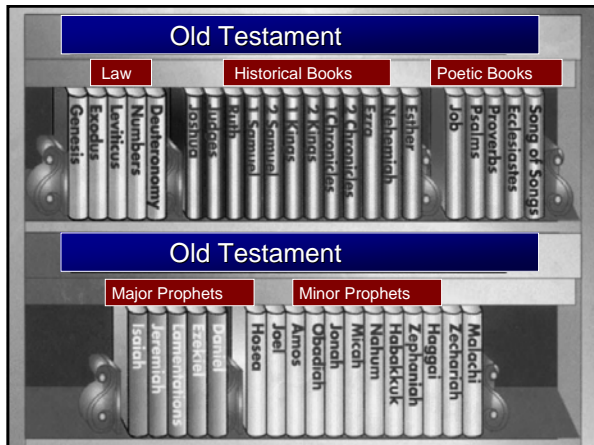


A Chronological Overview of the Bible

Gregory K. Hollifield, Ph.D.



Why should we revere and study the Bible?

1. The Bible faithfully records God's revelation to man.
2. The Bible has been divinely inspired and preserved (2 Pet. 1:20-21).
3. The Bible is remarkably consistent in its witness.
4. The Bible is eternally valuable today.
 - a. Its message is life (2 Tim. 3:14-15).
 - b. Its message is practical (1 Cor. 10:6-11).

Why do we not know the Bible, especially the Old Testament, as well as we should or might wish?

1. Neglect of Bible reading
2. Failure to understand what we read
3. An absence of teaching/preaching from many passages
4. No concept of how it all fits together

When did the events in the Bible take place?

- A. Kingdom of Israel divided in 930 B.C.
- B. Solomon's reign ended in 930 B.C. and began in 970 B.C. (1 Kings 11:42)
- C. Temple construction began in the 4th year of Solomon's reign (1 Kings 6:1). The year was 966 B.C.
- D. The exodus from Egypt occurred 480 years before the temple construction began (1 Kings 6:1). That means the exodus occurred in 1446 B.C.
- E. Jacob's descent into Egypt occurred 430 years before the exodus (Exodus 12:40). The year of Israel's descent into Egypt was 1876 B.C.

When did the events in the Bible take place?

- F. Jacob was 130 years old when he arrived in Egypt (Genesis 47:9). He was born in 2006 B.C.
- G. Isaac, Jacob's father, was 60 when Jacob was born (Genesis 25:26); therefore, Isaac was born in 2066 B.C.
- H. Abraham, Isaac's father, was 100 years old when Isaac was born (Genesis 21:5). Abraham was born in 2166 B.C.

Ussher's Chronology

Creation of the World	4004 B.C.
World Wide Flood	2348 B.C.
Call of Abraham	1921 B.C.
Exodus from Egypt	1491 B.C.
Foundations of Temple Laid	1012 B.C.
Destruction of Jerusalem	586 B.C.
Birth of Christ	4 B.C.

Major Periods of the Old Testament

<i>Patriarchal Period</i>	2166 – 1876 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Genesis</i>
<i>Secondary Book</i>	<i>Job</i>
<i>Egyptian Sojourn</i>	1876 – 1446 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Exodus</i>
<i>Secondary Books</i>	<i>Leviticus, Deuteronomy</i>
<i>Wilderness Wanderings</i>	1446 – 1406 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Numbers</i>

Major Periods of the Old Testament

<i>Conquest and Settlement of Canaan</i>	1406 – 1389 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Joshua</i>
<i>Judges</i>	1389 – 1050 B.C.
<i>(Othniel – Samuel)</i>	
<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>Judges</i>
<i>Secondary Book</i>	<i>Ruth</i>
<i>United Kingdom</i>	1050 – 931 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	<i>1-2 Samuel, 1 Kings 1-11</i>
<i>Secondary Books</i>	<i>Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon</i>

Major Periods of the Old Testament

<i>Divided Kingdom</i>	931 – 605 B.C.
<i>Northern Kingdom</i>	931 – 722 B.C.
<i>Samaria Falls to Assyria</i>	722 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	1 Kings 12 – 2 Kings 17
<i>Secondary Books</i>	Obadiah, Joel, Jonah, Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, Micah
<i>Southern Kingdom</i>	931 – 605 B.C.
<i>Babylonian Conquests</i>	605, 597, 586 B.C.
<i>Primary Source</i>	2 Kings 18 – 25
<i>Secondary Books</i>	Nahum, Zephaniah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Habakkuk

Major Periods of the Old Testament

<i>Period of Exile</i>	605 – 538 B.C.
<i>Primary Sources</i>	Ezekiel, Daniel
<i>Return from Exile</i>	538 – 445 B.C.
<i>Primary Sources</i>	Ezra, Nehemiah
<i>Secondary Books</i>	Haggai, Zechariah, Esther, Malachi

Major Periods of the New Testament

<i>The Gospel Era</i>	7 B.C. – 30 A.D.
<i>Primary Sources</i>	Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
<i>The Mission Era</i>	30 A.D. – Today
<i>Jerusalem Destroyed</i>	70 A.D.
<i>Primary Source</i>	Acts
<i>Secondary Books</i>	Romans - Jude
<i>The Consummation</i>	???????
<i>Primary Source</i>	Revelation

What is the Bible's story?

Creation
Crisis
Covenant
Calling Out
Conquest
Kingdom
Kingdom Divided
Captivity
Coming Home
Christ
Church
Consummation

How To Read the Bible Well

AND WITHOUT FALLING ASLEEP!

How did you learn HOW to read the Bible?

What makes some readings of the Bible *better* than others?

Good Bible Reading...

Is Not...

- The Most Novel.
- The Most Common.
- What fits your theology.
- What is “conservative,” “moderate,” or “liberal.”

Is...

- Informed on type of passage being read.
- Informed on basic circumstances—context.
- Informed on purpose.
- Done in humility.
- Done in submission.

The Purpose of Bible Reading...

Is not for INFORMATION

- Not like a textbook
- Not to master knowledge
- Not to dominate the material
- Not for rote memorization
- IN CONTROL

Is for FORMATION

- Like a reflection in a mirror
- To be mastered by the text (by the God of it!)
- To be read by the text
- To be a ‘sponge’ to the text
- OUT OF CONTROL

The Foundation of Scripture



Basic Bible Interpretation

- Historical Particularity
 - Specific Time (history)
 - Specific Place (geography)
 - Specific Society
 - Specific Culture
 - Specific life circumstances
- Meaning is found in *their* world!

Basic Bible Interpretation

- Eternal Relevance
 - All Scripture is Inspired by God
 - Source = God
 - Not “dead” words on a page
 - God-breathed
 - Scripture has been Preserved for Us
- Significance is found in *our* world!

Central Question

GOD, WHAT IN THE LIFE OF THIS PASSAGE DO YOU WANT TO INTERSECT WITH LIFE IN THE WORLD TODAY (MY LIFE AND THE LIFE OF OTHERS)?

Beginning Resources for Bible Study

- *How to Read the Bible Book by Book* by Gordon Fee and Douglass Stuart
- *Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament* by John Walton
- *Bible Background Commentary: New Testament* by Craig Keener
- *Shaped by the Word: The Power of Scripture in Spiritual Formation* by M. Robert Mulholland

Beginning Resources for Bible Study

- Study Bible (Key: for the purpose of study!)
 - NET Bible (<http://net.bible.org/home.php>)
 - *Archaeological Study Bible* (Zondervan)
 - The New Interpreter's Study Bible (Abingdon)
 - The New Oxford Annotated Bible (Oxford)

Iva May

- What is worldview?
- Why do we need to understand worldview?
- What is a secular worldview?
- What is a Biblical worldview?
- How does one develop a Biblical worldview?



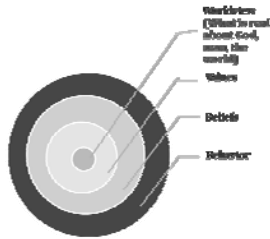
Worldview is a set of pre-suppositions (or assumptions) which we hold (consciously and sub-consciously) about the basic make-up of our world, such as:

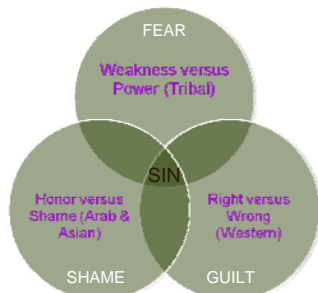
- Who am I?
- Where am I?
- What is wrong with where I am (pain and suffering)?
- How do I deal with what is wrong?

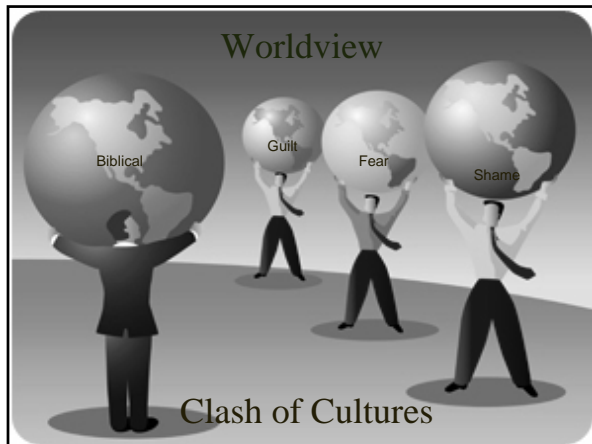
When man sinned, three great conditions came upon mankind through which he sees the world.

By sinning man broke:

- God's *law* and consequently is in a position of guilt.
- God's *relationship* and consequently is in a position of shame.
- God's *trust* and is in a position of fear.








According to Barna Research Group:

- 7% of Protestants possess a Biblical worldview.
- 51% of Protestant pastors have a Biblical worldview.
- A Biblical worldview must be both taught and caught—that is, it has to be explained and modeled.
- It is a long-term process that requires purposeful activity.

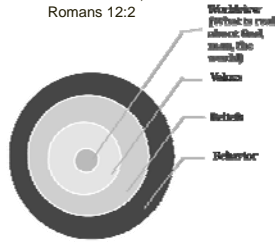
A small icon of a church with a cross on top and several colorful figures (representing people) standing in front of the entrance.

Barna defines worldview as “believing that absolute moral truths exist” and those six truths are defined by the Bible as:

- Jesus Christ lived a sinless life
- God is the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe and He still rules today
- Salvation is a free gift from God and cannot be earned
- Satan is real
- A Christian has a responsibility to share their faith in Christ with other people,
- The Bible is accurate in all of its teachings.

- Individualism vs. Covenant Community
- Egalitarianism vs. Stratification
- Materialism vs. Sacrifice
- Compartmentalization vs. Holism
- Task-oriented vs. Relationship-oriented
- Reason & Logic vs. Faith
- Obsession with the future vs. Reflection

Proverbs 23:7,
Romans 12:2



- “It has long been recognized by students of literature that metaphor, analogy, narrative [story], and myth are effective vehicles for getting an idea deeply into the minds of people.”
- “When we form a picture of truth, it adds dimension to its mere statement and the point is clearly made.”

LARRY CRABB- UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE

- Individualism vs. Covenant Community - From creation onward God established relationships (marriage, Israel, the church, spiritual gifts, etc.).
- Egalitarianism vs. Stratification - Story after story reveals the need for authority and submission (marriage, Israel & the priests and kings, the church, slaves & masters, children with parents).

• Materialism vs. Sacrifice - Eve, Lot, Achan, Saul and many others made wrong decisions based upon what they saw.

• Compartmentalization vs. Holism - Story after story shows how everything has spiritual implications (parenting, emotional issues, etc.).

• Task-oriented vs. Relationship-oriented - The relationship with God founded the establishment of the Levitical priesthood and the service of the temple. Relationships are strengthened via spiritual gifts.

• Reason & Logic vs. Faith - Story after story show that faith is required to walk in obedience with God (Adam, Noah, Joshua, Abraham, Naaman, etc.).

• Reflection vs. Obsession with the future - Throughout the Bible the people of God are reminded to establish feasts & celebrations to remember God's activity of the past.

Celebrations prompted the following generation to ask "Why?" questions to the past generation to create roots and purpose. Remembering the past is crucial for living well in the present.

• Romans 15:4

- Are memorable
- Teach theology
- Are easy to relate to
- Show God's work generationally
- Make up 50% - 75% of the Bible
- Reveal a God who is real, active and involved in human affairs
- Reveal that the way to God has always been through shedding the blood of the innocent on behalf of the guilty
- Show how God is at work from one generation to the next

- Repeated themes in stories:
- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pretty women • Dignity of women • Infertility • Sexuality • Relationship issues • Children • Generational sin cycles • Mentors/Role models • Personality Conflict • Disposition issues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character –Scheming, anger, and pride, etc. • Unbelief • Insubordination • Commands/Obedience • The Illogical • Miracles • Greed/Materialism • Idols/Idol worship • Judgment • Battles/Warfare • Redemption |
|---|---|

- Demonstrates that human personality 'disorders,' 'flaws,' etc, are spiritual in nature
- Teaches that sin is serious, having both immediate and future consequences
- Provides a wealth of theology
- Affirms the dignity of women
- Offers many practical applications to the similar experiences shared by all
- Renews the mind
- Develops a Biblical worldview

- Provides hope as we observe real people (both men and women) addressing problems with which we can all identify
- Grants wisdom and insight into human behavior
- Provokes faith in God
- Convicts of sin
- Matures and equips for ministry
- Is a reproducible discipleship tool
- Is easy to use with anyone, anywhere

Worldview impacting truths emerge from the stories:

- God's M.O. - God speaks, then He allows time to go by while our faith develops, and then He fulfills his promise in His time
- Parallel tracks of life:
 - spiritual – faith life
 - natural – sight life (things are NEVER as they seem)
- God is at work in this world accomplishing His purposes through ordinary people (including women)

CBS enlists the stories in the development of Biblical worldview

CBS empowers people to become Bible literate and self-feeders by asking worldview-impacting questions, questions of:

- fact
- inference
- connection
- application

CBS enables people to see the big picture



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