

WHY DOES IT MATTER WHAT I BELIEVE?

Reframing Your Worldview
Rick Warren

1. WHAT'S A WORLDVIEW?

MY WORDVIEW: THE BELIEFS I BUILD MY LIFE ON

- **"THE ONE WITH MOST TOYS WINS"** _____
Jesus: "Life does not consist in an abundance of possessions."
Luke 12:15 (NIV)
- **"I'VE GOT TO THINK OF ME FIRST"** _____
Jesus: "If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it." Matthew 16:25 (NLT)
- **"DO WHATEVER FEELS GOOD"** _____
"You're addicted to thrills? What an empty life! The pursuit of pleasure is never satisfied." Proverbs 21:17 (MSG)
- **"WHATEVER WORKS FOR YOU"** _____
"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."
Proverbs 14:12 (ESV)
- **"GOD DOESN'T EXIST OR MATTER"** _____
"From the beginning of creation, God has shown what these are like by all he has made. That's why those people don't have any excuse. They know about God, but they don't honor him or even thank him. . . . They claim to be wise, but they are fools." Romans 1:20-22 (CEV)
- **"YOU ARE YOUR OWN GOD"** _____
"They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped . . . created things rather than the Creator." Romans 1:25 (NIV)
- **"GOD MADE ME FOR HIS PURPOSES"** _____
"For everything, absolutely everything, above and below, visible and invisible . . . everything got started in him and finds its purpose in him."
Colossians 1:16 (MSG)

2. WHY DOES IT MATTER WHAT I BELIEVE?

"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts."
Proverbs 4:23 (GNT)

"If people can't see what God is doing, they stumble all over themselves; But when they attend to what he reveals, they are most blessed." Proverbs 29:18 (MSG)

"Always be ready to give a [logical] defense to anyone who asks you to account for the hope . . . that is within you, yet [do it] with gentleness and respect."
1 Peter 3:15 (AMP)

3. HOW CAN I STRENGTHEN MY WORLDVIEW?

- _____ **WHAT IS TRUE**
"Learn the truth and never reject it. Get wisdom, self-control, and understanding." Proverbs 23:23 (NCV)
- _____ **WHAT IS FALSE**
"Don't believe everything you hear. Carefully weigh and examine what people tell you. Not everyone who talks about God comes from God. There are a lot of lying preachers loose in the world." 1 John 4:1 (MSG)
- _____ **FROM THE WORLD TO THE WORD**
"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2 (NIV)
"A wise person is hungry for knowledge, while the fool feeds on trash."
Proverbs 15:14 (NLT)
- _____ **YOURSELF WITH GOD'S AGENDA**
"[God] will always give you all you need from day to day if you will make the Kingdom of God your primary concern." Luke 12:31 (TLB)
"Stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults." 1 Corinthians 14:20 (NIV)

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HOW DO I KNOW WHAT'S TRUE?

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Rick Warren & Tom Holladay

Jesus: "The truth will set you free." John 8:32 (NIV)

SIGNS OF "TRUTH DECAY" IN A CULTURE

- "Then we will no longer be like children, forever changing our minds about what we believe because someone has told us something different or has cleverly lied to us and made the lie sound like the truth." Ephesians 4:14 (TLB)
- "They don't care anymore about right and wrong and have given themselves over to impure ways. They stop at nothing, being driven by their evil minds and reckless lusts." Ephesians 4:19 (TLB)
- "Since they refuse to trust truth, they're banished to their chosen world of lies and illusions." 2 Thessalonians 2:12 (MSG)
- "Where there is ignorance of God, crime runs wild." Proverbs 29:18 (TLB)
- "Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies." Romans 1:25 (TLB)
"So they worshiped and served the things God created instead of the Creator himself." Romans 1:25 (NLT)
- "Our courts oppose the righteous, and justice is nowhere to be found." Isaiah 59:14 (NLT)
"Truth falls dead in the streets, and fairness has been outlawed." Isaiah 59:14 (TLB)

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT'S TRUE?

1. THROUGH

"Since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse." Romans 1:20 (NIV)

"The basic reality of God is plain enough. Open your eyes and there it is!"

Romans 1:19 (MSG)

2. THROUGH

"Some people naturally obey the Law's commands, even though they don't have the Law. This proves that the conscience is like a law written in the human heart. And it will show whether we are forgiven or condemned." Romans 2:14-15 (CEV)

"The Lord gave us mind and conscience; we cannot hide from ourselves."

Proverbs 20:27 (GNT)

3. THROUGH

"Fools will believe anything, but the wise think about what they do."

Proverbs 14:15 (NCV)

"Anyone who examines this evidence will come to stake his life on this: that God himself is the truth." John 3:33 (MSG)

"The Father . . . will give you another Helper, who will stay with you forever. He is the Spirit, who reveals the truth about God." John 14:16-17 (GNT)

4. THROUGH GOD'S

"All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right." 2 Timothy 3:16 (NLT)

5. THROUGH

"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." John 14:6 (NIV)

"Those who believe him discover that God is a fountain of truth." John 3:33 (TLB)

WHAT TO DO WITH THE TRUTH

- **BELIEVE IT** Colossians 1:23 (NLT)
- **DO IT** Philippians 3:16 (NLT)
- **STAND FOR IT** 2 Corinthians 13:8 (NLT)
- **SPREAD IT** 3 John 1:8 (GW)

"Let everything you do reflect your love of the truth and the fact that you are in dead earnest about it." Titus 2:7 (TLB)

WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

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WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

1. **GOD** _____
“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.” Genesis 1:1 (NIV)
“He did not create it to be empty, but formed it to be inhabited.” Isaiah 45:18 (NIV)
“God is the One who made all things, and all things are for his glory. He wanted to have many children share his glory.” Hebrews 2:10 (NCV)
2. **GOD** _____ **OF US FIRST BUT** _____ **LAST**
“Long before [God] laid down earth’s foundations, he had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of his love.” Ephesians 1:4 (MSG)
“[God] brought us into being through the word of truth, so that we should have first place among all his creatures.” James 1:18 (GNT)
3. **GOD** _____ **EACH OF US**
“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born.” Psalm 139:13-16 (NLT)
2. **MY IDENTITY** _____
“God paid a ransom to save you from the empty life.” 1 Peter 1:18 (NLT)
“But he paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ.” 1 Peter 1:19 (TLB)
“God always knew he was going to do this for you.” 1 Peter 1:20 (MSG)
“Haven’t you yet learned that your body is the home of the Holy Spirit God gave you, and that he lives within you? Your own body does not belong to you.”
1 Corinthians 6:19 (TLB)
“Anyone who is joined to Christ is a new being; the old is gone, the new has come.”
2 Corinthians 5:17 (GNT)
3. **MY DAYS** _____
“All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old.”
Psalm 139:16 (NCV)
“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)
4. **MY PROBLEMS** _____
“We know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” Romans 8:28 (NLT)
5. **MY FUTURE** _____
“Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.” Psalm 23:6 (NIV)
“This was [God’s] purpose: that when the time is ripe he will gather us all together from wherever we are—in heaven or on earth—to be with him in Christ forever.”
Ephesians 1:10 (TLB)
“All creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are.” Romans 8:19 (NLT)

WHAT ARE THE IMPLICATIONS?

1. **MY LIFE** _____
“God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.” Genesis 1:27 (NLT)
God to Jeremiah: “Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you. Before you were born, I set you apart for my holy purpose.” Jeremiah 1:5 (GW)
“You created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased.”
Revelation 4:11 (NLT)

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HOW DID THE WORLD GET SO MESSED UP?

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1. THE REASON: _____

"Sin came into the world because of what one man did, and with sin came death."
Romans 5:12 (NCV)

"There is not a single man in all the earth who is always good and never sins."
Ecclesiastes 7:20 (TLB)

2. THE RESULT: WE LIVE _____

1. NATURAL _____

"Creation was condemned to lose its purpose." Romans 8:20 (GNT)

"Creation is confused." Romans 8:20 (CEV)

"All of creation groans with pain." Romans 8:22 (GNT)

2. PHYSICAL _____

"Our physical body is becoming older & weaker." 2 Corinthians 4:16 (NCV)

"Everyone dies because all of us are related to Adam."
1 Corinthians 15:22 (TLB)

"Creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay." Romans 8:21 (NLT)

3. EMOTIONAL _____

"They are distressed, because they had been confident; they arrive there, only to be disappointed." Job 6:20 (NIV)

"I realize that I don't have what it takes. I can will it, but I can't do it."
Romans 7:18 (MSG)

4. RELATIONAL _____

"They suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves." Genesis 3:7 (NLT)

5. SPIRITUAL _____

"I am like a caravan, lost in the desert while searching for water."
Job 6:18 (CEV)

"They've refused for so long to deal with God that they've lost touch not only with God but with reality itself." Ephesians 4:18 (MSG)

3. THE RATIONALE: WHY GOD LETS IT CONTINUE

1. TO GIVE US _____

"Today I am giving you a choice between good and evil, between life and death." Deuteronomy 30:15 (GNT)

"In due season God will judge everything man does, both good and bad."
Ecclesiastes 3:17 (TLB)

2. TO SHOW OUR _____

"God is letting the world go on its sinful way so that he can test mankind, and so that men themselves will see that they are no better than beasts."
Ecclesiastes 3:18 (TLB)

"When I want to do good, I don't; and when I try not to do wrong, I do it anyway."
Romans 7:19 (TLB)

3. TO DEMONSTRATE _____

"The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent." 2 Peter 3:9 (NLT)

"He isn't really being slow about his promised return, even though it sometimes seems that way. But he is waiting, for the good reason that he is not willing that any should perish, and he is giving more time for sinners to repent."
2 Peter 3:9 (TLB)

4. MY RESPONSE:

1. RECEIVE _____

"Through the sin of one man death began to rule because of that one man. But how much greater is the result of what was done by the one man, Jesus Christ! All who receive God's abundant grace and are freely put right with him will rule in life through Christ." Romans 5:17 (GNT)

2. REMEMBER _____

"I am here on earth for just a little while." Psalm 119:19 (GNT)

"This world is not our home; we are looking forward to our everlasting home in heaven." Hebrews 13:14 (TLB)

3. REJECT _____

"My people have done two evil things: They have abandoned me—the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all!" Jeremiah 2:13 (NLT)

4. REACH OUT _____

"Go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society. Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God. Carry the light-giving Message into the night." Philippians 2:15 (MSG)

WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

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APPROACHES TO WORLD PROBLEMS:

Political: Change what people do (laws)
Educational: Change what people know
Material: Change what people have (money)
Psychological: Change what people feel
Sociological: Change how people relate
Biological: Change people's bodies
Biblical: Change HEARTS!

HEART DISEASES

SYMPTOM: YOU FEEL . . .

HOW JESUS' DEATH ON THE CROSS SOLVED OUR BIGGEST PROBLEMS

1. REPLACEMENT: _____

"God sent Christ Jesus to take the punishment for our sins and to end all God's anger against us." Romans 3:25 (TLB)

"God took the sinless Christ and poured into him our sins. Then, in exchange, he poured God's goodness into us!" 2 Corinthians 5:21 (TLB)

2. REDEMPTION: _____

"He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone." 1 Timothy 2:6 (NLT)

"You are a slave to whatever controls you." 2 Peter 2:19 (NLT)

"We can never redeem ourselves; we cannot pay God the price for our lives, because the payment for a human life is too great." Psalm 49:7-8 (GNT)

3. RECONCILIATION: _____

"We were God's enemies, but he made us his friends through the death of his Son." Romans 5:10 (GNT)

"Christ changed us from enemies into his friends and gave us the task of making others his friends also. Our message is that God was making all human beings his friends through Christ. God did not keep an account of their sins, and he has given us the message which tells how he makes them his friends."

2 Corinthians 5:18-19 (GNT)

4. REBIRTH: _____

"[God] saved us because of his mercy, and not because of any good things we have done. God washed us by the power of the Holy Spirit. He gave us new birth and a fresh beginning." Titus 3:5 (CEV)

"Anyone who belongs to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten, and everything is new." 2 Corinthians 5:17 (GNT)

"They sang a new song: 'You are worthy. . . . For you were killed, and by your sacrificial death you bought for God people from every tribe, language, nation, and race.'" Revelation 5:9 (GNT)

"Sin's power over us was broken when we became Christians and were baptized to become a part of Jesus Christ; through his death the power of your sinful nature was shattered. . . . and when God the Father, with glorious power, brought him back to life again, you were given his wonderful new life to enjoy."

Romans 6:3-4 (TLB)

5. REPUDIATION: _____

"The Son of God came for this purpose: to destroy the devil's work."

1 John 3:8 (NCV)

"With the cross God won the victory and defeated [the spiritual rulers and powers]. He showed the world that they were powerless." Colossians 2:15 (ICB)

"Because God's children are human beings—made of flesh and blood—the Son also became flesh and blood. For only as a human being could he die, and only by dying could he break the power of the devil, who had the power of death. Only in this way could he set free all who have lived their lives as slaves to the fear of dying." Hebrews 2:14-15 (NLT)

"We know that when Jesus was raised from the dead it was a signal of the end of death-as-the-end. Never again will death have the last word." Romans 6:9 (MSG)

HOW SHOULD I LIVE IN THIS WORLD?

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"Anyone who says he is a Christian should live as Christ did." 1 John 2:6 (TLB)

1. WITH _____

"Don't be hypercritical; use your head—and heart!—to discern what is right, to test what is authentically right." John 7:24 (MSG)

"Make sure that the light you think you have is not actually darkness." Luke 11:35 (NLT)

2. WITH _____

"If you are filled with light, with no dark corners, then your whole life will be radiant." Luke 11:36 (NLT)

"You are the world's seasoning, to make it tolerable. If you lose your flavor, what will happen to the world?" Matthew 5:13 (TLB)

3. WITH _____

"God blesses those who . . . realize their need for him." Matthew 5:3 (NLT)

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Matthew 11:28-29 (NIV)

4. WITH _____

"Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." Luke 12:15 (NIV)

"And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul?" Matthew 16:26 (NLT)

5. WITH _____

"With God everything is possible." Matthew 19:26 (NLT)

"Everything is possible for one who believes." Mark 9:23 (NIV)

6. WITH _____

"If you receive a prophet as one who speaks for God, you will be given the same reward as a prophet. . . . And if you give even a cup of cold water to one of the least of my followers, you will surely be rewarded." Matthew 10:41-42 (NLT)

"Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me. . . . Whenever you failed to help any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you failed to do it for me."

Matthew 25:40, 45 (CEV)

7. WITH _____

"In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you." Matthew 7:12 (NIV)

"You're blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight." Matthew 5:9 (MSG)

8. WITH _____

"I'm telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer." Matthew 5:44 (MSG)

"Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven." Luke 6:37 (NIV)

9. WITH _____

"Use your worldly resources to benefit others and make friends. Then, when your possessions are gone, they will welcome you to an eternal home." Luke 16:9 (NLT)

"Give, and it will be given to you. . . . For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38 (NIV)

10. WITH _____

"Only people who don't know God are always worrying. . . . Your Father knows what you need. But put God's work first, and these things will be yours as well." Luke 12:30-31 (CEV)

"If your first concern is to look after yourself, you'll never find yourself. But if you forget about yourself and look to me, you'll find both yourself and me." Matthew 10:39 (MSG)