

Project ISSACHAR

Training in
Apologetics and
Biblical Worldview

“Those who had
understanding of the
times, to know what Israel
ought to do...”

1 Chronicles 12:32



Outlines and other
resources...

ThinkingAboutTheBible.com

SESSION 3

What Can I Know about Reality?















WORLDVIEW...



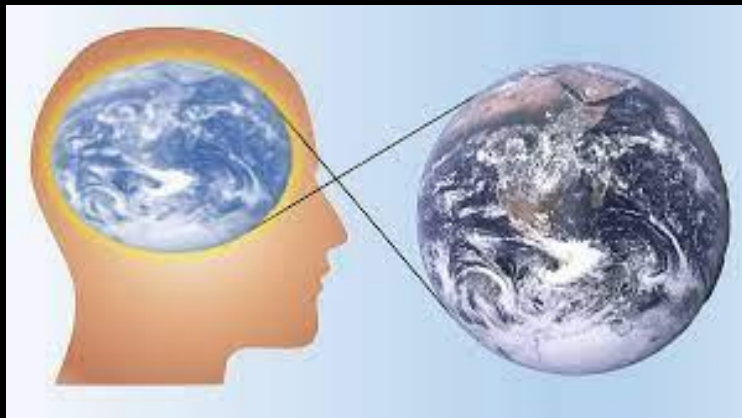
Your framework of basic beliefs.

“... the sons of Issachar... had understanding of the times, to know what Israel should do.”

1 Chronicles 12:32

A worldview is a commitment, a fundamental orientation of the heart, that can be expressed as a story or in a set of presuppositions that we hold about the basic constitution of reality, and that provides the foundation on which we live and move and have our being.

James Sire



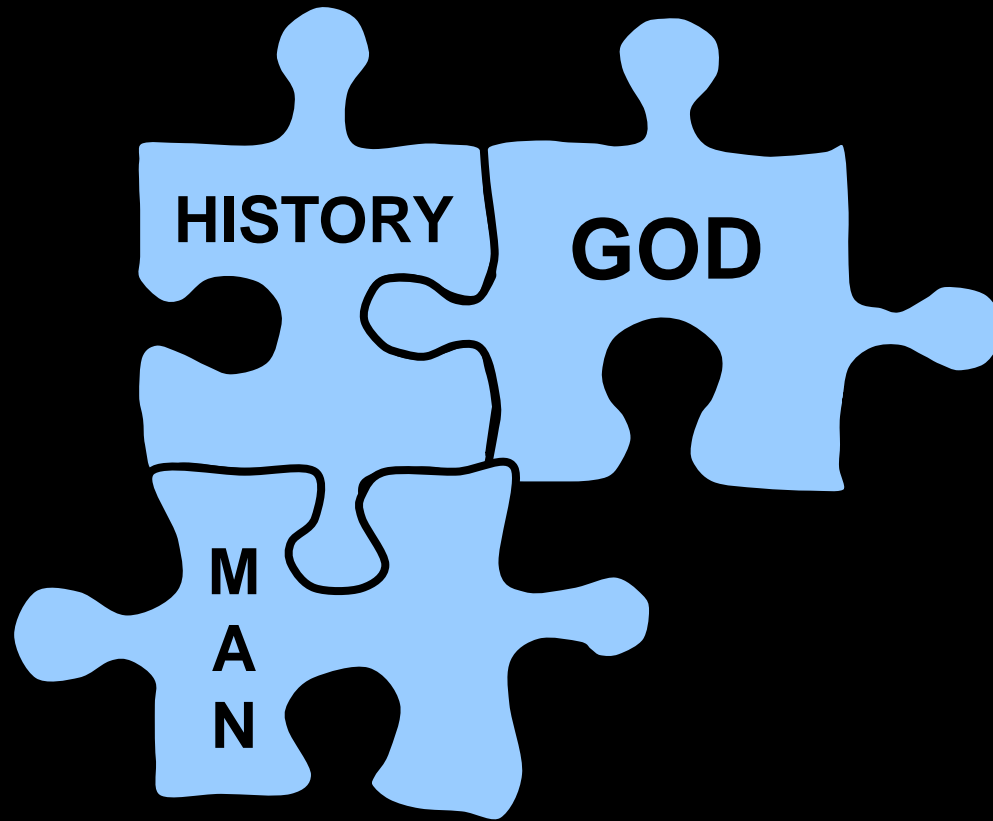
A worldview must answer...

1. What is my nature?
2. What is my world?
3. What is my problem?
4. What is my end?

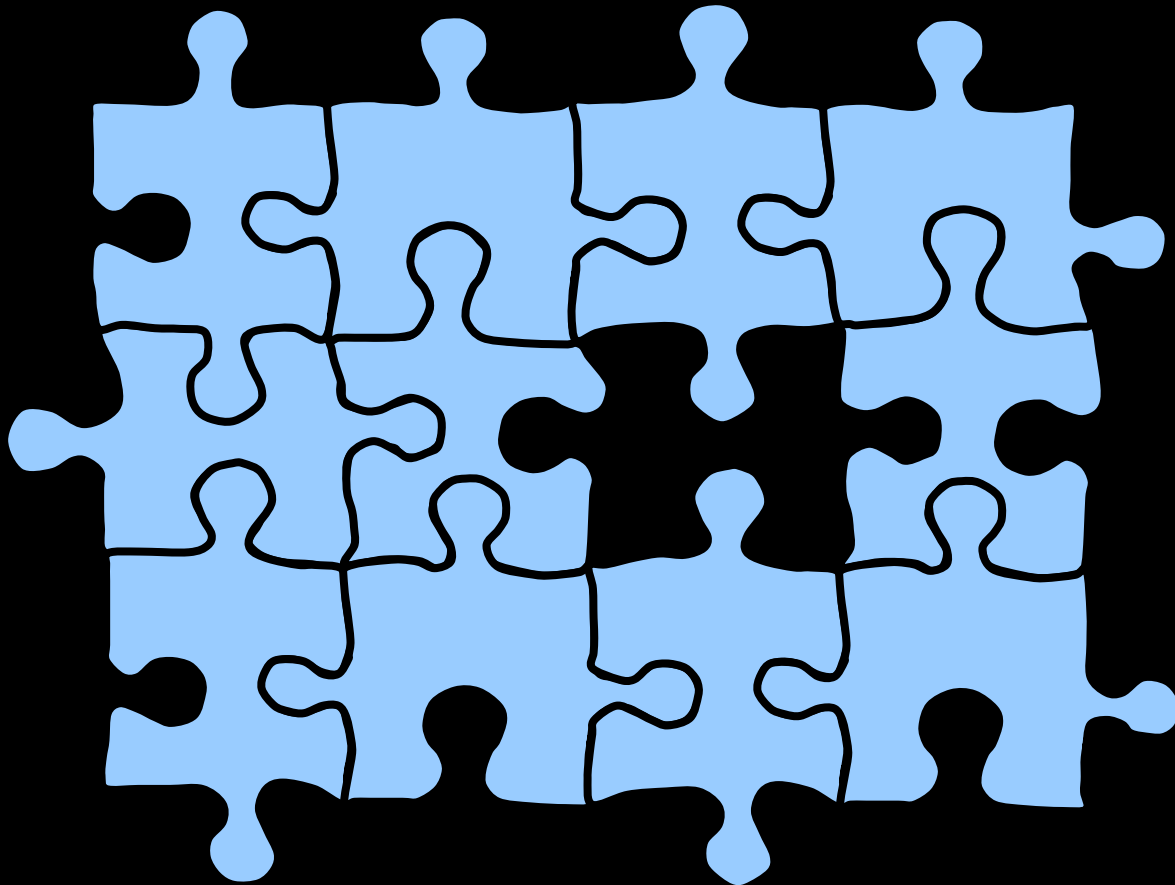




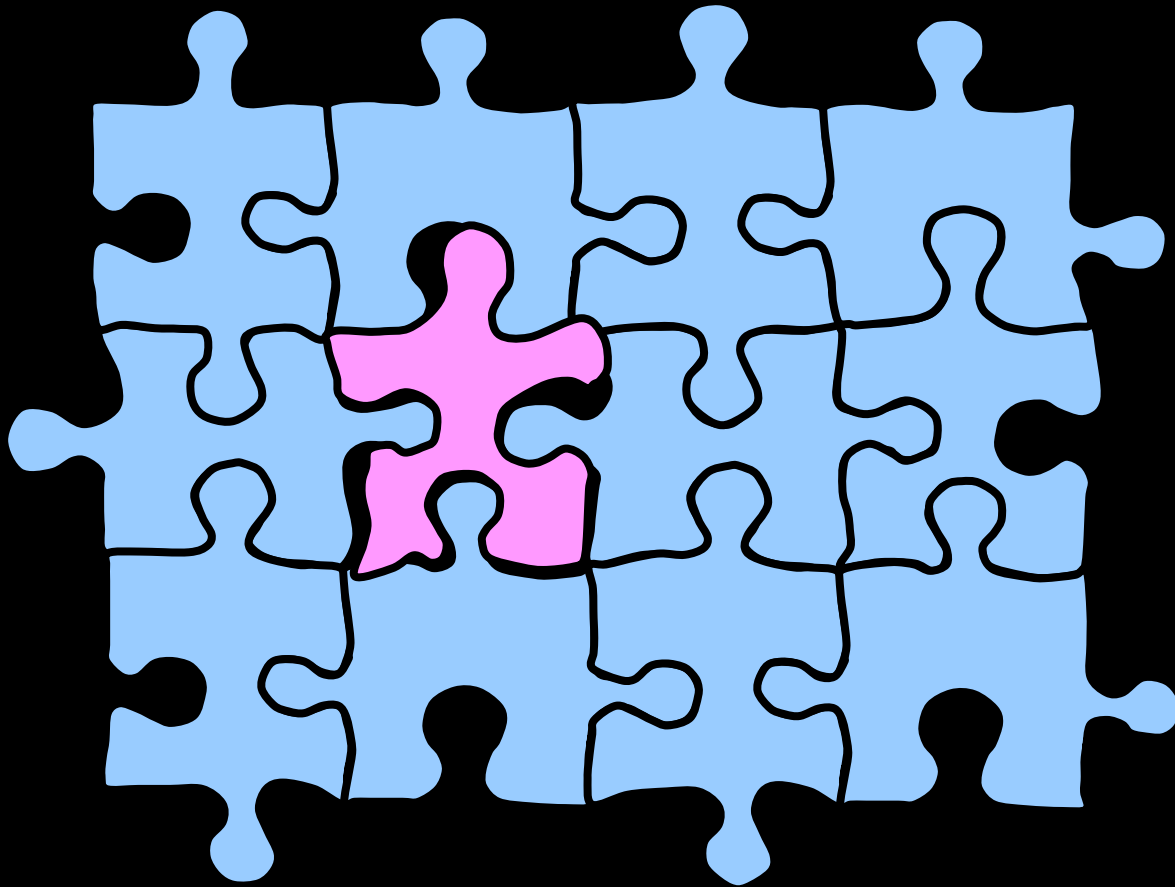
solidify existing beliefs...

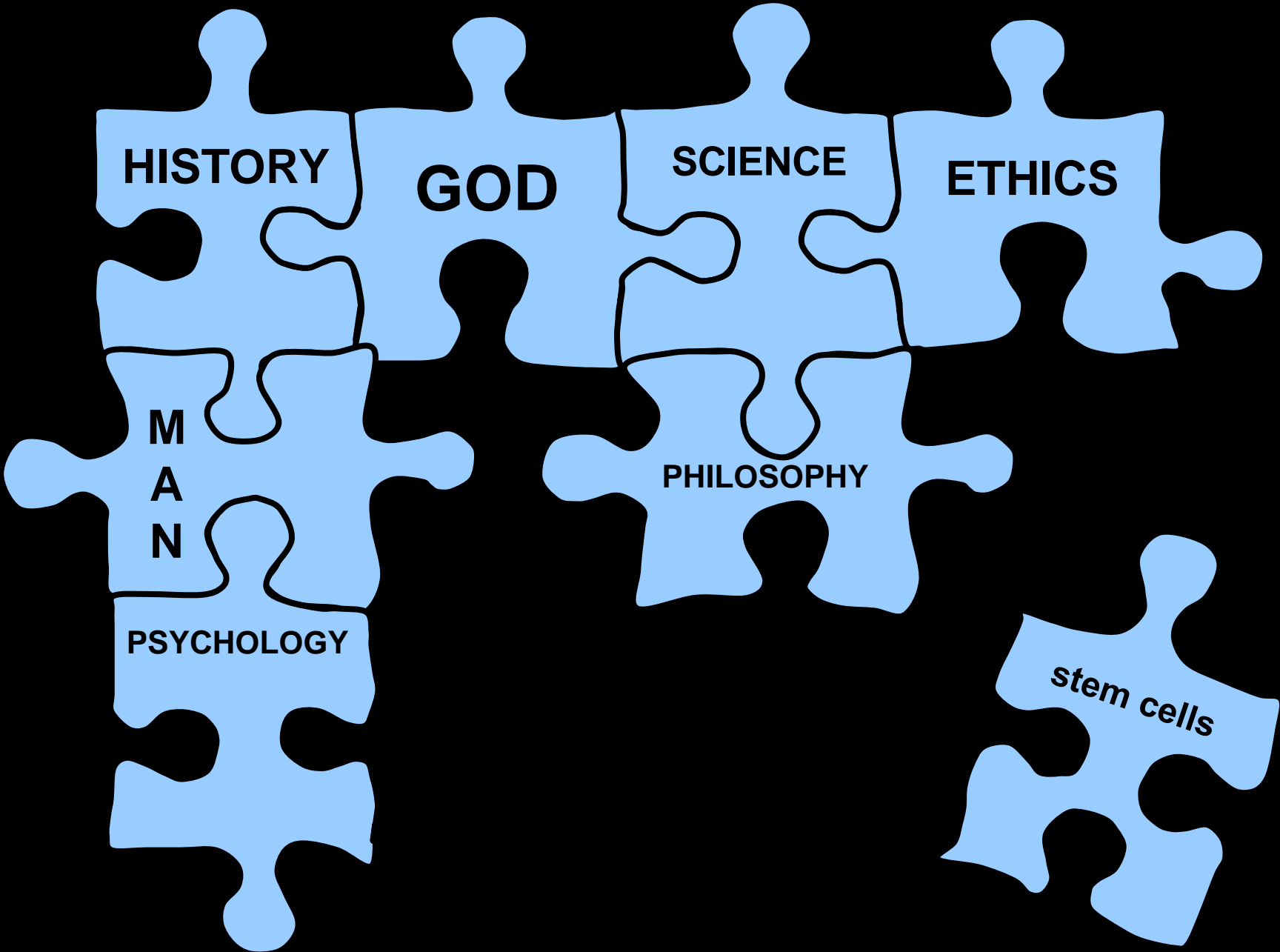


predict the nature of yet-to-be-developed beliefs ...



recognize false beliefs...





HISTORY

GOD

SCIENCE

ETHICS

**M
A
N**

PHILOSOPHY

PSYCHOLOGY

stem cells

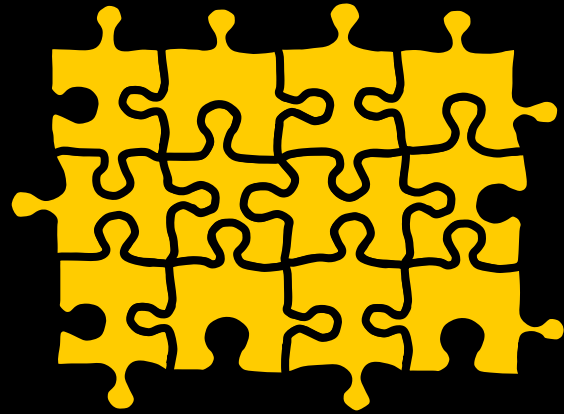
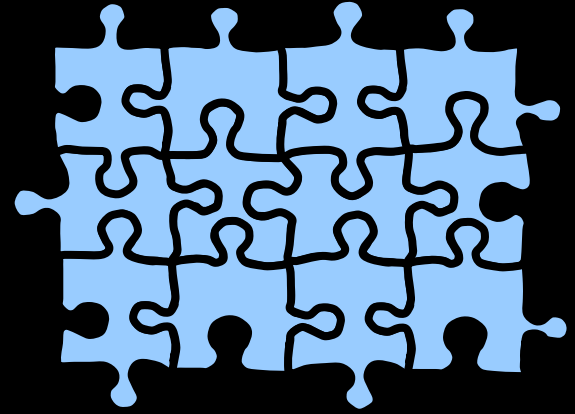
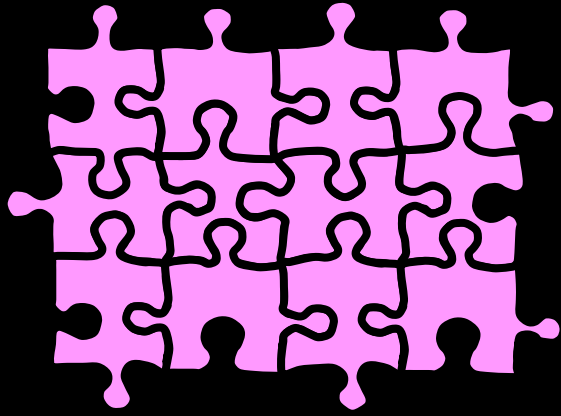
Your **WORLDVIEW** affects...



- all you perceive
- all you think
- all you do

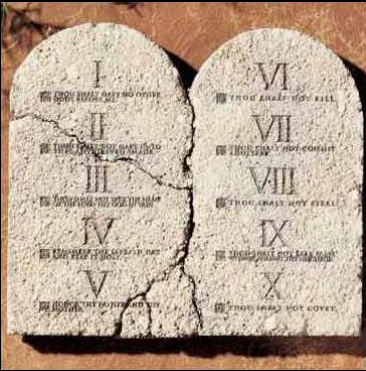
A diverse group of people of various ethnicities and ages, including men, women, and children, are smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a blurred cityscape. The text is overlaid on a yellow banner at the bottom.

**most of our mission field
has a different worldview**





Why study other worldviews?





Clarify my own worldview.



Understand those around me.

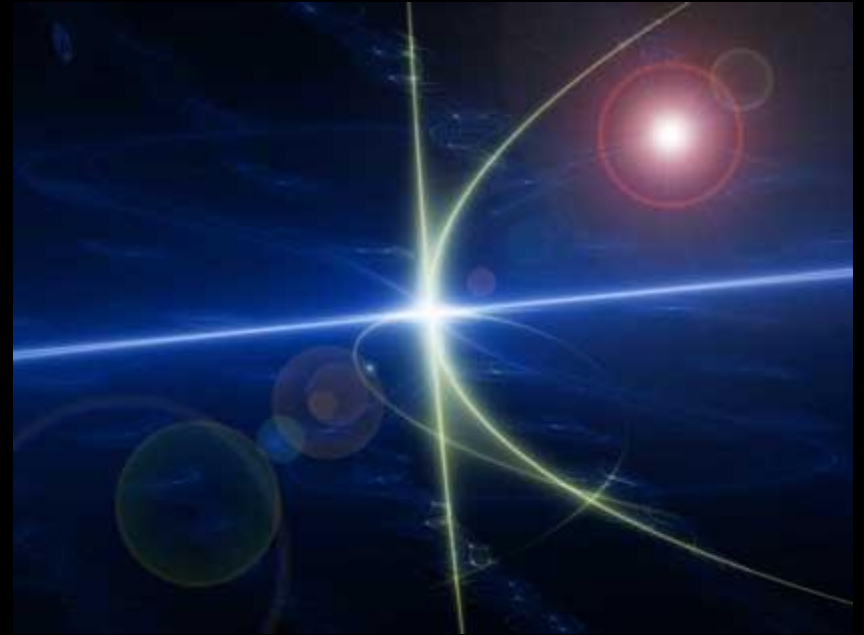


Pass my worldview to others.

	CHRISTIAN WORLDVIEW	SECULAR HUMANIST WORLDVIEW	COSMIC HUMANIST WORLDVIEW	ISLAMIC WORLDVIEW
THEOLOGY	One God in three persons. All powerful, all-knowing, loving. Jesus. (Theism)	No God. "Man is the measure." (Atheism)	God is all... All is God. (Pantheism)	One God, Allah. Unpredictable, unloving. (Theism)
PHILOSOPHY	Truth is knowable. There is a natural and supernatural realm.	Naturalism. Only matter and energy exists. Truth is a human creation.	Truth is what you think it is. "Your truth is as good as my truth."	Truth is knowable. There is a natural and supernatural realm.
ETHICS	Absolute truth. Right and wrong are based on God's standards.	Relativism. The majority decides what is true/false, good/bad.	Karma. No right or wrong, but what you do will come back to you.	Absolute truth. Right and wrong are based on Koran.
ORIGINS	Created by God for an eternal purpose.	Evolution. A cosmic accident with no purpose.	Spiritual evolution into higher planes of existence.	Created by Allah.
PSYCHOLOGY	Soul, spirit, body. Sinful by nature, but can be changed by Christ.	Only a body. No soul or spirit. Education is the best way to change us.	Spirits visualizing the physical. Good by nature and need to realize it.	We are made good by practicing Islam.
SOCIOLOGY	Family, church, state.	Society above traditional home and church. Intolerance is the enemy.	"I'm OK, you're OK..." "Let's just all get along."	Mosque, Islamic State.
LAW	Biblical laws and "built-in" laws.	Government determines all laws.	Self-law. Whatever you believe is law to you.	Shari'ah Law.
GOVERNMENT	Freedom, justice, mercy.	Globalism. One-world government.	Globalism. One-world government.	Global, Islamic theocracy.
ECONOMICS	Stewardship of private property.	Socialism. The state should control all property.	Material things are distractions that keep you from higher levels.	Stewardship of private property.
HISTORY	"HIS Story". The unfolding of God's plan. Ends with a new heaven and earth.	Random, historical evolution. The most powerful succeed.	Reincarnation. History is a never-ending circle.	An age-old jihad between Islam and the rest of the world.
Sources	<i>Holy Bible</i>	<i>Humanist Manifesto I, II & III</i>	Spangler, Chopra, Walsch	<i>Qur'an, Hadith, Sunnah</i>

A **WORLDVIEW** includes your...

**THEOLOGY –
what you
believe about
the
supernatural.**



A WORLDVIEW includes your...

**PHILOSOPHY –
What you believe
about reality.**



A WORLDVIEW includes your...

**ETHICS – What
you believe
about right and
wrong.**



A **WORLDVIEW** includes...

ORIGINS – What you believe about how we got here.



A WORLDVIEW includes your...

**PSYCHOLOGY –
What you believe
about the way we
think and act.**



A WORLDVIEW includes your...

SOCIOLOGY –

**What you
believe about
how we get
along with
each other.**



A WORLDVIEW includes...

**LAW – What
you believe
about
justice.**



A WORLDVIEW includes...

**GOVERNMENT –
What you believe
about authority.**



A **WORLDVIEW** includes...

**ECONOMICS –
What you believe
about material
belongings.**



A **WORLDVIEW** includes...

HISTORY – What you believe about the past, present, and future.



4 Dominant Worldviews

CHRISTIANITY

HUMANISM

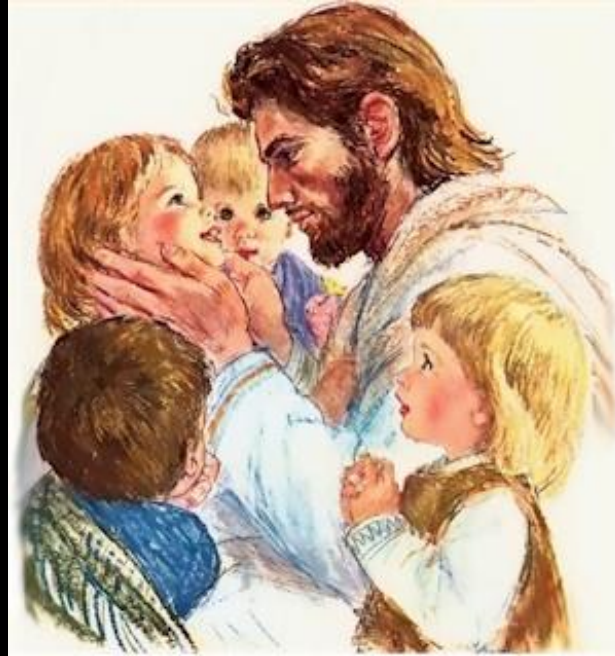
ISLAM

NEW AGE

“Post-Christian”



THEOLOGY



One God in three persons. All powerful, all-knowing, loving. Jesus.

“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

John 1:1

“...Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge...”

Colossians 2:2-3

HUMANISM



THEOLOGY



HUMANISM

No God.

“Man is the measure.”

RICHARD
DAWKINS

THE
GOD
DELUSION

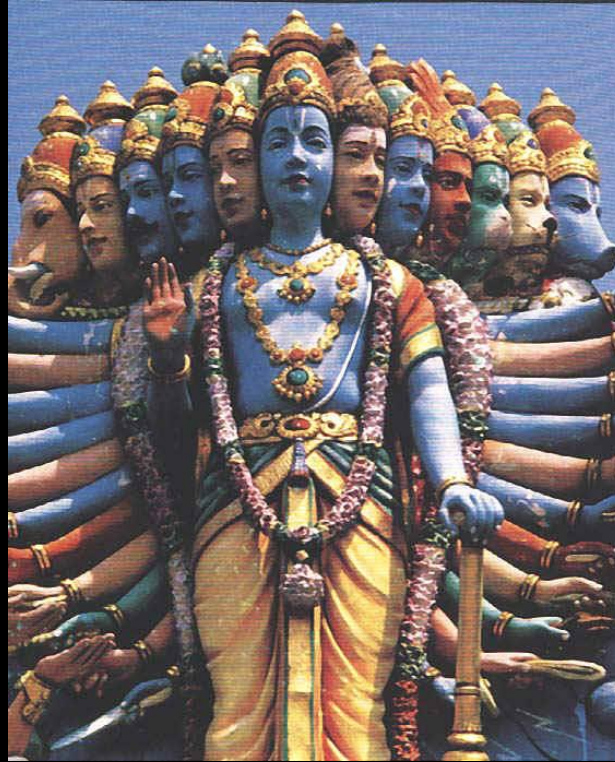


NEW AGE

Eastern Mysticism
Cosmic Humanism
Hinduism/Buddhism



THEOLOGY



God is all... All is God.
(Pantheism)

NEW AGE

Harder to define

Networked/interconnected

Old

out-of-body

spirit guide

Karma

astral plain

channeling

transcendence

reincarnation

visualization





ISLAMIC WORLDVIEW

1.2 billion Muslims worldwide
(20% of population)

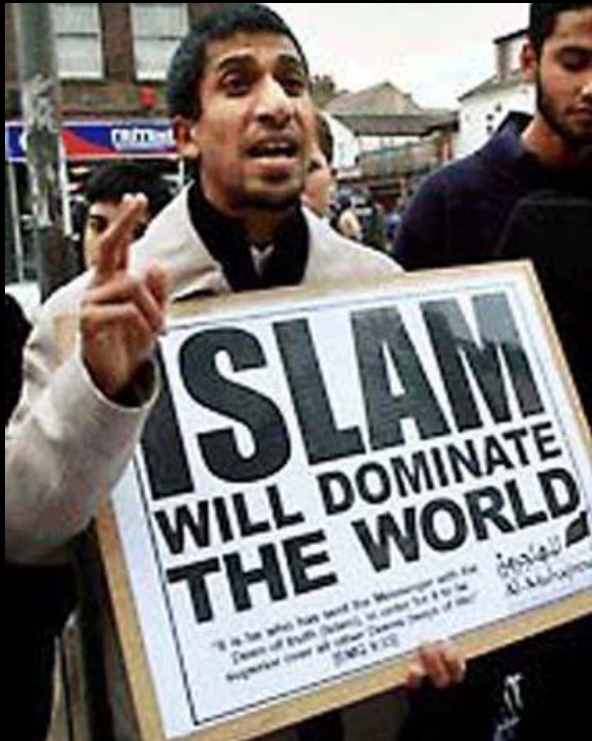
birth rate is
double that of
Christians



THEOLOGY



One God, Allah.
Unpredictable, unloving.



5 PILLARS of ISLAM

Shahadah – Obey all of Allah's words

Salah – 5 daily prayers

Sawm – Fasting during Ramadan

Zakah – 2.5% to the poor

Hajj – Pilgrimage to Mecca

Reality... according to the Bible

Dualistic

- **soul and body**
- **natural realm and
supernatural realm**

“By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.”

Hebrews 11:3

“For we know that if the tent that is our earthly home is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”

2 Corinthians 5:1

“For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life... We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord... and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.”

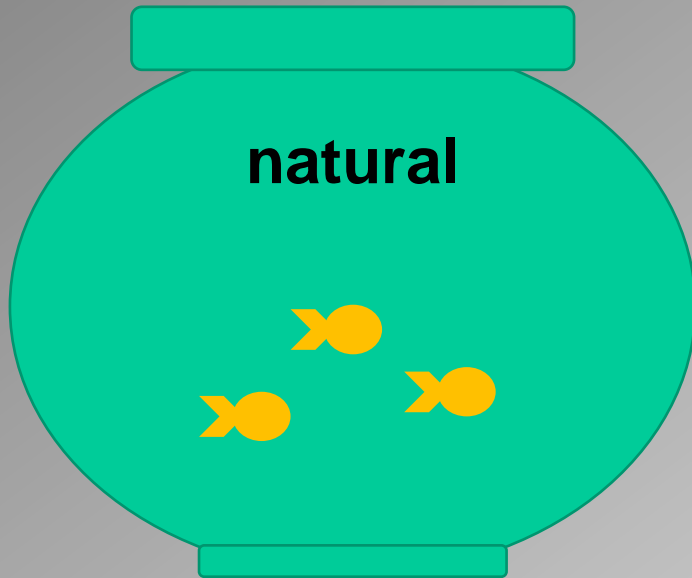
2 Corinthians 5

“For we do not wrestle against
flesh and blood, but against the
rulers, against the authorities,
against the cosmic powers over
this present darkness, against the
spiritual forces of evil in the
heavenly places.”

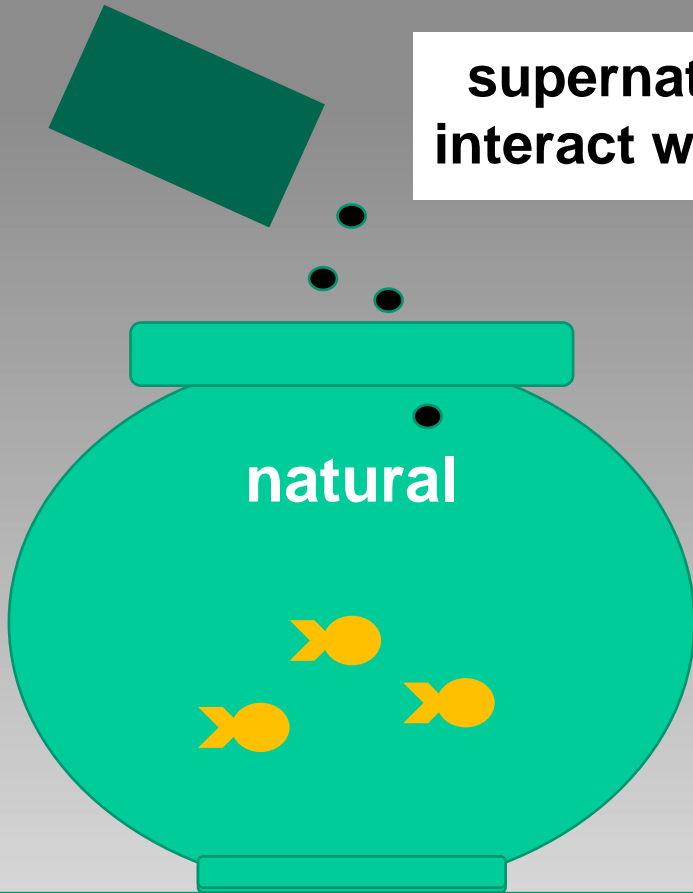
Ephesians 6:12

Supernatural – Beyond or outside of the natural realm experienced by our five senses.

**BIBLICAL
view of reality**



supernatural



supernatural may interact with natural

**BIBLICAL
view of reality**

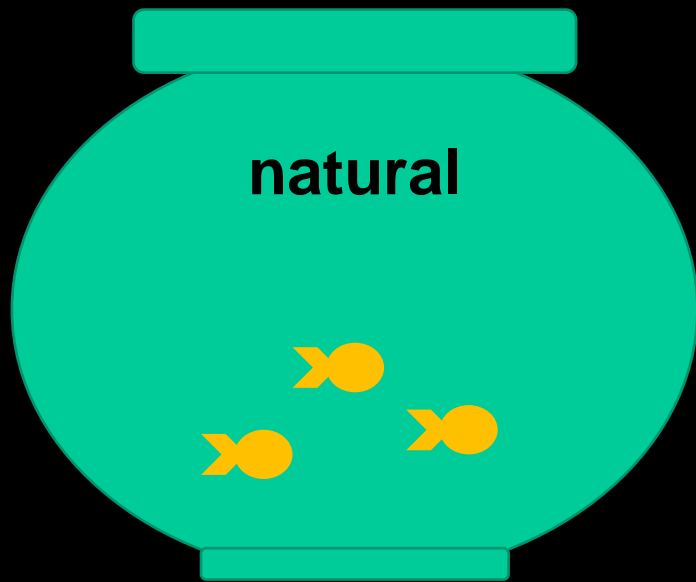
supernatural

PHILOSOPHY

HUMANISM

- **No intrinsic purpose.**
- **We make our own purpose and meaning to life.**
- **Only space, time, matter, energy are real.**
- **No spiritual, supernatural, or soul or after life.**

**HUMANIST
view of reality**



PHILOSOPHY

- Only the spiritual is real.
- Spirit brings about the physical.
- Our goal in life is to realize our divine nature and rise to higher levels of enlightenment.
- We share our spiritual essence with all other beings and things.
- We are the universe.