

South East Asian Theological Schools, Inc.

SEATS

Schools of Ministry

Discipling Leaders ¹ Building Nations

SOM-01 Foundations of our Faith

SOM-01-01 Worldview 1

This class will examine the basic foundational beliefs of the evangelical Christian church, with a focus on God, Creation, Revelation, and Fall.

What is worldview? *Ano ba'ng pananaw?*

"... a set of things we assume about the world."

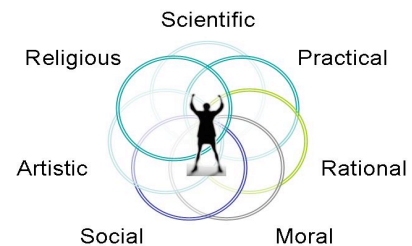
"... *ang mga pagpapalagay natin tungkol sa ayos ng mundo natin.*"

-James Sire

"[Worldview] is simply the sum total of our belief about the world, the 'big picture' that directs our daily decisions & actions."

"*Sa madaling sabihin, lahat ng paniniwala natin tungkol sa mundo ang pananaw. Pinamahalaan nitong 'malaking larawan' ang ating mga pasiya at mga araw-araw na kilos.*"

-Colson & Pearcey

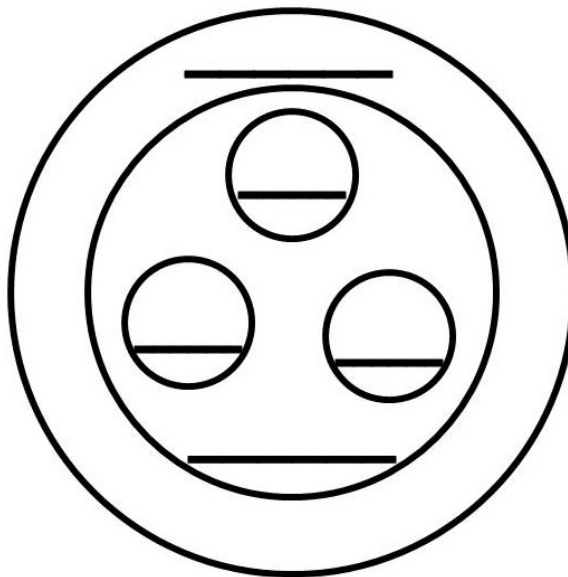


Alin ba'ng pililiin mo?

"A worldview that is incomplete keeps us from understanding God, the world, & ourselves. A worldview that is complete can suddenly bring everything into focus."

Ang pananaw na may kulang ay naging hadlang sa ating maunawaan sa Diyos, sa mundo, at sarili natin. Kayang linawin ang lahat ng tamang pananaw.

-Ronald Nash



He created all things in heaven & on earth, visible & invisible. Whether they are kings or lords, rulers or powers- everything has been created through him & for him. He existed before everything & holds everything together. *Sapagkat sa pamamagitan niya ay nilikha ang lahat ng nasa langit at nasa lupa, nakikita man o hindi, pati ang mga espirituwal na kapangyarihan, paghahari, pamamahala, at pamumuno. Ang lahat ay nilikha ng Diyos sa pamamagitan niya at para sa kanya. Siya ang una sa lahat, at ang buong sansinukob ay nananatiling nasa kaayusan sa pamamagitan niya.*

-Colossians 1:16-17

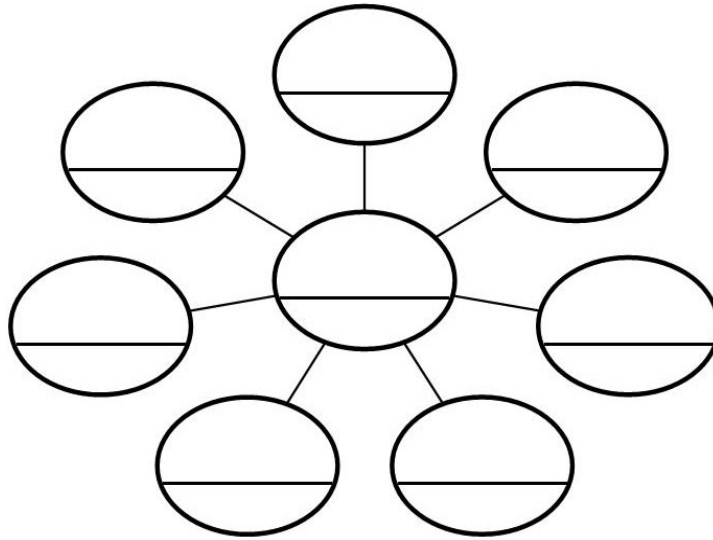
What is your worldview? *Ano ba'ng Pananaw mo?*

Write your worldview about the following topics. *Isulat ang pananaw mo sa mga usyang ito.*

Abortion, Herbal Medicine, Suffering, Money, Wowowee!, Prostitution, Bribery, Cellphone, *Kasama sa Bahay*, *Japa-eoke* (Entertainers), paying taxes, rallies/*welga*

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How do Evangelicals view the world?



I. Evangelical Worldview: God

"There is not a single inch of the whole terrain of our human existence over which Christ .. does not proclaim, 'Mine!'" – Abraham Kuyper

BCPI Statement of Faith on Things About God

2. THE TRINITY: We believe that there is one living and true God, eternally existing in three persons; that these are equal in every divine perfection and that they execute distinct but harmonious offices in the work of creation, providence, and redemption.

Scripture: Mt 28:19; 1Pe 1:2; Jo 8:58; Ac 5:3-4; Ge 1:26; Is 59:20; Ps 110:1;

3. GOD THE FATHER: We believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. We believe that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ.

Scripture: Ge 1:1, 26-27; 3:22; Ps 90:2; Mt 28:19; 1Pe 1:2; 2Co 13:14

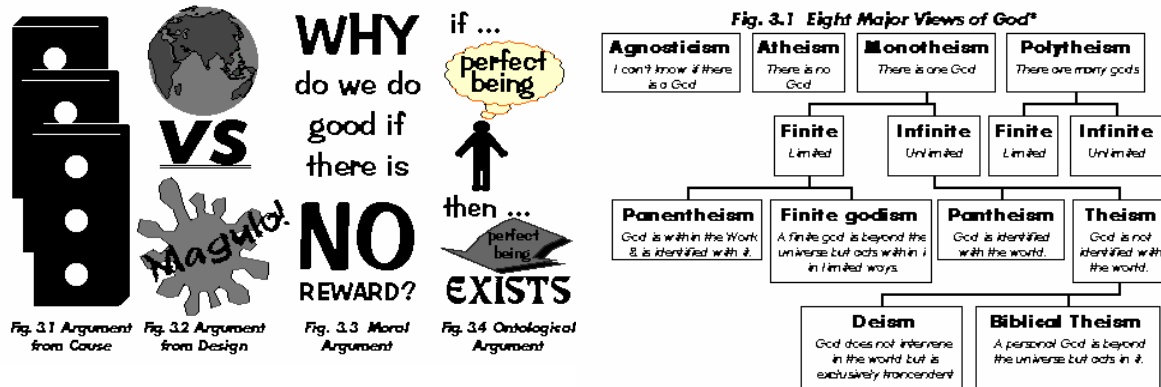
4. JESUS CHRIST: We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. We believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. We believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth.

Scripture: Mt 1:22-23; Is 9:6; Jo 1:1-5; 8:58; He 4:14; 1Co 15:3-4; Ro 1:3-4; Ac 1:9-11; 1Ti 6:14-15; Tit 2:13

5. THE HOLY SPIRIT: We believe in the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and the Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. We believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide.

Scripture: 2Co 3:17; Jo 16:7-13; Ac 1:8; Ac 5:3-4, 1Co 2:12; 3:16; Ep 1:13; Ge 5:25; Ep 5:18

Who is God? How do you know he exists? *May Diyos ba? Anong klaseng Diyos natin?*



*Adapted from Norman Geisler, in H. Wayne House, *Guide of Christian Theology and Doctrine* (Grand Rapids, Zondervan Publishing House, 1992), #14.

There is only one God / *Isa lang ang Diyos*

De 6:4 – "*Pakinggan mo, O Israel: Si Yahweh na ating Diyos ang tanging Yahweh.*"

De 6:4 – Listen, Israel: The LORD is our God. The LORD is the only God.

Php 2:9-11 – ... *luluhod at magpupuri ang lahat .. At ... ang lahat ay magpapahayag na si Jesu-Cristo ang Panginoon.*

Php 2:9-11 – ...so that ... everyone ... will kneel & confess that Jesus Christ is Lord...



"If the world & all in it belongs to God, & comes under his direct claim over it in & through Jesus, then there can be no sphere of life that is not radically open to the rule of God. There can be no non-God area in our lives & in our culture."

– Alan Hirsch, *The Forgotten Ways*

What are the implications of the fact that there is only 1 God?

"A Church in Every Community"

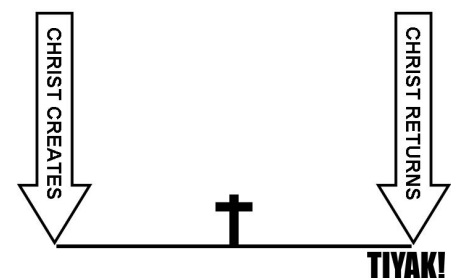
- What areas in our community need to be reclaimed for God?
- How can we lead people to meet God in every place in our community?
 - Jo 4:20-24 – "... true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit & truth. The Father is looking for people like that to worship him. God is a spirit. Those who worship him must worship in spirit & truth."

What are our communities?

How does the church goal "Every Believer a Leader of Leaders" relate to our need to plant churches in every community?

II. Evangelical Worldview: Creation

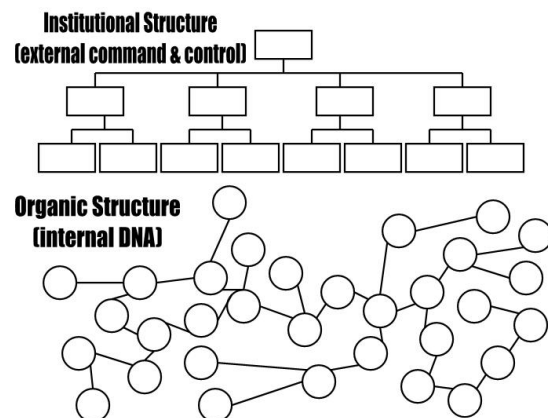
- *Ex Nihilo*. Creation from nothing.
- NOT from Himself (Deism)
- NOT from something (Pantheism).
- Against polytheism & idols.
- Humans were not created *ex-nihilo*..
- Eschatology provides a worldview framework for the church's mission today.
- The importance of this worldview may be shown in two ways:
 - To reorder the internal life of the community of God's people in ways faithful to Yahweh (I AM).



- To invite the world outside the community of God's people to reorder its life with reference to Yahweh (I AM)..
- God is the creator of the visible (physical universe) & the invisible (powers & principalities). *Nilikha ng Diyos ang makikita at di-makikitang mga bahagi ng sanlibutan.*
- God created man & woman in His image – holistic organisms (1Th 5:3), the divine representatives. *Nilikha ng Diyos ang babae at lalaki sa wangis niya.*
- Humans are focal to the design & purpose of the universe – to use, rule, enjoy – & to relate to God.
- God also created angelic beings. *Nilikha din niya ang mga anghel.*
- The universe declares His glory. *Pinapahayag ng sanlibutan ang kaluwalhatian ng Diyos*

What do we learn from creation? *Ano ba'ng natutunan natin sa paglikha?*

1. All living things have natural intelligence
 - Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA)
 - Survival, adaptation, & reproduction
 - Starfish Churches
2. Life is interconnected
 - Everything needs to be brought into meaningful relationship with each other
 - Networked not institutional
3. Information brings change
 - Need to "manage the meaning"
 - Scripture
 - Functions of the Church
 - Cultural & Social Contexts
4. Life adapts to change
 - No change = death
 - Change = life
 - Fish in Aquarium vs Ocean Fish
 - Develop a healthy network by eliminating dysfunctions



III. Evangelical Worldview: Revelation

BCPI Statement of Faith on Revelation

1. THE WORD OF GOD: We believe that the Bible is the Word of God, fully inspired & without error in the original manuscripts, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, & that it has supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.

Scripture: 2Ti 3:16; 2Pe 1:20-21; 2T 1:13; Ps 119:105-160; 12:6; Pr 30:5

- God revealed Himself in creation, in design, in conscience &, finally, in Christ.
- His revelation is not only of Himself but also about His plan.
- The Bible is the inspired record of His revelation..
- Premises: God is transcendent & must take the initiative; & man & woman are sinful.
- General revelation (GR) – eternity, power, glory, kindness, moral law, wrath against sin so that man is without excuse.
- Special revelation (SR) – Miraculous events & centers on Jesus Christ, His birth, pain & death
- GR & SR are a unity..

What can we learn from Revelation?

1. God can be known.
2. God wants to be known.
3. God can be known through an encounter with Jesus.
4. We can make God known if we have experienced Jesus personally.

Special Revelation: The Incarnation

"Ang Salita ay naging tao at nanirahan sa piling namin." Juan 1:14

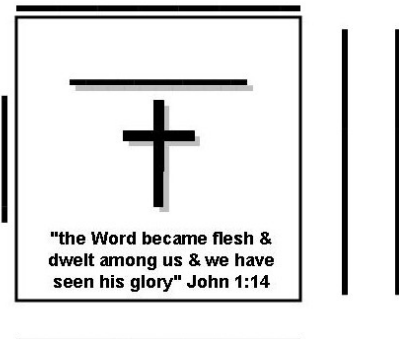
There are four ways we can understand the Incarnation of God in Jesus Christ.

The Incarnation: *Presence*

- In Jesus the eternal God is fully present with us.
- He is God & not just a representative of God.

John 1:1-15 – "In the beginning the Word already existed. The Word was with God, & the Word was God. He was already with God in the beginning The Word became human & lived among us. We saw his glory. It was the glory that the Father shares with his only Son, a glory full of kindness & truth."

John 1:1-15 – *Nang pasimula ay naroon na ang Salita; ang Salita ay kasama ng Diyos, at ang Salita ay Diyos. Sa pasimula ay kasama na siya ng Diyos.... Ang Salita ay*



The Incarnation

naging tao at nanirahan sa piling namin. Nakita namin ang kaluwalhatiang tunay na kanya bilang kaisa-isang Anak ng Ama. Siya ay puspos ng kagandahang-loob at ng katotohanan.

Col 2:9 – "All of God lives in Christ's body ..."

"Sapagkat likas kay Cristo ang buong pagka-diyos kahit na siya'y nagkatawang-tao."

The Incarnation: Proximity / Kalapitan

- Christ drew near to us so we can draw near to him.
- He "befriended outcast people & lived life in proximity with the broken & the lost."

Luke 19:10 – "Indeed, the Son of Man has come to seek & to save people who are lost."

Luke 19:10 – "Ang Anak ng Tao ay naparito upang hanapin at iligtas ang naligaw."

The Incarnation: Powerlessness / Walang-kapangyarihan

- God takes the form of a servant & not that of someone who rules over us.
- "Shows us how love & humility reflect the true nature of God & are the key means transform human society."

Phil 2:6ff – Although he was in the form of God & equal with God, he did not take advantage of this equality. Instead, he emptied himself by taking on the form of a servant, by becoming like other humans, by having a human appearance. He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, death on a cross.

Phil 2:6ff – Kahit siya'y likas at tunay na Diyos, hindi niya ipinagpilitang manatilinga kapantay ng Diyos. Sa halip, kusa niyang hinubad ang pagiging kapantay ng Diyos, at naging katulad ng isang alipin. Ipinanganak siyang tulad ng mga karaniwang tao. At nang si Cristo'y maging tao, nagpakumbaba siya at naging masunurin hanggang kamatayan, maging ito man ay kamatayan sa krus.

Luke 22:25-27 – Jesus said to them, "The kings of nations have power over their people, & those in authority call themselves friends of the people. But you're not going to be that way! Rather, the greatest among you must be like the youngest, & your leader must be like a servant. Who's the greatest, the person who sits at the table or the servant? Isn't it really the person who sits at the table? But I'm among you as a servant.

Luke 22:25-27 – Kaya't sinabi ni Jesus sa kanila, "Ang mga hari ng mga Hentil ay pinapanginoon ng kanilang nasasakupan, at ang mga may kapangyarihan ay nagnanasang matawag na mga tagatangkilik. Ngunit hindi ganoon ang dapat mangyari sa inyo. Sa halip, ang pinakadakila ang dapat lumagay na pinakamababa, at ang namumuno ay maging tagapaglingkod. Sino ba ang higit na nakakataas, ang nakadulog sa hapag, o ang naglilingkod? Hindi ba ang nakadulog sa hapag? Ngunit ako'y kasama ninyo bilang isang naglilingkod.

The Incarnation: Proclamation / Pahayag

- Dignified all that is human / *Sinabi niya na mahalaga ang ating pagiging tao.*

- Heralded the reign of God
- Called people to respond in repentance & faith
- This is the start of the gospel invitation

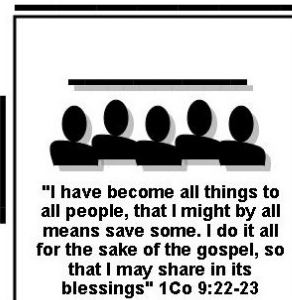
Luke 2:6-15 – Mary ... gave birth ... An angel from the Lord suddenly appeared to [Shepherds]. The glory of the Lord filled the area with light, & they were terrified. The angel said... "Don't be afraid! I have good news for you, a message that will fill everyone with joy. Today your Savior, Christ the Lord, was born in David's city..." Suddenly, a large army of angels appeared with the angel... praising God by saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, & on earth peace to those who have his good will!" The angels left them & went back to heaven. The shepherds said ... "Let's go to Bethlehem & see what the Lord has told us about."

John 14:6 – Jesus answered him, "I am the way, the truth, & the life. No one goes to the Father except through me.

Sumagot si Jesus, "Ako ang daan, ang katotohanan, at ang buhay. Walang makakapunta sa Ama kundi sa pamamagitan ko."

How does Jesus' Incarnation relate to our lives?

Our calling is to live Christ-like lives on earth as testimonies of his goodness. In many ways we are the only Bible many people will ever see. In many ways the Word of God also becomes flesh in us as we live out the truths of the Bible in our own lives. We can relate the four understandings of Christ's Incarnation in our mission to the world.



Incarnational Mission: *Presence*

- Jesus lived for 30 years on earth before anyone noticed him.
- Being incarnational is anonymous.
- Being incarnational means becoming a part of the fabric of the community.
- Shows the importance of the role of relationship in mission.
- We can show God's love for people by spending time with those who feel God isn't interested in them.

Incarnational Mission

Incarnational Mission: *Proximity / Kalapitan*

Mt 9:10-13 – Later Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house. Many tax collectors & sinners came to eat with Jesus & his disciples. The Pharisees saw this & asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors & sinners?" When Jesus heard that, he said, "Healthy people don't need a doctor; those who are sick do. Learn what this means: 'I want mercy, not sacrifices.' I've come to call sinners, not people who think they have God's approval."

- Jesus mixed with people from every level of society.
 - Pharisees
 - Tax Collectors
 - Prostitutes
 - Families
 - Crowds
 - Worshipers
 - Poor & Rich
 - Foreigners
- We must do the same by being both present & available
- What dangers exist?

Incarnational Mission: *Powerlessness / Walang-kapangyarihan*

Joh 13:3-8 – The Father had put everything in Jesus' control. Jesus knew that. He also knew that he had come from God & was going back to God. So he got up from the table, removed his outer clothes, took a towel, & tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin & began to wash the disciples' feet & dry them with the towel that he had tied around his waist. When Jesus came to Simon Peter, Peter asked him, "Lord, are you going to wash my feet?" Jesus answered Peter, "You don't know now what I'm doing. You will understand later." Peter told Jesus, "You will never wash my feet." Jesus replied to Peter, "If I don't wash you, you don't belong to me."

Mat 20:25-28 – Jesus called the apostles and said, "You know that the rulers of nations have absolute power over people and their officials have absolute authority over people. But that's not the way it's going to be among you. Whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant. Whoever wants to be most important among you will be your slave. It's the same way with the Son of Man. He didn't come so that others could serve him. He came to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many people."

Php 2:5-8 – Have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Although he was in the form of God & equal with God, he did not take advantage of this equality. Instead, he emptied himself by taking on the form of a servant, by becoming like other humans, by having a human appearance. He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, death on a cross.

- We must commit to servanthood & humility
 - To each other
 - To the world

Incarnational Mission: *Proclamation / Pahayag*

2Ti 4:2 – Be ready to spread the word whether or not the time is right. Point out errors, warn people, & encourage them. Be very patient when you teach.

2Ti 4:2 – ... ipangaral mo ang salita ng Diyos; pagsikapan mong gawin iyan napapanahon man o hindi. Himukin mo at pagsabihan ang mga tao, at palakasin ang kanilang loob sa pamamagitan ng matiyagang pagtuturo.

1Pe 3:15 – But dedicate your lives to Christ as Lord. Always be ready to defend your confidence in God when anyone asks you to explain it. However, make your defense with gentleness & respect.

1Pe 3:15 – Igalang ninyo si Cristo mula sa inyong puso at sambahin ninyo siya bilang Panginoon. Lagi kayong maging handang magpaliwanag sa sinumang magtatanong sa inyo tungkol sa pag-asa na nasa inyo.

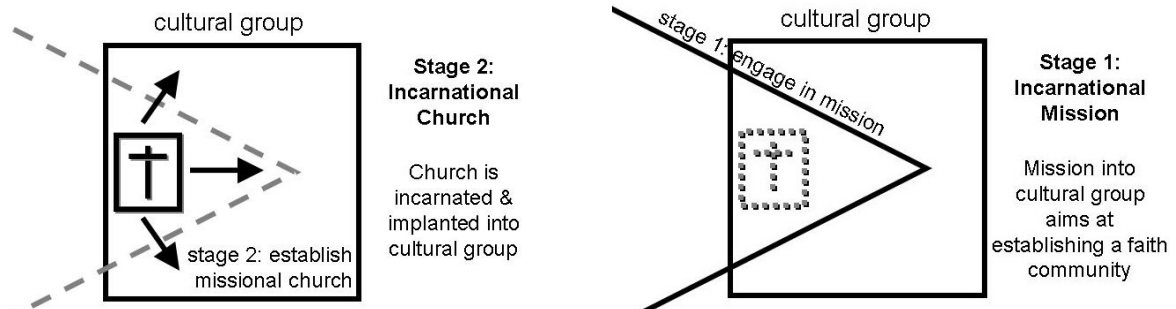
Mt 28:19-20 – Kaya't habang kayo'y humahayo, gawin ninyong alagad ko ang mga tao sa lahat ng bansa. Bautismuhan ninyo sila sa pangalan ng Ama, at ng Anak, at ng Espiritu Santo. Turuan ninyo silang sumunod sa lahat ng iniutos ko sa inyo. Tandaan ninyo, ako'y laging kasama ninyo hanggang sa katapusan ng panahon."

- Always be willing to share the Good News with those within our world.
- We are a "message tribe." – we exist to proclaim a message of Good News.
- God has given us the job of proclaiming the Good News.

Group Assignment



"A Church in Every Community"



IV. Evangelical Worldview: Fall

BCPI Statement of Faith on Sin & the Fall

6a. REGENERATION: We believe that all men are sinners by nature & by choice & are therefore under condemnation....

Scripture: Ge 1:1, 26-27; 3:22; Ps 90:2; Matthew 28:19; 1Pe 1:2; 2Co 13:14

- God created man with freedom to choose but without freedom to choose consequences.
- Sin & death entered the world.
- Man & woman became slaves of sin without the means to free themselves.

What can we learn from the Fall?

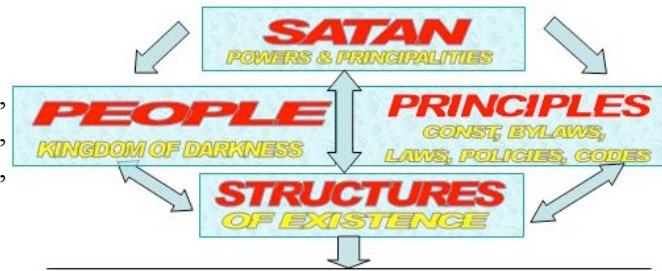
1. Sin affects everyone.
2. Sin is serious.
3. It is serious enough that God wants to protect us from the consequences.
4. We need to help protect others as well.

7 Basic Assumptions about Evil

1. God is sovereign & He created all things both in heaven & on earth, visible & invisible.
2. There are invisible realities & spiritual forces that influence historical events.
3. These spiritual forces are either good or bad.
4. There were two Falls: the fall of Satan & his demons & the fall of man & woman.
5. Satan & devils (powers & principalities) are personal evil spirits who attack the Church & hinder the spread of the Gospel.
6. There are structures of existence in our world & they are not evil by themselves but can be influenced by Satan to carry out his devious work – hence structural evil.
7. The transformation of nations requires that the Church deal with these visible & invisible forces.

Examples of Structural Evil

The world is the embodiment of evil, man under bondage to sin and satan, idolatry, injustice, lawlessness, wickedness, poverty, sin, death



Political Evil

unjust & oppressive systems, loss of basic freedoms, tyranny, corruption, dynasties, nepotism

Social (cultural) Evil

secularism, racism & discrimination, vices, criminality, wickedness & immorality, value erosion (community, family life), slavery/bondage, obscenity in arts/entertainment, epidemics (hiv)

Religious Evil

relativism, idolatry, satanic worship, occultism, human sacrifice, astral spirits, witchcraft, formalism, legalism, christian persecution

Economic Evil

mass poverty, exploitation, unfair labor practices, usury, child labor, consumerism, materialism

Media Evil

business oriented, biased newscasting, state/ideologically influenced, influenced by the rich, tool for mind control, sensual

Educational Evil

value-neutral, coercive catechism, secular philosophy, rationalism/science, individual pursuits of success, instrument of the state

Ecological Evil

deforestation, punctured ozone layer, poisoned atmosphere, pollution of environment, abuse/depletion of natural resources, natural disasters

Toward a Christian Response to Structural Evil

Satan

GENERAL: Recognition of sovereignty of God in creation – visible & invisible – & the presence of wicked forces (Satan, powers & principalities) influencing humanity, systems & structures to defeat the Church & hinder the advance of the Kingdom of God.

Responses:

Personal level – e.g. inner healing, deliverance, holiness of life or righteous living.

Corporate level – e.g. spiritual warfare, prayer & fasting.

Humanity

GENERAL: Recognition that all have sinned & in bondage to Satan & sin, therefore alienated from God & powerless to overcome the forces of evil in the world.

RESPONSES: Evangelism, church planting, discipleship, develop a biblical worldview, calling.

Principles

GENERAL: Recognition that culture, ideology, laws & policies can legitimize & empower people & structures to carry out & perpetuate evil in the world.

RESPONSES: Research, value transformation, policy advocacy, just legislation.

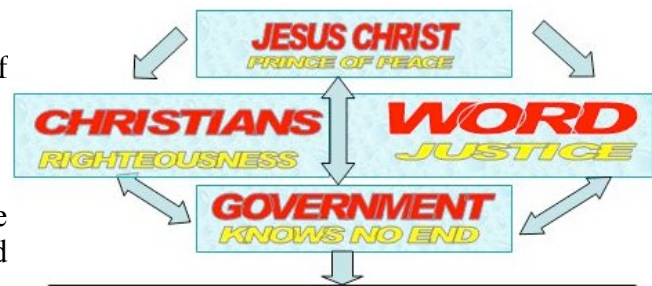
Structures

GENERAL: Recognition that cultural, corporate & governmental structures can be influenced by evil or demonized (Rom. 13 cf. Rev. 13) to oppress humanity, suppress the Church, & hinder God's redemptive agenda.

RESPONSES: Research, public advocacy, promotion of freedom, engagement in the public square, involvement in the market place, influencing public opinion through media & education, impartial justice system & law enforcement.

Structural Evil Dismantled

True Manifestation of the Kingdom of God. The church works



Political Righteousness

* justice, basic freedoms, stability, people participation, eradication of graft and corruption

Social (cultural) Righteousness

* equality, low crime rate, moral living, strengthening of family values, increase in life span

Religious Righteousness

* religious tolerance, freedom of conscience, public worship, righteousness, absolute truth, godliness, freedom from oppressive spirits,

Economic Righteousness

* democratization of economic opportunities, increased production, growing middle class, fair labor practices

Media Righteousness

* balanced media coverage, influenced by facts, media for justice, peace, and righteousness

Educational Righteousness

* core national values, focus on liberal arts, science and technology, skilled labor force, integration of citizenship duties.

Ecological Righteousness

* reforestation, cleanliness, less flooding, soil conservation, ecological balance