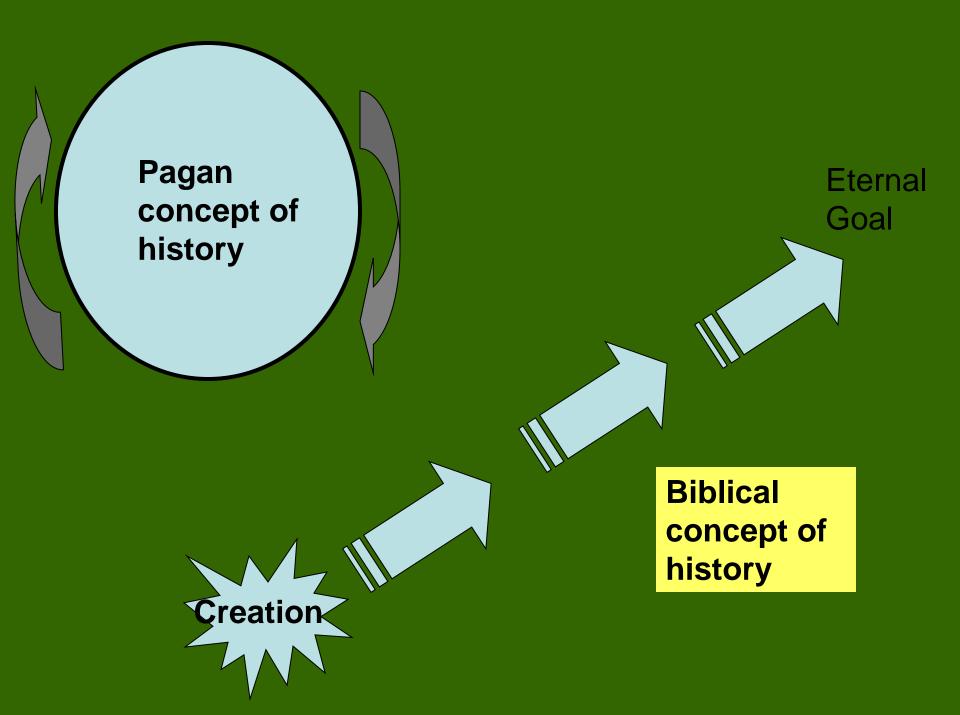
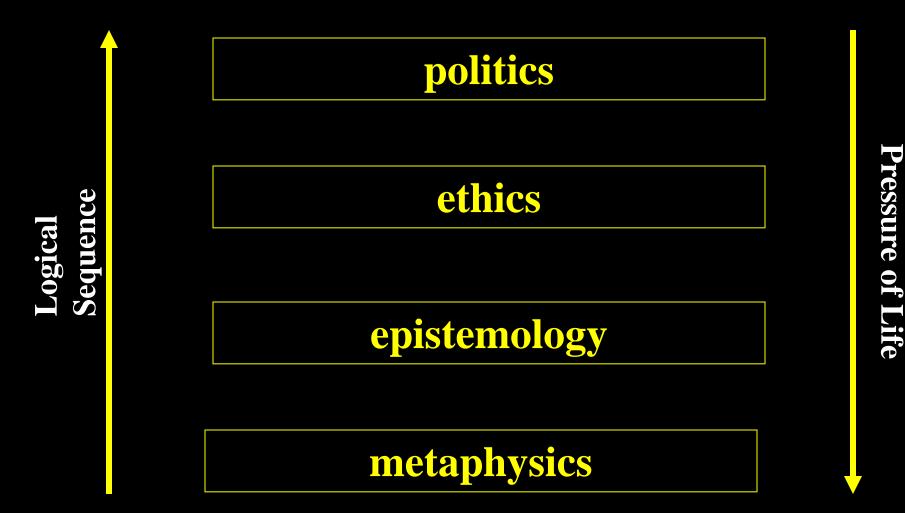
"The orientation response is particularly stressing when a novel event or fact challenges one's whole world view. Given an elaborate ideology—Catholicism, Marxism, or whatever—we quickly recognize (or think we recognize) familiar elements in otherwise novel stimuli and this puts us at ease. Indeed, ideologies may be regarded as large mental filing cabinets with vacant drawers or slots waiting to receive new data. For this reason ideologies serve to reduce the intensity and frequency of the orientation response." Alvin Toffler, Future Shock (1970), p336





Biblical metaphysic & epistemology as basis for the nation	Idolatrous metaphysic & epistemology as basis for the nation
Creator / creature Sovereignty Choice Omnipotence Energy	godsmannature STATE Sovereignty [virtual] Omnipotence
Verbal Revelation Infallibility & accessibility → God is near, joy, confidence against evil	Human speculation [virtual] infallibility without accessibility → God is distant, fear, evil overwhelms

Rebellion against God → Sense of Guilt + Vulnerability to Satanic Deceptions

Suppression of Truth + Satanic Deceptions → Perversion of sense of dominion

Perverted dominion → "re-engineering" reality beginning with God-sense = *idolatry*

Idolatry + impotent flesh \rightarrow immorality, social destruction

Baal -- idol of Nature's Climate Cycle

Cultic prostitution – to trigger fertility



Rain, Fertility: needs of an agrarian economy

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"What distinguishes Yahweh so sharply from Baal is His intimate association with history. He was not bound to the cycle of the seasons but guided his people through history toward a goal. The decisive event was not the victory over the primeval dragon [of chaos] but the victory over the Egyptians...."

A. S. Kapelrud, <u>The Ras Shamra Discoveries and the Old Testament</u>. p52.

ESSENCE of GOD Sovereign **Omnipresent** Righteous **Omnipotent** Just Immutable Loving **Eternal Omniscient**

Response of humble worship and sensitivity to His Word

or

Response of aversion, enmity, and avoidance of His Word

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"There is no such thing as revealed truth. There are truths of revelation, that is to say, propositions which express the results of correct thinking concerning revelation; but they are not themselves directly revealed." –

Liberal theologian William Temple