

# **NATURAL THEOLOGY**

Parts 1 and 2

## NATURAL THEOLOGY: PART 1

- From Paul...to Augustine...to Aquinas
- Natural Theology: a knowledge of God that is gained from nature

## GENERAL REVELATION & NATURAL THEOLOGY

- General Revelation: refers to something that God does.
- Natural Theology: refers to something man does.
- Natural Theology is the result of General Revelation

## GENERAL REVELATION

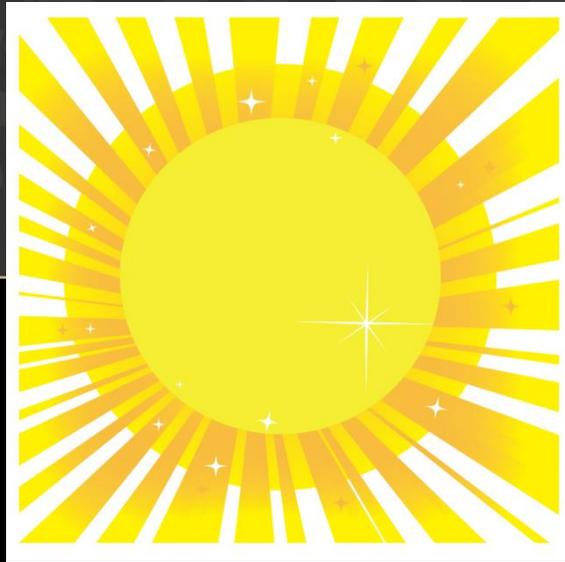
- Called GR for two reasons:
  1. Revelation from God given to all human beings
  2. What GR reveals is a knowledge of God in general
  
- Two kinds of GR:
  1. Mediate: indirect
  2. Immediate: direct

## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT GENERAL REVELATION?

[18 ] For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

[19 ] For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. [20 ] For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. [21 ] For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. [22 ] Claiming to be wise, they became fools, [23 ] and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

(Romans 1:18-23 ESV)



Cheesy Illustration!

**NATURAL THEOLOGY:  
PART 2**

GRACE

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NATURE

## WHAT PROBLEM WAS AQUINAS TRYING TO SOLVE????



- Integral Aristotleansim
- Double Truth Theory (DTT):
- The DTT simply states that something could at the same time could be true in Philosophy but false in Religion....or conversely could be true in Religion and false in Philosophy.....or to put it even another way...it could be true in Science but false in Theology, or vise versa.
- So, Aquinas is saying that not only the Scriptures declare God's existence but also Science itself....together with the Scripture proclaims it. They are distinguished...yet united.