

## WORLDVIEW

Do you know that you have a "worldview"? You carry it wherever you go! That's right! What is your worldview?

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"Worldview" is an English word that sums up a person's view of existence. Every conscious existing human being owns a "worldview." Worldview is a person's rationale for his or her existence.

Of what then is "existence" composed? Life is experienced one person at a time. There is no existence for me apart from my own life. I am conscious. I have life. I exist. However my existence happens in the midst of a culture composed of other people and things that also exist. I am touched by people and things that are not me. I live among people and things. But who am I?

I am a family member; I am a child of parents whether known or unknown and I live among relatives whether known or unknown, whether few or many. I am a community member. I have a way by which I sustain my daily functions. My existence is in time and my lifetime is **occupied** with work and play and rest.

I have a past that extends back to my birth, only a portion of which I can remember. However, those conscious memories help to sketch my view of existence.

Also I have a future that lives only in my mind. However, my imagined future lives NOW in my present circumstances, my present moment! But nevertheless my imagined future is very much a part of my whole view of existence.

So I have a past and I have an imagined future. The past is in memory and the future imagined, but they both come together in my present moment.

It is obvious that I can only live right now! A human being only experiences life one moment at a time. I cannot live in the past. I cannot live in the future. However, we all realize that humans in any moment are influenced by the past and/or by what we think is in the future.

Right NOW my body and mind are functioning. And even in unconscious rest, when I am asleep, my body and mind function. But we know that body or mind may become un-functioning at any moment. Death is also an essential element of existence. Death marks the end of **time** for my flesh and blood existence!

Therefore, an enormous part of my existing worldview will be my view of "death." What about death? Is my death the end of my existence? What I believe to be the answer to that question will influence the moments of my lifetime.

**There are two basic things that we know about our existence: we know that we are alive and we know that we will die.** Since we cannot escape these two realities; we must construct a rationale for these realities, and that becomes a foundation for the way we view the world. How should we then **live**? Should **death** be a concern to me in the way that I live?

Moses, the author of the first five books of the Bible, wrote out of His worldview in a song. Moses' song is included in the book of Psalms and is numbered as Psalm 90. The song is divided into 17 verses and it goes like this:

### Psalms 90:1-17 ESV

- (1) Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
- (2) Before the mountains were brought forth,  
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,  
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.
- (3) You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"
- (4) For  
a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past,  
or as a watch in the night.
- (5) You sweep them (the years) away as with a flood;  
they are like a dream,  
like grass that is renewed in the morning:
- (6) in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.
- (7) For  
we are brought to an end by your anger;  
by your wrath we are dismayed.
- (8) You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.
- (9) For  
all our days pass away under your wrath;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- (10) The years of our life are seventy, or

even by reason of strength eighty;  
yet their span is but toil and trouble;  
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

(11) Who considers the power of your anger,  
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

(12) So  
teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

(13) Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

(14) Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,  
[so] that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

(15) Make us glad for as many days as you have afflicted us,  
and for as many years as we have seen evil.

(16) Let your work be shown to your servants,  
and your glorious power to their children.

(17) Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us,  
and  
establish the work of our hands upon us;  
yes, establish the work of our hands!

Consider Moses' worldview as it is revealed in this song. Moses' worldview is composed of four pillars. **First**, there is the pillar of the everlasting God. **Second**, there is the pillar of death. **Thirdly**, there is the pillar of a lifetime. **Fourth**, there is the pillar of something beyond death. I invite you to consider Moses' worldview and adopt it for your life.

**First**, there is our birth, our existence, and that is attributed to God. The everlasting God is the reason for the "world" and all that is therein. The everlasting is the reason why YOU exist! The "children of men" originated with God. **Family** is God's first principle for life on earth; He made them male and female and said "Be fruitful and multiply." (Genesis 1:27-28) [It is tragic that the idea of "family" is being challenged and destroyed by evil in this world today!] An individual's worldview should begin with family. Blessed are the children of men who are brought up in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)

**Secondly**, there is death. Moses described death as returning to the dust! The everlasting LORD causes His human family to return to the dust. It is a personal condemnation. Each flesh and blood human will die. The LORD condemns sin in the flesh because of God's nature and His unbreakable law against sin. The wages of sin is death. (Romans 6:23) Life on earth might last 969 years (Methuselah) or 930 years (Adam), but humans will return to the dust, and that is less than a day in God's sight. However many years a human's life might be, God can wait for death; but death **will come** because of the law of sin and death!

**Thirdly**, in Moses' worldview there is the pillar of a lifetime. Moses called them "all our days." (Vs. 9) "Our days" are actually short! "Our days" are but a sigh, an exhaled breath. "Our days" are not only short but filled with toil and trouble. The years are soon gone and **we fly away**. Moses asked God to "teach us to number our days that we might get a heart of wisdom." You see, getting a heart of wisdom enables a human being to get ready to "fly away." Moses petitioned God to work with His servants so that "the work of our hands" is established. Lifetime is about "the work of our hands". We will leave a legacy so that those coming behind might "declare [our] generation/lifetime"; they will remember that we lived. (Compare Isaiah 53:8, KJV) In other words, the next generation will know of and benefit from "the work of our hands."

**The fourth** pillar of Moses' worldview is that the human spirit will "fly away." You see, after flesh and blood is gone there is still life. If Moses did not know what that meant when he was moved to write it, then he later knew exactly what it meant! Moses' body was buried by angels and no one knows the location. But Moses had flown away. In Matthew 17 we read of Moses' return to earth for a brief discussion with Jesus Christ on a mountain in Galilee. Moses and another man from the past by the name of Elijah came to that mountain to talk with Jesus about Jesus' death in Jerusalem. You see, Jesus' upcoming death in Jerusalem was the reason Moses and Elijah were saved and in glory! That's right! The crucifixion of Christ is the climax of History and the reason that anyone is saved! Because of Jesus' death God the Father of spirits has the "power" to show mercy. Jesus Christ died for all mankind so that God could have mercy upon believing, repentant people. The Good News of Christ is God's power to save! (Romans 1:16)

Jesus Christ's crucifixion enabled the Judge of all the earth to be justly released from His "law of sin and death." Jesus Christ died for every human being who has ever lived and sinned. By one man, Adam, sin and its consequence entered into

the world. By one man, Jesus Christ, the law of death was satisfied for every human being! So now, at the Judgment, God can acquit and show pure mercy based upon the principle of repentance, not the law of sin and death. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16 KJV)

Whether we "fly away" to hell or whether we "fly away" to heaven will depend upon our worldview! Moses' worldview enabled him to live his last 40 years on earth in service to God. Will you establish your life on the four pillars of Moses' magnificent worldview?

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