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The reality of society is simple -- Christian stances on worldviews are declining. Biblical truths are deemed “-phobic” and unpopular to the majority of society. This downward trend in Biblical standards has led to perverted and inaccurate opinions concerning the Bible. This essay explores how Christians are to see the world if they wish to use the Bible as their lens.

Christianity is an all-encompassing religion, and is to be apparent in all aspects of a Christian’s life. However, theology, philosophy, biology, psychology, ethics, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history will be the main 10 topics discussed.

Chapter 2 dives into the first Worldview that we studied in depth. The chapter focuses on the nature of God, including the ways in which He has told us about Himself. It highlights two different revelations -- special and general revelation. Special Revelation is what is revealed to us specifically from the Bible, such as that God is ruler, righteous, and relational. General Revelation, on the other hand, is what nature and God’s creation reveals to us. General Revelation affirms that the universe is designed, intelligent, and moral. This affirmation leads us to a very important realization -- Whoever created the universe must be just as, if not more, designed, intelligent, and moral. This chapter is incredibly interesting, and it opened my eyes to so much about the nature of God. Despite having a relatively large bank of knowledge about God, it was fascinating to see how things other than the Bible can show His “personality.” One of the things I found most intriguing was the principle that God’s existence does not stem from one lone source, but rather, it is evident in a numerous number of puzzle pieces that point to the truth of God being real. Lastly, this chapter touched on a concept that ignited an internal debate

with myself. It claimed that morality relies on something higher than oneself. Something I have never understood is the juxtaposition that being an atheist puts on one's morality. If one does not believe in eternal consequences for their actions and that there is not a higher power dictating the ethics of a given situation, then one could theoretically use that to justify almost everything. It was a thought provoking concept to ponder on, much like the rest of this chapter. Chapter 2's study of Theology gave a unique perspective into the character and disposition of God Himself and how we, as humans, can go about learning that.

Chapter 3 tackles the question of how a Christian can determine what is true and what is real when living a life that requires a substantial amount of faith. It opens up by setting the standard that all forms of philosophy rely on assuming to some extent. Ultimately, it is this standard that causes the divisive factions amongst philosophers. Every philosopher places their faith in different a set of assumptions, and therefore, compromise is extremely difficult to achieve. It further argues that believing in Evolution and Spontaneous Generation requires more faith to believe in than some sort of Higher Power. Finally, it debates the topic of whether or not the mind and body are separate, and ends by saying that a Christian should embrace the idea of their life being meaningful and purposeful. Overall, this chapter made various points that I found to be particularly eye opening. For example, the remarks about Evolution taking more faith than Christianity made me look at the debate in an entirely new light. It is fascinating when one steps back and truly evaluates what we as humans believe in. Some believe that there is a Higher Power that has existed forever and will exist forever Who decided to make us and allow us to be with Him. Others believe that a random off-chance event caused a large boom that created everything we have ever known, and that over millions of years we evolved from being to being until we got to where we are today. Truthfully, both could sound odd from an outside

perspective. Yet, this teaches that we are not all as different from one another as we are taught to believe, and if we truly listened to one another we could agree on so much more.

In Chapter 4, Biology is the Worldview in focus. This chapter concentrates heavily on the Creation/Intelligent Design vs. Evolution debate. It debunks Evolution with three very important scientific facts. The first fact being that the world is such a complexly perfect thing that someone eminently intelligent had to have created it. Secondly, it points out that life only comes from other forms of life. In other words, it does not come from nothing. Consequently, spontaneous generation is not a scientific truth, which is the entire premise of the Big Bang Theory. Lastly, it discusses the fact that living things only reproduce after their own kind. Apple trees do not produce oranges. Adaptations may occur, but entire species changes do not. It also disproves the assumption that Christianity is unable to go hand in hand with science. In reality, they endorse each other's validity and existence at virtually every turn. I found this chapter to be really appealing because I tend to be a very analytical creature. In order for my mind to be changed someone should appeal to my logical nature rather than my emotional nature. This chapter did just that. It proved scientifically something that is often deemed as unbelievable. It made many good points, and I especially enjoyed the simplicity of it. As a relatively weak science learner, I was able to understand all of it. It was an enjoyable read, and it spoke on an important modern, and hotly debated, topic.

Chapter 5 discusses how psychological situations can and are related to spiritual issues. It goes into depth about how secular teachings will solely focus on potential worldly causes and solutions to mental issues, when in reality the spiritual realm has much more to do with them. Along those lines, it then claims to say that as it pertains to mental health there are only two choices, trust God or the lies of the enemy. It further argues that mental illnesses include only

those diseases that can be identified as having a definite cause. The chapter ends by mentioning the fact that God uses negative situations to bring about positive changes. As I approached this chapter, I thought I was going to really enjoy it since this is what my Bachelor's degree is going to be in. I was, however, severely disappointed. Mental health is an incredibly relevant and important issue. It is one of the few issues that I think society has been making positive strides by increasing the openness about it and decreasing the stigma around it. Unfortunately, I felt this chapter really diminished the entire subject. I left feeling as if all mental health problems are due to not trusting in the Lord. While as a general rule this premise appears understandable, such a hard and fast rule seems unwarranted. I also completely disagree with the claim that mental illnesses are only those that can be physically proven with definite causes. Anxiety and Depression can occur with almost no logical reasoning behind them, yet this does not mean they do not exist. The workbook, on the other hand, had a slightly different approach; it discussed the mind, and how we, as Christians, are loved, chosen people of God. The strongest point from the reading was the fact that God uses negative circumstances to create positive results. I enjoyed the workbook because I found it uplifting and encouraging, but the text was lacking.

Chapter 6 deals with the topic of ethics and how the study relates to Christianity. It focuses heavily on the principle that God and His Word are the best, and only, completely perfect basis upon which ethics can stand. It claims that this perfect "moral order is a reflection of the character of God" (TLAC 81). It speaks on the idea of certain moral standards existing regardless of God's order. Actions such as murder and rape are wrong in almost every society, for example. It further backs up this claim with the proposition of the fact that societies unilaterally cringe at child abuse and concentration camps. Consequently, how can this phenomenon occur if there is not a certain level of universal morality? It explains the new ideas surrounding morality. People

nowadays have watered down morality to justify whatever could make their lives easier. This leads them to their next point on how society is unable to handle differing viewpoints on morality because of their lack of establishing a universal base. They cannot determine that one moral code is right, higher, or better than any other moral code. It concludes by emphasizing the importance of Christians to not only know the ethical and moral code of God, but to live it as well. This chapter brought up a few really interesting points. The idea of God and His Word being the ultimate source of never failing morality seems like a given, but tying His holiness and righteousness to it made it more impactful. I, personally, found the most interesting section to be the paradox that modern society has created as it pertains to morality. They have created a standard that everything has the potential of being ok because morality is based on your own opinions. They ignore the fact that moral absolutes exist and that they are found in the Bible. Their entire stance on morality is flimsy, and as a result it is crippling into ruins before our very eyes.

Chapter 7 delves into how and why various institutions are ordained by God. The two institutions discussed in this chapter are the family and the church. The chapter explains how the family is the foundation of society, and the state of families directly reflects the state of that society. It goes further into the downward trend of respect for the family and marriage. Referring to the church, the chapter looks at how the church is a large aspect of the community and society. It points out the fact that churches can either be bearers of good news, aid, and love or bring judgment, hate, and scorn to societies. The decision of which way a church will impact society is left up to the church itself and how it handles its community. Lastly, another major topic of this chapter is the level of responsibility and importance the Bible places on the individual. It gives the individual autonomy, which can either make or break society. It gives them value and respect.

It explains how individuals are much more of a major component in a society than mainstream media perpetuates. This chapter really opened my eyes to the level of importance God places on individuals within a society. It made an extremely good point about how if decisions are dependent upon the genetics of a person, then you are unable to hold them accountable for their actions. In reality, we have so much more control over our lives and decisions than we think. That control and those decisions are what shape society. Modern culture remains inconsistent on this topic. It blames society's woes on large, ominous corporations and factions while also trying to convince you that you can do something about that fact. It simply does not make sense. Either individuals are one the most important impacts on society or they are not. The Bible does not have the same problem, however. Social institutions are extremely important to God. Your friends, your family, and your church matter to Him. He established this in His Word, and it sets the precedent upon which every Christian should model their social interactions from.

Chapter 8 focuses on where the law should come from and be based on. It establishes that a Christian perspective decrees that the best type of legal system is one based on the Bible, and therefore, does not depend on the ever changing ideologies of the nation's people. This, in turn, results in a more stable and righteous legal system. The chapter discusses the previously mentioned concept that a lack of an inherent universal standard leads to the possibility anything could be deemed reasonable. Lastly, it touches on the fact that the law comes from God, which means that we are made in His image thus granting us a supreme amount of worth and value. I thought this chapter considered some intriguing topics. I found the paradox that arbitrary laws create because they are based on the whims of the people to be the most interesting. This is because this fact means they have an unstable base they rely on. This instability leads to the simple fact that people have no reason to follow the law if they can get away with it. I also

enjoyed the reiteration that many of God's principles point to the idea that we are created with a purpose and value, which is something unique to religious ideologies.

Chapter 9 discovers what is the true, Godly purpose of a governmental body. It claims that finding and acting out justice is the most important job of any government. It mentions that the government should be limited and attempt to stay out of private affairs as much as possible. It discusses why a Christian should not hope for a utopia brought about by human means. Lastly, it explains in what instances one should disobey the law when it comes in contradiction with the Bible and God's direction. It closes out with this quote "...success is not the criteria. Faithfulness is" (TLAC 131). I thought this chapter brought some interesting points to the table; however, I found their view of government to be somewhat narrow minded. The government should focus on delivering justice, but the benefit of the government providing military and citizenship protection are also important. This ideology also relies too much on the government to be pure and perfect, when in reality it can be quite corrupt. While the chapter mentions that the best way to help the country is to vote in righteous individuals, it is simply too hard to estimate one's righteousness based on whatever information is made available to the public. I do not disagree with the stance of the role of government, I just found it a bit simplistic.

Chapter 10 touches on the purpose an economic system should have. It discusses that although the Bible does not clearly mark a specific economic system as best, the free enterprise model most closely aligns with other Biblical principles. It claims that economic freedom allows for us to help those in distress, while welfare simply stifles hard work. This idea aligns with the Biblical principle of those who do not work do not eat (unless they are unable to). Lastly, it explores how economic competition benefits the whole much more than opponents say it does, and that the government is not meant to establish equality of outcomes, but rather equality of

opportunities. I had similar, yet not quite as strong views, on this chapter as the last. I agree that work is necessary and can provide benefits to those involved. I generally agree that welfare instills laziness and reliance on the government. But, I think the idea of relying on churches and charitable organizations to help those who actually need to be on welfare is a tall request to make. I like the idea of a small governmental role; however, I do think it is necessary for the government to regulate at times because just like there are corrupt government officials there are corrupt business people. The general premise of this chapter was agreeable, but I found the details to be slightly unrealistic.

Chapter 11 explains the importance of history in a Christian's life. It establishes the accuracy of the Bible, and how outside sources confirm various accounts written in the Bible regardless of how some may view content. In other words, the doctrine might be up for debate, but the actions are not. This is extremely important because if, for example, the resurrection never happened then Christianity is pointless, yet this is not the case. It later explores the fact that history has a God-ordained beginning and end with a divine purpose. I thought this chapter was really interesting. I loved learning about the accuracy of the Bible based on other sources that are not the Bible itself. It furthers what we already know and believe. It proves that the Bible is an incredible Book that has and will continue to withstand the test of time. It also bolstered confidence in its reliability considering millions of people base their lives on a Book from thousands of years ago.

This study has been an in depth look on how Christians should see the world. After reading the book and working through the journal, I discovered entirely new concepts and reaffirmed other ideas that I may have been weak on. I did not agree with everything said in the study, but the overall idea of living and thinking Biblically is one I will always agree with and

one I will always defend as the right and true way. I would like to end with my biggest takeaway from this study which is this: God has designed us with a purpose and endowed us with freedoms and abilities that should astound us. For this, and so much more, I am grateful and thankful to call myself a Christian and to call Jesus Christ my Savior.