

## **Systematic Theology (Dogmatics)**

Theology I: Prolegomena and *Principium*

- A. **Prolegomena**
- B. ***Principium***

Theology II: Theology Proper — The Being and Works of God

- A. **The Existence of God**
- B. **The Names of God**
- C. **The Attributes of God**
- D. **The Trinity of God**
- E. **The Works of God**
- F. **Appendix: The Angelic World**

Theology III: Mankind, Sin, and Salvation

- A. **Mankind/Humanity**
- B. **Sin (Hamartiology)**
- C. **Salvation (Soteriology)**

Theology IV: The Church and the Kingdom of God

- A. **Ecclesiology**
- B. **Eschatology**



## Theology I: Prolegomena and *Principium*

### A. Prolegomena

#### 1. Meaning

##### a. Definition

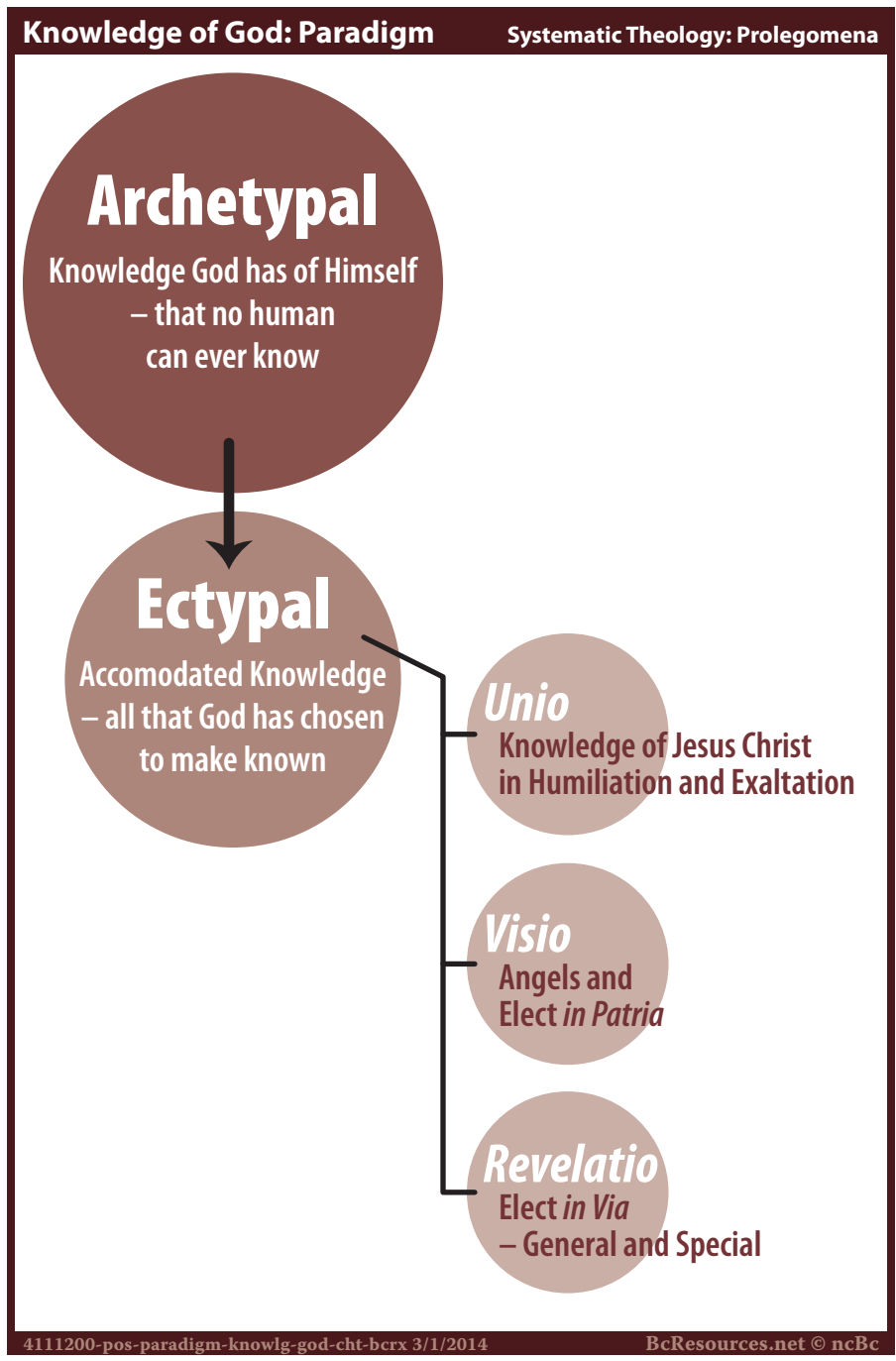
- 1) Etymology
  - a) Theology
  - b) Dogmatics
- 2) Object
  - a) Subjectivist (Anthropocentric)
  - b) Objectivist (Theocentric)
- 3) *Genus*
  - a) *Scientia*
  - b) *Sapientia*
- 4) Character
  - a) Theoretical
  - b) Practical

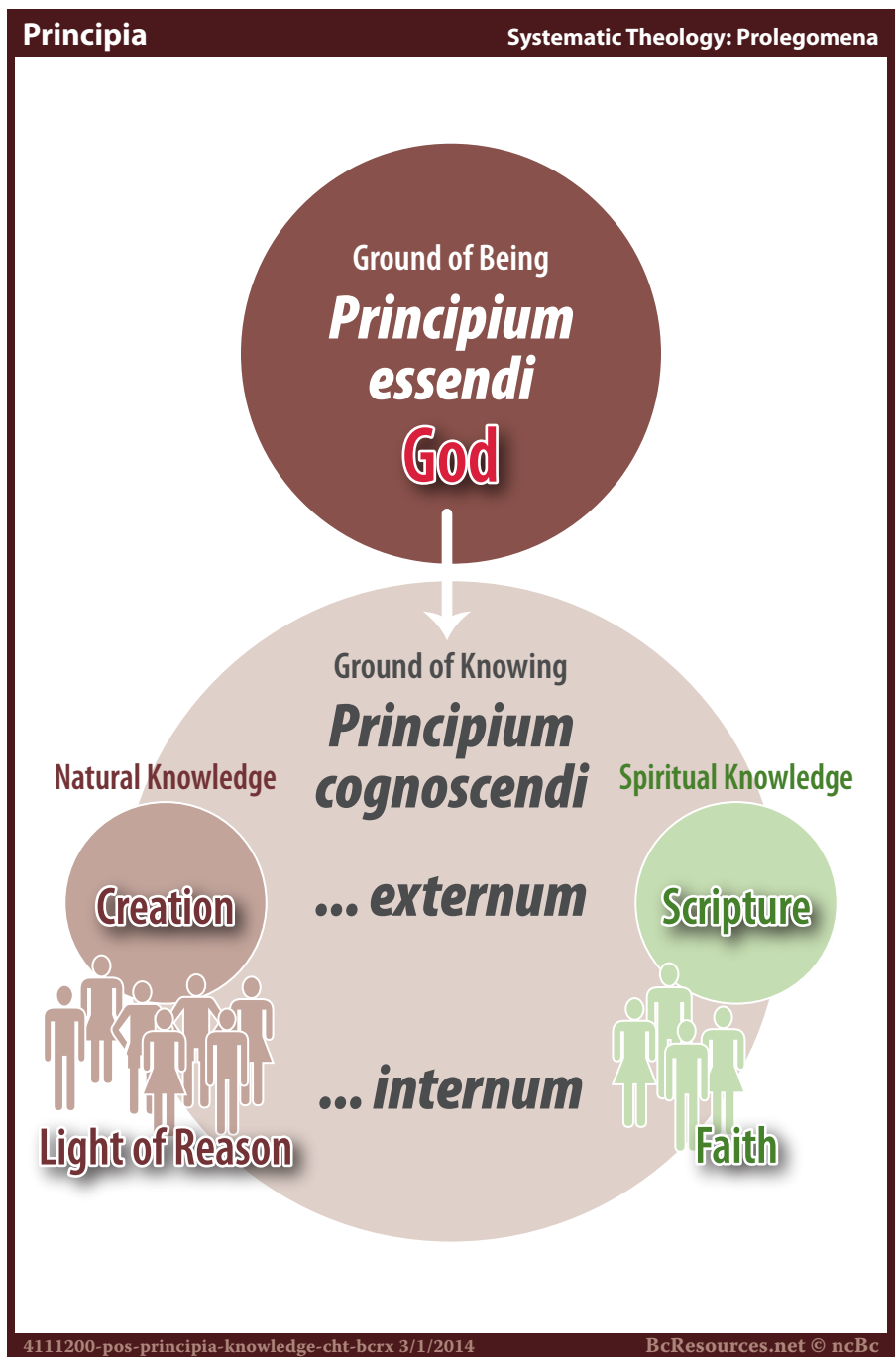
##### b. Possibility

- 1) Assumptions
  - a) Paradigm
    - (1) Categories
    - (2) Causality
  - b) *Principia*
    - (1) True
    - (2) False
      - (a) Philosophy
      - (b) Religion

##### 2) Limitations

##### c. Necessity





2. **Method**

a. **Task**

- 1) Materials (Sources)
  - a) Primary
    - (1) External: Scripture (Norm)
      - (a) Hermeneutics
      - (b) *Heilsgeschichte*
    - (2) Internal: Faith
  - b) Secondary
    - (1) External
      - (a) Tradition
      - (b) Authority
    - (2) Internal
      - (a) Reason
      - (b) Experience
- 2) *Habitus*

b. **Aim**

- 1) Ultimate
- 2) Proximate
  - a) Ecclesial
  - b) Cultural

c. **Order**

- 1) Analytic
- 2) Synthetic

B. *Principium*

1. **Revelation**

a. **Meaning**

b. **Agency**

1) Mode One: General Revelation

a) Sources

(1) External

(2) Internal

(a) Cognitive

(b) Non-cognitive

b) Substance

2) Mode Two: Special Revelation

a) Sources

(1) Direct

(2) Indirect

b) Substance

c. **Significance**

## 2. Inspiration

### a. Principle

- 1) Definition
- 2) Degrees
  - a) Locus
  - b) Scope
  - c) Extent
- 3) Dimensions
  - a) Form
  - b) Function
  - c) Style

### b. Process

- 1) Dynamic
- 2) Organic
- 3) Verbal
- 4) Mechanical

### c. Properties

- 1) Intrinsic
  - a) Veracity
  - b) Relevance
  - c) Efficacy
- 2) Extrinsic
  - a) Authority
    - (1) Reliability
      - (a) Authenticity
      - (b) Historicity
      - (c) Credibility
    - (2) Necessity
  - b) Perspicuity
    - (1) External
    - (2) Internal
  - c) Sufficiency
    - (1) Material
    - (2) Formal



| Inspiration in Contemporary Protestant Orthodoxy                              |                   |                                             |                    | Scripture                   |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                                                               | <i>Model</i>      | <i>Method</i>                               | <i>Mode</i>        | <i>Manner</i>               |
| <b>The human writers stressed</b><br>(Process focused —personal)              | <b>Dynamic</b>    | <b>Abductive</b><br>(Accent: Function)      | <b>Concomitant</b> | <b>Errant</b>               |
|                                                                               | <b>Organic</b>    | <b>Inductive</b><br>(Accent: Function-Form) | <b>Continuity</b>  | <b>Functional Inerrancy</b> |
| <b>The supernatural writings stressed</b><br>(Product focused —propositional) | <b>Verbal</b>     | <b>Deductive</b><br>(Accent: Form-Function) | <b>Concursive</b>  | <b>Material Inerrancy</b>   |
|                                                                               | <b>Mechanical</b> | <b>Reductive</b><br>(Accent: Form)          | <b>Confluent</b>   | <b>Formal * Inerrancy</b>   |

\* Cultural perspective, world view

4122000-pro-script-insp-con-prot-ortho-cht-bcrx 3/1/2014 BcResources.net © ncBc



**Theology II: Theology Proper — The Being and Works of God****A. The Existence of God**

1. Assumptions
2. Arguments
  - a. Rational
    - 1) *a priori*
    - 2) *a posteriori*
  - b. Rhetorical

**B. The Names of God**

1. Old Testament
2. New Testament

**C. The Attributes of God**

1. Preview  
(*The Problem of Predication and the Divine Simplicity*)
2. Paradigm
  - a. Incommunicable
    - 1) Independent
    - 2) Immutable
    - 3) Infinite
      - a) Space
      - b) Time
      - c) Degree
  - b. Communicable
    - 1) Intellectual
    - 2) Moral: Virtues and Affections
      - a) Holy
      - b) Righteous
      - c) Good

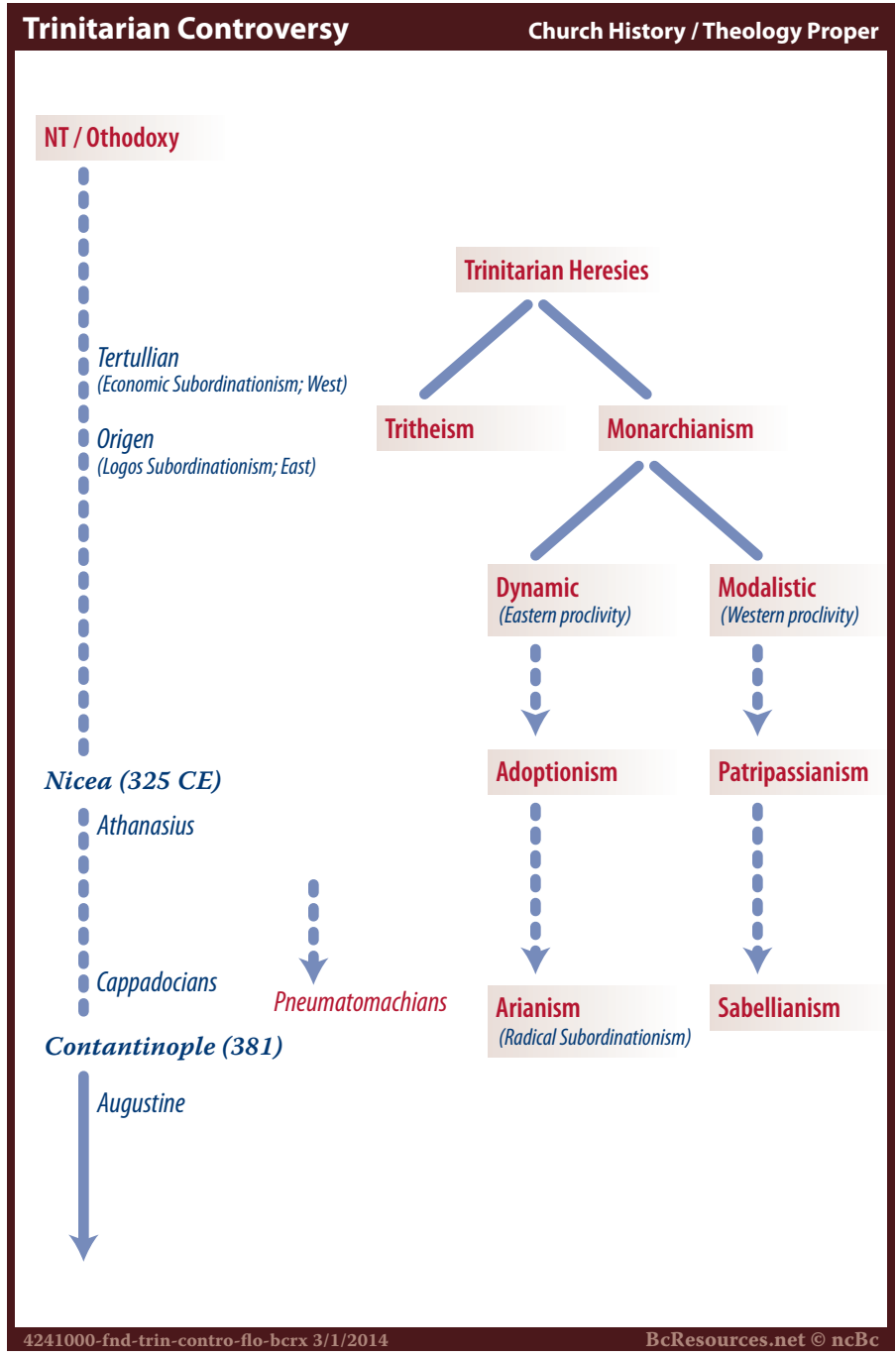
## D. The Triunity of God

### 1. Foundation

- a. Scripture
- b. Tradition
  - 1) Heresies
  - 2) Councils
  - 3) Terminology
- c. Analogy (*Vestigia Trinitatis*)

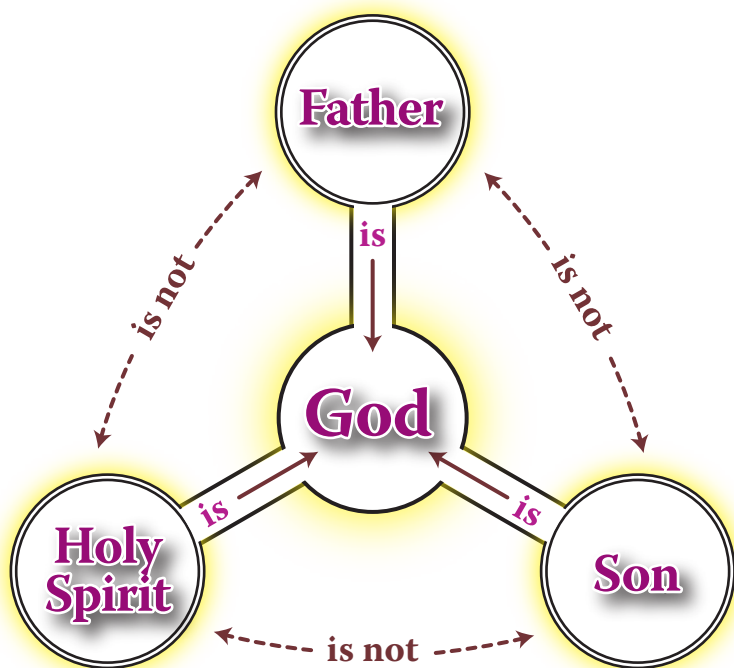
### 2. Explanation

- a. Oneness
- b. Threeness
  - 1) Order
  - 2) Properties
    - a) Father (Unbegotten)
    - b) Son (Begotten)
    - c) Holy Spirit (Procession)
  - 3) Operations
    - a) Father (εκ)
    - b) Son (δια)
    - c) Holy Spirit (εν)



### The Triune God

Theology Proper



Augustine's summary:

1. The Father is God.
2. The Son is God.
3. The Holy Spirit is God.
4. The Father is not the Son.
5. The Son is not the Holy Spirit.
6. The Holy Spirit is not the Father.
7. There is only one God.

## E. The Works of God

### 1. *Ad Intra*: The Divine Decrees

- a. Ground (The free and sovereign will of God)
  - 1) Debate
  - 2) Distinctions
- b. Nature
  - 1) Eternal
  - 2) Absolute
  - 3) Universal
- c. End (The glory of God)

### 2. *Ad Extra*: Creation and Providence

#### a. Creation

- 1) Spiritual (see appendix: The Angelic World)
- 2) Material
  - a) Statement (Theological)

*“The Triune God,  
by an act of his own free will and good pleasure,  
created all things for the manifestation of his glory.”*
  - b) Narrative (Biblical)
    - (1) Genre
    - (2) Arrangement
      - (a) Stage One: *ex nihilo*
      - (b) Stage Two: *hexaemeron*
        - i. Time
        - ii. Manner
        - iii. Order
  - c) Alternatives (Rational)
    - (1) Philosophical
      - (a) Dualism
      - (b) Monism
    - (2) Scientific (Materialism)

b. **Providence**

- 1) Idea
  - a) Definition
    - (1) General
    - (2) Special
  - b) Scope (Omnipotence and human freedom)
    - (1) Incompatibilist (Libertarian)
    - (2) Compatibilist (Volitional)
  - c) Extent (Theodicy and the problem of evil)
- 2) Elements
  - a) Preservation
  - b) Concurrence
    - (1) Predetermined
    - (2) Simultaneous
    - (3) Immediate
  - c) Governance
    - (1) *Ordinaria*
    - (2) *Extraordinaria* (Miracles)
      - (a) Nature
      - (b) Possibility
      - (c) Purpose



## E. **Appendix: The Angelic World**

### 1. **Existence**

- a. Origin
- b. Nature
  - 1) Spiritual
  - 2) Personal
  - 3) Powerful
- c. Assembly (Company)
  - 1) Number
  - 2) Rank
  - 3) Order
    - a) Organization
    - b) Activities

### 2. **Fall**

- a. Sin
  - 1) Time
  - 2) Cause
  - 3) Description (Poetic)
- b. Consequence
  - 1) Abode
  - 2) Status
  - 3) Destiny

BcR



## Theology III: Mankind, Sin, and Salvation

### A. Mankind/Humanity

#### 1. Origin

##### a. Creation

- 1) Immediate
- 2) Mediate

##### b. Constitution

- 1) Monism
- 2) Dualism
  - a) Body
    - (1) Form
    - (2) Gender/Sexuality
  - b) Soul
    - (1) Structure
      - (a) Dichotomist
      - (b) Trichotomist
    - (2) Origin
      - (a) Creationist
      - (b) Traducian

#### 2. Nature/Dignity (*Imago Dei*)

##### a. Qualities (Substantive)

- 1) Essential
- 2) Accidental (Original righteousness)
  - a) Naturalist
  - b) Supernaturalist

##### b. Dominion (Functional)

- 1) Universal
- 2) Local

#### 3. Unity/Solidarity

B. **Sin** (Hamartiology)

1. **Origin**

- a. Probation
- b. Temptation
- c. Fall

2. **Nature**

- a. General
  - 1) Philosophical (Ethical)
  - 2) Theological
- b. Particular
  - 1) Extent
  - 2) Degrees
- c. Universal

3. **Transmission** (Original sin)

- a. Guilt (Imputation)
  - 1) Immediate
    - a) Federal
    - b) Natural (Seminal)
  - 2) Mediate
- b. Pollution
  - 1) Depravity
  - 2) Inability

4. **Penalty** (Death)

- a. Physical
- b. Spiritual

C. **Salvation** (Soteriology)


1. **Christology** (Accomplished)

a. **Person**

- 1) Natures
  - a) Deity
  - b) Humanity
- 2) Union
  - a) Essence
    - (1) Statement (Chalcedon, 451 CE)
    - (2) Explanation
      - (a) Orthodox
        - i. Hypostatic
        - ii. Kenōtic ?
      - (b) Heterodox
        - i. Apollinarian
        - ii. Nestorian
        - iii. Monophysite/Monothelite
    - (3) Analogy
  - b) Effects (*Communicatio*)
    - (1) Affirmations
    - (2) Denials

- b. **Work** (States/Offices)
  - 1) Humiliation
    - a) Incarnation (Prophet)
      - (1) Birth
      - (2) Life
        - (a) Obedience
          - i. Active
          - ii. Passive
        - (b) Suffering
        - (c) Impeccability
      - (3) Death
        - (a) Burial
        - (b) Descent ?
    - b) Atonement (Priest)
      - (1) Necessity
      - (2) Nature
        - (a) Substance
          - i. Objective
          - ii. Vicarious
        - (b) Objections/Alternatives
        - (c) Aspects
          - i. Propitiation
          - ii. Redemption
          - iii. Reconciliation
      - (3) Extent (Intent)
        - (a) Sufficiency
        - (b) Efficiency
  - 2) Exaltation
    - a) Resurrection
    - b) Ascension
    - c) Session (Priest/King)

**Salvation Accomplished** **Soteriology**



# Salvation

The **necessity** of the atonement is grounded on God's love and righteousness.

The **nature** of the atonement is "penal substitutionary."

The **intent** of the atonement is to reconcile God to the elect and the elect to God.

## Propitiation

Sin is an unbearable outrage to God's holiness.

The atonement addresses this holy outrage, satisfying the demands of God's holiness.

## Redemption

Sin has a power that keeps people in bondage.

The atonement purchases people out of this slavery, releasing the elect from their bondage to sin.

## Reconciliation

Sin causes enmity between God and people.

The atonement brings together God and people, restoring, for the elect, access to the presence of God.

4330000-sal-accomplished-cht-bcrx 3/1/2014 BcResources.net © ncBc

2. **Pneumatology** (Applied)

a. **Person**

b. **Work**

- 1) General (Common grace)
- 2) Particular (Special grace)
  - a) *Unio cum Christo*
    - (1) Positional (Federal)
    - (2) Experiential
  - b) *Ordo salutis* (Golden Chain)
    - (1) Predetermined (Election)
      - (a) Unconditional
        - i. Supralapsarian
        - ii. Infralapsarian
      - (b) Conditional
    - (2) Immediate
      - (a) Condition
        - i. Calling/Regeneration (Passive)
        - ii. Conversion (Active)
          - a. Repentance
          - b. Faith
      - (b) Status
        - i. Justification
        - ii. Adoption
  - (3) Subsequent
    - (a) Sanctification
      - i. Evangelical
      - ii. Sacerdotal
    - (b) Perseverance
  - (4) Ultimate (Glorification)



- 3) Ecclesial
  - a) Association
    - (1) Baptizing
    - (2) Indwelling
    - (3) Sealing
  - b) Integration
    - (1) Illuminating
    - (2) Gifting
    - (3) Filling
- 3. **Appendix:** Covenant Theology

BcR



## Theology iv: The Church and the Kingdom of God

### A. **Part I: Ecclesiology**

#### 1. **The Nature of the Church—Its internal dynamics**

##### a. **Definition: εκκλησια**

##### b. **Dimensions**

- 1) Universal—Local
- 2) Organism—Organization
- 3) Militant—Triumphant

##### c. **Design**

- 1) Inception: Birth of the Church
  - a) Date
  - b) Features
- 2) Analogies: Images of the Church
  - a) Major figures
  - b) Minor figures
- 3) Creed: Attributes of the Church
  - a) One
  - b) Holy
  - c) Catholic
  - d) Apostolic

#### 2. **The Function of the Church—Its external structure**

##### a. **The Community—The Church gathered**

- 1) Membership
  - a) Initiation: Baptism
    - (1) Applicants
    - (2) Mode
    - (3) Significance
  - b) Obligation
    - (1) Responsibilities
    - (2) Gifts
    - (3) Discipline
      - (a) Offenses
      - (b) Procedure

- c) Celebration
  - (1) Worship
    - (a) Substance
    - (b) Style
  - (2) Eucharist: The Lord's Supper
    - (a) Institution
    - (b) Meaning (Presence)
      - i. Substantial (Transubstantiation)
      - ii. Sacramental (Consubstantiation)
      - iii. Spiritual
      - iv. Symbolic (Memorial)
    - (c) Custom
- 2) Leadership
  - a) Polity
    - (1) Episcopal
    - (2) Presbyterian
    - (3) Congregational
      - (a) Autonomy
      - (b) Authority
  - b) Offices
    - (1) Elders
      - (a) Duties
      - (b) Qualifications
    - (2) Deacons
      - (a) Duties
      - (b) Qualifications
- b. **The Commission—The Church scattered**
  - 1) Mandate
  - 2) Challenge
    - a) Obstacles
    - b) Cost
  - 3) Assessment—Marks of the Church

B. **Part II: Eschatology**

1. **Individual**

a. **Death**

- 1) Body
- 2) Soul

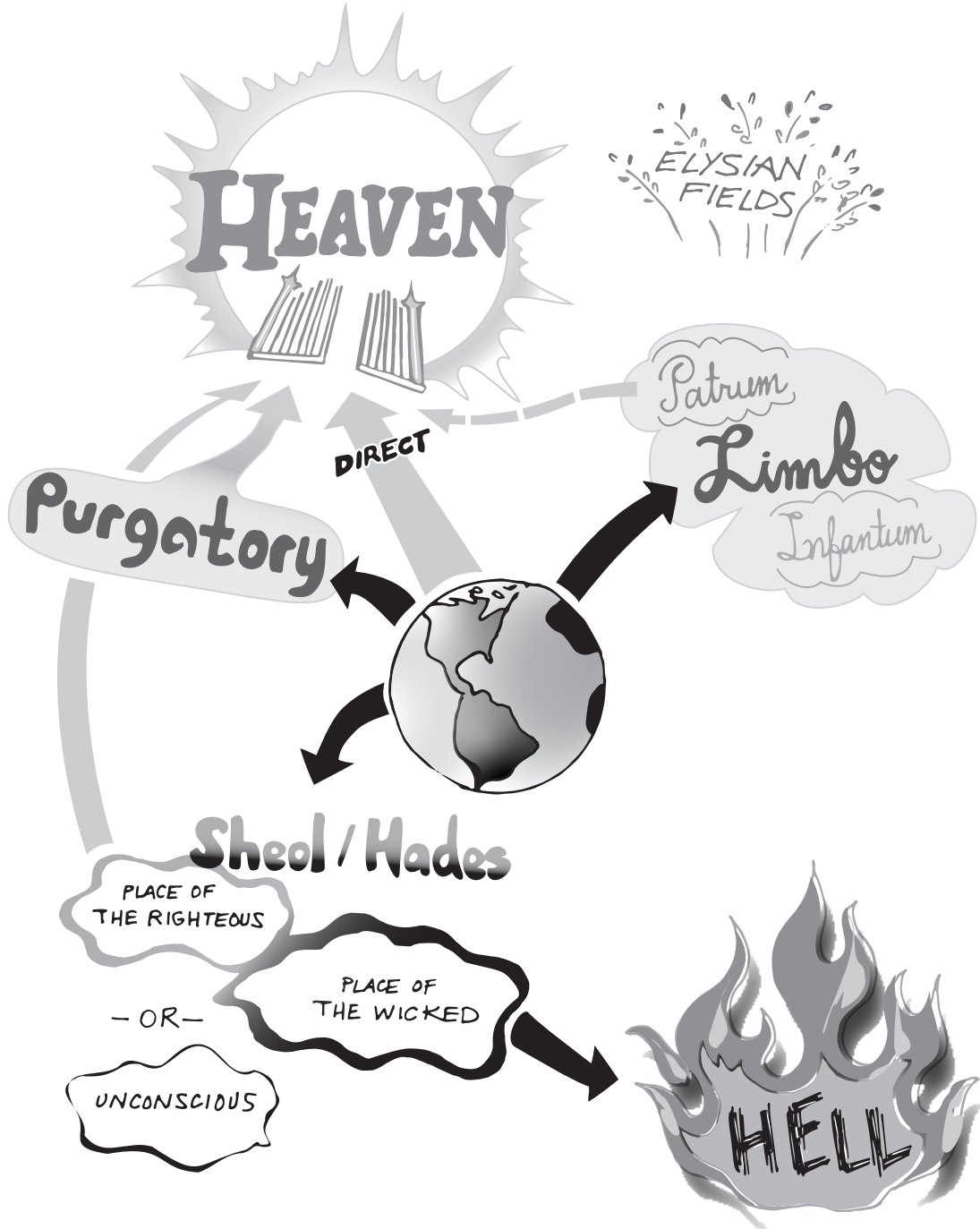
b. **Intermediate State**

- 1) Direct
- 2) Indirect
  - a) Unconscious
  - b) Conscious
    - (1) Sheol/Hades
    - (2) Purgatory
    - (3) *Limbus*
      - (a) *Patrum*
      - (b) *Infantum*

c. **Final State**

- 1) Resurrection/Judgment
- 2) Heaven/Hell
  - a) Universalism
  - b) Annihilation

### The Intermediate State in Christian Tradition



4421200-kng-eschat-inter-state-chr-trad-bw-bcrx 202111106 bcrresources.net (c) ncBc

**2. General**

**a. Introduction: Hermeneutics**

- 1) Amillennialism
- 2) Postmillennialism
- 3) Premillennialism
  - a) Historic
  - b) Dispensational

**b. Foundation: Biblical**

- 1) Old Testament
  - a) Narrative: God's Covenant Program
    - (1) Abrahamic
    - (2) Davidic
    - (3) Appendix: Mosaic and New Covenants
  - b) Prophetic: Day of the Lord
    - (1) Pre-exilic
    - (2) Exilic
    - (3) Post-exilic
  - c) Hymnic: Messianic Psalms
  - d) Apocalyptic: Book of Daniel
- 2) New Testament
  - a) Narrative: Rejection of the King
  - b) Epistolary: Kingdom Inaugurated
  - c) Apocalyptic: Book of Revelation

c. **Formation: Doctrinal**

- 1) Kingdom of God
  - a) Universal
  - b) Mediatorial
- 2) Destiny of the Church
  - a) Rapture
    - (1) Posttribulational
    - (2) Midtribulational
    - (3) Pretribulational
  - b) Bēma Seat
  - c) Marriage of the Lamb
- 3) Tribulation Period
  - a) First Half: Seven Seals
    - (1) Events: Political
    - (2) Events: Religious
    - (3) Events: Cosmic
  - b) Second Half: Seven Trumpets
    - (1) Events: Political
    - (2) Events: Religious
    - (3) Events: Cosmic
  - c) Climax: Second Coming
    - (1) Events: Political
    - (2) Events: Religious
    - (3) Events: Cosmic
- 4) Millennium
  - a) Conditions: Governmental
  - b) Conditions: Spiritual
  - c) Conditions: Environmental
  - d) Climax: Final Rebellion
- 5) Eternal State
  - a) Great Judgment
  - b) New Creation
    - (1) Heavens
    - (2) Earth
  - c) New Jerusalem