

## God is good July 27, 2025

### I. Introduction-

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Worldview; a comprehensive understanding of the world from a specific point of view (lens)

#### A. Give thanks to God because He is a good God-

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Psalms 136:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:1 & 6

Assurance; hypostasis put under, substructure, foundation, is firm

Conviction; *elegchos*, a proof, that by which a thing is proved or tested

Rewarder; *misthapodotēs*, rewarder, recompense,

Seek; *ekzēteō*, to seek out, i.e. investigate, scrutinize

#### B. God gives evidence when He ask for faith

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. Hebrews 1:3

Isaiah 46:9-10 Remember the things I have done in the past. For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me.<sup>10</sup> Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.

Assurance; hypostasis put under, substructure, foundation, is firm

Conviction; *elegchos*, a proof, that by which a thing is proved or tested

#### C. Define our terms – What is worldview of God?

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

Without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6

Transformed; *metamorphoō*, to change into another form, to transform, to transfigure

Good; *agathos*, good, pleasant, agreeable, joyful, happy, excellent

Acceptable; *euarestos*, well pleasing, acceptable

Perfect; *teleios*, wanting nothing necessary to completeness, perfect

#### Video by Greg Koukl that Compares two worldview

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M\\_cGquNbYww](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_cGquNbYww)

### II. God is good- all the time!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Psalms 136:1

We have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. I John 4:16

Love; *hesed*, demonstration of mercy, kindness, lovingkindness, goodness (248 times in the Old Testament)

Love; *agape* and *agapaō*, to love dearly, (259 in the New Testament)

#### A. God is love-

1. God love is a supernatural manifestation of God-

We have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. I John 4:16

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Galatians 5:22

Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end. John 13:1

Altruistic; having or showing an unselfish concern for the welfare of others

2. God's love has been demonstrated and proven to each person-

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16

God shows (demonstrates) his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. Romans 5:8

#### Faith has a foundation of truth, facts and evidence

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. Hebrews 11:1

Assurance; hypostasis put under, substructure, foundation, is firm

Conviction; *elegchos*, a proof, that by which a thing is proved or tested

[https://cdn.subsplash.com/documents/74GPWZ/\\_source/831ab31e-e3e8-443b-a36e-c838b5c8986e/document.pdf](https://cdn.subsplash.com/documents/74GPWZ/_source/831ab31e-e3e8-443b-a36e-c838b5c8986e/document.pdf)

Proof of Jesus' resurrection – Dr. Habermas

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWhIVFJ4xUo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B8fKZ9QyHH4>

## **B. God's love is loving and generous to His children-**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. Ephesians 1:3

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:8

Grace; *charis*, good will, loving-kindness, favour by which God, exerting his holy influence upon souls, turns them to Christ,

God's, Riches, At, Christ, Expense

1. God forgives and sanctifies us through Jesus-

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. II Corinthians 5:17

I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God. Ezekiel 36:26

If:ei, a primary particle of conditionality, conjunction

2. God gives evidence that His agape love is in His Children who are in Christ-

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. I John 3:16

Anyone who does not **love** does not know **God**, because **God is love**. I John 4:8

3. Have Jesus' attitude of love, humility and unselfishness

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Have this mind (attitude) among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:3

## **C. God is sovereign, and He has a good plan for us and the world-**

1. God wants everyone to know and have eternal life with Him –

The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. 10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. II Peter 3:9

2. God promises us that good is coming-

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. Romans 8:28

## **III. If God is good what about the problem of evil, death, suffering and pain in God's creation-**

For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all. Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! "For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?" "Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?" For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. Romans 11:32

**the problem of evil in the world- William Lane Craig**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwo4Zq-CyFs&t=11s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4WkHPbzLifM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N9k-lub88gI>

### **Quote from the video**

God wants to create a world where human being can become free moral agents that will require a world where choices have consequences. Choices to love, to hate, to deny or to believe.

He allows evil with the goal in mind of bringing people freely into a knowledge of Himself and to eternal salvation. And the goal of life is not happiness in this life; we are not God's pets. His goal is not to create a new terrarium here for His human pets, rather it is to bring persons into communion with Himself forever freely, and in order to do that, it is not at all implausible that a world suffused with natural and moral evil would be the corrective of that.

You turn things upside down! Shall the potter be regarded as the clay, that the thing made should say of its maker, "He did not make me"; or the thing formed say of him who formed it, "He has no understanding"? Isaiah 29:16

No Understanding; bin, to have discernment, insight, understanding (Stupid)

## **A. God gave us the power of choice between good and evil-**

The LORD God commanded the man, saying, "You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die. Genesis 2:16

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. Genesis 3:4

No wonder, for even Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. So it is no surprise if his servants, also, disguise themselves as servants of righteousness. II Corinthians 11:14

### **A. The gift to choose to follow or to reject evil-**

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days. Deuteronomy 30:19

### **B.. The good side of freewill is to choose to love and to good-**

1. We can choose freedom and safety in Christ-

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. I John 1:9

He said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Mathew 22:37

2. We can choose blessing by loving and obeying God-

If you faithfully obey the voice of the LORD your God, being careful to do all his commandments that I command you today, the LORD your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, if you obey the voice of the LORD your God. Deuteronomy 28:1

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master. Mathew 25:21

3. The bad side of freewill

If you will not obey the voice of the LORD your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes that I command you today, then all these curses shall come upon you and overtake you. Cursed shall you be in the city, and cursed shall you be in the field. Deuteronomy 28:15

Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness. Mathew 7:21

### **C. We all have sinned and are sinning-**

For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Romans 3:22

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. . If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. I John 1:8:10

### **D. Evil and the choice doing good will increase in the future-**

1. Evil will increase in the future-

For the Lord GOD does nothing without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets. Amos 3:7

Understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy- lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. II Timothy 3:1

Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them. Romans 1:32

Woe to those who **call evil** good and good **evil**, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter! Isaiah 5:20

2. Christ followers are to shine in the darkness-

My beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or disputing, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life. Philippians 2:12

### **IV. Having faith in a good God in an evil world-**

Worldview; a comprehensive understanding of the world from a specific standpoint (Biblical worldview)

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:1

Without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6

Spiritual; logikos, pertaining to the reason or logic

Transformed; metamorphoō, to change into another form, to transform, to transfigure

### **A. Be "in Christ"**

I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Mathew 16:24

1. Know 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. John 8:31

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 Timothy 3:16

2. God is still good to those who love Him-

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:11

For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to give strong support to those whose heart is blameless toward him. II Chronicles 16:9

Be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you. Hebrews 13:5