



**Old Testament Reading: Psalm 136:1-26 – New Testament
Reading Colossians 1:9-18**

**Developing a Biblical Worldview
“A Place to Begin”
Genesis 1:1**

Wayne J. Edwards, Pastor

The “battle of the ages” is between the two worldviews as defined by God in His prophecy concerning the promise of the coming of the Messiah in Genesis 3:15:

- The first worldview is in the “seed” of Satan, the seed of rebellion against God, which leads to paganism.
- In Romans 1:25, the Apostle Paul wrote: *“They changed the truth of God into a lie and worshipped and served the creature more than the*

Creator!”

- The second worldview is in the “seed” of Eve; the Seed of submission unto God; the seed of promise.
 - In Titus 1:2, the Apostle wrote: *“Even before the world began, God, who cannot lie, promised us eternal life!”*

1. The Contrast of the Two Worldviews – Deuteronomy 30:19-20 – “I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore, choose life that both thou and thy seed may live!”

Everyone has a worldview, a “grid” through which they view the world and everything in it. That “grid” is a system of beliefs we develop from our parents, our peers, and our pursuit of knowledge, from which we establish our values.

<u>AREA</u>	<u>BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW</u>	<u>NATURALISM/ATHEISTIC WORLDVIEW</u>
God	There is a God	There is no God
Creation	God created world as recorded in Genesis	World came from natural causes
Man	God created man	Came into existence through millions of years of evolution
Man’s Nature	Born with a sinful nature	Basically, born good, but due to negative influences turns bad
Man’s Greatest Problem	Sin	Negative influences in world, culture
Solution	Spiritual	Many ways: government intervention, more education, technological developments, removal of religion

Jesus	Son of God, Savior of the world.	Was a “good” man. Rejection of his miracles and teaching!
Miracles	Miracles can only be explained by supernatural intervention.	All events have a naturalistic explanation.
Moral Code	Given to us by God in Bible	Society has ability to develop best moral code, (or dictatorship, or opinion polls.)
Tolerance	Live by Biblical Standard	Accept everyone and every system, (with exception of those with religious values)
Abortion	Life begins at conception and formed in womb by God. High value place on a life.	Since God did not create life, the value of life is less — and can be disposed of.
Homosexuality	God intended for one man to be with one woman	Acceptance based upon cultural moral code and opinion polls
Marriage	One man united with one woman.	Lives by no real moral code — do whatever feels good, no accountability, self serving, me focused.
Children	Life begins at conception, valuable to God, Asset to family unit.	Value begins after birth, Important to society
Government	Ordained by God, allowed by God, under God’s authority	Many view government systems as solution to man’s problems
Evil In World	Allowed by God, but will one day be removed from	According to some worldviews: due to ownership

	world.	of property, wealth, religion, lack of education, lack of government control.
Satan	A real person in conflict with God and God's people.	Mystical person created by religious people. Total rejection.
Purpose in Life	God focus	Man focus
Soul	Everyone has an eternal soul	No one has an eternal soul
Salvation	Only through Jesus	"We are our own salvation"
Death	Everyone will die	Everyone will die
After Death	Every man and woman has an eternal destiny	Nothing happens or some form of reincarnation
Heaven	Literal place where believers go for eternity	We make our own heaven here on earth. (No biblical heaven)
Hell	Literal place where non-believers go for eternity	No literal hell. We can have hell here on earth.
Bible	God's Word	Simply myth & legend

2. The Covenant of the One True God – John 17:3 – “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent!”

In the Hebrew, Genesis 1:1 reads: “In beginning, God created!”

- The Book of Genesis tells us about the beginning of everything *except God* – His existence is not argued, explained, or defended – He is simply presented

as the One who was before the beginning of all things.

- In the first 11 chapters, there is the origin of time, action, space and matter, the solar system, the atmosphere, the hydrosphere, all forms of life; mankind, marriage, family, sin, guilt, redemption and forgiveness; the origin of nations and the various languages.
- In chapter 12, there is the “Genesis” (generations) of the Israelites, through whom the Word of God would be written; the plan of God revealed, and the Son of God would be given as the Savior of lost mankind.
- From Genesis 12 to the end of the Old Testament, the focus of the Bible is upon God’s interaction with the Israelites, as God revealed His plan of redemption in the way He dealt with.
- As the New Testament opens, the Bible reveals how the Israelites failed to be God’s witnesses and how He set them aside temporarily. But it also reveals how God, through Christ, began to call out a new people – both Jew and Gentile – to be His “Church,” through which the gospel of our salvation could be proclaimed.
- There is no attempt to explain the existence of God or to defend Him as a Person. The Bible simply presents Him as being the “Creator” of all things, including His plan for man’s redemption, and lays out the details of His promise for all to see and to be fulfilled.
- Those who reject the evidence are living in paganism.
- Those who accept the evidence are living in His Promise.

3. The Creator Who Deserves to be Worshipped – Revelation 4:11 –“Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure, they are and were created!”

- How did the universe come into being? God created the heavens and the earth!
- How do we know that God created the heavens and the earth? The Hebrew word for “create” (ex-nihilo) means “out of nothing” – only God can make something out of nothing and make it sustainable forever.
- How did God create the heavens and the earth? By His Word: He spoke it into being – God said, “let there be,” and it was.
- When did God create the heavens and the earth? In six literal days, around 6000 years ago.
 - From Adam to the flood was 1656 years and from the flood to Abraham was 225 years, which makes about 2000 years. (Genesis 5 and 11)

- From Abraham to the Jews to return to Jerusalem was about 1500 years. Adding the 400 silent years, you have another 2000 years or so.
 - From Jesus to today, we have another 2000 years, so God's creation is about 6000 years old.
-
- Why did God create the heavens and the earth? God created the world and everything that is in it, "for His pleasure" – to bring Him glory for all eternity! (Isaiah 45:18, Isaiah 43:7, Romans 11:36)
 - God created all that is to prove His power.
 - God created it the way He did to prove His purpose.
 - God sustains His creation in such a way to prove He is personally involved in it, and therefore in our lives.
 - If what is said in Genesis 1:1 is true, and it is, what else can we do but surrender unto the One who has created us – in His image!