Thinking Like a Christian

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After breaking down the textbook Thinking Like a Christian I’ve gained some knowledge on the worldview of today's Christians and of non-believers. The book helped me reflect on the lessons throughout the course and has persuaded me to gain a better understanding of my belief in Christ Jesus. It talks about ten key lessons discerning biblical perspectives to oppose worldly views and convince others to turn a new leaf.

The following disciplines consist of Theology, Philosophy, Biology, Psychology, Ethics, Sociology, Law, Politics, Economics, and History. In the discipline of Theology, the book talks about how Christian theology is Christ centered. God revealed himself through his creation, word, and sacrificed his body and son. God is the judge in all aspects and will come for us on judgement day. God also is love, and displays mercy, he is gracious, sacrificial, universal, and beneficial to his people. He distinguishes between good and evil and he's concerned with our morality.

God’s emotions and characteristics make up his divine personality. He desires to be known for saving his children from sin. The discipline of Theology is a statement of the existence of an intelligent, powerful, and loving God.  Theology also is the study of the nature of God and our religious beliefs. When the book talked about theology it mentioned special and general revelations. Special Revelation sometimes involved God's certain communications and manifestations towards his people. For instance, when God spoke to and through the prophets to give Israel warnings or guidance. Perhaps God revealed his power when the great flood came during Noah’s time.  When reading about general revelations, the view by many Christians theists deemed it as a necessary but lacking means for providing understanding about the creator and his character. I believe that revelation is received when God’s supernatural power is expressed.

 The Discipline of Philosophy speaks on what is real and what is true. Often people assume our Christian worldview can’t have a Philosophy of its own because it requires faith in biblical revelations. The Bible does not ask the Christian to abandon reason in accepting its truth. As stated at the end of the day, everyone has to make a choice between a worldly viewpoint and a Christian viewpoint. The first book in bible Genesis 1:1 is the backbone to most of biblical Philosophy, It says “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Both Disciplines tie into each other.  Theology and Philosophy point to how its principles can be proven, and famous scientists even said themselves that Christianity was the mother of modern science.

Biology and Psychology disciplines expresses all living and nonliving systems were made from a creator and he designed how and why we operate the way we do.  Some scientist and worldly believers think that the idea of all living things evolved from a single speck of life, but we know that's not true because in Genesis 1: 21 its stated that “So God created the large sea-creatures and all living creatures that move and swarm according to their kinds.” The discipline of Psychology really caught attention when it said Christianity has true insight into the spiritual and mental realm. I thought it was interesting how God moves supernaturally in the spirit and how he can reveal things to whomever he chooses and show us things to come.

The discipline of Ethics digs into what's the right behavior and wrong behavior.  In Genesis 2:9 the bible speaks on the tree of knowledge of good and evil.  I believe this portrays an image of God wanting to let his children make the choice between the two. This discipline spoke on how sinful nature is not acceptable and shows how bible ethics is used to correct it. Christian ethics are grounded by the character of God. It is biblical teaching and Christian beliefs that God lives in us through our spiritual nature. The God we serve is greater than any kind of man-made moral heritage.

The discipline of Sociology is one of the most unique Disciplines if you ask me. Christian Sociology as well as the social order are important to God, social institutions to teach love, respect, discipline, work, and community. God created the society we live in and what I found interesting is that he also gave us free will to make choices. People in the Christian perspective must face the consequences of their decisions that could potentially be out of the will of God. The perspective of a Christian taught me that it’s Sociology focuses on all of society as a means for human cooperation with God's will.

The disciplines of Law and Politics associate with each other through government and order. A Christian’s point of view of law contains both a natural and biblical law made from God himself. Genesis 2: 16 said “The Lord God commanded; the man from the tree you must not eat.” I took a lesson from this verse that God values his rules, and we should be obedient and listen to them. The book said that the government is appointed by God, if it's serving the purpose for which God created it.  Christians show allegiance to God by submitting to the human government.  Christians believes in the corruption of man and that is why we need a godly government to keep the balance. Genesis 9:6 states “Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood will be shed” so I want to believe that God wants us to stay away from this situation.

The discipline of Economics is somewhat related to Law, it speaks on what produces a sound economy and how people should handle resources and money. Christians believe that the best economic system assures checks and balances that guarantee the protection of human rights and righteous management of resources. In the discipline of economic stewardship of private property and the use our resources should glorify God and benefit the kingdom.

Lastly is the disciple of History and how we interpret human events. COVID 19 affected the world when it struck in March of last 2020. We had to quarantine for months and wear masks too. We lived and are currently still living in a social distancing era. However, this wasn't the first pandemic that was in the world. There was the plague called The Black Death which caused massive deaths across many countries. The Bible says, **“**If you will diligently listen to the voice of the Lord your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, your healer.” Based on this scripture we can show how we as people need God and should turn and obey him. This is how we stay protected.  Perhaps in the time of the Black Death Plague people were out of God’s order.

In conclusion the Thinking Like a Christian textbook taught me to utilize these disciplines and begin to execute them to their fullest in my life. The book influenced me on the need to spread the word of God.  I can do this by presenting my Christian point of view in today's world. This book has exposed me to biblical information that I can use to support me in my Christian walk. I can't stress enough how much I appreciate these lessons on Christian and worldly views. Now I can see the viewpoint from both sides and make a clear decision of who I want leading my life. The Lord we serve is greater than any religion, god, or giant we may ever face.