

“Relativism: A Christian Response”

Worldview Camp – Pine Haven Christian Assembly
Event Webpage: <https://richknopp.com/worldviewcamp24/>

Richard Knopp, MA, MDiv, PhD
Executive Director, Room For Doubt (www.roomfordoubt.com)

Website: www.richknopp.com
Email: Rich@RoomForDoubt.com

Introduction

- A. Relevant Scriptures (Deut. 12:8; Isa. 5:20; Phil. 3:18-19; Rom. 1:25-28; Col. 2:8; 2 Cor. 10:5).
- B. “Relativism”: The idea that what is true or false and morally right or wrong depend on one’s perspective and are not universal for everyone.
- C. Worldviews with relativism.
 1. Nihilism:
 - a. _____ matters.
 - b. There is NO _____, NO _____, and NO _____.
 2. Existentialism:
 - a. Life is _____.
 - b. Define _____.
 - c. What is important is THAT you choose, not _____ you choose.
 3. Postmodernism:
 - a. Everything depends on your _____.
 - b. Truth and morality are _____.

I. Modernism VS. Postmodernism

- A. Modernism
 1. We _____ truth “out there.”
 2. We have _____ with reason and science.
 3. Things are _____.
 4. Some examples.
- B. Postmodernism
 1. We _____ reality.
 2. We have _____.
 3. Things are _____.
 4. Some examples.

II. Types of Truth

A. Subjective (personal and cultural)

1. Truth comes only _____ us
2. We _____ truth.
3. True for _____.
4. This is “_____” truth.

B. Objective

1. Truth is _____.
2. We _____ truth.
3. True for _____.
4. This is “_____” truth.

C. Postmodernism

1. Denies _____ truth.
2. Truth is a _____ to _____ others.
3. _____ for your group’s “truth.”

III. Christian Responses

- A. Acknowledge the fact and the value of _____ diversity and relativism.
- B. Acknowledge the _____ of our knowledge.
- C. Acknowledge that “truth” sometimes IS a _____.
- D. Expose the logical _____ of relativism.
 1. “There is no absolute truth.”
 2. “Truth is always relative.”
- E. Disclose the _____ of relativism.
 1. “Nothing is universally true.”
 2. “Nothing is universally wrong.”
 3. Would you apply this to _____?
 4. Would you apply this to _____?
 5. Do you actually _____ like this?

John Cage, who emphasized that the universe operates by mere chance and who was also a mushroom expert: “I became aware that if I approached mushrooms in the spirit of my chance operations, I would die shortly. So I decided that I would not approach them in this way.”

F. “Fatal Flaws” of Relativism.

IV. God’s Message

- A. God’s message is _____.
- B. God’s message is _____.
- C. God’s message is _____.