

Developing a Christian Worldview

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LESSON TWENTY-ONE

OBJECTIVES AND CLASS PLAN FOR LESSON TWENTY: The student will study the following concepts: 1) What is biblical cosmology? 2) What is the evidence that the Western world has changed cosmologies? 3) Why has the West decided to change to a **pagan cosmology**? 4) What are the consequences of choosing the 'devil's cosmology'? 5) How can we confront today's **apostasy** with biblical cosmology?

1. *What is Biblical Cosmology?*

1) Cosmology is that branch of philosophy which deals with the origin and structure of the universe. Biblical cosmology includes man as the image of God, with the sub-themes of male and female and the **dominion mandate**. At the heart of biblical cosmology is the Creator-creature distinction. Biblical cosmology states that God is 'Definer' of what He has made—as Creator has structured reality by giving us *designations, definitions, categories and relations* of what He has made.ⁱ God's defining role over His creation has established the creation structures of male and female and marriage and family. These **creation structures** are foundational and **ontologically** real, which is why **social contract theory** and sexual perversion constitute a radical overturning of biblical cosmology.ⁱⁱ Biblical cosmology is essential in correctly interpreting the universe.ⁱⁱⁱ God's relation to the creation is the ordering principle of the universe and of reality. Because God is the Sustainer and Definer of all that He has made, there is no such thing as a reality greater than God—or a reality in which God is but a component.

2) Biblical cosmology is about the origin and nature of the cosmos, and especially about God's relationship to what He has made as *Maker, Upholder, Ruler, Definer, and Owner* of the universe and its contents. Thus, biblical cosmology is inseparable from God's purposes for His creation and His rule over creation. Cosmology touches **teleology**—God's created design and goal for all that He has created. God intends a specific function and purpose for all the things He has made. **Class discussion point:** the wisdom and goodness of God is manifested in rainfall and in renewable food sources for billions of people and animals. It will only take a single butterfly, rose, or honeybee to condemn the unbeliever on Judgment Day. When the biblical cosmology taught in Scripture is ably wielded, it is able to dismantle every single assumption and facet of paganism's lie that we live in a *self-made, divine universe*.

Illustration, a butterfly on a rose—irrefutable evidence of God's wisdom and power in their design.

3) Biblical cosmology is a totally unified ordering principle—without it, worldview has no foundation. Consequently biblical cosmology is the foundation of the gospel—for the gospel only makes sense in a world in which our omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent God is *Creator, Owner, Upholder, Lawmaker, Redeemer, and Judge*. The gospel has no interface in a world in which pagan cosmology has replaced biblical cosmology. That is why there is a vital need to define categories as God does—for He is *Ruler, Sustainer, Owner* of His creation. In the designations God has made concerning creation, He has established His 'blueprint' which is not only our moral map, but also our '**metaphysic**'—our fixed point of

reference which provides our understanding of the nature of reality. Only by what God has said in His infallible Word do we know beyond a shadow of a doubt what is true, real, right and wrong.^{iv}

4) Biblical cosmology is expressed in the distinctions which God has made. We could say that God creates by ‘separating things’—*heaven and earth; dry land and sea; animal and plant; day and night; good and evil; man and woman* (Genesis chapters one and two). The creation structures formed by God are: male distinct from female, parent distinct from child, human distinct from animal, animal distinct from plant; etc. These ‘binaries of two-ness’ constitute boundaries or divisions established by the Creator. **Class discussion point:** In biblical cosmology we define the creation as God does. Just as in Acts 17 in Paul’s sermon to the Athenian philosophers, we cannot know the creation as it truly is, nor our place in the creation apart from knowing God’s relation to the creation. For, the entire cosmos is a theater of God’s glory; according to Romans 1:18-23, the creation is a sacred teaching device which infallibly reveals God’s divine nature and attributes.

II. What is the evidence that the West has changed cosmologies?

1) Our public universities are teaching that the essentials of human flourishing are grounded in pagan cosmology. Education is inescapably religious, one’s conception of the world and of human existence is of necessity religious in nature. Public schools today in the Western world teach a pagan cosmology (that our universe is self-originating and consequently possesses divine properties). The secular academy is determined to separate Christian students from their biblical worldview and replace it with a pagan one. But, denial of the Creator-creature distinction constitutes a plunge into absurdity—for it is impossible for the creature to set up an alternative rationality in defiance of his Creator who is the source of all rationality.^v The secularists have used the philosophy of materialism to attack the divine ‘blueprint’ by which we are to interpret the world, and order our lives. **This new level of human rebellion is reminiscent of the Lord’s words through Jeremiah addressed to apostate Judah, “Do you not fear Me? Declares the Lord. Do you not tremble in My presence? For I have placed the sand as a boundary for the sea, an eternal decree, so it cannot cross over it. Though the waves toss, yet they cannot prevail; though they roar, yet they cannot cross over it. But this people has a stubborn and rebellious heart; they have turned aside and departed” (Jer 5:22-23). Read Jeremiah 5:24, what would the proper response to God be? “Let us now fear the Lord our God, who gives rain in its season, both the autumn rain and the spring rain, who keeps for us the appointed weeks of the harvest.”**

2) These two mutually exclusive worldviews of biblical cosmology and pagan cosmology are driving the culture war. Consider that the two moral-social issues which presently divide our nation politically are: 1) abortion on demand, and 2) LGBTQ ‘rights’.^{vi} By enshrining choice for both abortion, and erotic ‘freedom’, it is clear that the political left is now advocating a pagan worldview or cosmology in which man is not the image of God. **Class discussion point:** By exalting choice as the liberation of self, of self-expression and self-identification, it is clear that just beneath this idolatrous autonomy is a pagan cosmology which gives tacit permission to worship the self. To rail against the distinctions which God has established is to oppose Almighty God who formed them for His glory—war on God’s created distinctions is war against God Himself, who is the ‘distinction Maker’.

3) Thus, as Christian worldview recedes in the West, the culture of death (abortion, perversion, euthanasia, etc.) will enthusiastically claim every square foot of territory that has been abandoned by

biblical theism. And, with this eagerness to ‘liberate’ our culture from the remnants of its ‘Christian harness’ comes the wholehearted rejection that our human identity and dignity rest upon our being image-bearers of our Creator. The progressive left’s pagan cosmology constantly telegraphs that the priority of choice overshadows any assertion that the dignity and sanctity of life that are at stake in these matters. Nevertheless, the rejection of our creational identity as the image of God is primary in the ploy to justify the moral revolution. Consider how the following terms are utilized in a frontal attack on religious freedom while being placed in the service of defending erotic freedom.

Class discussion point: Here are some of the most common modifiers and nouns that are incorporated in the narrative of the progressive left: *diversity, peace, tolerance, inclusion, justice, equality, self-affirmation, civil rights, equal protection, compassion, non-discrimination, personal empowerment, unity, and human flourishing.*^{vii} The vast majority of these terms, in their original meaning are derived from Christian values. Their origin cannot be traced to Darwinian, secular, humanistic, or pagan sources. Yet, the left has no compunction of conscience for its ‘theft’ of Christian values—which they then label as values inherent in erotic freedom! Millennials need to be able to see through this ruse—discuss how and why the left has redefined the terms listed above. For, the self-justifying, all-inclusive cosmology of paganism is parading these pseudo-values as the very core of human flourishing and progress.^{viii}

Illustration of the new, progressive leftist ‘dictionary’ of the latest redefinitions. With eyebrows raised, a man examines the dictionary and is shocked that the words have been assigned new meanings.

4) This pagan cosmology is a reconfiguration of the way we think, especially about our sexuality.

People are imagining that they can create their own reality, as if law emanates from them. The deconstruction of gender and sexuality is welcomed as pure self-expression without restraint.^{ix} This self-justifying deception is flowing from a demonic cosmology. The radical nature of this moral revolution would not have found traction 30 plus years ago, for the ‘fumes’ of Christian worldview still held that heterosexual marriage constituted the building blocks of a civilized society. **Class discussion point:** erasing every God-ordained distinction is now considered the foundation of liberty. Christian millennials are far too easily silenced by the arguments from the left. The reason why our Christian young people are mute in the face of progressivism’s assault is that they have never been taught biblical cosmology.

5) The breaking down of the gender binary (male-female) is central to the whole new vision for society—a vision which intends to usher in a new moral order with new laws and ethics.

The deconstruction of the fixity of male and female lays the groundwork for a new morality in which laws are made to ‘prevent discrimination against alternative lifestyles.’ This pagan cosmology rejects the divinely created order. The outcome is a new set of ethics which enforces homosexual politics (including laws about transgender pronouns).^x In pagan spirituality, the male-female distinction is erased, making homosexuality appear ‘natural’ within that worldview. As this devilish cosmology is applied, Christianity will increasingly be regarded as the adversary of progress and liberty. **And, because of the male-female binary is foundational to biblical cosmology, Christianity is regarded as the single greatest threat to public acceptance of homosexuality.**^{xi} Write down your understanding of the word ‘binary’ in reference to male and female. **Binary means ‘having two parts’, mankind has only two genders, male and female.**

6) Today's 'scientific paganism' proposes a **non-teleological man**—a human who is not designed by God. This lie has become the state-sponsored creation myth and cosmology. Corporate technologies are playing their part in *cancel culture*—openly disapproving of the binaries in biblical cosmology. The progressive left has virtually pronounced itself the victor in this culture war. The divinely ordained structure of the universe spelled out in biblical cosmology, has been written off as myth, and relegated to the realm of hate. Those who hold to God's created binaries are labeled intolerant bigots.

III. Why has the West changed its cosmologies?

1) Pagan cosmology has appeal because it proposes, explains, and justifies progressive ideas about behavior that they can be adopted in 'good conscience'^{xii} What exasperates the ardent materialist (secularist) is that all the permanent things that God has ordered are not up for discussion. Thus, the secularist is waging open war on the fixed structures in biblical cosmology. For the secularist attempts to usurp God's role for himself as absolute definer. God created the world and all that is in it including people in a way which gives it a fixed nature. This means that by the will of the infinite personal God, He willed your gender before He created a single atom. There is nothing you can do to change it. There is nothing that can be done to undo it. You can vandalize it, deface it, surgically mutilate it, cross dress it, but you cannot erase the image of God as male and female. The infinite gulf between the Creator and the creature is a truth that is inseparable from the cosmic order which God has fixed. We sometimes refer to this order as the *furniture of the universe*. **Class discussion point:** Discuss how the worldview being fed to our young people is being communicated to them by the latest memes, satire, fake news, misinformation, and political correctness. Entertainment, and social media are tools to teach this enslaving worldview. This 'Gentile cosmology' and its effects are described by Paul in (Eph 4:17-19).

2) Pagan cosmology **desacralizes** or profanes the creation by suggesting that the cosmos is self-originating, self-sustaining, and self-defining. This is the scoffer's premise that God's book of works is unreadable, having no clear message or Author. By contrast, the truthfulness of biblical cosmology asserts that our Creator has an absolute claim upon us, His creatures. And, central to His claim upon us is that God requires holiness from His creatures and that holiness means honoring the creation structures and distinctions which He Himself has formed and hallowed. This absolute claim is inseparable from the fact that among the innumerable orders of creatures which God has formed, there is but one order of creatures, humans that exists to bear God's image and likeness (Gen 1:26-27). Read Psalm 39. This Psalm pictures us as 'tenants' on the planet and tenants in our own bodies. In verses 4-6 we see the psalmist reflecting upon his creaturehood. Write down the psalmist's attitude about his creaturehood. 'Lord, make me know how brief my life is, and that the resources I accumulate will not extend my life.' 'Lord grant that I would understand how temporary and transient I am.'

3) The **strident narrative** of **erotic freedom** continues to cast **aspersion** upon proponents of biblical worldview as being guilty of **homo-phobia, trans-phobia, etc.** But, there is an underlying cruel agenda beneath the surface when these insults are flying about (*classist, racist, xenophobic, sexist, hetero-sexist, etc.*). For, the goal of pagan cosmology is the ushering in of a **monolithic** worldview of **egalitarianism**. This is an all-embracing cosmology of **homo-cosmological sameness**. Everything must be deconstructed; any notion of sexual morality must go. All sex and genders found within the 'rainbow of options' are good or permissible. This comprehensive 'leveling' is all done in the name of equality so that the culture

is fully 'rinsed' of all of the distinctions that God has made. But, this is the fast track to a spiritual holocaust; the carnage will be immeasurable (Rev 9:15-21). **Class discussion point:** Christian young people need to hear that it is impossible to buy into this **omni-gendered** (no limit on genders), **pansexual** (no limit in sexual choice with regard to biological sex, gender, or gender identity) view of the world apart from a deeply pagan notion of the world which completely redefines human existence.^{xiii} Remember, a pagan cosmology views the creation as self-originating and infused with divine properties.

IV. What are the consequences of choosing the devil's cosmology?

1) The natural man, because of his sin and sin nature is separated from God. He is created for communion with his Maker, but is estranged from Him. Nevertheless, he 'normalizes' the abnormality of this separation even while bringing his needs to created things. This is why he selects a cosmology which normalizes a broken rebellious world in which the divine is but a category contained within the creation. He chooses this 'Gentile cosmology' (Eph 4:17-19) in order to placate his conscience. Philosophically speaking, the natural man *needs* a worldview which authorizes him to serve sin and self with impunity without the irritations of conscience and righteous requirements of God interfering. The love of darkness dulls and numbs the conscience, granting tacit permission to the sinner to serve his sinful appetites. **The apostle Paul vividly summarizes this connection between futile thinking and immoral license in Ephesians 4:17-19. Read this passage along with the notes in the MacArthur Study Bible. List the four characteristics of those with ungodly cosmologies and their resultant sinful lifestyles. 1) the futility of their mind. 2) alienated from the life of God. 3) being past feeling (callous, hardness of heart). 4) the practice of lewdness, impurity, sensuality, uncleanness with greediness.**

2) This 'callousness and hardness of heart' has become a very accurate description of the dominant cosmology of the present age. This is why Bible-believing Christians need to hear on a regular basis, not simply that they are right and correct in exposing a culture of deceit, but that because our Savior is the truth incarnate, we are going to win. We are going to win because we have the truth. Stupidity cannot win. Imagine an engineering department that says from now on, everything will be assembled of nuts with nuts, and bolts with bolts—that stupidity will guarantee failure.^{xiv}

Illustration of a frustrated mechanic trying to join nuts to nuts, and bolts to bolts—that is a picture of society attempting to make life work when they have discarded God's blueprint.

3) A great problem in the church today is that millennials have been blind-sided by a pagan worldview so heavily politicized they are unable to discern its heretical nature. The present rising generation is the first one in western history to be presented with a comprehensive pagan worldview.^{xv} What the progressive left demands, erotic freedom by means of an underlying worldview of pagan cosmology, is tantamount to open war on the knowledge of God. For, when the ordained boundaries, creation structures, and distinctions which God has formed are regarded as obstacles to 'freedom'—it should be obvious to true believers that war has been declared on the knowledge of God (2 Cor 10:3-5).

4) The proponents of erotic freedom would have us believe that we in the West are continually gaining new freedoms as time passes. This is the myth of endless **democratization**—as if someday we will arrive at ultimate freedom in which there will be absolutely unhindered self-expression. This myth underlies the lie that is being fed to parents: *your little boys may become girls, and your little girls may*

become boys. Nancy Pearcey reminds us in her book, *Love thy Body* that secular morality blows apart the connection between scientific and moral knowledge.^{xvi} **Class discussion point:** The secular worldview functions as a state-sponsored ideology, today's 'political religion'. Secular university students are taught that the Christian perspective in the public arena violates the idea of neutrality and objectivity. But, this fragmented view of the body treats the body as extrinsic to the person. That is the opposite of a holistic view in which the body has intrinsic value and worth.^{xvii} Discuss the fact that the body expresses the commitments of the heart, whether good or evil (see 2 Cor 5:10).

5) Now corporations having taken up the mantle of pagan cosmology and are using their media visibility to participate in the 'moral signaling' embraced by the left. Their hope is that by showing that they are full participants in the moral revolution, the buying habits of the populace will be sure to follow. Our young adults are being torn in two: either they go with the flow of popular culture, or face the consequences of being ostracized. The most common choice they make is to keep their Christianity 'under the radar'. But, the appearance of neutrality can only be maintained for a limited period of time. For, consider what is lost in terms of the knowledge of God when the LGBTQ agenda is unopposed and unexposed. There is the loss of: *the hatred of sin, the fear of God, the fight for purity and virtue, the education of the conscience by God's commandments, the purpose of the cross of Christ, the exaltation of God's moral government, and the ability to train up the rising generation.* These are but a few transforming truths that disappear into the background when sin is normalized by a culture's cosmology.

V. How do we use Biblical Cosmology to confront today's apostasy?

1) Christians ought to boldly stress that cosmology in *general revelation* (God's creation) is as R.C. Sproul has said, "Infallible and inerrant." Creation is God's general revelation, it is the 'book of God's works'—it infallibly reveals God: "For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what has been made, so that they are without excuse" (Rom 1:18-20).

Illustration of a skeptic claiming that he sees no evidence of design, beauty, and wonder in creation—even though God's witness of Himself in the creation is unmistakable.

2) To reject God's testimony in the physical order of creation is a devilish ploy to conceal one's rejection God's testimony in the moral order. The **noetic effects** of sin on human reasoning have so tainted the intellect of man, that he uses what light he does have to pursue futile thinking with greater abandon. Why? Because He is a 'studious' truth-suppressor, living intellectually with his back to God. He uses his faculty of reason to explain away the God who created that faculty. "Who has put wisdom in the innermost being or given understanding to the mind?" (Job 38:36). In Jonathan Edwards *magnum opus* sermon, entitled "The End for which all Creation Exists," the author poses this rhetorical question: shall God, for His own glory create a vast universe out of nothing and then be thwarted in His goal to bring glory to Himself? God shall surely achieve the end for which His creation exists. Human and angelic sin will not deter, or thwart God from achieving the goal of His creation. **Read Job 38-41. From these chapters, select an aspect of creation or a creature that is described as functioning due to God's**

wisdom and power. Write down the phrases which attribute its existence to God. “Is it by your understanding that the hawk soars, stretching his wings toward the south? Is it at your command that the eagle mounts up and makes his nest on high?” (Job 39:26-27).

Illustration of the hawk God describes in Job 39:26-30. God’s testimony in creation is clear, our Creator is the One who designed this hawk to soar, to build a lofty nest, to be able to see its prey from afar.

3) Therefore, critical to biblical cosmology is the fact that to know God is to know that the chief end of all things is the revelation of His glory and perfections. This truth extends to touch all things. For, the uniting force that makes all knowledge a whole is the glory of God. Knowledge and truth exist for the glory of God. That means that every planet, twinkling star, chirping bird, or flowering plant has a particular goal or intended function; we call this purpose, *teleology*—the goal of making God’s perfections known (see Col 1:15-17). But, the darkness of the Edenic lie is alive and well—we see it in the rejection of teleology. **Class discussion point:** Consider that university students are daily schooled in this lie that freedom is *freedom from design* (freedom from teleology). That is the devil’s definition of liberty. As a consequence, today’s moral revolution is descending ever deeper into the madness of moral lunacy. How absurd to think that through hormone treatments, or through political activism, or through sexual anarchy that it is possible to deconstruct the gender binaries that God has created.

4) How does biblical cosmology address today’s runaway apostasy? Biblical cosmology asserts that the government of God is inseparable from the binaries He has created by His sovereign power and declaration. For, the binaries He has established within the cosmic order: *male-female, parent-child, man-animal, good-evil, etc.* are inseparably tied to His glory. Genesis 1:31 is a kind of benediction or doxology where God blesses the cosmological order He has established with its beautifully ordered binaries. Thus, to know God truly, is to know the ‘cosmic furniture’ or binaries He has ordered which point to His wisdom and goodness. This inescapable truth sheds light on the human rebellion of our age. When a person rejects the distinctions and the binaries God has created, Satan gains not only a follower, but a proselyte to advance his lying worldview and cosmology.

5) In 1948, author Richard Weaver saw the nihilistic consequences of a cosmology which reduced man to a cosmic accident, a soul-less creature born of chance, a biological robot made in the image of an animal.^{xviii} We look at the moral madness of our current age and often fail to see the perverse logic that Richard Weaver foresaw. For as Paul states, a ‘Gentile cosmology’ underlies the current moral revolution (Eph 4:17-19). Our nation has changed cosmologies. True believers need to know that the progressive left cannot win a debate when their moral idiocy attempts to take on God’s infallible truth. **Illustration by story:** as an example of the absurdity of pagan cosmology, consider a cosmological quote from Stephen Hawking. “The human race is just a chemical scum on a moderate size planet.” Let that nihilistic statement sink in. How might a reductionistic sentiment like Hawking’s have ramifications on politics? We are already seeing the impact of this worldview politically everywhere we look. If humanity is but ‘chemical scum’ then killing a baby is without moral implications or consequences.

6) The world’s cosmology rejects the foundation Creator-creature distinction. In godless worldviews, the fabric of reality lacks created distinctions because the Creator-creature distinction is absent, thus all

is connected and all is evolving, and all is in one circle of reality. Anything can morph into something else. For, all phenomena is the result of time and chance acting upon matter. The implication of that is that there are no fixed categories, anything can become something else. Therefore, **opines** the modern pagan, “What’s your quarrel with a sex-change operation? After all, if a bird and a harbor seal are related through the same ancestors, what’s the big deal?” But, biblical cosmology teaches that the distinctions God has created are fixed. **Class discussion point:** The primary distinction could be expressed as: “Let there be things that are not God, and behold it was very good.” The eternal Creator creates what is utterly dependent upon Him. He forms a created order that has fixity and is separate from Him by an infinite distance.^{xix} The significance of God’s changelessness means that we are the party that must be changed not Him. The standards of morality that He has commanded are not grounded upon anything down here, but are grounded upon the unchanging character of God.

7) Biblical cosmology ought to play a key role in our apologetic strategy. God the ‘Definer’ gives us the correct categories to understand our world and to *engage our world*. Professor James Herrick of Hope College highlights the role of biblical cosmology in our Christian apologetic, “We must revive Christian cosmology in all its comprehensiveness.”^{xx} That ‘comprehensiveness’ includes the Christo-centric elements of our biblical worldview—namely that Christ is epistemic Lord, that He, as *Logos*, is the source of rationality in the universe, that He unifies all knowledge, that He is the embodiment of God’s wisdom, that He alone bridges the gap between Creator and creature, and that as ‘Lord of all,’ His rule is both **personal and cosmic**—He governs the individual and the universe. The disastrous consequences of pagan worldview are catalogued by Paul in Romans chapter one. Those who subscribe to pagan worldview are judged by God. They experience three areas of being given over—they are: *given over in their minds; given over in their spirits; given over in their bodies*.^{xxi} By contrast Christ as Lord of the cosmos and Lord of the Church is truth and life incarnate. “. . . [He] abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel” (2 Tim 1:10b). He is sovereign over all knowledge—in His ‘epistemic lordship,’ Christ answers, and delivers from, by His own Person, every version of ‘the lie’ (Rom 1:25). Thus, at the center of Christian worldview is Christ the ‘Savior of the World.’^{xxii}

8) What is missing in today’s modern gospel is God’s absolute holiness and justice, and that the Savior Himself is Lord of the cosmos—the *Logos*, the source of the beautiful order in our cosmos. Therefore, those who appeal to Him for a cleansed conscience also bow the knee to Him as their Creator and Lord, and from then on, find their life in being ruled by His infallible Word, the Holy Scriptures. How can the rising generation resist the ploy foisted upon them by the progressive left, namely that the social values they enshrine (that were actually birthed by Christianity), *must be protected from Christianity*. Think of it! Students are being told in order to protect social values, they must reject Christianity in order to safeguard and champion those ideals.^{xxiii} It is generally assumed by humanists that erasing distinctions will usher in pure democracy and its reign. But this is not so. The Bible’s *teleology* rejects ‘*freedom from*’ (design) in favor of *freedom to, within* (design). What dominates today is the romantic fallacy of *freedom from* (design).^{xxiv} **Class discussion point:** It is common for university students today to regard personal liberty as resting upon the idea that nothing outside of man defines him (no *teleology*). Therefore, there is no obligation to adhere to God’s design. Thus, in the loss of biblical cosmology, religion is completely severed from education—and, as the new, materialistic atheism goes mainstream,

it is viewed as a proud achievement of modernism.

9) How can we bring biblical cosmology into our proclamation of the gospel? We will have to take our cue from the apostle Paul who began his sermons to Gentile hearers with a brief theology (see Acts 14; and 17). For, the gospel only makes sense in a world in which God is *Owner, Ruler, Redeemer, and Judge*. That most basic beginning is not the least bit redundant. In fact, few Westerners even consider the ramifications which flow from the fact that God created out of nothing, every atom and molecule (Heb 11:3-6). That fact alone establishes that God is Owner of all, and everything we have is 'on loan'—we are but temporal stewards of what belongs to Him. At death, the human spirit will report back to God and our bodies will return to dust. Our pride will literally be placed in the dust as our bodies decompose (Gen 3:19). The Edenic lie of human autonomy will be dismantled in a moment of time. At that time the impenitent sinner will realize too late what he owed God (worship, service, and reverence). Judgment Day will reveal whether or not our bodies, thoughts, speech, and actions were used in accordance with God's purpose and design for His creation set forth in biblical cosmology.

How little we think of a day in which cosmic holiness will fill the universe. In the new heavens and the new earth (2 Pet 3:11-13), every single thing will be in its proper place. Every created thing will fulfill the purpose for which it is made and therefore honor and glorify God. Every vestige of decay and perversion will be gone. The glory of God will cover the earth as the ocean covers the sea floor (Hab 2:14; Is 11:9). Cosmic holiness, as it fulfills God's *telos*, will be stunning and beautiful. The child of God must be controlled and animated by this hope of glory expressed in biblical cosmology. How is the moral state of the new heavens and earth described in 2 Peter 3:13? A new earth where righteousness dwells.

Questions for review:

1) Biblical cosmology is about God's relation to what He has created. What terms describe God's relation to what He has made? (Sect. 1, part 2). Maker, Upholder, Ruler, Definer, and Owner.

2) God creates by separating things and then by declaring them distinct from one another. Name some the things God created by separating. (Sect. 1, part 4). Heaven and earth; dry land and sea; animal and plant; day and night; good and evil; man and woman (see Genesis chapters one and two).

3) The progressives exalt 'choice' above truth, and then claim that choice in matters of sex and gender is the only way to preserve freedom and compassion. (Sect. 2, part 2). Explain why this constitutes 'war' against God. God is the distinction-Maker, thus to seek to eliminate His distinctions is war against Him.

4) Select one of the following terms, then explain why its 'new definition' destroys its true meaning. Diversity, peace, tolerance, inclusion, justice, equality, civil rights, equal protection, compassion, non-discrimination, unity, and human flourishing. (Sect. 2, part 3). The traditional meaning of justice refers to law being applied equally and fairly to all citizens. The new definition means all should have the same income and opportunities, etc., regardless of one's level of education, hard work, and initiative.

5) What does it mean to 'desacralize' the creation? (Sect. 3, part 2). It is the sin of thinking/saying that the creation (God's book of works) is does not point to an all-wise and powerful personal Creator.

6) What is the connection between the push for ‘erotic freedom’ and holding to a false cosmology? (Sect. 4, parts 1-4). The progressive left demands erotic freedom by means of an underlying worldview of pagan cosmology, is tantamount to open war on the knowledge of God.

7) Give at least two reasons why our worldview ought to be Christ-centered. (Sect 5, part 7). Christ is epistemic Lord, He is *Logos*, the source of rationality in the universe, He unifies all knowledge, He is the embodiment of God’s wisdom, He alone bridges the gap between Creator and creature, and He is ‘Lord of all,’ His rule is both personal and cosmic—He governs the individual and the universe.

End Notes:

ⁱ Dave Doveton, “Paganism in the Church” (Escondido, CA: Christian Witness to a Pagan Planet, think-tank, 2007).

ⁱⁱ Jay Wegter, “Worldview, Apologetics, and Evangelism, BCW363A” (Newhall: The Master’s College, 2007).

ⁱⁱⁱ Dave Doveton.

^{iv} Jay Wegter, “Christian Worldview.”

^v Michael Vlach, “Presuppositional Apologetics” (Sun Valley, CA: The Master’s Seminary, 2006).

^{vi} Albert Mohler, The Briefing, January 7, 2020

^{vii} Peter Jones, “Paganism in Today’s Culture,” Ligonier Conference, February 25, 2015

^{viii} Peter Jones, “Paganism in Today’s . . .”

^{ix} Ibid.

^x Dave Doveton, “Paganism in the Church.”

^{xi} Ibid.

^{xii} Peter Jones, *One or Two*, p. 48

^{xiii} Ibid.

^{xiv} Douglas Wilson, “Sanity as Insurrection”

^{xv} Peter Jones, “Mission in the 21st Century; the Witness of Holiness,” Christ Church, Moscow, ID

^{xvi} Nancy Pearcey, *Love thy Body*, p. 12

^{xvii} Ibid, pp. 63-64

^{xviii} Ibid, p. 169

^{xix} Ibid.

^{xx} James Herrick, “New Myths for a New Pagan Age” (Escondido, CA: Christian Witness to a Pagan Planet, think-tank, 2007).

^{xxi} Ibid.

^{xxii} Benjamin Breckinridge Warfield, *The Saviour of the World* (Cherry Hill: Mack Publishing Co., r.p. 1972).

^{xxiii} Richard Weaver, *Ideas have Consequences*, p. 34

^{xxiv} Ibid, pp. 44-45