



*An Introduction to Christian Worldview: Pursuing God's Perspective in a Pluralistic World*  
**Available October 10, 2017**  
 \$35, 384 pages, casebound  
 978-0-8308-5123-2

## Teaching Worldview and Its Importance

*In this comprehensive text, Tawa J. Anderson, W. Michael Clark, and David K. Naugle use their individual expertise to address the need in Christian education and discipleship for training in worldview thinking. An Introduction to Christian Worldview provides a threefold approach to teaching the subject by focusing on the following: recognizing the existence and influence of worldview, articulating the contours of Christian worldview, and understanding and analyzing alternative worldviews. Well organized, clearly written, and featuring aids for learning, An Introduction to Christian Worldview is an essential text for either the classroom or for self-study. In the following excerpt, Anderson introduces the concept of worldview.*

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Three friends once went to a nature preserve in the African Serengeti and experienced the majestic beauty and diversity of native African wildlife – zebra, elephant, gazelle, lion, and rhinoceros. Each was awestruck by the diversity of creatures observed.

The first friend, John Luther, commented boldly: “The Lord God has definitely created an amazing array of creatures that sing his praises and declare his glory to the ends of the earth, has he not?”

The second friend, Charles Dawkins, immediately responded: “An amazing array of creatures, to be sure. But you err, my good man, in ascribing their existence to a Creator. No, these incredible animals are the result of the unguided, purposeless combination of random mutation and natural selection. We too are the product of a natural evolutionary process. Indeed, we are no different from the creatures that we see.”

The third friend, Shirley Chopra, serenely replied: “I pray you both would be enlightened to the full reality disclosed by our brothers and sisters on the nature preserve. For they too bear the same spark of divinity that lies within you and me. Do you not sense them calling to you, seeking to communicate with your spirit? We are all potential gods and goddesses; we just need to awaken to our heightened state and take hold of the possibilities that lie before us.”

The three friends see the same animals within the same nature preserve. Thus, they experience the same objective truth. Nevertheless, due to their vastly different perspectives, the three friends see different things.

Why? Simply put, John, Charles, and Shirley are experiencing a clash of worldviews. A *worldview*, as we will define it, is *the conceptual lens through which we see, understand, and interpret the world and our place within it*. The three safari friends wear different worldview glasses; thus, although they see the same thing, they actually see the world and their place within it very differently.

– Excerpt from chapter one, “What Is Worldview?”

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