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Integration of Psychology and Theology: A Survey

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Essays: Unit 4

CHAPTER 5

#1

I'm aware of how many assumptions I've picked up from my culture and subculture that impact the way I see the world. I'm aware that I have these assumptions, but for some reason I'm having difficulty defining them. The remainder of this question, I think, makes my failure to come up with assumptions seem comical. The second part of the question is how much I believe individuals are conscious of their preconceptions. Based on my personal experience, I believe that ordinary people have a difficult time becoming aware of these global assumptions. Everyone grows up in a unique way and in a unique circumstance. This enables people to have such diverse worldviews and beliefs about a wide range of topics. As individuals start traveling and seeing different cultures and regions, they discover how much they have assumed or interpreted the world in a biased manner. This, I believe, is the only way for individuals to become conscious of their assumptions. People require variety in their lives. While it appears to be a simple answer, ordinary people do not always can experience a different way of life and perspectives. People get stuck in their hometowns and make assumptions without recognizing it. People may quickly begin to realize their preconceptions if they get out and see the world, in my opinion. Normal individuals, on the other hand, don't always have that opportunity, which is why many people never detect their own

preconceptions. That, I believe, is why it would be difficult to confront firmly ingrained cultural ideas. If many individuals continue to believe their assumptions and surround themselves with people who believe the same things, they will never recognize their assumptions for themselves. They would just continue to believe that they were correct and that this was the way the world was for everyone. It would be tough for someone to challenge preconceptions for a whole society because they have all been told what is proper and wrong for decades. They would most likely be unwilling to abandon such beliefs and assumptions since they were all they knew. I believe that if I was born into a racist family in a racist society, I would adopt my culture's racist values. If everyone around me was racist, I wouldn't think there was anything wrong with racism. I'd grow up believing that was how the world was, and I'd never question it unless I saw anything different. Hopefully, I will someday see that the rest of the world recognizes racism as bad, but it will need me to see other people's lives and be told by individuals who are not from my racist society.

#2

I agree with the author's opinion that humans can only evaluate their ideas to get contingent certainty and that anything more is impossible. This, I believe, is because individuals have a difficult time perceiving their own ideas. It is just not feasible for someone to properly review and investigate their own views. Individuals struggle to identify their own personality features, which are constantly displayed. A person may try to have a hazy sense of their thoughts and points of view because they believe they know themselves, but this could not be farther from the truth. Individuals get so used to their own beliefs and assumptions that they become practically invisible to themselves. It is also true of beliefs; individuals are so accustomed to seeing and believing things that they are unable to analyze them. After becoming so used to certain notions, it would be hard to perceive them objectively. The author employs the term "god-like quality" since individuals cannot really judge themselves in this manner. They can only dimly grasp and perceive them which makes it a "contingent certainty".

#3

Intellectual bravery and intellectual perseverance are the hardest attributes for me. I struggle with intellectual bravery because I dislike being in settings where my knowledge or beliefs can be challenged. I prefer to be in a secure environment where I am not required to challenge what I know or believe. I also dislike being intellectually challenged since it makes me feel stupid or behind others. I struggle with intellectual endurance as well since I prefer to rest rather than learn new things and hence feel sluggish or unmotivated. It's not that I dislike learning new things or school; in fact, I enjoy both. I just can't seem to find the drive to do the task, so I delay. Procrastination almost ensures that I won't learn much or get much out of it since it becomes all about doing the assignment on time. I also prefer to relax and do activities other than work, which leads to me not working hard to obtain information. Both would be rather simple to build and strengthen if I put in the effort. I may improve my intellectual bravery by putting myself in circumstances where my beliefs might be questioned. I could speak out more in class and attempt to answer questions. This would need my sharing my thoughts and knowledge with others in a secure setting. I may learn new things while having my responses assessed. This would give me the strength to leave my secure zone where I am never questioned. I'd get more comfortable putting my knowledge and opinions out there for everyone to see, which would help me acquire bravery. I may improve my cerebral endurance by starting my task early and not delaying. This would drive me to strive to understand the content rather than simply completing it to meet the deadline. I would aggressively seek to study and acquire information that would benefit me. This would also help me like learning and school more in the long run because I wouldn't be anxious about finishing tasks on time. I'd then be eager to begin studying and accumulating information. It would assist me in gaining intellectual perseverance, which would solve my difficulty.

#4

Human finitude, fragility, and fallenness all impact and restrict the quest for knowledge since they are all human limitations. Humans sin because it is in our nature. Then there are the individual and corporate consequences of sin, which pull us down. All these impacts knock individuals down and weaken them. Human finitude, weakness, and fallenness all impact and restrict the pursuit for knowledge since individuals don't care about knowledge at that time in their lives. When individuals transgress and suffer the repercussions, they aren't concerned with learning information and ideas. Human finitude drives people to give up without considering anything limited. People lose interest in learning new things because they no longer require it or believe it is beneficial. People become increasingly susceptible and feeble because of human weakness. People are discouraged from seeking information because they are preoccupied with themselves. They don't have time to be concerned with a desire for knowledge. People are weak and depressed because of their fallen nature. They don't need information since they've given up. All the individual and corporate consequences of sin encourage individuals to cease searching and learning. Individuals become so engrossed in their own lives and issues that they fail to see the value of knowledge. When individuals sin, it halts the advancement of knowledge and the acquisition of new information.

#6

Rebecca's reasoning for concluding that Jimmy was demonically possessed is weak. Her initial assertion, "rock-and-roll music is often a product of demonic influence" is a premise since it might be accurate or untrue. Her subsequent assertions that "people can make fake Faustian bargains whereby they give their soul to a demonic force in exchange for a supernatural ability" and "Jimmy claims that his guitar-playing ability suddenly emerged during a rock-and-roll event" are inferences. They're inferences since they occur after her initial premise, which is expected to be followed. She then says, "Jimmy's account is accurate" which is a premise since it might be true or wrong. "Therefore, Jimmy must have made a deal with a demon to acquire his guitar playing ability" she concludes. Both of her concepts are fundamentally faulty. The one concerning rock and roll music is untrue since it is an opinion, and so the entire argument is invalid. The comment established her argument as incorrect, hence her entry into the argument was poor. Her second presumption regarding Jimmy might possibly be incorrect. There is a means to establish whether his account was correct, but I don't have that information. Its premise is incorrect since no one knows whether it is true or not. Jimmy's account might be completely incorrect. Rebecca's entire argument is invalid since she lacks compelling points at every turn. She has opinions that do not make strong arguments. She also lacks substantial evidence to back up her assertion. Her argument is incorrect and weak because of all of this. Nobody could truly grasp her argument based on her beliefs and thoughts.

#8

As I read the Bible, I want to apply hermeneutics to better comprehend it. I don't now employ hermeneutics while reading Scripture since I never considered it. I simply read and attempt to comprehend what is being stated. I've never gone the additional mile to grasp the concept on a deeper level. "What does the Scripture say?", "Why was it written?", "Are there words that are unclear or carry a different meaning?", and "What is the overall context of a passage?" are the hermeneutical concepts mentioned by the author that I wish to embrace. I want to adopt them precisely since I believe they are the most relevant to when I'm reading. I believe that asking these questions while I read will help me comprehend the Scripture on a deeper level than merely words. They will assist me in broadening my understanding of the reading and what they do for me. There are no hermeneutical principles offered by the author with which I disagree. All the ones listed made sense to me and would aid a reader's understanding of the Bible. I'm not sure what someone would argue with because they were all there to assist folks have a better knowledge. I believe they would all help individuals have a deeper understanding and respect for the Bible.