

WHAT IS YOUR WORLDVIEW?

Romans 12: 2

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WORLDVIEW DEFINED

Your worldview (vision of life) determines how you will think, respond and act in any given circumstance. Your worldview is a framework of set and fundamental beliefs through which you view the world around you. It is the integrative and interpretative framework by which you judge the events of life, people, etc. Your doings in life, decisions, responses are based and founded on your worldview. It is the presuppositions, your assumptions about what is right and what is wrong in life.

Your worldview is a commitment. Your commitment to what you believe is right, ethically, morally, socially, spiritually, etc. It is the standard by which reality is managed and pursued. It is the glasses through which you look at the world. You are not aware of the lens, but it is there.

It is a commitment, a fundamental orientation of the heart, which tells a story, whether true or not.

So, make sure it is right?

For Christians it is important to have a Biblical worldview. Absolute truth by which we are guided.

Fixed values, moral, ethical. Look at life and approach life from a God (Jesus) centered perspective.

WHAT SHAPES YOUR WORLDVIEW?

Individual level

- Your parent's life perspective.
- Close family
- Friends
- School and education. Sometimes we are not so much taught than trained to think in a specific way.
- Your church denomination / lack of it
- Media
- Science - evolution theory, big bang, man evolved from a fish, ape.
- Philosophy
- Events in your life, e.g. hurt in relationship and close your heart.

Business someone cheated, stole and don't trust again.

Traumatic experiences

National level

- Government policy, domestic and foreign (e.g. religious impositions)
- Laws & legal regulations (what is illegal and what not, e.g. marijuana - but what does Bible say)
- International media
- Foreign relations
- General philosophy inherited by those who came before us. Other cultures with influence.

BIBLICAL WORDVIEW

What does it mean to have a basic Biblical worldview?

You believe in the fundamental truths recorded in the Bible, whether it makes intellectually sense, whether understandable, whether acceptable in society.

To have a basic Biblical worldview means that you believe the following:

- Believing that absolute moral truth exists;
- the Bible is totally accurate in all of the principles it teaches;
- Satan is considered to be a real being or force, not merely symbolic;
- a person cannot earn their way into Heaven by trying to be good or do good works;
- Jesus Christ lived a sinless life on earth; and God is the all-knowing, all-powerful creator of the world who still rules the universe today.

The Barna Group in the USA conducted research to determine what the average American's Biblical worldview is. In the research, anyone who held all of those beliefs was said to have a biblical worldview

Research done by the Barna Group (statistical research) reported the following results for the USA.

Scripture:

Now we see things imperfectly as in a poor mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God knows me now. (1 Cor 13:12 NLT)

If I accept the reality of the supernatural as part of my world view, then I will allow the possibility of angels, demons, miracles etc. However, the person who rejects the whole idea of the supernatural will not make any allowance for such possibilities. Everything will have a natural/rational explanation.

My world view and your world view determines the answer to this vital question, "*Who or what is the basis and authority for what I believe and how I behave?*"

Col 3:1 ... seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated on the right hand of God.

Pro 23:7 "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he..."

Eph 4:23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, NASB

Eph 4:23 to be made new in the attitude of your minds; NIV

Rom 12:2 don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect. NLT

... do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind.

Conformed: (SUSCHEMATIZO) Union, Fashion alike, conform to the same pattern

Transformed: METAMORPHOO" and is the same word that we get our word "metamorphosis" from. It is describing a complete change, like that of a caterpillar changing into a butterfly. This word is also the same word that was used to describe Jesus' transformation when His face shone and His garments became white as the light (Mt 17:2).

Spend time in God's Word to develop your Biblical worldview.