

Hidden Worldviews

Why Do You Believe What You Believe?

Sunday, November 21, 2010

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Message Truth:

Many of the problems facing today's church are a result of the hidden worldviews which predominate much of our thinking. We have allowed our culture's traditions and progress to blur our interpretation of Scripture. In the early years of the Christian movement, individuals of means sold their earthly possessions and gave the proceeds to the poor as they left their homes and went to preach the gospel all across the known world at great personal cost. What prevents us from doing so today? Has the urgency of our cause lessened in these 2,000 years? No! What has changed, however, is that today we have allowed hidden worldviews to hinder our obedience to the Great Commission.

Series Text:

⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.

¹¹ When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. ¹² Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. 1 Corinthians 13:9–12

Why do we not see clearly? What obstructs our view? Satan opposes our adoption of a Gospel-centered worldview.

- **Worldview is the level of our rational existence where we understand and accept what is true and valuable.**

"People do what is important to them," and their worldview is how they determine what is important.

- **Music is the best indicator of a person's worldview.**
- **Worldview is instrumental in our conversion.**
- **Discipleship is the process of our pre-conversion worldview being changed into the gospel's worldview.**
- **Failure to completely change our worldview is a sign of spiritual immaturity.**
- **Acceptance of "hidden worldviews" makes Christians spiritually sick and ineffective.**

² . . . be transformed by the **renewing of your mind.**

Romans 12:2b

²³ . . . **be made new in the attitude of your minds;**

Ephesians 4:23

¹⁰ . . . **put on the new self, which is being renewed in**

knowledge in the image of its Creator. Colossians 3:10

⁷ **For as he thinks within himself, so he is.**

Proverbs 23:7a (NASB)

Consumerism or Materialism

"I am what I own"

Individualism

"It's all about me"

Nationalism

"My nation, under God"

Moral Relativism

"It's all relative"

Scientific Naturalism

"Only matter matters"

The New Age

"Are we gods or are we God's?"

Postmodern Tribalism

"My tribe/my worldview"

A Christian Worldview

"I am second; Jesus is first"

The Gospel story begins in the Garden of Eden and proceeds into our present and to eternity. The goal of the Gospel is to know God and in so doing to be changed. There are five acts of the Gospel story:

Act 1. C _____

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. Genesis 1:1–2

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. Genesis 1:27

Act 2. F _____

¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat of it you will surely die.” Genesis 2:16–17

¹ . . . He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” . . . ⁴ You will not surely die, the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil. Genesis 3:1b,4-5

Act 3. C _____

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, “Leave your country, your people and your father’s household and go to the land I will show you. ² I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever

curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.” Genesis 12:1–3

Act 4. I _____

⁴ But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, Galatians 4:4

Act 5. R _____

⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— Ephesians 2:8

7 Generations Make Up Today’s Church

- **Lost generation** born between 1893-1900
- **Builders generation** born between 1901-24
- **Silent generation** born between 1925-45
- **Boomer generation** born between 1946-60
- **Busters or Generation X** born between 1961-82
- **Millennials** born between 1983-2001
- **Internet generation** born from 2001 to present

Steps to Ensure Yours Is A Gospel-Centered Worldview

1. Surrender your mind to the Lord at the beginning of each day.
2. Let the Holy Spirit renew your mind through the Word.
3. As you pray each day, ask God to give you that day a single mind, a submissive mind, a spiritual mind, a secure mind.
4. During the day, “mind your mind!”
5. Guard the gates of your mind.