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Christian worldview - What is it?

The term "worldview" is used to describe a core set of values and principles through which the world is understood. A worldview is a compilation of an individual's perceptions of the world, essentially the way a person understands reality. A person's worldview is very important, as it impacts virtually every decision in life. A specifically Christian worldview, then, would be viewing the world through a Christian/biblical lens. A Christian worldview is one in which the Bible is formative.

A worldview must come to grips with the three following questions: (1) Where did we come from and why are we here? (2) Why is there something terribly wrong with the world? (3) Can what is wrong with the world be fixed? Different worldviews answer these three core questions very differently. Let's contrast the Christian worldview with the naturalistic worldview on the three questions.

A naturalistic worldview would answer the three questions as follows: (1) We are the result of purposeless acts of nature. (2) We are what is wrong with the world, as we do not respect nature. (3) The world can be saved through environmentalism, conservation, and us coming to terms with our true nature. Common philosophies that come from a naturalistic worldview are moral/cultural relativism, existentialism, nihilism, and utopianism.

In contrast, a Christian worldview attempts to answer the three questions biblically: (1) God created humanity in His image so that we could have a meaningful relationship with Him and put us on the planet to rule over it (Genesis 1:27-29, 2:15). (2) We sinned against God, subjecting ourselves and the world to the curse of evil, decay, and death (Genesis 3; Romans 8:22). (3) God became a human being and sacrificed Himself to pay the penalty for sin and to one day restore creation to a perfect state (John 3:16; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Revelation 21-22). A Christian worldview should result in an adherence to moral absolutes and to belief in miracles, the value of human life, and the possibility of forgiveness/redemption.

A worldview is comprehensive in its impact. Our worldview affects everything we do, whether we recognize it or not. Our worldview affects how we spend money, how we treat our spouses and children, who we vote for, how we treat nature, what we choose to do with our time. A true and complete Christian worldview is not something that can exist only at church on Sundays. There is no separating a Christian worldview from everyday life. Jesus Himself is to be our worldview (John 14:6). Forming our worldview on His life and teachings is the only way to navigate through this world. That is what a Christian worldview is all about.

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Revelation 13

Five Political Things that will happen in the End Times.

- ① A world leader will emerge. Rev 13:1-8
the Beast (Anti Christ) will get his power from Satan. Will rule for $3\frac{1}{2}$ yrs. Declares himself God.
- ② One world government will be formed.
Rev 13:7 - over every tribe, tongue and nation.
- ③ One world religion will be started.
Rev 13:8, 11-15 The false prophet sets up new religion. Causes people to worship Beast. All will worship him except Christians.
- ④ One monetary system established
Rev 13:16-17 If you don't accept the new system you can't buy or sell.
- ⑤ One world military in control.
Rev 13:15. the demonic army will hunt Christians

If your name is written in the Lamb's book of life, you have nothing to fear. Rev. 3:5, 13:8, 17:8
1 John 5:11-15, Romans 10:9

ND 10/5/21

Why are we here? Is there any purpose?

The Bible says we were created with a purpose.

Revelation 4:11 ESV / 5 helpful votes

"Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

Isaiah 43:7 ESV / 5 helpful votes

Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV / 4 helpful votes

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

1 Peter 2:9 ESV / 3 helpful votes

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Colossians 1:16 ESV / 3 helpful votes

For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV / 3 helpful votes

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

John 10:10 ESV / 3 helpful votes

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

Matthew 28:19 ESV / 3 helpful votes

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Jeremiah 29:11 ESV / 3 helpful votes

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. 

What is a Christian worldview?

Question: "What is a Christian worldview?"

Answer: A "worldview" refers to a comprehensive conception of the world from a specific standpoint. A "Christian worldview," then, is a comprehensive conception of the world from a Christian standpoint. An individual's worldview is his "big picture," a harmony of all his beliefs about the world. It is his way of understanding reality. One's worldview is the basis for making daily decisions and is therefore extremely important.

An apple sitting on a table is seen by several people. A botanist looking at the apple classifies it. An artist sees a still-life and draws it. A grocer sees an asset and inventories it. A child sees lunch and eats it. How we look at any situation is influenced by how we look at the world at large. Every worldview, Christian and non-Christian, deals with at least these three questions:

- 1) Where did we come from? (and why are we here?)
- 2) What is wrong with the world?
- 3) How can we fix it?

A prevalent worldview today is naturalism, which answers the three questions like this: 1) We are the product of random acts of nature with no real purpose. 2) We do not respect nature as we should. 3) We can save the world through ecology and conservation. A naturalistic worldview generates many related philosophies such as moral relativism, existentialism, pragmatism, and utopianism.

A Christian worldview, on the other hand, answers the three questions biblically: 1) We are God's creation, designed to govern the world and fellowship with Him (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:15). 2) We sinned against God and subjected the whole world to a curse (Genesis 3). 3) God Himself has redeemed the world through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ (Genesis 3:15; Luke 19:10), and will one day restore creation to its former perfect state (Isaiah 65:17-25). A Christian worldview leads us to believe in moral absolutes, miracles, human dignity, and the possibility of redemption.

It is important to remember that a worldview is comprehensive. It affects every area of life, from money to morality, from politics to art. True Christianity is more than a set of ideas to use at church. Christianity as taught in the Bible is itself a worldview. The Bible never distinguishes between a "religious" and a "secular" life; the Christian life is the only life there is. Jesus proclaimed Himself "the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6) and, in doing so, became our worldview.

6 ways to confront the rejection of truth

It is an understatement to say that we live in a world where truth is struggling. Some speak in ways that would have been foreign to previous generations when truth corresponded to reality. We now speak of "your truth" or "my truth." To even assert the notion of absolute, objective truth is viewed as arrogant, narrow-minded, even bigoted. What are we to make of this?

We know that Romans 1:18 notes that because of sin we suppress the truth. We press it down, shove it out of our minds, reject its claims on our lives. It would be easy to list the multiple ways we suppress the truth. But why do we suppress the truth? Three observations as to why we suppress the truth are followed by six ways we can confront this suppression of truth.

First, we suppress the truth because in our sin we do not like revelation. God has revealed Himself in creation, in the written Word, and in Jesus Christ. If revelation reveals that God exists, then this means that truth is objective, eternal and outside of me. Further, it means that I do not get to determine what is right or wrong because those determinations come from outside of me – from God. I suppress truth because revelation prohibits me from playing God.

Second, we suppress the truth because in our sin we do not like what it says about reality. If God has revealed Himself in creation, in the written Word, and in Jesus Christ then it is God who has the authority to describe reality. I do not get to define what is right or wrong, what is real or not real, what is allowed and not allowed. For example, I may think I have the right to self-identify as I please, but in reality, it is God who has the authority to determine the nature of the self. I suppress the truth because it prohibits me from having the right to do and say as I please.

Third, we suppress the truth because in our sin we do not want to be responsible. That is, if God has revealed Himself and the nature of reality, then this means I am accountable to align my thoughts and feelings with that revelation, my reality with His reality. In other words, I suppress the truth because I do not want to be accountable to the truth of God, to the God of truth.

First, we must know the truth ourselves. We know the truth by embracing the revelation of God in creation, the written Word, and in Jesus Christ. Second, we must live truth. To embrace truth as a purely intellectual exercise and not live out that truth is the height of hypocrisy. Third, we must apply the truth to every aspect of our lives. Knowing, living and applying the truth to our own lives must come first before we confront a truth-less world.

Fourth, as we live out the truth in our own lives, we then speak the truth and we do so in love. To know the truth and remain quiet is sin. But we do not speak arrogantly, rather, we speak humbly because truth is not self-derived but revealed. Fifth, we stand firm in the truth. Knowing, living, applying and speaking the truth is not easy. We must remain steadfast in our embrace of God's revealed truth. Finally, we must trust God. While we present the truth to a truth-less world it is God alone who gives the spiritual breakthrough to the sinner – the one who suppresses truth – to see and embrace the truth (2 Corinthians 4:1-5).

And there is good news. Truth never changes because God never changes. Truth stands like a castle among the chaos and ruins of a culture adrift in a sea of lies. Our affirmation or rejection of the God of truth does not impact truth – truth is truth and it stands firm. This means that we can lean into, stand on, proclaim and affirm God's revelation of Himself in creation, in the written Word, and in Jesus Christ. In the end, truth wins because God in Christ wins.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – Kevin Shrum is pastor of Inglewood Baptist Church in Nashville.)

Romans 1.
sin suppresses truth

"Knowing, living and applying the truth to our own lives must come first before we confront a truth-less world."

Kevin Shrum

ND 7/19/22

A recent nationwide survey completed by the Barna Research Group determined that only 4 percent of Americans had a “biblical” worldview. When George Barna, who has researched cultural trends and the Christian Church since 1984, looked at the “born- again” believers in America, the results were a dismal 9 percent.

Barna’s survey also connected an individual’s worldview with his or her moral beliefs and actions. Barna says, “Although most people own a Bible and know some of its content, our research found that most Americans have little idea how to integrate core biblical principles to form a unified and meaningful response to the challenges and opportunities of life.”

1. *What’s a worldview?*

A worldview is the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world. “[It’s] any ideology, philosophy, theology, movement or religion that provides an overarching approach to understanding God, the world and man’s relations to God and the world,” says David Noebel, author of *Understanding the Times*.

For example, a 2-year-old believes he’s the center of his world, a secular humanist believes that the material world is all that exists, and a Buddhist believes he can be liberated from suffering by self-purification.

Someone with a biblical worldview believes his primary reason for existence is to love and serve God.

Whether conscious or subconscious, every person has some type of worldview. A personal worldview is a combination of all you believe to be true, and what you believe becomes the driving force behind every emotion, decision and action. Therefore, it affects your response to every area of life: from philosophy to science, theology and anthropology to economics, law, politics, art and social order — everything.

For example, let’s suppose you have bought the idea that beauty is in the eye of the beholder (secular relative truth) as opposed to beauty as defined by God’s purity and creativity (absolute truth). Then any art piece, no matter how vulgar or abstract, would be considered “art,” a creation of beauty.

2. *What’s a biblical worldview?*

A biblical worldview is based on the infallible Word of God. When you believe the Bible is entirely true, then you allow it to be the foundation of everything you say and do. That means, for instance, you take seriously the mandate in Romans 13 to honor the governing authorities by researching the candidates and issues, making voting a priority.

Do you have a biblical worldview? Answer the following questions, based on claims found in the Bible and which George Barna used in his survey:

- Do absolute moral truths exist?
- Is absolute truth defined by the Bible?
- Did Jesus Christ live a sinless life?
- Is God the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe, and does He still rule it today?
- Is salvation a gift from God that cannot be earned?
- Is Satan real?
- Does a Christian have a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people?
- Is the Bible accurate in all of its teachings?

Did you answer yes to these? Only 9 percent of “born- again” believers did. But what’s more important than your yes to these questions is whether your life shows it. Granted, we are all sinners and fall short, but most of our gut reactions will reflect what we deep-down, honest-to-goodness believe to be real and true.

3. *How does a biblical worldview get diluted?*

Here is the big problem. Nonbiblical worldview ideas don’t just sit in a book somewhere waiting for people to examine them. They bombard us constantly from television, film, music, newspapers, magazines, books and academia.

HUMANISTIC WORLDVIEW

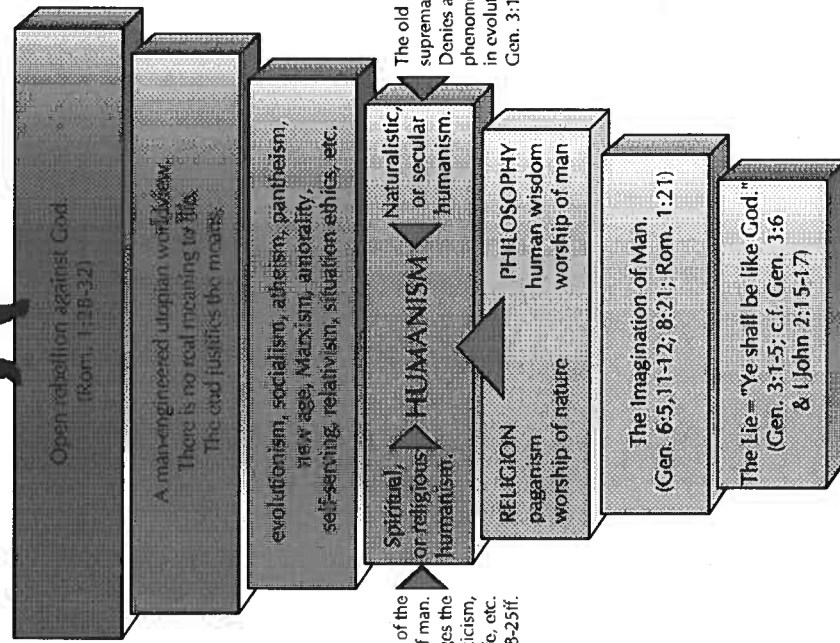
An unsound structure built on an unstable foundation
(A false view that is satanically influenced. Eph. 2:2-3)

MAN IS SUPREME



Willfully
Autonomous

Self-Centered
Desires



The old lie of the
godhead of man.
Acknowledges the
supernatural, mysticism,
spiritualism, alien life, etc.
Gen. 3:1-5; Rom. 1:18-25ff.

The old lie of the
supremacy of man.
Denies any supernatural
phenomenon, but trusts
in evolution, and naturalism.
Gen. 3:1-5; Rom. 1:18-25ff.

A faulty foundation that is sure to fail

BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

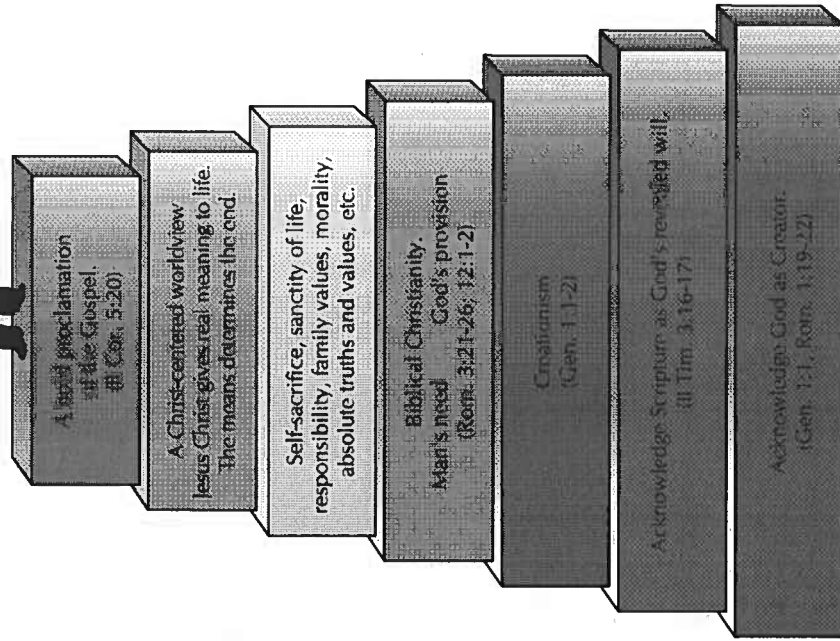
A solid structure built on a firm foundation
(A true view based on God's inspired Word. II Tim. 3:16-17)

CHRIST IS SUPREME



Submissive
to God's Will

Desires to
Serve Others



A sure foundation that cannot fail

Christian, Jew , Muslim , Buddhist , Atheist, Hindu ^(om), Paganism Major Worldviews today

1. What's a worldview?

by: Del Taggart, Focus on the family, 2023

A worldview is the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world. "[It's] any ideology, philosophy, theology, movement or religion that provides an overarching approach to understanding God, the world and man's relations to God and the world," says David Noebel, author of *Understanding the Times*.

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Here is the big problem. Nonbiblical worldview ideas don't just sit in a book somewhere waiting for people to examine them. They bombard us constantly from television, film, music, newspapers, magazines, books and academia.

Because we live in a selfish, fallen world, these ideas seductively appeal to the desires of our flesh, and we often end up incorporating them into our personal worldview. Sadly, we often do this without even knowing it.

For example, most Christians would agree with 1 Thessalonians 4:3 and other Scriptures that command us to avoid sexual immorality, but how often do Christians fall into lust or premarital and extramarital sexual sin? Is it simply because they are weak when tempted, or did it begin much earlier, with the seductive lies from our sexualized society?

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