

areas of concern of both philosophy and theology as well

## 1. Domain of Philosophy

### a. Definitions of Philosophy

Edgar Sheffield Brightman defines philosophy as "the attempt to think truly about human experience as a whole; or to make our whole experience intelligible."

Edward John Carnell defines philosophy as "that science which attempts to give a rational explanation for the whole of reality."

Bertrand Russell defines it as "something intermediate between theology and science. Like theology, it consists of speculations on matters as to which definite knowledge has, so far, been unascertainable; but like science, it appeals to human reason rather than to authority, whether that of tradition or that of revelation."

### b. Traditional Subdivisions of Philosophy

- (1) Metaphysics: What is reality?
- (2) Epistemology: How do we know?
- (3) Logic: How do ideas relate?
- (4) Axiology: What values exist?  
Aesthetic, ethical, social, religious

### c. Some Questions Posed by Philosophy

- (1) Metaphysical Questions:
  - (a) What is the nature of being? (Ontology)
  - (b) What is the universe like? (Cosmology)
  - (c) What is man? (Psychology)
  - (d) What is God (or the gods), if such exist? (Theology)
- (2) Epistemological Questions:
  - (a) Is it possible to know?
  - (b) What is the source of knowledge?
  - (c) By what tools can we know?
  - (d) What is the test for truth?
  - (e) What are the limits of knowledge?
  - (f) How does knowledge relate to language?
  - (g) Is epistemology more ultimate than other philosophical questions?
- (3) Logical Questions: