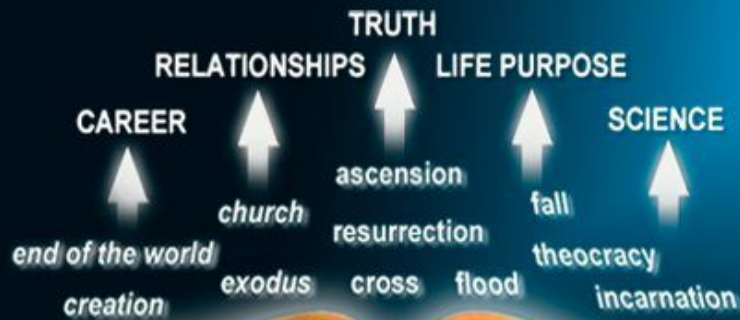


2025 Chafer Theological Seminary Conference

THE FRAMEWORK @ FIFTY

1975 - 2025



Charles Clough

 **BIBLEFRAMEWORK**

# The Bible Framework:

1. Why not just the Bible?
2. What are the key features?
3. How should it be used?
4. What is the result?

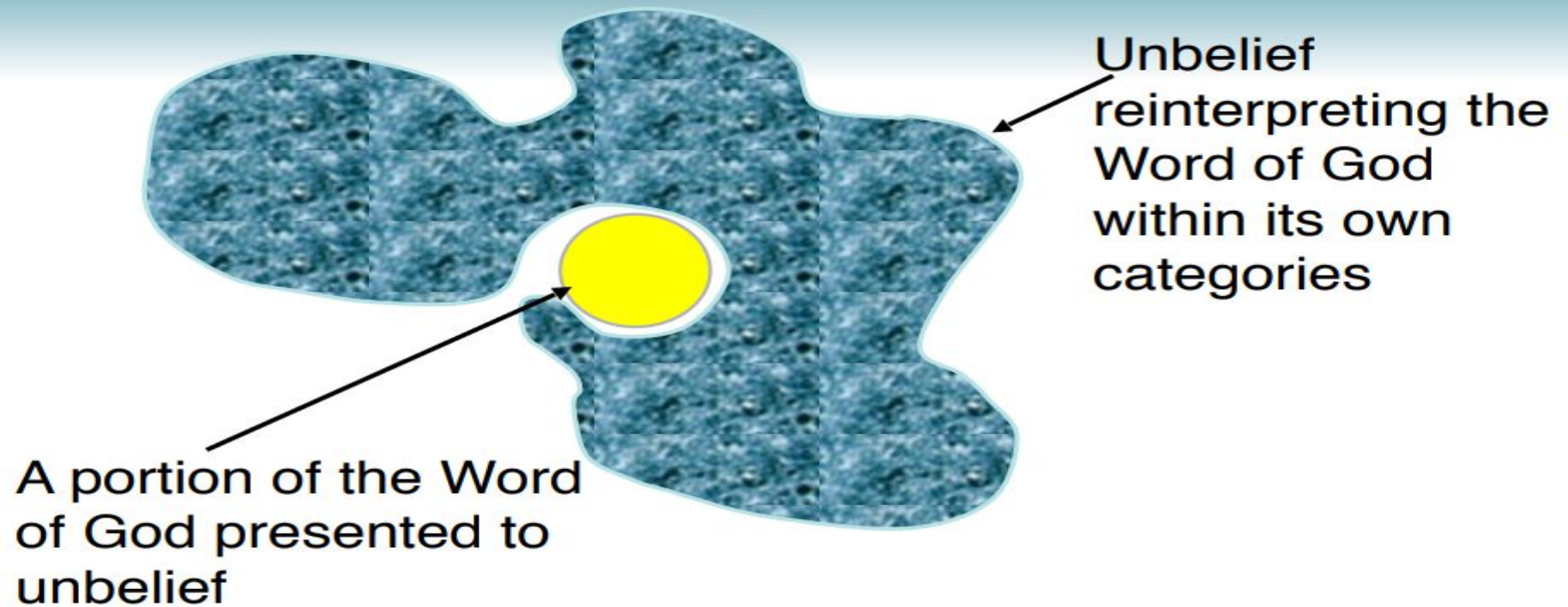
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# Why not just the Bible?

- The Bible is revelation (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- The Bible faces opposition

## Unbelief Swallowing up a Bit of the Word of God



**“Unbelief controls my interpretation of the situation”**

# Why not just the Bible?

- The Bible is revelation (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- The Bible faces opposition
- There are pre-requisites to understanding the Bible.
  - It's authoritative.
  - It's language based.
  - It's history.

# Why not just the Bible?

- The Bible is revelation (cf. 2 Timothy 3:16-17)
- The Bible faces opposition
- There are pre-requisites to understanding the Bible.
- God gifts teachers to the Church (cf. Eph. 4:11-16)

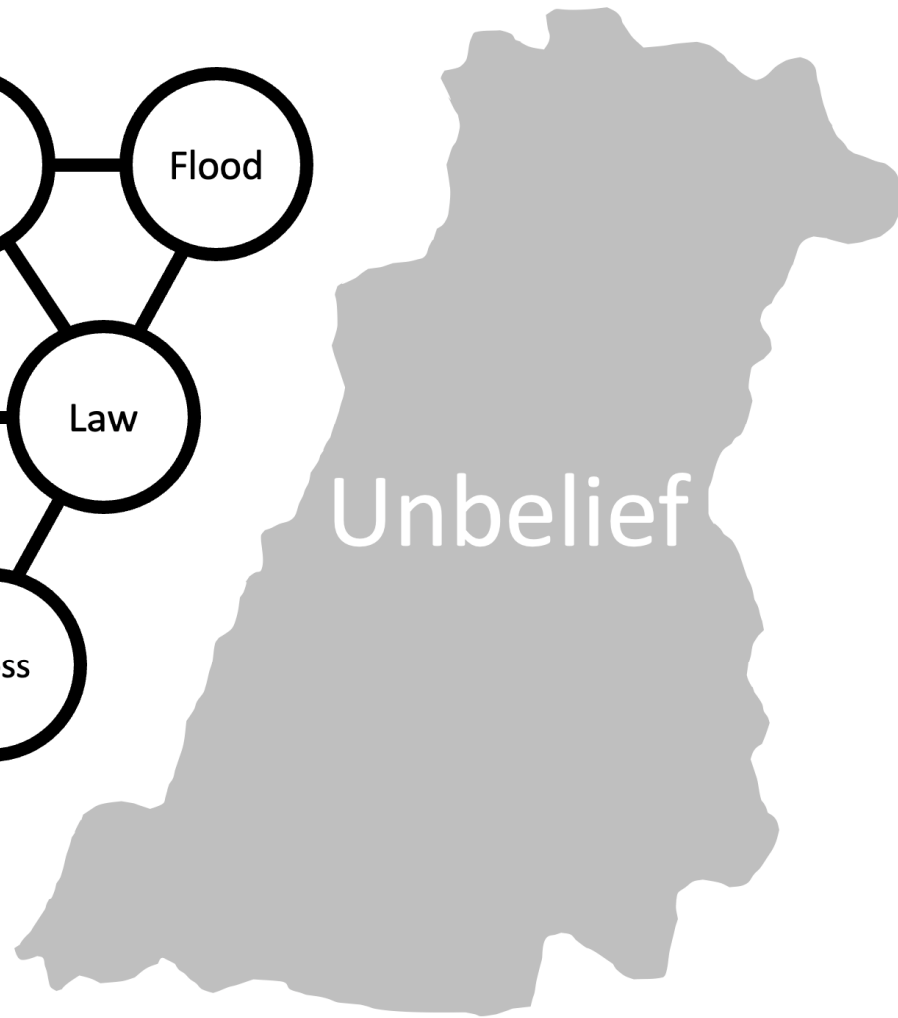
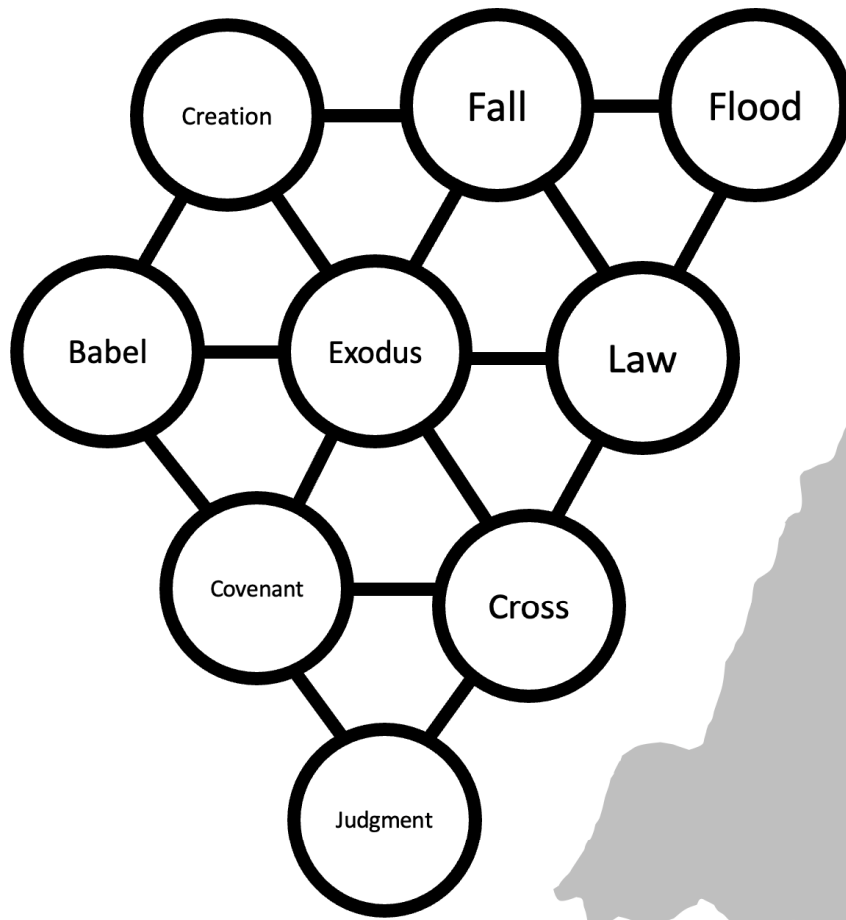
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# What are the key features?

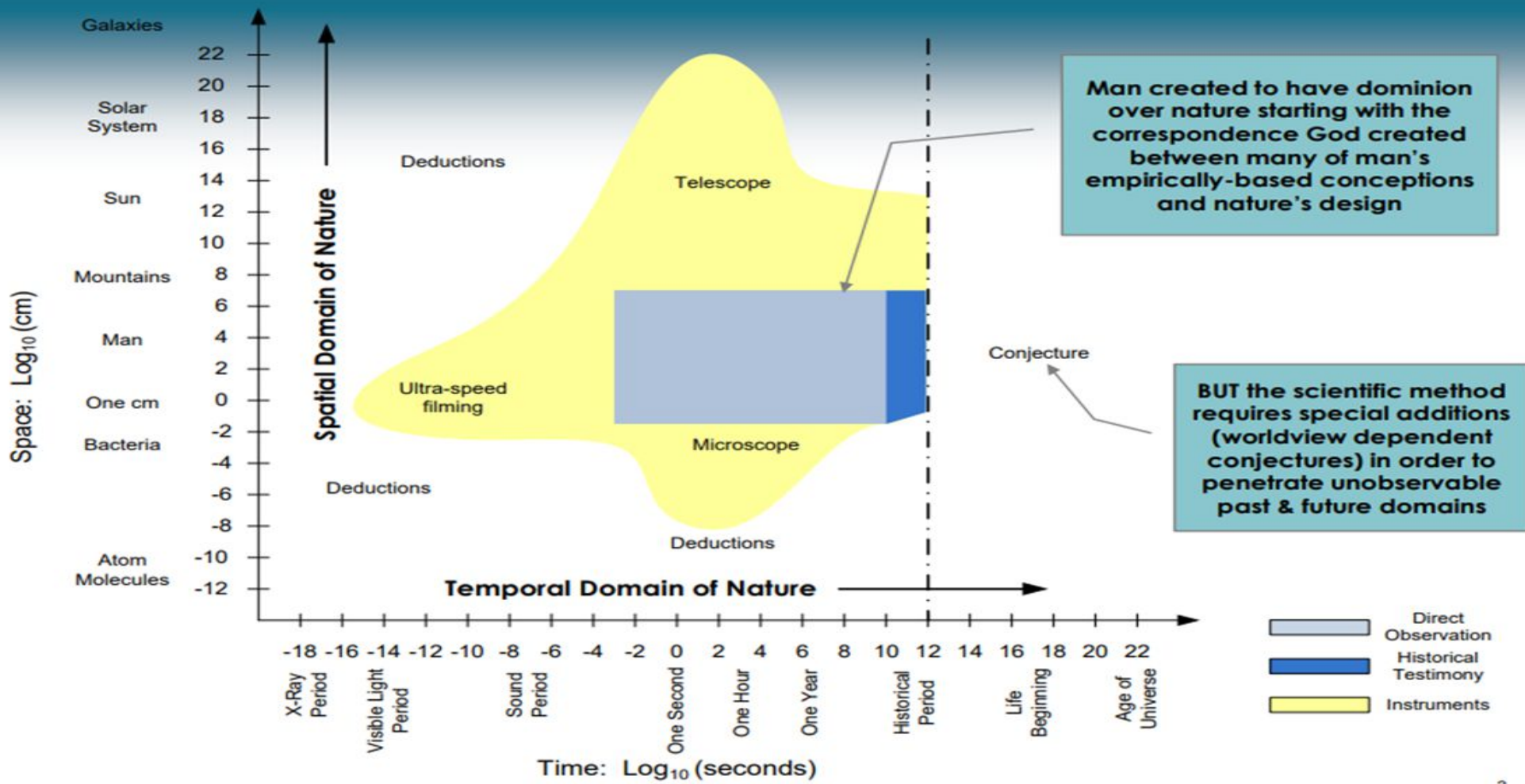
- A defense against unbelief.



# What are the key features?

- A defense against unbelief.
- An apologetic for dealing with the Sciences.

# Limits of Empirical Knowledge



Reconstructed from Julio Garrido, "The Theory of Evolution and the Limitation of Human Knowledge," CRSQ, March 1970, Vol 6, pp. 185-187

# Framework 4-Layer Cake:

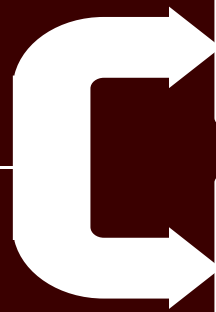
Reality (Metaphysics)

# What are the key features?

- A defense against unbelief.
- An apologetic for dealing with the Sciences.
- A foundation for Truth. (cf. Pr. 9:10; Jn. 17:17; Rom. 1:20-21)

# Framework 4-Layer Cake:

What is —



Truth (Epistemology)

Reality (Metaphysics)

# What are the key features?

- A defense against unbelief.
- An apologetic for dealing with the Sciences.
- A foundation for Truth.
- A means of ethics.
- A method of politics.



# Framework 4-Layer Cake:

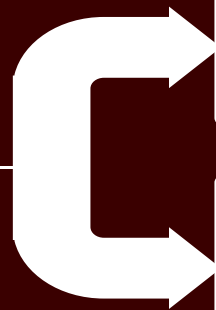
What ought  
to be –



Social Order (Politics)

Justice (Ethics)

What is –



Truth (Epistemology)

Reality (Metaphysics)

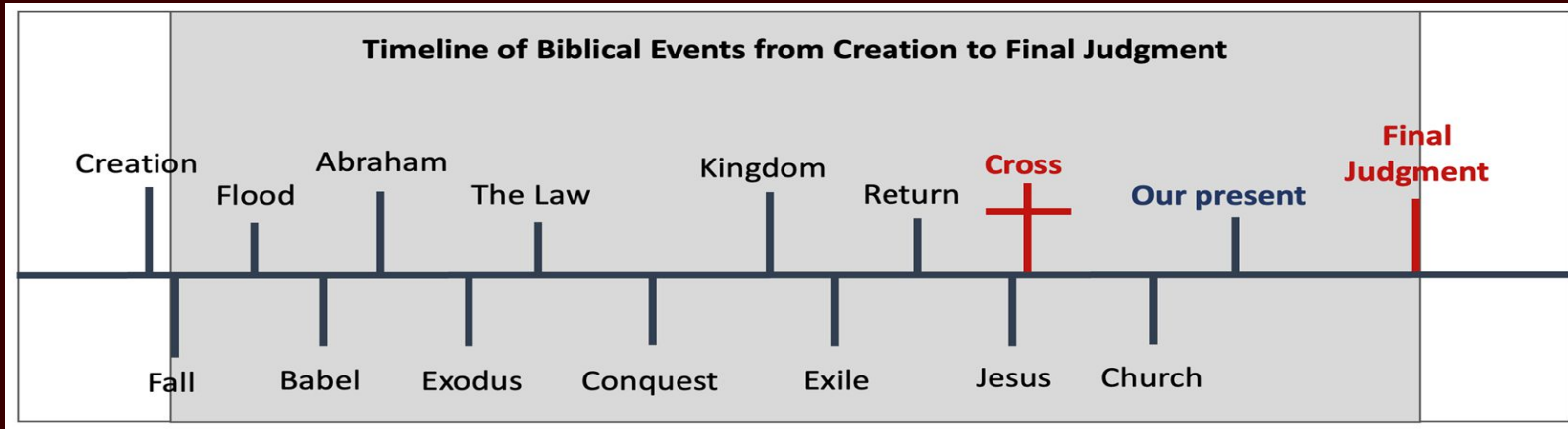
# The Bible Framework:

1. Why not just the Bible?
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3. How should it be used?
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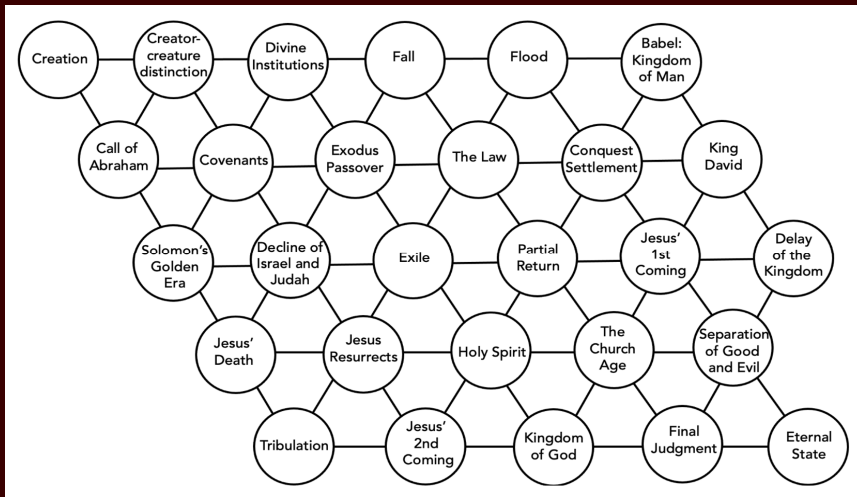
# How should it be used?

- To understand the biblical narrative (cf. Acts 20:27)
- To understand important truths (cf. Pr. 22:6; 2 Tim. 3:15)
- For making a defense (cf. Jude 3; 1 Pet. 3:15)

# Bible Narrative



# Doctrine



# Apologetic

**1** Trust God's Word as the ultimate authority over what the world teaches.

**2** Push back on what the world teaches if it goes against God's Word.

# How should it be used?

- To understand the biblical narrative (cf. Acts 20:27)
- To understand important truths (cf. Pr. 22:6; 2 Tim. 3:15)
- For making a defense (cf. Jude 3; 1 Pet. 3:15)
  - Stephen's sermon

# Stephen's Sermon Acts 7:

- Creator-creature distinction v. 2
- Covenant vv. 3-8
- Patriarchs vv. 9-16
- Exodus vv. 17-36
- Israel's rebelliousness vv. 37-43
- God dwelling with man vv. 44-50

# Paul's Sermon Acts 17:

- Creation v. 24
- Creator-creature distinction vv. 24-25
- Human government/Tribal diversity v. 26
- Judgment vv. 30-31
- Resurrection v. 31-32

# The Bible Framework:

1. Why not just the Bible?
2. What are the key features?
3. How should it be used?
4. What is the result?



# What is the result?

- Objectives of the study:
  - To show who God is through an enlarged vision of Him as revealed in Scripture.
  - Allow the Bible to interpret the world.
  - Show the Bible's full narrative.
  - Build a framework for explaining and defending the faith.
  - Understand the gospel from a broader perspective.

# What is the result?

- Results of the study:
  - Personal growth
  - Marital growth
  - Family growth
  - Church growth

# What is the result?

- Jen, Amos, Aidan, Dylan, Ryan



## Application: teach, rebuke, correct, train

- Are you effectively studying God's word?
- Are you teaching your family?
- Does the Bible shape your ethics and politics?
- Are you equipped to answer critical questions?

 BIBLEFRAMEWORK

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