

Dr. Brad Strait, Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church

February 16th-17th, 2023

Major Sources: Dan May, Matt Woodley, Carl Truman, Phillip Graham, J.F. Baldwin, Paul Chappell, Phillip Ryken, R.C. Sproul, C.S. Lewis

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.
Psalm 40:2

I. Looking at Worldviews: the ways a person makes sense of life and the world.

In Review

Week 1: Where does Meaning come from?

For Christians, it comes from God the Creator.

Week 2: What determines Truth?

For Christians, it comes from the Bible and Jesus.

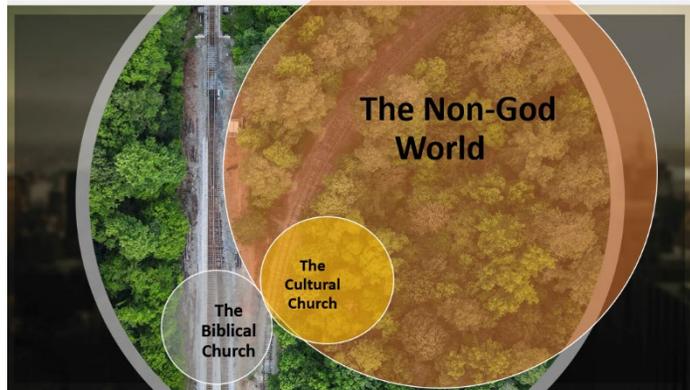
Week 3: Where are our Origins?

For Christians, we believe God created life and has a plan for our world.

Week 4: What is my Purpose?

For Christians, to glorify God and enjoy him forever!

Week 5: Who am I? For Christians, everyone is broken yet significant to God. Everyone needs to be loved, forgiven and have a chance for reconciliation with the God who made them!



Key questions for Week 6:

- **How do I live?**
- **What characteristics of my worldview are reflected in my daily life?**

II. The World's Perspective

The pressing hunger to be happy and significant.

To feel "enough"

To be "more"

To be God.

What happens when we can't fix ourselves?

When we try, but we are still feeling alone, empty, hurting, and afraid?

Dr. Paul McHugh, a leading psychiatrist at Johns-Hopkins Medical, in Psychology Today:

"Although transsexuals did not regret their surgery, there were little or no psychological benefits: They had much the same problems with relationships, work, and emotions, as before. The hope that they would emerge now from their emotional difficulties to flourish psychologically had not been fulfilled."

What happens when we can't fix ourselves?

- We feel shame.
- We pull away or hide.
- We distort reality to fit our views.

Worldview: Spontaneous self-replicating DNA is possible, proving there is no need for a God to create life.

“How Did Life Begin?

RNA That Spontaneously Replicates Itself Indefinitely Developed For First Time”
Science News Headline, 2009

Creating Life in a lab? Facts on Joyce's RNA:

- short RNA lengths (24 bases vs. 2000 bases)
- required continual new outside resources
- under perfectly controlled lab conditions
- with thousands of man hours in guidance
- life requires many RNA, DNA, and proteins



Fra Angelico, 1430

Worldview: If you feel like a woman, you are in truth a woman.



Fact: Olympian Allison Felix has 275 high school boys who run faster than her best time.

Expressed gender is important. But biology is real.

We distort reality to fit our views.

We blame others.

We get angry.

Self-saving ourselves isn't working. Our society is more unhappy, divided, addicted, angry, and violent than ever before.

III. Biblical Worldview

1 Peter 3:8-18

⁸ Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.

1 Peter 3:8-18

⁹ Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. **On the contrary, repay evil with blessing**, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

Biblical Worldview

My daily life is sacrificial, designed to bring glory to God and to represent Jesus by sharing both truth and love to everyone.



Genesis 12:2-3

“I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing...and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.”

1 Peter 3:8-18 (quoting Psalm 34:12-16)

¹⁰ Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech. ¹¹ They must turn from evil and do good; they must seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are attentive to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.”

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1 Peter 3:8-18

¹³ Who is going to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. “Do not fear their threats; do not be frightened.” ¹⁵ But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord.



Antonin Scalia and Ruth Bader Ginsberg. A colleague of Scalia once told a story about visiting him in his chambers and spotting two dozen roses on a table. Justice Scalia said he had to get the roses to “Ruth”—as in Justice Ginsburg. The friend said, “So what good have all these roses done for you? Name one [close Supreme Court] case of any significance where you got Justice Ginsburg’s vote?” Scalia said, “Some things are more important than votes.” Ask yourself, who needs your roses these days?

1 Peter 3:8-18

Always be prepared to give an **answer** (a defense, a sound argument) to everyone who asks you to give the **reason** (the reasoning, the logic) for the hope that you have.

1 Peter 3:8-18

But do this with **gentleness and respect**,¹⁶ keeping a clear conscience, so that those who speak maliciously against your good behavior in Christ may be ashamed of their slander.

IV. Worldviews (like Empires) come and go.

God remains.

Every worldview requires faith.

Measure the truth before you decide.

The more we know about the universe, science, and archology, the more the Bible is shown as true.

Trust the Bible. Jesus did.

Jesus never disengaged his mind nor ignored his heart.

To follow him best, we need a sharp mind and a sensitive heart.

Worldview and character are most influenced by our relationships.

We need relationships with Jesus and his Church to keep us grounded.

Jesus was full of grace and love. He defended those who were hurting and forgave his persecutors.

We must be like him.

We cannot save ourselves.

We cannot make ourselves enough.

Jesus is our hope.

And the hope of the world.

