

UTT Series Book III: Worldviews Overview

Course Description: *Worldviews* is the third volume in the four-part Understanding the Times Series. This course presents the Christian worldview content within a comparative framework of five other influential worldviews. This course equips students to knowledgeably and confidently engage in real-life conversations with sensitivity and critical thinking. Each chapter starts with a relevant story to connect students to previous knowledge, includes a factual presentation of the six worldviews, and how each attempts to answer life's big questions. Each chapter assesses main ideas, key Bible verses, key works, and key names. Along with the Student Manual, this course uses Scripture and a Student Textbook as primary texts to:

- inspire students to grow in awareness that everyone has a worldview and to understand the beauty and reason in pursuing Christ through the biblical worldview.
- guide students through a comparative analysis of other major worldviews (Islam, secularism, Marxism, new spirituality, and postmodernism), the beliefs each worldview has about reality, and how these worldviews attempt to answer life's big questions.
- explore why people are attracted to nonbiblical worldviews and ways worldviews are expressed through ten significant fields of academic discipline: theology, philosophy, ethics, biology, psychology, sociology, law, politics, economics, and history.
- demonstrate how the Christian worldview best answers life's big questions with God's truth that corresponds with ultimate reality.
- equip students to examine the role of worldview in processing real-life experience and to display the transformative work through Christ alone that fuels a flourishing life.

Chapter 1: Introduction

- 1.1 Meet Your New Roommate
- 1.2 Worldviews: The Story of the World
- 1.3 Worldviews: The Story of a Life
- 1.4 Worldviews and Desire
- 1.5 Worldviews, Identity, and Actions
- 1.6 Worldview Questions
- 1.7 Testing Worldviews
- 1.8 Worldview and the Disciplines of Life
- 1.9 How We Present the Worldviews
- 1.10 Conclusion

Chapter 2: Christianity and the Biblical Worldview

- 2.1 A Life Transformed
- 2.2 The Christian Story
- 2.3 What Ought To Be: God, Humans, and Creation
- 2.4 Sin and the Solution
- 2.5 Living the Christian Life: Purpose and Practice
- 2.6 A Brief History of Christianity
- 2.7 The Christian Worldview Meets the Tests
- 2.8 Christianity's Influence on the World
- 2.9 From God to Everything Else: Our Healing
- 2.10 Conclusion

Chapter 3: Islam and the Muslim Worldview

- 3.1 A Radical Transformation
- 3.2 The Islamic Story
- 3.3 Allah and Humanity
- 3.4 Ignorance and Obedience
- 3.5 The Five Pillars and Practices of Islam
- 3.6 A Brief History of Islam
- 3.7 The Quran and Important Islamic Works
- 3.8 Islam's Influence Today and Tomorrow
- 3.9 Engaging Islam's Big Idea: Submission
- 3.10 Conclusion

Chapter 4: Secularism: A Human Matter

- 4.1 What's the Matter with Prayer?
- 4.2 The Story Secularism Tells: Progress
- 4.3 It's a Material World
- 4.4 Don't Stand in the Way of Human Progress
- 4.5 Secularist Practices
- 4.6 A Brief History of Secularism
- 4.7 The Humanist Manifesto and Other Works
- 4.8 Secularism's Influence and Future
- 4.9 Engaging with Secularism
- 4.10 Conclusion

Chapter 5: Marxism

- 5.1 The Lawyer and the Assassin
- 5.2 The Marxist Story
- 5.3 Marxism: From Creation to the Classes
- 5.4 Marxism: The Struggle with No Good Solution
- 5.5 Marxism Marching
- 5.6 History of Marxism
- 5.7 The Communist Manifesto and Other Marxist Works
- 5.8 Modern Marxism
- 5.9 Marxism's Big Idea: Rebellion
- 5.10 Conclusion

Chapter 6: New Spirituality

- 6.1 Looking For Something New
- 6.2 The Story New Spirituality Tells: All Is Divine
- 6.3 Who is God? Everything and Everyone
- 6.4 Ignorance and Enlightenment
- 6.5 New Spirituality Claims, Practices, and Outcomes
- 6.6 History of New Spirituality
- 6.7 New Spirituality's Bestsellers
- 6.8 New Spirituality in Community and Culture
- 6.9 New Spirituality's Big Idea: Consciousness
- 6.10 Conclusion

Chapter 7: Postmodernism

- 7.1 Experiencing Postmodernism
- 7.2 The Postmodernist Story
- 7.3 Postmodernism: Constructing Reality
- 7.4 Postmodernism: From Problems to Practical
- 7.5 Postmodernism: Practices in Daily Life
- 7.6 History of Postmodernism
- 7.7 Postmodernism in Print
- 7.8 Postmodernism's Influence
- 7.9 A Flawed View of Reality
- 7.10 Conclusion

Chapter 8: Theology

- 8.1 Ideas About God
- 8.2 Theology and Worldview
- 8.3 Theology through the Ages
- 8.4 Theology's View on People, Nature, and Society
- 8.5 Christian Theology
- 8.6 Islam and Theology
- 8.7 New Spirituality's Pantheistic Theology
- 8.8 Other Non-biblical Approaches to Theology
- 8.9 Theology Today
- 8.10 Conclusion

Chapter 9: Philosophy

- 9.1 Room for Philosophy?
- 9.2 What is Philosophy About?
- 9.3 Where Did Philosophy Come From?
- 9.4 What Does Philosophy Have To Offer?
- 9.5 Philosophy and Christianity
- 9.6 Philosophy and Secularism
- 9.7 Philosophy and Postmodernism
- 9.8 Philosophy and Other Worldviews
- 9.9 Philosophy Today
- 9.10 Conclusion

Chapter 10: Ethics

- 10.1 Right in the Midst of Wrong
- 10.2 Ethical Systems
- 10.3 Historical Roots of Ethics
- 10.4 Effect of Ethics on People, Nature, and Society
- 10.5 Christian Ethics
- 10.6 Ethics of Secularism and Marxism
- 10.7 Ethics of Postmodernism and New Spirituality
- 10.8 Islam and Divine Command Theory
- 10.9 Ideas Have Consequences. Bad Ideas Have Victims
- 10.10 Conclusion

Chapter 11: Biology

- 11.1 Where Does Life Come From?
- 11.2 Biology and the Worldview Questions
- 11.3 The History of Biology
- 11.4 Why Biology Matters Today
- 11.5 Christianity and Biology
- 11.6 Secularism and Biology
- 11.7 Marxism and Biology
- 11.8 Postmodernism, New Spirituality, Islam, and Biology
- 11.9 Biology Today and the Biblical Worldview Influence
- 11.10 Conclusion

Chapter 12: Psychology

- 12.1 The Human Mind
- 12.2 Psychology's Major Shift: From Soul to Self
- 12.3 The History of Psychology
- 12.4 Psychology and Scripture: A Complicated Relationship
- 12.5 Christianity and Psychology
- 12.6 Secularism, Marxism, and Psychology
- 12.7 Postmodernism in Psychology
- 12.8 New Spirituality and Islam in Psychology
- 12.9 Christian Psychology Helps a Complex World
- 12.10 Conclusion

Chapter 13: Sociology

- 13.1 Seeing the Strange in the Familiar
- 13.2 Sociological Answers for Worldview Questions
- 13.3 Where Did Sociology Come From?
- 13.4 How Do We Approach Sociology?
- 13.5 Sociology and Christianity: God is Active
- 13.6 Sociology in Secularism and Marxism
- 13.7 Sociology in Postmodernism
- 13.8 Sociology, Islam, and New Spirituality
- 13.9 Sociology and Society Today
- 13.10 Conclusion

Chapter 14: Law

- 14.1 Why Laws?
- 14.2 Law and the Structure of Society
- 14.3 What Makes for Good Laws?
- 14.4 History of Law
- 14.5 Christianity: A System Reflecting God's Character
- 14.6 Postmodernism and Secularism: Overhaul the System
- 14.7 Islam: Replace the System
- 14.8 New Spirituality and Marxism: Reject the System
- 14.9 Good Stewards in the System
- 14.10 Conclusion

Chapter 15: Politics

- 15.1 The Power in the Community
- 15.2 Politics Answers Big Questions
- 15.3 The Origin of Politics and Government
- 15.4 Politics Influences the People
- 15.5 Politics and Christianity
- 15.6 Secularism and Marxism in Politics
- 15.7 Postmodernism in Politics
- 15.8 Politics in Islam and New Spirituality
- 15.9 The Current State and New Ideas in Politics
- 15.10 Conclusion

Chapter 16: Economics

- 16.1 Economics: Who Decides?
- 16.2 The Three Economic Systems
- 16.3 The History of Economics
- 16.4 The Wisdom of Economics
- 16.5 A Christian Approach to Economics
- 16.6 Secular and Marxist Approaches to Economics
- 16.7 Economics: Postmodernism and New Spirituality
- 16.8 The Islamic Approach to Economics
- 16.9 The Current State of Economics
- 16.10 Conclusion

Chapter 17: History

- 17.1 Why Does the Past Matter?
- 17.2 How Does History Answer the Worldview Questions?
- 17.3 When Did History Begin?
- 17.4 How Does History Influence People and Culture?
- 17.5 Christianity's View on History
- 17.6 Marxism and Postmodernism Views on History
- 17.7 Secularism and New Spirituality Views on History
- 17.8 Islam's View of History
- 17.9 Current Events in History
- 17.10 Conclusion

Chapter 18: Conclusion

- 18.1 The Patterns of Big Ideas
- 18.2 Answers to the Worldview Questions
- 18.3 Which Worldview Meets the Tests?
- 18.4 Conclusion