

The Anatomy of Faith

October 9th, 2011

Christianity is built on one very basic thing. **Faith**. And without **faith** there isn't much left in the whole operation, because everything in Christianity that matters operates with it. If you want grace, you need **faith**. If you want to know God's love and live in God's love, again it's **faith** that provides the passport. Salvation? Yep, **faith**. Victory? Uh-huh, **faith**. Holiness? **Faith**. Righteousness? **Faith**.

It says in Hebrews 11:6 that “without *faith* it is impossible to please God.” Then again in Galatians 5:6, “the only thing that counts is *faith* expressing itself in love.” Oh, and yet again in Ephesians 2:8, “You are saved by grace through *faith*.” It would appear that a lot rests on this idea of “faith”, and in fact, a lot does. In this whole Gospel schematic, **faith is the linchpin**. If faith is absent then the Gospel is rendered powerless in a human life. Faith is the soul fuel upon which the Gospel spark kindles and sets aflame.

E.L. - The Bravehearted Gospel

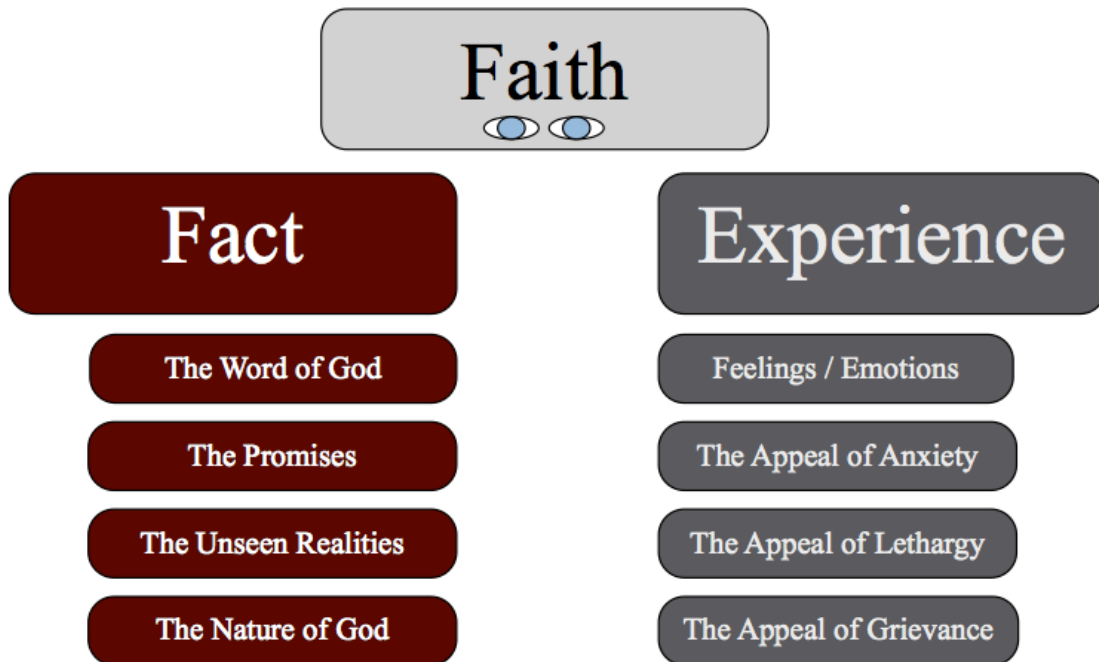
Faith Under Siege

- Rob Bell and Doubt Night - Encouraging those bold enough to admit their doubt
- Phillip Yancey - Honest Doubt - the beginnings of an authentic faith

Six Brilliant Satanic Maneuvers Against the Soul

1. Pollution
2. Tiredness
3. Distraction
4. Anxiety/Fear
5. Anger/Frustration
6. Doubt

The Anatomy of the Human Battle



Diakrinō [dē-ä-krē'-nō]

To side against, to ally with one over against another, to forsake a previous allegiance, to waver in support of one candidate and vote in support of another

Weighing the Evidence

of the Deceiver

And when the woman **S**A**W** that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat . . .

Genesis 3:6

of our Redeemer

Behold (*to see - discern, inspect, examine*), what manner of love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God . . .

1 John 3:1

No Diakrinō!

Do NOT examine the Deceiver's evidence

For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, "Be removed and be cast into the sea," and does *not doubt* (has **No Diakrinō!**) in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

Mark 11:23

Then the Spirit told me to go with them, *doubting nothing* (with **No Diakrinō!**).

Acts 11:12

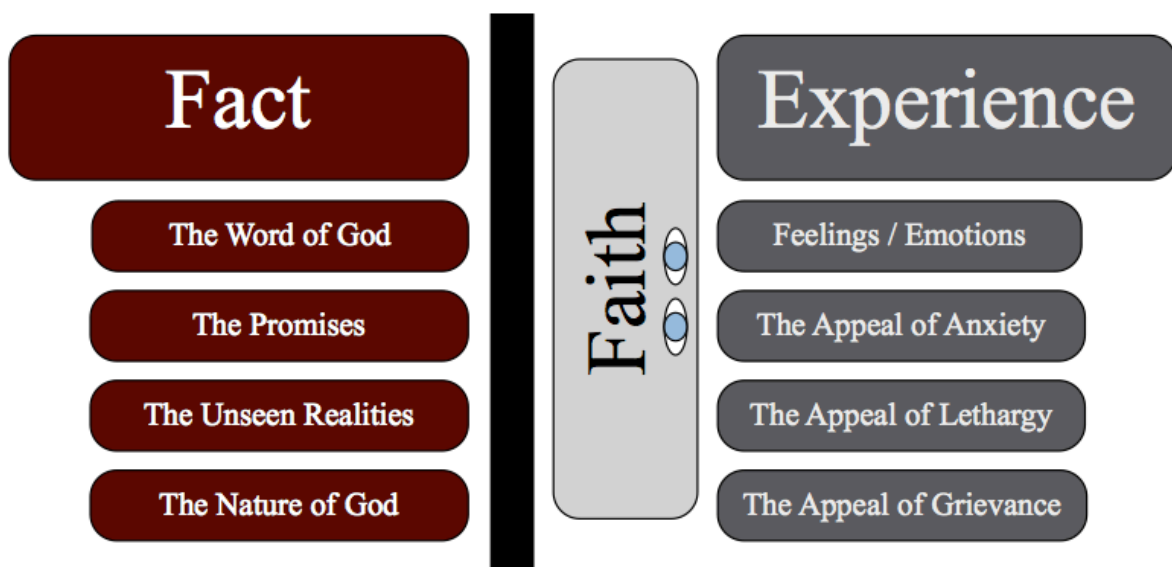
He *staggered not* (had **No Diakrinō!**) at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Romans 4:20-21

Diakrino is a fierce allegiance to Self's unlawful position in the human soul. It is the lawyerly representation of the soul to prove why Self can and must maintain its jurisdiction and authority and why surrender unto Christ is unnecessary and unwise at this juncture. It is the badgering of the witness of Holy Scripture, badgering of the witness of the Holy Spirit, and the calling up of fleshly and natural witness in an attempt to continually disprove and nullify the testimony of Heaven.

The Anatomy of Doubt

Diakrinō



The Seriousness of the Command

- To entertain doubt is to stand against the Truth
- To show hospitality, in the slightest degree, to the pleas of the naturalistic attorney is to make place for the Enemy
- To fix the eyes of your soul on the Deceiver's evidence is to lend it credence and power in your life

Doubt should never be cherished, nor fears harbored. Let none cherish the delusion that he is a martyr to fear and doubt. It is no credit to any man's

mental capacity to cherish doubt of God, and no comfort can possibly derive from such a thought. Our eyes should be taken off self, removed from our own weakness and allowed to rest implicitly upon God's strength. A simple, confiding faith, living day by day, and casting its burden on the Lord each hour of the day, will dissipate fear, drive away misgiving, and deliver from doubt.

E.M. Bounds (*p.20 Complete Works*)

... When the Son of man comes, shall He find faith on the earth?

Luke 18:8

How Does Faith Function?

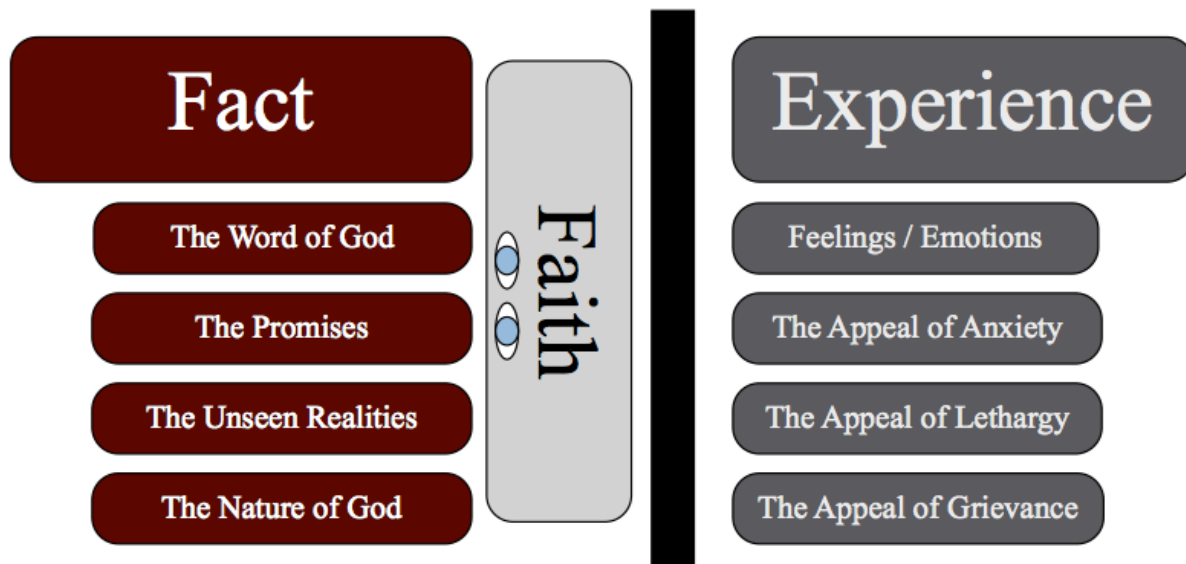
- Faith is an exclusive covenant relationship between the eyesight of the human soul and its lone source of Truth - the Word of God.
- Faith can allow no reticence to remain, no lawyerly remonstrance from the flesh to be heard, no evidence from the natural to be brought before the judge of the mind.
- Faith is exclusivity of thought, deliberate choosing to deafen to the lawyerly council, railings, accusations, and concerns of the Flesh.
- Faith is the spiritual discerning of God's way and then the bold movement forward in it.
- Faith is complete and utter confidence in the ability of God to perform that which He has promised to perform. It does not waver or hesitate, cower or retreat even in the face of the most gross and insurmountable natural obstacles.
- Faith is wholly given to the opinion of God and trusts it implicitly.
- Faith is fiercely loyal to the Word of God, and even at the risk of public ridicule, it is willing to put all its chips on God and live.

How Does Doubt Function?

It exalts the notion of self-council

- Doubt is the voice of the natural man. It favors the Kingdom of Self, the control of Self and is antagonistic toward the incoming regime of the Spirit of God.
- If this Voice of Doubt is not silenced then the Christian man integrates this voice into the voice of the Spirit of God and begins to assume that this voice IS the Spirit of God. And even though this voice contradicts every sentiment, command, and promise of Scripture it is deemed the “wise” voice and it is viewed as astute and conscientious Christianity to follow it.
- If this Voice of Doubt is not silenced then the Christian life is built on a false premise of **Self-council** rather than **Spirit-Scriptura council** thus generating a life that lives from the Flesh as its source rather than from the Spirit in faith and love. And such a life is sin unto God, it cannot please God, and is damnable in the eyes of heaven.

The Anatomy of True Believing



He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Romans 4:20-21

Jacob wrestled, not so much with a promise, as with the Promiser.

E.M. Bounds

(67, Complete Works)

The Promiser

- He Cannot Lie (Titus 1:2)
- He Will Not Change (James 1:17)
- He is the Same Forever (Hebrews 13:8)
- He is Eager to Answer (Luke 11:13)

The Oft-Overlooked Key to Faith

It must be tested to become fully effective.

Faith knows that the natural man, the natural world, and all the natural laws defy the Living God and His rulership, and therefore, seeks not the council, the endorsement, the validation of these icons of culture to back the idea of belief. And in fact, fully expects them to attempt to refute it.

Trial by Fire

- Noah tested by a cloudless sky for 40-70 years
- Abraham tested by both the sheer impossibility of the promise and the interminable passage of time
- Jacob tested by the long dark night
- Caleb tested by the 31 hostile giant empires
- David tested by the lion, the bear, and the 12 1/2 foot tall man-beast
- Mary and Martha tested by Lazarus' four days in the tomb
- The disciples tested by the boat filling up with water
- Peter tested by the natural laws of water and men walking upon it
- John tested by the sight of the Messiah suffering, dying, and being buried

That the trial of **your faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perishes, **though it be tried with fire**, might be found unto praise and honor and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:7

What is Faith?

It is tangible, credible, substantial evidence witnessed (seen) by the eyes of the human soul and thusly lent the entirety of the soul's agreement, loyalty, and support

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1

For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he swore by himself, Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee. And so, **after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise.**

Hebrews 6:13-15

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 10:23

Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him.

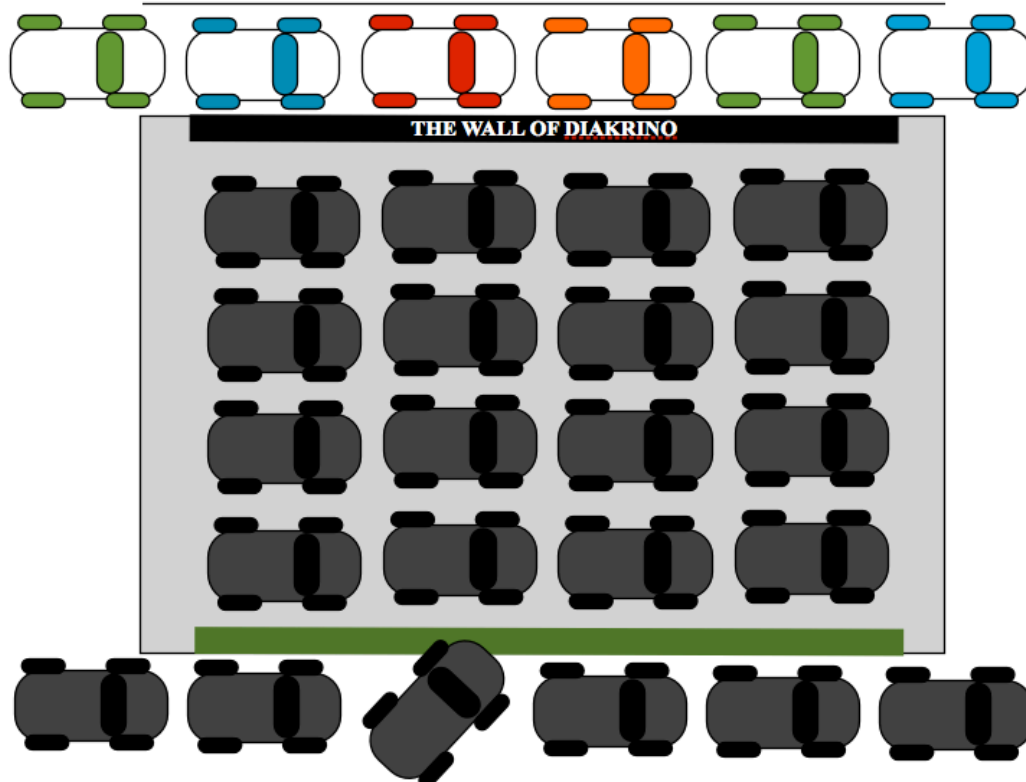
Hebrews 10:38

The 6 Basic Principles of Faith

1. **The laws of Heaven trump the laws of this earth and world.** The laws of nature are subservient to the laws of the Spirit of God.
2. **Spiritual assurance is gained only through spiritual means** (i.e. Prayer, obedience, patient endurance, and purity of soul).
3. **Faith is based on Fact (Truth) and NOT on wishful or positive thinking.** It's a very real glimpse into the plans, purposes, and power of the Almighty and being convinced of both His desire and His ability to carry those plans and purposes out.
4. **For faith to grow it must be fully invested.**
5. **Faith, if it is real, is always tested to prove its authenticity.**
6. **Faith, if it is real, remains steadfast and unshaken even when the natural realm lays out its arguments and presents its case of the utter impossibility of the task.**

The Parking Lot

The Anatomy of Faithless Living



Apistia [ä-pē-stē'-ä]

unbelief, absence of faith, withholding agreement with God

And he did not many mighty works there because of their **Apistia**.

Matthew 13:58

He staggered not at the promise of God through **Apistia**; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Romans 4:20-21

Apeitheō [ä-pā-the'-ō]

to not allow one's self to be persuaded; to refuse or to withhold belief; to refuse belief and obedience; to not comply

He that believes on the Son has everlasting life: and he that *is* **Apeitheō** toward the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abides on him.

John 3:36

Apistos [ä'-pē-stos]

unbelieving, incredulous, without trust in God, absent of faith

Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and **Apistos** is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

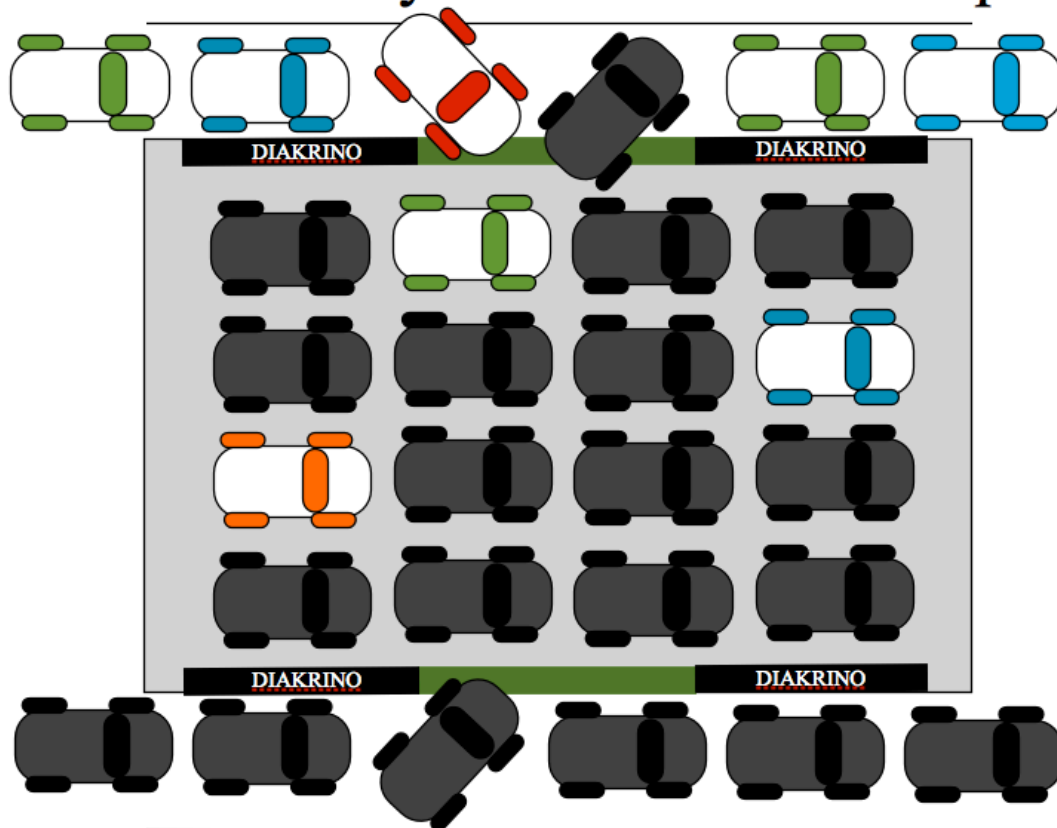
Titus 1:15

But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe. And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and

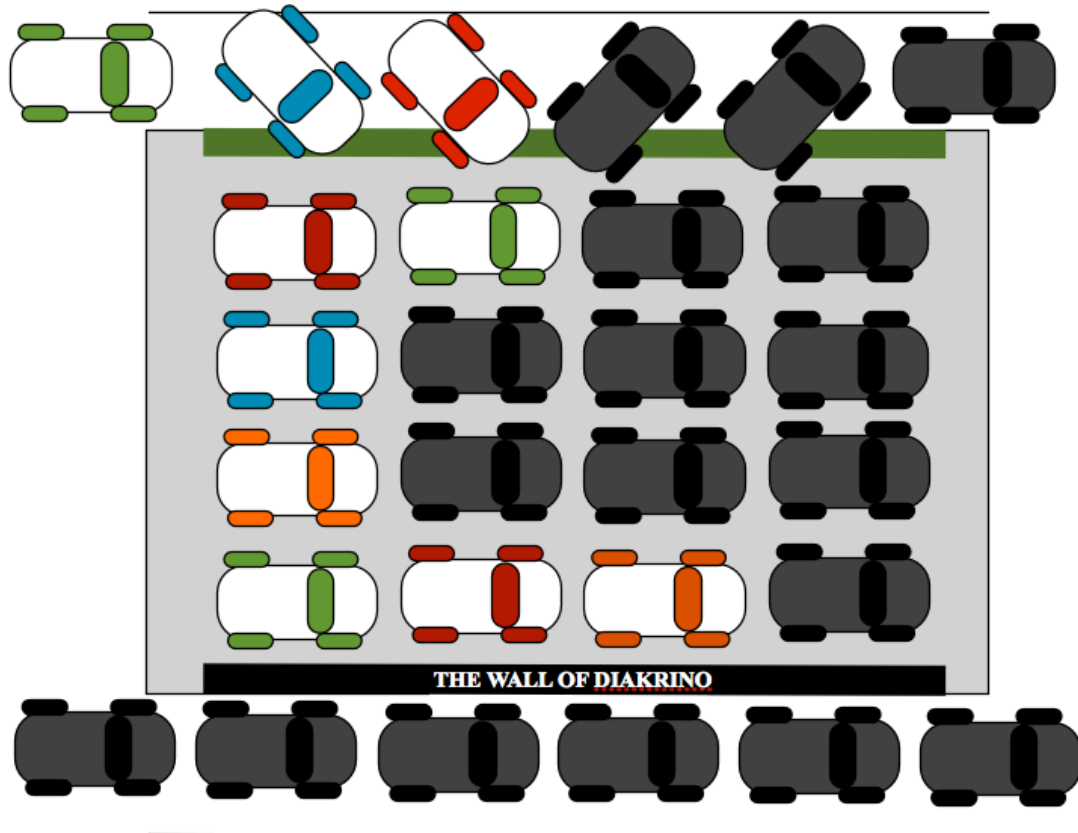
stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you. Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not **Apistos**, but believing. And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God. Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed. And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name.

John 20:24-31

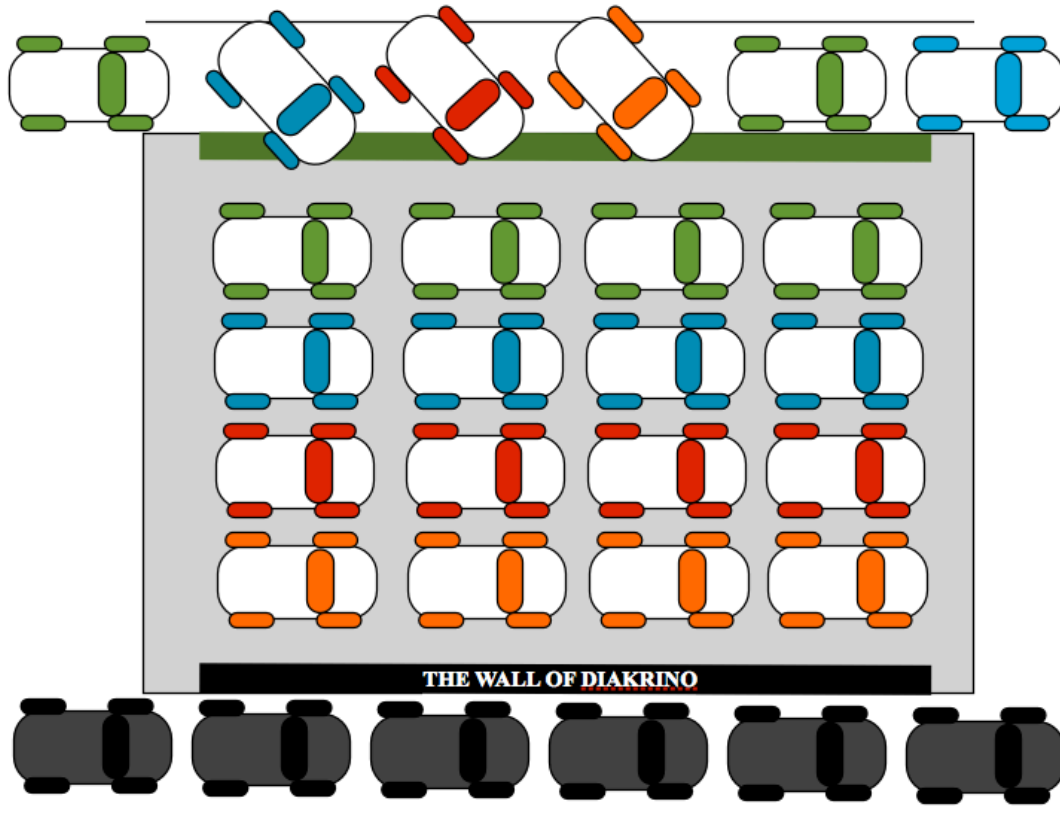
The Anatomy of The Modern Gospel



The Anatomy of True Discipleship



The Anatomy of Faithful Living



Diakrinoing for God

Diakrinō [dē-ä-krē'-nō]

To side against, to ally with one over against another, to forsake a previous allegiance, to waver in support of one candidate and vote in support of another.

Godly Diakrinō [dē-ä-krē'-nō]

To side against the Lying voice, to ally with the Word of God over and against the Whisperer, to forsake a previous allegiance to Doubt, to change your support from the Deceitful candidate and vote in support of the King of Kings.

The Return of Bravehearted Faith

Faith that doesn't just tune out the Bait of the Deceiver, but Faith that boldly believes God to once again do what only God can do in our generation