



Outline

Lesson 2 - Philosophy & Ethics: Says Who?

- I. Introduction – Have you been taken captive? - 2 Timothy 2:24-26
 - A. Scriptural warning against hollow and deceptive philosophy – Colossians 2:8
 - B. Carl Sagan’s Worldview – “The Cosmos is all there is, or ever was, or will be”
 - C. Assumptive language – A powerful and dangerous form of knowledge
 - D. Cosmic Cube – Illustrates the naturalistic worldview belief that there is nothing outside the cosmos; reality is a closed box and all truth must be materially perceived
 - E. Biblical presuppositions – God is and He has revealed himself to us (general revelation through our world and specific revelation through His word)
 - F. God’s Nature - Transcendent and immanent – He is above and works within the box
- II. Philosophy – What is it?
 - A. Webster 1828 definition vs Current definition – God has been removed from the discipline of philosophy in today’s culture
 - B. Philosophical Questions – What is existence? What is the meaning and purpose of life?
 - C. Universal and Particulars – Aristotle and Plato’s philosophical dilemma – How do we arrive at Truth? How do we make sense of the unity and diversity of our world?
- III. Postmodernism – Can you live it?
 - A. What is Right? What is wrong? - Ethical implications of postmodernism – There is no basis for ethical standards or ethical language in a naturalistic worldview
 - B. Plato’s Question – “Is an act right because God said it, or did God know it was right and told us about it?” – His laws are an expression of His nature

- C. Naturalistic philosophy implications – Darwin’s views in non-assumptive language
 - D. Statistical Ethics – Our culture determines ethics through normalcy and survey data
- IV. Worldview – Formal worldview vs personal worldview
- A. Lack of a personal, biblical worldview in America – We fail to see Christianity as a worldview that governs every area of life
 - B. Our worldview drives how we think, act, and feel – What we *really* believe
 - C. Consequences of a non-biblical worldview: We buy the lies and conform to the world
- V. Conclusion and Solution – Renewing of the Mind – Metamorphoo – Romans 12:2
“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”