



Forge Room Foundation (opening slide)



Equip and mobilize the local church to address tough issues from a biblical worldview perspective.  
Forging Christians with worldview knowledge for real-world impact in Fort Worth.

Forge Room Foundation 2024 Registered 501(c)3 Nonprofit.

Contact:  
lance@forgeroom.org



If you did not Register...  
Resource Center... [forgeroom.org](http://forgeroom.org) website



Who is this?

David Horowitz quoted at SDS Radical saying, “The issue is never the issue. The issue is always the revolution.”

Horowitz continues: “In other words, the cause of a political action – whether civil rights or women’s rights – is never the real cause; women, blacks and other “victims” are only instruments in the larger cause, which is power.”



Norma McCorvey, aka “Jane Roe”, was one of millions exploited by the billion-dollar abortion institution...

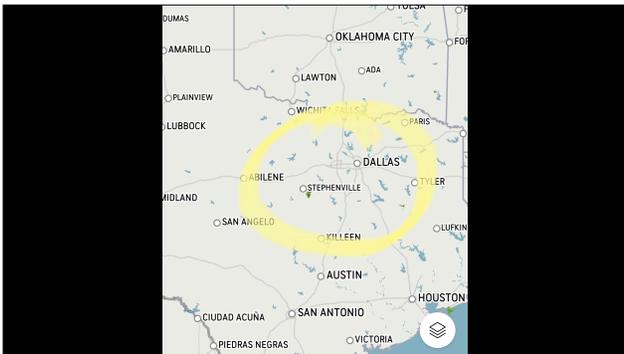
Where were you on June 24, 2022?

Where were you on June 24, 2022?

On June 23rd 2022...

I was with my family in the country. It hadn't rained since mid-April.  
Triple digits since early may... no rain in the forecast.

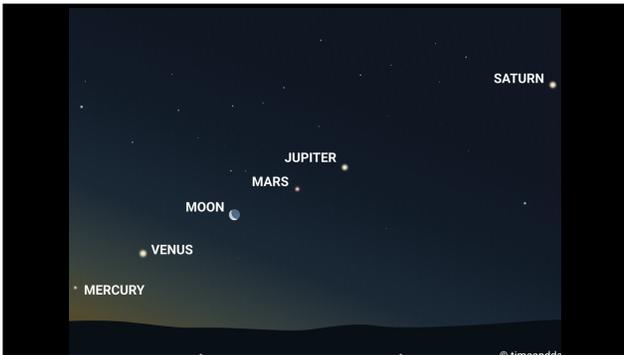
Many American Christians were praying.... For a decision from the highest  
court in the land.



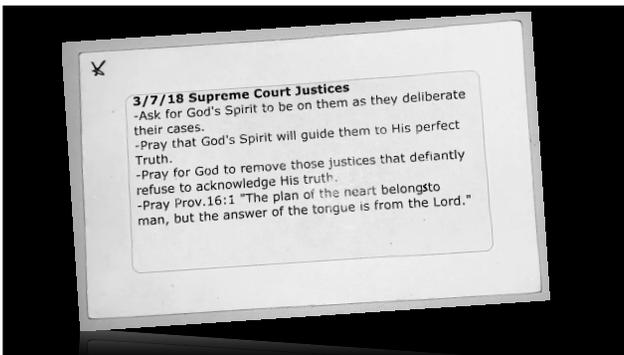
There was zero rain in the forecast...



A rare, five-planet alignment will peak on June 24, allowing a spectacular viewing of Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn as they line up in planetary order.



June 24, 2022....



Prayer request...

Howitzers of Heaven... Artillery

Prayer is the lifeblood of Kingdom movements...

Four Prayer Points:

God's glory will be revealed where we live and in our spheres of influence.  
God's Kingdom will be ushered in with power in our world.

God's Kingdom will advance in the place where we live.  
God's will and Word will be obeyed where we live.

“Pray that God’s  
people will boldly  
stand for Life”

Prayer Request - January 2015

“Pray that God’s people will boldly stand for Life”

Prayer Request - January 2015

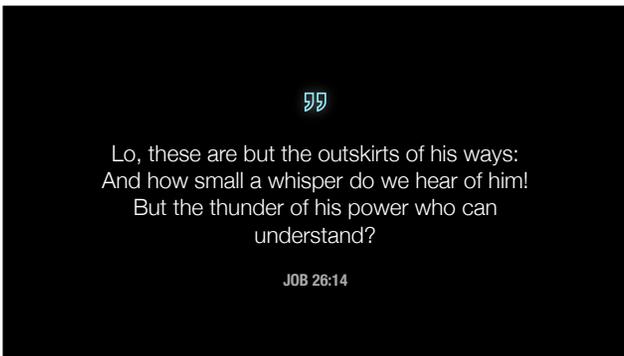




Roe v Wade was overturned - Roe's baby was never aborted. She was adopted and loved.

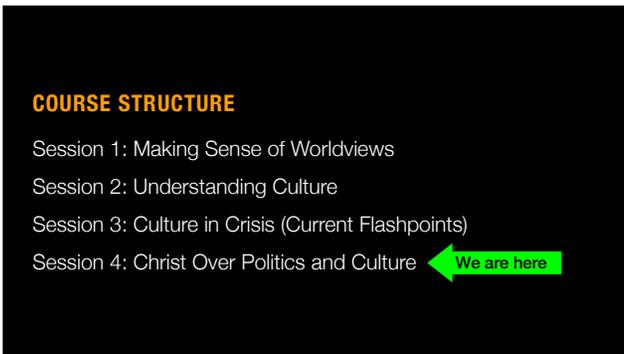
### Norma McCorvey became a Christian

She launched ***Roe No More Ministries*** to try to overturn the ruling that carried her name.



Lo, these are but the outskirts of his ways:  
And how small a whisper do we hear of him! But the thunder of his power who can understand?

JOB 26:14



Over the next 4 weeks, we'll take a journey together. This is an opportunity to expand and deepen our Christian worldview... cultivating a full-orbed Kingdom vision of reality and the world we inhabit.

We'll be developing a public theology and pursuing this together as a community of believers.

Sessions 1: Making Sense of Worldviews  
Sessions 2: Understanding Culture

Sessions 3: Culture in Crisis (Current Flashpoints)

Sessions 4: Christ Over Politics and Culture



July 28th – SESSION FOUR CHRIST OVER POLITICS AND CULTURE

By the end of this session, you will have learned a few things and some of what you learn will make a difference in your life and the lives of others.

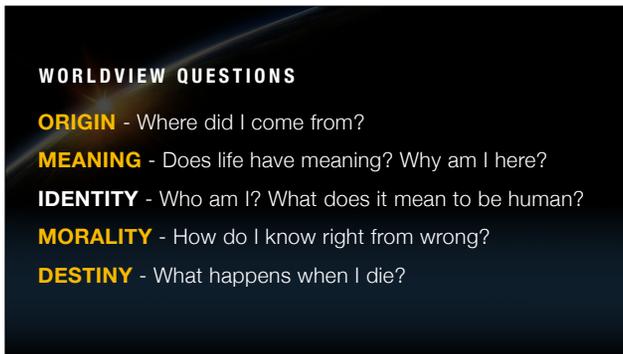
Slides available to you...



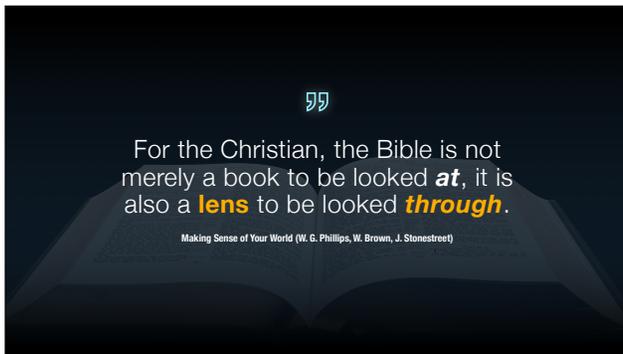
HOW WILL YOU RESPOND TO THIS HISTORICAL MOMENT?



Worldview is the lens through which we view, interpret and engage reality. It is what we believe about ourselves and the world around us (total reality).



ORIGIN - Where did I come from?  
MEANING - Does life have meaning? Why am I here  
IDENTITY - Who am I? What does it mean to be human  
MORALITY - How do I know right from wrong?  
DESTINY - What happens when I die?



“For the Christian, the Bible is not merely a book to be looked at, it is also a lens to be looked through.”  
(Making Sense of Your World (W. G. Phillips, W. Brown, J. Stonestreet))



Creation - Genesis 1-2,

Fall - Genesis 3

Redemption - the in-breaking rule and reign of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior - Death, burial and resurrection. He is risen!

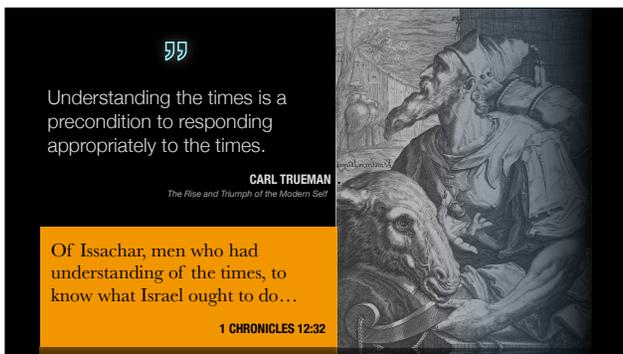
Restoration - Revelation 21-22

#### WORLDVIEW RESPONSE QUESTIONS

1. What is **good** that we can celebrate, promote or protect?
2. What is **evil** we must stop or fight?
3. What is **missing** that we can create or contribute?
4. What is broken we can **restore**?

#### Worldview Response Questions - The Moment

1. What is good that we can celebrate, promote or protect? (Creation)
2. What is evil we must stop or fight? (Fall/ Sin)
3. What is missing that we can create or contribute? (Redemption)
4. What is broken we can restore? (Restoration)

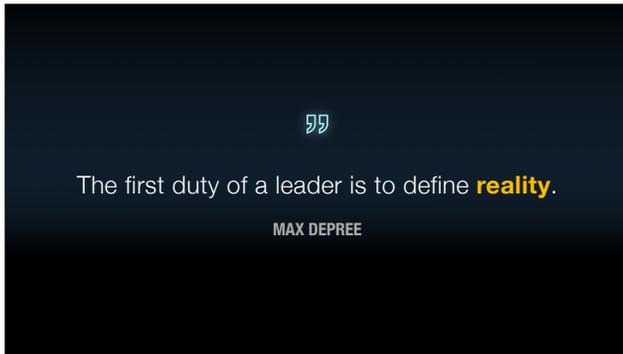


Understanding the times is a precondition to responding appropriately to the times.

CARL TRUEMAN

Of Issachar, men who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do...

1 CHRONICLES 12:32



The first duty of a leader is to define reality.

MAX DEPREE



## Pastors and Biblical Worldview

Dr. George Barna - Cultural Research Center at Arizona Christian University (2022)

“Among all Christian pastors in the United States, slightly more than one out of every three (37%) possesses a biblical worldview.

The proportion varies by the pastoral position held. Among Senior Pastors, four out of 10 (41%) have a biblical worldview—the highest incidence among any of the five pastoral positions studied. Next highest was the 28% among Associate Pastors. Less than half as many Teaching Pastors (13%) and Children’s and Youth Pastors (12%) have a biblical worldview. The lowest level of biblical worldview was among Executive Pastors—only 4% have consistently biblical beliefs and behaviors.

Much like other Americans, the pastors who do not have a biblical worldview are unlikely to fully embrace a competing worldview (such as Secular Humanism, Marxism, or others). In fact, less than 1% of pastors embody a worldview other than Biblical Theism (i.e., the biblical worldview).

Instead, their prevailing worldview is best described as Syncretism, the blending of ideas and applications from a variety of holistic worldviews into a unique but inconsistent combination that represents their personal preferences. More than six out of 10 pastors (62%) have a predominantly syncretistic worldview.”

#### Porn stats in the Church

THE UNITED STATES is the number one consumer of sex worldwide...

“1 in 5 youth pastors and 1 in 7 senior pastors use porn on a regular basis and currently struggling. That’s more than 50,000 U.S. church leaders. 43% of senior pastors and youth pastors say they have struggled with pornography in the past.

64% of Christian men and 15% of Christian women say they watch porn at least once a month.

Only 7% of pastors report their church has a ministry program for those struggling with porn.”



Political issues are moral issues...



[STORY] Letter from a Roman man to his wife...

On June 17 of the year 1 B.C., a man named Hilarion wrote a **love letter** home from Alexandria, Egypt, to his wife, Alis.

“Alis, many greetings.

Know that I am still in Alexandria; and do not worry if they all come back and I stay in Alexandria. I ask and beg you to take good care of our baby son, and as soon as I receive my pay, I will send it up to you. Above all, if you are delivered of a child [before I come home], if it is boy, keep it; if it is a girl, discard it. You have told Aphrodisias [sent me word], “Do not forget me.” But how can I forget you? I beg you not to worry.

Hilarion to Alis,  
The 29th year of Caesar”



Former Foundation - Rome

Fall of Rome...

When the foundations of the Christian worldview are removed from a culture, that culture does not ‘progress’ to a higher or better form - It falls back to the former philosophy. For America, that former philosophy was Rome.

Rome was a barbaric and decadent culture marked by subjugation, corruption, coercion, out of control debt, mass immigration, blurred gender roles, homosexuality, slavery, infanticide and abortion.

It is little wonder we are seeing an increase in human trafficking (slavery) and growing cultural acceptance of abortion and infanticide in America. In addition, debt-bondage and censorship by powerful corporations are being normalized.

... Former Foundations



“As we leave behind our Christian roots, Western civilization is eroding the foundation that led to its unique features, its most important contributions, and its highest values... We are, in many ways, returning to the cultured practices of Rome... Remember, a society’s underlying worldview and its implications will inevitably be expressed in the culture.”

DR. GLENN SUNSHINE

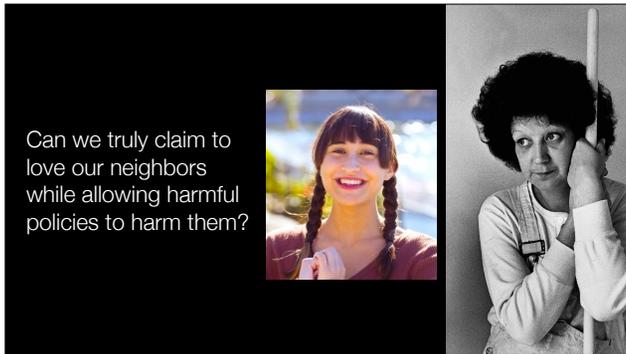


Chloe Cole (born July 27, 2004) 20 years old... Born in California

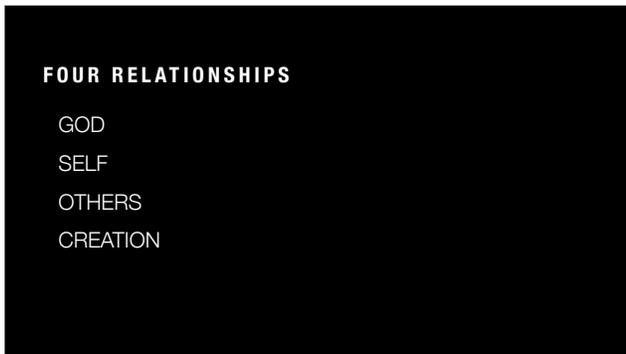
<https://youtu.be/6O3MzPeomqs?t=7215>



Fight the **ideology**, love and care for the **individual**...



Can we truly claim to love our neighbors while allowing harmful policies to harm them?



As Christians, we have a job to do to reconcile broken and lost people to God and reorient their relationships...

GOD - Saved Through Christ

SELF - Redeemed as a new creation

OTHERS - Loving neighbors as image-bearers

CREATION - Cultivating and stewarding God's world.



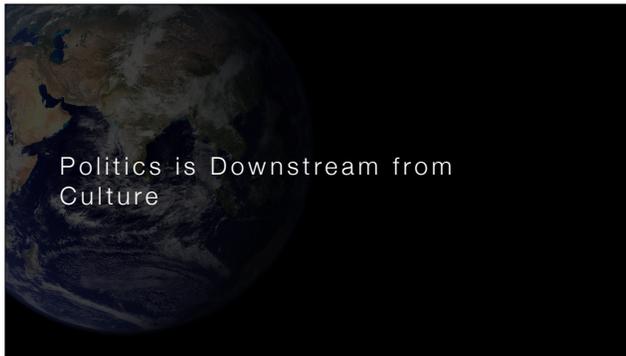
Aaron Renn: “Three Worlds of Evangelicalism” (First Things)

**Positive World (Pre-1994):** Society at large retains a mostly positive view of Christianity. To be known as a good, churchgoing man remains part of being an upstanding citizen. Publicly being a Christian is a status-enhancer. Christian moral norms are the basic moral norms of society and violating them can bring negative consequences.

**Neutral World (1994–2014):** Society takes a neutral stance toward Christianity. Christianity no longer has privileged status but is not disfavored. Being publicly known as a Christian has neither a positive nor a negative impact on one’s social status. Christianity is a valid option within a pluralistic public square. Christian moral norms retain some residual effect.

**Negative World (2014–Present):** Society has come to have a negative view of Christianity. Being known as a Christian is a social negative, particularly in the elite domains of society. Christian morality is expressly repudiated and seen as a threat to the public good and the new public moral order. Subscribing to Christian moral views or violating the secular moral order brings negative consequences.

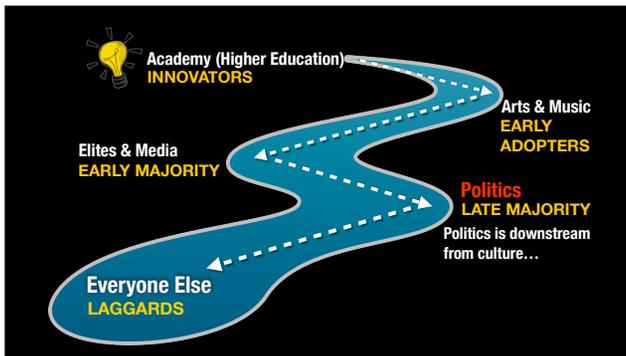
<https://www.firstthings.com/article/2022/02/the-three-worlds-of-evangelicalism>



## Politics is Downstream from Culture

Politics doesn't exist in a vacuum - it's the end result of a long process. Ideas start in universities, flow through the arts, then spread through media before becoming laws.

If we only focus on politics, we're missing the bigger picture. We need to go upstream to shape the culture that shapes politics.



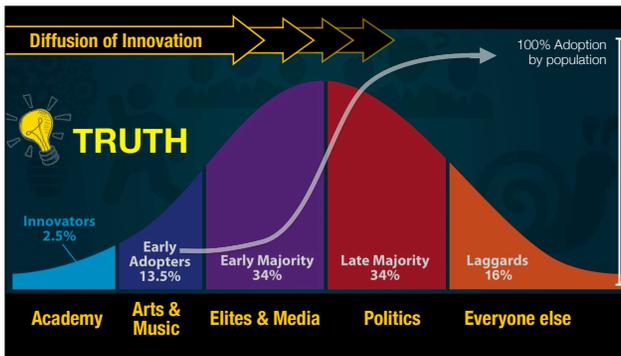
Here is a look at the diffusion of innovation another perspective...

## Politics is downstream from culture...

If you find pollution in a body of water, you must go upstream to locate the source.

Note:

It's interesting to note, Conservatives have won the vast majority of elections over the last 50 years... YET, conservatives continue to lose ground culturally. Why?



Christians must innovate with the TRUTH.

This means all areas - including politics

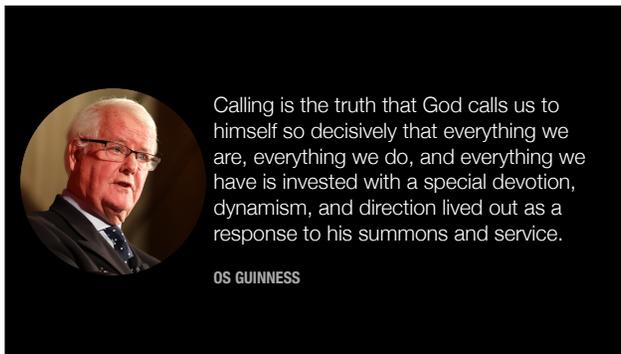


### The Gospel of the Kingdom and a Biblical Framework

We're invited into God's unfolding story....

Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration.

God created all things good, sin entered this world and man rebelled, Christ came to redeem us from our sin through his death and resurrection.... He's making all things new.



We are called to life in Christ and to live for Christ - bearing witness to the truth!

“Calling is the truth that God calls us to himself so decisively that everything we are, everything we do, and everything we have is invested with a special devotion, dynamism, and direction lived out as a response to his summons and service.”

OS GUINNESS



We must RECOVER a full-orbed *integrated* Kingdom vision!

- There is NO biblical division between secular / sacred.
- There is NO biblical allowance for 'Privatized' faith

A Kingdom vision is grounded in our primary calling to follow Christ and (while we're following Him) we pursue our secondary calling to serve Him and glorify Him in everything, everywhere, at every time in the full view of everyone!

There is NO area of life devoid of Christ. ALL that we do is for Him.

The Gospel is deeply personal and private but will have public implications in the world around us.



**GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM**

The Gospel is so much larger than the personal plan for salvation. The **Gospel of the Kingdom** is the in-breaking rule and reign of Jesus Christ as King over all creation - redeeming and restoring all things. Through Him, the Kingdom of God has come into this world. Jesus has completed the atonement for our sin on the cross. By his resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God the Father, He is presently ruling and reigning over creation. Christ is reinstating his righteousness on the earth.

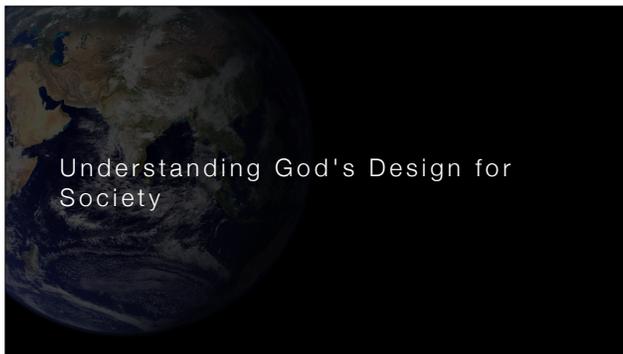
**MICHAEL S. CRAVEN**

“While Christian faith is deeply personal it was never intended to remain private. This reductionism and privatization of Christian faith have left the contemporary Church with little to offer a desperate world other than a prescription for personal salvation, the only real implication of which is realized when you die. Unfortunately, this truncated gospel has left the Christian confused and uncertain with regard to what they are to be doing in the meantime.”

The Gospel is so much larger than the personal plan for salvation. The

Gospel of the Kingdom is the in-breaking rule and reign of Jesus Christ as King over all creation - redeeming and restoring all things.

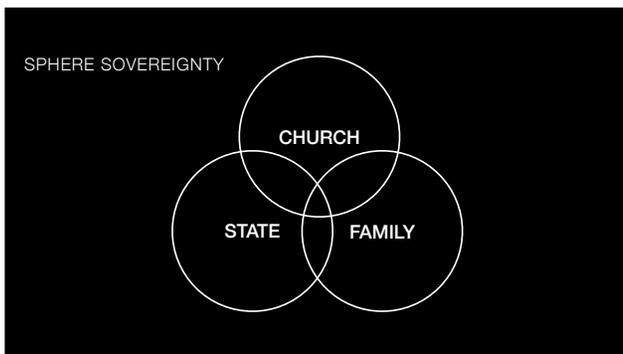
Through Him, the Kingdom of God has come into this world. Jesus has completed the atonement for our sin on the cross. By his resurrection and ascension to the right hand of God the Father, He is presently ruling and reigning over creation. Christ is reinstating his righteousness on the earth.”



### Understanding God's Design for Society

God established three institutions for governance: family, church, and state. Each has its role. Today's politicization is a distortion of this order. We need to offer a biblical corrective to restore balance.

Sphere sovereignty slide



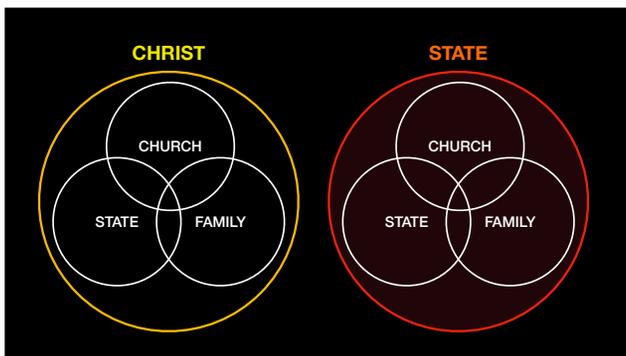
### SPHERE SOVEREIGNTY

God established three societal institutions (spheres): family, church, and state. Each of these three institutions have sovereignty (under God) over their own sphere (or jurisdiction)...

Each has a - Form, Function, Authority, Discipline,

Each institution is to fulfill the purposes it was assigned by God to

achieve. It follows that each institution is woefully inefficient and ineffective when it tries to achieve the purposes of another.



The current political landscape reveals a profound misalignment with God's intended societal order. God established three distinct institutions or governance: the family, the church, and the state - each with delineated responsibilities and boundaries. However, we're witnessing an era of excessive politicization, where the state is attempting to exercise supreme authority over all aspects of life and reality.

As the church, our imperative is to develop and articulate a biblically-grounded perspective of God's creational norms, thereby offering a crucial corrective to restore balance among these governing institutions, ultimately serving the common good and bearing witness to God's kingdom.

See

<https://capmin.org/gods-institutions-and-their-roles-on-earth/>



## The Christian's Role in Culture, Politics, and Government

Christians used to shape society. We built hospitals, fought slavery, and cared for the vulnerable. But we retreated into our holy huddles, abandoning the public square. This left a vacuum that secularism filled. It's time to reclaim our role as culture shapers.

It's time to stop being scared and start being salt and light. Like any other cultural activity, Christians should appropriately use politics as a platform for our witness - while keeping Christ at the center. The ultimate hope we have is Christ, beyond any political solution.

### We engage culture as Christians, not as politicians



Can we truly claim to love our neighbors while allowing harmful policies to harm them?



## Should the Church Get Involved in Politics?

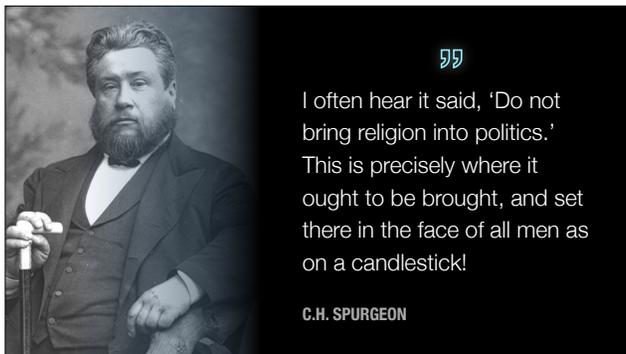
**Yes! "If politics doesn't fit within your worldview, your worldview is too small."**

"If politics *is* your worldview, then you've made politics your idol."

Our first allegiance is to Christ, not a party. We need to understand government's God-given purpose and not fear offending the world.

The Bible gives us a worldview big enough to engage politics.

Jesus and the apostles weren't afraid to engage with the political realities of their day. We shouldn't be either.



"I often hear it said, 'Do not bring religion into politics.' This is precisely where it ought to be brought, and set there in the face of all men as on a candlestick!" (C.H. Spurgeon)



How Then Shall We Vote?  
Engaging with Politics as Christians

## How Then Shall We Vote? - Engaging with Politics as Christians

Our first allegiance is to Christ. We vote and engage in politics as an act of stewardship. Voting is a privilege and a responsibility. Vote with wisdom, looking at the direction a candidate or party will take us. Use God's commands as your guide. Prioritize human life. Remember, you're voting for a sinner, not a savior.

If Christ claims sovereignty over every square inch of existence, how might our approach to politics and culture change if we truly lived this out?



”

When you cast your vote for a politician you're also casting a vote for his or her worldview.

**Elections are about worldviews**

DARREL HARRISON

“When you cast your vote for a politician you're also casting a vote for his or her worldview. Elections are about worldviews” - DARREL HARRISON



## **Taming Politics** - putting our politics in the proper place.

God constructed reality in such a way that politics is part of God's world, which means it's part of our Christian worldview. We can't ignore it, and we can't make it an idol either.

Our job is to bring our biblical convictions into the political realm, to be good stewards of this aspect of culture just like any other.

Politics isn't everything, but it's not nothing either. Ground your political views in biblical truth. We're called to steward every area of life - including politics - for God's glory.



## **Recovering a Kingdom Vision**

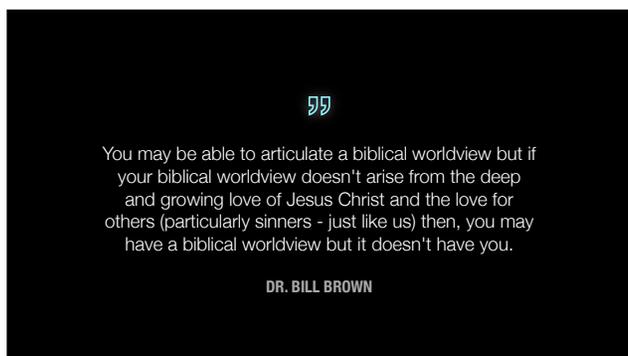
"We need to recover a unifying vision of Christ's Lordship over every aspect of our lives. As Kuyper said, 'There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!'"

We preach the Gospel and the implications it has for all of life.

**God is responsible for building His Kingdom, the church exists to advance the Kingdom!**

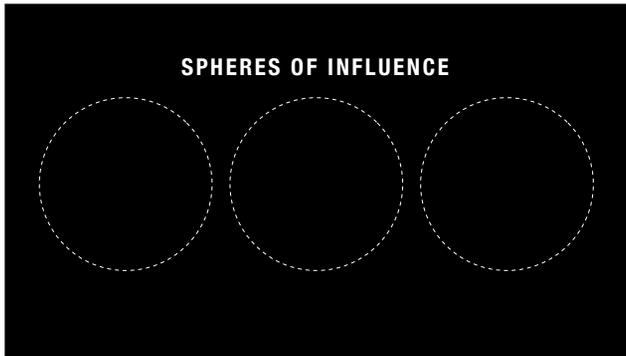


Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.  
PROVERBS 14:33



You may be able to articulate a biblical worldview but if your biblical worldview doesn't arise from the deep and growing love of Jesus Christ and the love for others (particularly sinners - just like us) then, you may have a biblical worldview but it doesn't have you.

DR. BILL BROWN



[Exercise] Spheres of Influence...

*family, work, church, community, education, politics, finances, etc.*

1. What is the opportunity or crisis right in front of you (in a sphere)?
2. How can you take initiative and responsibility for it?

Ask the 4 Questions:

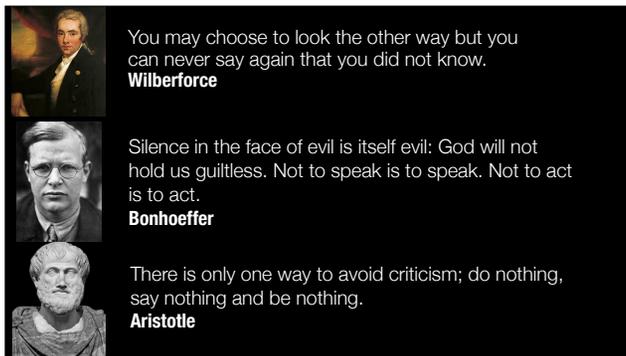
1. What is good...
2. What is evil...
3. What is missing...
4. What is broken...



Metaxas video ... "What dead, useless Gospel are you preaching?"



Eric Metaxas Sept. 7, 2024 - Birchman Baptist



“Rescue those who are being taken away to death;  
hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter.  
If you say, “Behold, we did not know this,”  
does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?  
Does not he who keeps watch over your soul know it,  
and will he not repay man according to his work?” - Proverbs 24:11-1

You may choose to look the other way but you can never say again that you did not know.  
Wilberforce

Silence in the face of evil is itself evil: God will not hold us guiltless. Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act.  
Bonhoeffer

There is only one way to avoid criticism; do nothing, say nothing and be nothing.  
Aristotle



And he (God) made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.

ACTS 17:26

“And he (God) made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place.”

ACTS 17:26



For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

EPHESIANS 2:10

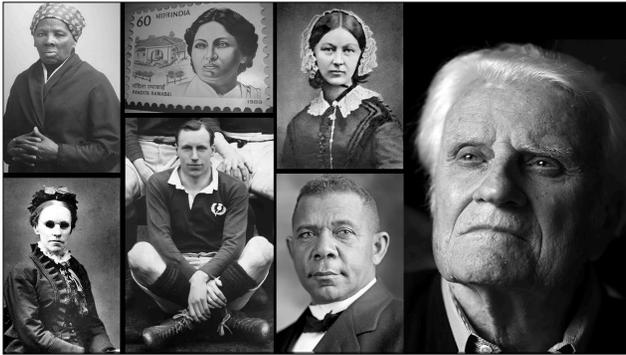
“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them...”

We are saved for something... a purpose.

God made you and called you to this time and place....  
make the most over every opportunity - cultivate courage, bear witness to the truth.

SOFT HEARTS  
SHARP MINDS

In order to be Christ's ambassadors, we must develop soft hearts and sharp minds.



All of these people served God's purposes in their generations....

Are you serving the purposes of God in our generation?

The Biblical faith is deeply personal and private.... BUT, It was never meant to stay that way. We have a **public theology**.  
*Christianity is not a private truth - it is a public truth!*

If you were to be dragged into court accused of being a christian, would there be enough evidence to find you 'guilty'?



God made each of these people for a time and place as well.

These are photos of normal Christians just being Christians in the time and place God assigned them. They demonstrate that a small thing done faithfully, is a big thing in God's hands.

Each took responsibility or initiative for the crisis or opportunity right in front of them.

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:14-16)

From the book *Visions of Vocation* by Steve Garber

[QUOTE]



Summer Seminar 2024  
Resource Center  
WELCOME TO THE DEDICATED RESOURCE PAGE



**REGISTER TO RECEIVE EMAILS**

RESOURCES

Essay: *Invitation to the Pain of Learning* by Mortimer J. Adler  
Excerpt: "Whoever passes by what is over his head condemns his head to its present low altitude; for nothing can elevate a mind except what is over its head, and that elevation is not accomplished by capillary attraction, but only by the hard work of climbing up the ropes, with sore hands and aching muscles... I say that this is the only salutary education that is genuinely educative simply because it is the only kind that requires activity, makes no pretense about avoiding pain and work, and is always working with materials well over everybody's head."

If you did not Register...

Resource Center... [forgeroom.org](http://forgeroom.org) website

**Senator Bob Hall: District 2**