

Worldly vs. Godly wisdom

I. Introduction-

A. The testing of our faith-

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing. Jam 1:2

As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." I Pet 1:14

Trials; Peirrasmos, proof of fidelity, integrity, virtue, constancy

Steadfast; *hypomonē*, a patient enduring, under trials holding fast to faith in Christ

Wine; the sweet juice of the grapes

Whine; the bitter juice of despair

B. Seeking God's wisdom-

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways. Jam 1:5

You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. Jam 4:4

Secular worldview; a presupposition that denies all evidence for the existence of God or for any supernatural influences on reality

Biblical worldview; a presupposition that recognizes the existence of God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit and of their supernatural influences that define all of reality

C. Following God's wisdom is the way of escape-

No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation **he will also provide the way of escape**, that you may be able to endure it. I Cor 10:13

Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few. "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will recognize them by their fruits.

Mat 7:13

2022 67% of people in the United States considered themselves Christians

3% held a Christian worldview

7% read the bible daily

II. God tells us the truth-

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. II Tim 3:16

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Ps 1:1

Inspired: breathed by the Spirit of God

Inerrant: free from error

Immutable: not capable or subject to change

Authoritative: proceeding from **authority**, **requiring submission**

A. The real conspiracy- not a theory-

Beware of false prophets that point people to the wide, easy path that most people follow- 98% of the people in our country

Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Eph 6:11

If our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. II Cor 4:3

67% of Americans identify as Christians

2% are Christ followers as defined by the bible

Awake and alive to the truth, John Cooper

Faithfull different, Regaining biblical clarity in a secular culture, Natasha Crain

B. Jesus is the truth-

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free. Jn 8:31

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. Jn 14:6

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. Jn 1:1

Abide; to remain, to be intimately connected

Word: a word of God, mandate of God

C. The devil is a liar and there is not truth in him-

Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies. Jn 8:43

The serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." Gen 3:1

IV. Winning the battle for the Truth and a Christian worldview-

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits to see whether they are from God**, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. I Jn 4:1

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. II Tim 4:3

A. Responsible intelligence-

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen. Rom 1:17

1. God's eternal power is clearly seen by what is made-

Answers in genesis –

<https://answersingenesis.org/>

Institute of creation research

<https://www.icr.org/>

Case for a creator

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajqH4y8GOMI>

2. His divine nature is clearly seen by what is made -

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. Jn 3:16

God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Rom 5:8

Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. Jn 14:9

He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God! Jn 20:27

"Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passion, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence." President John Adams

B. We are responsible to choosing the worldview we follow-

By this we know that we have come to know him if we keep his commandments. Whoever says "I know him" but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may know that we are in him: whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked. I Jn 2:3

"Why do you call me 'Lord, Lord,' and not do what I tell you? Lk 6:46

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