

# Jesus and the Bible

A Christian worldview is built on the cornerstone of Jesus Christ with His Word, the Bible, as the foundation.

**If you want to know how a Christian worldview is different from all others in the**

**world, the simplest answer is: Jesus.** The Bible teaches that Jesus is both the eternal Son of God (100% God) and the only perfect man (100% man) who willingly died for the sins of His People. All other worldviews reject Jesus as being God and/or reject faith in Him as being the only way to be reconciled to God. Colossians 1:16 says that “all things were created by him and for him”, so everything in this book is ultimately about Jesus.

Jesus is also God’s Word (John 1:1, Hebrews 1:1-2). We know who Jesus is and what He has done only because of God’s Word to us, the Bible. Without the Bible we would not know much of anything (just our little dot on the whole ball). So the foundation of our Christian worldview is the Bible. **The Bible is God’s written communication to us that answers the whole-ball questions we could not answer ourselves.** (In the “Revealed” section in the RULES chapter we examine why we have confidence that the Bible is God’s Word – you might want to read that section first if you have questions about the Bible’s trustworthiness.)

## Do Not Answer a Fool.....

In Proverbs 26:4-5 there is a puzzling statement: *"Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will be like him yourself. Answer a fool according to his folly, or he will be wise in his own eyes."* One possible application of this passage is that it outlines the ground rules for discussions of worldview topics. The first verse of the passage can remind us **"don't concede/agree that we are capable of determining ultimate truth via human reasoning."** We should establish at the beginning of any conversation that the only reliable source of truth is the One who knows everything (and that's not either of us).

The second verse could be paraphrased **"if a person rejects God's truth, show him the logical implications of his position."** If God does not exist, then our logic is the random result of synapses firing in a brain that evolved through a series of accidents without any intelligent design. This would make our logic totally unreliable. Our ability to even ponder the question of God is totally dependent on a brain that has been designed. In a "matter-is-all-there-is" worldview there is no logic in depending on logic. You may protest that your brain works perfectly well, but where did you get your standard? Unless there is an ultimate source of logic we have no grounds for saying we are "rational" while another man is insane.

But in all our conversations with others we need to obey God’s command to give our reasons with “gentleness and respect”. Any knowledge we have was given us by God, so our conversations should convey humility and thankfulness rather than arrogance or self-righteousness.

*For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not? (1 Corinthians 4:7)*

# What this book covers

The following chapters provide an outline for building a Biblical BIAS based on the Word of God who claims to know everything. The outline is arranged as an acrostic using the word **BIAS** to present answers to the four “whole ball” questions about life presented above.

- B**     Beginnings (ORIGIN acrostic) - *Where did we come from?*
- I**     Intent (LIFE acrostic) - *Why are we here?*
- A**     Authority (POWER acrostic) - *Who's in charge?*
- S**     Standards (RULES acrostic) - *What are the rules?*

This book is written to accomplish three objectives:

1. ***A Sufficient Worldview Overview...***

*To provide a sufficient (not exhaustive) presentation of a biblical worldview that can help a Christian easily compare/contrast this view with other worldviews. This is intended to be an easily-read overview rather than a detailed reference book.*

2. ***...That Upholds Faith as Reasonable...***

*To give reasons why a Biblical worldview faith is at least as intellectually sound as the faith of the most educated follower of any other worldview.*

3. ***...And Can Be Memorized via Acrostics.***

*To organize the outline systematically so that it can be memorized using acrostics. If you don't carry a clear worldview in your head and heart you won't be ready to “give a reason for the hope that is within you” when God gives you the opportunity.*

The result of having a systematic, memorized outline for our biblical worldview is that we are prepared:

*“But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. **Always be prepared to give an answer** to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,”*

*1 Peter 3:15 NIV*

I believe my outline is consistent with God's teaching, but encourage you to be like the Bereans in Paul's time and “examine the Scriptures to see if what is said is true.” (adapted from Acts 17:11) Let's begin.....

*“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge.....” Proverbs 1:7a*