

Lesson 1: Acknowledging the Creator

Rejoicing in God's Good Design

“In the beginning, God created...”

There is a God.

This God has created the creation.

God is the first and most important of beings.

The created world exists on purpose, and there is an intelligent reason for its being.

God knows what He has made and what He is doing.

There is no God.

The creation is all there is.

Man is the greatest and most important of beings.

What exists has no purpose, no meaning, and no design.

No one can know for sure why things are the way they are or how they should be.

Without Knowing God, We Cannot Know Truly

“Nothing at all can be known truly of any fact unless it be known through and by way of man’s knowledge of God.”

Cornelius Van Til

“All truth...starts with what is true of God: who He is, what His mind knows, what His holiness entails, what His will approves, and so on. In other words, all truth is determined and properly explained by the being of God.”

John MacArthur

Romans 11:36

“For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.”

All things...

- Originate in God
- Are upheld by the will and power of God
- Exist to fulfill His purposes

WHY?

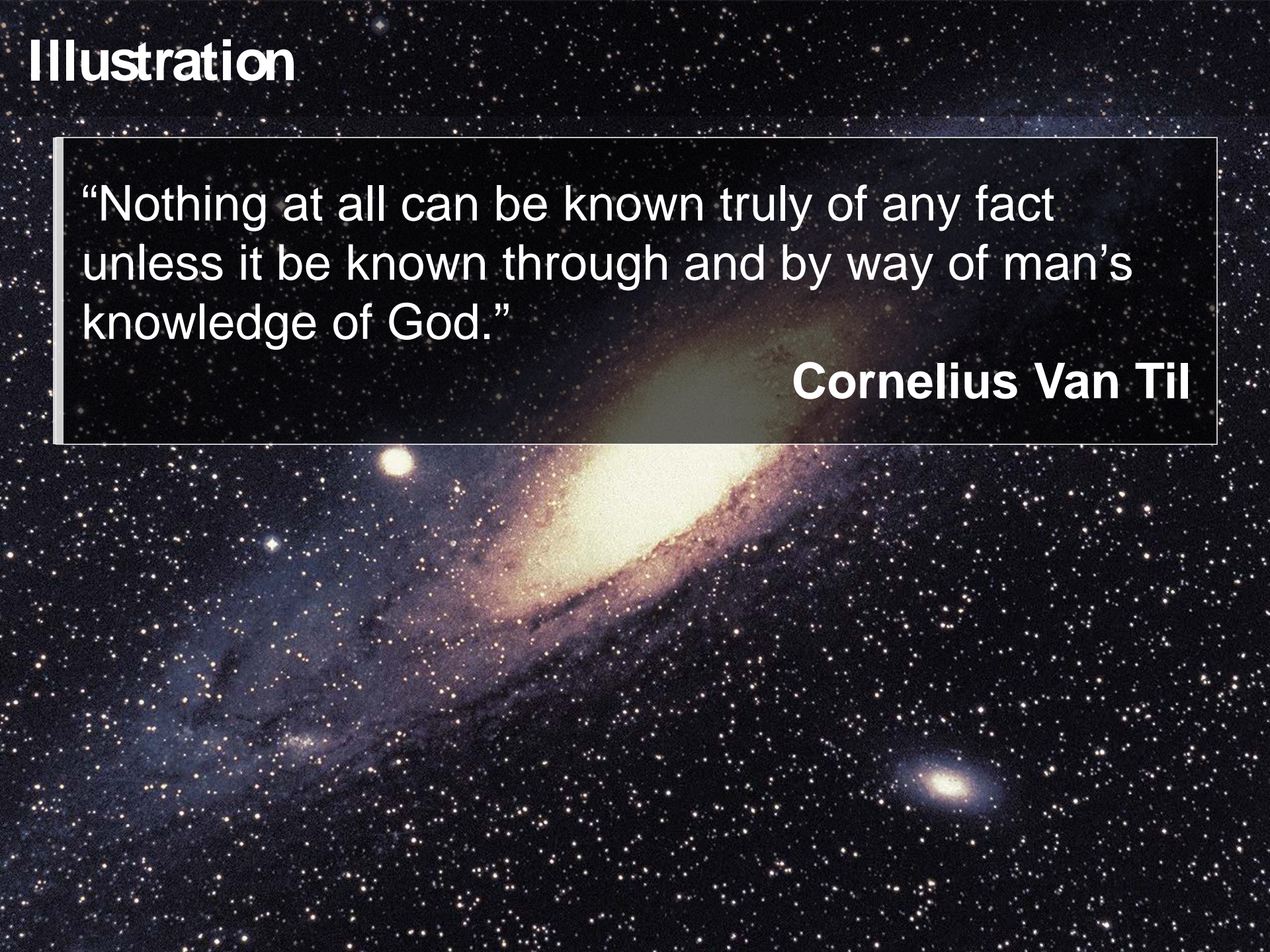
To bring praise and glory
to His name forever and ever.



Illustration

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Cornelius Van Til



Meaning Given by the Maker

God reveals His mind most clearly in the Bible...

The world, its purpose, its meaning, and how it functions



Those who deny their Creator...

Unable to rightly understand their purpose, function, and meaning for existence.

Denying God Leads to Confusion

Romans 1:18-25



Denying God Leads to Confusion

Romans 1:18-25

Men Deny Truth



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Nature Reveals God



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**Intellectual
Consequence:
Pridefully Ignorant**



Denying God Leads to Confusion

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Nature Reveals God



Men Deny Truth



**Intellectual
Consequence:
Pridefully Ignorant**

**Moral
Consequence:
Idolatry**

Knowing God and Knowing Ourselves

“... it is certain that man never achieves a clear... knowledge of himself unless he has first looked upon God's face, and then descends from contemplating him to scrutinize himself.”

John Calvin

How has God revealed Himself?

- Through nature
- Through human conscience
- Through the Bible
- Through Jesus



Colossians 2:3

**The sure foundation for knowing anything
else correctly:**

JESUS
as revealed in the Bible





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