Inklings
ON PHILOSOPHY AND WORLDVIEW
A new way of learning about our connections to Truth & Reality

Tyndale House Publishers
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MY CURRENT TRUST LIST

Date:
Location:

+ I trust

+ I trust

+ I trust

+ I trust

+ I trust

+ I trust

+ I trust
I trust

I trust

I trust

I trust

Additional thoughts:
REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Who or what is on your personal trust list? What do you tend to find trustworthy?
2. What makes someone or something trustworthy?
3. As you contemplate your trust list, why do you trust these things? On what basis are they worthy of your trust?
4. What should be on your trust list that is not?
5. Is there anything on your trust list that should be removed?
6. Do you think you are on anyone’s trust list? Why or why not?
BIG QUESTIONS AND BIG ANSWERS OF LIFE FOR ME

1. What is the nature of reality? What is really real? Consider both the material and the spiritual realms.

2. Who or what is God?
3. What is a human being? What is humankind? (Who am I? What am I?)

4. What is the basis of and standard for morality? How do I decide between right and wrong, and who or what is the basis for moral authority?
5. What happens to humans at death? What do I trust will happen when I die?

6. What is the meaning and purpose of human history? What is the essence of human interaction and relationships?
7. Why are we here? Why am I here? Where are we going? Where am I going with my life? What is the purpose of living for tomorrow? What do I exist for?
MONISM: LIGHTS ON AND OFF

IDEALISM  MATERIALISM  MONISM  THEISM

CHRIST
INTRODUCTION
4. G. K. Chesterton, Orthodoxy (New York: Doubleday, 1908), 44.

CHAPTER 2: FAITH AND FAITH ISLAND

CHAPTER 3: TRUST LISTS: THE CONCEPT AND THE TOOL
CHAPTER 4: THE SUICIDE OF THOUGHT
3. Chesterton, 44.

CHAPTER 6: PHILOSOPHY: A PRACTICAL TOOL
2. Chesterton, xii.

CHAPTER 7: THE POWER OF A QUESTION
2. Sire, 80.
3. Sire, 43.

CHAPTER 9: A CLOSER LOOK AT AUTHENTIC MATERIALISM
1. *Planet Earth*, Season 1, Episode 7, “Great Plains,” directed by Alastair Fothergill, aired November 12, 2006, on BBC.

CHAPTER 11: A CLOSER LOOK AT RELIGIOUS THEISM

CHAPTER 13: OPEN OUR EYES SO WE CAN SEE

CHAPTER 14: CONNECTING TRUTH
1. My dear friend and gifted art history teacher Nate Leman has helped me develop this metaphor and even has adopted it as the final exam in his class. He has shown me how enlightening it is to uncover the truth that all great art has the capacity to do collectively what I have done with this one painting. I will say later that all great stories point to the true Great Story; he posits that all great art points us to the True Great Artist.

CHAPTER 15: THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
1. I developed this metaphor with my good friend and colleague Jack Burgess.
2. Ultimately, in this metaphor, Christ would also be the electricity/flame that gives the individual lights their brilliance.

CHAPTER 16: IDEALISM: LIGHTS ON AND OFF

CHAPTER 17: MATERIALISM: LIGHTS ON AND OFF

CHAPTER 18: MONISM: LIGHTS ON AND OFF
1. The apostle Paul refers to this as the “mystery of Christ.” Without jumping too far ahead, it is important to note the difference between being united “in Christ” and “by Christ” or “by God” versus united “as Christ” or “as God.”
CHAPTER 19: RELIGIOUS THEISM: LIGHTS ON AND OFF


2. Paradoxically, because our view of God is the most important influence in shaping who we are (see A. W. Tozer epigraph on page 99), humans need to understand who God has revealed himself to be. God needs to speak for himself about who he is. Thus, we have various religious texts that claim to be the revelation of God to man and, thus, various texts for our various trust lists. However, these religious texts do not all align regarding the character and nature of God, and some are even diametrically opposed to each other. Consequently, Christians need the Bible to be a firm foundation with clear boundaries regarding who God is and who God is not. The Bible will be on their trust lists. Therefore, I am not just offering a Christ-centered worldview in this text but rather a Christ-centered biblical worldview.

CHAPTER 20: THE POWER OF PARADOX


4. Chesterton, 94.

5. Chesterton, 95.


7. Wayne Martindale and Jerry Root, eds., *The Quotable Lewis* (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale, 1990), 621.


CHAPTER 21: THE TREACHERY OF IMAGES


CHAPTER 22: THE ROAD GOES EVER ON AND ON