

Bible Conference
Red Mesa Fellowship, St. George, UT
October 2–3, 2022

Session #1: October 2 (Sunday evening service), 4:00 PM

Truth in the World of Fake News
John 8:31–32; 17:17; Psalm 119:43, 160

Introduction

- In a world focused on the topic of slavery, the most global of all slaveries is ignored.
- In a world filled with fake news, the most deceitful of all fake news is that we ourselves can effect our own deliverance from all of our problems, both personal and societal.
- In a world claiming to be driven by science, no one can escape the exercise of faith.

I. The Truth Will Make You Free (John 8:31–32)

A. The truth must be believed (v. 31a).

1. Jesus speaks to those who believe.
2. Jesus does not speak to those who do not believe.

B. The truth must be obeyed (v. 32a).

1. We must obey Jesus' words.
2. We are His disciples if we obey.

C. The truth must be known (v. 32b).

1. Jesus promises we will know the truth.
2. Jesus promises that truth will make us free.
 - a. We once were unaware we were not free, but enslaved (v. 33).
 - b. We once were slaves of sin (v. 34).

II. The Truth Will Make You Clean (John 17:17)

- A. God makes us clean by sanctifying us (v. 17a)
 - 1. Sanctification means setting apart from sin.
 - 2. Sanctification means setting apart to God.
- B. God sanctifies us by the truth (v. 17a).
 - 1. Sanctification does not occur without God's truth.
 - 2. Sanctification cannot occur with the world's truth.
- C. God sanctifies us by His Word (v. 17b).
 - 1. God's Word is God's truth.
 - 2. The world's truth is not God's Word.

III. The Truth Will Make You Obedient (Psalm 119:43, 160)

- A. The psalmist prays not to lose his ability to witness for the truth (v. 43)
 - 1. He expresses his passionate plea because of his confident expectation (43a).
 - 2. He establishes his precious prospect upon God's righteous ordinances (43b).
- B. The psalmist proclaims confidence in God's Word (v. 160).
 - 1. He extends his confidence to the totality of God's Word (160a).
 - 2. He establishes his confidence on the permanence of every part of God's Word (160b)

Conclusion

- God's truth is the only truth that can break the power of slavery to sin.
- God's truth frees from slavery only when it is believed, obeyed, and known.
- God's truth enables us to witness to His truth.
- God's truth is permanently trustworthy in its totality and in its every part.

Session #2: October 3 (Monday), 9:00 AM

**How Does My World View Affect My Faith?
Matthew 5**

Introduction

- When Jesus spoke to His disciples in the Sermon on the Mount, He spoke about what true godliness looked like.
- Claiming that we have faith is quite different from living by faith.
- Living by faith requires a long discipleship under Jesus' teaching that lives out what He teaches.
- The Sermon on the Mount reveals the worldview Jesus Himself stated we should have.

I. Jesus' Worldview Revealed in the Beatitudes (vv. 3–12)

The Beatitudes establish our Lord's spiritual standards and expectations for us. These teachings present a radical reversal of the world's values.

A. Three Beatitudes regarding a disciple's humility (vv. 3–5)

1. "poor in spirit" (v. 3)
2. "mourn" (v. 4)

See Romans 12:15 and 2 Corinthians 1:3–7.

3. "meek" (v. 5; 4x in NT: Matthew 5:5; 11:29; 21:5; 1 Peter 3:4)

B. Two Beatitudes regarding a disciple's active spirituality (vv. 6–7)

1. "hunger and thirst for righteousness" (v. 6)
2. "merciful" (v. 7 = "being concerned about people in their need; sympathetic, compassionate; 2x in NT, see Hebrews 2:17)

C. Three Beatitudes regarding a disciple's cultural interactions (vv. 8–12)

1. "pure in heart" (v. 8); compare Psalm 24:4
2. "peacemakers" (v. 9 = peace makers, not peace keepers)

3. “persecuted for righteousness’ sake” (vv. 10–12)

II. Jesus’ Worldview Revealed in the Law (vv. 17–48)

A. Jesus Came to Fulfill the Law (vv. 17–20)

1. The Law will be fulfilled (vv. 17–18)
2. Obeying the Law vs. disobeying the Law (v. 19)
3. The need for righteousness (v. 20)

B. Jesus Focused on Internal Obedience (vv. 21–48)

1. The Value of Life (vv. 21–26; Exodus 20:13; Genesis 9:5–6)
2. The Sanctity of Marriage (vv. 27–32)
 - a. Adultery (vv. 27–30; Exodus 20:14)
 - b. Divorce (vv. 31–32; Deuteronomy 24:1–4)
3. The Integrity of Words (vv. 33–37)
4. The Response to Evil People (vv. 38–48)
 - a. Retaliation (vv. 38–42)
 - b. Love (vv. 43–48)

Conclusion

- The Beatitudes present a radical reversal of the world's values — God's values differ from the world's values.
- Jesus' worldview stands firmly on the Hebrew Scriptures.
- The Word of God must be obeyed.
- Our internal obedience is just as important as our external obedience to the Scriptures.
- The Law of Moses sets specific standards of morality and ethics.

Session #3: October 3 (Monday), 10:00 AM

Round Table

Session #4: October 3 (Monday), 4:30 PM

**The World's Wicked Worldview
1 Corinthians 1:18–31**

Introduction

- Biblically, two worldviews vie for supremacy.
- Postmodernism's positives:¹
 - It challenged modernism (naturalistic humanism) as the highest worldview.
 - It produced skepticism about the efficacy and inerrancy of human reason.
 - Science cannot claim exclusive ownership of objectivity and certainty.
 - Postmodernism exposed the influence of our culture in developing our worldview.
- Postmodernism's negatives:
 - Denial of all objective truth.
 - Elimination of all ultimate values.

I. The Foolishness of the World's Wisdom (vv. 18–25)

A. The Powerful Message (vv. 18–19)

1. The message of the cross is “moronic” to the world (v. 18a).
2. The message of the cross is “the power of God” to the saved (v. 18b).
3. The basis for these declarations occurs in Isaiah 29:14 (v. 19).

B. The “Foolish” Message (vv. 20–21)

1. Paul's rhetorical questions (v. 20)
 - a. Where is the wise?
 - b. Where is the scribe?
 - c. Where is the “debater” of this age?
 - d. Hasn't God made this world's wisdom “moronic”?
2. Transitory human wisdom vs. the eternal God (v. 21)
 - a. Contrasting wisdoms
 - b. God's pleasure/will to use “moronic” (μωρία) preaching to save those who believe — see v. 18

¹ W. Gary Phillips, William E. Brown, and John Stonestreet, *Making Sense of Your World: A Biblical Worldview*, 2nd ed. (Salem, WI: Sheffield, 2008), 84.

C. The Cross-centered Message (vv. 22–24)

1. Two contrasting cultures (v. 22)
2. A very different worldview — the Christian gospel “Christ crucified” (vv. 23–24)
 - a. For the Jews: “a stumbling block” (23a)
 - b. For the Gentiles/Greeks: “foolishness” (23b)
 - c. For the Christians: “Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God” (24)

D. The Superior Message (v. 25)

1. Superior knowledge/wisdom (25a) — humanism vs. theism
2. Superior power/strength (25b) — naturalism vs. supernaturalism

II. The Focus of the Lord’s Wisdom (vv. 26–31)

A. Our Calling (vv. 26–29)

1. Called in grace (v. 26)
 - a. Look at ourselves.
 - b. Ours is a calling of grace — unmerited divine favor.
2. Chosen by God (vv. 27–29) — 3x ἐξελέξατο ὁ θεός
 - a. **God chose** the foolish — to put the wise to shame (27a)
 - b. **God chose** the weak — to put the mighty to shame (27b)
 - c. **God chose** the base “not of noble birth”) and despised (no merit or worth, being beneath one’s consideration, and of no significance, thus worthy of maltreatment) — to bring the status quo (“the things that are”) to nothing (28)
 - d. He chose these — to remove boasting (29)

B. Our Christ-centeredness (vv. 30–31)

1. What Christ became (v. 30)
 - Wisdom

- Righteousness
- Sanctification
- Redemption

2. What Christ receives: Glory — because we cannot boast (v. 31)

Conclusion

- The Christian worldview has its basis in the message of the gospel concerning Jesus Christ.
- The Christian worldview is cross-centered.
- The Christian worldview is counter-cultural.
- The Christian worldview is God-centered, not man-centered.

Session #5: October 3 (Monday), 6:45 PM

The Believer's Faith-Driven Worldview

Introduction

- We should live all our life in accord with biblical principles.
- The Bible teaches that truth is objective — not subjective or relative.
- A Christian/biblical worldview includes:²
 1. Jesus Christ lived a sinless life.
 2. God is the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe and He still rules it today.
 3. Salvation is a gift from God and cannot be earned.
 4. Satan is real.
 5. Christians have a responsibility to share their faith in Christ with other people.
 6. The Bible is accurate in all of its teachings.

I. Staying Focused on Christ

A. Christ's Teaching Instructs Us How to Live (Matthew 5)

B. Christ's Gospel Distinguishes Our Worldview from Other Worldviews (1 Corinthians 1:18–31)

II. Thinking Rightly about God

A. God Is Our Creator (Genesis 1)

B. God Is Our Lord (Psalm 8)

² Tim Challies, *The Discipline of Spiritual Discernment* (Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2007), 44.

C. Fearing God Is Our Wisdom and Knowledge (Job 28:28; Proverbs 1:7)

III. Emphasizing God's Gift of Salvation

A. Christians Have Experienced Salvation (Romans 10:5–13; Ephesians 1:13–14)

B. Salvation Can Be Obtained Only through Christ (Acts 4:12)

C. Salvation Comes Only by Means of the Gospel (Romans 1:16; 2 Timothy 3:15)

D. Christians Must Take the Gospel to All Peoples (Matthew 28:18–20)

IV. Recognizing the Reality of Satan

A. Evil Is a Reality in the World (Genesis 3)

B. Satan Opposes the Work of God and the People of God (Zechariah 3; Job 1–2; 1 Peter 5:8)

V. Standing on the Foundation of Biblical Accuracy

A. Biblical Truth Matters (John 8:32, 44; 14:6; 15:26; 16:13; 17:17; 2 Timothy 2:15)

B. Biblical Inerrancy Matters (Psalm 119:160; Proverbs 30:5; 2 Timothy 3:16; 2 Peter 1:19–21; 1 Thessalonians 2:3; 1 John 4:6)

C. Biblical Authority Matters (Matthew 28:18; Romans 6:17; 2 Thessalonians 3:14; 1 Peter 1:22–25)

- (1) the authority of the Lord *and* His written revelation,
- (2) the authority of the church *and* its “infallible pope(s),” and
- (3) the authority of human reason *and* its self-styled sovereignty.³

Conclusion

- A biblical view must arise out of Scripture.
- A biblical worldview must be lived, not just thought.
- A biblical worldview must actually change how we live.
- A biblical worldview must continue to be developed the longer we live.

³ René Pache, *The Inspiration and Authority of Scripture*, trans. by Helen I. Needham (Chicago: Moody Press, 1969), 132.

Resources

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