

## Do You Know What You Believe? Do you know Why You Believe What You Believe?

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. (Proverbs 23:7 )

Timothy, guard what have been entrusted to your care. Turn away from godless chatter and the opposing ideas of what is falsely called knowledge. (1 Timothy 6:20)

Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth. (2 Timothy 2:15)

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:13)

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

Always be prepared to give an answer [apologia] to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. (1 Peter 3:15)

And He [Jesus] said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind." (Matthew 22:37)

"God is no fonder of intellectual slackers than any other slackers. If you are thinking of becoming a Christian, I warn you, you are embarking on something which is going to take the whole of you, brains and all. But fortunately, it works the other way round. Anyone who is honestly trying to be a Christian will soon find his intelligence being sharpened: one of the reasons why it needs no special education to be a Christian is that Christianity is an education itself." --C. S. Lewis (Mere Christianity)

Note: Christians living under the Lordship of Jesus Christ must know both what they believe and why they believe it. In the day in which we live, this has never been more important.

## What is a Worldview?

A worldview is a comprehensive view of life through which we think, understand, and judge, and which determines our approach to life and meaning.

"A worldview is that basic set of assumptions that gives meaning to one's thoughts. A worldview is the set of assumptions that someone has about the way things are, about what things are, about why things are." -Russ Bush

"A worldview is a set of presuppositions (assumptions which may be true, partially true or entirely false) which we hold (consciously or subconsciously, consistently or inconsistently) about the basic make-up of our world." -James W. Sire, *The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalogue*

"One's worldview is perhaps best reflected by one's answers to the ultimate questions of life: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? What's it all about? Is there a god? How can I live and die happily? What are good and evil?" -James H. Olthius

One additional question: —Is there anything I would be willing to die for?

5 Functions of a Worldview:

1. A worldview seeks to provide a coherent and organized thought system for life and living.
2. A worldview attempts to define the "good life," thereby bringing hope and meaning to life.
3. Worldviews bring sense to life by offering explanations for the seemingly irrational events that occur in life.
4. Worldviews determine our values and establish what we think is important and really matters.
5. A worldview guides actions by assigning meaning and priorities to those actions.

Note: Everyone has a worldview, a particular way of looking at life. It is shaped and influenced by where you were born and live, but it is not unchangeable. It can be adjusted, altered or radically overturned (ex. Christian conversion).