

INTRODUCTION TO THE ‘TELEIOLOGY’ CONCEPT

In our final lesson on the series entitled, Life Under the Sun, we studied a lesson entitled, Acquiring Divine Wisdom (11/29/09).

During that lesson, I mentioned twelve doctrines that personally grounded me in my new spiritual life, maturing me in the Faith and motivating me to consistently grow in this Christian way of life. (CWL)

I mentioned that you could search for them on our web site (www.doctrinalstudies.com).

We will cover these twelve doctrines under the series entitled, Teleiology.

Grace Orientation (G/O)	Mastery of the Details of Life (DOLs)
Dispensations	Suffering in the CWL
Spirituality vs. Carnality	Victory in the Angelic Conflict (A/C)
Orientation to the Will of God	Spiritually Gifted Ministries
Positional Truth (P/T)	Transformational Thinking
The Faith Cycle (F/C)	Capacity to Receive and Give Love

NOTE: While we will cover these twelve doctrinal principles, individually and in order, I will be expanding on each with additional studies to give you a full grasp of each principle.

Teleiology is the study of the “meat doctrines” essential to the church age believer’s spiritual growth maturity process in the CWL

(Heb.5:14) “But solid (stereos) [requires growth development] food (trophe) [nourishment] is for the mature (teleios), who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

Soteriology is the study of the “milk doctrines” essential to the church age believer’s spiritual growth, dealing with their salvation in order for them to reach the capacity for “meat doctrines”

(Heb.5:13) “For everyone who partakes only of milk (gala) is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a **babe** (nepios).”

Today’s lesson will study a four point Introduction to Teleiology and will explain the importance of these 12 doctrines of Teleiology for attaining spiritual growth maturity in the CWL.

1. Every Church Age Believer (CAB) begins the CWL as a new born baby, a new order of creation in Christ

(2 Cor.5:17) “Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a **new creature (kainos ktisis)**; the old things (archaia) passed away; behold new (kainos) things have come.” (Gal.6:14-15; Eph.2:13-16; 4:24; 2 Pet.1:4)

This new order of creation in Christ was part of the prophecy give to Mary by Gabriel

(Luke 1:35) “And the angel answered and said to her, ‘(creative power) Holy Spirit will come upon you, and (creative) power of Most High will overshadow you; and for that reason **the Holy Offspring** shall be called son of God.”

Entrance into this new order of creation is described by at least five different terms:

Regeneration	(palingenesia)	(Titus 3:4-7)
Born again	(anagennao)	(1 Pet.1:3, 23)
Born from above	(gennao anothen)	(John 3:3-8, 31)
New born	(artigenetos)	(1 Pet.2:2)
Brought forth by birth	(apokueo)	(James 1:18).

2. Every newly born spiritual baby needs the milk doctrines of salvation (soteriology) in order to enter into spiritual adulthood.

(1 Pet.2:2) “Like newborn (antigenetos) babes (brephos) [on mother’s breast], long for the pure milk (adolos gala) of the word, that by it you may grow (auxano) in respect to salvation (soteria).”

Brephos was used by Gabriel to the Bethlehem shepherds. (Luke 2:12) “And this will be a sign for you; you will find a baby (brephos) wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger.”

Milk doctrines are designed to develop spiritual growth from **brephos** (baby) to **nepios** (childhood). (Heb.5:13) “For everyone who partakes only of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is a babe (nepios).” (Acts 20:32)

The writer of the book of Hebrews referred to the **milk doctrines** as “the elementary principles of the oracles of God” in Heb.5:12. He tells CABs that they must leave these to “press on to maturity (teleiotes) [actual accomplishment of the process or super grace status]” in Heb.6:1 (1 Cor.3:2; Gal.4:3).

Milk doctrines (Soteriology) would include the Essence and Godhead, the gospel message, the mechanics of grace salvation, the 50 things received at the moment of salvation (4 categories), the three categories of sin, and eternal life.

3. Once a CAB has grown (from brephos to nepios) by ‘digesting’ the milk doctrines of soteriology, he enters into the spiritual adult stage of spiritual growth (teknon to teleios).

(2 Pet.3:18) “But grow in the grace and knowledge (gnosis) of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

(Eph.4:14) “As a result, we are **no longer** to be children (nepios), tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming.”

(Gal.4:19) “My children (teknon), with whom I am again in labor until Christ be formed in you.” (Eph.5:8; 1 Pet.1:13-16; 2 Tim.2:1; 1 John 2:1, 12, 28; 3:7, 18; 4:4; 5:21)

(Heb.5:14) “But solid food is for the mature (teleios), who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

4. Spiritual adults need meat or solid doctrines in order to reach super grace spiritual maturity.

(Eph.4:13) “Until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge (epignosis) of the Son of God, to a mature (teleios) man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.”(Super Grace Status) (SG)

This is the importance of cycling the 12 doctrines of Teleiology through faith. (Jude 20) “But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit.”

The pursuit of divine wisdom (Sophia) as a result of divine knowledge (gnosis) is the goal of the super grace (teleios) believer. (1 Cor.2:6) “Yet we do speak wisdom among those who are mature (teleios).” (Col.1:28-29)

An example of a believer who had reached and was maintaining super grace spiritual maturity was Mary whom Gabriel addressed as: “Favored one (charitoo / perf.p.ptc. vsf)! The Lord is with you.” (Luke 1:28)