

Northview University: Worldviews 101

“Learning to Love God with Your Worldview”

Session I: “Digesting God’s Call to a Christian Worldview”

ANSWERS IN COLOR

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I. Introduction

A. Key Questions

1. What is a “ _____ ” **WORLDVIEW** and why should I care?
[week 1]
2. What is a _____ **CHRISTIAN OR BIBLICAL**
worldview? [week 2]
3. What are the _____ **ALTERNATIVE** worldviews? [weeks 3-4]
4. How can I _____ **RESPOND** to these other worldviews?
[weeks 5-6]

B. Four approaches to the worldview idea (overview).

I. Worldview Illustrated as Visual Perception

A. Visual examples.

B. What a worldview DOES: Similarities between worldviews and visual gestalts.

1. A WV is a _____ **LENS** that affects what we see and how we see it.
2. A WV offers a BIG _____ **PICTURE** that guides our interpretation of the _____. **PARTS**

C. Some differences between worldviews and visual gestalts.

1. Visual gestalts allow more than one _____ **CORRECT** interpretation.
 - a. Ambiguous gestalts (like visual gestalts)
 - b. Indefinite gestalts
2. Worldviews are _____. **SIGNIFICANT**
3. _____ **EVERYONE** has a worldview.
4. Worldviews can be _____. **CHOSEN**
5. Worldviews affect _____. **BEHAVIOR**

II. Worldview as Guiding _____ **BELIEFS**

A. Our assumed answers to the _____ **BIG** questions.

B. What questions would YOU list?

1	4
2	5
3	6

C. James Sire, *The Universe Next Door* (editions 1-3: 1976, 1988, 1997).

1. Definition of “worldview.”

2. Worldview “categories” and related questions and options.

a. _____ **ULTIMATE REALITY**

b. _____ **COSMOS**

c. _____ **HUMANITY**

d. _____ **DEATH**

e. _____ **KNOWLEDGE**

f. _____ **ETHICS**

g. _____ **HISTORY**

h. _____ **CORE COMMITMENTS** (Added in 5th edition. See III.C. below)

3. Sire’s list of worldviews. (Many of these will be discussed in a later session.)

4. A worldview “table”: Worldviews and worldview categories.

D. Key Criticisms of Sire’s Approach:

1. Too _____ **COGNITIVE.**

2. Too _____ **THEORETICAL.**

III. Worldview as the Biblical Notion of the _____ . HEART

- A. David Naugle, *Worldview: The History of a Concept* (2002).
- B. Sire's changed definition, *The Universe Next Door*, 4th edition (2004) and 5th edition (2009).
 - 1. A _____ COMMITMENT.
 - 2. An orientation of the _____ HEART, not just BELIEFS. "[A worldview] ... is a spiritual orientation more than a matter of mind alone" (UND 18).
 - 3. Expressible as a _____ STORY.
 - 4. The _____ FOUNDATION of the way we live.
- C. Sire's new (8th) category: Worldview implications.
- D. Examples: Worldview affects _____. BEHAVIOR

IV. Worldview as the "Core" of Who You Really Are.

- A. Four functioning components to who you are.
 - 1. _____ MIND
 - 2. _____ EMOTIONS
 - 3. _____ BODY (BEHAVIOR/SPEECH)
 - 4. _____ WILL
- B. YOUR worldview is the composite _____ CORE of who you really are.
- C. The "greatest commandment" (Mk. 12:30).

V. Worldview and the Biblical Importance of a Christian Mind.

- A. Mark 12:30 (cf. Deut. 6:5) We are commanded to love God with our _____, **HEART** _____, **SOUL** _____, **MIND** and _____, **STRENGTH**
1. Why the apparent difference?
 2. Biblical timeline.
- B. Romans 12:1-2 We are called to have a _____ **TRANSFORMED** mind.
- C. Romans 8:5-7 The mind set on the flesh is _____ to God. **HOSTILE**
- D. Colossians 2:8 We are not to be taken _____ **CAPTIVE** by deceptive philosophies.
- E. 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 We should be able to _____ **DESTROY** every thought raised up against the knowledge of God and take every thought _____ **CAPTIVE** to Christ.

VI. Someone with a Christian (or Biblical) Worldview:

- A. _____ **LOVES** God with heart, soul, mind, and strength.
- B. Is adequately _____ **INFORMED** by God's revelation.
- C. Is NOT taken _____ **CAPTIVE** by deceptive philosophies.
- D. Takes every thought _____ **CAPTIVE** to Christ.
- E. **Consistently** _____ **LIVES** its implications in _____ **EVERY** area of life.

Binder material with the ANSWERS can be accessed at:

www.worldvieweyes.org/northview.html

“EXTRA CREDIT”: Take the online “worldview test” by Wednesday, April 20, at:

<http://www.worldviewweekend.com/test/register.php?testid=WORLDVIEW&groupreg=19225d856>.

Instead of typing all that in, you can (1) go to www.worldviewweekend.com; (b) click on “Free Worldview Test”; (c) put “19225d856” in the “Group Code” box; (d) complete the registration on that page; and (e) take the test.

It will take about 30 minutes to take the test. If enough people take the test, general statistical results will be shared with the entire class.

Note: This “test” is for instructional purposes only. WorldViewEyes does not endorse the test or its validity in accurately identifying your worldview.