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PSY253

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1. Reread the introduction to the chapter. How many times can you identify a clash of worldviews in the author's story? At what points was your own worldview challenged or exposed? How do you think you would react to being exposed to a culture where the prevailing worldview is fundamentally different from your own?

- There are numerous times the author describes a clash of worldviews in the introduction. Even throughout the reading, the author reminded me of a clash I had on the same worldview he had. That is on how Christian counseling, I recently have been questioning psychology as a whole as well. Is therapy even necessary? Is depression even real? The author and I have the same questions on Christian counseling, because if we have scripture to lean back on for wisdom and advice; as well as a relationship with God, then what is the point of spending money on Christian counseling?

2. Walsh and Middleton define a worldview as something that answers four basic questions that might be loosely summarized as follows: What does it mean to be a person? What is the nature of the world? What's wrong with the world and why do things go wrong? How can what is wrong with the world, and what is wrong with my life, be fixed. How would you answer these four questions? Are your answers purely assumptive, or do you have any evidence that you use to support your views?

- What does it mean to be a person? A person means you are a part of a race known as humans. We are all the same yet we are all different, and we all have the same goal of

survival in this globe we are trapped in. What is the nature of the world? The nature of this world is to grow up, go to school, pay bills and taxes, reproduce, then die so the next generation can repeat. What's wrong with the world and why do things go wrong? The world has been broken ever since God kicked out Adam and Eve out of the garden. Ever since then, anything that is known to be bad now is because of those events. How can what is wrong with the world, and what is wrong with my life, be fixed? This can be fixed in a variety of ways. Many people have different opinions and views on this, but for me, this can be fixed by laying all your stresses and worries in God's hands. Then from there on out, continue to trust in Him. These answers are all purely assumptive besides the last one. The evidence I have to back the last question is all in scripture.

5. The author claims that "worldviews are less chosen than inherited." Do you think his assertion is correct? Can you give examples of how this is true of your own worldview? How "objective" do you think we can be in evaluating our own worldviews?

- The author has a great point to his statement, that "worldviews are less chosen than inherited". However, this relates to nature vs. nurture in my opinion, because it all comes down to how our parents choose to raise us. During all of our early childhoods, our parents raised us everyday side by side, and we even tended to look up to our parents as our superheroes. Therefore, whatever opinion they had, we agreed, and this may have stuck for a while until our brains developed. As well as the influence of social media these days, we grow to have our own worldviews that are more of a choice than inheritance.

7. The author noted that the Fall has both individual and corporate implications. In what ways can you see individual sin as a source of suffering that might be relevant to psychology? In what ways can you see corporate sin as a source of suffering that might be relevant to psychology? Provide specific examples.

- There is one specific example I have gone through and what I believe most men on this earth have gone through and will go through. This is only a sin if you are not married because it would be premature sex. The Bible says that you should only have sex when you are married, however I have sinned against God, and although now I am celibate, I have gone through the process, as have many other men. When we are sexually aroused our brain is being completely flooded with dopamine, oxytocin and other types of neurotransmitters that then completely bottom out as soon as you orgasm, or ejaculate. Therefore, this release makes us feel slowed down, and honestly just think about life, and as a God fearing man, the feeling gets even worse. I personally feel a shock of anxiety, as if my brain is shaming me for what I have done, but I know that it is God letting me know that I have messed up.

8. The author claimed that " every aspect of creation is to be redeemed and restored: art, music, business, economics, politics, our care-taking role over the environment and our fellow creatures, and so forth. In every conceivable area of life, Christians are called to be agents of redemption." Describe several ways that you sense God could call you to be part of the redemption of all of creation. Why is it important to see redemption as broader than just being forgiven for individual sin?

- The reason why God calls us to be a part of redemption is because of creation is because we need to do our job of spreading the Gospel. This is the redemption we can offer to God's creations who have not yet seen or felt the power of the Holy Spirit. Redemption is broader than just being forgiven for our sins because scripture says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you." (Matthew 28:18-20) My analysis from this is to not be too comfortable with being forgiven, because we will continue to sin and we need to teach others of the "good news".

9. In the modern era, Christians tend to frame consummation either as "going to heaven" or as social transformation of this life. Which one of these do you see emphasized in your own religious experience? What would be different if we were to view consummation as "participation in the renewal and restoration of creation in the here and now, in the power of the risen Christ, while we await the final and complete restoration of all things yet to come"?

- I personally prefer to live my life as a continuous social transformation. The reason being is because being comfortable with life can be dangerous, as fulfilling as it may seem. Psychologically, if you were to have the mindset that you are "going to heaven" then you might lose the hunger to read the Word, or speak to God and maintain that intimate relationship you once had, and eventually this may lead to you losing your place in the Book of Life.