



BIBLICAL PRINCIPLES FOR BUILDING A STRONG FAMILY



OVERCOMING THE THREE ENEMIES OF THE FAMILY (PART 1 - THE WORLD)

Ephesians 2:1-3- “*And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 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—among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*”

Christ Has Won the Victory Over the Three Enemies of the Family:

The World-

- John 16:33-“I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.”
- 1 John 5:4- “For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world-our faith.”

The Flesh-

- Galatians 5:16, 17-“But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.”

The Devil-

- John 16:11- “Concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”
- I John 2:14-“I write to you, fathers, because you know Him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God abides in you, and you have overcome the evil one.”
- I John 4:4-“Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”

Overcoming the World in Your Family

Colossians 2:6-10-*“Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. **See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority.**”*

I. WORLDVIEWS IN CONFLICT

- I define the world as *“a shared set of beliefs with certain unbiblical philosophies that drive a culture and many times they go totally unquestioned by those that live in them.”*
- **Worldview-the eyeglasses in which we see life through, to perceive what is true about myself, my life, my relationships with others and God. Our worldview is shaped and impacted by family, church, culture, peers, education, life history, television, and music.**
- We must understand the danger of outside influences on us and on our children.

1 Corinthians 15:33, 34-*“Do not be deceived: ‘Bad company ruins good morals’ Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.”*

Satan’s Goals

- To keep people ignorant of the truth.
- To get people to question their faith in the truth.
- To distort the truth regarding their view of God, view of man, view of truth, view of knowledge, and view of ethics.

Belief Systems We Face Today and Their Impact on Us and Our Children

- **Pragmatism**-a philosophical movement that includes those who claim that an ideology or proposition is true if it works satisfactorily.
- **Post-Modernism Worldview**-founded upon at least three basic religious and moral ideals.
 - 1. Religious Relativism—**
We all worship the same God; we just refer to Him by different titles.
 - 2. Tolerance—**
The demand that we value the views and practices of others to the degree we value our own.
 - 3. Philosophical Pluralism—**
The denial of absolute truths is the hallmark of modern thinking. It is summed up in the belief that any particular ideology’s or religion’s “claim to be intrinsically superior to another one is necessarily wrong.”

II. FIVE BASIC ELEMENTS OF A BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW

Romans 12:1, 2-*“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”*

- Teaching our children to think biblically in these five areas will go along way toward establishing a foundation for biblical thinking in their lives.
- Secular Humanism is the most popular worldview in our culture today. Here is the contrast of the five basic elements between Secular Humanism and a Theistic worldview. (Family Driven Faith Chapter 4, Dr. Voddie Baucham)

	Post Modern Secular Humanism	Christian Theism
View of God	Atheism	Theism
View of Man	Evolution	Special Creation
View of Truth	Relative	Absolute
View of Knowledge	Scientific/Materialism/ Naturalism	Scientific/General/Natural Revelation
View of Ethics	Cultural	Absolute

III. FOUR QUESTIONS THAT NEED BIBLICAL ANSWERS

Answers from a Secular Humanist Worldview (supremacy of self)

Who am I?

I am nothing, you are an accident, and I am a mistake, a glorified ape, a result of human evolutionary processes, born for no reason, and no purpose.

Why am I here?

I am here to consume and enjoy all that I can. The only thing that matters is if I am more powerful than you. I will take from you what I need for my own satisfaction. (Materialism, Pragmatism, results rather than Theories and Principles, determine the proper action)

What is wrong with the world?

People are either insufficiently educated or insufficiently governed. People either do not know enough or they are not being watched enough.

How can what is wrong with this world be made right?

More education and more government will fix the problem. Educate a sinful person and they only become more educated in how to sin and destroy. We need to govern them more.

Answers from a Christian Worldview (the supremacy of Christ - Colossians 1:15-22)

Who am I?

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities” (Colossians 1:15-16).

To answer that question correctly you first have to acknowledge who Jesus is and the supremacy of Christ (Colossians 1:15; John 1:1; Genesis 1:1). He is the Creator of all things. I am created in the image of God. I am the crown and glory of the creation of God. God knit me in my mother’s womb (Psalm 139). My identity is in Christ.

Why am I here?

“All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent” (Colossians 1:16-18).

I am here to bring Christ glory and honor. Christ is to have supremacy in my life and in all things. I am not here to consume. Life is not about, “What can I get?” It is about fulfilling God’s purpose. What are God’s gifting, passions, talents to fulfill His purposes in my life? Is life all about gaining for financial reasons, material goods and prestige? Or is life about the supremacy of Christ.

What is wrong with the world?

“And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds...” (Colossians 1:21).

ME & YOU! We are the crown and glory of God, but we are hostile in mind, doing evil deeds. When I entered this world, I did not acknowledge the supremacy of Christ. Life revolved around me. However, I have a God who is both omnipotent and sovereign and I am at His mercy.

How can what is wrong with this world be made right?

“For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross....He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him” (Colossians 1:19-22).

By the substitutionary atoning death of Jesus Christ. This world cannot be made right any other way. Religion is not having a spiritual experience and trying to do more good than bad in hopes for the best when I die. Life is about redemption.

PERSONAL EVALUATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you acknowledge that you are living in a world at war?
2. Do you have an understanding on how we appropriate the victory over our three enemies?
3. Have you ever considered how post-modern philosophies have impacted your life and relationships in a negative way?
4. How are you involved in teaching your child's biblical worldview?
5. What are some dangers in your child's life that can impact their worldview in a negative way?

