APOLOGETICS ON MISSION

Witnessing from a Worldview Perspective

Major General Doug Anson US Army (Ret) October 19, 2024



Outing

A Personal Worldview Engagement Worldview Defined Why Worldviews Matter > Biblical Worldview (vs. Naturalistic Worldview) > A Framework for Witnessing



A Personal Worldview Engagement





Questions Worldviews Must Answer

Origin: Where do we come from? Identity: Who are we? Meaning: Why are we here? Morality: How ought we act? Destination: Where are we going



Worldview Defined

A vision of life . . . a framework or set of fundamental beliefs through which we view the world and our calling and future in it. James Olthus Stained Glass: Worldviews and Social Sciences



Why Worldviews Matter



Why Worldviews Matter



Behavior

Values

Worldview



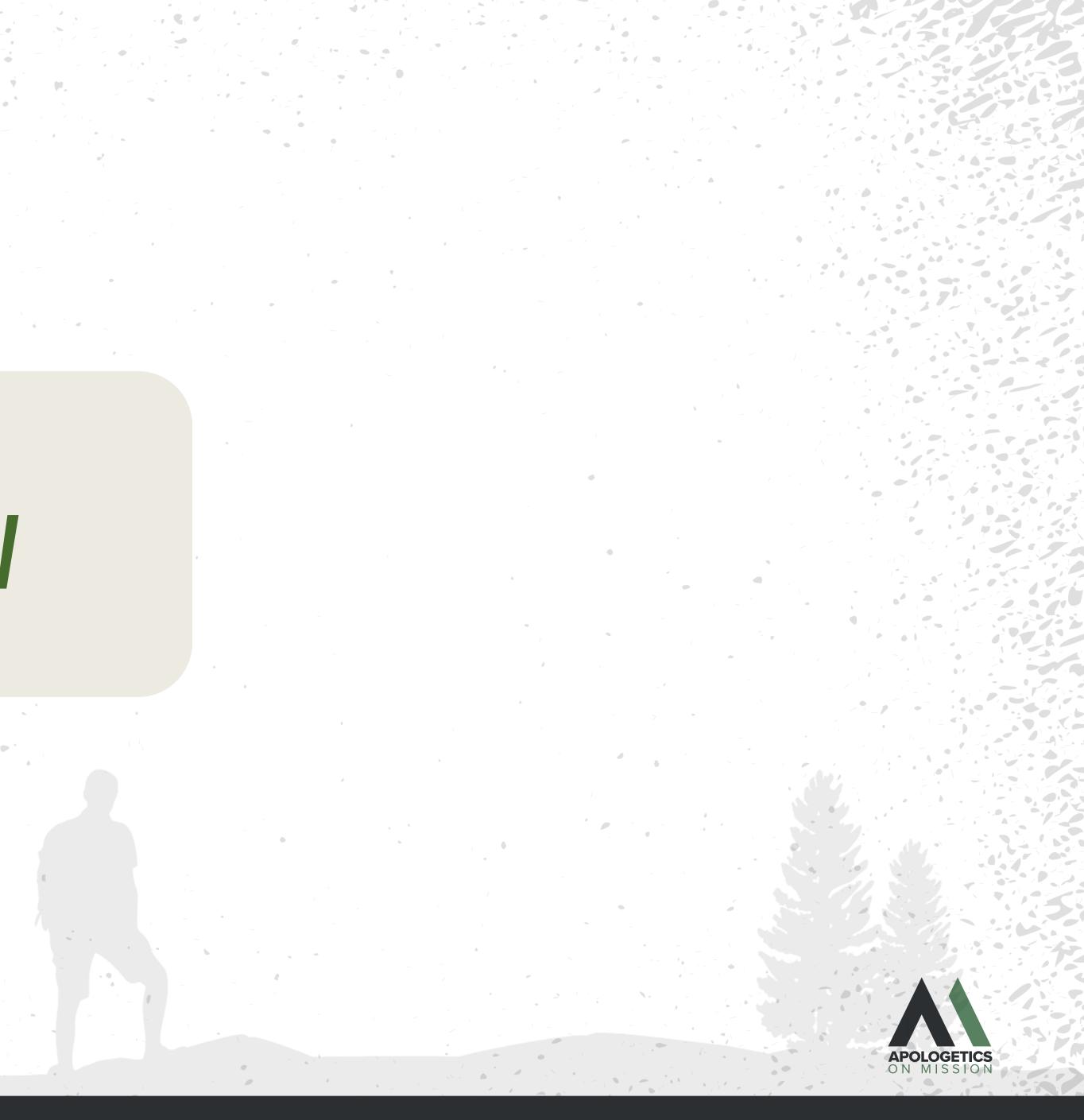
Why Worldviews Matter

While worldviews can be dissected intellectually, they also reflect and address **the orientation of one's innermost being – that is, the heart.**

Doug Groothuis Christian Apologetics: A Comprehensive Case for Biblical Faith



Biblical Worldview



Biblical Worldview: Origin Where do we come from?

We are created beings, wonderfully made in the image of God Genesis 1:27 Psalm 139:14



Biblical Worldview: Identity Who are we?

Made in the image of God, we are creatures of supreme worth and dignity.

But we are also fallen creatures.

"With the coming of Jesus as the perfect image of God, Christians are re-created and become conformed to Christ as an expression of his image, with righteousness, holiness, and knowledge." Gen 3

John 1:12; 3:16-18 Rom 3:10-12; 5:12; 8:29 2 Cor 5:17



Gal 4:5 **Eph 4:24** Col 1:15; 3:10



Biblical Worldview: Meaning Why are we here?

"Seek first his kingdom and righteousness . . ." (Matthew 6:33)

his creation.

Gen 1:26, 28 John 15:8 **Eph 4:25** Isa 43:7 Matt 6:33; 28:19 2 Cor 4:15-18; 5:17-20

"Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever." (Westminster Shorter **Catechism**)

We are also here to share the Good News and to be good and faithful stewards of



Biblical Worldview: Morality How ought we live?

and mercy, love, etc.; morality is transcendent and absolute.

"The duty which God requireth of man is obedience to his revealed will." (Westminster Shorter Catechism)

- Morality is based on God's nature ? his holiness, righteousness, perfect justice,
- Since God first loved us, we should love him and others and do all that pleases him.

 - Eccles 12:13-14 **Rom 5:8** 1 John 4:19-21

Matt 22:35-40 Mark 12:28-34 Luke 10:27



Biblical Worldview: Destination Where are we going?

God's infinite justice demands that he punish our sins, but because of his infinite love he has taken the punishment upon himself.

Believers: those who put their faith in Christ ? by faith alone ? are destined for eternal salvation with him in his heavenly kingdom.

Non-believers: those who do not put their faith in Christ are destined for eternal separation from God. John 3:16, 18

Rom 3:26 2 Cor 5:21

Isa 53:4, 10, 12 Rev 21:1-8; 22:1-5



Biblical Worldview: "Grand Narrative"





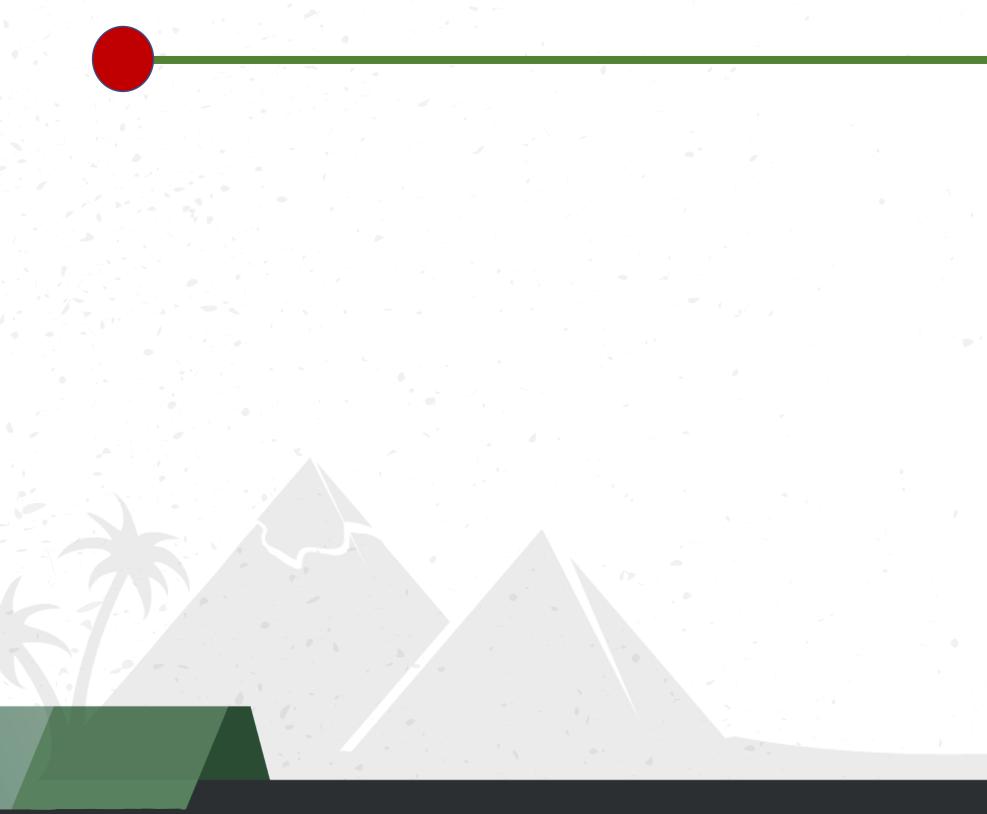
Biblical Worldview: "Grand Narrative"

Christianity...offers a story which is the story of the whole world. It is public truth.

N.T. Wright **Anglican Bishop**



Non-Believer



Accepts Christ





Non-Believer



(Mono) Theism

Accepts Christ

Case for Christ (Step 2)

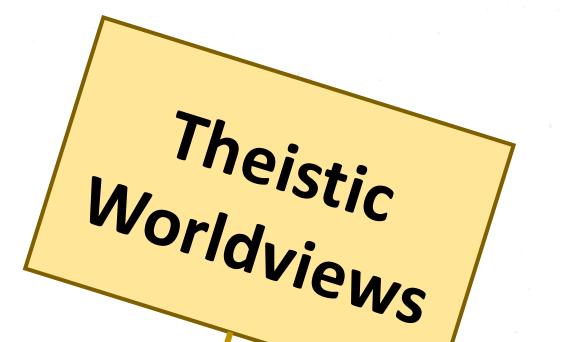




Pre-Evangelism (Identify & Remove **Obstacles to Faith)**

Non-Theistic Non-Adviews Norldviews







Accepts Christ

Make the **Case for Christ**



Naturalism

Spiritualism Spiritualism Postmodernism

Non-Believer

Pre-Evangelism (Identify & Remove **Obstacles to Faith)**



(Mono) Theism

Make the **Case for Christ**

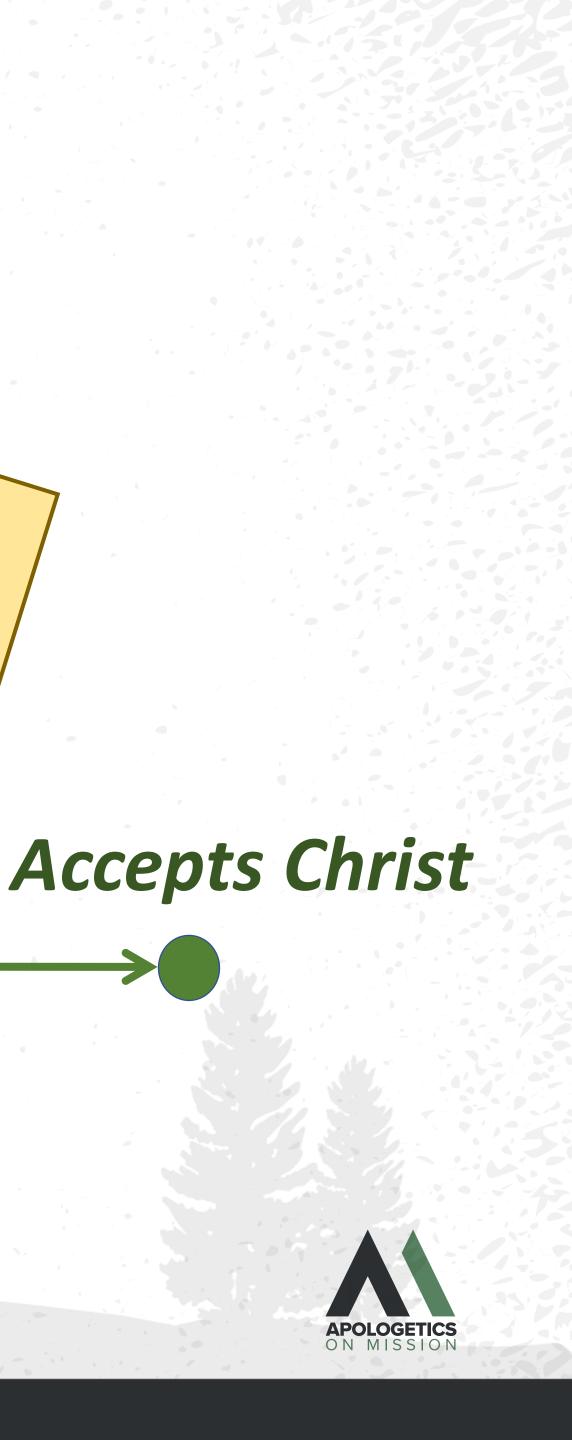
Judaism

Islam

Christian Cults

"Progressive

Christianity"





APOLOGETICS ON MISSION

https://www.ApologeticsOnMission.org

Naturalism Defined

- or agnostic (assumes no God)
- Philosophical belief that everything arises from natural properties and causes ? nature is the whole show • Supernaturalism is excluded • Spiritual explanations are discounted • There is no mind or soul Miracles are rejected • A Naturalist is either an atheist

