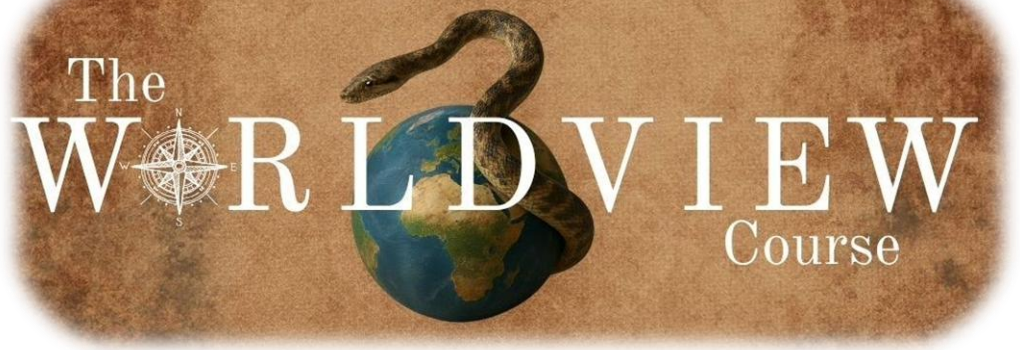




“Worldview: Understanding Others”

The Worldview Course – Episode 3

November 16, 2025

RECAP.....

- In Episode 1, we asked: *What’s a worldview?* We looked at how culture shapes us through ideas built on sand or rock.
- In Episode 2, we asked: *Who am I?* We examined how our culture says “define yourself,” but Scripture says: you are defined by your Creator.
- In this Episode, we will shift from “you” to “others”. If God defines who I am, then He also shapes how I treat and relate to every other person I meet.

Why Understanding Others Matters?

Biblical Definition: “others” refers to fellow human beings—neighbors, strangers, foreigners, and even enemies—whom believers are called to love, serve, and honor as part of God’s command to live in community. Christianity is not a solo journey, its designed around mutual care, accountability, and encouragement.

- The phrase “one another” appears ____ times in the New Testament, with roughly ____ of those being direct commands about how believers should treat each other. God clearly designed us to live in community, not isolation.

Relating to “Other” Believers...

Rom 12:9-10 Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor.

Col 3:13 bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Gal 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

1 Thes 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Heb 10:24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

Jam 5:16 Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Phil 2:1-4 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more

significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Matt 20:28 But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

Relating to “Other” Non-Believers...

Witness through conduct:

Col 4:5-6 Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. ⁶Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Matt 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Gentleness & Respect:

1 Pet 3:15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,

Peaceable Living:

Rom 12:18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

1 Thes 5:15 See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone.

Some Boundaries in partnership:

2 Cor 6:14 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? ¹⁵What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? ¹⁶What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God...



[Shifting Sand] – The World’s View of Others

Primary vs. Secondary... The World/Culture has real issues but are the cultural solutions really just shifting sand? Let’s dig deeper into those issues affecting “Others”...

❖ Race

- The cultural conversation around **race** seeks to explain human difference and inequality through social and historical power dynamics rather than through the shared image of God.
- Modern frameworks often treat identity as a social construct, guilt or innocence as collective, and reconciliation as humanly achievable through activism or awareness.

Cultural Slogan	What It Means (Short Description)	Why Is This Sand?	Biblical Counter-Truth (Rock)
"Silence is violence."	Not speaking about racism equals complicity in it.	Redefines righteousness as public speech rather than heart transformation.	True justice begins with the heart, not performance - Micah 6:8; Matt. 23:27-28
"Do the work."	Constant self-examination and repentance for bias earns moral standing.	Replaces grace with endless self-atonement.	Christ's finished work brings true reconciliation - Eph. 2:14-16
"Check your privilege."	Confess and carry guilt for social advantage.	Makes guilt a permanent identity instead of a condition forgiven by Christ.	The gospel removes boasting and shame - Gal. 3:28; Rom. 8:1
"Representation matters."	Visible diversity equals justice.	Measures dignity by optics, not Imago Dei.	Every person reflects God's image - Gen. 1:27; Acts 17:26
"Stay in your lane."	Only those within a group can speak on certain issues.	Exalts tribe over truth and silences gospel unity.	In Christ, dividing walls are broken down - Eph. 2:14; Col. 3:11

- **Biblically**, race finds its meaning in *creation* (one blood, many nations) and its healing in *redemption* — where Christ breaks down dividing walls and unites us as one new humanity.

Acts 17:26 And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place

"If our identity is primarily in our race or ethnicity, we will always feel superior or inferior to others. But when our identity is rooted in Christ, we see all people as equal image-bearers of God, and racial pride or resentment has no foundation." - **Timothy Keller**, "Generous Justice", pg. 91

"Christians must reckon with our propensity to let political, popular, and even pastoral power blind us. We, alongside other Christians and our churches, must constantly check our views against what the Bible teaches. The truth is that without being anchored in the whole counsel of God, we drift with the cultural tide that sometimes dehumanizes and destroys people made in God's image." - **Sean McGeever** "How Ideology Made American Slavery Seem Moral"

❖ Cancel Culture

- **Cancel culture** is the societal practice of enforcing moral conformity through public outrage, shaming, and exclusion.
- It replaces repentance with reputation management and grace with social exile - using exposure, not restoration, to deal with sin.

Jury Duty/Justice System/Voir Dire

Cultural Slogan	What It Means (Short Description)	Why Is This Sand?	Biblical Counter-Truth (Rock)
"Cancel them."	Publicly shame or erase those who offend.	Seeks justice without mercy; denies redemption.	Grace and truth meet at the cross - John 1:14; Eph. 4:32
"Believe all victims."	Emotion or testimony equals unquestioned truth.	Elevates feeling over discernment; bypasses justice's need for truth.	The Lord loves righteousness and justice - Psalm 33:5; Prov. 18:17
"Be on the right side of history."	Align with cultural morality or face judgment.	Replaces God's eternal standard with cultural approval.	God alone defines righteousness and history's end Isa. - 46:9-10; Rev. 20:12
"Allyship is action."	Visible activism proves moral goodness.	Performs virtue for approval, not out of love for neighbor.	Faith works through love, not publicity - Gal. 5:6; Matt. 6:1-4

- **Biblically**, the gospel calls for conviction with compassion, truth with mercy, and correction aimed at restoration.

John 8:2-11 Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and taught them. ³The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery, and placing her in the midst ⁴they said to him, "Teacher, this woman has been caught in the act of adultery. ⁵Now in the Law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. So what do you say?" ⁶This they said to test him, that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷And as they continued to ask him, he stood up and said to them, "Let him who is without sin among you be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸And once more he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹But when they heard it, they went away one by one, beginning with the older ones, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus stood up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹She said, "No one, Lord." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you; go, and from now on sin no more."

Eph 4:32 Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

Gal 6:1 Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted.

“Cancel culture is a counterfeit of real justice and real forgiveness. It mimics moral seriousness but denies the grace that makes justice redemptive.” - **Timothy Keller**, “Forgive: Why Should I and How Can I?”, pg. 215

“Cancel culture promotes condemnation without forgiveness, justice without grace, and punishment without redemption. Christianity, on the other hand, offers truth with mercy and correction that leads to restoration.”
- **Eric Lyons**, “A Biblical Response to Cancel Culture,” Apologetics Press, 2021

❖ Social Justice

- The modern vision of **social justice** seeks to achieve equality and fairness through systemic reform and redistribution of power, often defining morality in horizontal (human) terms rather than vertical (divine) accountability.
- It reflects a longing for righteousness and restoration but often looks to policy and activism for salvation.

Cultural Slogan	What It Means (Short Description)	Why Is This Sand?	Biblical Counter-Truth (Rock)
“No justice, no peace.”	True peace can’t exist until society fixes every injustice.	Assumes peace comes from human systems, not divine reconciliation.	Christ Himself is our peace - John 14:27; Col. 1:20
“Equality means equity.”	Fairness requires equal outcomes, not just opportunity.	Replaces justice with forced sameness and envy.	God values impartiality and faithful stewardship - Lev. 19:15; Matt. 25:14-30
“Tax the rich.”	The wealthy are morally obligated to fund justice.	Turns generosity into coercion; breeds resentment, not compassion.	True generosity flows from grace, not compulsion - 2 Cor. 9:7; Luke 12:15
“People over profit.”	Human worth outweighs business success or ambition.	Elevates emotion over stewardship; demonizes work and provision.	Work and compassion can coexist - Eph. 4:28; Col. 3:23
“Be a voice for the voiceless.”	Use your platform to defend those who suffer or are oppressed.	Noble intent but often detached from gospel motivation or truth.	Speak truth and show mercy in God’s name - Prov. 31:8–9; Mic. 6:8

- **Biblically**, justice originates in God’s character and is inseparable from righteousness, mercy, and humility before Him. True justice flows from hearts transformed by the gospel rather than from human systems alone.

Mic 6:8 He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Isa 1:17 learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

Luke 4:18-19 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

“The Bible’s call to justice is not ‘We must save the world.’ It’s ‘We must obey the Savior.’ True justice flows from worship, not from self-righteous outrage.” — **Thaddeus J. Williams**, “Confronting Injustice Without Compromising Truth”, pg. 36

“Biblical justice is not first about redistribution but about restoration — bringing everything in line with God’s righteous order. It combines fairness, generosity, and advocacy because it flows from the heart of a gracious God.” - **Timothy Keller**, “Generous Justice”, p. 21

[Solid Rock] – God’s Big Story

▲ **CREATION - Dignity of “Others”**

- Human Value is ‘received’ not ‘achieved’ by Tribe, Race, Politics, or Success.
- Imago Dei is a Latin term meaning “image of God”

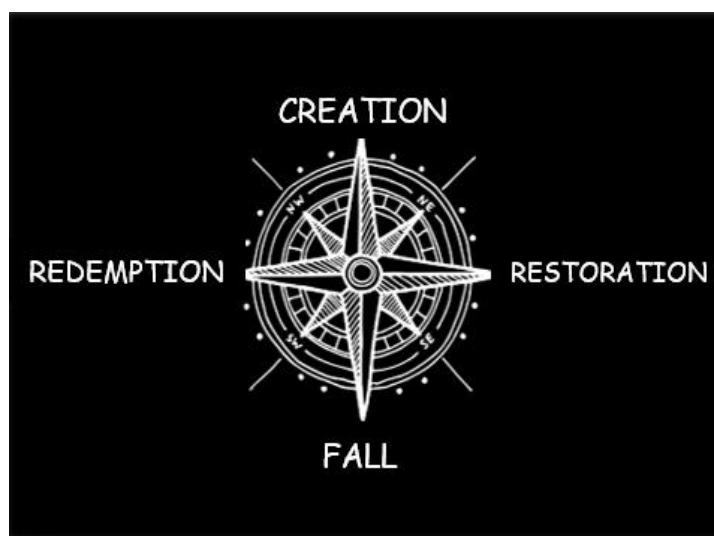
Gen 1:26-27 Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

▼ **FALL - Division of “Others”**

- Humanity shifted from *stewarding others* to *using* others.
- Politics, race, class — all corrupted by self-interest and pride.

Rom 1:21-25 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools,²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves,²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

Eph 2:1-3 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins² in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of



disobedience—³ among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

◀ **Redemption - Reconciliation of “Others”**

- The gospel doesn't just reconcile *you to God*, it reconciles *you to people*.
- The cross tears down walls of hostility.

Eph 2:14-16 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵ by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶ and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

➤ **Restoration – Destiny of “Others”**

- The future family of God is multi-ethnic, unified, and redeemed.
- The church now serves as a *preview of heaven* — diverse, unified, holy.

Rev 7:9-10 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”