

Worldview Conflicts in the Bible

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

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REVIEW

- A. **A “worldview”:** “The basic beliefs that one assumes or thinks to be true about life’s BIGGEST questions.”
- B. Worldview questions.
 - 1. **God** (e.g. Is there a God? If yes, what kind of God/god?)
 - 2. **Universe** (e.g. Is it eternal? Did it begin at some point? How?)
 - 3. **Life** (e.g. Where did life come from? How?)
 - 4. **Humans** (e.g. Where did we come from? Why are we here? Is there real meaning? What does it mean to be “human”?)
 - 5. **Ethics** (e.g. How should we live? What is right and wrong? How do we determine what’s right or wrong?)
 - 6. **Knowledge** (e.g., What can we know? How can we know?)
 - 7. **Death** (e.g. The end? Reincarnation? Divine judgment?)
- C. Christian worldview (review the outline for “The Christian Worldview”).
 “... informed by the _____ of God, led by the _____ of God, and lived by the _____ of God.”
- D. Worldview conflicts exist throughout Scripture.

I. Conflicting Creation Accounts

- A. Genesis (Gen. 1–2; especially 1:1, 16, 21, 26-28).
- B. Egyptian: Ra, the sun god, creates humans from his _____.
- C. Babylonian *Atrahasis Epic*: Humans created with a god’s blood mixed with clay on which the gods _____.
- D. Assyrian *Enuma Elish*.
 - 1. Marduk cuts the goddess Tiamat in half to create the heavens and earth.
 - 2. Marduk creates humans to do the daily tasks of the gods.
- E. Creation account conflicts

Other Creation Accounts	Genesis

II. God vs. the Serpent (Genesis 2–3)

A. God’s command (Gen. 2:15-17).

Gen 2:15-17 “¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”)

B. The Serpent’s deceit (Gen. 3:1-7).

1. Ethics (v. 1)
2. Death (v. 4)
3. God & Humanity (v. 5)
4. Physical pleasure (v. 6)

III. Moses and the Egyptians

- A. Moses’s upbringing (Acts 7:22).
- B. Moses’s murder and escape to Midian (Ex. 1:11-15).
- C. Moses’s call (Ex. 3:9-10).
- D. Moses’s excuses (Ex. 33:11-14; 4:1, 10-13).
- E. Moses’s confronts Pharaoh (Ex. 5-ff).
- F. The 10 plagues and the Egyptian gods (Ex. 7–11).

IV. Elijah vs. False Prophets (1 Kings 18)

- A. 18:21 “How long will you go limping between two different opinions?”
- B. The test (18:23-25).
- C. The _____ response (18:23-29).
- D. Elijah _____ them (18:27).
- E. God’s response (18:36-38).
- F. False prophets are _____ (18:40).

V. Paul vs. The Greek Philosophers (Acts 17:22-34)

A. Epicureans

Epicureans	Paul Agrees?	Paul Disagrees?
No God (or a physical god)		24 29 29
No creation		24
No purpose		26 27
No life after death		31b 32a
No judgment		31a
No human freedom		30

B. Stoics

Stoics	Paul Agrees?	Paul Disagrees?
Pantheism (all is God)	28	24 26 30
Human Purpose	31	
Fatalism	26	24 30
Divine spark in humans	28	
No human resurrection		31

VI. The Apostle John vs. Gnosticism

- A. Gnosticism (< *gnosis* = knowledge)
 1. Secret knowledge
 2. Dualism: Matter is _____.
 3. No _____ of God.
- B. Apostle John (1 John 4:1-3): “Do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already.”