

Absolute Truth = Absolute God

the nature of God

the nature of absolute truth

a perfect match

Psalm 90:2

God is

eternal

forever

= absolute truth

Psalm 102:25-27

God is

immutable

unchangeable

= absolute truth

Psalm 139:7-10

God is

omnipresent

everywhere

= absolute truth

Psalm 145:3

God is

transcendent

unreachable

= absolute truth

Psalm 98:2-3

God is

immanent

revealed

= absolute truth

Psalm 19:7-9

God is

perspicuity

comprehensible

= absolute truth

Psalm 119:103-104

God is

omniscient

relevant

= absolute truth

Psalm 119:89, 160

God is

omnipotent

preserved

= absolute truth

God is Absolute Truth

absolute truth → the attributes of God

the attributes of God

spirit
holy · perfect
infinite & eternal
aseity & self-sufficient
omniscient · all knowing
omnipotent · all powerful
omnipresent · all present
absolute & immutable
incomprehensible
sovereign & free
love
good
truth
faithful
wisdom
grace · mercy
righteous · just

the attributes in action

love
joy
peace
patience
kindness
goodness
faithfulness
gentleness
self-control

God is Absolute Truth

God reveals His truth to man

God

is absolute truth



revelation

the Word of God · Jesus Christ

the written Word

the living Word

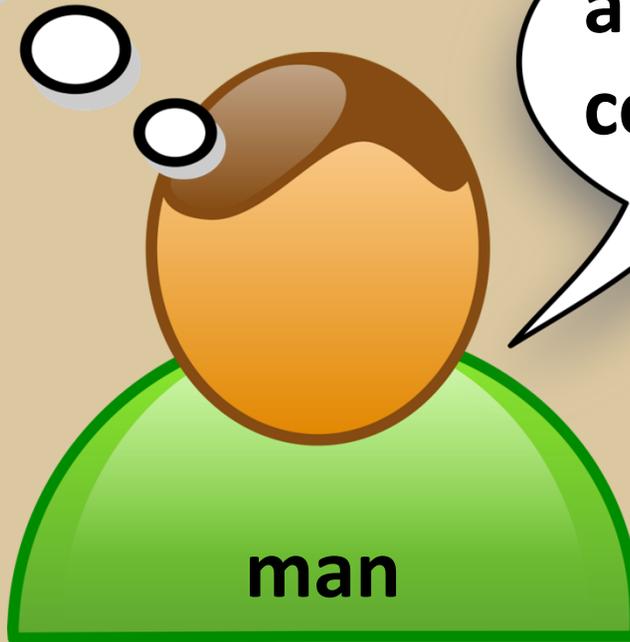
LOGOS = λόγος = “word”

the expression of a thought · a concept · an idea · a truth

God is Absolute Truth

the meaning of LOGOS · “Word”

a word ...
conceived



a word ...
communicated

a word is the outward form by which an inward thought is expressed

God is Absolute Truth

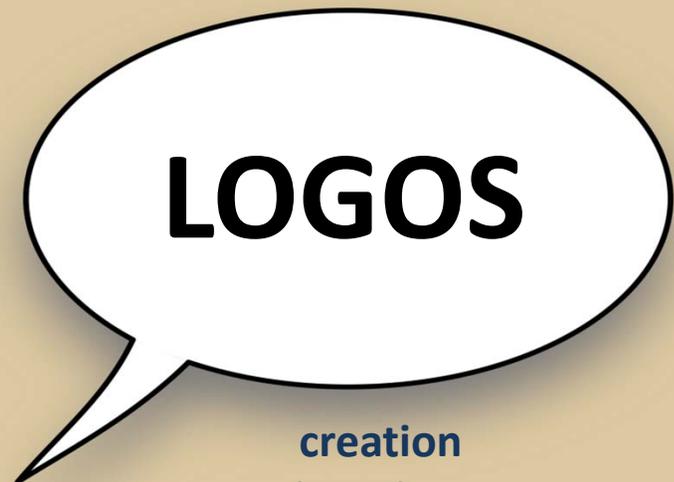
the meaning of LOGOS · “Word”

LOGOS existing in God ...
the perfect and absolute Word



truth
logic · reason
knowledge · wisdom
order · design
the meaning of life

LOGOS spoken by God ...
the powerful and authoritative Word



creation
theophany
Old Testament
Jesus Christ
New Testament
the life · the light
grace and truth

God

God is Absolute Truth

absolute truth ➡ the LOGOS

John 1:1-5 ➡ the Word / the LOGOS / the Creator / the life, the light, and the darkness

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. ⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it.

John 1:6-8 ➡ John the Baptist / the witness of the light

⁶ There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to testify about the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but *he came* to testify about the light.

John 1:9-13 ➡ the true light / the Creator / receive · believe / the children of God

⁹ There was the true light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. ¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, *even* to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

John 1:14-18 ➡ the Word / the LOGOS / flesh and glory / grace and truth / the only begotten God

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ John testified about Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has a higher rank than I, for He existed before me.'" ¹⁶ For of His fullness we have all received, and grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has seen God at any time; the only begotten God who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained *Him*.

God is Absolute Truth

the seven “I am” statements

the person (present)

the call (present)

the promise (future)

John 6:35 ➔ “**I am** the bread of life;
he who comes to Me **shall** not hunger, and **he who** believes in me **shall** not thirst.”

John 8:12 ➔ “**I am** the light of the world;
he who follows Me **shall** not walk in the darkness, but **shall** have the light of life.”

John 10:9 ➔ “**I am** the door;
if **anyone** enters through Me, he **shall** be saved, and **shall** go in and out, and **shall** find pasture.”

John 10:11 ➔ “**I am** the good shepherd;
the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.”



the Shepherd & “My sheep”
He calls His sheep by name (10:3)

John 11:25-26 ➔ “**I am** the resurrection and the life;
he who believes in Me **shall** live even if he dies, and
everyone who lives and believes in Me **shall** never die.”

John 10:25-30

(I call them) ➔ My sheep hear
I know them ➔ My sheep follow
I give them eternal life ➔
My sheep shall never perish

John 14:6 ➔ “**I am** the way, and the truth, and the life;
no one comes to the Father, but through Me.”

John 15:5 ➔ “**I am** the vine, you are the branches;
he who abides in Me, and I in him, **he bears** ~ much fruit;
for apart from Me **you can** ~ do ~ nothing.”

God is Absolute Truth

LOGOS · COSMOS · CHAOS

Hebrew

ToHu WaBoHu ▪ Genesis 1:3

ToHu = “formless” ➔ nothing · no form or shape

WaBoHu = “void” ➔ emptiness · an empty area

Latin

creatio ex nihilo = “creation out of nothing” ➔ nothing comes from nothing

Greek

chaos χάος = “emptiness” ➔ complete confusion · random disorder

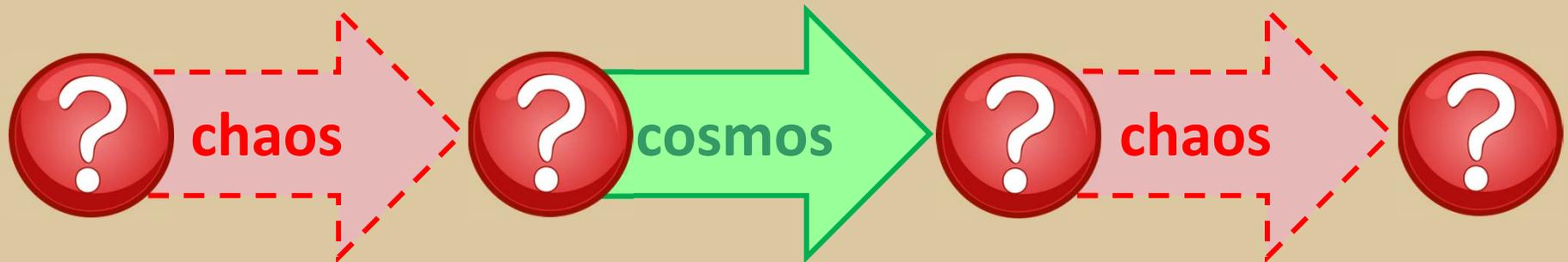
cosmos κόσμος = “world” ➔ the ordered universe

logos λόγος = “word” ➔ truth · wisdom · order · design

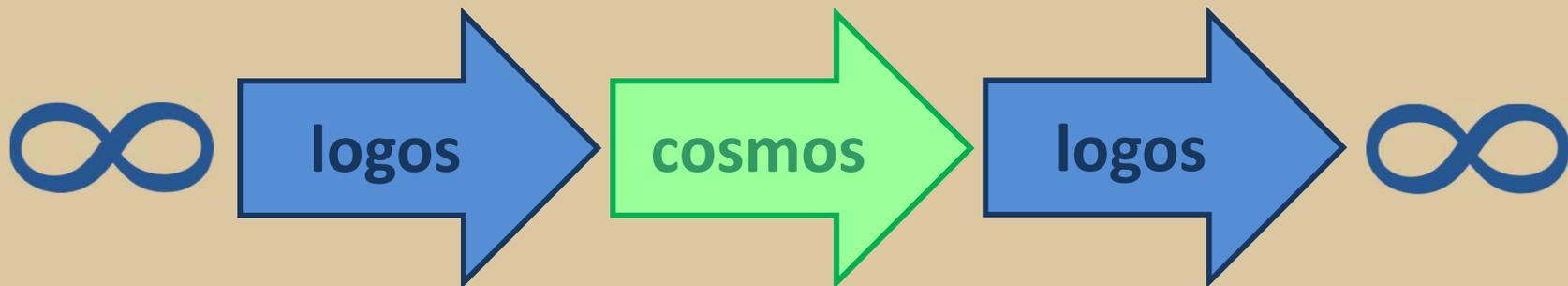
God is Absolute Truth

LOGOS · COSMOS · CHAOS

humanism



theism



chaos occurs in cosmos when logos is abandoned

God is Absolute Truth

God reveals His truth to man

God

is absolute truth

revelation



the Word of God · Jesus Christ

all absolutely true



the
good
man

the
natural
man

the
spiritual
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the
glorified
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Christian World View

Truth

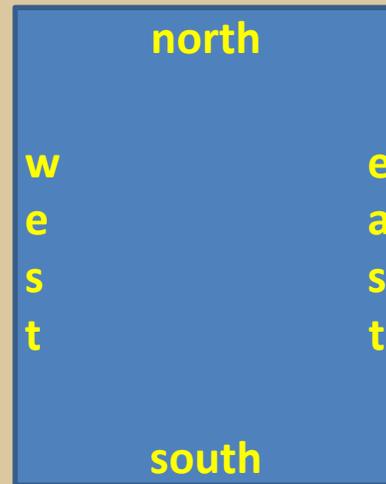
The Renaissance

Vatican City · Apostolic Palace · “Room of Segnatura” Raphael · fresco paintings · 1508-1511

The Parnassus

[the dwelling place of the gods]

Arts · “beauty”



The Disputation of the Sacrament
[the Eucharist]
Theology · “supernatural truth”

The School of Athens
[truth by human reason]
Philosophy · “natural truth”

The Cardinal Virtues and the Law
[fortitude · prudence · temperance]
Justice · “good”



Vatican Museums

“The Room of the Segnatura contains Raphael's most famous frescoes. Besides being the first work executed by the great artist in the Vatican they mark the beginning of the high Renaissance. The room takes its name from the highest court of the Holy See, the "Segnatura Gratiae et Iustitiae", which was presided over by the pontiff and used to meet in this room around the middle of the 16th century. Originally the room was used by Julius II (pontiff from 1503 to 1513) as a library and private office. The iconographic program of the frescoes, which were painted between 1508 and 1511, is related to this function. It was certainly established by a theologian and meant to represent the three greatest categories of the human spirit: Truth, Good and Beauty. Supernatural Truth is illustrated in the Disputation of the Most Holy Sacrament (theology), while rational Truth is illustrated in the School of Athens (philosophy). Good is expressed in the Cardinal and Theological Virtues and the Law. Beauty is represented in the Parnassus with Apollo and the Muses. The frescoes of the ceiling are connected with the scenes below them. The allegorical figures of Theology, Philosophy, Justice and Poetry allude in fact to the faculties of the spirit painted on the corresponding walls. Under Leo X (pontiff from 1513 to 1521) the room was used as a small study and music room, in which the pontiff also kept his collection of musical instruments. The original furnishings of the time of Julius II were removed and replaced with a new wooden wainscot, the work of Fra Giovanni da Verona. The wood covered all the walls with the exception of that of the Parnassus, where, for reasons of space, the same decoration, still visible today, was painted in fresco. The wooden wainscot was probably destroyed following the Sack of Rome in 1527 and in its place, during the pontificate of Paul III (pontiff from 1534 to 1549) a wainscot in chiaroscuro was painted by Perin del Vaga.”

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south · justice

west · theology



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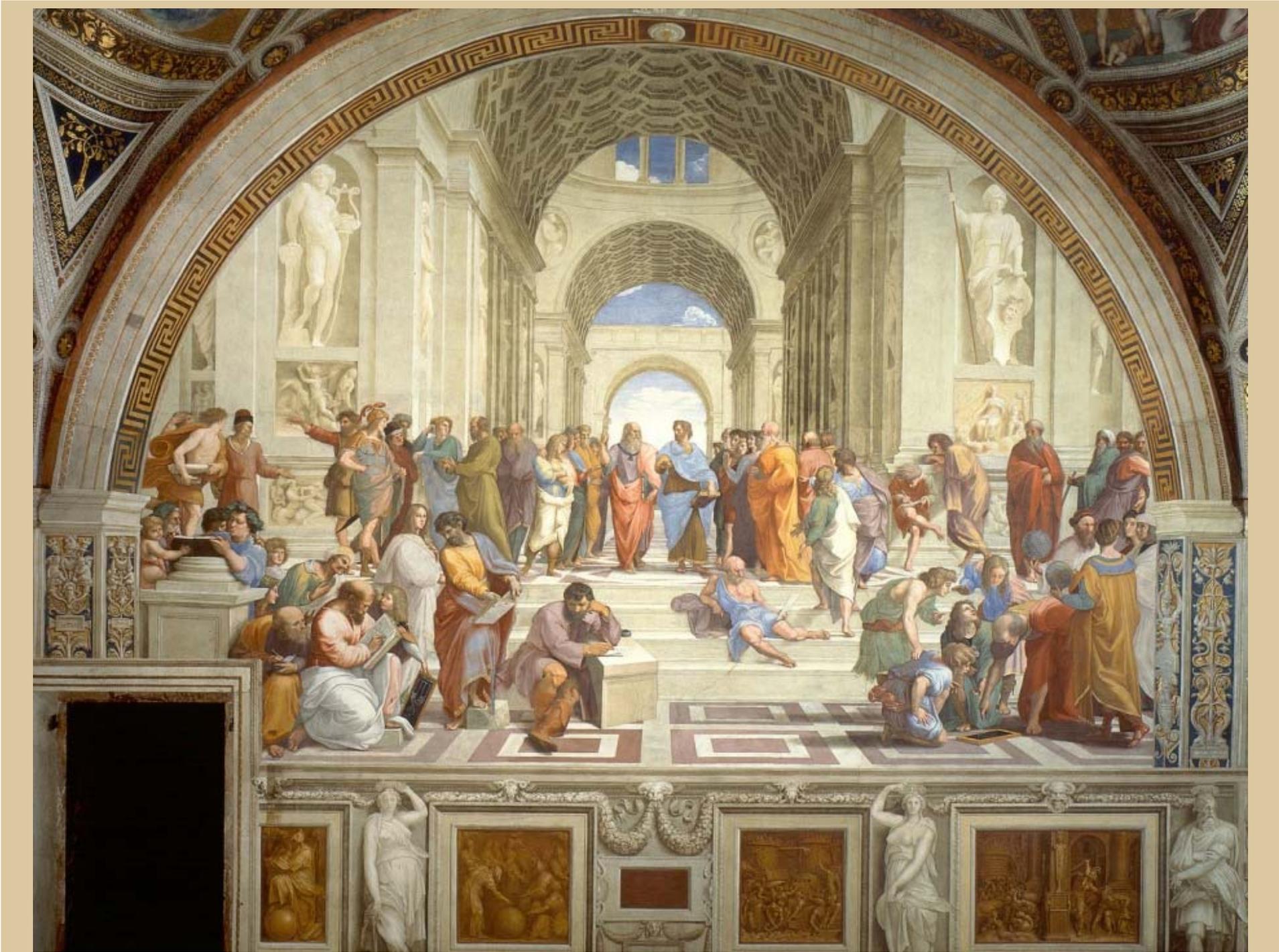


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“On the wall corresponding to Theology, is the fresco of the so-called Disputation of the Most Holy Sacrament, the title of which should more rightly be that of the Triumph of Religion. At the sides of the Most Holy Trinity (with God the Father, Christ between the Virgin and St John the Baptist, and the Holy Spirit in the center) is the Triumphant Church, with patriarchs and prophets of the Old Testament alternated with apostles and martyrs, seated in a hemicycle on the clouds. The personages are (from left to right for the viewer). St Peter, Adam, St John the Evangelist, David, St Laurence, Judas Maccabees, St Stephen, Moses, St James the elder, Abraham, St Paul. On the ground, at the sides of the altar on which the Most Holy Sacrament dominates, is the Militant Church. On the marble thrones closest to the altar sit four Fathers of the Latin Church: St Gregory the Great (a portrait of Julius II), St Jerome, St Ambrose and St Augustine.” – **Vatican Museums**





- 1: Zeno of Citium
- 2: Epicurus Possibly, the image of two philosophers, who were typically shown in pairs during the Renaissance: Heraclitus, the "weeping" philosopher, and Democritus, the "laughing" philosopher.
- 3: unknown (believed to be Raphael)
- 4: Boethius or Anaximander or Empedocles?
- 5: Averroes
- 6: Pythagoras
- 7: Alcibiades or Alexander the Great?
- 8: Antisthenes or Xenophon or Timon?
- 9: Raphael, Fornarina as a personification of Love or Francesco Maria della Rovere?
- 10: Aeschines or Xenophon?
- 11: Parmenides? (Leonardo da Vinci)
- 12: Socrates
- 13: Heraclitus (Michelangelo)
- 14: Plato (Leonardo da Vinci)
- 15: Aristotle (Giuliano da Sangallo)
- 16: Diogenes of Sinope
- 17: Plotinus (Donatello?)
- 18: Euclid or Archimedes with students (Bramante?)
- 19: Strabo or Zoroaster? (Baldassare Castiglione)
- 20: Ptolemy? R: Apelles (Raphael)
- 21: Protogenes (Il Sodoma, Perugino, or Timoteo Viti)

“The most famous philosophers of ancient times move within an imposing Renaissance architecture which is inspired by Bramante's project for the renewal of the early Christian basilica of St Peter. Some of these are easily recognizable. In the center Plato points upwards with a finger and holds his book *Timeus* in his hand, flanked by Aristotle with *Ethics*; Pythagoras is shown in the foreground intent on explaining the diatesseron. Diogenes is lying on the stairs with a dish, while the pessimist philosopher, Heraclitus, a portrait of Michelangelo, is leaning against a block of marble, writing on a sheet of paper. Michelangelo was in those years executing the paintings in the nearby Sistine Chapel. On the right we see Euclid, who is teaching geometry to his pupils, Zoroaster holding the heavenly sphere and Ptolemy holding the earthly sphere. The personage on the extreme right with the black beret is a self-portrait of Raphael.” – **Vatican Museum**

Plato



Aristotle

Leonardo Da Vinci





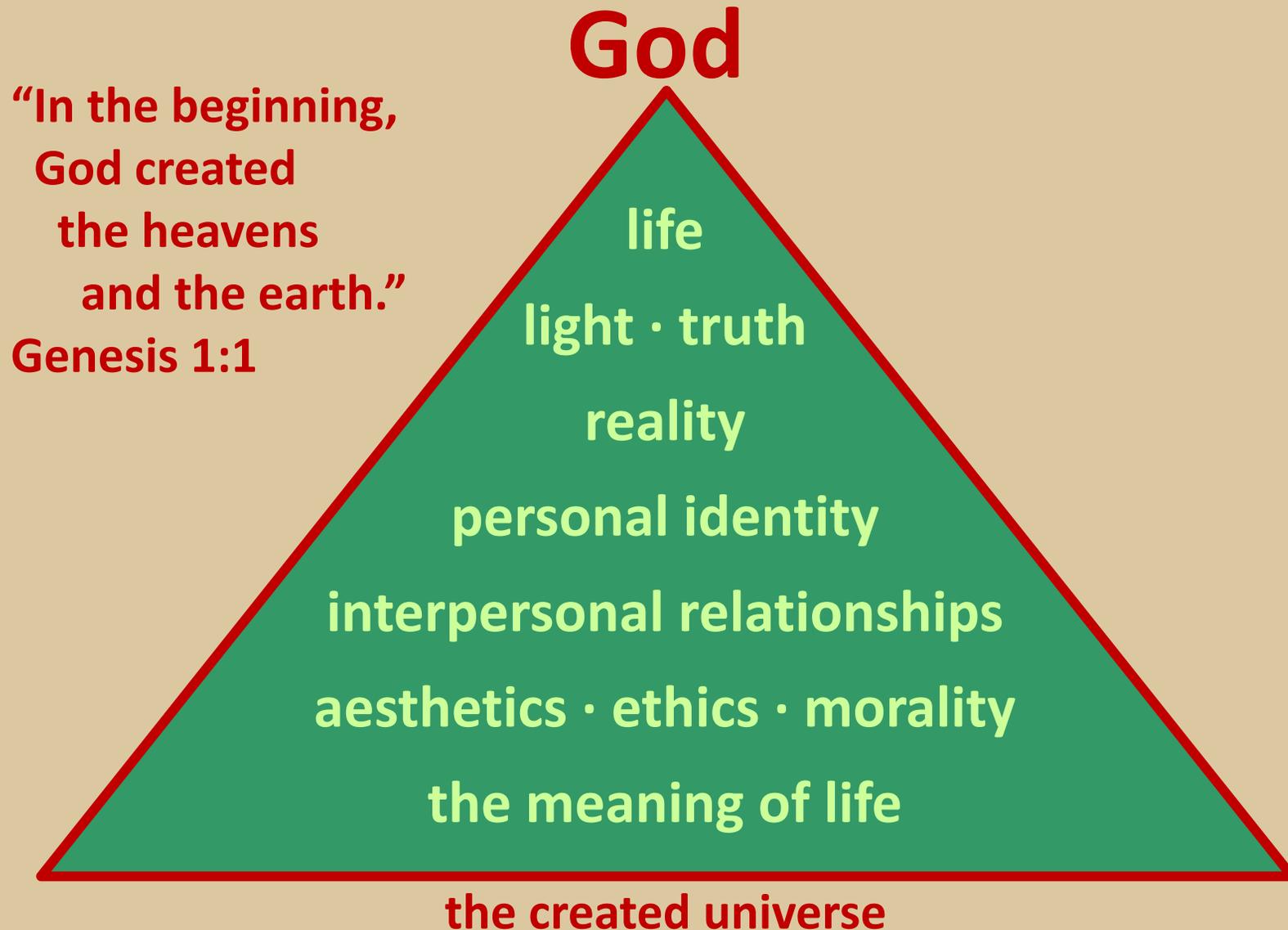
Christian World View

Truth

theism vs humanism

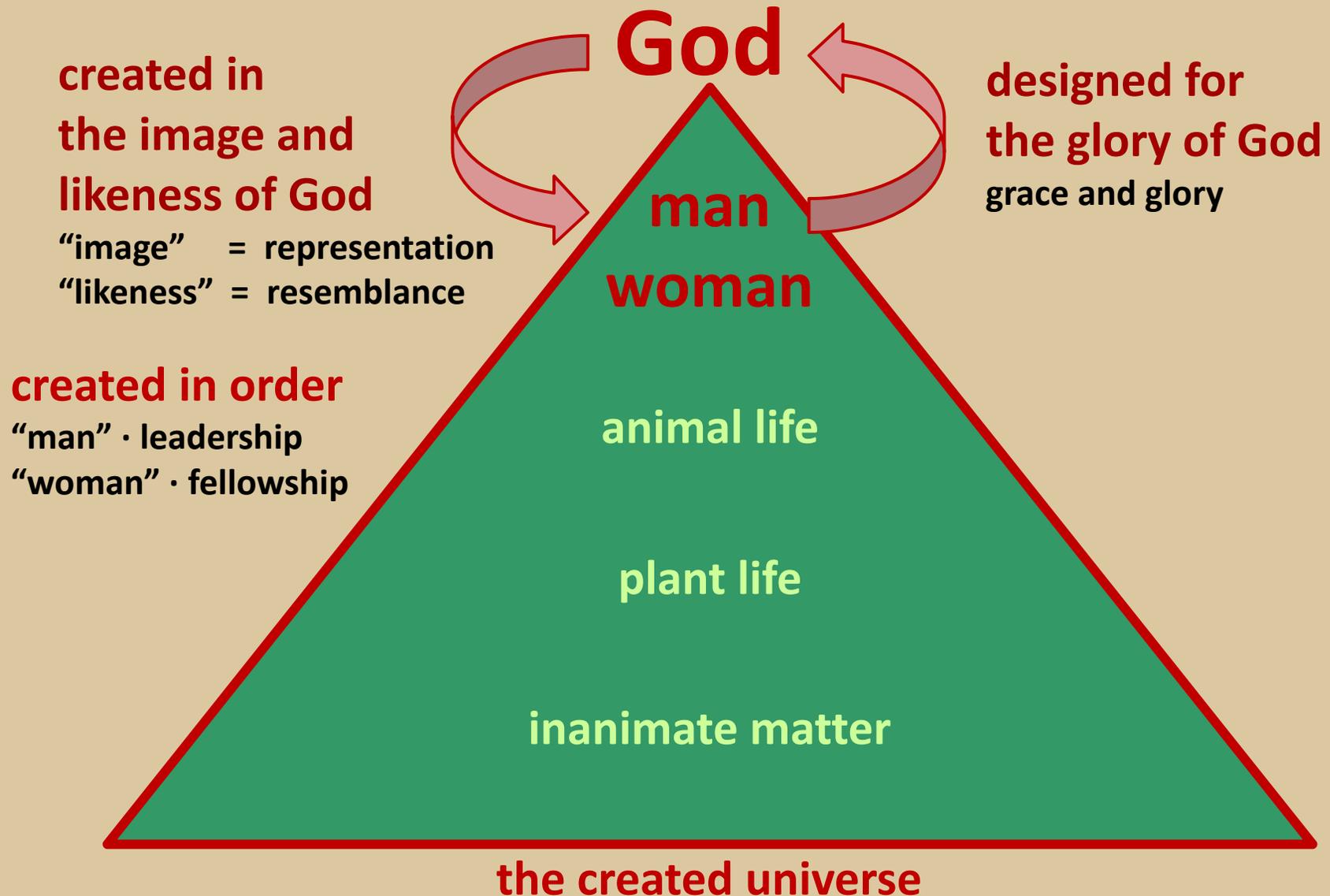
Theism vs. Humanism

the biblical world view



Theism vs. Humanism

the biblical world view



Theism vs. Humanism

the order of creation



THE GREAT DIVIDE

animals
plants & trees
matter

man
animals
plants & trees
matter

“And God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female he created them.” – Genesis 1:27

“image” = representation

“likeness” = resemblance

Theism vs. Humanism

reversing the world view

