

The Christian Solution for Addictions: Jesus!

## What Is A Christian Worldview? "What Is Your Worldview?"

A "worldview" refers to a comprehensive conception of the world from a specific standpoint. A "Christian worldview," then, is a comprehensive conception of the world from a Christian standpoint.

An individual's worldview is his "big picture," a harmony of all his beliefs about the world. It is his way of understanding reality. One's worldview is the basis for making daily decisions and is therefore extremely important.

An apple sitting on a table is seen by several people. An artist sees a still-life and draws it. A botanist looking at the apple classifies it. A grocer sees an asset and inventories it. A child sees lunch and eats it. How we look at any situation is influenced by how we look at the world at large.

Every worldview, Christian and non-Christian, deals with at least these three questions:

- 1. Where did we come from? (and why are we here?)
- 2. What is wrong with the world?
- 3. How can we fix it?

A prevalent worldview today is *naturalism*, which answers the three questions like this:

- 1. We are the product of random acts of nature with no real purpose.
- 2. We do not respect nature as we should.
- 3. We can save the world through ecology and conservation. A naturalistic worldview generates many related philosophies such as moral relativism, existentialism, pragmatism, and utopianism.

A Christian worldview, on the other hand, answers the three questions Biblically:

- 1. We are God's creation, designed to govern the world and fellowship with Him.
  - Genesis 1:27-28 ~ So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

- *Genesis* 2:15 ~ *Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.*
- 2. Man sinned against God and subjected the whole world to a curse (Genesis 3).
  - *Genesis* 2:16-17 ~ *And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; 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* 3:6 ~ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate.
- 3. God Himself has redeemed the world through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ.
  - *Genesis* 3:15 ~ [The LORD said to the serpent:] "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."
  - Luke 19:10 ~ Jesus said: "... the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

God will one day restore creation to its former perfect state

Isaiah 65:17-19 ~ [Thus says the Lord GOD:] "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth; and the former shall not be remembered or come to mind. 18But be glad and rejoice forever in what I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem as a rejoicing, and her people a joy. <sup>19</sup>I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and joy in My people; the voice of weeping shall no longer be heard in her, nor the voice of crying."

A Christian worldview leads us to believe in moral absolutes, miracles, human dignity, and the possibility of redemption.

It is important to remember that a worldview is comprehensive. It affects every area of life, from money to morality, from politics to art.

True Christianity is more than a set of ideas to be practiced at church. Christianity as taught in the Bible is itself a worldview. The Bible never distinguishes between a "religious" and a "secular" life — the Christian life is the only life there is.

Jesus proclaimed Himself to be *"the way, the truth, and the life"* (*John 14:6*) and, in doing so, He became our worldview.

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