



Key Terms

Lesson 6 – History: Whose Story?

Cocoon: Part of the worldview transformation process that Dr. Tackett describes: In order for a caterpillar to transform into a beautiful butterfly, it must undergo a struggle within a cocoon. Similarly, it is often a deep struggle to apply God's truth claims to the reality of our beliefs and circumstances; Del refers to this long and arduous process as "the cocoon" or a "cocoon experience."

Covenant: A formal and legally binding agreement. Biblically speaking, a covenant can be conditional or unconditional and can be established between God and an individual or group of individuals (such as a nation) or between men. Theologians list several such covenants including the Abrahamic and Davidic covenants.

Ex nihilo: From or out of nothing. Del is using this term in the context of knowledge; we know 11 is representative of the number eleven based on past teaching, we don't recognize that this is an eleven "ex nihilo," without some historical context.

Free agents: The human nature of free will, allowing individuals to make decisions, as opposed to behaviorism, where man is merely a stimulus-response mechanism.

Historical revisionism: a process where history is altered or the past is reinterpreted in order to accomplish a particular agenda or objective. If you rewrite the past, you can make people believe whatever you want in the present. There is a large liberal agenda to rewrite history in order to leave Christian themes and God out of public academia.

Incredulity/Incredulous: Unable or unwilling to believe; skeptical.

Metanarrative: An over-arching story, philosophy or worldview that seeks to explain reality. Postmodernism denies the credibility of any metanarrative.

Myopia: Nearsightedness; the condition which the human eye cannot see distant objects clearly.

Natural Myopia: A sickness we all suffer from, where we have a tendency to see our own little story very well, but we lose sight of the larger story of God.

Of Plymouth Plantation: The most complete story of the Pilgrims and the early years of the colony they founded. Composed of journal writings by William Bradford recounting the *Mayflower* voyage and their settlement in early America.

Paradox: A statement, proposition, or situation that seems to be absurd or contradictory, but in fact may be true; something that is contrary to or in conflict with conventional or common opinion.

Passover Feast: Instituted so that the Israelites would remember God's deliverance from the Egyptians. Most feasts were instituted by God to help His people remember a particular event when God worked in a powerful way. Exodus 12:24-27, Deuteronomy 4:9, 6:4-12

Pontius Pilate: The prefect (governor) of the Roman province of Judea from 26 AD until 36 or 37 AD during the reign of emperor Tiberius Caesar. As prefect, he was responsible for the estates in Tiberius, collecting taxes and maintaining order. Pilate is most commonly known for ordering the crucifixion of Jesus.

Providence/Providential: wisdom, guidance, and control provided by God; involving divine insight or intervention.

Sovereign: Having supreme authority or power. In the context of God's role in history, He is in ultimate control, fulfilling His purpose, and carrying out His plan.

Stepping Stones: People who are lost in the larger story of God; "they [the Pilgrims] cherished a great hope and inward zeal of laying good foundations ... even though they would be but stepping stones to others in the performance of so great a work."

The Larger Story of God: Del uses this phrase to describe God's grand story in which He is sovereignly in control. God's people should be focused on living as part of God's story instead of their own little story.

William Bradford (1590-1657): The leader of the Pilgrim settlers and Governor of Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts. He was a signer and the primary architect of the Mayflower Compact and author of the writings that formed *Of Plymouth Plantation*. He is also credited for the very first Thanksgiving.