

Good afternoon to this New Church community. I want to start off saying: I am a participant in the Theistic Science Group that meets weekly. This **science** group continues along **spiritual** paths where science clearly drops off. The participants are on the wise side of life having read much and lived much. I simply follow the various threads of conversation. I write notes wishing or hoping all this confidence could be captured in New Church Science textbooks.

Also, what you will see here as my “lack of intellectual skills” - that lack might **reveal** my desire to maintain Bryn Athyn College of the New Church as the unique academic institution that it is. An institution dedicated to knowledge and practices that bring spiritual reality closer. In my life. In every life. [pause] Theistic science opens that path for me. And I will share that with you.

The members of this group articulate a devotion to the Lord, the spiritual world and life in every soul. Even mine. This in terms ABOVE the powerful forces of hard-science. The hard science that promises life in a test tube AND thought in a computer as if hard science alone were sustainable answers for the human race.

Internally, in weekly Theistic Science zoom sessions, I am allowed to think and maybe say what I fear is not obvious to the speakers themselves. An easy example: When a scholar proposes a **spiritual** origin, **naturally** I speak up with a question . . . What kind of question? . . . Years ago, I might have burst out with: “Are you serious? Conatus? Endeavor? Life on Planets?”. **On the other hand**, with affirmative doubts, I am open to testing:

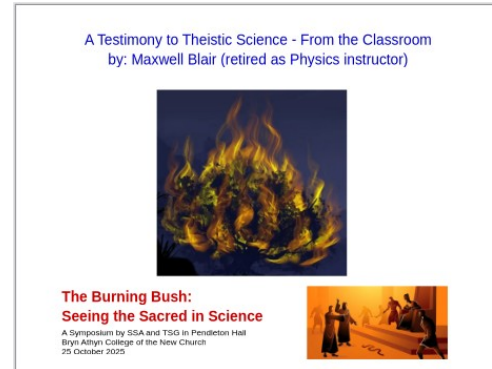
- “Can I really believe what the New Church teaches?”
- “Am I ready to see that from a spiritual reality?”

With eyes and heart wide open, the answer is “YES! In a Burning Bush!”. Today, **I continue** to find the space to pose affirmative doubts that lead to genuine confidence in the Lord’s Kingdom.

The title of this presentation: **A Testimony to Theistic Science - From the Classroom**

This based on my ten years teaching physics here at Bryn Athyn College **again** of the New Church.

[2:30]



Here is an outline of my presentation:

number 1:

#1) True to the title: I offer a personal testimony in light of my experience as a textbook instructor and my aspiration to serve genuinely higher education . . . as pictured by Laban and Jacob parting.

number 2:

#2) I present an example from the first day of a New Church Physics course **without** and then **with** a sense of spiritual reality. [In a simple diagram.](#)

number 3:

#3) Beyond the Physics course, Actual Physics is shown to operate in one and more minds. If you can believe it, this is a [useful and heavenly](#) diagram. This **diagram** serves as a simple **map** to **navigate** something complex like a relationship.

All this from a Physics course? YES!

[Afterwards:](#) Let's discuss how it might go forward in terms of a New Church Physical Science Major.

OK - Let's get started with a class.

[\[Transition\]](#)

True to doctrine - and - specifically - spiritual causation, it makes sense to **start every lesson with a spiritual workout** . . . from the Word . . .

[1:15]

A Testimony to Theistic Science - From the Classroom by: Maxwell Blair (Bryn Athyn College Physics Instructor 2012-2022)

Presentation Outline:

- 1) A testimony = my development
- 2) First Day in Physics Class: End in View
 - a) Seeing materiality
 - b) Spiritual necessity
- 3) The Physics of Relationships
 - a) Heavenly confidence

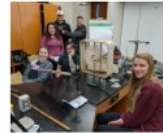


Next Step: Design a genuine

New Church Physical Science major:

- Course layout
- Lesson plans
- Faculty development

In Light of the Academy Movement



Calling and Testimony are connected throughout the Word.

For instance, our symposium theme, **the burning bush** is a **calling** to be instructed. The book of Exodus is a **testimony** - to spiritual regeneration and the path to heaven.

Likewise, this presentation is my testimony in reply to a calling.

This parting of Jacob and Laban (Genesis 31) shown here, depicts a **testimony** or **witness** to the ordering of the spiritual and natural. In the Word . . . In me. I like this 'heap of stones'.

This heap is an altar. It serves as a foundation for the Word. It

conveys a sense of solidity and simplicity. Like the burning bush, this simple heap invites

contemplation. Simply stated in Matthew: “On this rock I will build My church . . .” [Matthew 16:18]

- Jacob - as depicted here - represents me the educator putting my spiritual reality above physical actuality.
- Laban, in the Physics classroom, thinks that being kind means worldly-based instruction from the textbook - because that is how a secular world works - and the students are paying for such.

Jacob and Laban are one mind - my mind. The point being, I see myself as both Jacob and Laban.

The educator looks for unrealized tension in the classroom. Some students are looking for their calling.

Some students are looking to learn techniques toward their intended vocation. Vocation or calling?

Which is it? Can a course do both? Can I do both? Is it up to me?

Genuine faith of course is given from heaven. For the teacher and the students. This altar stood as a witness to the Lord. AC 4194 “Let Jehovah watch between me and you” means the presence of the Lord's Divine Natural” - even in a Physics Lab.

I was surprised to learn so much developmental content in **this** relationship . . . It's even about . . . Education . . . in the appearance of Physics.

[2:01]

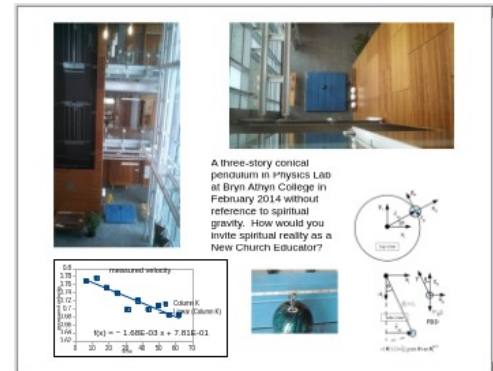


And what about me? Am I called as an educator or hired as a technical instructor? Can I be present for a spectrum of students? The ones who arrive.

I taught “Introductory Physics” at Bryn Athyn College from 2012-2022. Surviving the panic of designing a new course in 2012, I quickly became an effective instructor for the students who signed up. But by the time I retired in 2022, I asked myself some hard questions about being of genuine service to the students in the classroom. But, I was in no way capable of pulling together an entirely different course. And what kind of course? Letting go in 2022 was the best thing that could have happened to me.

Secular textbooks are typically a collaborative effort involving a small army of expert science educators. They are very good at what they do. Yet, every year, I was aware that I was NOT opening many doors for spiritual awareness. The secular textbook is entirely geared to frame Physics in terms of mathematics and solving mathematical word problems and they ARE very useful in the mind of STEM researchers.

Teaching physics prepared me. It gave me a thirst for something deeper - something of innocence.



In this slide, I have collected snapshots from a Physics Lab in our Doering Atrium. Here, we see a pendulum fashioned with a bowling ball. This 3-story conical pendulum orbits very slowly with a period of 6 seconds - perhaps giving the sense of planetary motion. Or perhaps a sense of our cycles of spiritual state.

As a lab experience, this pendulum works well for a group exercise with students with various skills and interests. And I can imagine recreating this very same setup into a hands-on New Church Physics experience. BUT the physical truth is: inventing a **dual-reality** Physics course is time-consuming and mentally challenging . . . yet . . . with a still quiet voice . . . rewarding.

[2:01]

[NOTES]

Folder:

/home/mblair/Schools/BACollegeNewChurch/Physics/Physics_Labs_Consolidated/01_Physics_Lab_Concepts_and_Development/L010a_Pendulums_and_Drag_2020/

Solution Document: Pendulum_Energy_Lab_v00_solution.odt

You can read here, the questions that passed through my mind as the secular physics teacher in a New Church college. Having passed through these questioning times, and with time to compose my thinking theistically . . . Let's start with this:

Fundamentally, the New Church is clear about the distinction and correspondence of the physical and spiritual **worlds**. Likewise, the distinction and correspondence within every natural and spiritual **mind**.

Fast Forward - Here is the Get Well Plan: I will relax “space” in the physical world - to submit to “state” (state of mind) in the spiritual world - with the appearance of space. The Lord invites each of us to bring **state** and **space** together toward useful service. How might all that usefully appear in a Physics Class - in the spiritual world even? Hold on!

Back to this Slide: I have captured 7 representative snapshots from the Cosmic Eye video we just watched. These snapshots are shown here on the screen. And these are in a sequence of diminishing scale from coarse to the finest scale - at which point hard physics has reached its experimental limit - the quark. So, every physicist should wonder - and many do wonder - what lies under this finest scale?

But, first a short account of how Ian Thompson (the New Church quantum physicist) appeared in my life as a physics instructor . . .

[01:15]

The complex block contains several elements:

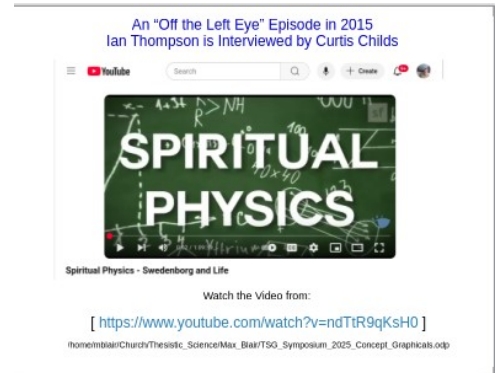
- Heavenly Concepts:** A box containing a glowing blue image of a human head with a bright light source inside, symbolizing spiritual concepts.
- Question:** A box with the text: "How much Secular Science can I teach before I lose faith in Spiritual Capacity? Try the opposite: teaching from theistic principles! introduce subjects with the Lord's blessing every day."
- Physical length scale:** A vertical sequence of seven small images showing a progression from a large, coarse-scale object to a very small, fine-scale object, representing the physical length scale.
- Secular Science: The Physical Universe of Atomic Substance:** A box containing the text: "Secular Science: The Physical Universe of Atomic Substance".

In a few minutes, I will present the same message coordinated with a fresh view of physics - **in life** - in a New Church frame-of-mind.

At Bryn Athyn College, it was “beyond the pale” to drag most Biology students through a thousand pages of textbook in two terms (20 weeks). Introductory Physics textbooks are geared to develop certain mathematical skills and confidence at the college level AND to NOT frighten the same students with the complexity of atomic and quantum physics.

In contrast, this engineering instructor (me) was actually drawn to the back half of the textbook. This back half is where Modern Physics picks up with space-time relativity and the spooky world of quantum physics. In 2017, there were four exceptional students who were game to follow with me. And I believe it was a successful endeavor. I felt like a real physics teacher.

About this time, I became aware of a New Church physicist named Ian Thompson. And he is a New Church author! And you know him. He was on stage here this morning! Turns out Curtis Childs interviewed Prof Thompson in 2015 as part of the “Off The Left Eye” channel on YouTube. His books were definitely a curiosity AND a challenge for my engineering brain. For starters, this Quantum Physicist wrote a book, [Starting Science from God](#), without equations and formulas. In contrast, my engineering mind questioned my role as a physics instructor in a New Church college. I was almost fearful to meet him. I need not have worried.

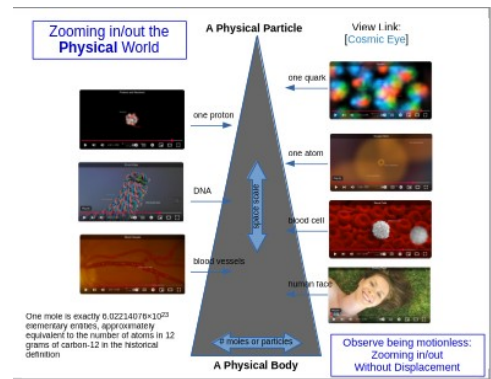


Fast forward to 2022 where I got a long-term chance with the Theistic Science Group to learn about the author behind the book. But it was not until this symposium started to take shape in 2025 that I considered searching “Off The Left Eye” for Ian Thompson. I was very surprised and pleased to find this 2015 interview in early 2025. And I was ready to listen and hear this interview - with much appreciation to Curtis Childs’ skill as a host. And so glad I did.

[02:08]

Just a few months ago, it felt a bit odd that I (a retired Physics instructor) would ask the Physics members of the Theistic Science Group about this interview and whether they really saw the quantum world as a physical door into the spiritual world. The answer: “What else could it be?”.

I was quick to search the Writings. And pre-theological works. They strike deep! Then, I remembered the “Cosmic Eye” video and roughly recreated it in the form of this diagram that zooms in with a series of snapshots.



So, a word of explanation: this gray triangle is actually something of a two dimensional graph with x and y axes. The **vertical axis** is a measure of scale (field of view) during the zoom process. This scale spans from a **single material** (quantum?) particle down to a **body of particles**. By the way, did you get a sense of motion when zooming into a fixed point? And now realize: **both my eye and the object remain motionless**. This is important: **Nothing moves in the video or this diagram!**

The **horizontal axis** is the number of particles contained in the field of view. It is strange indeed to know that sub-atomic quarks have no size or diameter.

And here I am - keenly aware of **my** sense of a material world with physical laws that do not really depend or care about whatever I understood from the heavenly doctrines. **Mercifully**, the Writings reassure me that the Lord patiently allows my natural mind to rest easy with that material thought.

. . . until temptations arise - please hold that thought.

[01:50]

Can you resist the temptation to not dwell on one infinitely small particle or to count the number of particles in a human body? *

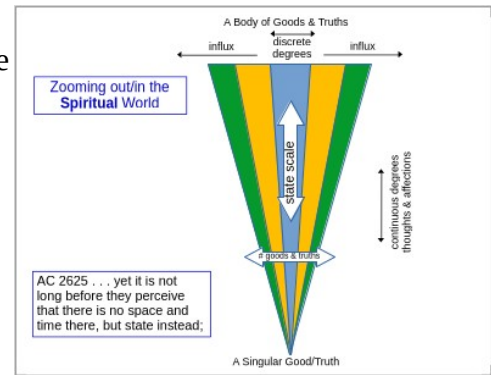
* I succumbed to temptation and the internet:

Without fact-checking my search: There are (7×10^{27}) atoms in an average human body.

OK SPOILER ALERT: Hard physics says sub-atomic quarks are the smallest particle - but without size or diameter. That is one step toward letting go of space-based reality. Did I get that right, Ian?

Could I construct a similar diagram with a [spiritual scale](#) - following what we read about this world - without space and time - one which has no measuring sticks or wall clocks - at least not for the purpose of tracking space and time?

So, here it is in a most simple form. Again, the vertical scale is “spiritual space” or state. The horizontal scale is a number of “spiritual particles” or truths. These passages from the Writings help dignify my doctrinal imagination. I am not making this up:



Elliott **AC 7760**. Furthermore the good of charity also receives its particular **quality** from the **quantity** of the truths of faith, and in addition from the connection of one truth to another. This is how spiritual good is formed with a person.

Elliott **AC 7761**. A clear distinction should be drawn between **spiritual good** and **natural good**. Spiritual good, as has been stated, derives its particular **quality** from the truths of faith, the **quantity** of them, and their connection with one another . . .

So the top of the triangle is a quantity or body of goods & truths. The bottom of the triangle is a single truth. Not that I have any idea what a single “particle” of truth is about. Do you wonder what the Writings have to say about a single particle?

And I was a bit challenged on how to introduce discrete degrees without drawing horizontal lines that distinguish higher and lower worlds. Without much research, I decided that discrete degrees would work **horizontally** (across color bands) where the **vertical** axis is about the scale of state. Thus influx (from the Divine) flows left and right in this diagram.

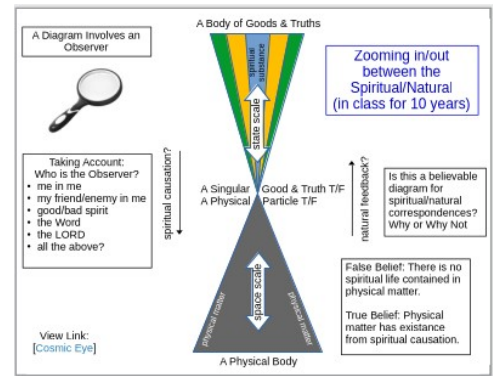
I am challenged what to make of the relationship between large scale at the top and small scale at the bottom. So I am simply labeling such as “continuous degrees of thoughts and affections”. But I am not yet sure I want to defend that without understanding what that might mean. But, so far so good.

[02:15]

It is OK if it seems comforting to turn the diagram on its side to make the Divine flow top to bottom.

So, given the two graphs, I brought them together as any New Church explorer might do: Bring the natural and spiritual into close proximity. And here is what the diagram looks like. Of course this is just a diagram. But, diagrams are very useful in explaining material Physics and maybe some doctrinal concepts.

I did add [vertical arrows](#) to invite thoughts of [spiritual causation](#) and [natural feedback](#). Still, it is hard to see a **functioning** spiritual/natural connection in this diagram. Just arrows so I don't forget to follow-up.



I added something unusual to this diagram: **“an observer”**. This is a placeholder for the multiple-choice question: who is the observer of this diagram?

[Pause. Pause. Pause.](#)

If you are awake and following along, **your mind** is observing this diagram on the wall - remotely.

If this is a diagram or a navigational map of my mind, who is the observer in my mind?

[\[pause\]](#)

Do you think this diagram depicts the relationship between the natural and spiritual worlds?

Personally, I felt **VERY uneasy** depicting an alarming disconnect. A disconnect between my spiritual mind and my physical mind.

Prognosis: that uneasy feeling was the result of meditating on the Word and the Heavenly Doctrines. And the [same mind](#) studies hard Physics! . . . **THUS . . . TWO REALITIES!** . . . Why does it matter - to ME ? . . .

I carry both true and false beliefs in my life.

This diagram is screaming a **false belief**: “There is no spiritual life contained in physical matter”.

In contrast is a **true belief**: “Physical matter has existence from spiritual causation”.

[Pause Pause Pause](#)

Are these spiritual and natural triangles independent possibilities?

OR

Are they TWO independent realities?

Do TWO independent realities describe my mind?

and who am I talking with?

[Pause](#)

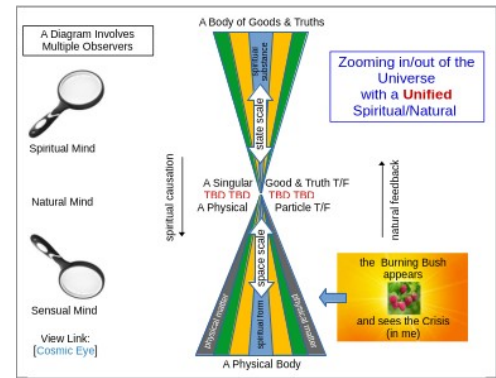
Note: AE 1066 [3] DLW 202

[02:00]

So, I mean this **emphatically**: The Burning Bush in me saw the crisis and I bravely colored in the **black** physical scale with on overlay of spiritual content with stripes of discrete degrees.

Again, there is no physical displacement or motion represented in this diagram. This is all about scales both physically measurable on the bottom and spiritually fundamental on the top.

So, **looking** at my body, I can mentally zoom in without moving and develop a sense of intimate spiritual proximity - down to the finest things of nature - and beyond - and in to the finest things of spirituality.



For the New Church physics educator I would recommend using the secular textbook where math formulas and laws abound. But, color these as **physical effects that arise from spiritual causation**. That invites a very human tenderness into hard physics.

Observers in this physics classroom are now invited to share some thought as to “why am I here”.

I am going to breeze through the next two slides with a sampling of quotes . . . without taking physical time to read them now.

But hopefully, they will show up in the video recording and the viewer can pause.

[01:20]

[optional]

Topic of discussion: What would be the fine things of spirituality?

My ability to perceive such fineness will depend on the spiritual scale of being.

TBD

TWO optional slides (long time to read):

DLW 46: . . . Consequently if one regards only the forms, it is impossible to see anything of life in nature, still less anything of love and wisdom, and so neither anything of God.

DLW 295: It was apparent from this that natural and spiritual things differ in accordance with degrees of height, and that they do not communicate with each other except through correspondences.

HH89: It needs to be realized that the natural world arises from and is sustained in being by the spiritual world, exactly the way an effect relates to its efficient cause.

AC 3483: Everything at all visible in the universe is representative of the Lord's kingdom, so much so that nothing exists in the starry sky above, or on this planet and in its three kingdoms below, which is not in its own way representative. **For every single thing within the natural order is an ultimate image, in that the Divine issues forth into celestial things, which are expressions of good; celestial things issue forth into spiritual, which are expressions of truth; and celestial and spiritual things issue forth into natural things.** This shows how stupid, indeed how earthly and also topsy-turvy, human intelligence is which separates or isolates natural forces from that which is prior to them and flowing into them - that is, from their efficient cause - and then attributes everything to natural forces. And people who think and talk in this fashion seem to themselves to be wiser than anybody else, that is to say, by their attribution of everything to natural forces. **Angelic intelligence however is quite the reverse - it attributes nothing to natural forces but every single thing to the Lord's Divine, and so to life, not to anything devoid of life.**

DLW 295: For the image of creation is spiritual. But for this image to be visible and serve a useful purpose in the natural world, and for it to remain fixed and endure, it must assume material form, that is to say, it must be infused with the material substances of that world.

DLW 315 The heat, light and atmospheres of the natural world only open seeds, keep their productions in a state of expansion, and induce in them material substances which cause them to endure. However, they accomplish these effects, not in consequence of any forces from their own sun, forces which, regarded in themselves, are powerless, but in consequence of forces from the spiritual sun, by which they are perpetually impelled to these actions.

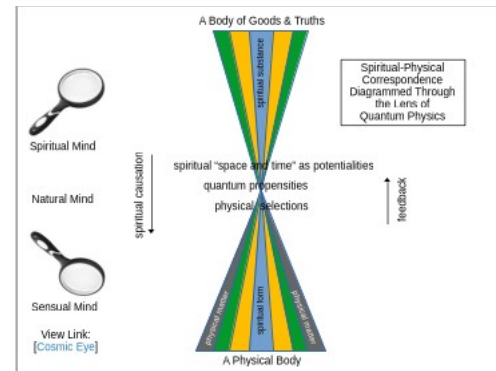
Here, the nexus between the physical and spiritual is described in Ian Thompson's book in terms of **potentialities**, **propensities** and **physical selection**.

This along with the mechanisms of spiritual causation (as continuous Creation) from the Divine and corresponding feedback.

Feedback invites the possibility of physical consequences and human choices - something that produces spiritual effects.

Spiritual **causation** arrives from within - top to bottom on this diagram of physical and spiritual scale. The Lord is always accommodating the path to our heavenly potential.

[00:30]



In this chart, I have restored the snapshots from “Cosmic Eye” on the physical scale and repeated the same on the spiritual scale. And we see something of the spiritual imagery that does not appear different than the familiar imagery of physical life.

Please keep in mind: The vertical scale is a zoom in and out to a particular point. To ANY point! Any point is a nexus between physical and spiritual. **Every point!** Thus, **every** point seen in the physical body at the bottom has its nexus with the spiritual body depicted at the top. ZOOM IN - ZOOM OUT.

Correspondences is the mechanism for a natural mind to understand and be one with its spiritual counterpart. Thus, the physical **image** on the bottom mirrors the **spiritual** image on the top. The heavenly doctrines use our natural familiarity to paint heavenly imagery. And from that, we can develop spiritual **substance** in our life experiences. **Rationally understood substance.** This is a spiritual invitation offered by New Church doctrines. And I am clear that it takes effort to accept.

And, now the diagram is starting to look like something my Physics mentors were revealing: **The quantum is a portal to something both familiar and spiritual in me.** Sometimes, I wonder if I am more awake to the spiritual world than my sensual mind can possibly perceive.

The black triangle is still there for the sensual experience of the physical world. You can see it hiding behind the colored bands. The close proximity of spiritual reality (color bands) is preserved within every bit of every particle at every scale.

This is the picture that conveys a merciful New Church understanding of physical/spiritual duality. Something we can discuss.

And again, this is a diagram.

- Does it help my doctrinal understanding?
- Does it provide a path for spiritual being?

[01:30]

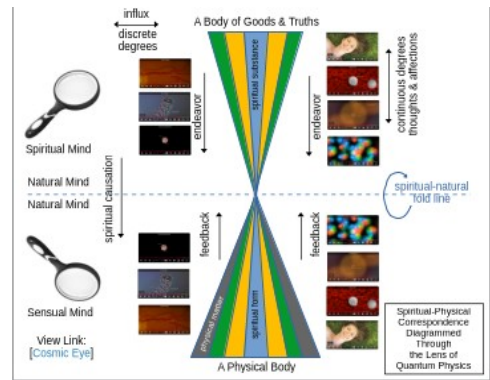
[optional]

OBSERVERS!

Observe this room.

The people in this room.

The substance of everything.



Order is a hot topic in every discussion. Do I communicate order or disorder? For instance:

- These days, we are hard pressed to say what order is
- Sad to say: **my** natural mind is fast to point to disorder.

Kingdoms in the doctrines reflect our sense of **order** - something associated with heavenly government.

Over a lifetime: We come to see spiritual order as the basis for natural order in terms of kingdoms and heavenly government.

SO OBSERVERS! Observe the mineral, vegetable and the animal **kingdoms** - two each in correspondence in the spiritual and natural worlds. In short, every speaker today is focused on a particular kingdom. Check it out!

Each succeeding **kingdom** zooms out to a higher manifold of particulars.

observe the two Mineral Kingdoms: (on scale with gems and DNA)

- on top: Spiritual **causation**
 - Thus enters endeavor and physical causation at the finest spiritual scale
- on bottom: Physical **effects**
 - Enter atomic and quantum laws at the finest physical scale
 - Note: space and time effects
 - **Elaborated in Ian Thompson's book**

observe the two Vegetable Kingdoms (on scale with biological cells)

- on top: Spiritual **causation**
 - Enter spiritual life systems - visualized as biological cells in reproduction as to cause
- on bottom: Physical **effects**
 - Enter physical cell reproduction - contrast: life in a womb and life in a test tube
 - protein folding (where extreme physical complexity begs for spiritual direction)
 - **Steve Smith gave a great presentation at the 2019 Theistic Science Symposium**
 - Enter physical evolution and compare:
 - Neo-Darwinian Evolution
 - Intelligent Design
 - All this is described in: Intelligent Default - Reuben Bell's new book

observe the two Animal Kingdoms (on scale with a central nervous system)

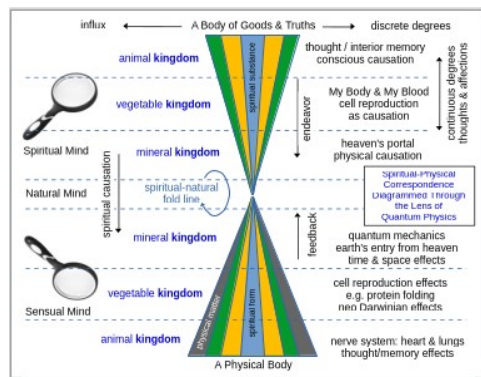
- on the top we have : Spiritual **causation**
 - (animals) enter (natural afflux) and (spiritual) influx and soul receptor [AC 3646]
 - (humans) enter free will and rationality which is the substance of spiritual regeneration
- on the bottom we have: Physical **effects**
 - Enter sensory, nervous, motor system
 - Enter physical thought and external memory effects

In the next slide we focus on the animal scale, human thought and our rational mind.

[02:15]

[optional] The spiritual-natural nexus (fold-line) brings in concepts of quantum propensities and selection (Ian)

Bordering the animal kingdom on top (not shown) are the celestial and spiritual kingdoms of the heavens corresponding to human heart and lungs. I am not showing the heavens because this involves form and substance within thought itself. But, I think we have seen enough diagramming for now.



Thus, we step closer to what this means to **me** . . .

The magnifying glass “observers” of the previous diagrams are re-framed here as an outline of “**me**”. In this way, I invite the audience to be **their** observer as much as I am inviting **my** self. This observer-in-me still invites the many (stand-in) observers as listed here in the box.

The abstract state-space diagram with many colored bands is now positioned as a map (or navigational aid) of the dual brain-mind within “me”.

This diagram inset is positioned over the brain and thus implies both the physical chemistry and corresponding spiritual causation of thought coming together at the finest things of the brain - the nexus - the quantum portal - in me.

[My mind - every mind - contains REAL physics as diagrammed here and introduced earlier.](#)

And speaking of observers, the Lord is depicted here as He is said to appear as

- a spiritual sun - always in front and above my every gaze - a head-turning thought for certain.
- a burning bush as representative of my most interior that is depicted through the Moses account.

The spiritual world endeavors effects in the natural world. Physical actions feed back real consequences.

But to see this, we need and have our rational mind.

Thus, in the context of that rational mind: **“Theistic Science Makes the Spiritual World a Necessity”**

[01:35]

[Next Slide]

We are cautioned: **The path to heaven may not be what one imagines.**

In this interaction with a dark spirit, Swedenborg meets someone who has distorted the Lord’s heaven into something of his **own** creation.

[Read the inserted text:]

AC6484 I talked to him and he said that he was in his heaven when things were thus, and that no other heaven could possibly exist than that which he created for himself. **But I was led to reply that his kind of heaven is turned into hell as soon as heaven as it really is flows into it.**

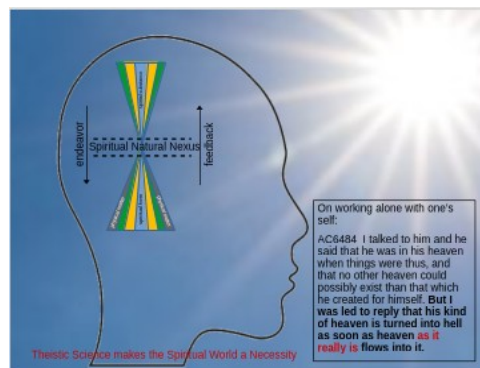
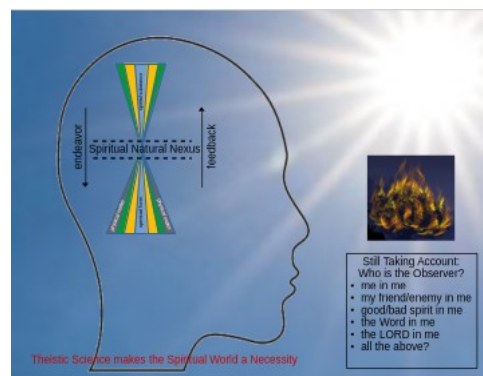
The caution is actually encouragement to read and meditate and practice the Word regularly.

My natural mind is often surprised to wake up to what the Word and the Heavenly Doctrines want me to understand.

Get ready for the next slide . . . The other spirited people in my life are my first reality check.

Thus, the Lord’s words: **“Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them”** Matthew 18:20

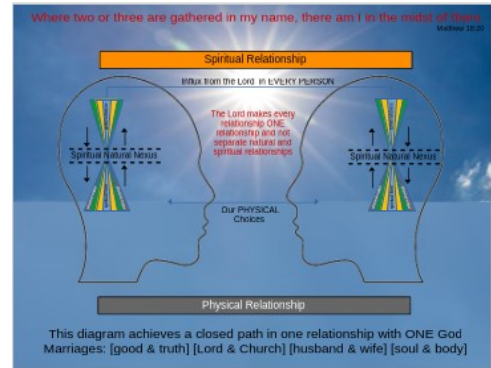
[01:00]



The spiritual world - in angelic tension with hell - is hardly a lonely existence. To the contrary, heaven is constantly encouraging us to work together and for one another.

- Hell thrives on self-serving relationships.
- Heaven thrives on healthy relationships in forms of charity as depicted repeatedly in the Writings.

This diagram depicts a heavenly relationship with the Lord viewed in place. Each mind is mapped to received influx from the Lord which accommodates naturally apparent uses in the physical. The relationship is a closed loop with wise choices made in the context of the marriage of the Lord and His Church.



While my natural mind thinks of the human condition as a problem, we are invited to celebrate the spiritual condition as an opportunity. Trusting the Lord.

The diagram shown reinforces the necessity of the spiritual world - certainly from a New Church Theistic Science understanding. Keeping this necessity in mind is a comfort when I am feeling relationship-challenged. And seeing such in this simple diagram is a comfort. There is comfort for my natural mind knowing there are powerful spiritual forces in play in every life. And these forces are working very close from within.

Confidence in the spiritual world offers up the possibility to:

- **realize actual** relationships - foremost in most college students
- see the Lord operating in every person I meet - in a world of mixed motives.

This diagram-within-a-diagram depicts multiple closed loops in every human relationship. When I think about marriage, I am asked to form closed loops of awareness. The very person I am talking with may be the Lord reaching out to me. HE IS!

[01:50]

[optional]

The book of Genesis ends with a “happy-ever-after” sense with Jacob passing on and buried in the homeland of his fathers. Joseph and his sons are blessed. And they have a real home in Egypt in a time of real need - in famine.

The truth is: the stage is set for the Children of Israel to develop from their shepherd life to become a nation with language skills and much more - from the remains of the ancient church in Egypt = a model for the students we are to be educating. Science Education!

All this is preliminaries and a lead into the Exodus as a model for the hard challenges of regeneration as preparation for heaven and heavenly relationships.

In today’s zoom - the the topic of metaphors arose. These seem to work in my understanding but not necessarily with others. Even the giving of instruction (like directions to the store) requires some metaphor system on which to base the waypoints. How waypoints appear in one’s experience is metaphor.

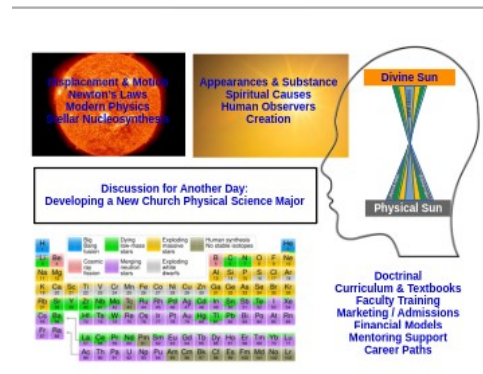
On closing . . .

I invite a discussion on:

Small Steps Toward a New Church Physical Science Major

With that said, I open the floor for discussion . . .

This is my closing slide.



OK - skip a direct reference to all the sciences and their applications.

Examples:

Solar Nucleosynthesis

Trees communicate via roots and soil

Theater (Improv) - in the manner of a rock? etc . . .

Looking ahead it is obvious that if you were to read all of the words in the 17 pages of the actual presentation, page 16 is blank in the PDF – It will take well over an hour. Your time slot is 40 minutes, so your need to ask what to trim. Personally I think the presentation ends much better on the second to last page. And that you could save the last page for the wrap up, as that is more nuts and bolts. Whereas the second to last page is inspiring, the last page makes it look like it will never happen, as it would take at least another generation or two.

I am going to attach the presentation I gave in zoom to the Brazilians to show you what took too long for my time slot. It was over 50 minutes long, with just a little interaction. It's in Portuguese, but it gives an idea of the amount of words I read. Maybe add 5 minutes for my commentary.

CLOSING REMARKS

While the spiritual life of the New Church comes to each of us by way of heaven . . .

The future of the New Church relies on people in the physical world who are able to see the light and communicate such in both doctrinal and practical charitable/useful forms.

This is the mission of the Bryn Athyn College of the New Church. This is the mission of the Bryn Athyn College of the New Church Theological School.

My hope is to see genuine and useful theological content within science courses at Bryn Athyn College to the degree these lead us into an appreciation for our spiritual capacity and destiny and a higher sense of hope and responsibility. I believe the New Church is a substantial protection for humanity from forces of materialism and nihilism that live off the natural mind.

Specifically, New Church Physic Science opens the door to a powerful reality of spirituality that is as close as the atoms and the finest things of our bodies and the human mind. Knowing that the world of quantum mechanics is open to the world beyond space and time. And with the door now open, we can enter responsibly into the possibilities for now and future generations.

I believe that we have the wherewithall to design and establish and market a very desirable and sound Physical Sciences Department based on Hard Science effects coming from spiritual sources. All this laid out in the Heavenly Doctrines.

If you are a student wanting to explore a career, then a Physical Science degree can take you in many directions from hard science to theology. That is a real opportunity. This is real education.

I hope the presentations have been personally insightful.

I hope my example class experience helps to bring the program and theistic science into a unity.

I hope we feel excited to spread the Word from within.

And this is my testimony for Theistic Science: I pray that I am serving the good Lord in my audience. I pray that my less-than-regenerate state and mixed-motives do not prevent the truth from reaching out. I testify that these thoughts not only lift my relationships closer to heaven but also alarm my comfortable self.

Remember this: [“Theistic Science Makes the Spiritual World a Necessity”](#)



End of Slides
Begin Backups and Constructions

In Closing Remarks

The testimony in this presentation was a running away and a returning. The story of the Burning Bush is the Moses (in each of us) in preparation to listen to the Lord's plan to grow His New Church. I find it useful to see Bryn Athyn College of the New Church in these two stories from the Word.

I propose we listen together for the Lord in the Burning Bush as a Calling to Bring Church into Physical Science Education. Take time to study and learn what this means and how to do it. This will take years of focused effort and testing before launching. Curriculum Development! Marketing! The promise to students appeals to hard science, practical application, philosophy and theology. It will work with effectively trained young and old educators - not unlike the faculty we have today - with heart and mind engaged. These graduates could/will be the kind of scientist the world will be looking for - I believe it already is. These graduates could/will be the kind of theologs and pastors that the New Church can use to engage the next generation with confidence. These are options that college students can explore in their young adult lives with multiple viable paths opening along the way.