

1 John Series

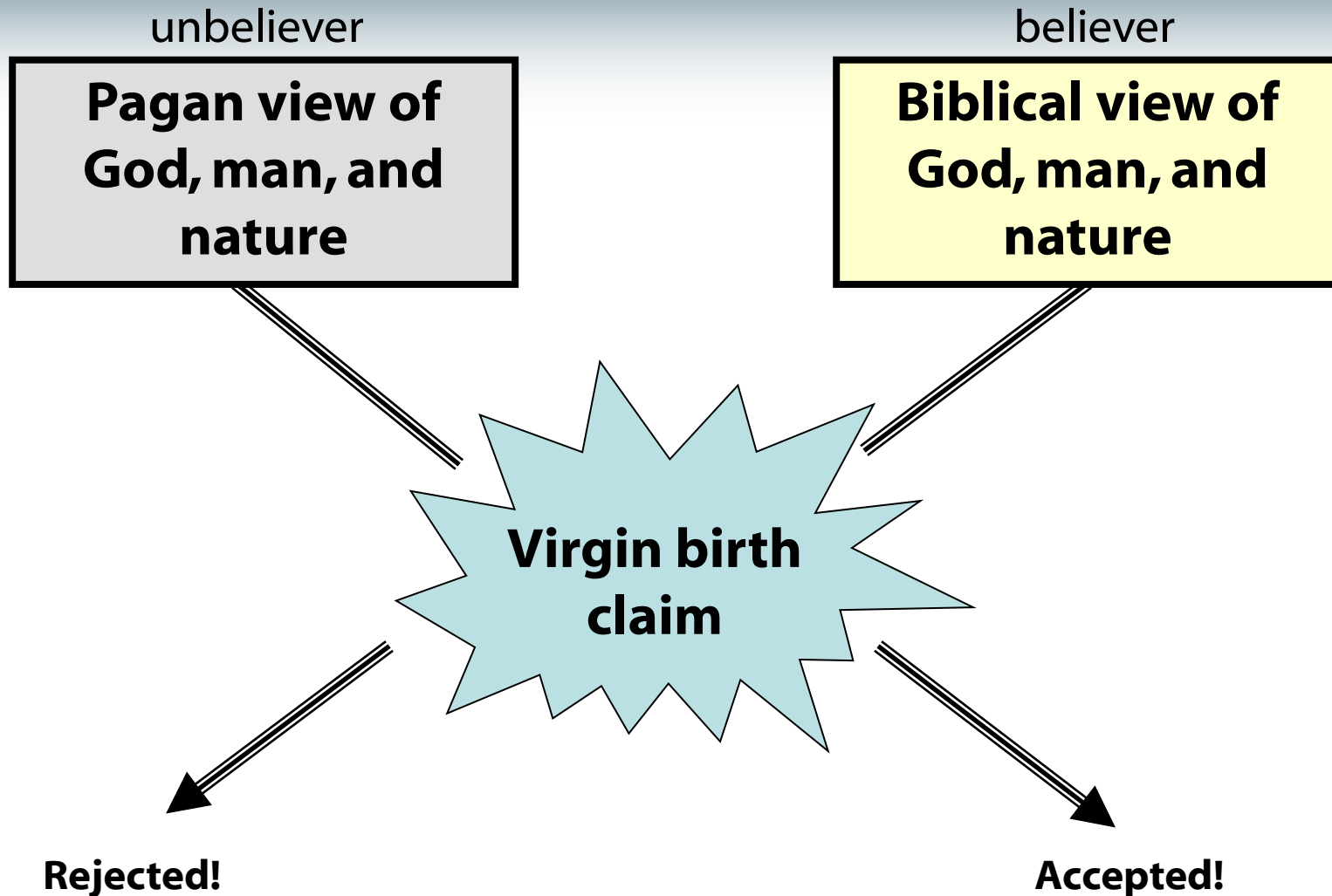
Lesson 8

Charles Clough

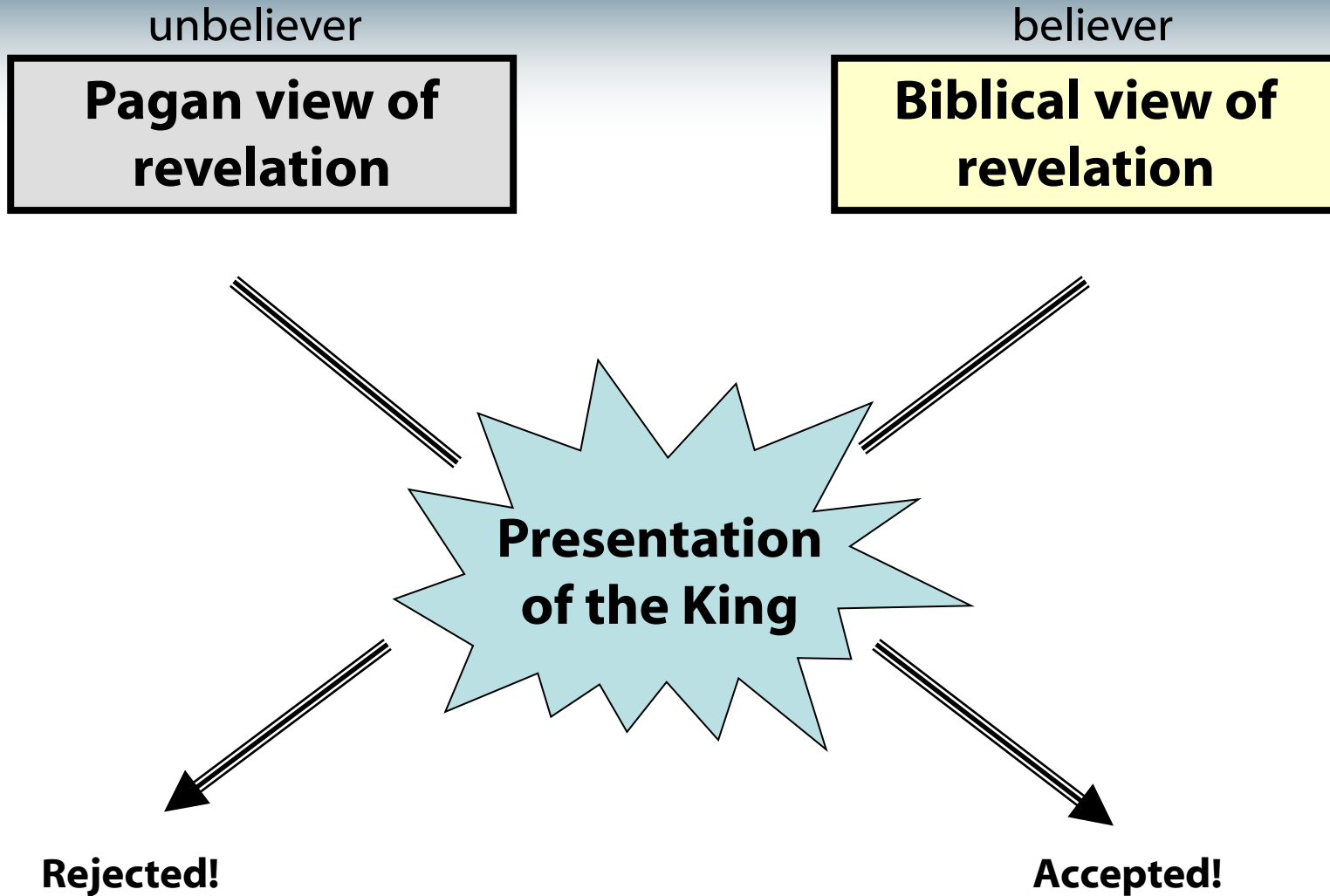
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The Virgin Birth



Presentation of the King



Shall I Bow to My Creator?

- **YES!**

- ancient monotheism
- ancient Israel
- Bible
- fundamentalism

- **CREATOR/creature**

- God || man | nature
- everlasting distinctions

- **PERSONAL SOVEREIGN**

- ultimate responsibility

- **NO!**

- ancient myths
- eastern religions
- western philosophy
- modern theology

- **Continuity of Being**

- nature > gods > man
- transmutation / evolution

- **IMPERSONAL FATE & CHANCE**

- ultimate victimization

Non-Biblical Answers to: “Who are you to tell me how to live?”

1. Subjectivism (moral relativism): *“Ethical judgments merely express an individual’s emotions or attitudes toward an action or object of evaluation.”*

Arguments for:

Circumstances & generational experience *differ* from person to person

Intolerant to impose *one’s* values on others

Non-Biblical Answers to: “Who are you to tell me how to live?”

Problems with:

Says nothing about actions or objects themselves, *only autobiographical expressions* lacking basis for moral outrage over evil actions or belief in objective value.

***Self-refuting* since every person inevitably experiences others' judgments of him or his labor to which he objects as “unfair.”**

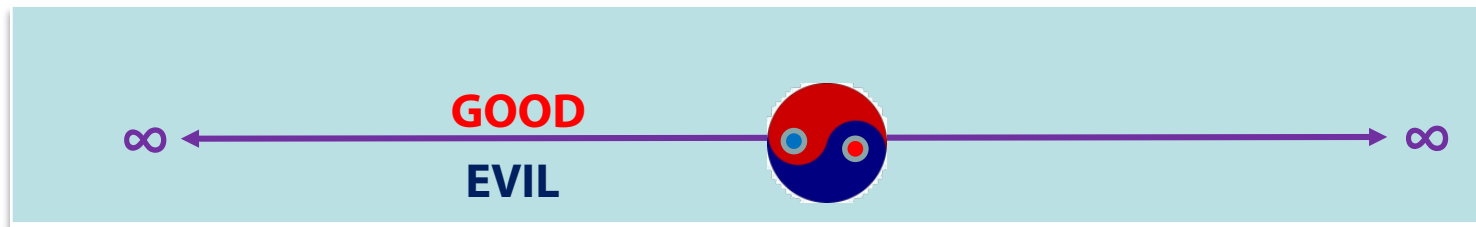
Resulting anarchy *leads to totalitarian imposition* of the judgments of the stronger against the weaker to avoid social chaos.

Who has the REAL “Evil problem”?

Christian: Good / Evil mix is “abnormal” and temporary



Pagan: Good / Evil mix is permanently “normal”



Our Relationship with the Father

Text	Contrasting element	Individual detail
1:5	Light (+)	perfection of God
1:6	Darkness (-)	talk vs. walk
1:7	Light (+)	walk with cleansing for fellowship
1:8	Sin (-)	talk vs. real state-of-affairs
1:9	Cleansing from sin (+)	candid talk and cleansing
1:10	Sin (-)	talk vs. real state-of-affairs
2:1-2	Resolution of sin before the God of Light (+)	Throne room activity

Aletheia = truth

1:6	something we live out
1:8	what we say fits reality
2:4	what we say fits reality
2:21	comprehended as consistency between word & reality
3:18	real life action
4:6	Opposite to "<i>planes</i>" (planet = wandering)
5:6	Holy Spirit is the ultimate Truth, not just "true" [think here of creation agent]