



The Mind Of God

RIGHT THINKING

*Logic is the study of correct reasoning
To be logical is to think rightly; to
draw reasonable conclusions from the
available information.*

- BUT WHO DECIDES WHAT IS THE 'RIGHT WAY' TO THINK.

The Standard of Correct Thinking

- If two people disagree on whether something is reasonable, who is right?
- What is the standard by which we judge a particular line of reasoning to be correct or incorrect?
- In the Christian Worldview we can answer these questions.
 - God determines the correct way to reason
 - God is the standard for all truth claims

Emotions Are Not Contrary To Logic

- Logic is not stoicism
- Logic simply refers to correct reasoning, not the suppression of feelings.
- Emotions are not necessarily contrary to correct reasoning.
 - For example, should someone be murdered it would be perfectly reasonable to feel the emotion of sadness for the victim, family and friends. It would also be perfectly reasonable to feel anger toward the murderer.
 - God always reasons correctly and yet he has feelings.
- Strong emotions might tempt a person to act illogically and immorally. But the feelings themselves are not contrary to reason.

Religion Is Not Contrary To Logic

- ❑ Religion, in the sense of a set of beliefs about God, is not necessarily contrary to logic.
- ❑ Since Logic is the study of correct reasoning and if correct reasoning leads us to a certain religious belief, then it would be illogical to reject that belief.
 - ❑ Granted, not all religions are not logical
 - ❑ Some beliefs about God are not reasonable at all.
 - ❑ The belief that God does not exist (atheism) is a belief that is not based upon good reasons. It is illogical
 - ❑ Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, Mormon (and many other religions) are not consistent with the principles of right thinking because they all reject what God has said about Himself
 - ❑ Christianity, those beliefs about God that are based on what God Himself has said in the Bible – is very logical. In fact, as we will see, when we study the Bible, It is obvious that any other religion is illogical to believe.

Logic Is Not The Same As Science

- ❑ Logic is the study of correct thinking or reasoning
- ❑ Science is the study of the consistent operation of the universe.
 - ❑ Good scientists will use logic in their reasoning. So science uses logic.
 - ❑ It is believed by many that all questions can be answered using scientific methods.
 - ❑ For many questions, the scientific methods is a fabulous tool in deriving the correct answer.
 - ❑ How long will it take for a space ship to fly to Pluto?
 - ❑ And for many questions, the scientific method is inadequate and the wrong tool in deriving the correct answer.
 - ❑ Moral questions, Historical questions, some mathematical problems,
 - ❑ Some questions can be answered by science and some cannot. However; all questions should be answered rationally, in a way that involves correct reasoning. We shouldn't always use science to answer questions, be we should always be logical.

Logic Is The Way God Thinks

- ❑ To think logically is to think – in a sense – like God thinks
- ❑ And by definition, to be logical is to reason correctly.
- ❑ God always thinks correctly, therefore God is always logical
- ❑ When we are thinking correctly, we are thinking in a way that is consistent with how God thinks.
 - ❑ God is the ultimate standard of correct thinking.
 - ❑ If we are to be correct we must learn to match our thinking with God's
 - ❑ God's mind is not exactly like our mind, but there is some similarity because we're made in God's image.
- ❑ There are some critical differences in our minds.
 - ❑ Our minds discover truth as we learn new things
 - ❑ God's mind determines truth. Whatever God decides to be true becomes true. Whatever God says, so the universe becomes, reread Genesis 1:3-15

All Things Are What God Says

- ❑ Whatever God affirms, whatever He says to Himself is always true because the universe becomes whatever God decides.
 - ❑ God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). God cannot say anything false because reality always becomes what God says it is.
 - ❑ God is truth (John 14:6) Reality always matches what God's mind determines, much like our daydreams match what our minds think.
 - ❑ Man's mind does not determine reality. God's mind does determine reality. If man desires to have true thoughts, man must match his thinking to God's.
 - ❑ Mankind must base his thinking on God's thinking as illustrated in scripture if our thinking is going to be correct. Therefore Bible study is not only important, but essential and critical to becoming logical.

How Can The Finite Think Like The Infinite God, Creator of All?

- ❑ How can man hope to ever think like God?
 - ❑ Our minds are finite. God's mind is infinite
 - ❑ God is beyond time and therefore His thoughts are eternal, timeless. Man's thinking is within time.
 - ❑ It takes us time to think things through and to learn. We draw conclusions from information we've received at an earlier time. God is infinite, therefore He can continuously consider all possible scenarios and all their infinite implications instantly.
 - ❑ Clearly man cannot think exactly as God, but he can think in a way that is consistent with His character, much the same way as a shadow resembles its object. So man's thinking should have the same basic "shape" as God's
 - ❑ Man has the capacity to shadow God's thoughts because God has made human beings in His own image.
 - ❑ Man can be rational just as God is rational.
 - ❑ Genesis 1:3, 9, 11-12, 14-15, 27, 2 Timothy 2:13, 2 Corinthians 1:18, John 14:6, Titus 1:2,