

# BUILDING A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

**Romans 12:1–2** *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

## **CHRISTIANS ARE TO LIVE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR GOD**

- *Therefore* – Based on all that we have heard and know about God
- *Mercies of God* – God's saving grace
- *Present your bodies* – Actively giving all that you are to God
  - *Living Sacrifice* – OT imagery
  - *Holy and Acceptable* – Set apart to please God alone
  - *Reasonable Service* – Spiritual Worship (intelligent worship)

## **CHRISTIANS ARE TO RESIST THE \_\_\_\_\_ OF THIS AGE AND DO THE WILL OF GOD**

- *Do not be conformed* - This is a command
- *World* – “this present age”
- *Conformed* – forced into a scheme
- *Transformed* – Metamorphosis/inward renewal
- *Renewing of your mind* – cultivating a mindset that reflects the will of God
- *That ye may be prove* – the pressure from the world to conform
- Restated - “Do not let the age in which you live force you into its scheme of thinking and behaving.”

## **I. WHAT HAS BEEN THE HISTORICAL PROGRESSION OF THE CULTURE'S WORLDVIEW? (OBSERVE THE CHANGE)**

- A. The worldview of the \_\_\_\_\_ Era (Pre-1600's)
  1. Core belief: God is there and knows everything.
  2. All of human knowledge depends on God revealing that knowledge to us.
  3. God reveals Himself through Scripture, His Spirit, the natural world, or the church.
- B. The worldview of \_\_\_\_\_ (1600's – Mid 1900's)
  1. In the 1600's, the French thinker René Descartes coined the phrase “I think, therefore I am.”
    - a) Foundation – “I think” – rationalism
    - b) Truth – “I am” – observable existence
  2. Modernism assumed that:
    - a) Reason was the way to truth.
    - b) A controlled method based on the right foundation could turn out consistent truths.
    - c) The culture began to believe that there was no reality outside of what could be observed.
    - d) The world would attack Christianity by denying that there was anything spiritual and by asking “Is it true?”
- C. The worldview of \_\_\_\_\_ (1945 – present)
  1. Postmodern thought is a reaction to the “arrogance” and problems of modernism.
    - a) Truth Problem – “Truth absolute?” You can't have ahistorical rules of interpretation because we all have different items we bring to the text.
    - b) Meaning Problem – “Words literal?” You don't interpret the text. The text interprets us.

- c) Guilt Problem – “Guilt good?” The logical end of Sigmund Freud. “Bad for me? Says who?” What is bad you may be good for me.
- d) The Postmodern attacks Christianity by saying, “Is it real?”

## II. HOW DOES THE WORLDVIEW OF POSTMODERNISM AFFECT THE CULTURE OF TODAY?

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ – The belief that one's religion cannot be the sole and exclusive source of truth. The result is that two or more religions with mutually exclusive truth claims are equally valid. This posture often emphasizes religion's common aspects.
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ – This belief affirms that all truth is relative. This would mean that no system of truth is more valid than another one and that there is no objective standard of truth. It would, naturally, deny that there is a God of absolute truth.
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ – Narcissistic preoccupation with human kind apart from God. Humanism looks at man as the center of everything. The first expression was Satan to Eve, “*ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*”
- D. \_\_\_\_\_ – The minimizing of the religious.
  - 1. Religion is acceptable as long as it does not impact others.
  - 2. Evangelizing is bigoted and proud. “Are you saying that your understanding is better than mine?”
- E. \_\_\_\_\_ – The inability or the unwillingness to look at life in a thoughtful way. Neil postman wrote a book entitled *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. The society tries to find meaning in: Inebriation, Sexuality, Power, Luxury, Spirituality, Diversion and Sports.
- F. \_\_\_\_\_
  - 1. Many have never even held a Bible.
  - 2. Refusal to have anything to do with formal religion.
  - 3. Terms that you are using don't mean anything to the one that you are communicating with. (God, Spirit, Faith)

## III. WHAT IS A CHRISTIAN TO DO TO BUILD A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW?

- A. Renew your \_\_\_\_\_ of God - Luke 10:27
  - 1. Restore your understanding of who God is and what has He done –
  - 2. Be “*Word*” filled – Allow the truths of the Word to change your life
- B. Renew your Spirit of \_\_\_\_\_ - 2 Cor 7:9-11
  - 1. Take your sin more seriously because you are taking God more seriously.
  - 2. Connect your sin to the suffering of Christ on the Cross
  - 3. All of the Christian life is repentance
- C. Renew your \_\_\_\_\_ for the invisible - Hebrews 11:27
  - 1. We are so captured by the visual and the material that we fail to see “*Him who is invisible*”
  - 2. Vanity Fair – This world conspires against a relationship with God
- D. Renew your understanding of \_\_\_\_\_ -1 Tim 3:15
  - 1. Contrast the world's suffering of the disintegration of the family.
  - 2. The church is to be a model of “*household of God.*”
  - 3. This world longs for community – the Christian has this in Christ
- E. Renew your \_\_\_\_\_ -Spirit - Luke 22:27
  - 1. Imitate Jesus –
  - 2. This is where you can model the 2nd greatest commandment
  - 3. This is where you can answer the question, “Is this real?”

**\*Building a Biblical Worldview is not as difficult to understand, as it is to apply. Simply stated it is filling our mind with the Word and allowing us to think like Christ.**