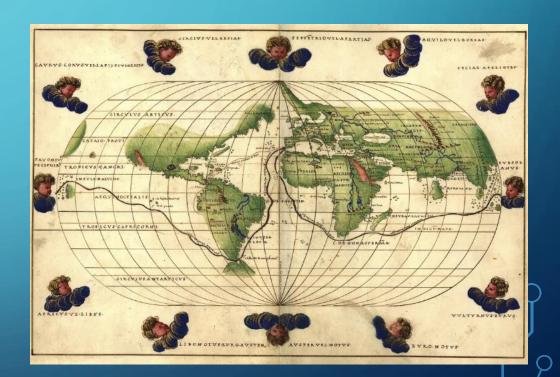
BIBLICAL WORLDVIEW UNIT 1- WORLDVIEW- WORLDVIEW THINKING AND THE GOSPEL

INGREDIENTS OF A WORLDVIEW

- Map-making illustration
- Head-heart commitments
- Metanarrative
- Produces individual or group action: culture

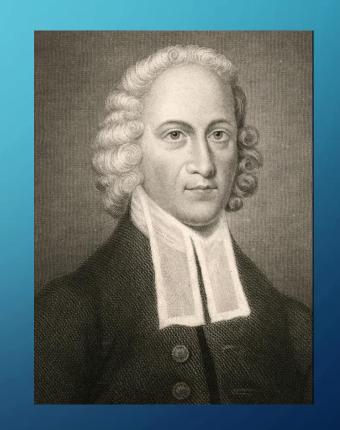


METANARRATIVE: CREATION, FALL, REDEMPTION

• The Bible is the story of what God is doing to glorify Himself by redeeming His fallen creation.

CREATION AND THE END FOR WHICH GOD CREATED THE WORLD

Isaiah 43:6-7: "I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth,
 veryone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."



PSALM 104:31

May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
 may the LORD rejoice in his works,





THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD,

AND THE SKY ABOVE PROCLAIMS HIS HANDIWORK.

DAY TO DAY POURS OUT SPEECH,



GLORIFYING GOD AND ENJOYING GOD

- Man in the imago dei Psalm 8
- Edwards: In the creature's knowing, esteeming, loving, rejoicing in, and praising God, the glory of God is both exhibited and acknowledged; His fulness is received and returned. The beams of God's glory are reflected back to Him. The beams of God's glory come from God, are something of God, and are refunded back again to their original. So that the whole is from God, and in God, and to God; and He is the beginning, middle, and the end.

MAN GLORIFYING GOD IN GENERAL REVELATION

• Calvin: By nature men are formed in such a manner as to make it evident that they were born to contemplate the heavens, and thus to learn their Author; for while God formed other animals to look downwards for pasture, he made man alone erect, and bade him look at what may be regarded as his own habitation.

 "Man was created to be a spectator of this formed world, and that eyes were given him that he might by looking on so beautiful a picture, be led up to the Author Himself."

MAN IN GOD'S IMAGE

• Kuyper: If everything that is, exists for the sake of God, then it follows that the whole creation must give glory to God. The sun, moon, and stars in the firmament, the birds of the air, the whole of Nature around us, but, above all, man himself, who, priestlike, must concentrate to God the whole of creation, and all life thriving in it. And although sin has deadened a large part of creation to the glory of God, the demand,—the ideal, remains unchangeable, that every creature must be immersed in the stream of religion, and end by lying as a religious offering on the altar of the Almighty.

EVOLUTIONARY/PANTHEISTIC VIEWS/ IS MAN MORE VALUABLE THAN THE SPARROWS?

• Brian May: Human beings have no right to consider themselves any more special than any of our fellow survivors on the planet. And as far as being the dominant species, there is no question that bacteria, not us, are way out in front.



Lawyers representing an elephant have argued in <u>New York</u> court that their trunked client be considered a person, in a fresh attempt to upend human dominance over this designation.

Happy the elephant is, contrary to her sunny name, being detained by the Bronx Zoo "illegally", due to her personhood, and must be released, according to her self-appointed legal team.

The case's instigator, an animal rights group, hopes it will effect a legal breakthrough that will elevate the status of elephants, which the group calls "extraordinarily complex creatures" similar to humans that should have the fundamental right to liberty.

REVELATIONAL WITNESS

 Van Til: God witnesses to them through every fact of the universe from the beginning of time. No rational creature can escape this witness. It is the witness of the triune God, whose face is before men everywhere, and all the time...To not know God man would have to destroy himself. He cannot do this...Whenever he sees himself, he sees himself confronted with God...All men know God, the true God, the only God. They do not merely have a capacity for knowing him, but actually do know him. Thus there is not and can never be an absolute separation between God and man.

ROMANS 1



FALL: MAN'S RESPONSE TO GENERAL REVELATION

 "Hear this, O foolish and senseless people, who have eyes, but see not, who have ears, but hear not.

²² Do you not fear me? declares the LORD.

Do you not tremble before me?

I placed the sand as the boundary for the sea, a perpetual barrier that it cannot pass;

though the waves toss, they cannot prevail; though they roar, they cannot pass over it.

²³ But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart; they have turned aside and gone away.

²⁴ They do not say in their hearts, 'Let us fear the LORD our God,

who gives the rain in its season, the autumn rain and the spring rain,

and keeps for us

the weeks appointed for the harvest.'



MORALITY OF KNOWLEDGE/ MOLD OF UNBELIEF

TODAY, IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE,

DO NOT HARDEN YOUR HEARTS

AS YOU DID IN THE REBELLION.

HEBREWS 3:15

¹⁷ And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸ Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember?



TUREK AND HITCHENS DEBATE 1:42:00



GREATNESS AND MISERY OF MAN

• Augustine: Man is one of your creatures, Lord, and his instinct (was) to praise you. He bears about him the mark of death, the sign of his own sin, to remind him that you thwart the proud. But still, since he is a part of your creation, he wishes to praise you. The thought of you stirs him so deeply that he cannot be content unless he praises you, because you made us for yourself and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.

GREATNESS AND MISERY OF MAN

• Augustine: "But my sin was this, that I looked for pleasure, beauty, and truth not in him but in myself and his other creatures, and the search led me instead to pain, confusion, and error."

GREATNESS AND MISERY OF MAN

• Bavinck: They seek Him below, while He is above. They seek Him on earth, whereas He resides in heaven. They seek Him afar, yet He is near. They seek Him in wealth, goods, glory, power, and lust; yet He dwells on high, in the holy place, with those of a contrite and humble spirit (Isaiah 57:15). Despite this misdirection, they still seek Him, hoping to find Him (Acts 17:27). They seek Him even as they flee from Him, unwilling to know His ways, yet unable to live without Him. They feel both drawn to God and repelled by Him. Herein lies the profound insight of Pascal: the greatness and the misery of mankind. Man thirsts for truth, yet is a liar by nature. He longs for peace but plunges himself into distractions. He hungers for lasting, eternal happiness, yet grasps at fleeting pleasures. He seeks God but loses himself in the creature. Though born to the house, he feeds on swine's husks in a distant land. He is like a hungry man who dreams he eats, but awakens to find his soul empty; or like a thirsty man who dreams he drinks, but upon waking, finds himself parched and his soul unsatisfied (Isaiah 29:8).

MAN IS AN ENIGMA/ RIDDLE



BOAST IS IN THE LORD ALONE!

- For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,
- "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."
- 20 Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, **in the wisdom of God**, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach be to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. ²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, ^[c] not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being ^[d] might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ And because of him ^[e] you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

BOAST IN THE LORD ALONE

⁶ Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷ But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

- "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him"—
- 10 these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. 11 For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. 13 And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. 114 The natural operson does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. 15 The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. 16 "For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

KNOWLEDGE IS ETHICAL

• CVT: Man set for himself a false ideal of knowledge when he became a sinner, that is, he lost true wisdom. In Christ man was reinstated to true knowledge. In Christ man realizes that he is a creature of God and that he should not seek underived comprehensive knowledge. Christ is our wisdom. He is our wisdom not only in the sense that He tells us how to get to heaven. He is our wisdom too in teaching us true knowledge about everything about which we should have knowledge...Christ's work as priest cannot be separated from his work as prophet. Christ could not give us true knowledge of God and of the universe unless he died for us as priest. The question of knowledge is an ethical question.

KNOWLEDGE IS ETHICAL/ WORLDVIEW THINKING IS ABOUT THE GOSPEL

- Christ as our Prophet, Priest, and King Psalm 8
- Wisdom is blood bought/ False and full of sin I am, Thou art full of truth and grace









LET US LOVE AND SING AND WONDER

2. Let us love the Lord Who bought us
 Pitied us when enemies
 Called us by His grace and taught us
 Gave us ears and gave us eyes
 He has washed us with His blood
 He has washed us with His blood
 He has washed us with His blood
 He presents our souls to God