

## Worldview

Our world is steaming with diverse ideas about truth and reality. My perspective differs from my neighbor, whose assumptions vary just as much from his neighbor. One believes the answer to the world's problems is what some call evil. Others believe evil is an illusion, or if it is not an illusion, it surely is not the world's problem. At the heart of these diverse outlooks lies one's view of God (not necessarily the God of Christianity) and how that deity relates to the world. This process through which we observe and interpret everything is called a worldview, and every person has one.

A worldview is a set of beliefs (some call these beliefs assumptions – because they have no basis of facts) that govern one's explanation of life. Our worldview is what guides us through life and death. This worldview shapes our philosophy of life and our theology.

Teachers of Christian Apologetics tell us that: “Worldviews are not intentionally constructed, but they can be analyzed.” Worldviews can be analyzed by considering the answers to eight questions:

First, what is ultimate reality?

Second, what is mankind and what happens at our death?

Third, what is knowledge and how do we know it?

Fourth, what is good and how do we achieve it?

Fifth, what is beauty and how does it relate to life?

Sixth, is there a basis for morality, and if so, what is it?

Seventh, what is evil and its solution?

Eighth, is human history headed anywhere, and if so, where?

The answer to these questions can help determine one's worldview.

Every belief we hold, every issue we consider, results in a worldview. Most human conflicts are a result of a worldview. It is said, “Our thoughts and choices are filtered through our worldview, and our actions reflect it.”

For example: A young boy and a young girl who are lonely, accepts a worldview of despair and hopelessness, they turn to drugs – their worldview ruined their life. The worldview of: Karl Marx, Vladimir Lenin, and Joseph Stalin resulted in the slaughter of tens of millions and wrecked human civilization in much of the world. Worldviews matter very much.

Scripture: King James Version: Acts 9:1-31; 22:1-29; 24-26.

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