

GATEWAY LECTURES 2014

UNION UNIVERSITY

Gateway: September 8 and 9

MONDAY (Sept. 8)

- 8:00 a.m. HARVEY Auditorium (SUB)
 - Sections 5, 6, and 7
- 2:00 p.m. HARVEY Auditorium (SUB)
 - Sections 9, 10, 11, and 12

TUESDAY (Sept. 9)

- 8:00 a.m. HARVEY Auditorium (SUB)
 - Sections 1, 13, 14, and 15
- 2:00 p.m. HARVEY Auditorium (SUB)
 - Sections 2, 3, 4, and 16



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For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Colossians 3:3-4

"For you have died . . ." means Authorial Death

"Your life is hidden . . ."

Question: What do you do when your life is hidden?

Answer: <u>Listen</u> to the *story*!

Three Questions

- 1. Why listen to the story?
- 2. How do you listen to the story?
- 3. What is the story?

Kill the Dragon; get the Girl.

Two Questions

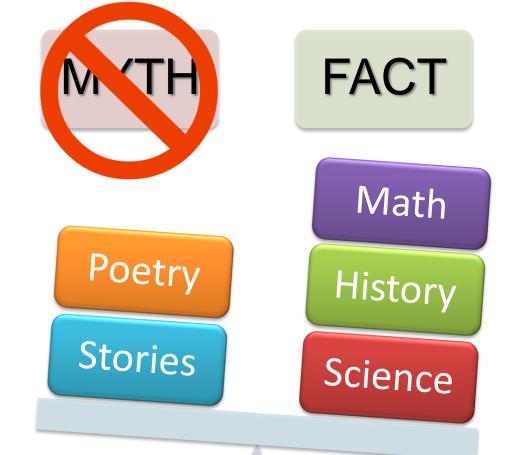
1. What is the story?

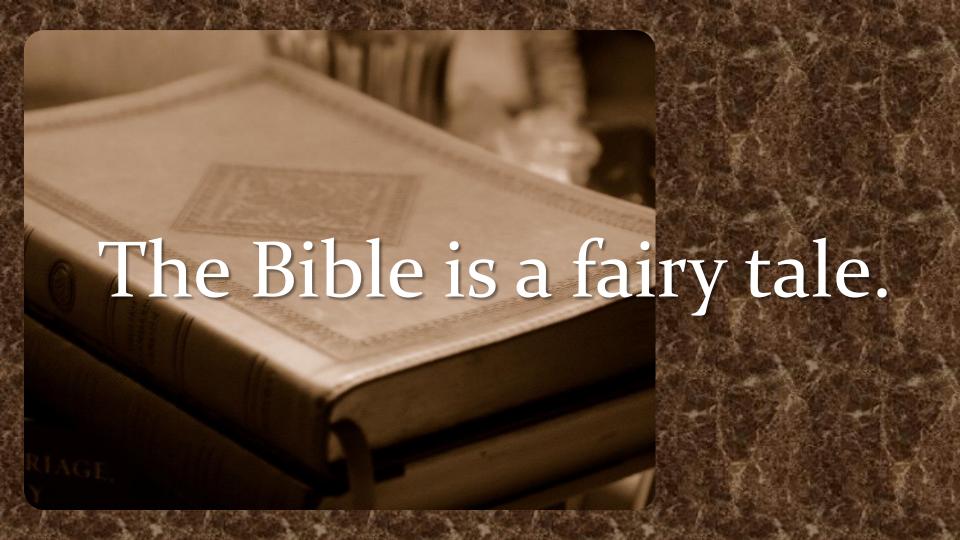
2. What difference does it make?

When Christ, who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.



The modern triumph of science and technology obscures the narrative structure of Reality.





Kill the Dragon; get the Girl.

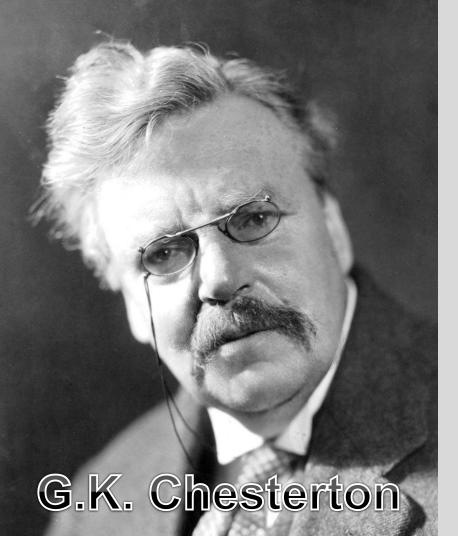
What is the story?

Once upon a time, there was a God...

...Who created a glorious world!

(including, of course, a beautiful princess)

One day, there was a Dragon...

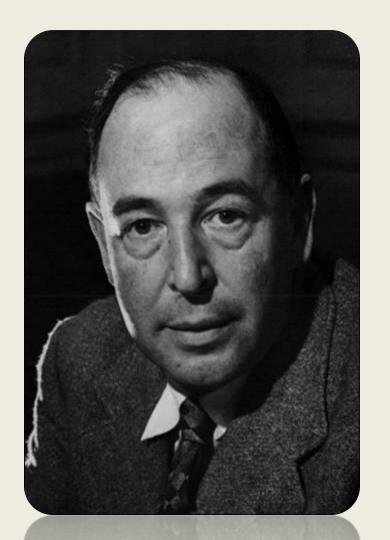


"Fairy tales do not tell children that dragons exist. Children already know that dragons exist. Fairy tales tell children that dragons can be killed."

- Neil Gaiman

...who enticed the Girl away and enslaved the glorious world.

So... God, the loving Father-King, sends his royal Son to defeat the Dragon, win back the Girl, and rescue the world.



"Christianity is the **story** of how the rightful king has landed [in the "enemy-occupied territory" of Earth], and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage."

- C.S. Lewis: Mere Christianity

... And they lived happily ever after!



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Colossians 3:3-4

When we die an authorial death, our lives as characters in an epic become hidden. Thus, we must inhabit the story as characters who listen, all the while longing for the appearance of the Author whose glorious manifestation will be our own.

"It is a serious thing to live in a society of possible gods and goddesses, to remember that the dullest and most uninteresting person you can talk to may one day be a creature which, if you saw it now, you would be strongly tempted to worship . . . There are no ordinary people. You have never talked to a mere mortal."

- C.S. Lewis: "The Weight of Glory"

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