

Insight for the Issues

Prov. 4:23

NE→XT STEPS

“Christians, Worldview,
and Education.”

Prov. 4:23 **Keep thy heart** with all diligence; for **out of it are the issues of life.**

Review

In May, we began a new series – “Insight for the Issues” – considering issues that believers must confront during a lifetime. Each generation has its own historical epoch that is unique for their time. Some intellectuals label it *zeitgeist*.

What are the issues facing us in our day? How is a Christian to be prepared to properly face and respond to the constant bombardment of ideas, philosophies, that affect our lives? Should a believer be expected to have a Scriptural perspective or viewpoint regarding politics, lifestyles, and other various issues? Note the following Scriptural perspective:

1 Chron. 12:32 “...**which were men** that had understanding of **the times, to know what Israel ought to do...**”

Est. 1:13 “...the wise men, **which knew the times...**”

Eccl. 8:5 “...and **a wise man's heart discerneth** both time and judgment.”

Tonight, our issue is “Christians, Worldview, and Education.” We will begin by considering what a “Christian worldview” is.

A worldview is the framework from which we view reality and make sense of life and the world. "[It's] any ideology, philosophy, theology, movement or religion that provides an overarching approach to understanding God, the world and man's relations to God and the world," says David Noebel, author of Understanding the Times.

A biblical worldview is based on the infallible Word of God.

When you believe the Bible is entirely true, then you allow it to be the foundation of everything you say and do. That means, for instance, you take seriously the mandate in Romans 13 to honor the governing authorities by researching the candidates and issues, making voting a priority.

Do you have a biblical worldview? Answer the following questions, based on claims found in the Bible **and** which George Barna used in his survey:

- Do absolute moral truths exist?
- Is absolute truth defined by the Bible?
- Did Jesus Christ live a sinless life?
- Is God the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe, and does He still rule it today?
- Is salvation a gift from God that cannot be earned?
- Is Satan real?
- Does a Christian have a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people?
- Is the Bible accurate in all of its teachings?

Did you answer yes to these? **Only 9 percent of "born- again" believers did.** But what's more important than your yes to these questions is **whether your life shows it.** Granted, we are all sinners and fall short, but most of our gut reactions will reflect what we deep-down, honest-to-goodness believe to be real and true.

<https://www.focusonthefamily.com/faith/christian-worldview/whats-a-christian-worldview/whats-a-worldview-anyway>

Barna's research shows that only 17 percent of Christians who consider their faith important and attend church regularly actually have a biblical worldview¹.

<https://www.barna.com/research/competing-worldviews-influence-todays-christians/>

AS I BELIEVE, THEREFORE I LIVE

I. THE FOUNDATION FOR LIVING

1 Cor. 3:11 For **other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.**

Whichever worldview foundation a people or nation chooses will have a dramatic influence on the future direction of that people.

If Christians use the same foundation as the world, can they expect to produce godly results?

<https://creation.com/two-worldviews-in-conflict>

Psa. 11:3 **If the foundations be destroyed**, what can the righteous do?

Heb. 11:10 For he looked for a city which hath **foundations, whose builder and maker is God.**

II. THE FUTILITY OF LYING

Jn. 8:44 Ye are of *your* father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for **he is a liar, and the father of it.**

Gen. 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and **ye shall be as gods,** knowing good and evil.

One example is the humanist Charles Francis Potter's book, *Humanism: A New Religion*, in which he writes, "**Education is the most powerful ally of humanism. What can theistic Sunday schools, meeting for an hour once a week, do to stem the tide of a five-day program of humanistic teaching?**"

Quoted in B.K.. Eakman, *Cloning of the American Mind: Eradicating Morality through Education*, p. 130.

Humanism is the world's second oldest religion. It began with the serpent's first whispered words to Eve, "Ye shall be as gods..." It stands in opposition to the eternal truths built into the foundations of creation and the revelation of those truths to the ancient Hebrews and first century Christians.

Ye shall be as gods - Humanism and Christianity - The Battle for Supremacy in the American Cultural Vision

by Larry G Johnson

<https://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/ye-shall-be-as-gods-humanism-and-christianity-the-battle-for-supremacy-in-the-american-cultural-vision-larry-g-johnson/1109163443>

Prov. 19:27 Cease, my son, **to hear the instruction *that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.***

Col. 2:8 Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, **after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.**

Original Word: στοιχεῖον

Transliteration: stoicheion

Definition: one of a row, a letter (of the alphabet), the elements (of knowledge)

Usage: (a) plur: the heavenly bodies, (b) a rudiment, an element, a rudimentary principle, an elementary rule.

stoixeíon— properly, *fundamentals*, like with the *basic components* of a philosophy, structure, etc.; (figuratively) "*first principles*," like the basic fundamentals of Christianity.

<https://biblehub.com/greek/4747.htm>

Gal. 4:3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage **under the elements of the world:**

8 Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods.

9 But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, **how turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage?**

Col. 2:20 Wherefore **if ye be dead with Christ from the rudiments of the world, why**, as though living in the world, **are ye subject to ordinances,**

❖ If you believe that God is the Creator, why be subject to the decrees of evolution?

Evolution vs the Bible

Assumptions:

1. There is no God (atheism); or, if a god exists, he/she/it left no trace of any creative activity
2. The present is the key to the past
3. We are here by chance

Mechanism:

1. Random mutation with natural selection
2. Life appeared and gradually diversified
3. No global flood covered the earth

Assumptions:

1. In the beginning, God created
2. Revelation (God's Word) is the key to the past
3. We were created by God

Mechanism:

1. Intelligent design
2. Universe/life created in six ordinary days approximately 6,000 years ago
3. Noah's flood covered the entire earth

**Order of Appearance:
(also for 'progressive creation')**

1. Matter always existed or just appeared
2. Sun/stars existed before Earth
3. Sun is Earth's first light
4. First life = marine organisms
5. Reptiles pre-date birds
6. Land mammals predate whales
7. Disease/death precede man

Order of Appearance:

1. God created matter
2. Earth created before sun/stars
3. Light created before sun
4. First life = land plants
5. Birds pre-date land reptiles
6. Whales pre-date land mammals
7. Disease/death result from man's sin

Implications:

1. No life after death
2. Our present life is all there is
3. Man is the highest authority
4. Self-fulfillment is the highest priority of man

Logical Consequence:

1. God is reduced to a creation of man
2. God is removed from public life
3. Man determines right and wrong
4. Civil laws written by the group with most (political) power

Bible Teaches:

1. Man's spirit will live forever
2. God wants us to live with Him forever
3. God is the highest authority
4. Love of God, and obedience to His Word is the highest priority of man

Logical Consequence:

1. God is the all-powerful Creator
2. God is honoured in public life
3. God determines right and wrong
4. Civil laws based on God's law

US

CBNNEWS.COM

'Downright Sickening': CA Preps Graphic Sex Ed with Bondage, 'Blood Play', and K-3 Gender Queer

05-01-2019

Heather SellsShare

The state of California is poised to adopt a no-holds-barred K-12 health curriculum that teaches children as young as kindergarten about gender identity issues and talks explicitly with high school students about every imaginable sex act.

<http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2019/may/downright-sickening-ca-preps-graphic-sex-ed-with-bondage-blood-play-and-k-3-gender-queer>

CBNNEWS.COM

Displaying 30+ Stories

'You Did What?' CA School Conceals Drag-Queen Makeup Day Leaving Parents Bewildered

03-18-2019

Steve Warren

The students said they went to an "LGBT Fair" for which parents had not been notified nor given the option for their child to attend or opt out.

<http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2018/august/drag-queen-story-hours-expose-pre-schoolers-to-what-some-parents-call-gender-insanity>

WORLD

CBNNEWS.COM

Displaying 30+ Stories

'Mommy, I Don't Want to Be a Boy!' Little Girl's Reaction to Radical Sex Ed Program Says It All

01-14-2018

Wendy Griffith

NEWS

CBNNEWS.COM

Displaying 30+ Stories

'Transsexual Takeover': California Law Includes Jail Time for Using Wrong Pronoun for Transgenders

10-05-2017

Drake DuPont

<http://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/us/2017/october/transsexual-takeover-california-law-includes-jail-time-for-using-wrong-pronoun-for-transgenders>

California close to revising sex ed guidance for teachers

By ADAM BEAM

5/8/19

<https://apnews.com/e6b4018eaebb49bf8ddc63aee0074182>

**ALERT! Circulators of Referendum Needed in the City of Medina
Saturday July 27**



Referendum Petition
Signature Drive for
City of Medina. This
Saturday, July 27.
Your help is needed.
Concerned Citizens
for Medina City

**Referendum Petition
Concerned Citizens for Medina City**

Areas of Concern

- This LGBTQ special rights ordinance provides for a public accommodation section on page 6 of the ordinance. It allows for persons of any “gender identity or expression” to be allowed in any public restroom of the opposite sex.
- Medina City Schools also have to allow those students that perceive themselves to be transgender to enter restrooms, locker rooms, and showers of the opposite sex.
- Students may be able to choose to compete in sports as a gender opposite of their birth gender.
- The City of Medina would face making costly investigations into citizen claims of discrimination based on gender identity and expression which are difficult to prove.

- Business owners will be faced with the decision to make brick and mortar changes to accommodate a third restroom or face fines.
- These concerns were addressed before City Council by local residents who opposed the ordinance. The Council ignored those concerns and passed the ordinance by a 5-2 margin. That is why we are circulating a referendum to put the issue on the ballot for the citizens to decide.

<http://ohioca.org/newsarticle.php?ALERT-Circulators-of-Referendum-Needed-in-the-City-of-Medina-Saturday-July-27-nbsp-nbsp-nbsp-Referendum-Petition-259>

III. THE FRUITFUL LEGACY

Psa. 127:3 Lo, **children are an heritage of the LORD**: *and* the fruit of the womb *is his* reward.

Rom. 12:2 And **be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Summary

Dawson reminds us: “behind the smokescreen of blue books and hand-books great forces are at work which have changed the lives and thoughts of men more effectively than the arbitrary power of dictators or the violence of political revolutions.”¹⁰

He continues his analysis of universal State run education by warning his readers that “...once the State has accepted full responsibility for the education of the whole youth of the nation, it is obliged to extend its control further and further into new fields: to the physical welfare of its pupils – to their feeding and medical care – to their amusements and the use of their spare time – and finally to their moral welfare and their psychological guidance.”¹¹ This universal education will only serve to create a new Leviathan which embraces the entire field of culture, including all forms of educational institutions not excluding private nursery schools and universities.¹² Given the disproportion in wealth between religious and other private institutions and the more powerful modern state, the former ones are prone to face a serious financial and academic (curricula determination) crisis in the near future.

Let me conclude this brief article with a note of optimism, quoted from the wise British scholar Christopher Dawson:

“So long as the Christian tradition of higher education still exists, the victory of secularism even in a modern technological society is not complete. There is still a voice to bear witness to the existence of the forgotten world of spiritual reality in which man has his true being.”¹³

<https://www.iwp.edu/articles/2018/02/01/the-tragedy-of-american-education-the-role-of-john-dewey/>

Prov. 22:6 **Train up a child in the way he should go:** and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

Luke 6:45 A good man **out of the good treasure of his heart** bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for **of the abundance of the heart** his mouth speaketh.

Luke 12:34 **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**

Col. 3:2 **Set your affection on things above**, not on things on the earth.

1 Chron. 29:3 Moreover, because **I have set my affection to the house of my God**, I have of mine own proper good, of gold and silver, *which* **I have given to the house of my God**, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house,

Rom. 14:12 So then **every one of us shall give account of himself to God.**

1 Cor. 4:2 Moreover **it is required in stewards**, that a man **be found faithful.**