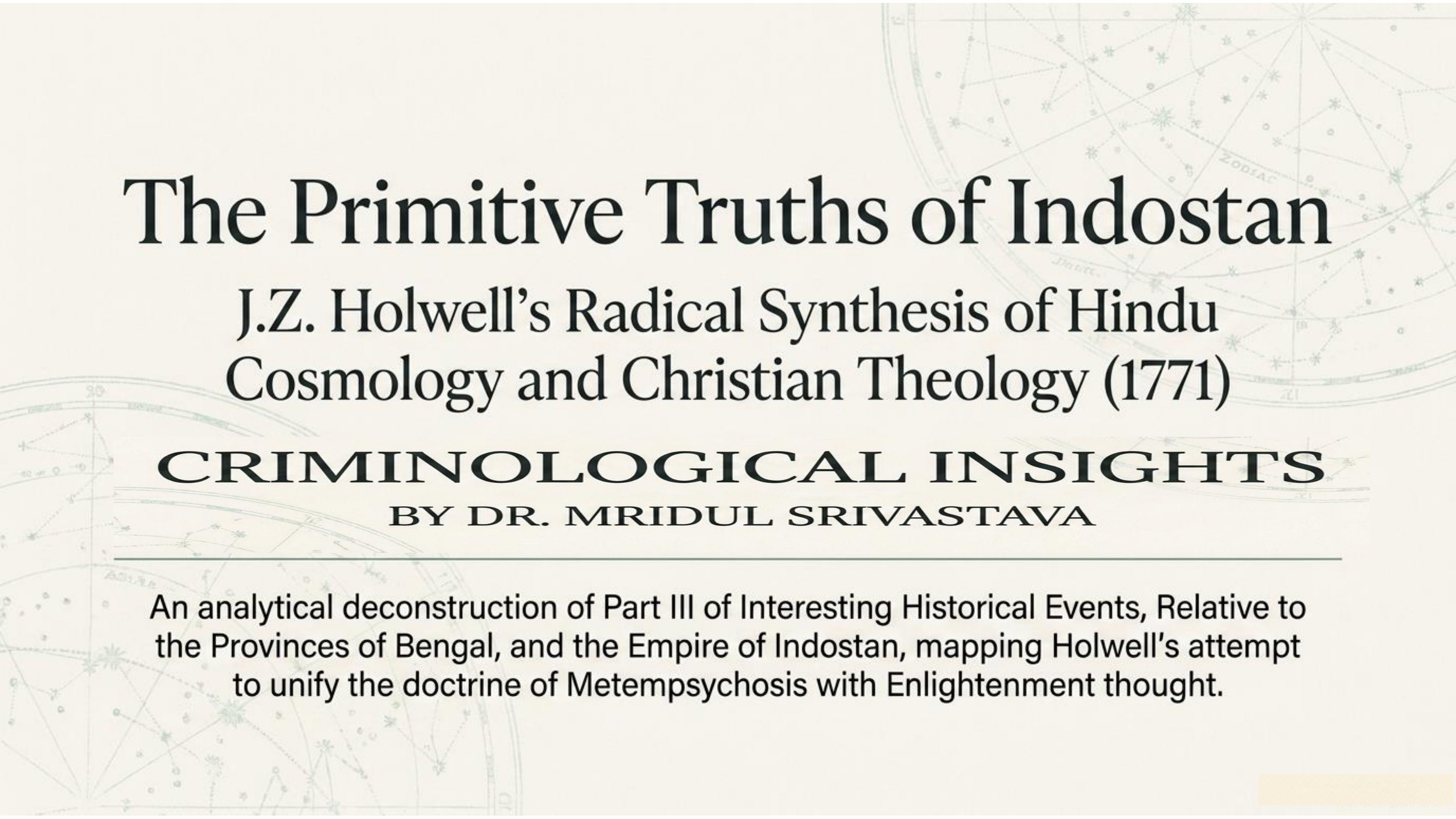




The Primitive Truths of Indostan

J.Z. Holwell's Radical Synthesis of Hindu
Cosmology and Christian Theology (1771)

CRIMINOLOGICAL INSIGHTS

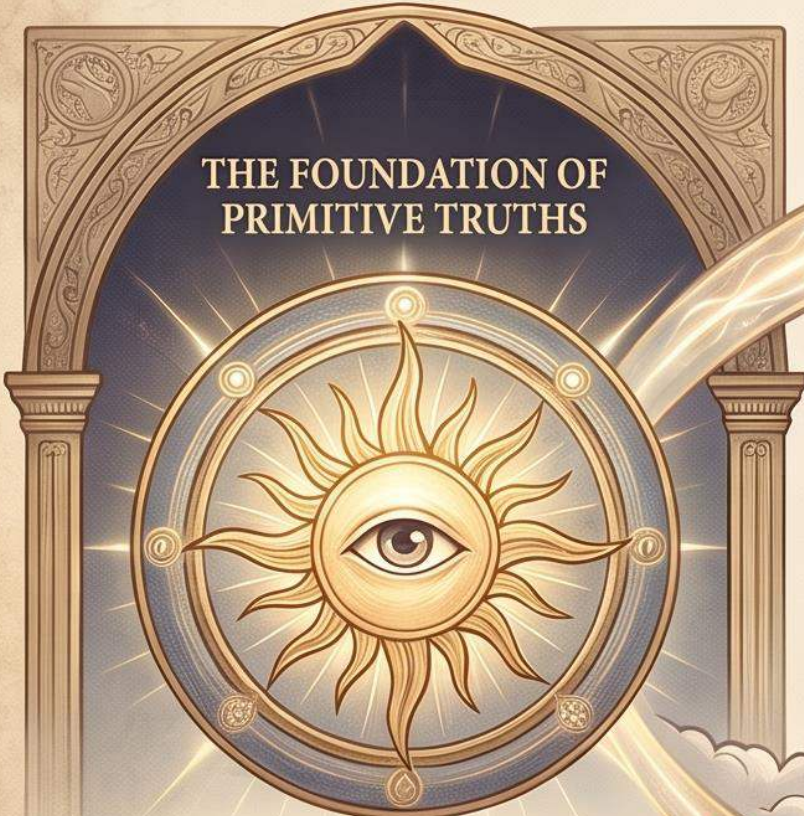
BY DR. MRIDUL SRIVASTAVA

An analytical deconstruction of Part III of Interesting Historical Events, Relative to the Provinces of Bengal, and the Empire of Indostan, mapping Holwell's attempt to unify the doctrine of Metempsychosis with Enlightenment thought.

The Primitive Truths of Indostan: An 18th-Century Study of the Soul

Based on J.Z. Holwell's 1771 Dissertation

**The Creation of the
Material World**
The universe was created as a
temporary place for delinquent
spirits to undergo trial.



The Unity of the Godhead
Belief in one eternal God who is the
creator and conservator of all things.



The Angelic Rebellion
The belief that a portion of created celestial
beings rebelled against their Creator.

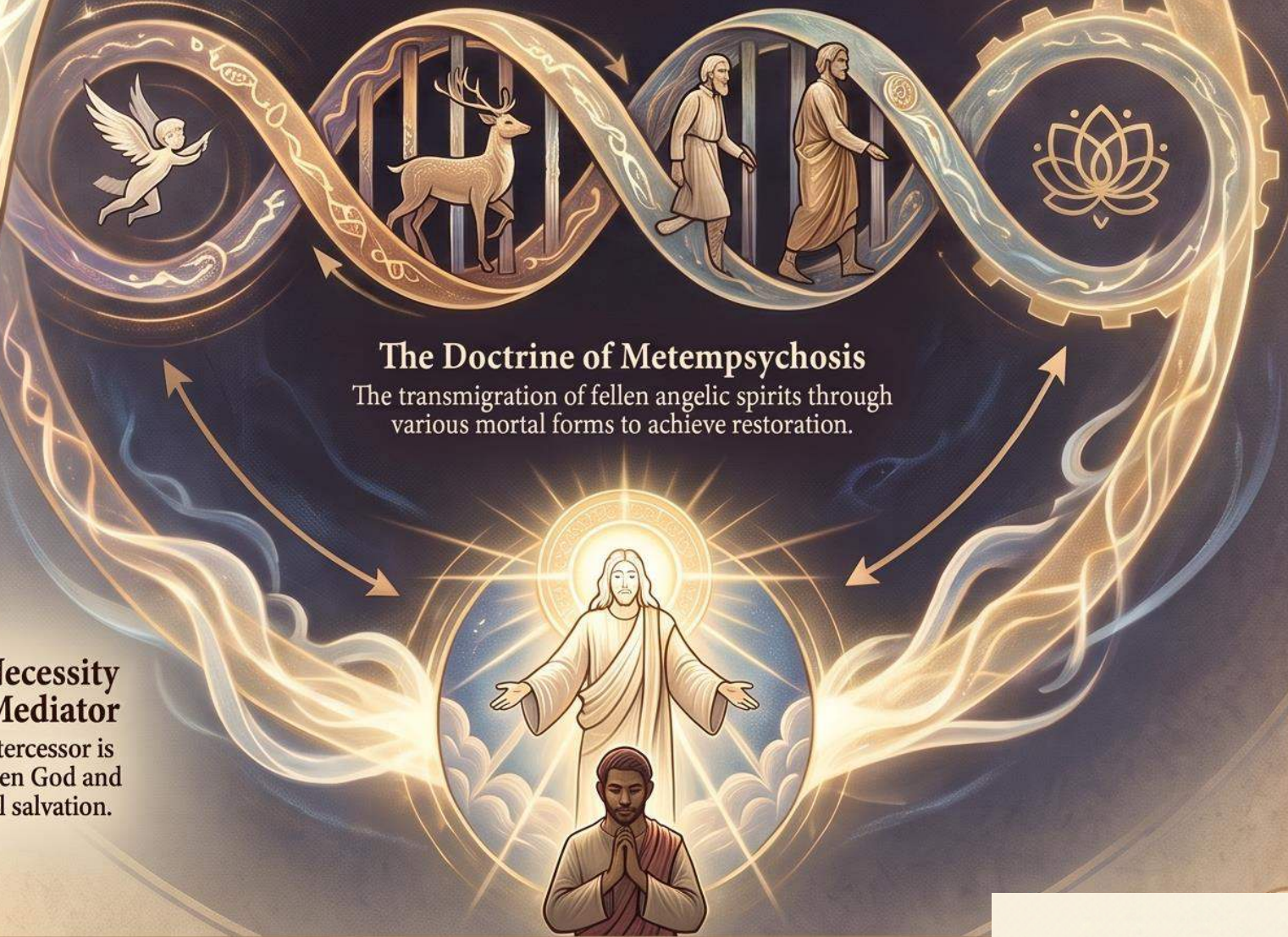


**Mankind in a State
of Probation**
Humans are fallen spirits
existing in a state of punishment
and purification on Earth.

**The Necessity
of a Mediator**
A spiritual intercessor is
required between God and
man for final salvation.



THE COSMIC CYCLE OF THE SOUL



The Doctrine of Metempsychosis
The transmigration of fellen angelic spirits through
various mortal forms to achieve restoration.

The Ancient Gentoo Religion as the Earliest, Purest Revelation



Holwell argues that the ancient religion of Indostan (Hinduism), rooted in the scriptures of Bramah, contains the original, uncorrupted truths of God. He posits that its core doctrine—Metempsychosis—explains the human condition, original sin, and the existence of evil far better than the Mosaic account of Adam's fall.

“Original sin is not that which is erroneously imputed to us from Adam, but springs from a much higher source, viz. the pre-existent lapse of the (human) spirit from its primaeval purity.”

The Neglected Internal Science

The External Focus



Cultivating the Arts and Sciences

Humanity devotes its intellect to understanding the material world and improving its present sojourn.

The Internal Void

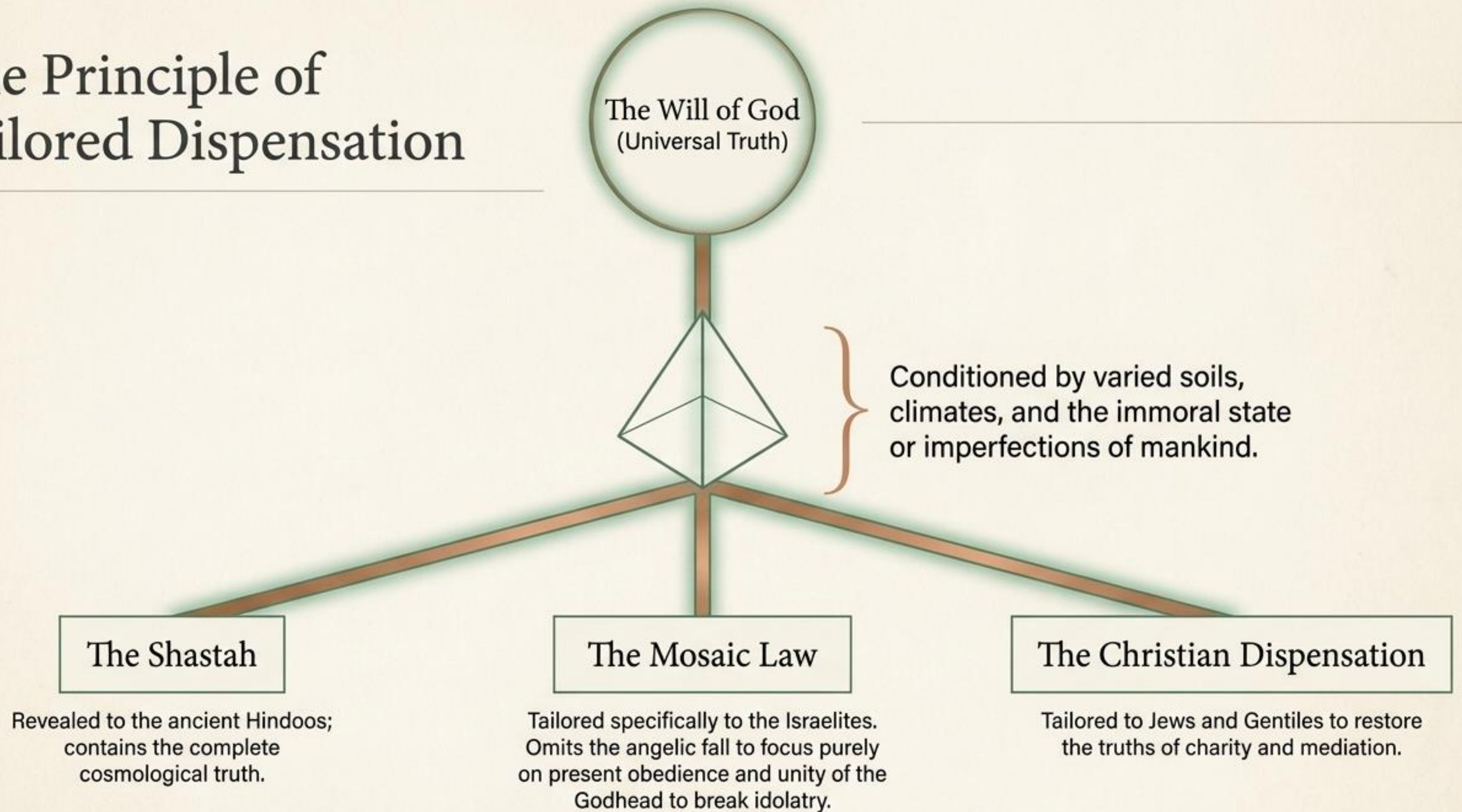


Ignorance of the Soul's Origin

Humanity fails to investigate its own fundamental nature, original depravity, and the true reason it exists in a state of earthly suffering.

MAN KNOW THYSELF; but, instead of dedicating all his researches to this essential pursuit, Man knows every thing but himself.

The Principle of Tailored Dispensation



God models his commands in conformity with the weakness and failings of his creatures.

The Framework of Original Faith: 13 Primitive Truths

I. Divine Authority

1. Existence of one eternal God.
2. Three prime created celestial beings.
3. Creation of angelic hosts.

II. The Transgression

4. Defection and rebellion of a portion of angels.
5. Their expulsion from the heavenly regions.
9. Existence of a deceiver instigating the revolt.

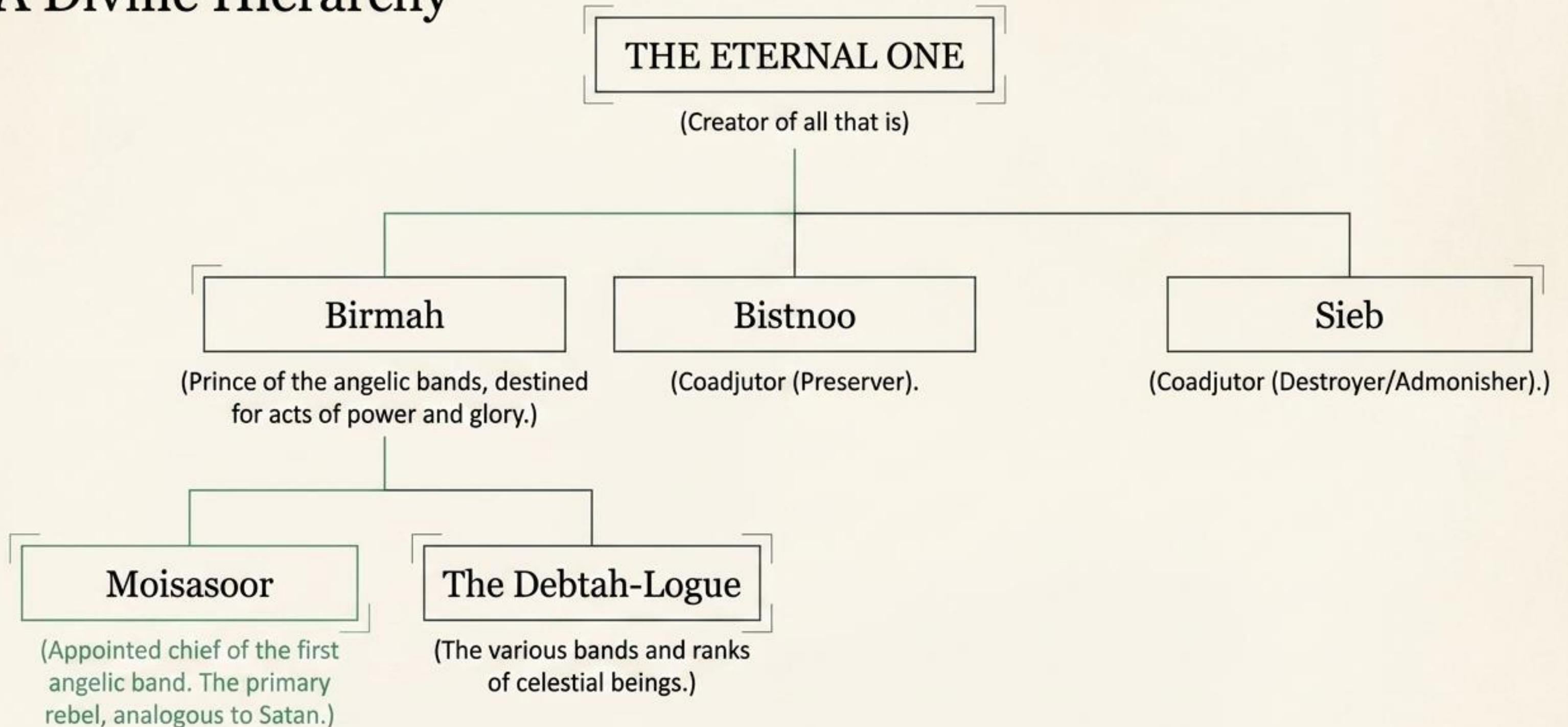
III. The Probation

8. Earth is a state of punishment and probation for prior transgressions.
6. Immortality of the human soul.
7. Future state of rewards and punishments.
11. Intermediate state of purification.

IV. Divine Intervention

10. Necessity of a mediator for restoration.
12. Existence of a Golden Age.
13. Ministration of angels in human affairs.

The Gentoo Cosmogony: A Divine Hierarchy



The Catalyst: The Pre-Existent Angelic Rebellion

Envy

Moisasoor and Rhaboon (leaders of the angelic bands) are consumed by envy and jealousy at Birmah's pre-eminence.

Defection

They throw off their allegiance, drawing a large portion of their angelic brethren into disobedience.

Admonishment

The Eternal One sends Birmah, Bistnoo, and Sieb to admonish the rebels, but they continue in contempt.

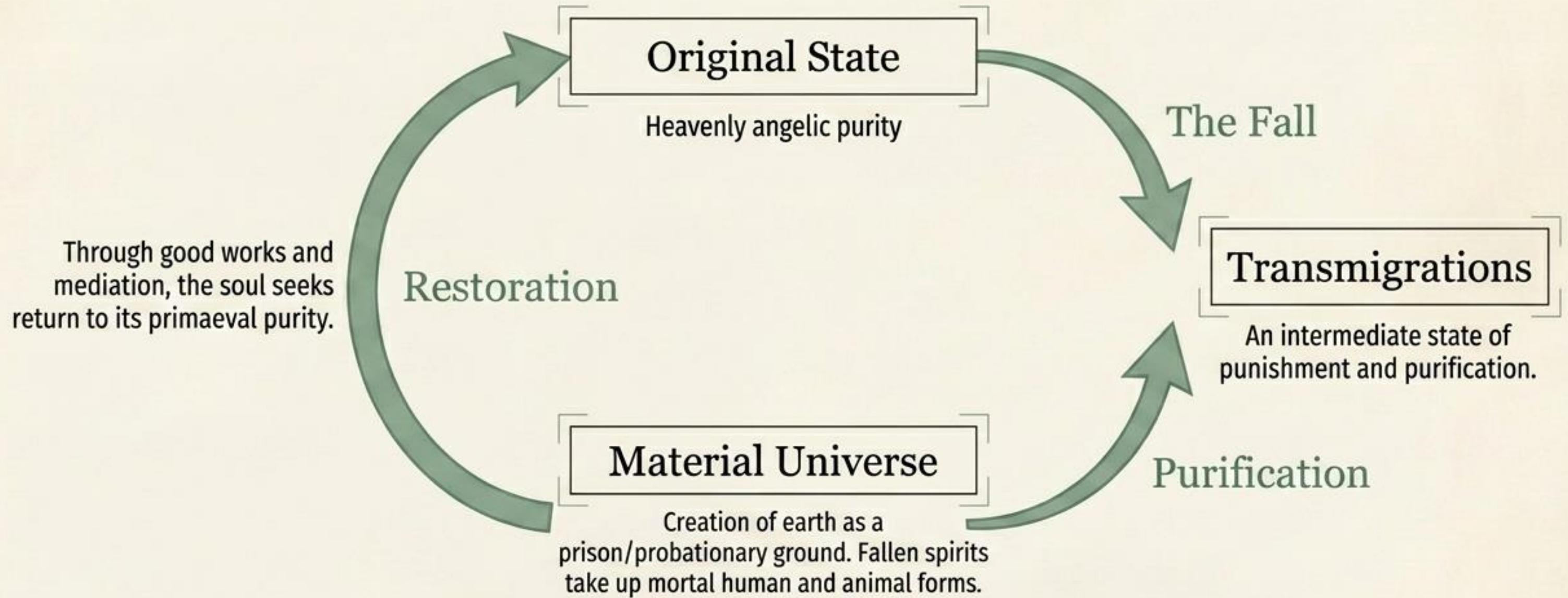
Expulsion

The rebels are cast out of the heavenly regions.

Key Insight

Holwell explicitly points out that these Gentoo tenets are confirmed by familiar Christian doctrines, differing only in names (i.e., Moisasoor = Lucifer / Satan).

Metempsychosis: The Engine of Probation



“The material world is not a paradise lost, but a bespoke purgatory designed by God’s mercy to allow rebels a path to restoration.”

The Transmission of Doctrine: Purity vs. Statecraft

The Bramins (The Originals)

- Status: Kept the primitive truths inviolate for 1,000 years.
- Practice: Maintained the unity of the Godhead; open and transparent theology.

Egyptian Magi & Persians (The Corruptors)

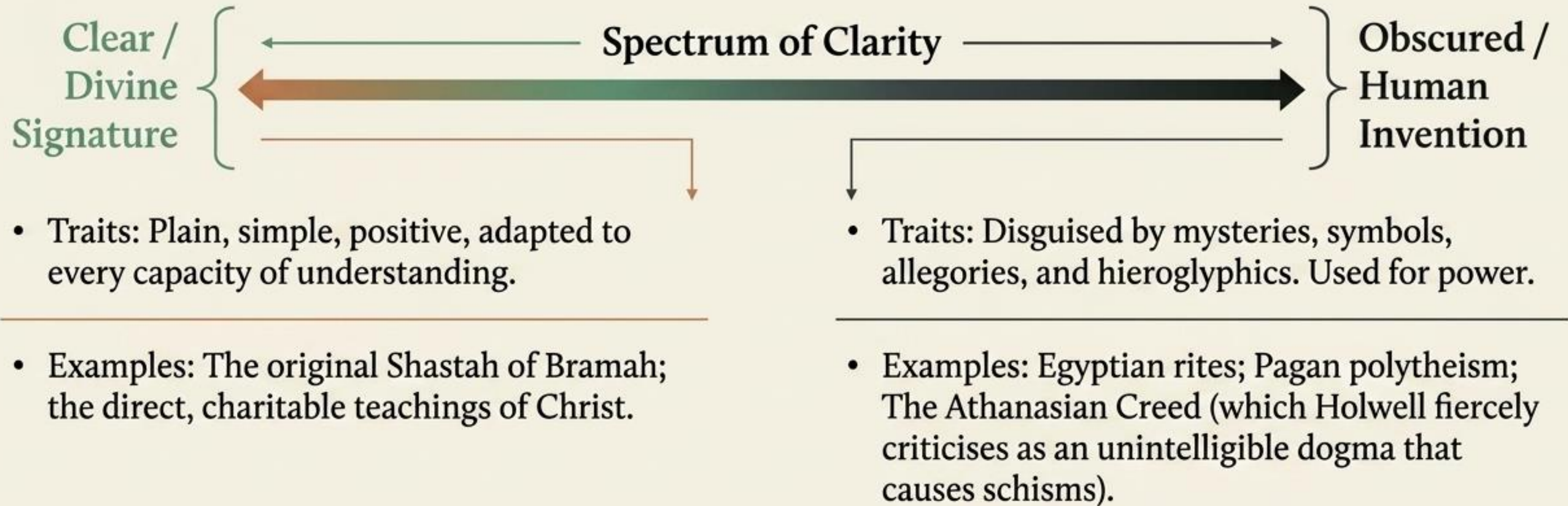
- Status: First to confound the Godhead and invent mysteries.
- Practice: Hid truth from the vulgar public to maintain political control; invented local deities and polytheism for state subjection.

Greek & Roman Philosophers (The Copiers)

- Status: Copied the folly of the Egyptians (with the rare exception of Socrates).
- Practice: Further fragmented religion into absurd fables and incomprehensible jargon.

Note: Holwell dismisses the purported wisdom of the Egyptians and Grecians as mere folly, arguing their doctrines led away from true understanding of the Divine Nature.

The Danger of Incomprehensible Jargon



Any religion that speaks in mysteries to hide God from the people bears the signature of human statecraft, not divine revelation.

The Three Great Dispensations

The Universal Pursuit of Restoration

Bramah

Appointed to declare
the divine truths to the
ancient Hindoos.
(The earliest, purest source).

Moses

Destined to deliver a
tailored law to the ancient
Hebrews.
(A severe, temporal law to
break Egyptian idolatry).

Christ

Delegated as the mediator to
preach to the Jews, Gentiles,
and the Pagan world.
(To restore the original truths
of charity and future states).

{ The Signature of Divine Origin }

All three true dispensations aim to reconcile jarring principles and
unite mankind in mutual love, confirming the same primitive truths.

The Five General Heads of Holwell's Dissertation



Holwell's text stands as a fascinating, idiosyncratic monument of Enlightenment thought—an attempt to use ancient Indian texts to rationalise Christian theology and solve the enduring problem of evil.