people understand, which is like Ian's tale. However, the folks I have informed have been supportive and have said nothing about how they believe psychology and theology cannot coexist. I believe we are entering a new era in which individuals do not hold the same beliefs. People now pay greater attention to science and recognize that it is equally as essential as religion. People still believe that majoring in psychology leads to therapy, which should no longer be the case. There are various paths that people might choose that have nothing to do with faith, as Ian mentioned. I have always been positive in all these meetings, and if they misinterpret it as therapy, I gently correct them. Nobody is to fault for creating assumptions or confusing psychology with counseling. I appreciate the encouragement I've received. I honestly don't sure how I would react if someone replied to me in the same way Pam did. I would probably just argue with them and remind them that psychology and Christianity can coexist. I would walk on, knowing that they just don't understand psychology or the science behind it. As I previously stated, I believe we are living in a period where people believe and follow science just as much as they do religion. There are not as many closed-minded people as there formerly were.

**#13**

Vive's remark is intriguing for both religion and psychology since it initiates a discussion between the two. I believe it goes toward the psychology side of things since he stated that we need to comprehend it in psychological terms. It does imply that we need to understand more about it physically and scientifically. Vive's did argue, however, that the soul is intricate and enigmatic, which leads to a more theological aspect. This exposes more theology since God created humanity and their souls. He was the one who made them difficult and profound. There is just too much to define about the soul, particularly because it is so mysterious, owing to God. Vive's point is simply that studying about it psychologically might help us grasp it a little better. All of this encourages discussion by presenting both theological and psychological perspectives. This phrase demonstrates that the soul is too enigmatic to comprehend, which is God's doing, yet comprehending it psychologically provides a small amount of comprehension that humans strive for. This quote and its significance might be used to discuss both perspectives.

**#14**

All the diverse attitudes of Christians to psychology and psychotherapy strike me as odd. Psychology and psychotherapy, in my opinion, are basically sciences that people have always attempted to understand and learn more about. It is intended to assist and heal those suffering from mental diseases. Psychology simply allows people to assist other humans in dealing with challenges and mental health issues. I recognize that God created us and our intellect, but that does not always imply that people live ideal lives. Individuals also sin, which God recognizes, thus people make mistakes and can sometimes be their own issue in their heads. I also recognize that spiritual growth is as vital as psychological progress in helping individuals heal. The reactions I don't comprehend are those that don't believe in psychology or believe it should not exist. I also don't see why people believe faith and psychology can't coexist and both serve people. Nobody would comprehend their own brain or how it operates if psychology did not exist. Psychotherapy assists people in recovering from traumatic events or challenges. Both are available to assist persons who are experiencing mental difficulties. In my perspective, mixing Christian beliefs is also rather simple because spiritual growth may be supplied by counselors as well. Praying and having faith are not always enough to fix someone's condition. The only problem that individuals who disagree should take seriously is that theology should be included in psychology as well. I believe that both should collaborate and that both can serve individuals in various ways. Depending on the client, prayer and more biblically oriented counseling may be beneficial. Integrating both can assist each customer in the way they require assistance. That is, in my opinion, the only problem that should be addressed seriously, because the science underlying psychology helps a lot of people and should not be looked down upon by religious people.