

REFLECTION & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS-

Unit 2: Past, Present & Prayer

- 1) Imagine you are Galileo. You have been asked to recant your belief in a heliocentric universe and promise not to spread this teaching anymore or you will be excommunicated. What might you do? Why do you think Galileo recanted? Why do you think the Church was so threatened by Galileo's views?

Answer: If I had to imagine myself as Galileo, I would still do the work. Why? Because being a Christian is one that is BOLD & takes a STANCE no matter what. However, being bold and taking a stance, that NEVER gives me the right or authority to insult the church and everyone else as Galileo did. With my respect for leadership & authority of the church, I would have found another way to let them see or know my discovery without what I deem the disrespect of Galileo. Entwistle informs us Galileo confrontation was formed by the ecclesia power struggles. Galileo proved that Copernican theory was a contradiction to the interpretation of scripture. Copernican teaching was contrary to the church doctrine that led people to question the church, leadership and truth of the word. Defending the word of God is always a great challenge for me in love and respect.

- 2) Compare and contrast Draper's view of the relationship of faith and science to the view espoused by Whitehead and others. Which view comes closer to your own view? Are faith and science allies or enemies? Do you think the argument that Christianity laid the groundwork for science has merit?

Answer: My view in the relationship of faith and science is closer to that of Whitehead, that faith is not contrary to science, the Christian understanding of this world made by God laid the foundation for science. My opinion of science can help us learn more about the way God created the universe and appreciate the wonders of creation. The powerful conception for me is that the details of creation that are not written in the Bible can be understood through science. I think faith and science allies should be considered to be allies to those who do believe that they are enemies.

Science is to observe and discover the laws of the world, while religion is to explore the world beyond the world and to contemplate the relationship between the world & God. There is no reason for science to conflict with faith. Scripture is an authoritative source of gaining knowledge, and things that can not be proven by science are not true and viewed in a different light. This is when they become allies. I believe God is the creator of the entire world, who is distinct from, but involved with the creation, while most major figures in the early development of science were Christians who were influenced by scripture. Yes I agree with the argument that Christianity laid the groundwork for science.

- 3) Reread the passages quoted from John Paul's paper encyclical *Fides et ratio*. What do you find in his argument that you appreciate? Are there things that you disagree with or are hesitant about? Why?

Answer: I appreciate Paul's statement, especially when he quoted Both the light of reason and the light of faith come from God. He stated there can be no contradiction between them. I totally agree with his statement because God exists in both reason and light. He created both reason and light. Reason was man (Human) and light of Faith for me was believing man would always believe in him throughout all eternity.

- 4) As you consider the various reactions of Christians to psychology and psychotherapy, which reactions are foreign to your way of thinking? Are there concerns voiced in some of the reactions that we should take seriously?

Answer: Being liberal and Neo-Orthodox and the reaction to my way of thinking. This movement was against the doctrines of the 19th century. I take the doctrines (teachings) of God very seriously and we should encourage others to live by them. Not forcing religion on anyone, yet encouraging all to believe in God and his existence.

- 5) How did Vatican II change the nature of theological reflection and ability for Catholic theology to enjoin other disciplines? How has the Catholic interface with psychology been similar to and different from that of other Christian traditions?

Answer: Vatican II became more open to psychopathology, yet before this occurred, Vatican II, Catholicism and psychology were opposite in views. Vatican II produced *Gaudium et Spes* which & its nucleus was the Pastoral Constitution, as John XXIII hoped. Before nature, *Gaudium et Spes* was extremely important in paving the way for integrating Catholic theology and psychology.

- 6) The author claims that compared to other Christian groups, evangelicals are more divided about the relationship of theology and psychology. Why might evangelicals be more divided on this issue? What factors in evangelical history and belief compel an interest in psychology? What factors in evangelical history and beliefs have fostered opposition to psychology?

Answer: Evangelicals traditions were shaped by the fundamentalist (an anti-intellectual, anti-social action, and anti-ecumenical) and modernist (pro-intellectual, pro-social action, and pro - ecumenical) there were conflicts on accepting modernism between them and this caused divisions. Fundamentalist rejected psychology , the liberal church had adopted a social gospel and embraced psychotherapy as a means of ministering to social needs as their primary interest was evangelization. The factors in evangelical history and belief compel interest psychology would be that the fundamentalist 's effort to protect their theological orthodoxy, they became critical to Christians who did not share their distrust of psychology.