# WORLDVIEW CLASS UNIT 4- MUSIC AND ART

# KUYPER QUOTE

• "Calvinism fostered and could not but foster a love for science."



# CHRIST IS LORD

 Machen: The Church must seek to conquer not merely every man for Christ, but also the whole of man

#### CHRIST'S RESTORATION

- Priest: Capacity for appreciation/"Man was to gather up into the prism of self-conscious activity all the manifold manifestations of the glory of God in order to make one central self-conscious sacrifice of it all to God."
- Truth, Goodness, Beauty

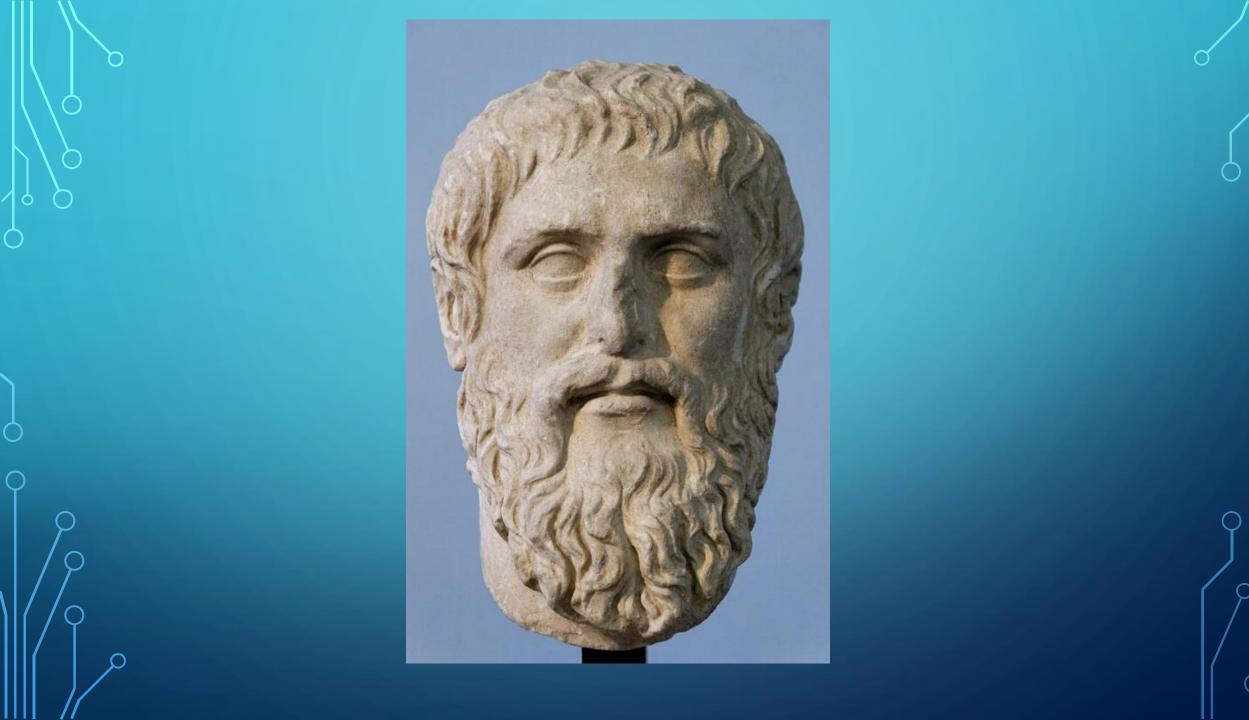
#### MARTIN LUTHER

• Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world. It controls our hearts, minds and spirits. A person who does not regards music as a marvelous creation of God does not deserve to be called a human being.

#### IMAGE OF GOD IN MUSIC

- Steve Jobs: "You playing is the best argument I've ever heard for the existence of God, because I don't really believe a human alone can do this."
- Richard Feynman: I'm not religious but if I were I would say it is a glimpse into the mind of God perhaps it was and I ought to be religious



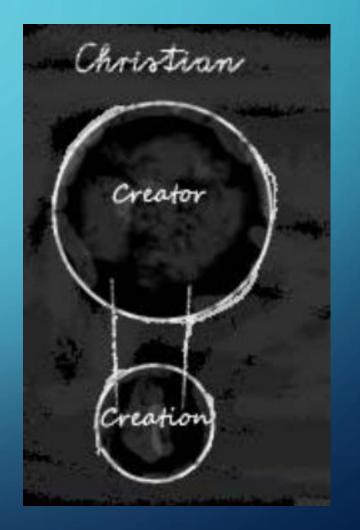


#### EUTHYPHRO'S DILEMMA

- "Is something good because the gods command it, or do the gods command it because it is good?"
- So: Think about this: Is the pious loved by the gods because it's pious, or it is pious because it is loved?

## DEFINED BY GOD- HE IS THE "ALL-DEFINER"

- Beware of abstract principles!
- Divine command/ Expression of who He is



#### BEAUTY DEFINED BY GOD REVEALED BY GOD

• Ps. 27:4: One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after:

that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire [a] in his temple.



#### TRUTH, GOODNESS, BEAUTY

Zechariah 9:17: For how great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!

Job 38:4-7: "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup> Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup> On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone,

<sup>7</sup> when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy?

#### GOD AS CREATOR

• Kuyper: After the Creation, God saw that all things were good. Imagine that every human eye were closed and every human ear stopped up, even then the beautiful remains, and God sees it and hears it, for, not only "His Eternal Power," but also His "Divinity," from the very creation, has been perceived in His creature, both spiritually and somatically.

#### GOD AS CREATOR

• Kuyper: In the real world, God is Creator of everything; the power of really producing new things is His alone, and therefore He always continues to be the creative artist. As God, He alone is the original One, we are only the bearers of His Image. Our capacity to create after Him and after what He created, can only consist in the unreal creations of art. So we, in our fashion, may imitate God's handiwork... privilege as bearers of His image to have perception of this beautiful world, artistically to reproduce, and humanly to enjoy it.

#### GOD AS CREATOR

• Kuyper: As image bearer of God, man possesses the possibility both to create something beautiful and to delight in it...because the beautiful is not the product of our own fantasy, nor of our subjective perception, but has objective existence, being itself the expression of Divine perfection

# IMAGO DEI



# VIOLIN PLAYER







#### MUSICAL PRESUPPOSITIONS: NONMATERIAL

- Musical notes are not material objects (ex. Numbers)
- Pythagorus: Monochord experiment
- Where does the non-material come from?



# MUSICAL PRESUPP'S: NONMATERIAL AND MATERIAL RELATIONSHIP

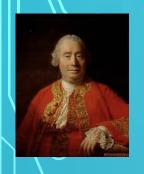
- How does the non-material relate to the material?
- Eugene Winger: The miracle of the appropriateness of the language of mathematics for the formulation of the laws of physics is a wonderful gift which we neither understand nor deserve.

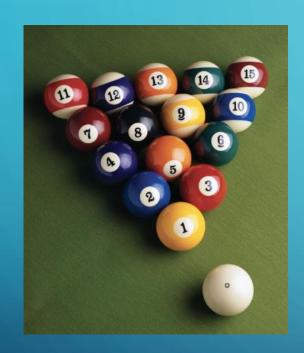
# MUSICAL PRESUPP'S: NONMATERIAL AND THE MIND

- Mind: perceive music
- Mind: perceive sounds, waves, vibrations, and frequencies
- How does the non-material relate to the mind?





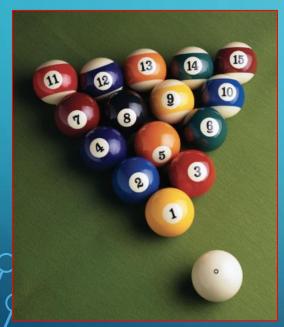










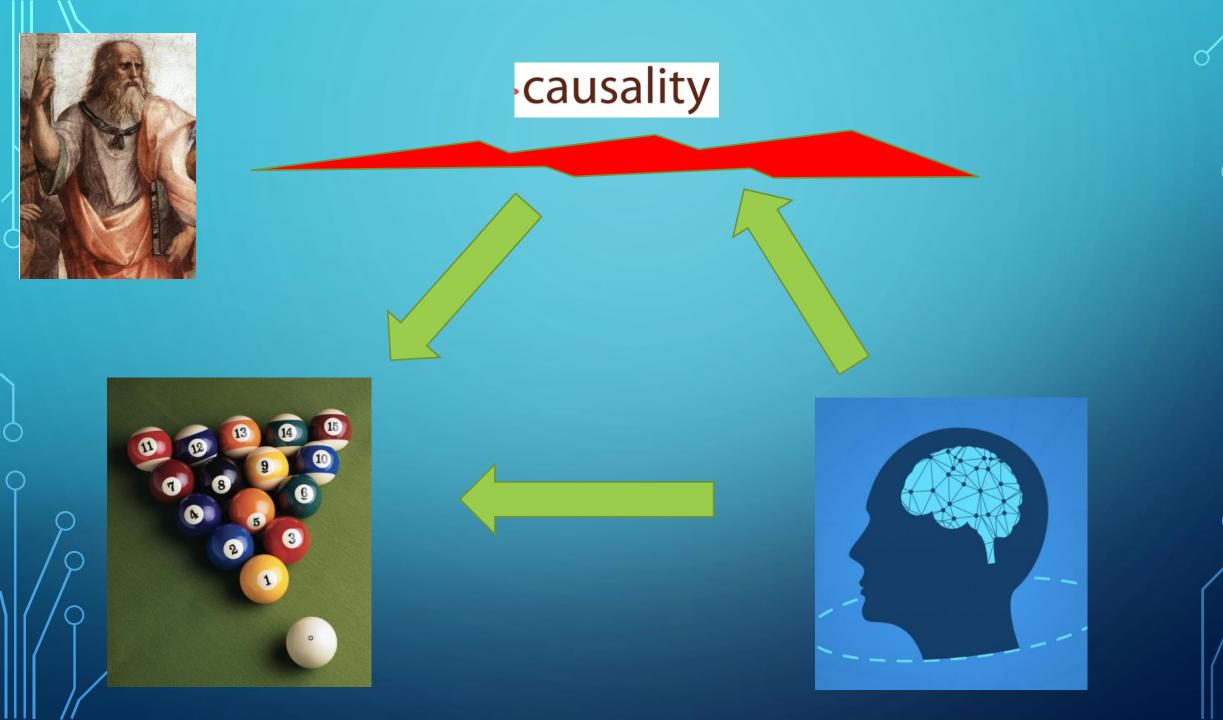


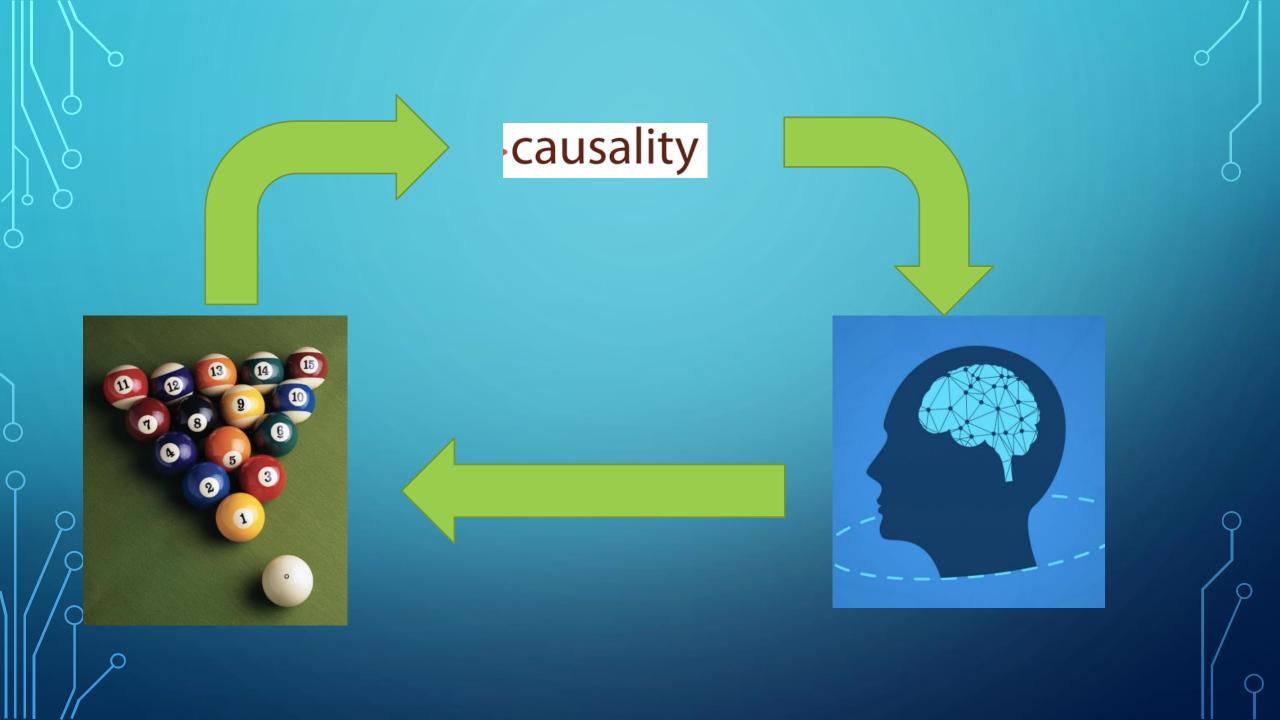












#### MUSICAL PRESUPP'S: REGULARITY OF NATURE

- Music involves math/ waves
- Presuppose a world of order
- Anderson: That number 2 c to the power of 2 is pretty important. But why? There's no apparent reason why it had to be that way. Why not c to the power of 2.179635, to take just one possibility? That wouldn't be very neat, to be sure. But why did nature have to be neat? Why should it have the mathematical order and elegance that it does have?
- A G chord remains a G chord only in an ordered world

# MUSICAL PRESUPP'S: UNITY AND DIVERSITY

- Harmony: two, three, four notes that sound the same and yet are distinct
- How do we account for unity and diversity?

#### MUSIC IS REVELATIONAL OF OUR TRIUNE GOD

• Ken Myers: Cosmic music that precedes human creativity that there's an order in which human music participates...Beauty points to a divine order, and what's more, beauty is part of that order...even the most magnificent harmonious melodious complete music is just a faint echo of the deeper reality that is present in reality because it is present in God... the mystery of music is tied to the mystery of the Trinity.



Regularity in nature, non-material, relationship between the non-material to the material, objective beauty, unity and diversity

Faith in God who is Beauty and orders the world according to His sovereign plan and provides the rationality to man to make music

Faith in man's mind in a world of material chaos

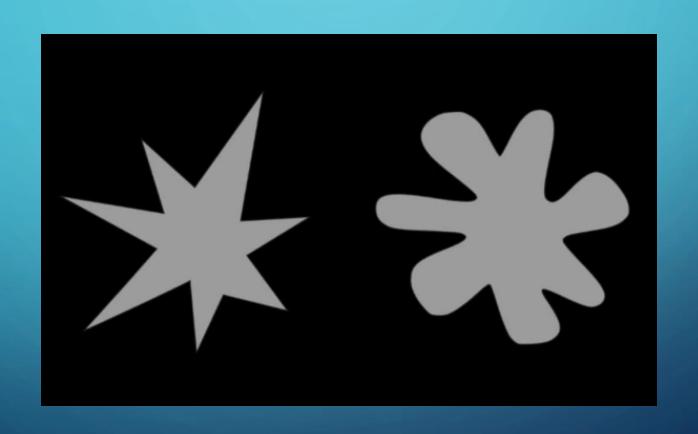
# VIOLIN PLAYER







# TAKATA OR BOOBA



## FORM AND CONTENT

- Rick Warren: Music is nothing more than an arrangement of notes and rhythms; it's the words that make a song spiritual
- Ken Myers: Elegant night no john Philip sousa/ football team no eric satie/ troubled child no Shostakovich 5<sup>th</sup> symphony

#### FORM AND CONTENT

- Myers: "Christian concern about popular culture should be as much about the sensibilities it encourages as about its content."
- Myers: Orientation of the affections, posture of the soul, the desires of the heart, the characteristic hungers and expectations.

#### **SENSIBILITIES**

- Romans 12:<sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this world, [c] but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.
- EDM/ Heavy Metal/ Jam Bands



#### KEN MYERS: WORSHIP MUSIC

- M-Sat: if our experience of music is only at the level of physical sensation and emotional stimulation if that's typically the case then when we come to church and we bring that pattern of musical experience into worship then I think we're effectively approaching God as a mere dispenser of therapeutic comfort and I do think there is a reason why the therapeutic twist of the gospel has accompanied music that is unintelligent music that doesn't strive to be(engage the mind).
- Connection between therapeutic gospel and music that acts as a stimulant or sedative or noise that excites us or calms us down and nothing outside of that

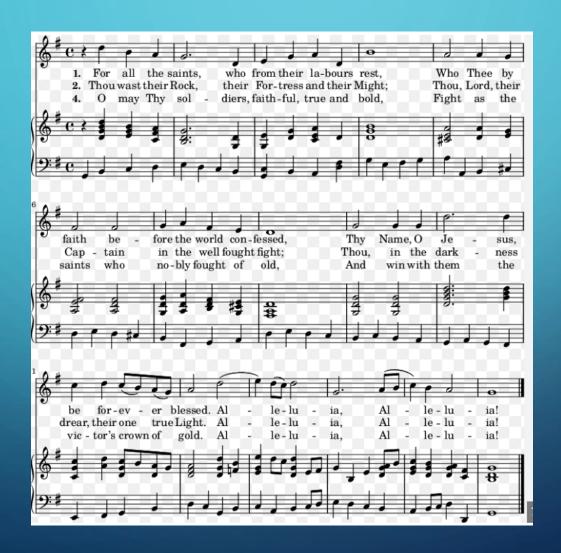
# SENSIBILITIES



# SENSIBILITIES



#### FOR ALL THE SAINTS



#### COLOSSIANS 3:17

- Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.
- Calvin: Life must be regulated in such a manner, that whatever we say or do
  may be wholly governed by the authority of Christ, and may have an eye to
  His glory as the mark.

#### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

- What do I find so appealing about this piece of art/music?
- Why does my heart gravitate towards this?
- What is this song/ art telling me about myself, the world, and about God?
- Does this song contain lyrics that dishonor God? Does this song contain sensibilities that are patterned after this world?
- Can I thank God for this? Can I listen to it in Christ's name?
- Is this art/music beautiful?...Is this song growing in me a capacity to appreciate the beauty of who God is- His order/ His unity/ His diversity/ His harmony?
- Is this song/art give me reason to thank God for the Cross because my ability to appreciate the beauty of God is a blood-bought gift?

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