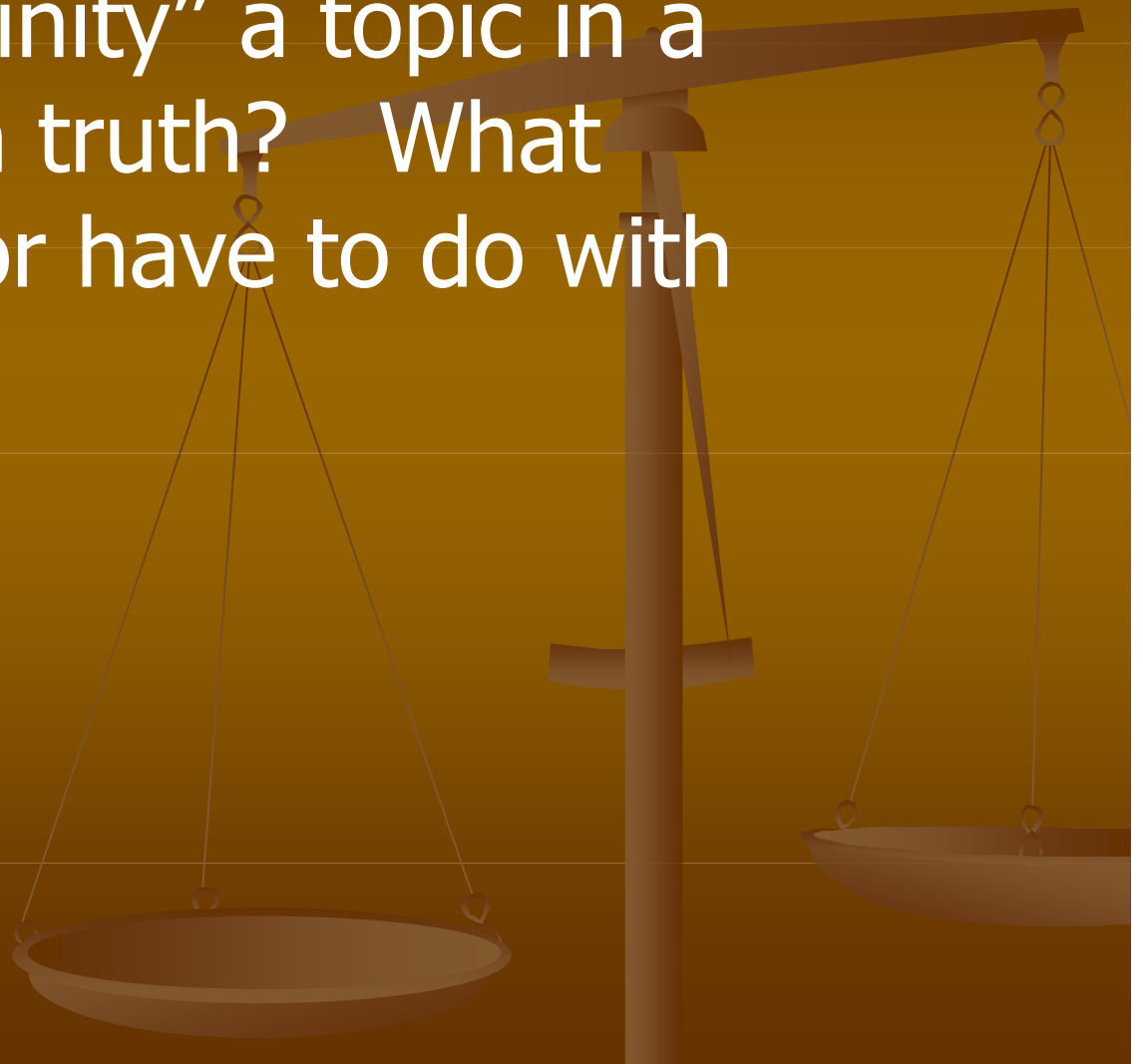
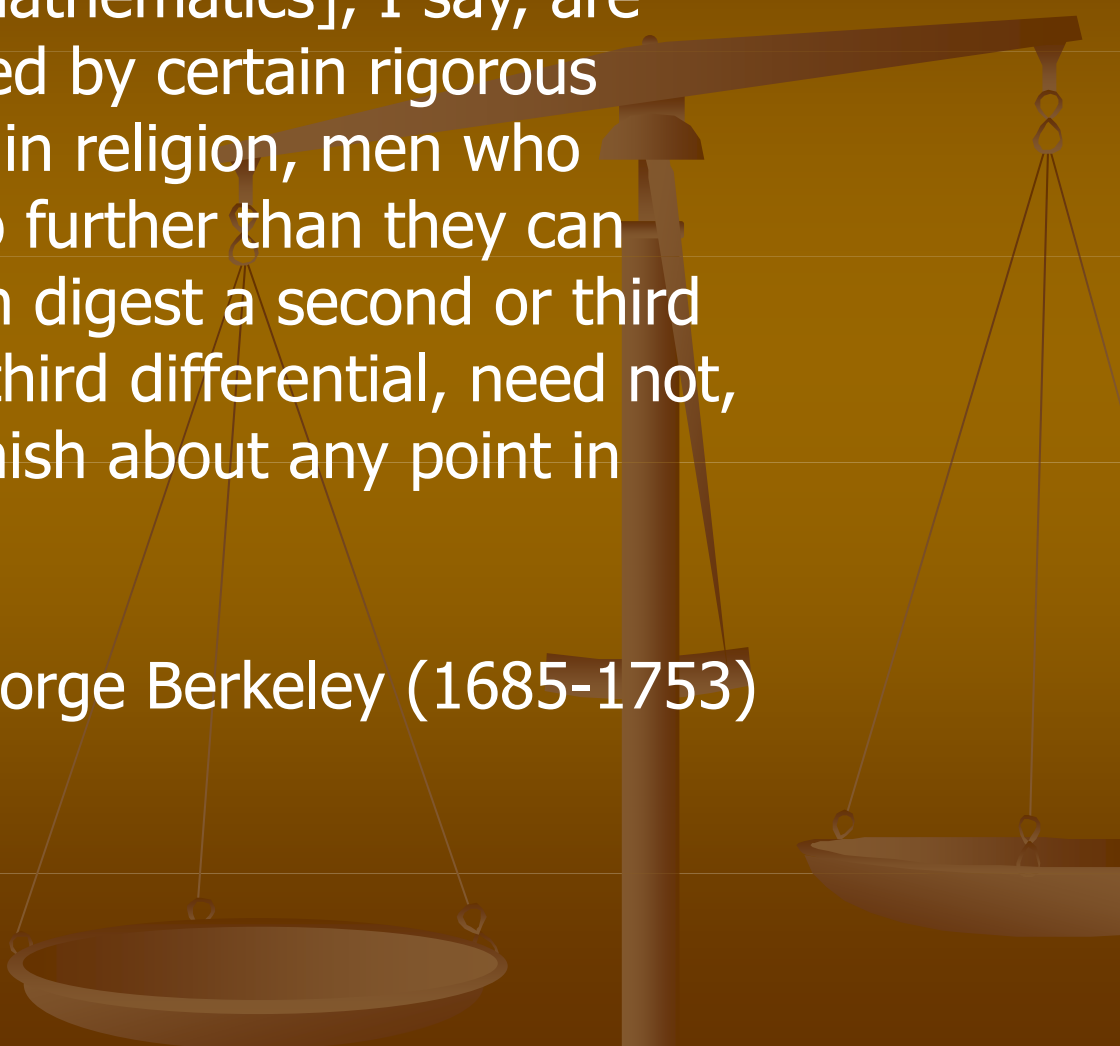


Why is “infinity” a topic in a seminar on truth? What does Cantor have to do with truth?





All these points [of mathematics], I say, are supposed and believed by certain rigorous exactors of evidence in religion, men who pretend to believe no further than they can see... But he who can digest a second or third fluxion, a second or third differential, need not, methinks, be squeamish about any point in divinity.

Bishop George Berkeley (1685-1753)

Can a segment of finite length be divided into infinitely many parts?

True/False? Between any two points on a line segment, there exists a third point.

... to say a finite quantity or extension consists of parts infinite in number is so manifest a contradiction, that everyone at first sight acknowledges it to be so; and it is impossible it should ever gain the assent of any reasonable creature who is not brought to it by gentle and slow degrees, as a converted Gentile to the belief of transubstantiation.

Bishop George Berkeley (1685-1753)

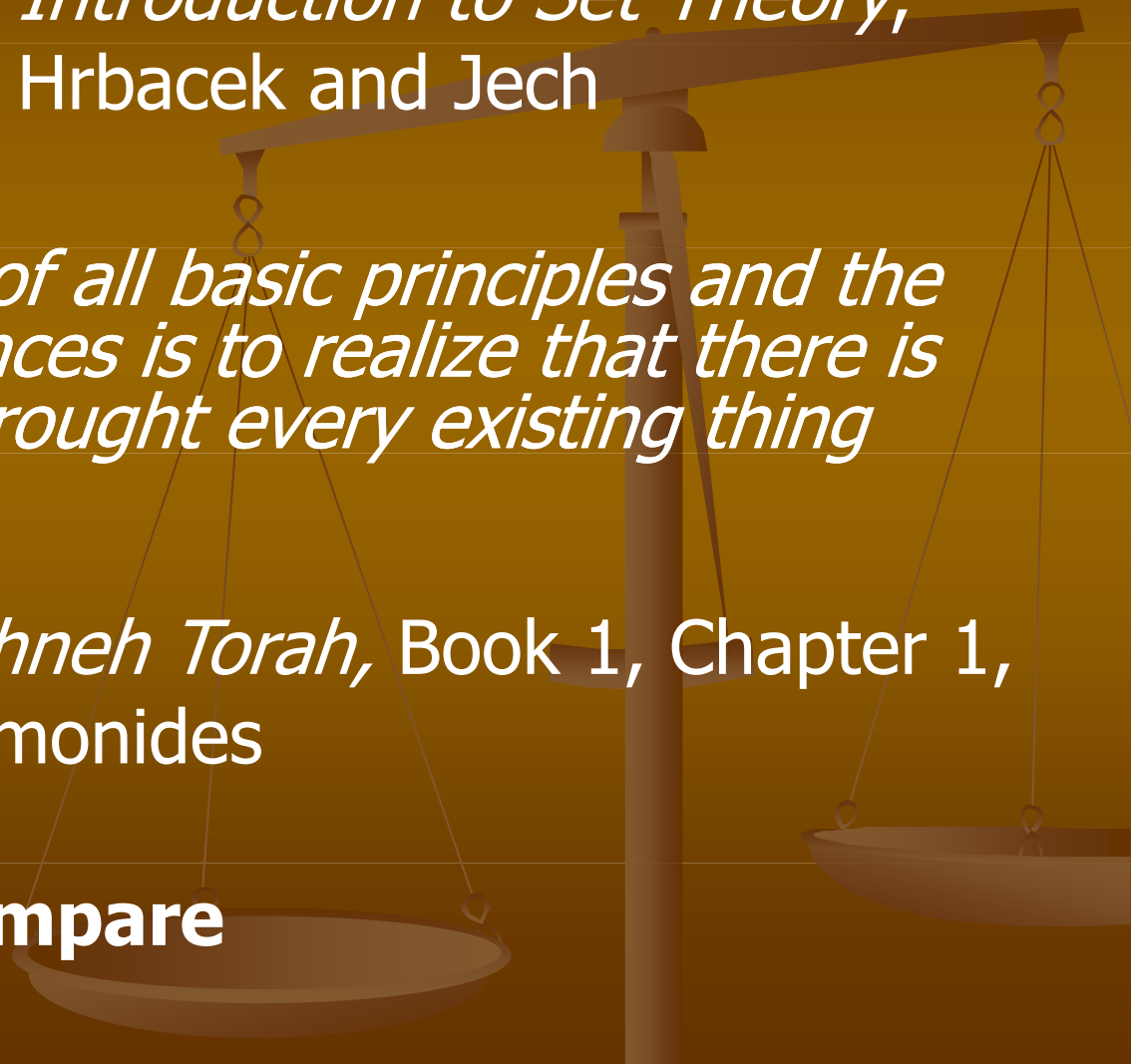
Axiom of Infinity: An inductive (i.e. infinite) set exists.

*Introduction to Set Theory,
Hrbacek and Jech*

The basic principle of all basic principles and the pillar of all the sciences is to realize that there is a First Being who brought every existing thing into being.

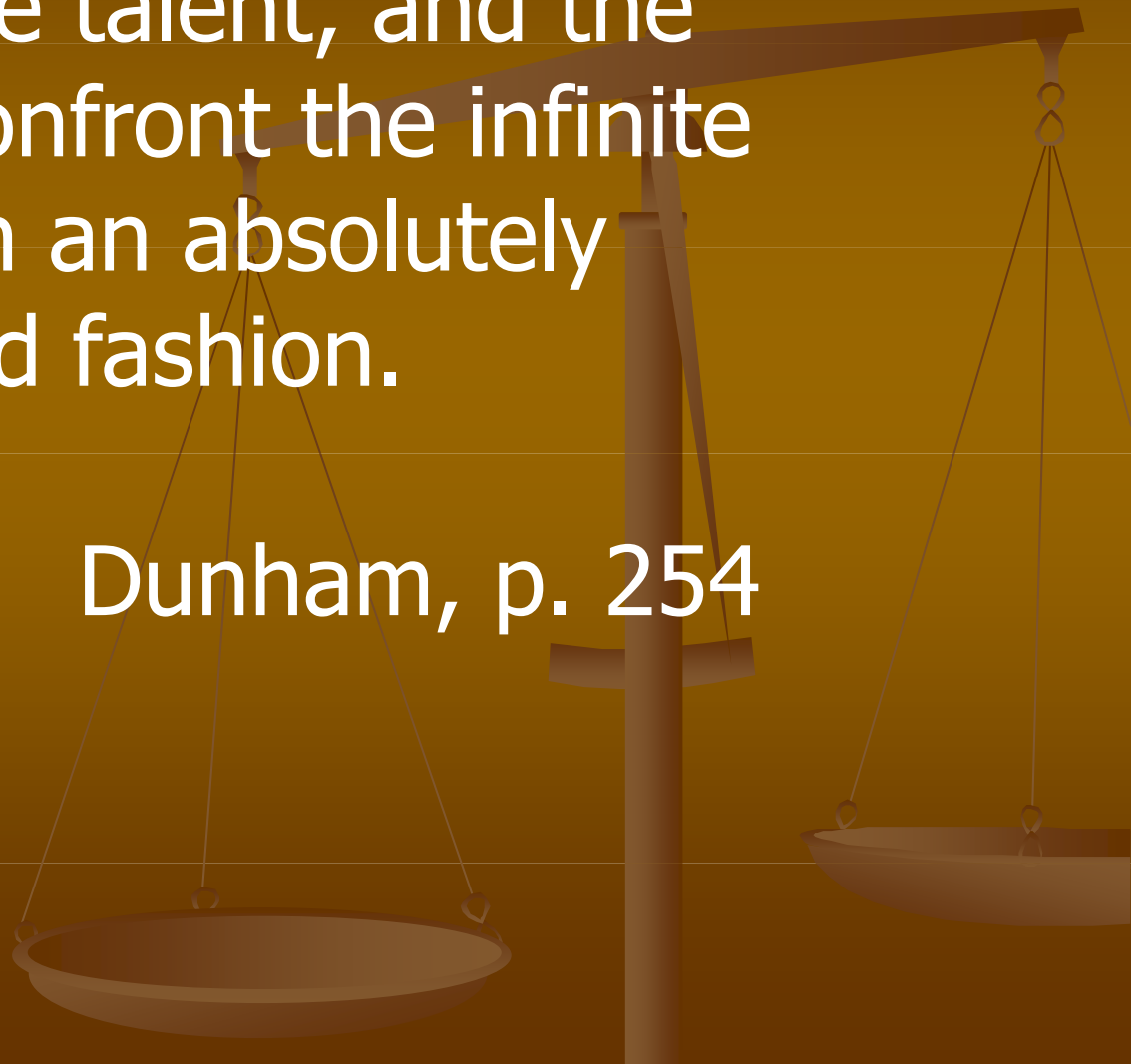
*Mishneh Torah, Book 1, Chapter 1,
Maimonides*

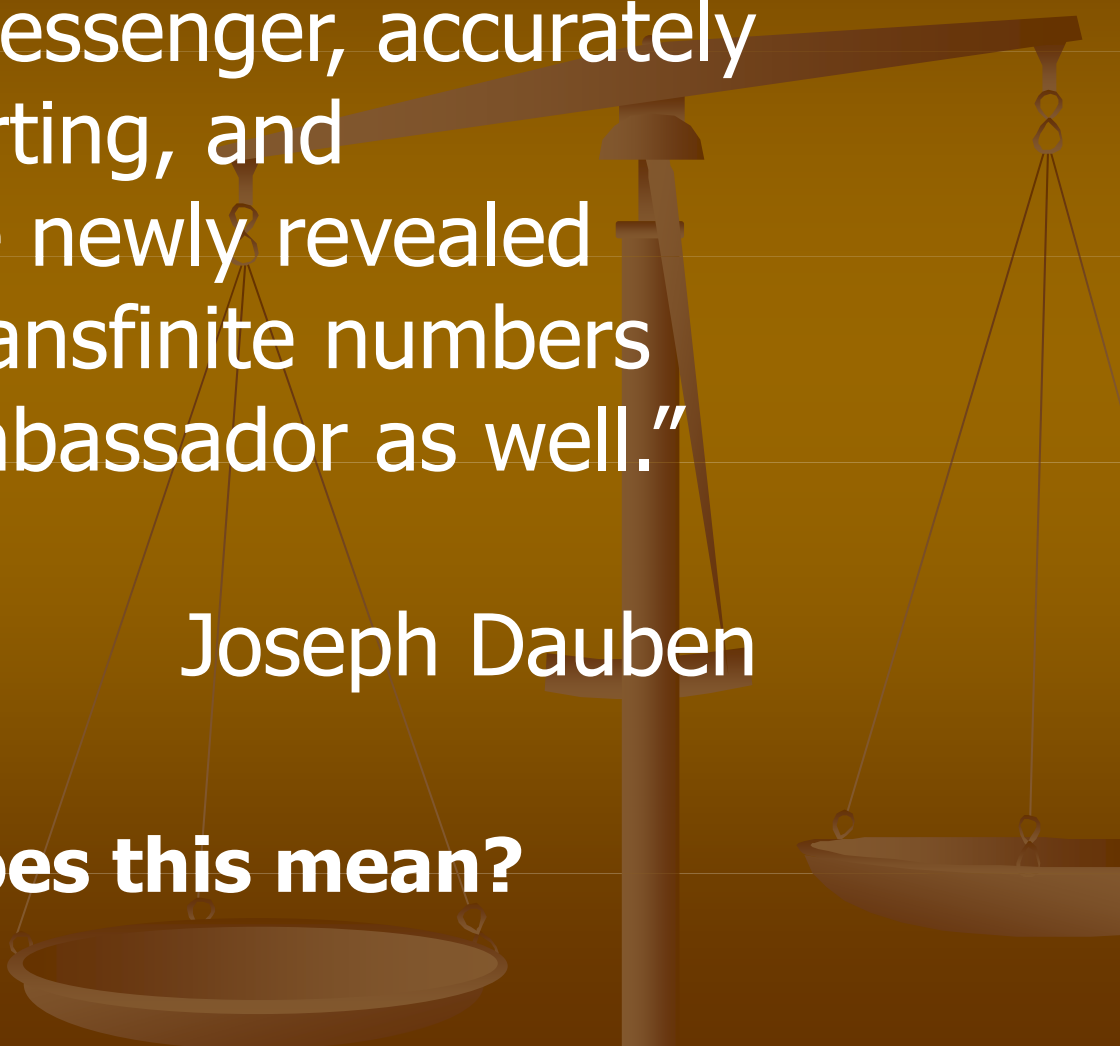
Compare



Cantor had the talent, and the courage, to confront the infinite face-to-face in an absolutely unprecedented fashion.

Dunham, p. 254

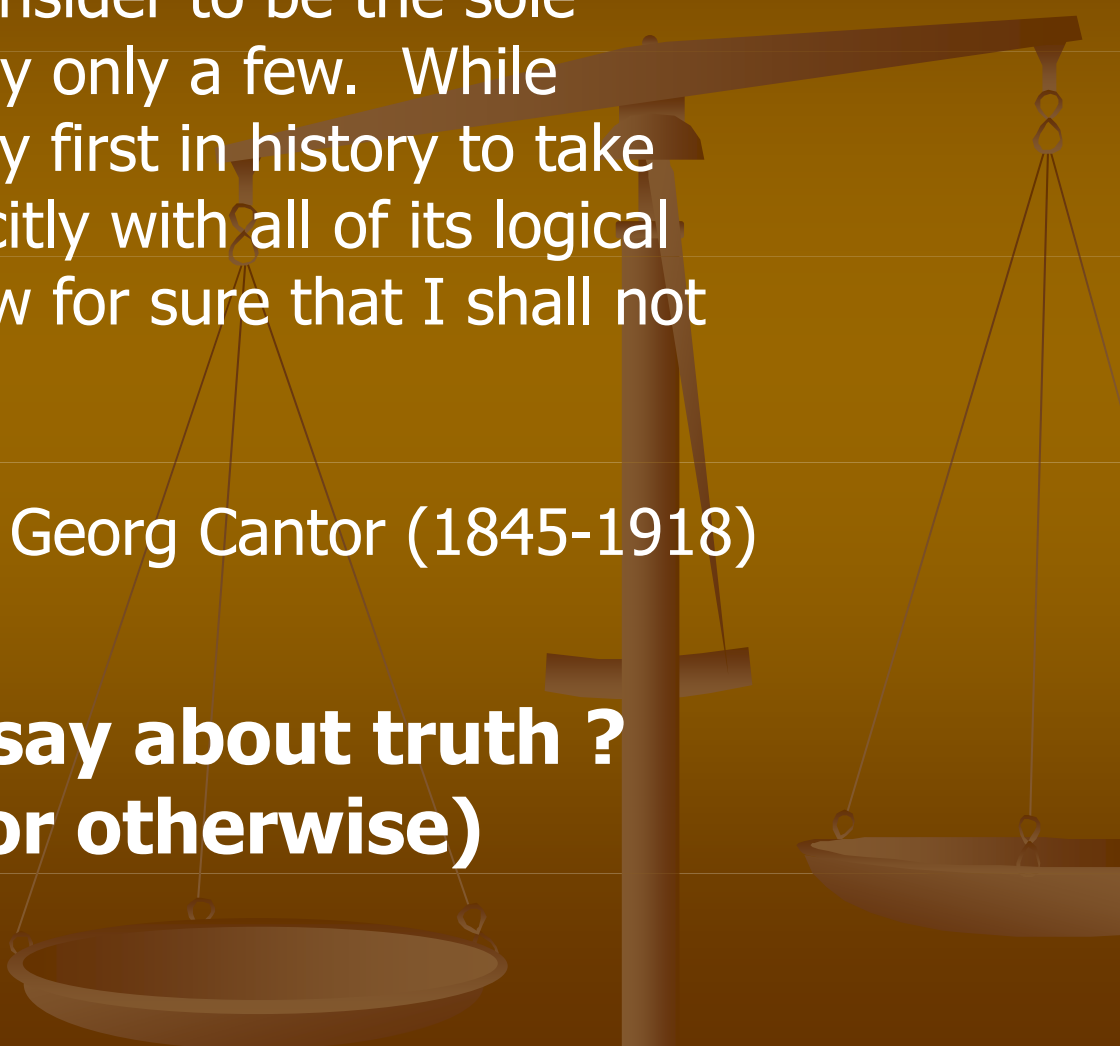




“[Cantor regarded himself] not only as God’s messenger, accurately recording, reporting, and transmitting the newly revealed theory of the transfinite numbers but as God’s ambassador as well.”

Joseph Dauben

What does this mean?



This view, which I consider to be the sole correct one, is held by only a few. While possibly I am the very first in history to take this position so explicitly with all of its logical consequences, I know for sure that I shall not be the last.

Georg Cantor (1845-1918)

**What does this say about truth ?
(mathematical or otherwise)**

