

# Introduction to Worldviews

## What is a Worldview?

A worldview is a Conceptual Scheme by which we consciously or unconsciously place or fit everything we believe and by which we interpret and judge reality.

You have a set of Presuppositions about life that informs how you think - a set of assumptions either true, partially true, or entirely false.

Be wise - people are inconsistent with their worldviews!!!

## How do I Determine a Worldview?

Do not be hasty - you want to honestly assess a worldview, not build strawmen.

Do not fall to misleading cues - find out the whole truth.

To be considered a Christian worldview, one does not have to go around talking about theology all day. Remember, it is a conceptual framework of presuppositions by which you interpret reality.

## Parts of a Worldview:

### 1. Metaphysics : What is prime reality - the really real?

Example: *The Matrix*

### 2. Physics : What is the nature of external reality - the world around us?

Examples: *Escher - Relativity*

*Rembrandt - Portrait of Man with a Magnifying Glass*

*Rembrandt - Landscape of a Windmill*

### 3. Anthropology : What is a human being, including what happens at death?

Examples: *Pablo Picasso, Young Woman*

*Dave Matthews Band, Proudest Monkey*

*Caedmon's Call, Thankful*

*C. S. Lewis, Final paragraph from the final scene from The Last Battle*

**4. Epistemology : Is it possible to know anything at all?**

Our senses tell us all that we know - can we trust them?

**5. Ethics : What is right and wrong?**

Examples: Seinfeld Episode, "It's a write-off for them."

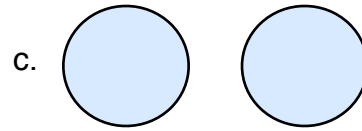
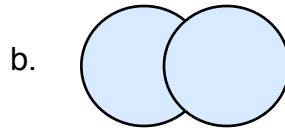
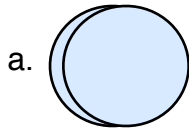
Dave Matthews, Dodo

**6. Teleology : What is the meaning of human history?**

Examples: John Mayer, Wheel

**What are my Choices?**

It is rare that people will completely agree on something down to the details.



Important worldview categories: Theism (poly- or mono-), Deism, Naturalism, Nihilism, Existentialism, Eastern Pantheistic Monism, New Age, and Postmodernism.

**Why is the Pursuit of Understanding Worldviews Important?**

Understanding yourself leads to understanding others, which is important when sharing the good news of Jesus Christ.

Orthodoxy must be joined with orthopraxy if we are to truly glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

To be able to love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength!