

A Biblical World View

1. How do you view your world? How do you interpret the evening news? I talked to a deputy sheriff this past week who told me that while he was still in training and on one of his first crime scenes there was a drunk driving accident where the passenger was cut in two. The highway patrol was so upset he grabbed the drunk and started shouting, “Look what you did to your friend” “Look at what you did to your friend.” Was this just a terrible accident? Was this just bad luck? Or is God involved and going to accomplish His will out of this horrible sin?

2. How do you view your life? What is your purpose for living? What do you live for? How do you view your difficult circumstance you are presently in? How do you view the problem people in your life?

3. How do you determine what is right or wrong? What is the basis for your decision making? What will happen to you at death?

Your view of these events, people, circumstances, problems, your purpose, right and wrong, and your future is your world view. Your world view is the prescription glasses or contacts through which you see all things.

1. Your World View can be Secular (Atheism, Pantheism, Postmodernism are secular or non-biblical world views)

There is no supernatural involvement in my life. My life is in my hands or fate. World events are mere tragedies. I have no real reason for living that is eternally significant. I am on my own solving the difficult circumstances or people in my life. My existence ends at death.

Where does a person get this secular view? From secular sources: Secular TV, movies, music, secular education, literature, novels, etc. This is where it gets tricky. We are in the world but not of the world. Paul read secular Greek poets (Acts 17) and attended or at least knew of secular Greek sporting events (1 Corinthians 9) and wrote about in Scripture. But Paul did live for these events. Paul did not idolize these events.

2. Your World View can be Biblical (Supernaturalism as seen in Christianity)

There is a supernatural, personal God who loves me and is intimately involved in my life. World events are being directed by God to His ultimate end time goal as predicted in Bible prophecy. I have the greatest purpose for living: to glorify and bring my God pleasure. God has promised to help me and sustain me in my difficult circumstances and with my problem

people. God's Word helps me decide what is right and wrong and do what is right. My future is in God's hands.

You get this Biblical World View from spending time in the Bible.

1. Believers Can Live With a Secular World View

Jesus provides a real flesh and blood example of this anomaly in Luke 24. This event happened probably on the afternoon of His resurrection. He joins two disciples who are leaving Jerusalem on foot for a 7 mile walk to Emmaus. They are disappointed that Jesus was put to death by religious leaders.

Their world view is secular even though they are believers. In verse 15, they are reasoning and interpreting the events of the first Easter. But they are sad. Their world view is not Biblical. Their world view prevents them from seeing God when they looking straight at Him in the face of His Son. Their world view rejected the supernatural resurrection as expressed in their despondent words in verses 19-24.

Believers with a secular world view see circumstances but not God, time but not eternity, and people but not souls.

2. Jesus Rebukes and Fixes Believers With a Secular World View

Jesus rebukes their secular view of the supernatural events of the first Easter in 24:25-26. Jesus changes their world view by surveying the entire Scriptures in what had to be the greatest Bible conference ever in 24:27. Jesus surveyed the 39 books of the OT in one sermon. This was not a verse by verse exposition of 39 OT books or 951 chapters. This was a survey of the major doctrines of the Christian faith, even more specifically the doctrine of Christ as heard in the words "the things concerning Himself," which enable us to view the world from a Biblical perspective. There were at least three major doctrines covered in this sermon.

1. Creation was a supernatural act of God.

This Biblical doctrine equips us to answers the big questions: "Where did this world come from?" "Where did I come from?" "Why was I born?" "Why am I here?" "What is my purpose in life?"

The secular world view, Atheism, says a freak accident in nature caused everything: A big bang. "An original and unimaginably condensed particle of all matter/energy blew up and in time produced the universe? (D. A. Carson. *The Gagging of God*. page 199).

The Biblical world view, Creationism, believes God created the universe out of nothing in

six 24 hour days. He created the first man in His image. Therefore only humans are capable of fellowshiping with God.

According to John 1:1-3 God used Jesus to create the universe. I'm sure Jesus mentioned truth this in His seven mile Bible conference.

We are God-like or capable of having a relationship with God. We are not hairless apes. We are also accountable for this responsibility.

David in Psalm 139:13-14 praises God for creating him in his mother's womb. We have to believe that God made us the way we are for a reason: Do you praise Him with your lips and life. We are not freak accidents of fate. You might say, "But my parents did not plan me." "God did!"

2. The Fall of Man was rebellion against God.

Creation answers questions like, "Where did this planet come from?" "Where did I come from?" "Why am I here?" "What is my purpose for existence?"

The Biblical doctrine of ***the Fall*** helps us answers some more big questions: "Why do I have difficult circumstances?" "Why are people so mean?" "Why am I so mean?"

God had created the planet and man in six 24 hours days and said, "It is very good." The earth and the environment were perfect. Adam and Eve literally lived in a paradise. Adam and Eve were as morally and totally innocent as a newborn baby.

What happened? The environment is now deadly. People are wicked and selfish. Some lady from Mt Airy counterfeited our checks and wiped out our checking account before Christmas. She did this selfish act because of the Fall.

The Fall of man happened. Adam and Eve rebelled against God's one rule in Genesis 3. God's one rule was stated clearly in Genesis 2:16-17: You must choose to love me more than yourself. If you choose to love yourself more than me, you will die.

Paul interprets the impact of this sin on each of us here today in Romans 5:12. We are born rebels and that is the reason people are selfish and mean.

Man rebelled and God was offended as seen in the Flood in Genesis 6:5-7.

The history of man is the repeated history of rebellion against his holy Creator. God selected one nation (Israel) out of all the rebellious nations to bless the other nations. That nation soon rebels against the goodness of God. He gives them His commandments and they construct a golden calf to worship.

In the NT Paul paints a bleak picture of us sinners. He describes us as “dead in trespasses and sins.” Not sick and with a little help we can make ourselves better. With a little antibiotic of religion I can heal myself. No, we don’t have a temporary sin virus. We are dead, which will require a supernatural resurrection.

God is still offended at sinful, rebellious sinners. He is going to judge this planet again not with a universal flood but with a worldwide fire. Peter predicts (2 Peter 3) that this planet will be a great ball of fire in the future when God once again pours out His wrath on a generation of rebels.

3. The Cross is our only hope.

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The Biblical doctrine of ***the Fall*** helps us answer some more big questions: “Why do I have difficult circumstances?” “Why are people so mean?” “Why am I so mean?”

The Biblical doctrine of ***the Cross*** answers the final big questions: “How can I fix my messed up life?” “How can I enjoy real meaning in life?” “I have lots of things and possessions but they don’t fill my deepest longings.” “How can I get rid of this guilt?” “How can I overcome my sins?”

All through human history, man has sinned as seen in Genesis 3 and all through human history, God has judged sin as when God expelled Adam and Eve from the Garden of Eden. All through human history, God has provided a solution. Jesus had to have related the first substitutionary sacrifice when God covered Adam and Eve’s nakedness with the skin of an animal whose innocent blood was shed for their sin.

All of those blood sacrifices that God ordained and instituted in the OT pointed to the Lamb of God, Jesus, who died in our place on the cross in order to take away the sin of the world.

What is the solution to my sin problem?

1) ***Not reform or self helps or breaking bad habits.*** I grew up in church and started drinking to prove to my church friends I was not a goodie two shoes. But then I realized there was no happiness in this sinful addiction. I tried to reform. I still hung out with the wrong crowd. But I tried to hide my emptiness. When the beer can was passed to me I would put the can of beer to my lips but not drink and pass it to next person.

2) ***Not religion.*** I had religion. I went to Sunday school, youth group, and church.

3) *A Relationship* with the person who loved me and gave Himself for me.

3. The Result of God's Word in Believer's Lives

The result of Jesus surveying the entire OT was the opening of the believers' eyes in 24:28-35.

Before they did not recognize Jesus in their circumstances and now they do. Before they were sad, now they are excited. Before they disbelieved the Word of God and now they believe that Jesus is risen. Before they were negative and critical now they rush out to tell others the good news. Their world view changed from secular to Biblical through the Word of God preached to them. God's Word is still quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword to change the way think, act, and react. As Paul said to Timothy, "Give attendance to the reading, doctrine and exhortation of God's Word" and experience a changed life.