

THE BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

INTRO:

Have you ever listened to someone state his or her views on some ethical, political, moral, social or religious issue and wonder, "Where in the world is he (or she) coming from? Why do people think the way they do?"

A nationwide survey by the Barna Research Group revealed that only 4% of Americans have a "biblical" worldview. When the views of only those who claimed to be born-again believers were considered, the results rose to only 9%.

But what are we talking about here? What's a "worldview"? What's a "biblical" worldview?

A worldview is the framework of beliefs or presuppositions by which we view our lives, society, and the world around us.

It's a combination of ideology, philosophy, and theology that forms the basis of how we live and deal with the issues of life.

A "biblical" worldview is one that is based on the belief that the Bible is the Word of God and that it should be the foundation of how life and the world should be viewed.

I have a "biblical" worldview. Do you? When George Barna did his survey, he asked people the following questions:

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

These are the questions that only 9% of those who claimed to be born-again believers said "Yes" to.

If you said "Yes" to all of them, then you probably have a biblical worldview, but a more important question is: Does your life *show* that you believe these things? Do you live your life by these truths?

I want to say, first of all, today that..

A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW IS REVEALED BY OUR VIEW OF HISTORY.

In *The New Answers*, Book 2, Chapter 1, "What Is a Biblical Worldview," Stacia McKeever and Ken Ham point out the "7 Cs of History" from the Bible:

1. "C" number one is CREATION.

God created the heavens, the earth, and all that is in them in six normal-length days around 6,000 years ago. The two human creations and all the animals were vegetarians. Life was perfect, and not yet affected by the Curse of sin. Death, violence, disease, sickness, pain, and fear had no part.

God created living things to reproduce "after their kind," and we still observe this today. While He provided for variation within "kinds," one "kind" has never changed into another "kind."

Since "life begets life" (inanimate molecules do not evolve into living things), then "in the beginning" there was more than just "matter." There was "a living God."

2. "C" number two is CORRUPTION.

After God completed His perfect creation, He gave Adam and Eve one rule – that they could eat of any tree in the Garden except the one in the middle of the Garden, the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil – and then allowed them to be free to choose for themselves: obedience or disobedience.

They believed Satan's lie and chose to disobey, so they were evicted from the Garden where they had access to the Tree of Life. God sacrificed animals to make them clothing to cover their nakedness, and allowed the curse of sin to affect their lives with pain, sickness, sorrow, and death. But God promised to one day send a Redeemer who would buy His people back from the curse of sin.

3. "C" number three is CATASTROPHE.

As the descendants of Adam and Eve married and filled the earth with offspring, they became very wicked. Their wickedness got so bad that God decided to flood the earth and destroy all the people except Noah and his family and all the animals except those Noah was able to get aboard the ark.

Evidence abounds all over the earth today in testimony of such a world-wide flood.

4. "C" number four is CONFUSION.

After the flood, Noah and his family and the animals aboard the ark began to fill the earth with offspring, but mankind didn't scatter as God had commanded. Instead, they decided to build a tower reaching into the heavens that would keep them together. So God "confused" their language – He caused them to speak different languages, forcing them to scatter over the earth.

Noah's three sons and their wives became the beginnings of three large people groups, each of them settling in different parts of the earth.

5. "C" number five is CHRIST.

God kept His promise made 4,000 years prior and sent His Son in human form into the world to live a sinless life and die to atone for the sins of all mankind. God's plan began with the animals that were sacrificed to make clothing for Adam and Eve, continued with the animal sacrifices that "covered" the people's sins, and culminated with the sacrifice of Jesus, who is called "the perfect Lamb of God."

6. "C" number six is CROSS.

Jesus is called "the Last Adam" in 1 Corinthians 15:45. While Adam disobeyed God's command and brought the curse of sin upon the world, Jesus obeyed God and died to end the curse.

However, God raised Jesus from the dead, which brings us to the final "C":

7. "C" number seven is CONSUMMATION.

For 2,000 years, now, God has given mankind a way to avoid the curse of sin and death: accept His Son Jesus as Lord and Savior. Jesus said, "***I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me***" (John 14:15).

But while the door is open now, there will come a time when the opportunity to be saved will no longer be available. Jesus will come, believers will meet Him in the air and go to heaven with Him, and unbelievers will be condemned and lost forever.

If you *do not*, or for some reason *cannot*, accept this biblical history, then there's no way you can have a biblical worldview. To have a biblical worldview means to see things as God sees them, and that is revealed in Scripture.

Second, I want to point out that...

A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW WILL AFFECT YOUR VIEWS ON POLITICAL, ETHICAL, MORAL, SOCIAL, AND RELIGIOUS ISSUES.

If you truly have a "biblical" worldview – if you see the world and the issues of life as God sees them – your convictions regarding these things are going to line up with your Christian faith. Or, as someone has said, "Worldview is like an invisible pair of eyeglasses you put on to help you see reality clearly. If you choose the right pair of glasses, you can see everything vividly and can behave in sync with the real world. But if you choose the wrong pair of glasses, you may find yourself in a worse plight than the blind man – thinking you see clearly when in reality your vision is severely distorted" (Jeff Baldwin, Worldview Academy). Choosing the right pair of glasses means understanding and embracing the *biblical* worldview.

As an adult, whether you realize it or not, you have already adopted a worldview. If it is a biblical one, then you see the world and the issues of life through God's eyes. You form your convictions regarding ethical issues and base your moral convictions on the teachings of the Scriptures. You decide what you believe about social issues on the basis of Scriptural principles. You certainly decide religious issues on Scriptural teachings, but you even deal with political and ethical issues with biblical principles in mind. In other words, our beliefs or opinions on the issues of life, whether religious, ethical, moral, social, or political, must be consistent with biblical principles.

Often, our stand on particular issues of life reveals that our worldview is *not* biblical.

For example, if you buy into the evolutionary theory regarding the origin of life, you really don't have a biblical worldview.

If you believe that abortion is a "women's rights" issue, rather than a "right to life" issue, then you don't have a biblical worldview.

If you believe that just about all religions worship the same God, and that there are many different paths or ways to God, you do not have a biblical worldview.

If you believe that heaven is for all those who are "good enough to get in," then you do not have a biblical worldview.

If you believe that marriage can be other than the union of one man and one woman, then you do not have a biblical worldview.

Because we live in a sinfully-flawed society, we are constantly bombarded with the seductive ideas that appeal to the desires of our flesh. We often incorporate them and their worldly logic, both consciously and unconsciously, into our thinking, and they become a part of our worldview.

If we don't learn the truth of God, believe it, and live according to it, then we are susceptible to what the media and other sources bend our ears about and fill our minds with, which is the secularized view of things like history, law, politics, science, God, and humanity. As Paul says in Colossians 2:8, we are then taken "***captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.***"

In Romans 12:2 Paul urges us: "***Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.***" In other words, replace your worldly thoughts with godly thoughts; see the world through God's eyes.

CONCLUSION:

One of the greatest tragedies in American history occurred when the part of the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution that pertains

to freedom of religion was interpreted to mean and became generally accepted as "the separation of church and state."

Here's what it says: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." In other words, "Congress" (that's the House of Representatives and the Senate that meets in Washington, D.C.) is not to designate or establish any particular belief system as official, nor is it to forbid by law any particular belief system.

At the time of the adoption of this Amendment, one of a group of Amendments called "The Bill of Rights," some of the states already had "official state churches." There was no intention on the part of those who authored this Amendment to prevent the states from having state churches. The only prohibition was that of prohibiting the *Federal Government* from establishing an official *Federal Church*.

However, because there were justices on the U.S. Supreme Court who did not have a biblical worldview at the time the intention of this Amendment was challenged, we now have this skewed "interpretation" that has resulted in efforts to evict God and the Bible from everywhere except our homes, our churches, and our hearts. By the declaration of a majority of Supreme Court Justices, the practices of our historic congresses, our many past presidents, and even past Supreme Courts are now seen as unconstitutional and illegal! All the biblical inscriptions on our historic buildings in Washington, D.C. (and there are many), all the references to God on our coins and currency, all the crosses in Arlington Cemetery and in dozens of other cemeteries for veterans, and the words "under God" in our Pledge of Allegiance are unconstitutional and illegal! You say, "But, Larry, we still see some of these things. They haven't done away with all of these things." But mark my words, brethren, the time is coming, if the trend is not changed, when these things WILL be gone! Few of our leaders have a biblical worldview, and a nonbiblical worldview can lead nowhere else!