A FIRM PLACE: Worldviews week 1

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Major Sources: Carl Truman, John Mark Comer, Paul Chappell, J. F. Baldwin

KEY VERSE: Psalm 40:2

He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.

- 1. God's Word has much to say about making a choice at the "y" in the road:
 - Deuteronomy 30:19-20
 - Proverbs 3:5-6
 - Proverbs 14:12
 - Matthew 7:13-14

A worldview touches a person's:

- Identity
- Meaning
- Purpose
- Happiness
- Values
- Ethics

2. Choices in Worldviews

A. An Outward Source of Meaning: There is meaning and order in the world, and we discover it and align with its purpose.

As per Aristotle, Aquinas, Einstein, Plato, Judaism, Christianity, Islam, Buddhism, science

B. An Inward Source of Meaning: The world is raw material out of which we each create our own meaning and purpose.

As per Nietzsche, Marx, atheism, post-modernism, individualism

Summary of Our Age: Romans 1:25

They exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised.

- 3. Changes in worldviews impacting our Christian worldview
 - From Outside to Inside Source
 - From majority to minority
 - From honor to shame
 - From tolerance to hostility

worldview (noun)the way a personmakes sense of lifeand the world

"We are what sociologists call a cognitive minority. Meaning, as followers of Jesus, our worldview and value system and practices and social norms are increasingly at sharp odds with those of our host culture. We face constant pressure, from both the Left and the Right, to assimilate and follow the crowd." - John Mark Comer, Live No Lies

"Every age has had its darkness and its dangers. The task of the Christian is not to whine about the moment in which he or she lives but to understand its problems and respond appropriately to them." - Carl Trueman, The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self

4. Our First Response to Wrong Worldviews?

Ephesians 2:1-2: 1) Personal humility.

¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

Our Response? 2) Patience with others.

Ephesians 2:3

³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.

Our Response? 3) Thankfulness for God's grace.

Ephesians 2:4-5

⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

5. Southwest Airlines Illustration: The best customer rating and pilots, but a failure of infrastructure over time led to a big crash.

