

BATS 7:
Maintaining Righteousness
through Reckoning and Resisting
The HAM's, The HATS and The
BATS of Approbation

Proverbs 19:8

- *He who gets wisdom loves his own soul;
He who keeps understanding prospers.*

Romans 12:2 (GNT)

- *“Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete renovation of your thinking.*
- *Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.”*

Selfism

- Selfism – Concentration on one's own interests
- Selfishness - excessive or exclusive concern with oneself; concentrating on or seeking one's own advantage, pleasure or well-being without regard for others; supreme self-love or self preference.
- Selfism, in its worst sense, is the very essence of human depravity and stands in direct opposition to the Spiritual Life.

Selfism

- Selfism is trying to derive happiness from the World, the Flesh, or the Devil.
- Such as people, mood or things, rather than a relationship with the ONE who can truly provide it.
- They attempt this with faulty system of motivation inherited from Adam that I call The HAM's and HATS.

Selfism

- HAM's:
 - *Human Achievement Motivators*
 - *aka the Lust Patterns of the Sin Nature*
- HATS:
 - Human Achievement Tactics & Strategies
 - The Strategies for the Attainment of the Selfishness Goals and the Tactics used to accomplish them.

Selfism

- Strategy:
 - a plan designed to achieve a particular long-term aim or goal.
- Tactics:
 - made or carried out with only a limited or immediate end in view; short-range plans or actions to achieve a strategy.

Selfism & HAM's

- The Human Achievement Motivators of the Inherited Nature from Adam (INA) include:
 - *a. Approbation*
 - *b. Chemical*
 - *c. Materialism*
 - *d. Power*
 - *e. Religious*
 - *f. Sexual*

Selfism

- All of us succumb to one of these Motivators from time to time.
- The dominant Motivator related to you is derived from both your genetics and your environment and results in your Trend toward Human Goodness (HG) or Human Badness (HB); as well as your personal areas of weakness and your personal areas of strength in your Adamic nature.

Selfism

- These Motivators divorce the believer from reality, cause unrealistic expectation, eliminate understanding, and prevent one from advancing spiritually.
- Happiness and contentment do not come from the achievement of one or more of these Motivations
- Happiness and contentment come from your relationship with God, understanding His principles, and applying them to the circumstances of life.

Selfism

- Selfism divorces the believer from reality so that every mechanic of the Christian way of life is distorted.
- Selfism can only be overcome through spiritual momentum and growth to spiritual adulthood.

Selfism

- *Phil. 2:3-5 - Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility of mind, consider others more important than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.*
- *Rom. 12:10-13 - Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

Selfism: Approbation Motivation

- The 1st Human Achievement Motivator:
Approbation
- Strategy: Attain Happiness in Life
through obtaining the approval of others.

Approbation Motivation

- Approbation is related to what is mistakenly called an “inferiority complex” and “low self-esteem” which insatiably seeks constant approval and praise from others.
- In reality, it is the deep-seated sense of superiority that is frustrated by real or imagined physical, mental, circumstantial or social deficiencies to our Ideal Self.

Approbation Motivation

- Approbation Motivation results in a dominant Appraisal Filtering by Self Concept.
- Everything in life is seen as an issue relating to my worth as a person based on my real or perceived shortcomings.
- If my SC is based on Self Image, I will see the world in terms of physical attractiveness and beauty.

Approbation Motivation

- If I see something in the mirror that is less than my perceived self-worth, I will develop a so-called “inferiority complex”, that is actually a “superiority complex”.
- My “body” is not living up to my Selfism expectations!
- I “deserve” to have the ideal size, shape, weight, and appearance.

Approbation Motivation

- This is a failure to understand that God knew what you would look like, and yet, still placed you (Soul) into the body he did.
- Therefore, there is no such thing as a true “inferiority complex”; it is always the “superiority complex” of Selfism choosing disappointment at what God has chosen for my earthly life.

Approbation Motivation

- So, if I Filter with Self Concept, because of my Approbation Motivation, I will attempt to please people in some way to overcome my “deficiencies”.
- I will develop the HATS Strategy of elevating my Self Worth through the validation by others.

Approbation Motivation

- *Galatians 1:10 (ESV)*
10 For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Approbation Motivation

- *Ephesians 6:6 (ESV)*
6 not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but as servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,

Approbation Motivation

- The desire to have friends and companions is normal, but approbation requires that a person receive validation from others in order to feel worthwhile and happy.
- They cannot relax because they are compelled to compare themselves to others to feel “superior”, so they must compete with others, resulting in put-down humor and snide comments, or other forms of inordinate competition.

Approbation Motivation & Social Life

- Some people with Approbation Motivation make their social life the number one priority.
- It is normal to enjoy the company of others and to be sociable, but some people think that they cannot be happy unless they are involved in some kind of social activity.

Approbation Motivation & Social Life

- Social life with God compared to social life with people:
- God-emphasis must precede people-emphasis, and love for God must take precedence over love for people.
- This means that God must be your number one priority in life.

Approbation Motivation & Social Life

- Since God is not visible or audible, you respond or react to Him based on Bible doctrine, nothing else.
- Through perception of Bible doctrine, the believer grows in grace and increases his fellowship with God.
- Christian fellowship is not the basis of spiritual growth, so no one grows spiritually or fulfills the plan of God through Christian fellowship.

Approbation Motivation & Social Life

- If God comes first in your life, then so will Bible doctrine.
- Your relationship with God cannot be priority number one if you have put someone or something before Him (Ex.20:3, Deut.6:5, Psa.42:1, 73:25, Matt.10:37, Phil.3:8, Luke14:26)

Approbation Motivation & Christian Service

- Approbation Motivation sometimes substitutes Christian service for spirituality and its momentum in the Christian way of life.
- Their desire for approval and validation results in a leaning toward a “doing” kind of Christianity, either Social Activism, Church programs, or Christian Parachurch organizations, without the Gift or Call.
- Living the Spiritual Life does not gain them the recognition they desire, so they must perform for God and Christians.

Approbation Motivation & Christian Service

- If a believer is not filled with the Holy Spirit, he will have wrong motivation in doing good deeds.
- Usually, it is Approbation (or Power) Motivation.
- When their demand for higher level of Approbation is not met, this can easily result in complaining, grumbling, whispering, and disputes, ie, “*eritheia!*”.

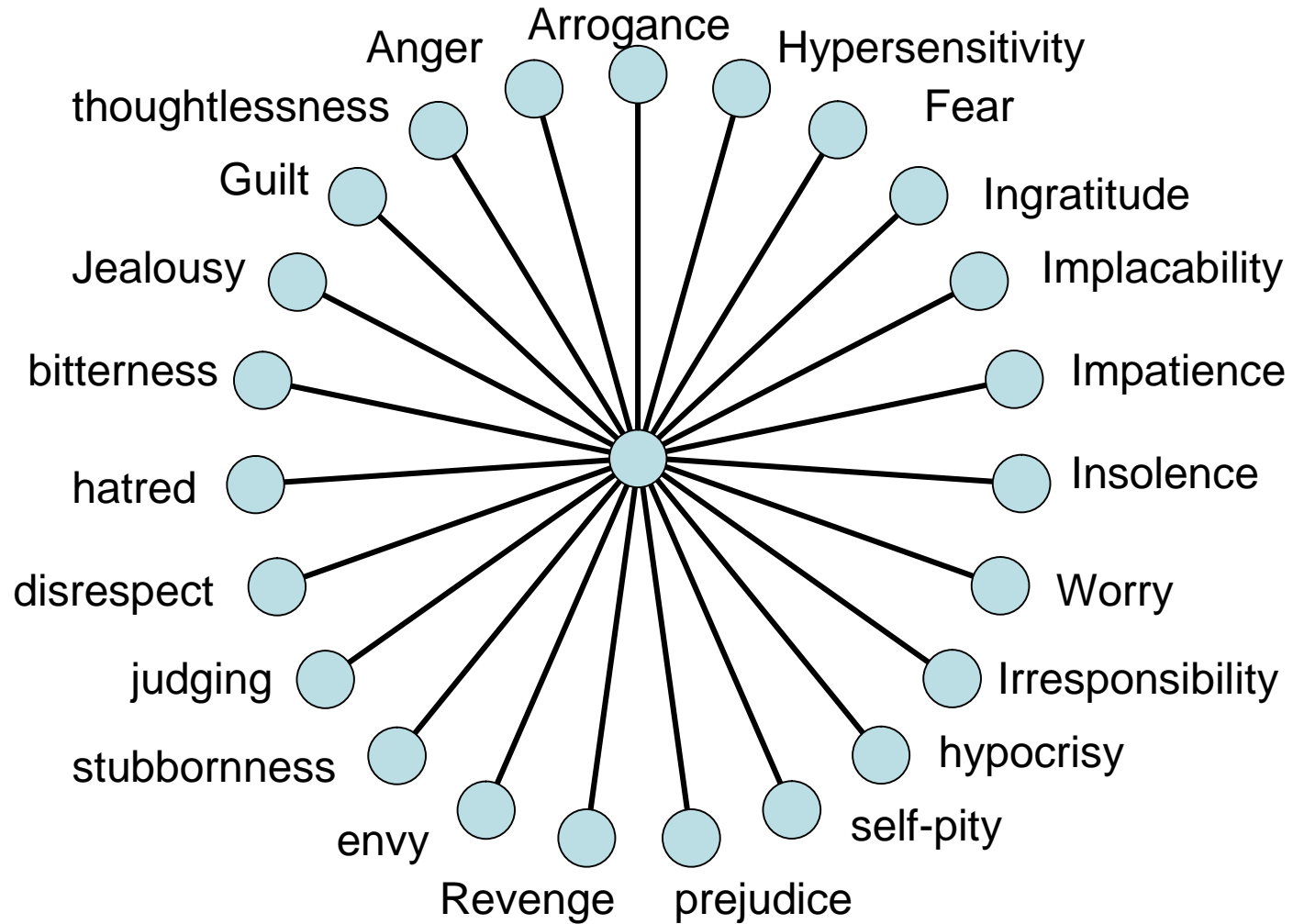
Approbation Motivation & Christian Service

- *Phil. 2:13-14 - For God [Holy Spirit] works in you, both to will and to do His good pleasure.*
- *[And, The Christian Service Approbation Motivation Checklist:]*
- *Do all things without complaining [whining, fault-finding, grumbling, dissatisfaction, murmuring, griping, irritation] or strife [disputing, arguing, controversy, quarreling].*

Approbation Motivation

- Human Achievement Motivator: Approbation
- HATS: Human Achievement Tactics and Strategies:
- Strategy: Attain happiness by means of approval and popularity among a selected population.
- Tactic: Approbation has at least 23 Tactics

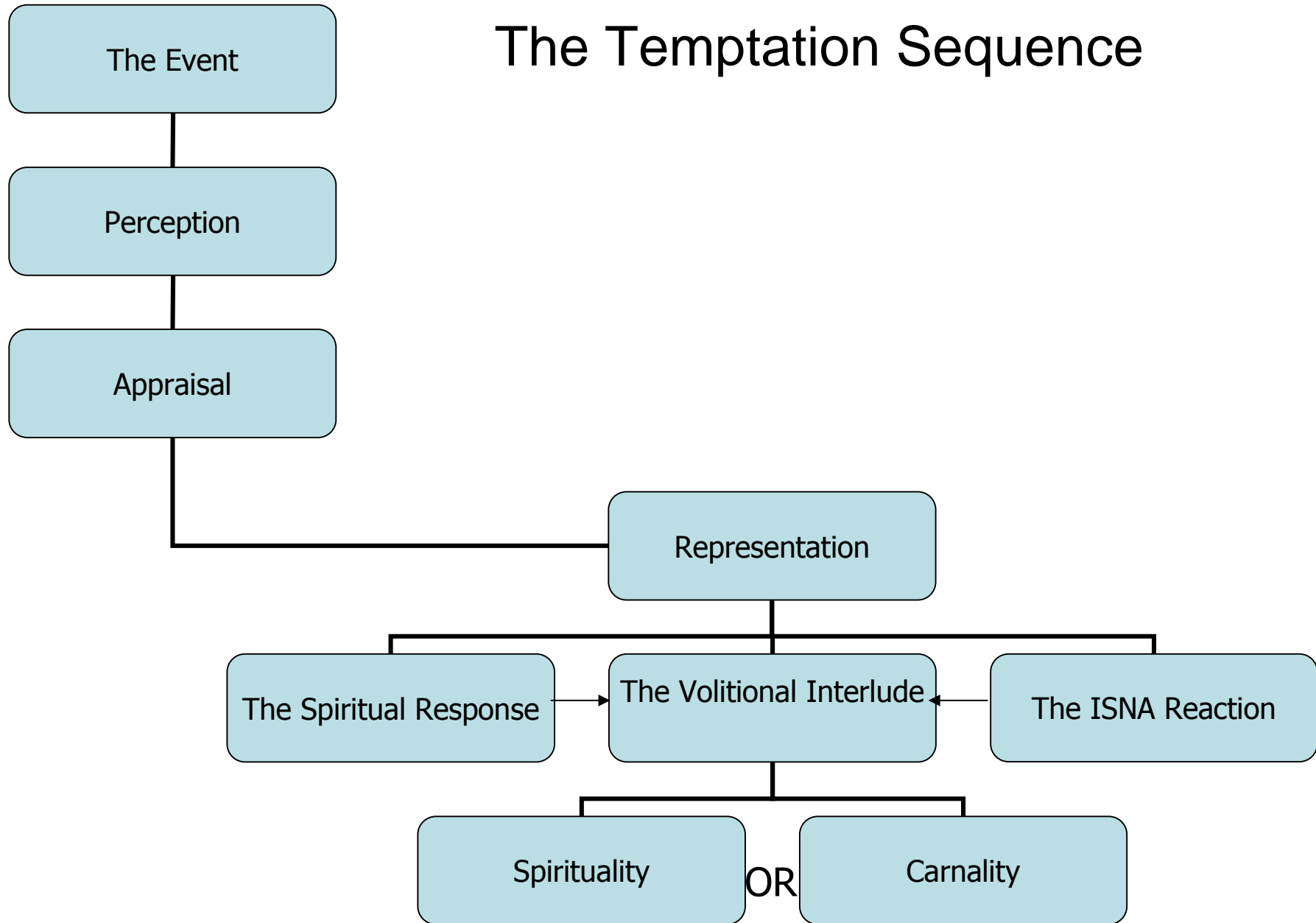
Approbation Tactics



The 3 Elements of Resisting Temptation

- 1. Knowing the mechanics of temptation.
- 2. Identifying Temptation when it happens, by knowing HAM's and HATS.
- 3. The capability of Resisting through Biblical Alternative Thinking Skills (BATS).

The Temptation Sequence



10 Steps to Temptation

The 3 Arenas

- John 2: 16 (NASB-95)
- 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world.

10 Steps to Temptation

The 3 Arenas

- Desire from the Body:
- HAM Patterns:
 - Sexual Lust
 - Chemical Lust

10 Steps to Temptation

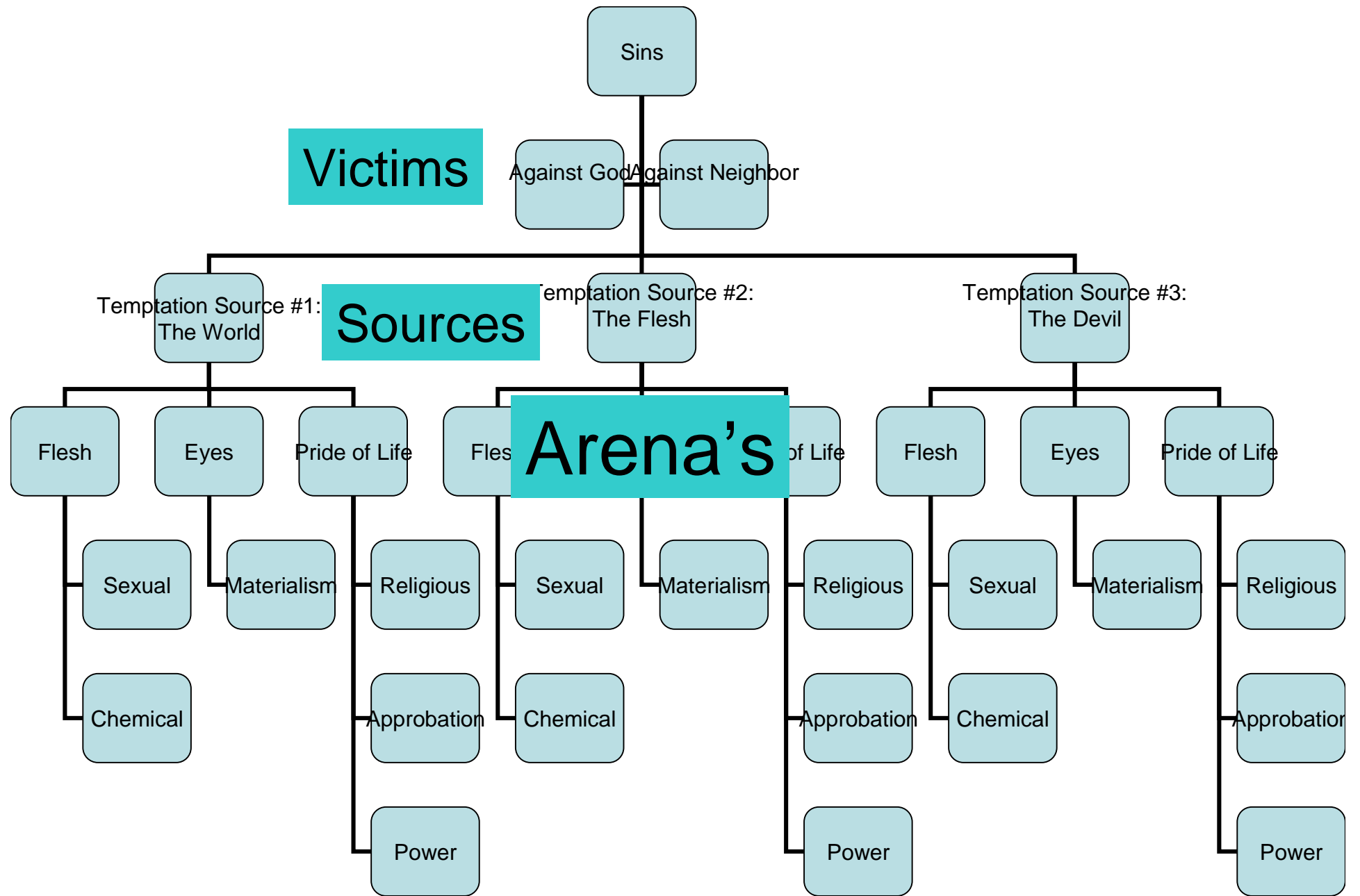
The 3 Arenas

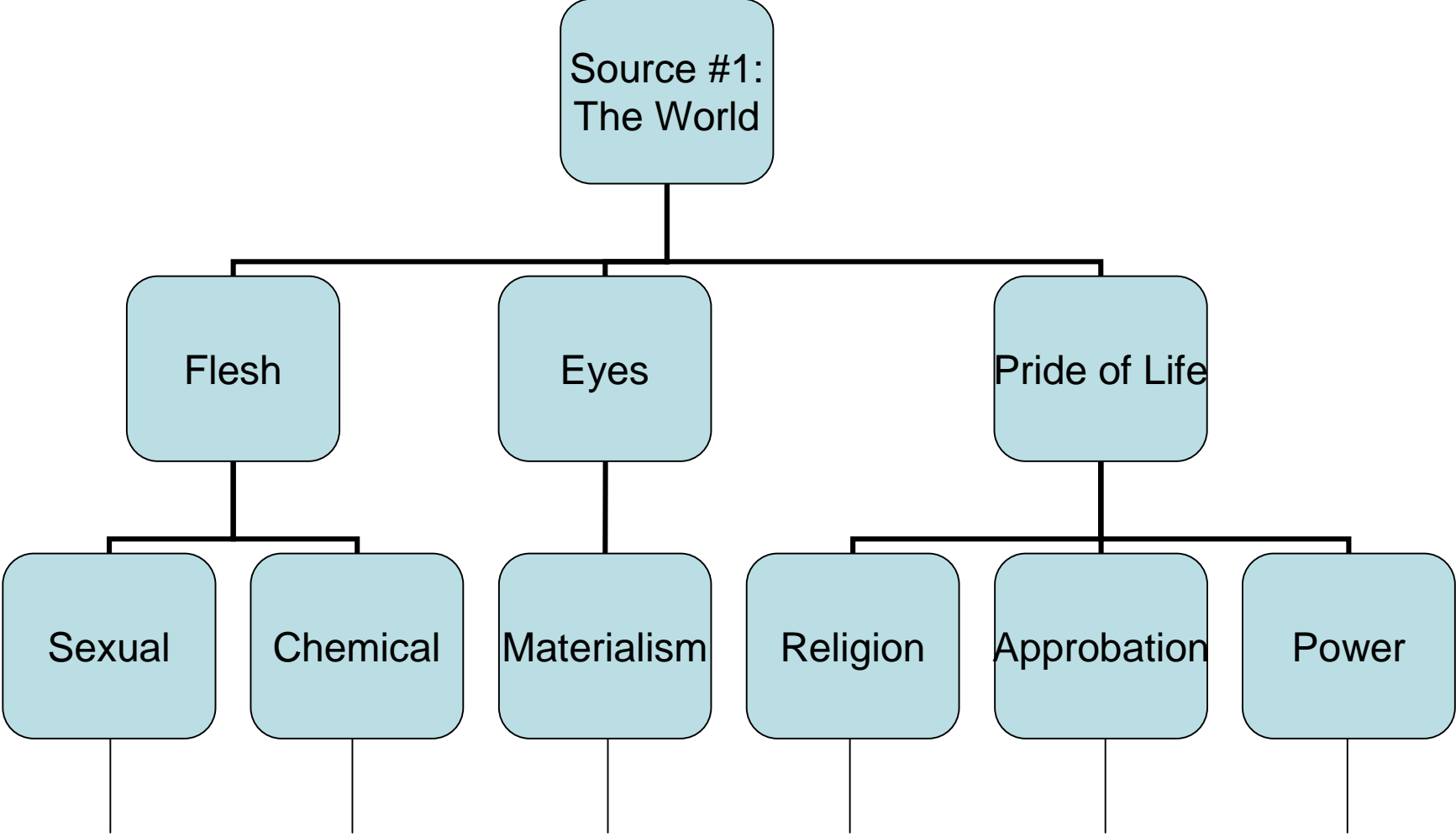
- Desire from the Eyes:
- HAM Pattern:
 - Materialism

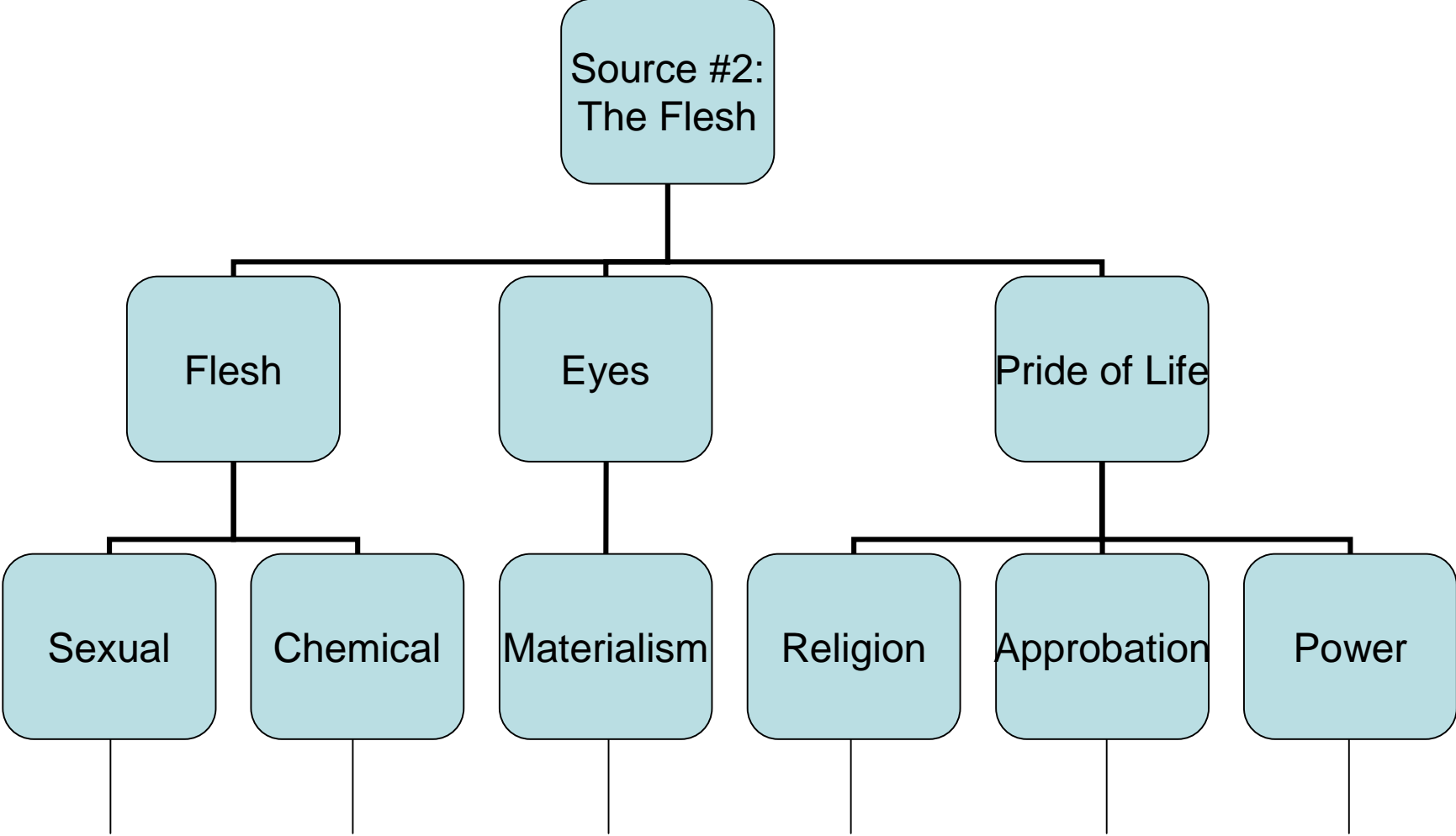
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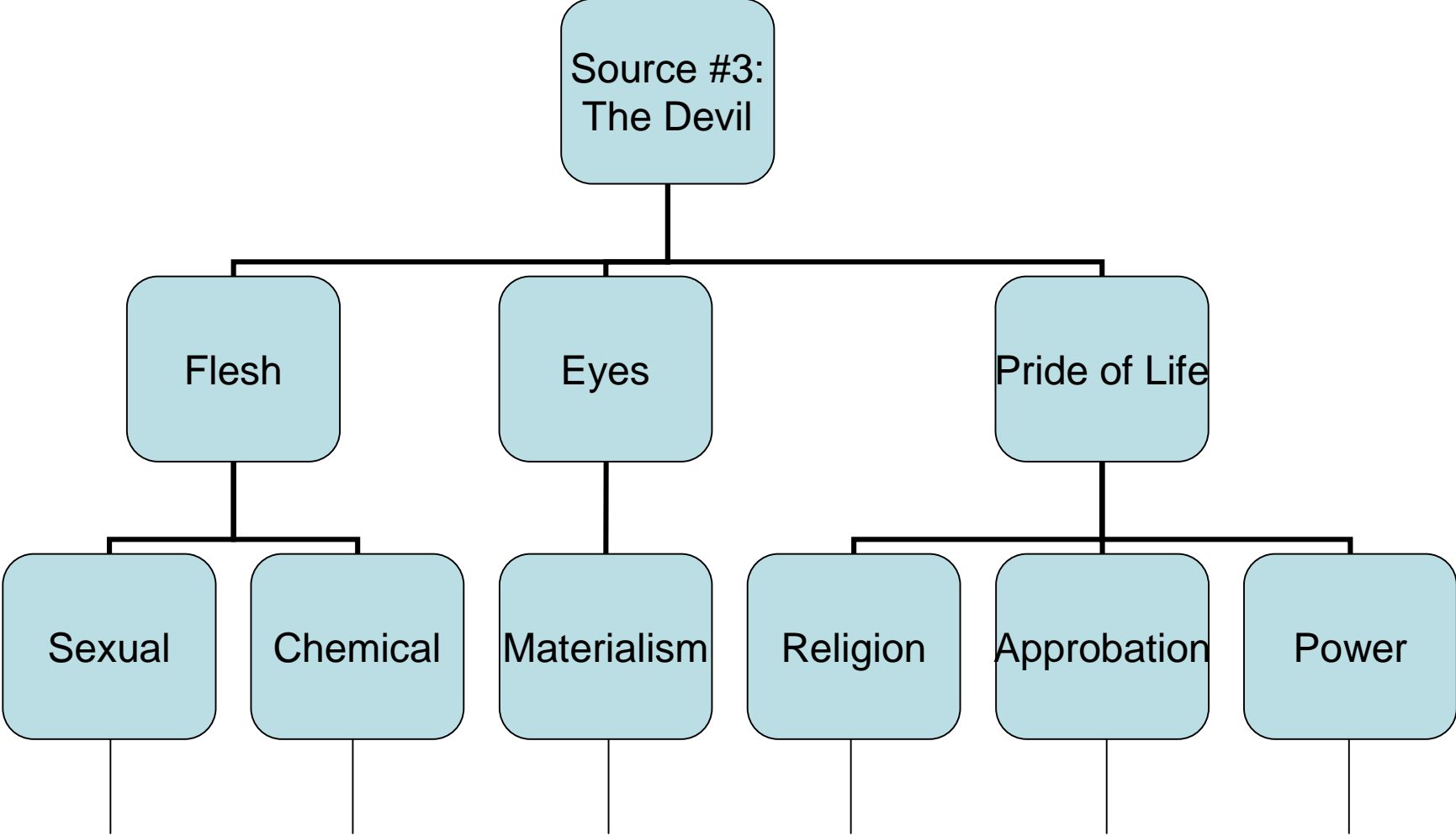
The 3 Arenas

- Pride of Life:
- HAM Patterns:
 - Approbation
 - Power
 - Religion

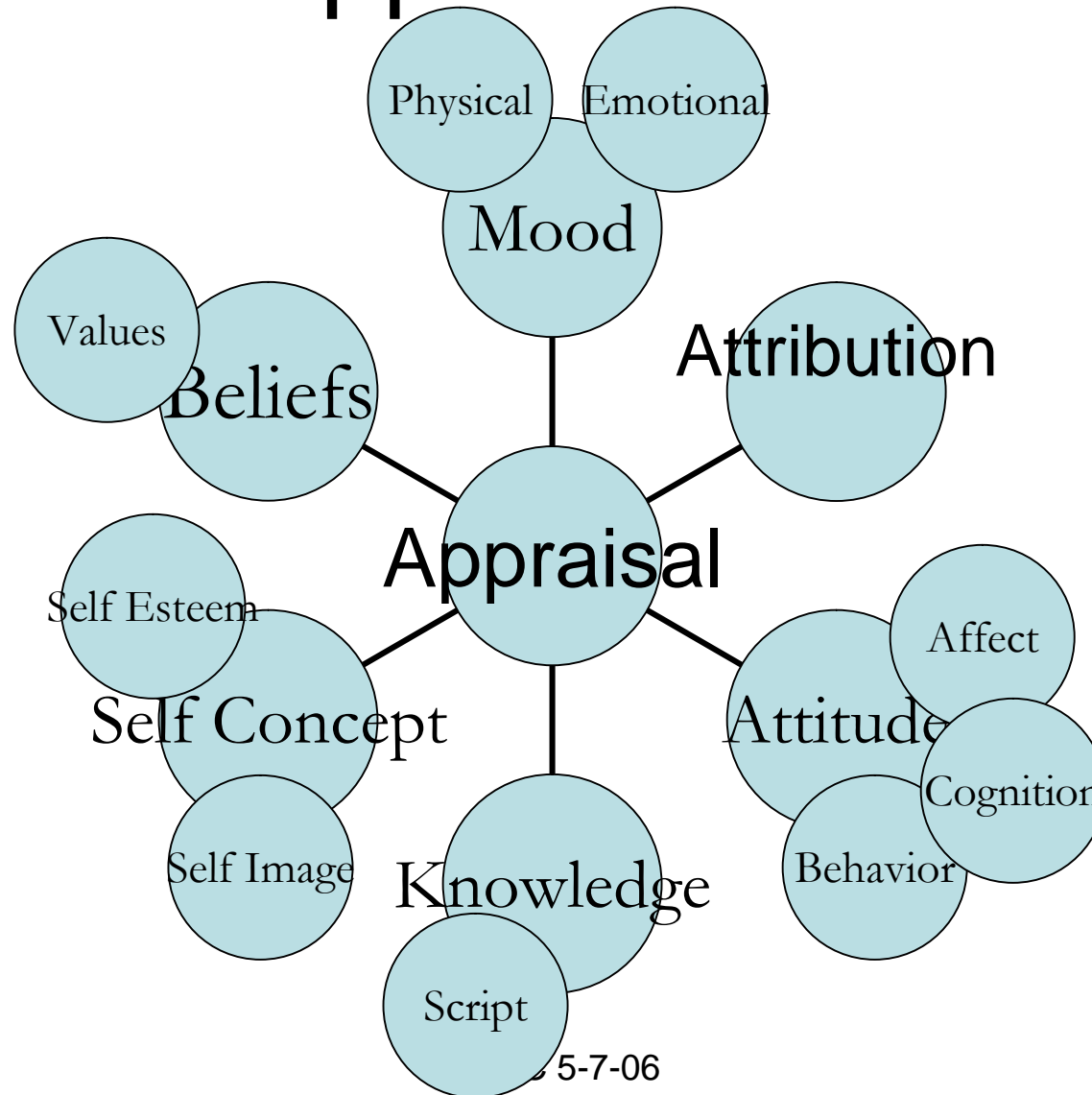








The Appraisal Filters



The Sequence of Temptation

