

Hidden Worldviews

Why Do You Believe What You Believe?

Sunday, October 24, 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 color 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 allow the hidden worldviews of materialism, individualism, and moral relativism to hinder our obedience to the Great Commission. These hidden worldviews act as a prism through which we see and understand our purpose for living on this planet.

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? There are at least two reasons:

1. We are e_____.
2. Satan oppresses the adoption of a G_____ c_____ worldview.

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

The statement "people do what they want to do" is true.

¹ Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. ² Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the **renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:1–2

²⁰ You, however, did not come to know Christ that way.

²¹ Surely you heard of him and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to **be made new in the attitude of your minds**; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. Ephesians 4:20–24

⁵ **Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature** (worldview): sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. ⁸ But now you must rid

yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have **put on the new self** (worldview), **which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator** (a Gospel centered worldview). ¹¹ Here (with a Gospel centered worldview) there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. Colossians 3:5–11

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise (a Gospel centered worldview), **think about these things**. ⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—**practice these things** (a Gospel centered worldview), and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:8–9 (ESV)

⁷ **For as he thinks within himself, so he is.** He says to you, “Eat and drink!” But his heart is not with you. Proverbs 23:7 (NASB)

- **M_____ is the best i_____ of a person’s worldview.**
- **Worldview is instrumental in our c_____.**
- **D_____ is the process of our pre-conversion worldview being changed into the gospel’s worldview.**

A changed worldview is evidence of a maturing Christian faith.

- **Failure to completely change our worldview is a sign of spiritual i_____.**

- **Acceptance of “hidden worldviews” makes Christians spiritually s_____ and i_____.**

Evangelism Defined

- E-1** refers to monocultural evangelism.
- E-2** cross-cultural evangelism, crossing a less radical cultural distance.
- E-3** cross-cultural evangelism, crossing a more radical cultural distance than E-2.

7 Generations Making Up Today’s Church

- Lost Generation** those born from 1893-1900
- Builders Generation** those born from 1901-1924
- Silent Generation** those born between 1925-1945
- Boomer Generation** those born between 1946-1960
- Busters Generation or Generation X** those born 1961-1981
- Millennial Generation** those born between 1983-2001
- Internet Generation** those born from 2001-present

Steps to Ensure Yours Is A Gospel-Centered Worldview

1. Surrender your m_____ to the Lord at the b_____ of each day.
2. Let the Holy Spirit r_____ your mind through the W_____.
3. As you pray each day, ask God to give you that day a s_____ mind, a s_____ mind, a s_____ mind, a s_____ mind.
4. During the day, “m_____ your mind!”
5. Guard the g_____ of your mind.

“I am convinced that we as Christ followers in American churches have embraced values and ideas that are not only unbiblical but that actually contradict the gospel we claim to believe.”