

16 HIDING IN COMPLEXITY

Opening Questions:

- Do you like it when things are so complicated it is difficult to understand?
- Can complexity be used to hide things?
- If you cannot understand something in an area you believe you have a need, will you not be dependent on others to get your need met?
- Why are so many human service domains complex – domains like legal or financial?
- Do most things regarding human relationships or services need to be complicated?

In addition to redefining language terms, another way truth is hidden away, concealed, obscured, corrupted or destroyed, is through complexity. Let's use an illustration to help the reader understand.

Once there was a young boy, six years old. His dad would regularly play building blocks with his son. They would build all kinds of interesting block structures, and when done, they would usually knock the buildings down. The boy knew from experience that he and his dad built the block buildings. Now the boy's dad often had to go away on business, and he would fly on planes to travel. One day, the dad said to his young six year old son, "Son, did you know that when we are flying at Mach 1.5 up at 10,668 meters; and when we fly above the arctic circle where the Aurora Borealis often occur; that if you leave a pile of blocks on the plane's floor during the night; that when you wake up the pile of blocks will have formed itself into a structure hexagonal structure?" The boy is likely to say, "Really dad, wow, that is so cool."

What the dad did was to interject factors – or complexities - into his story that the boy could not understand or did not experience. This same dynamic is what the world uses to push their selfish falsehoods and lies.

When a person starts speaking to another person about things they do not or cannot understand or have not experienced that speaker can then lead that person where they want him/her to go.

Human life, meaning people interacting or communicating with one another, is only complicated because people try to make it that way to hide things and get things.

Complexity is often used by people with greater intellectual ability to gain control or power over those with less mental capacity. Or, people on about the same intellectual level can make a matter complicated to deceive or take advantage of others.

An individual can also use complexity to avoid responsibility. If I want to hide something about myself – perhaps laziness or selfishness - I can claim that something is too complicated for me to understand so I can be less responsible or not perform a task I don't want to.

Simplicity reveals things or makes things easy to understand.

Complexity hides things or makes things difficult to understand.

Most people can speak in simple, clear terms.

Indeed, if a person has the intellect and articulation skills to make something they claim to understand complex, then they certainly can make something they claim to understand simple and clear.

This complexity dynamic is no more evident than in discussions between atheists and people who believe God exists or theists. It is as simple as acknowledging that an automobile or space shuttle – examples of relatively complicated inorganic machines created by people – require a designer or designers to account for their existence. The simple truth is that the human body - as an example of a complex organic machine – makes the space shuttle look like a poorly designed child's toy. Nothing more needs to be said, and yet the non-theists will write many large books that they claim represent “real science” to try and disprove that simple, self-evident truth...that complex physical machines defined as including inter-dependent subsystems - whether inorganic or organic - require a thoughtful designer to account for their existence.

So, whether a person is looking for knowledge in the area of origins of life or more mundane matters like health or taxes or finding good work or a myriad of other areas of human life, simplicity is almost always the selfless route and complexity is often used for selfish purposes. Sadly, the very goal of many people is to make things complicated to hide the selfish motivations behind their elaborate designs.

Of course, some things are natively or naturally complicated. Some kinds of science (some of the ways and aspects of the physical nature of our fantastic biology, for example), as well as advanced mathematics (rocket science for example), are examples of realms of knowledge that can have complex concepts. *However, this chapter and its context are all about human relationships and a basic understanding of our existence and purpose, NOT science or mathematics or physical things!*

Good communicators take more complex concepts and simplify them so that more people can understand the idea. Their desire for the listeners to grasp the idea is a significant part of what makes them "good" communicators. Bad communicators don't care about making things simple; rather they care

about getting what they want out of their communication or making themselves look “smart.”

Many people like using complex communications to control people or get something from people. Using complicated communication accomplishes two purposes. First, it makes them look “smarter” than the people who cannot understand them. Second, it makes the people dependent upon them to understand the concept *for* them. People who hire lawyers or psychologists or doctors or investment experts or tax experts do so for help because they either cannot or do not want to try and understand the complex concepts that those domains contain. Thus, they trust the “expert” who claims to understand the domain for which they claim to be experts.

- Laws do *not* have to be complicated.
 - Human nature is *not* complicated.
 - Tax codes do *not* have to be so involved.
 - Physicians could communicate essential concepts to customers (they like to call us “patients”, but we are just customers to most physicians) without using advanced medical terminology *if* they wanted to.
- Investing in some business does *not* need to be a complicated endeavor.

So the question is why are they? Why are the laws/rules so complex? Why do lawyers or psychologists or medical people speak a language only they understand? Why won't medical people communicate well? Why do the tax laws have to be so complicated? Finally, why does theology have to be so complicated?

The answer is simple – *because those who want power over others, or who want something from others, benefit from complexity so they can get people to rely on them and thus exercise control over them and take things from them (usually money).* The goal is to be able to say some form of this statement, “*Oh, dear person, this is so complex, so you need to rely on me and pay me to handle it for you.*” (And don't forget the lie, “because I care about you.”)

This selfish manipulation is one of the primary ways of the world.

- Taking, not giving.
- Hiding, not openness.
- Complexity, not simplicity.
- Selfishness, not selflessness.

Don't forget about the new and popular term “transparency” and the ridiculous hypocrisy practiced by many who use the term. Many people in business and government like to claim they want “transparency,” supposedly meaning they want openness and honesty. For most leaders, the term is merely used to manipulate people and fool them into believing the leadership wants transparency. However, business as usual means that power and control are

often held onto through secretive, purposely vague and sophisticated communications.

It is a primary manifestation of the darkness of people...a darkness rooted in taking advantage of others—of self-pride thinking that only I know what is good and right for people—and of the lovelessness that selfishness motivates.

Knowledge is a form of “light.” It is the opposite of ignorance, which is a form of darkness. One primary goal of every human beings life ought to be to grow in knowledge and thus decrease in ignorance. Sadly, the world works very hard fighting this process and using complexity is one of their means of fighting.

There are three primary ways that people use complexity to take from others. First, is advanced or specialized vocabulary. Second, is using many more words than are necessary to bring a point across. Third is the speed of delivery of communication.

Lawyers, psychologists, medical people, scientists, financial people and religious people are just some of the domains of knowledge and types of people who use advanced vocabulary to snow or deceive other people. This is not to say that some advanced vocabulary is not valid and useful. However, when communicating with someone unfamiliar with that vocabulary, it is only decent and thoughtful to use more straightforward or common language to convey the concepts the advanced vocabulary represent...—very rarely is that impossible to do.

Using many words to obfuscate or hide or cloud a concept is another way that people use complexity to conceal something. This is especially true in the legal, psychological, political and religious fields. If I want to disguise a contradiction; an ugly truth I don't want to admit, or I don't want someone else to see; or an unpopular or irrational idea or policy I want people to accept; all I need is complex vocabulary or a few hundred or thousand words to do so.

Religious leaders and a variety of religious leader called “apologists,” specialize in using complexity to avoid certain falsehoods upon which Christianity is built. In fact, they have the unenviable job of defending Christianity's falsehoods. I just ran across a great example of using many words to attempt to hide a contradiction – and the implications of that on one's “theology” – he is unwilling to accept. A popular apologist Ravi Zacharias has an article in which he attempts to defend the falsehood that God is both all-powerful and perfectly loving.

If you want a great example of a person using complexity to try and avoid a truth they do not wish to accede, then Mr. Zacharias’ article is a prime example. Mr. Zacharias uses about 8,500 words to attempt to avoid the simple truth of a syllogism or argument of 33 words! The article is/was posted on the web at <http://rzim.org/just-thinking/why-suffering-the-question/>, and it is entitled, “Why Suffering.” Mr. Zacharias puts forth many dozens of irrelevant arguments, as well as committing several logical fallacies, all because he refuses to let go of religious dogma that he cherishes and has committed himself to defending. Why does a smart man like Mr. Zacharias do this? Well, if Mr.

Zacharias varies from Christianity's cherished beliefs – if he refutes “orthodox” dogma - will he have a “successful ministry” and the influence and money that go along with that?

Psychologists are just substitutes for good and wise friends. Just like prostitutes sell sex, psychologists sell friendship or “caring.” Another accurate way to view psychologists and psychiatrists is as replacements for religious leaders. They are the secular priest class who are only too happy to have broken free from the religious, “please provide a donation” model, to the “you must pay fee per hour” model! Since most psychologists reject important aspects of human nature as given by the Creator, they are only too happy to make up their complicated views of human nature and to have customers come and pay them for their opinions. They have huge books that grow every year which they fill with new disorders, syndromes and other sundry and largely imagined mental maladies. They are the ultimate “put a label on people” people. Instead of saying a thought or behavior is wrong, sinful or harmful and should cease, they instead give it a name and provide a “therapy solution” involving many paid visits or drugs. They are only too happy to keep building the complexity because that has a direct impact on their ability to earn money.

Lawyers make the laws and rules complex, so people are dependent upon them to understand something or to get something done in the legal domain. This author has tried to go "Pro se" in a legal matter, and I could not even make it to the playing field. In other words, not only is legal language complex, and not only are the law's complex, but the process to contest a matter in a court of law is complicated. Lawyers are genuinely the worst when it comes to taking from others and using complexity to hide their motives. For this reason, Joshua of Nazareth singled out only two “vocations” or “professions” for rebuke - lawyers and religious leaders.

The Light of the world had this to say about lawyers:

But He said, “Woe to you lawyers as well! For you weigh men down with burdens hard to bear, while you yourselves will not even touch the burdens with one of your fingers.” and, “Woe to you lawyers! For you have taken away the key of knowledge; you yourselves did not enter, and you hindered those who were entering. (Luke 11:46, 52)

As you can see from his sayings from about 2,000 years ago, *nothing* has changed. Lawyers, in general, are not willing to help their clients in a truly selfless way—they are *not* going to risk their “career” (code for the ability to make money) or even a bit of their own money to take a stand for their client. And lawyers – all of them participate in this in some degree – take the away the key of knowledge, which is *simplicity* or the simple truth. As such, they do not enter the Kingdom of God, and they seek to prevent others from entering, just like their religious leader brethren.

Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Truly I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it.
(Matt. 18:3; Mark 10:15)

Dear reader, children operate in the mode of clear and pure and innocent, unless they have adults who are training them against those good things.

The same is true of other “professions” or domains, but to a lesser extent than legal. As we have seen, the psychological counseling profession is built on complex concepts of human nature which only the self-serving psychologists can understand. People who are lost and thus are hurting themselves or others go to these people for help, and what they generally get is nothing valuable, only the opinions of the new priests who usually go in circles as much as is possible to bill more.

The medical profession is made highly complicated, and physicians use complex language or concepts often to help justify a procedure that will gain them a good bit of money. It is easy to use complicated medical vocabulary or concepts when talking to a patient to push them towards a procedure they may not need. And how about the billing process! Talk about complex! All that complexity makes it easy to hide one's greed-based actions. Complexity also makes it easier to cheat since it is much harder to catch.

The financial and insurance industries are quite complex. It is human nature to want to be a person who understands something better than the other person for then I have power over them...they are dependent upon me to get something they consider valuable. Once people are dependent upon me, I can now either exert control over them or take money or other resources from them. How much money is in the law, medical, financial and insurance industries? *It is not a random associative fact that the businesses or human service industries with the most money are some of the most complex in nature.* In manufacturing and engineering, for example, one cannot hide results or failure in complexity, for they are self-evident when the physical process does not work or the bridge fails, for example.

Government policies are often complicated. Think tax laws or health care laws. Typically government regulations, rules or policies are created or written by lawyers or assisted by people in the industries that are subject to the laws, like legal or medical, etc. Sadly, most legislators at the U.S. federal level are lawyers at this point, thus accounting for the failure of government. It is no surprise that the laws and rules and policies are so complex since the people who wrote them or guided their creation are “experts” in those domains and thus gain from complexity. For example, how many people make money for assisting with tax filings? And who makes money from that endeavor? Often, the same people who wrote or helped shape the complex laws or rules or policies that people now need help navigating.

So, to boil down the service business (lawyers, psychologists, physicians and other medical specialists, financial and investment advisors, etc.) general

mode of operation, it is this—*'you believe you need some information from me that I understand and you don't, so you will need to pay me or give me something to get it'*.

We cannot forget scientists, especially "scientists" who do not use empirical methods to defend their "facts," particularly "facts" that happened long ago that cannot be validated by empirical means or that go against current natural law or physics.

There is no doubt that as a scientist delves into their specialty and they learn and apply more and more detail to their work and understanding, that they develop new words or more advanced vocabularies to express the facts/things they encounter. However, a good communicator will have no problem not getting bogged down in details and thus explaining a process or aspect of the science they are working on in a generally consumable manner. And yet, some scientists and most scientists-so-called (those dealing with origin speculations in particular) regularly communicate in a sophisticated way, thus making it easy to hide inconsistencies, contradictions, non-plausible hypothesis or false or questionable or untestable assumptions.

Concealing contradictions or false things is also true of the spiritual realm. Religious leaders are very much like their lawyer brethren in that they want their theologies to be elaborate so that people will be dependent upon them to understand God, a paramount concern for many people. How many large theological books exist and have been written - undoubtedly many thousands, and probably tens of thousands? So, when a person asks the simple question, "How can I know God?", the religious person responds with some variation of, "well, I have a degree from Great Seminary and have studied the bible extensively and have read many hundreds of books about God, so I am best qualified to tell you about God."

So, the first line of complexity is the source documents. The bible is a large and complicated book. Have you ever seen or read the Roman Catholic catechism? It is large and complicated. The same is generally true of most of religion's primary "sacred" documents. Add to the major or base documents, new "revelations" like Joseph Smith's work the book of Mormon, or things like The Urania Book and you pile the complexity higher and higher. Those piles of books have one purpose, and that is to hide some essential and simple truths and thus be used by religious leaders to get something from you, namely power over you or money from you.

Religious leaders have taken complexity a step further, for they have an advantage that people in other domains don't have. Many God claims cannot be verified, which means that you can make something not only complicated but contradictory and ask that people believe it because our senses cannot validate it! (Of course, this only works when people are not able or willing to use reason, logic or observation well or they are unwilling to value reason as the means to understand God-stuff.)

It should be interesting to the reader that the religious leaders of the thousands of Christian and Bible-based sects have just such a belief as their top belief. With all of their division, they agree on this belief! They say that the

people must believe this inherently contradictory concept to avoid going to hell! They place this belief at the top of their doctrinal membership statements and have given it a catchy name, the Trinity.

The trinity has been a fundamental belief of the Christian system for many hundreds of years. The doctrine states that God is one God yet three Persons.

The trinity concept is very simple regarding its nature. It is religious leaders - who want to control or influence people and who want an “easy living” – creating something complicated and using religious fear and irrational claims to make people dependent upon them and willing to support them.

Here is how it works. People are afraid of God due to religious leaders preaching God's wrath and vengeance and justice, etc. to people over the millennia, as well as people, feeling guilty over their sins due to the conscience God gave us. So, people search for answers about God - what He is like and what He wants - and so they go to people who claim to be experts on God. These “experts” say that God is a just God and does send people to hell. The people then turn to the religious leaders and ask, “Well, what does God want from me to avoid hell?” And the religious leaders say some form of, “you need to listen to us to understand God, and what He wants and you need to support our organization (really pay me).”

So, the first question many people ask is, “what is God like”? And the religious leaders, liking people looking to them to understand God say, “Well, the first thing you must know is that he is a trinity being.” The religious leaders know at some level, that if the people figure out who God is and what He is like, they will no longer be needed. So, they invented and promote this belief of “the trinity,” *and* they say you *must* believe in this “trinity” to avoid hell. They tell the people that the trinity god is three persons but one god. Or, stated more simply, that three equals one. So, they have communicated a contradiction to the people and told the people that they must “believe” this contradiction or else they will go to hell. And they tell the people that while they don't fully understand the trinity, they do have a better understanding of it/him than “the laymen,” so you better listen to them.

Trap accomplished.

So, Christian leaders accomplish a significant step in making people dependent upon them by having what they claim is an essential belief, a complex (actually contradictory) belief about God. Having people dependent upon the religious leader is a massive step in hiding the Light.

(For more on the trinity doctrine, see *Appendix 5, The Trinity Trap*.)

In addition to the trinity, here are some of the more complicated theological concepts that religious leaders like to rely on to make things complicated to hide the Light and have the people dependent upon them.

Atonement:

"The action of making amends for a wrong or injury." ⁴⁶

Vicarious:

"Experienced in the imagination through the feelings or actions of another person." ⁴⁶

Propitiation:

"The action of propitiating or appeasing a god, spirit, or person." ⁴⁶

These three concepts – two taken from the Hebrew scripture, Atonement, and Propitiation; and one borrowed by Christian theologians, Vicarious; together make the heart and soul of the Christian salvation concept. Here is an accurate statement of that concept:

"Vicarious atonement is the idea that Jesus Christ took the place of humankind, suffering the penalty for sin. Atonement is a term meaning "reconciliation" or "amends." Vicarious means "done in place of or instead of someone else." So, in literal terms, the Christian concept of "vicarious atonement" is that Jesus was substituted for humanity and punished for our faults to pay for the sins we had committed and reconcile us to God. Vicarious atonement is also referred to as "substitutionary atonement" or "penal substitution." ⁴⁷

In a nutshell, a wrathful, vengeful god will not forgive people who sincerely ask him but instead demanded that an innocent person – his beloved and obedient Son – be tortured and killed to “pay” for the wrong-doings of guilty people so that God can forgive people. Please note that *none* of those concepts are taught by Joshua of Nazareth, as we shall see later.

In summary, when you hear someone say, “Oh, that is complicated” regarding a people problem (that is relationships among people; how our behavior ought to be; how people ought to act; what people value or moral truths) or some God issue, a little red flag ought to go up in your mind. That red flag should point you to think, “This person is confused or likely hiding something they don't want to admit or face, or they are trying to get something from me.” Then, apply reason well to the problem they say is “complicated” and if you do, you will be rewarded with the truth! You may not like what the truth reveals, but it is much better to live in reality than in a delusion.

Another way people stay away from that which is correct is to adopt philosophies which gloss over what is real and promote their favorite delusion. This practice can be appropriately described as adopting or holding “positive thinking” philosophies. Versions of those philosophies are trendy in both religious and “secular” cultures, and we will take a look at those in the next chapter.

⁴⁶ Oxford Living Dictionary, www.en.oxforddictionaries.com, April 2018

⁴⁷ Taken from www.gotquestions.org

Chapter Summary:

- Creating or using complicated concepts is a common practice in the world—people hide their ignorance or selfishness in complexity;
- The usual reason for a person using complex ideas associated with human “service” offerings is because they want to conceal something from people or because they want people to depend on them to get something from another person or persons;
- Realms or domains that people make complex to get people to rely on them include legal, financial/insurance, religious, psychological, government laws or policies and medical. Good empirical science can be complicated by nature, but origin speculation is also purposely made complex to deceive people;
- The vast majority of human communication – especially regarding human relationships - does not need to be complicated and with a little effort, the concepts that are claimed to be "complex" are simple if one is not trying to hide something.