



FOUNDATIONS

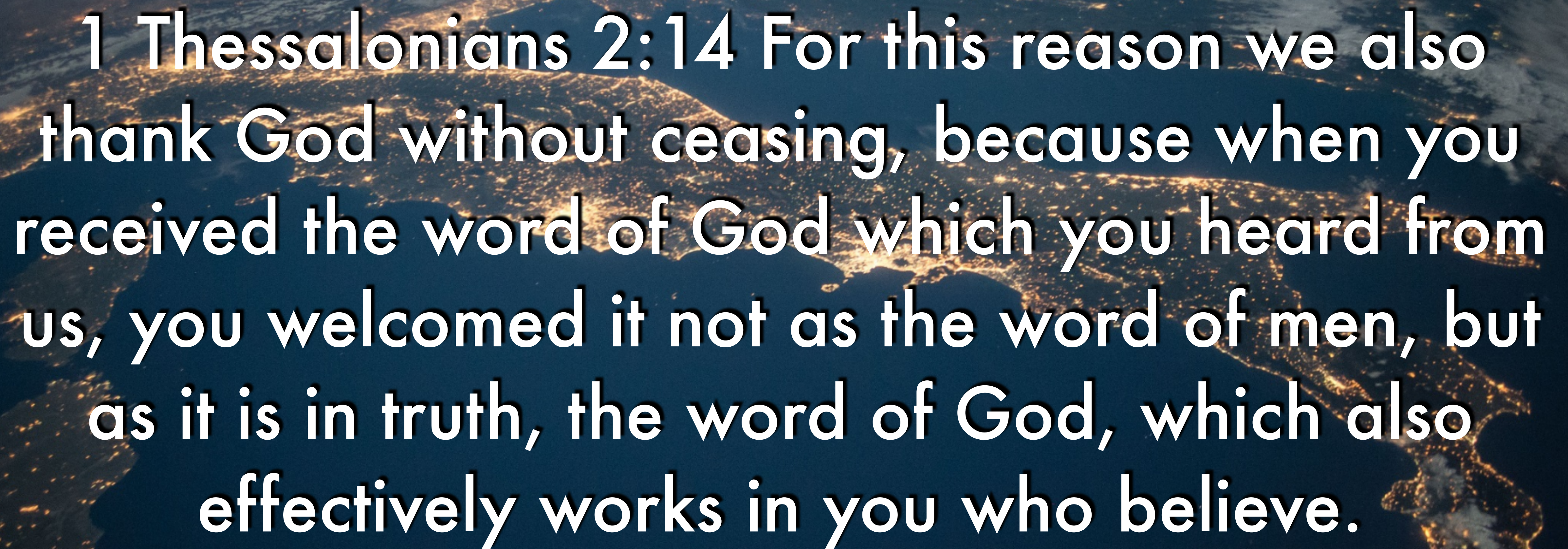


MAN

So Much More than a Rock



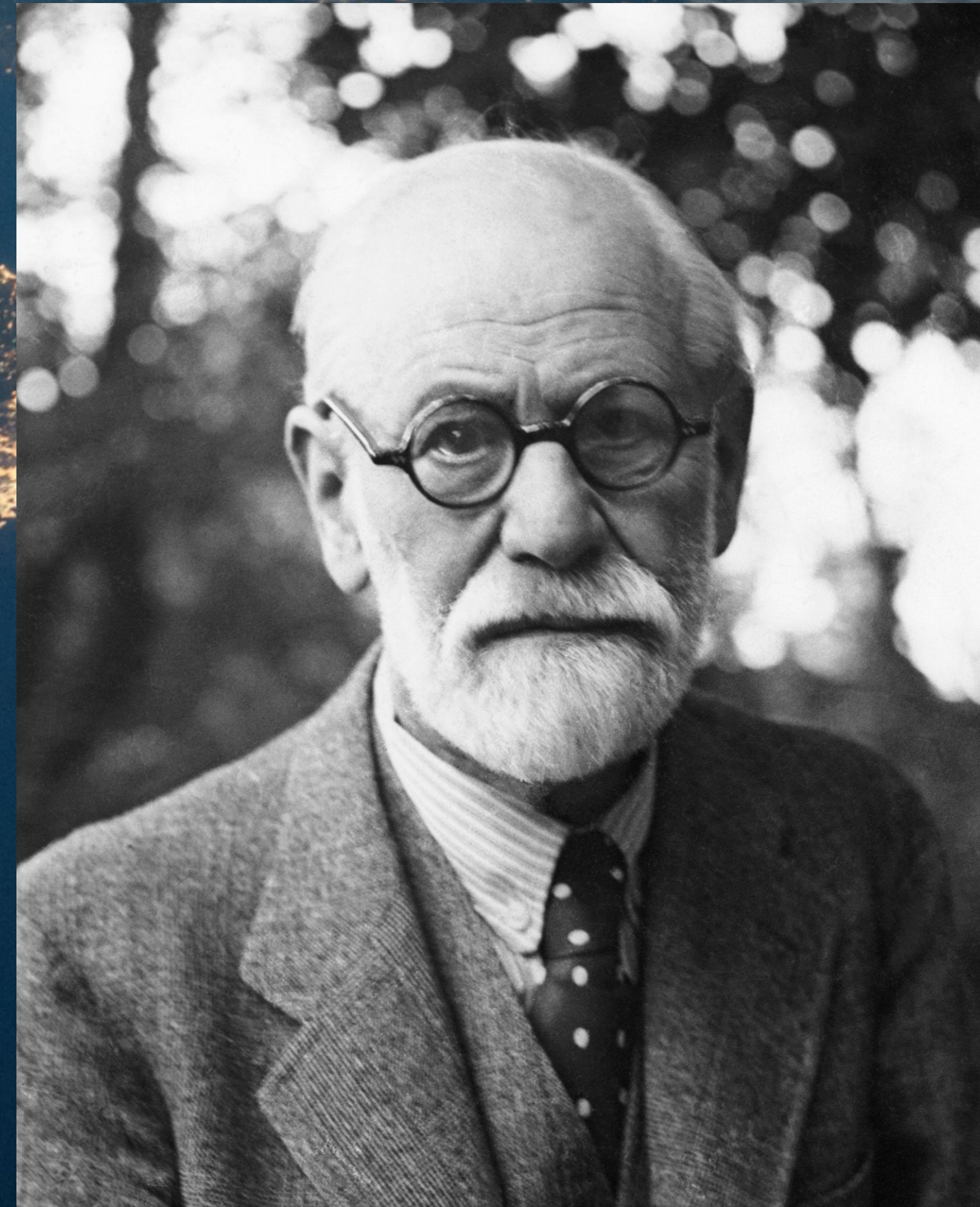
The “Love myself” Story

A satellite view of Earth from space, showing the curvature of the planet and city lights at night. The text is overlaid on the image.

1 Thessalonians 2:14 For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe.

Sigmund Freud

...the theories of Darwin,
which were then of topical
interest, strongly attracted
me, for they held out
hopes of an extraordinary
advance in our
understanding of the
world. 1925



Basic Psychological Problem

If Evolution is True

Then man is just material (no soul)

If man is just material

Then Behaviorism is the only logical Psychological theory

If Behaviorism is true

Then there is no true freedom.

If man is not free

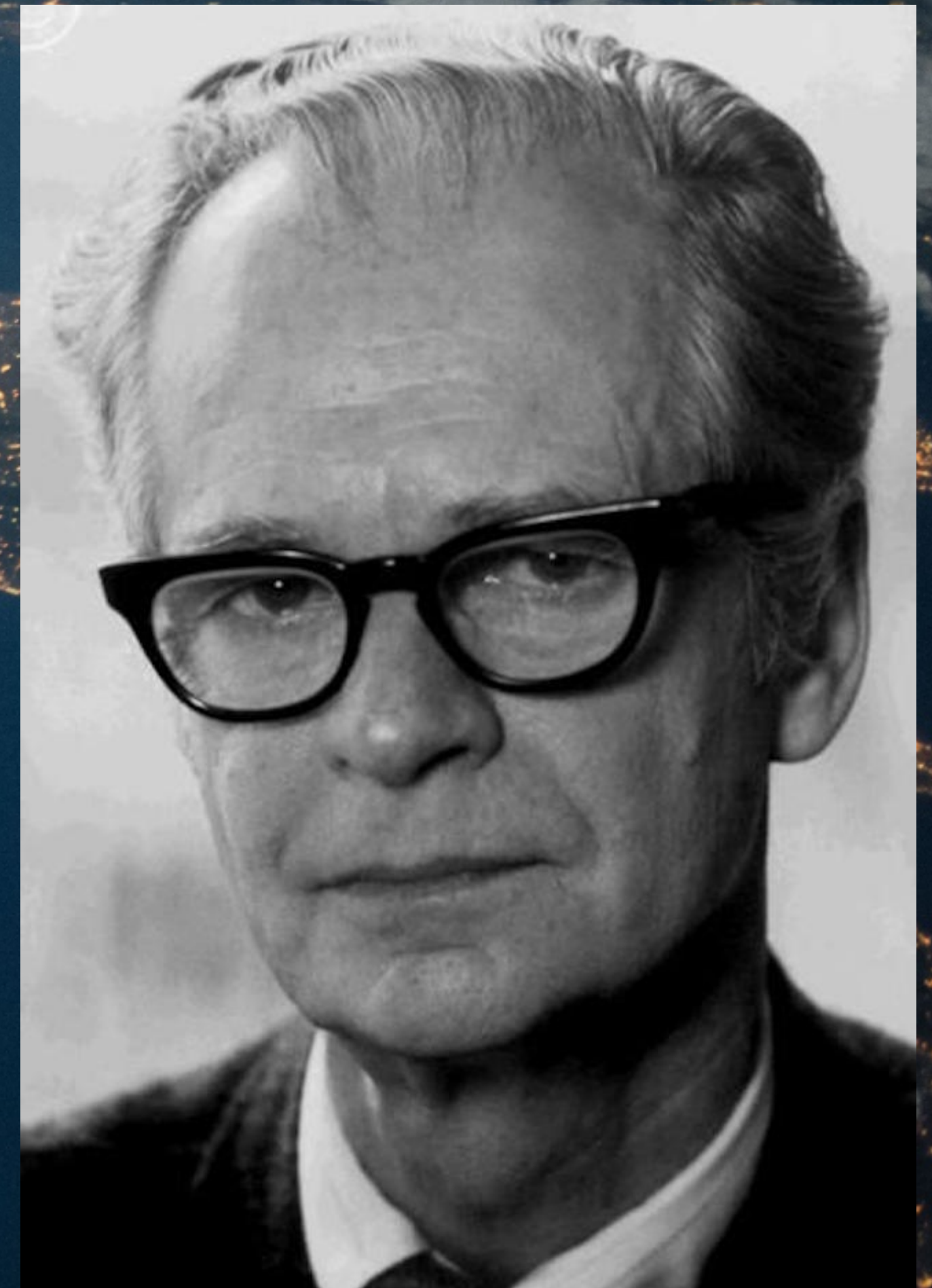
“Then his actions may be determined by anyone who knows how to pull the right strings .”(UT).

B.F. Skinner

"If we are to use the methods of science in the field of human affairs, we must assume that behavior is lawful and determined. We must expect to discover that what a man does is the result of specifiable conditions and that once these conditions have been discovered, we can anticipate and to some extent determine his actions."

Man, "plays two roles: one as a controller, as the designer of a controlling culture, and another as the controlled, as the product of a culture."

"...there is no reason why progress toward a world in which people may be automatically good should be impeded..."



Third Force - The Humanists

If Evolution is True

Then man is just material (no soul)

If man is just material

Then Behaviorism is the only logical Psychological theory

If Behaviorism is true

Then there is no true freedom.

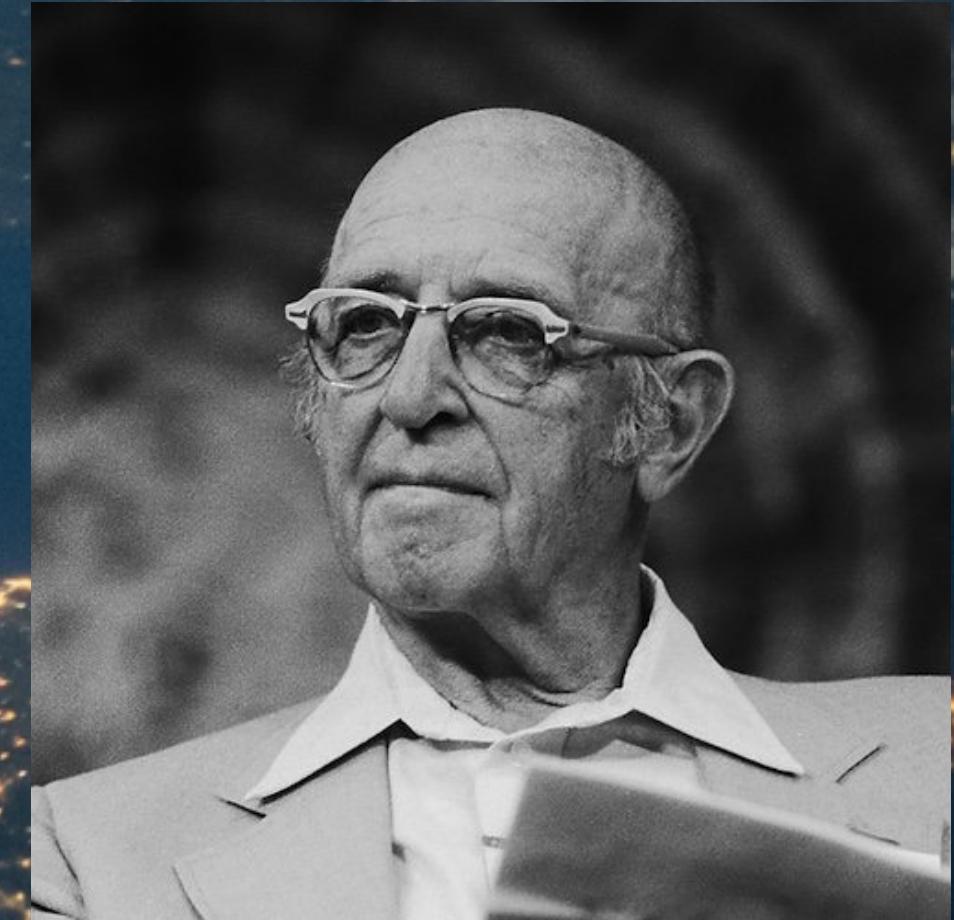
There must be freedom

Therefore behaviorism can't be true

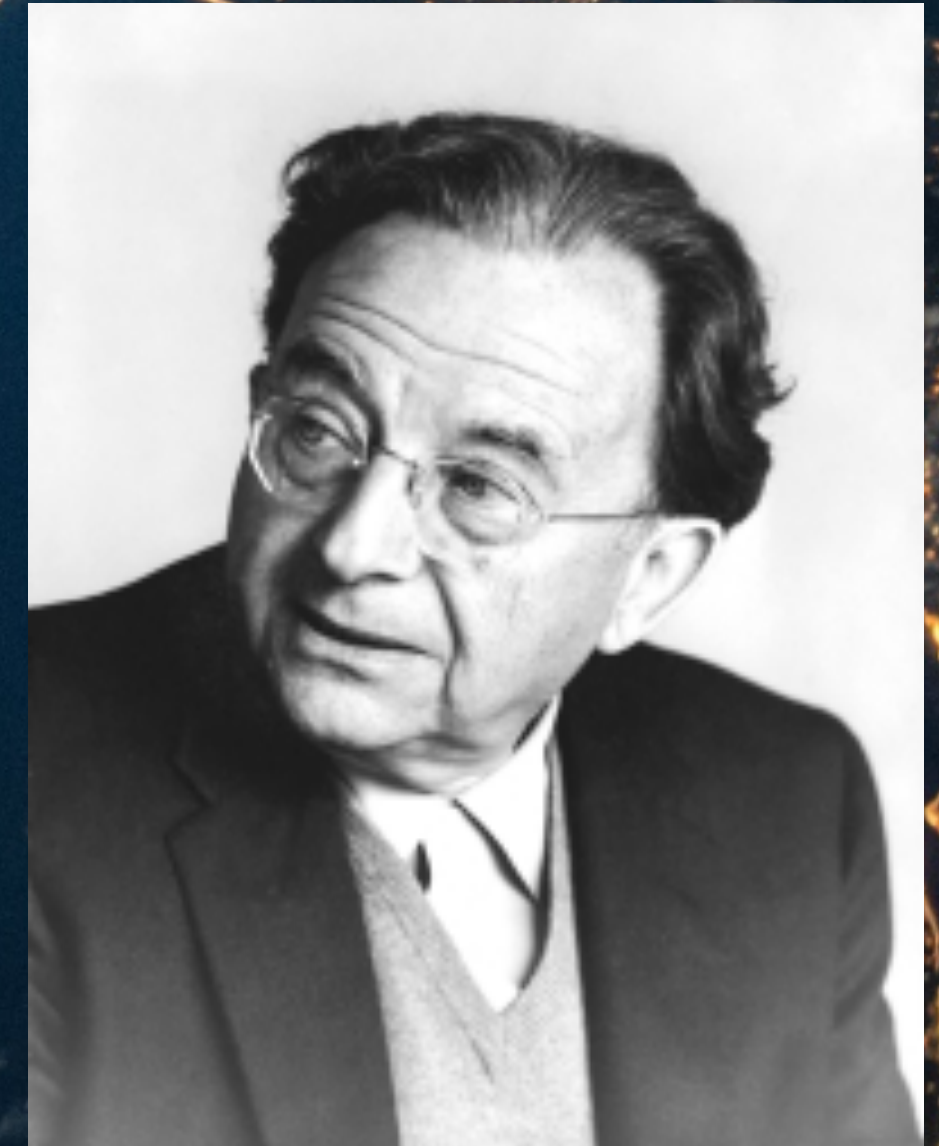
Therefore there must be another way

Carl Rogers and Erich Fromm

The direction which constitutes the good life is that which is selected by the Total organism, when there is psychological freedom to move in any direction.



The achievement of well-being is possible only under one condition: if we put man back into the saddle.





Harold P. Marely

“Trust thyself to stand alone: learn of others, but lean not upon a single savior.”



Man has as a NATURE

Image of God in Man

Genesis 1:26-27 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Erich Fromm

#imageofGod

Man's Dual Composition

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.

No Soul

Holding an organic view of life, humanists find that the traditional dualism of mind and body must be rejected.

-Humanist Manifesto I

Subdue and Cultivate

Genesis 1:28-29 Then God blessed them, and God said to them,
"Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have
dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and
over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Genesis 2:15 Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the
garden of Eden to tend and keep it.

Naming of Animals - Authority

Genesis 2:19-20 Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

Freedom

Genesis 2:16-17 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

John 8:36 "Most assuredly, I say to you, whoever commits sin is a slave of sin. And a slave does not abide in the house forever, but a son abides forever. Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."

The Fall is Man's True Freedom

The Christian interpretation of the story of man's act of disobedience as his 'fall' has obscured the clear meaning of the story. The biblical text does not even mention the word 'sin'; man challenges the supreme power of God, and he is able to challenge it because he is potentially God."

- Erich Fromm

Male and Female sexuality

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

Human Sexuality far too stuffy

We “invite the readers to consider how harsh the controls on human sexual activity have been in the past, and continue to be in the present, and to decide whether we wish to continue to maintain an oppressive and harmful individual and societal attitude toward human sexuality.”

Humanistic Psychology

Transgender Children and the Right to Transition: Medical Ethics When Parents Mean Well but Cause Harm

Not only are transgender children harmed psychologically and physically via lack of access to PBT (puberty blocking treatment), but PBT is the established standard of care. Given that we generally think that parental authority should not go so far as to (1) severally and permanently harm a child and (2) prevent a child from access to standard physical care, then it follows that parental authority should not encompass denying gender-dysphoric children access to PBT.

- Maura Priest

Man is Social

Genesis 2:18 And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."

Society is the Problem

The good impulses within people are easily warped by cultures—you never find them in their pure state. The people within a culture may, deep within themselves, hold the universal constant of justice. Within the framework of a bad culture it can be twisted into an instrument of evil.

- Abraham Maslow



Eternal

Genesis 2:9 The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden,
and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

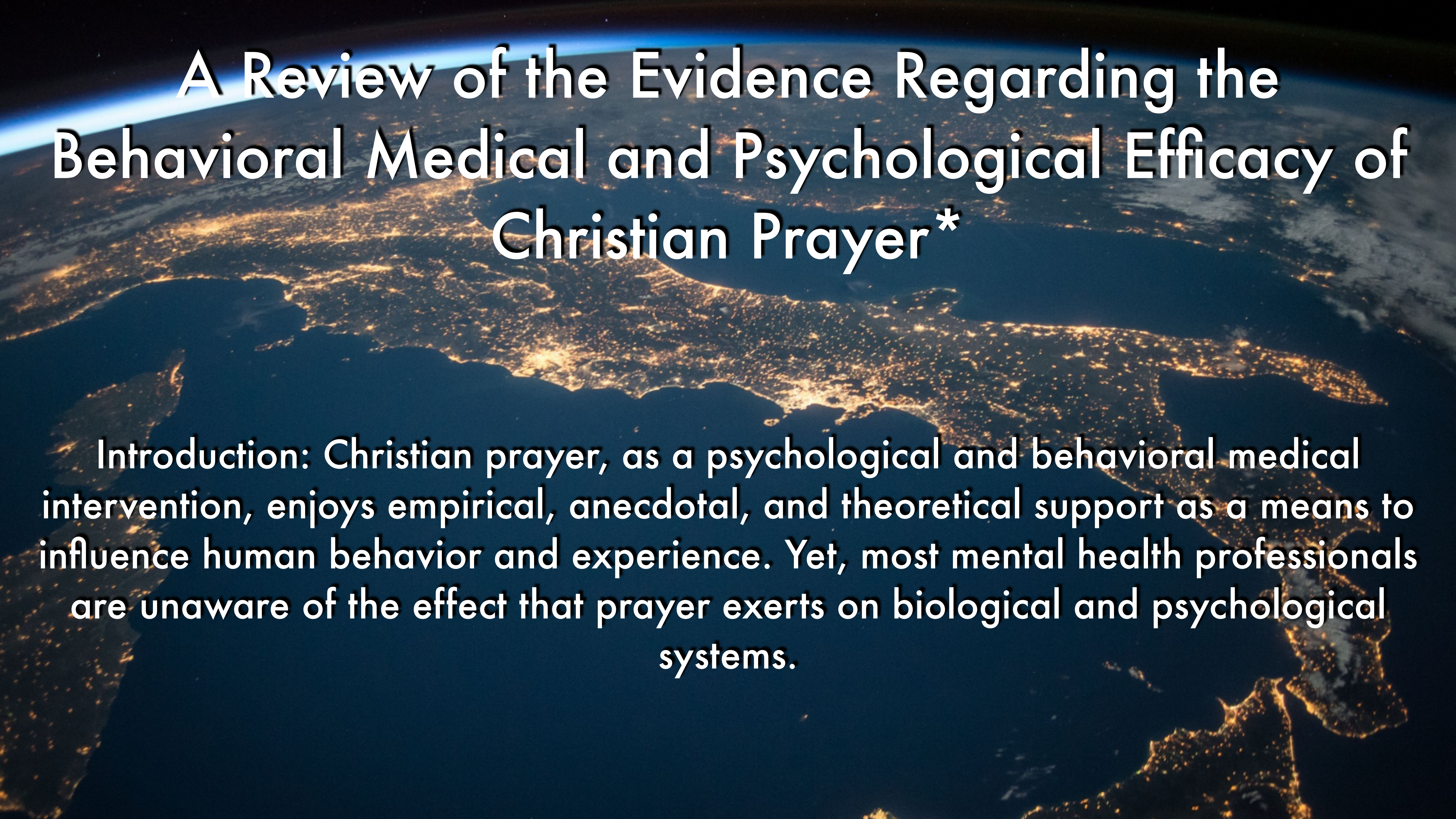
Fellowship with God

Genesis 3:8-9 And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. Then the LORD God called to Adam and said to him,
"Where are you?"

Mental Health

That people in our age can believe that they have had a personal encounter with God, that they could believe that they have experienced conversion through a 'mystical experience of God,' so that they are born again in the Holy Spirit, is something that attests to human irrationality and a lack of a sense of reality.

- Kai Neilson



A Review of the Evidence Regarding the Behavioral Medical and Psychological Efficacy of Christian Prayer*

Introduction: Christian prayer, as a psychological and behavioral medical intervention, enjoys empirical, anecdotal, and theoretical support as a means to influence human behavior and experience. Yet, most mental health professionals are unaware of the effect that prayer exerts on biological and psychological systems.



What HAPPENED?

Temptation

Genesis 3:1 Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?"

Society is the tempter

The most beautiful as well as the most ugly inclinations of man are not part of a fixed biologically given human nature, but result from the social process which creates man."

Erich Fromm



But what is society...

In response to claims by Rogers, Rollo May cuts to the heart of the matter when he writes, "But you say that you 'believe that it is cultural influences which are the major factor in our evil behaviors. This makes culture the enemy. But who makes up culture except evil persons like you and me?"

Understanding the Times

Forgetting God's Word

Genesis 3:2 And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.' "

Genesis 2:16 And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Lies were introduced

Gen 3:4-5 Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil."

You Shall Be as G[g]ods

Every Humanist psychologist believes the secret to better mental health lies in getting in touch with the unspoiled, inner self. When man strips himself of all the evil forced on him by society, he will become a positive agent with virtually unlimited potential. Just how much potential man is assumed to have is reflected by the title of one of Fromm's most important works, *You Shall Be as Gods*.

Understanding the Times

Same Old Motivations

Genesis 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate.



Self centered-ness is the wisdom

The fully functioning person has an acute sense of his own personal identity. As a consequence, he has also an awareness of his own powers to relate effectively to the world. He changes the world. He exercises mastery over it and over himself. The locus of evaluation of himself rests within himself.

Ellis G. Olim

Peer and Social Pressure

Genesis 3:6 She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.



The RESULTS

Death

Genesis 2:17 for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

Physical Death

Genesis 3:19 In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread
Till you return to the ground,
For out of it you were taken;
For dust you are,
And to dust you shall return."

Social Death

Genesis 3:12 Then the man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate."

Genesis 3:16 Your desire shall be for your husband,
And he shall rule over you."

Genesis 4:9 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

Spiritual Death

Genesis 3:22 And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever"— therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden

Ephesians 4:18 having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their hear

Original Sin

Psalm 51:5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
And in sin my mother conceived me.

Romans 5:18 Therefore, as through one man's offense
judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation

Man is innately good

One of the most revolutionary concepts to grow out of our clinical experiences is the growing recognition that the innermost core of man's nature, the deepest level of his personality, the base of his 'animal nature' is positive in character—is basically socialized, forward-moving, rational and realistic."

-Carl Rogers

The Religious Impulse

Genesis 4:3 And in the process of time it came to pass that Cain brought an offering of the fruit of the ground to the LORD. Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat. And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering

Religion is evil

I want you to entertain the hypothesis that Christian doctrine, the existential soother par excellence, is incompatible with the principles of sound mental health and contributes more to the genesis of human suffering than to its alleviation...

Wendell W. Watters

The Need to be born again

John 3:3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

A satellite view of Earth at night, showing the illuminated landmasses of Europe and Africa against the dark blue of the oceans. The city lights are visible as bright yellow and orange specks. The title 'Inner War of Death' is overlaid in white text.

Inner War of Death

Shame

Genesis 3:10 So he said, "I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself."

The Conscience

Romans 2:14 for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them

Conscience is just Religious evil

The true Christian is running furiously on a treadmill to get away from whole segments of his or her human nature which he or she is taught to fear or about which he or she is taught to feel guilty. The Christian is brainwashed to believe that he or she was born wicked, should suffer as Christ suffered, and should aspire to a humanly impossible level of perfection nonetheless.

Wendell W. Watters

A true Christian must always be in a state of torment , since he or she can never really be certain that God has forgiven him or her for reply feel negative feelings—in spite of the Catholic Confessional and the fundamentalist trick of self-deception known as being saved or born again.

Wendell W. Watters



WE FEEL GUILTY CAUSE WE ARE
GUILTY. ONLY THEN CAN WE GET
ACTUAL CLEANSING OF THE
CONSCIENCE.

The Conscience

Hebrews 10:19-23 Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.

Depression, Anger and Unrepentant Sin

Genesis 4:4-6 And the LORD respected Abel and his offering, but He did not respect Cain and his offering. And Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. So the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it."

Does being selfish fix us?

Don't be selfish, is a sentence which has been impressed upon millions of children, generation after generation. Its meaning is somewhat vague. Most people would say that it means not to be egotistical, inconsiderate, without any concern for others. Actually, it generally means more than that. Not to be selfish implies not to do what one wishes, to give up one's own wishes for the sake of those in authority...Aside from its obvious implication, it means, 'don't love yourself, ' don't be your self, but submit yourself to something more important than yourself, to an outside power or its internalization, 'duty.'" Don't be selfish, becomes one of the most powerful ideological tools in suppressing spontaneity and the free development of personality. Under the pressures of this slogan one is asked for every sacrifice and for complete submission: only those acts are "unselfish" which do not serve the individual but somebody or something outside of himself.

-Erich Fromm

Impulses and Animal Instincts

Genesis 4:8 Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

Duh

In sort of a ghastly simplicity we remove the organ and demand the function. We make men without chests [ie. We deprive the younger generation of moral truths].and expect of them virtue and enterprise. We light at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst.” ... The state, in this instance of the US Supreme Court, demands that America’s public schools remove the Ten Commandments from school property and prohibits the teaching of “a supernatural God” encourages the teaching of Secular Humanist ethics under the guise of separation of church and stat, shuns Christian ethics, and then is baffled by the gross immorality of the next generation. - UT and CS Lewis.

Henry Morris

There is probably no academic field of study and application more thoroughly saturated with evolutionary thinking than psychology and the other fields dealing with human behavior. Ever since Darwin—and especially since Fried—psychologists have assumed that man is merely an evolved animal and have evaluated his behavioral problems on an animalistic basis. Experiments with modestly or other animals (even insects) are used for guidance in dealing with human problems. This approach is wrong because man is not an 'animal.' He did not evolve from other life forms but was created in the image of God, with an eternal soul. Ironically, 'psychology' means 'study of the soul,' but modern psychologists do not even believe in the soul.



The Church and PsychoBabble

Joel Osteen

"Back in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve ate the forbidden fruit, they hid. In the cool of the day, God came to them and said, 'Adam, Eve, where are you?' They said, 'God, we were hiding because we were naked.' I love the way God answered them. He said, 'Adam, who told you that you were naked?' In other words, who told you that something was wrong with you? God immediately knew that the enemy had been talking to them.

God is saying to you today, Who told you that you don't have what it takes to succeed? Who told you the best grades you could make in school were Cs rather than As? Who told you that you're not attractive enough? Who told you that your marriage is not going to last?

Who told you something was wrong with you?

Those are lies from the Enemy. You need to reject those ideas and discover what God says about you.

"Well, I don't think I could ever get this promotion, Joel."

Who told you that? God said, "No good thing will I withhold when you walk uprightly."

"Well, I don't think I'll ever get married, Joel. I haven't had a date in so long I don't think I'll ever find someone who would love me for who I am and with whom I would be compatible."

Who told you that? God said, "When you delight yourself in Him, He will give you the desires of your heart."

"Well, I don't think I could ever be in management. I don't think I could be a leader."

Who told you that? God says, "You can do all things through Christ." The potential is inside you. It doesn't change just because you don't believe it or just because you've been through some negative experiences in the past. It has been deposited in you permanently by the Creator of the universe.

Jay Adams

It is astonishing how often a conservative pastor blatantly denies his theology by his practices in counseling. It seems that the presuppositions of counseling rarely have been discussed by Evangelicals. Consequently, the pulpit and the study often have become quite disjunctive. An eloquent (or at least authoritative) preacher standing behind the pulpit proclaims God's message with power. Yet he abruptly dons another hat and closes his mouth as he shuts the study door. He uneasily slips into the uncomfortable role of a listener, non-directively guiding a counselee. It is an uncomfortable role because it violates his convictions, his conscience, and his calling. He acts as if God had nothing to say to the counselee.



Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and don't
lean on your own understanding.