



GOD'S ANSWERS: Session Two

What does this mean? The role of God's truths and our culture's worldviews in shaping our thoughts.

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, Your Word is truth. Keep us steadfast in Your Word even as the evil one seeks to whispers his lies into our ears. Keep us with Your Son who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Amen.

Introduction

Read Aloud:

Confessions have consequences. We know that this is true when we see Christians around the world suffering persecution because of their confession. In those places, it is easy to see the consequence of a Christian's confession. However, while we don't always see such consequences in our lives, our confession does have consequences for us as well. It shapes who we are, what we believe, and how we see and understand things, what is often called a worldview.

Q: What is a worldview?

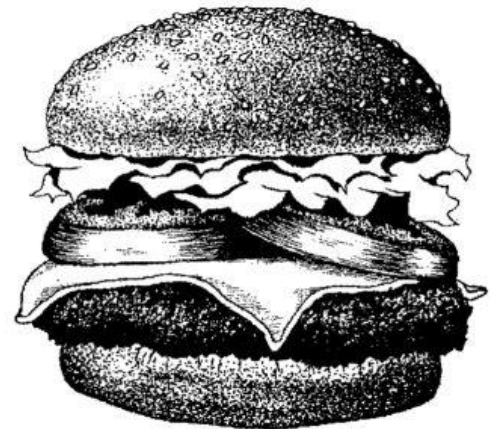
Basic Considerations

Examples of Worldview

Q: When looking at the picture on the right, what does the typical American see?

Q: What does the cattle farmer see?

Q: What does a member of PETA (a group that opposes any consumption of meat) see?



Another Example



Q: When viewing the picture on the left, what does the American who most values being tolerant and loving see?

Q: What does the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (or similarly socially conservative church body) member see?

Q: What might the militant Muslim see?

Q: What do these examples show us about the power of worldview?

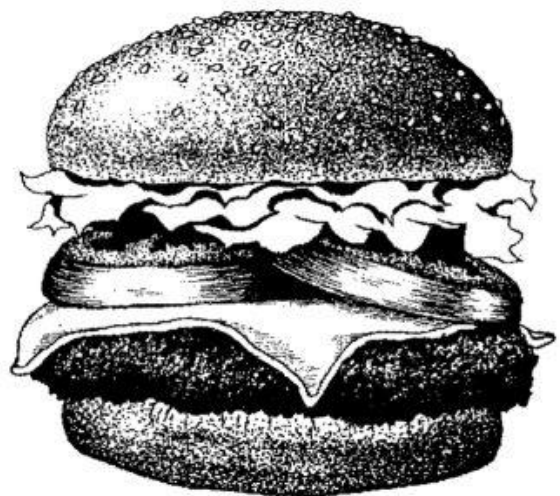
Q: Why does worldview matter? Does it affect more than how we think?

Examples of Worldview Revisited

Q: What does the typical American do when they see this?

Q: What does the cattle farmer do when they see this?

Q: What does a member of PETA do when they see this?



Another Example



Q: What does the American who most values being tolerant and loving do when they see this?

Q: What does the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod (or similarly socially conservative church body) member do?

Q: What does the militant Muslim do when they see this?

Read Aloud:

Everyone has a worldview. You have a worldview. I have a worldview. Everyone has a worldview, but not everyone has the right worldview. The Christian's worldview must be shaped by God.

Q: How does God shape our worldview?

Q: Who else is working to shape your worldview?

Read Aloud:

Let's see how this works in relation to a specific topic. What does God teach us about the state of humanity after the fall into sin?

God's revealed truth – Augsburg Confession Article Two

Read aloud:

“Our churches teach that since the fall of Adam (Romans 5:12), all who are naturally born are born with sin (Psalm 51:5), that is, without the fear of God, without trust in God, and with the inclination to sin, concupiscence. Concupiscence is a disease and original vice that is truly sin. It damns and brings eternal death on those who are not born anew through Baptism and the Holy Spirit (John 3:5).”

Q: How is this truth undercut in our world?

Q: Why does it matter if we believe that the Scriptures teach that humanity apart from Christ is full of evil?

Read Aloud:

God reveals and so we confess. He talks and we echo His truth from our lips and in our lives. Our confession has consequences. These consequences are that we come to know the Truth, that we reject what is false, and that our interaction with the world around us is shaped by what we believe and who we are according to God's Truth.

Closing Prayer

Almighty God, Your Word reveals that humanity is set against you and your ways apart from your Son, Jesus. Guard us from the temptation to doubt this truth that we might always rest in the salvation He has won for us. Amen.