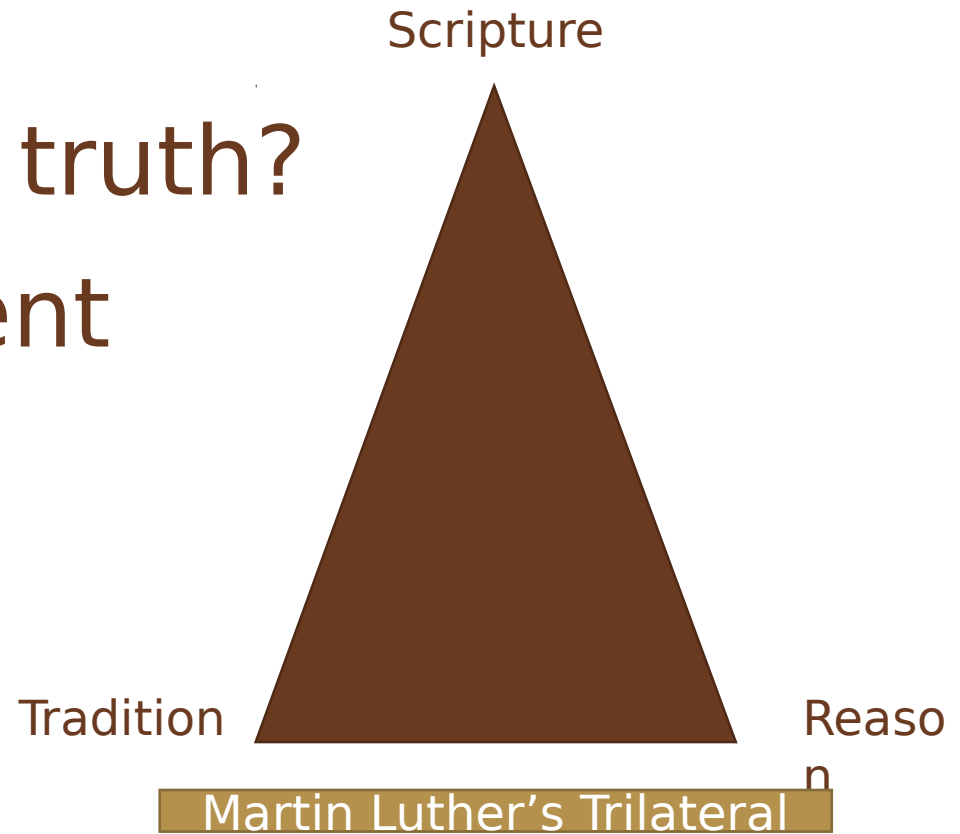

Sources of Theology

THE THEOLOGY PROGRAM

Sources of Theology

- Where do we go for truth?
- What are the different sources of truth?



Sources of Theology

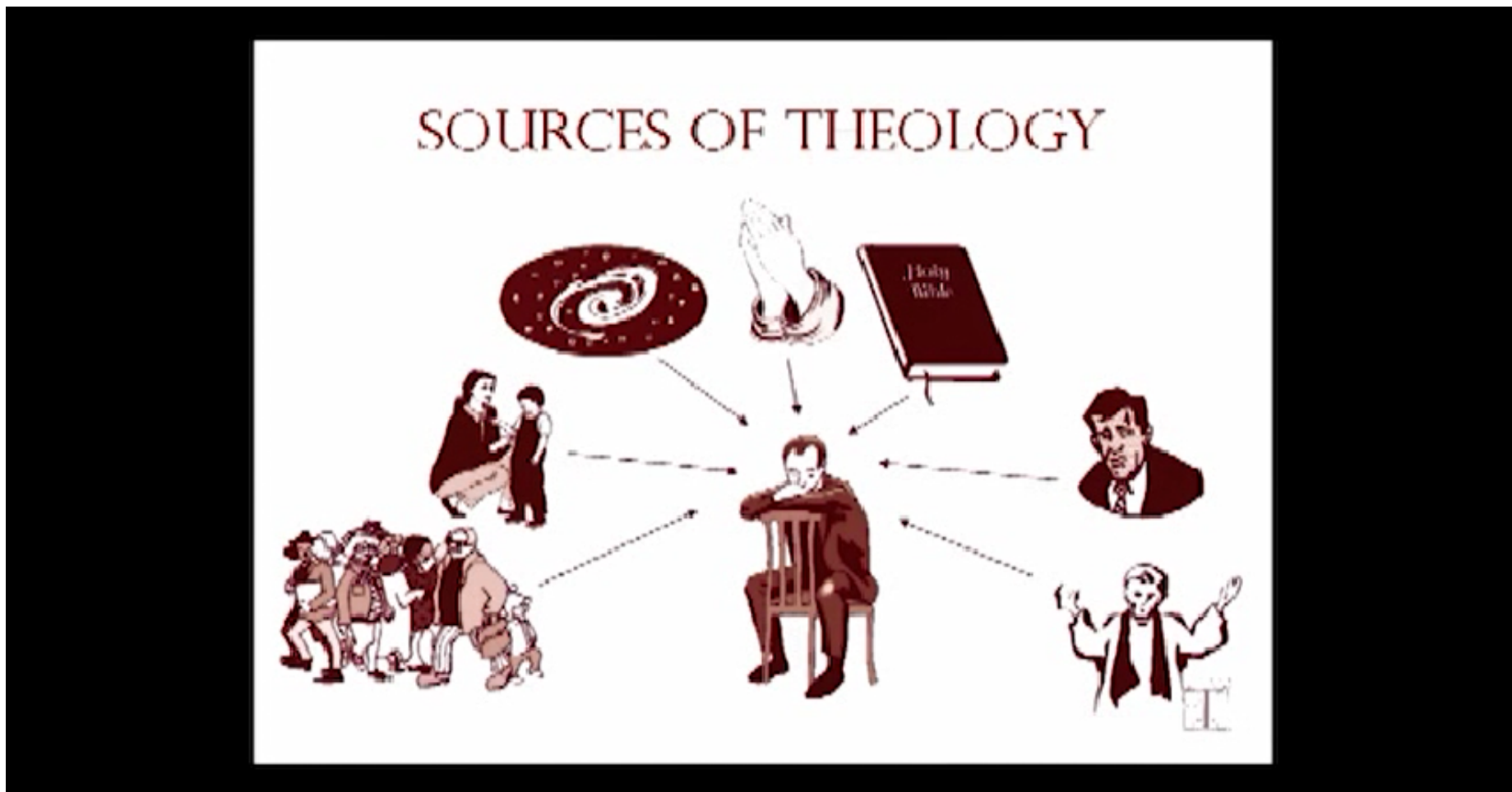


John Wesley's Quadrilateral

Sources of Theology

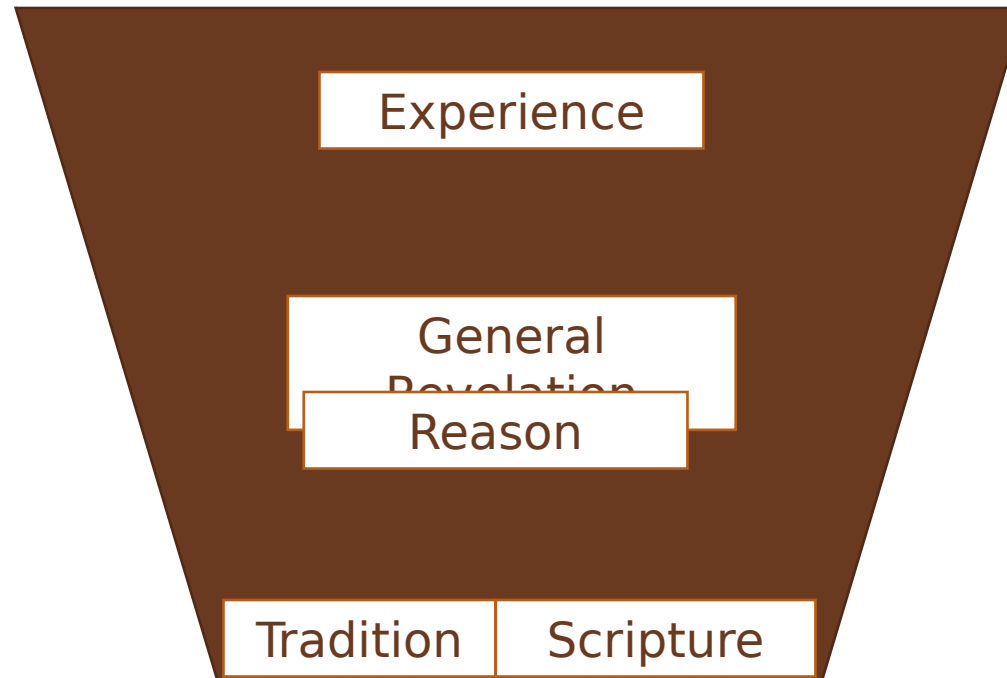


Sources of Theology



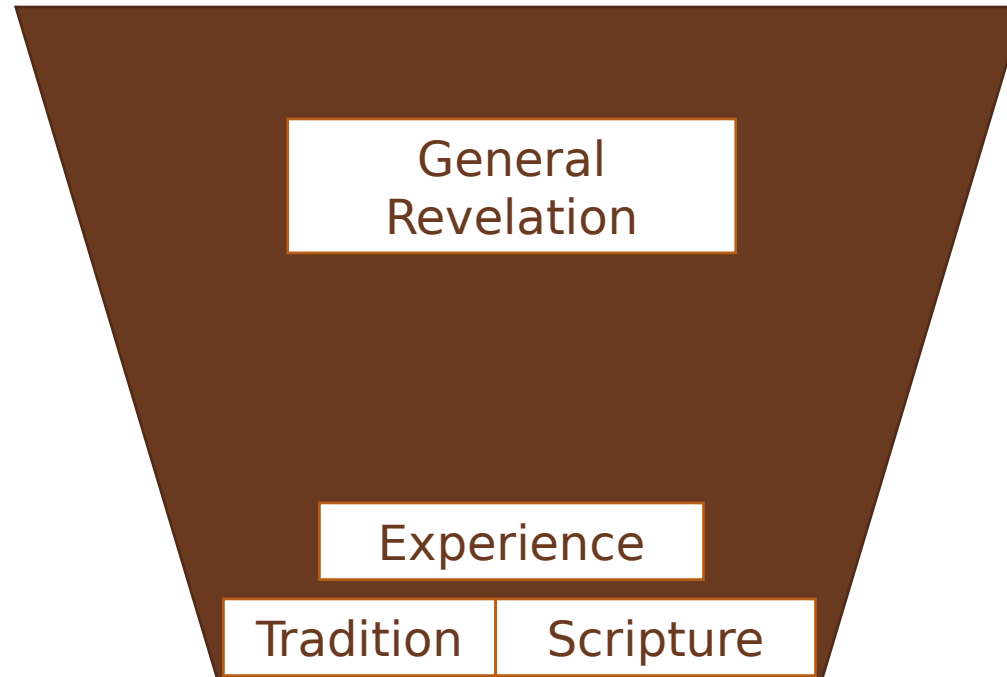
Sources of Theology

Roman



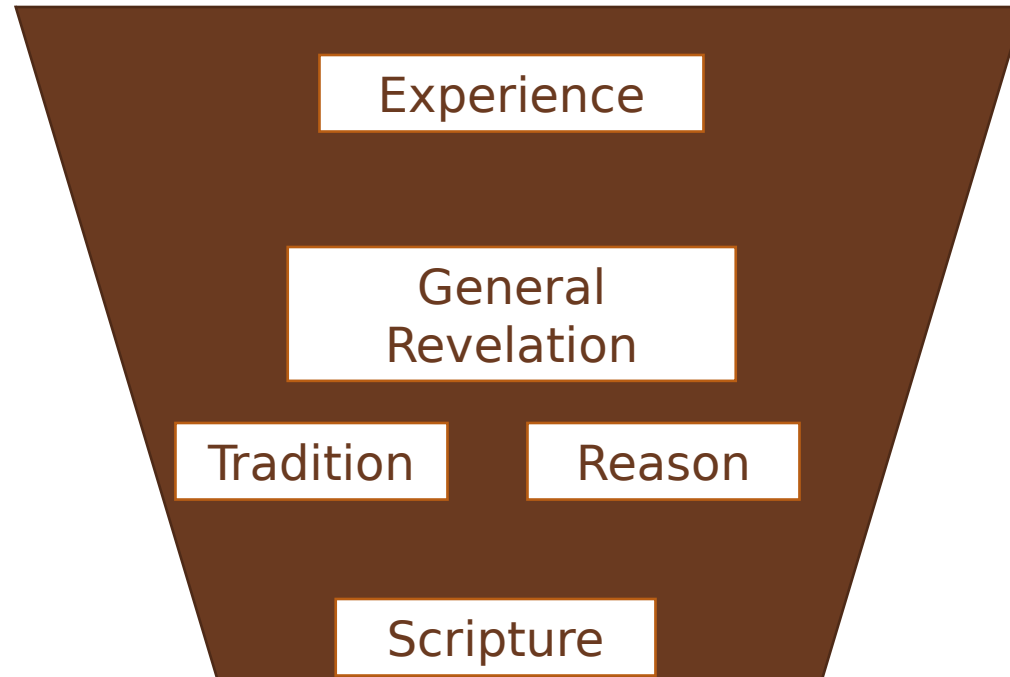
Sources of Theology

Eastern



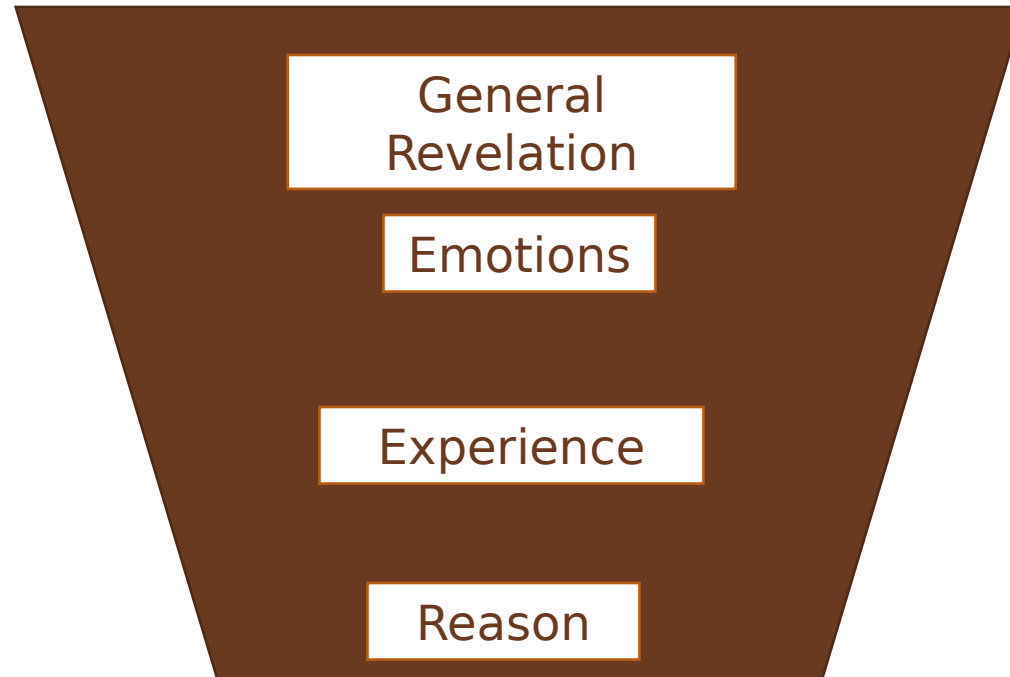
Sources of Theology

Protestant



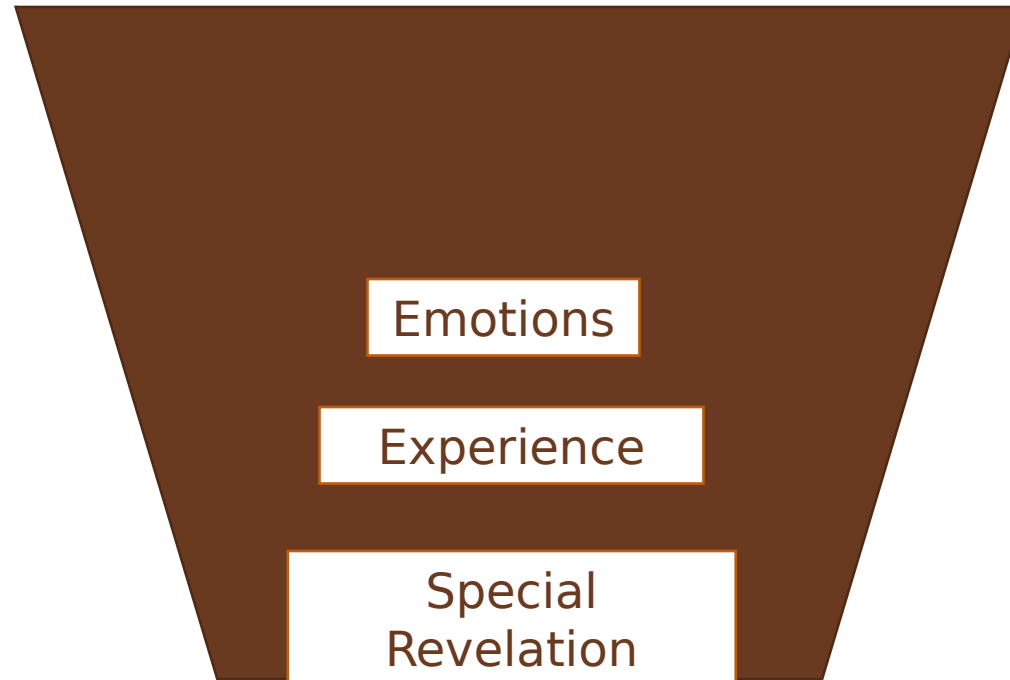
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Liberal



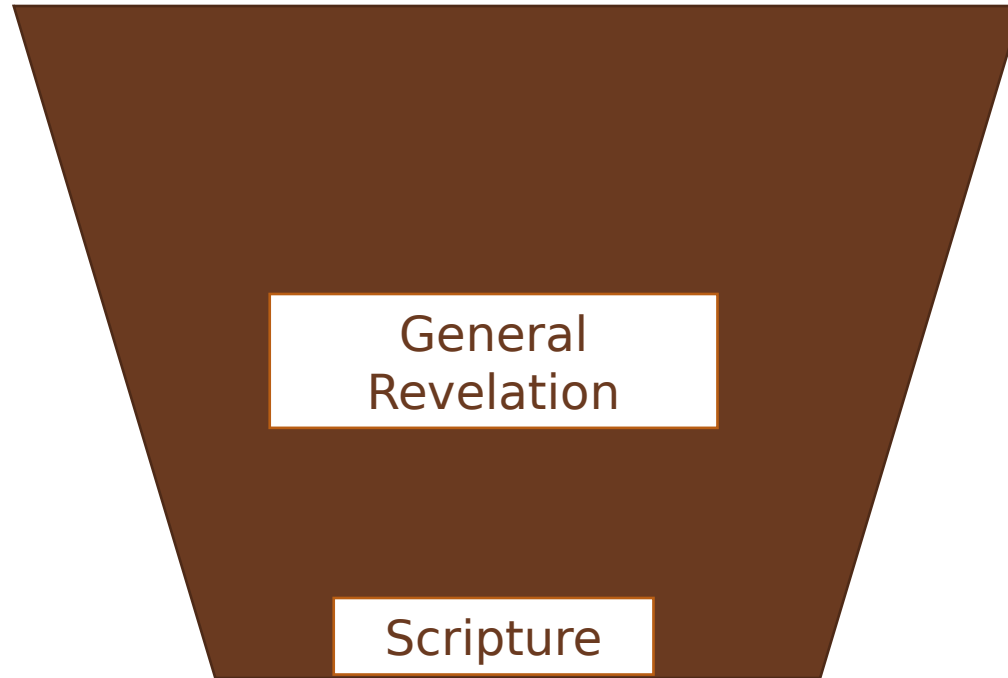
Sources of Theology

Charismatic



Sources of Theology

Fundamentalist



Sources of Theology

Postmodern



Sources of Theology

What are the benefits and deficiencies of each source?

TRADITION: Religious information that has been handed down to us from various sources.

Examples: Creeds, Councils, Confessions, History of the Church, Statements of Faith, Church governance, sermons.

Benefits: Stability, Holy Spirit works through each of us, community learning.

Deficiencies: Become mindless to life, turn it into folk theology, will have tunnel vision about your faith.

“Tradition is the living faith of those now dead. Traditionalism is the dead faith of those now living.” Jaroslav Pelikan.

Sources of Theology

What are the benefits and deficiencies of each source?

REASON: Information that comes through the human mind's capacity for logical, rational, and analytic thought.

Examples: Mathematics, Philosophy, etc.

Benefits: Takes away the subjective perspective, develops a compelling case.

Deficiencies: Can get it wrong using the wrong methodology, reason can hinder one against trusting in God.

“All truth is given by revelation, either general or special, and it must be received by reason. Reason is the God-given means for discovering the truth that God discloses, whether in his world or his Word. While god wants to reach the heart with truth, he does not bypass the mind.” Jonathan Edwards.

Sources of Theology

What are the benefits and deficiencies of each source?

Emotions and Experience: Information that comes through direct encounter, participation, or observation.

Examples: How God has worked in your life, healing realized, circumstances changed through prayer. Experience affects how you interpret the Bible. Recognize the presuppositions we bring to the table affect our reactions and learning.

Benefits: Provides encouragement, hope, peace, strengthening in faith.

Deficiencies: Loss of trust when things go wrong, loss of hope.

Sources of Theology

What are the benefits and deficiencies of each source?

General Revelation: Revelation about God given through the created order (Ps 19:1-6; Romans 1:18-20; 2:14-15).

Examples: Nature, fingerprints shows God's detail in life, science, the universe, our bodies, etc.

Benefits: Live life abundantly, God's grace is shown throughout lives.

Deficiencies: Can be misread, tornados come and we question.

Sources of Theology

What are the benefits and deficiencies of each source?

Special Revelation: Revelation given by God's supernatural intervention in history through Scripture, miraculous events, divine speech, visible manifestations, etc.

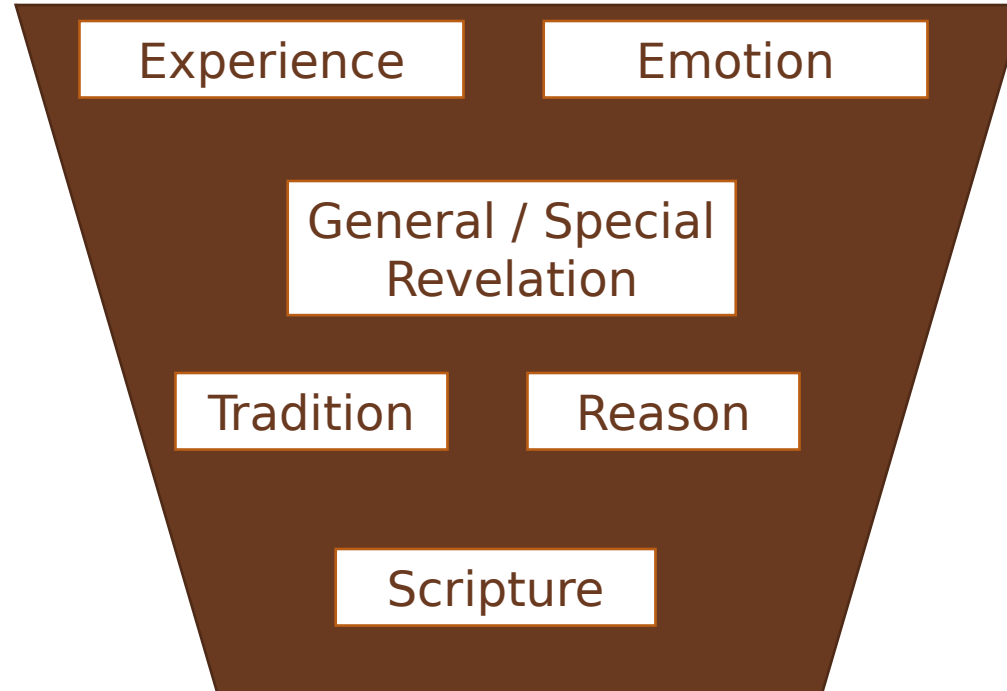
Examples: Examples can be shown through the Scripture, Genesis and Exodus as examples.

Benefits: Foundational truths, salvation, His message through the Holy Spirit, source of authority.

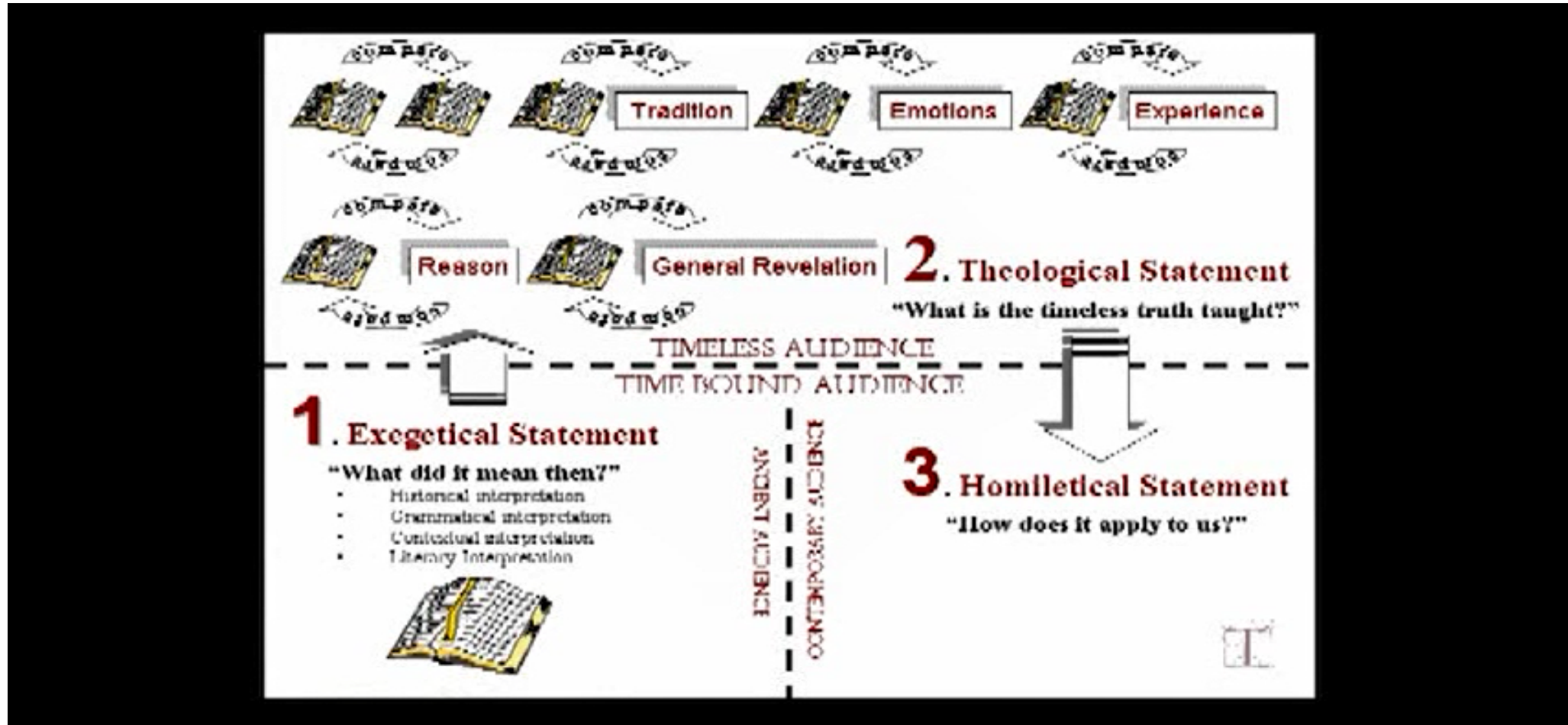
Deficiencies: May not speak to every matter, need to interpret correctly, not available to all at all times.

Sources of Theology

Proposed Stage of Truth by Theologians



Sources of Theology



Questions?

THE THEOLOGY PROGRAM
LISA LEEPER

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