

WORLDVIEW IN POSTMODERNISM

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WORLDVIEW IN POSTMODERNISM

Postmodern is a word used to describe major changes in the underlying ways people think, especially the way people view truth and reality. Postmodern is a term of contrast that implies modern. But before modern times, there was pre-modern. To understand postmodernism, it helps to consider the main differences in the way each of the three “moderns” relates to truth and reality. The pre-modern era was one in which religion was the source of truth and reality. God’s existence and revelation were givens in the culture. In the modern era, science became the source of truth and reality. During this period, religion and morality were arbitrarily demoted to the subjective realm. In the present, postmodern era, there is no single defining source for truth and reality beyond the individual. Postmodernism simply radicalized relativism and individualism and then applied them to all spheres of knowledge even science.

In a postmodern world, truth and reality are understood to be individually shaped by personal history, social class, gender, culture, and religion. These factors, we are told, combine to shape the narratives and meanings of our lives. In this sense, they are culturally embedded, localized social constructions without any universal application. Postmodernism is suspicious of people who make universal truth claims. Such claims of universal meaning are viewed as imperialistic efforts to marginalize and oppress the rights of others. The most important value of postmodernity is the inadmissibility of all totalizing ways of viewing any dimension of life. Postmodernity, as a worldview, refuses to allow any single defining source for truth and reality. The new emphasis is on difference, plurality, and selective forms of tolerance.

Postmodern thinking is full of absurdities and inconsistencies. It is, for example, the worldview that says no worldview exists.

WORLDVIEW CONCEPTS:

God: In postmodernism, God is the source of all things. This means that God has brought the world into existence out of nothing through a purposeful act of His free will. A Christian worldview affirms that God is the sovereign and almighty Lord of all existence. It states unequivocally that man is created in God's

image, living in essence as God's co-regent over creation. Mankind, born and unborn, rich, and poor, able and disabled, has intrinsic worth. **Genesis 1:** In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. Scholars have long acknowledged that the view of God held by the earliest Christians changed dramatically over the course of centuries. Early Christian views of God were more personal, more anthropomorphic, and less abstract than those that emerged later during Christianity's creedal stage. The key ideological shift that began in the second century, after the loss of apostolic authority, resulted from a conceptual merger of Christian doctrine with Greek philosophy.

Person: Examples of ideological worldviews include capitalism, socialism, communism, social democracy, libertarianism, agrarianism, and totalitarianism. These ideological worldviews might underpin your perception of what rights and freedoms people should have. This also identifies the need to respect people and their beliefs.

When people introduce themselves by saying "I am a scientist", "I am a capitalist" or "I am a Christian" they are identifying themselves by naming an important aspect of their worldview. Contrast a statement such as: "many of my beliefs align with Christian religious doctrine" with the statement: "I am a Christian". This shows how they want the world to see them. Olthuis looks at how the individual and their worldview travel down the road of life together as they help to shape and form each other and their world. Who am I? Where am I and where am I going? Is there a god? What are good and evil? Answering these basic questions about life results in "comprehensive and unified systems of thought" that may or may not function on an individual's conscious level.

Environmental Worldview: A person's view of the relationship between humans and nature. These range from human-centered, in which humans are separate from nature, and any environmental problems

can be solved by technology, to earth-centered, in which humans are a part of and dependent on nature and have to work with nature. A life-centered environmental worldview sees all living things as having value regardless of their use to humans and that we have a responsibility to avoid hastening any extinctions through our activities. Worldview holds that humans are part of and totally dependent on nature and that nature exists for all species, not just for us. Our success depends on learning how the earth sustains itself and integrating such environmental wisdom into the ways we think and act.

Environmentalism advocates the preservation, restoration, and improvement of the natural environment and critical earth system elements or processes such as the climate and may be referred to as a movement to control pollution or protect plant and animal diversity.

Health and well-being: Health and well-being are connected, but they are two different things.

Let's cover them one at a time.

Health: can be thought of as the state of being free from injury or illness. Physical health means living in a body that is strong, capable, and free of disease. Mental health, meanwhile, means having a mind that is strong, capable, and free of disease. If we are mentally healthy, we can navigate daily life and its setbacks and difficulties without excessive or debilitating stress, frustration, anxiety, or sadness. Taken together, physical and mental health affects everything we do.

Well-being: This might be described as the absence of "negative" things, like mental distress and physical illness. There are two types of well-being: objective and subjective well-being.

- **Objective well-being.** Objective well-being has its foundations in basic human needs, including food, education, health, safety, and shelter. Objective well-being rises and drops with social, cultural, and political events, and can be gauged by asking people to self-report on their overall well-being.

- Subjective well-being. On the other hand, can be measured by asking people how they *feel* about their well-being. It relies on less tangible measurements, like satisfaction, social well-being, happiness, and a sense of meaning.

When objective and subjective well-being come together, they create an overall sense of wellness. But why does it matter? The foundation of mental and physical wellness allows us to function at our highest potential. If your health and well-being are lacking, everything else in your life, personal and professional, is more difficult and less rewarding.

The effects of stress on health and Well-being

One significant impediment to health and well-being that most of us experience is stress. When stress affects us, it bleeds into every aspect of our lives, including our relationships and personal lives. While stress can come from many places, one common culprit is work. According to recent data, 64% of employees say they experience frequent stress or frustration at their current job.

Nursing: Nursing: In postmodernism, nursing is seen as a complex and dynamic process involving caring for a person holistically, considering not just physical disorders but also psychological, social, and cultural factors. *Worldviews* is a leading journal for evidence-based practice in nursing and healthcare. The journal emphasizes how best to link evidence to action in real-world clinical practice, education, and policy settings. There are three major paradigms within the nursing profession: empiricism, interpretive, and critical social theory. Each has unique tenets and contributes to the profession and discipline of nursing in a different way. As a part of a profession that works with all people, across cultures and the lifespan, it is natural for nurses to utilize a perspective that embraces various paradigms and theories. Pragmatism seeks an alternative to paradigm- or theory-based silos by advocating for the most appropriate course of action for a client. Pragmatism enables nurses to collaborate respectfully and move

forward with confidence after selecting a course of action. Pragmatism allows for the careful selection of appropriate paradigms and theories for nursing practice, enabling nurses to provide maximally effective care. Nursing from a Christian Worldview. What we believe about God shapes our understanding of human persons and the environment in which we find ourselves. That, in turn, informs our concept of health and directs us to the means by which we nurture one another toward health and healing. So as Christians, we begin with a theology of nursing more than a philosophy or theory. If we truly believe what we say. If we believe in God, we cannot help but act in obedience to him, which means communicating the good news of salvation, health, and healing through word and deed.

Biblical worldview: A biblical worldview (or a Christian worldview) is a worldview based on God's unchanging Word. Since God is the Creator of everything in heaven and earth, He is the standard for truth. God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and unchanging. The Bible contains the words of God, and God is Truth. Therefore, we can trust what it says 17:17) and (2 Timothy 3:16) states that "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." Inspiration means that God "breathed it out." The Holy Spirit guided and directed humans to write down and preserve His words through Scripture. A biblical worldview is not just a theoretical idea. A biblical worldview changes the way we respond to major events in the world. How do you respond to a natural disaster? How do you respond to traffic? What do you do if your fast-food order is wrong? Someone with a biblical worldview is going to respond to these events through the lens of Scripture. While others may have their worldview shaken after a disaster, a Christian will respond with trust in God's wisdom, confidence in Christ's future return, and zeal for spreading the gospel. Christians don't rely on a biblical worldview only when major events happen. A biblical worldview informs how Christians prioritize their time and money, respond to leadership, raise their children, and respond to hurtful words and comments. God's Word is a guide for all of life.

COMPARISON

When viewed from a Christian perspective, the postmodern worldview is contrasted with how God's justice and love establish the moral order of the universe. God's word, wisdom, and law also define how we should live in order to promote world peace and tranquility. Additionally, this demonstrates that God is in charge of all facets of created existence (Romans 1:18-20) According to author and professor David Naugle of Dallas Baptist University, "objectivity" has its roots in God and that "God" is the one who establishes moral laws across the cosmos. He said that the Trinitarian God is the ultimate source, the stable, unchanging foundation, and the objective point of reference for one's worldview (David Naugle pg. 3 & 4)

IN CONTRAST

Postmodernists contend that we Christians and the rest of creation should abandon the notion of a "Origin" and instead examine how experiences in life, what we choose to do, and our surroundings impact our moral standards and perceptions of right and wrong. In contrast to the Postmodern Worldview, which contends there are no unchanging points of reference, Christianity asserts that cultural factors influence how people interact with the Christian faith.

CONCLUSION:

As Christians, we are to engage in both apologetics and evangelism as we consider how to reach the postmodernist. The central message of Christianity is spread through evangelism: God became man in the person of Jesus Christ, and through His death and resurrection, He provided a means of our forgiveness. We must never forget that evangelism is our primary responsibility and apologetics is our secondary responsibility. Although essential for humans to make sense of their life, worldviews should not give rise to bias, stereotypes, and prejudice among healthcare providers. Nurses should not be judgmental or disregard a patient's beliefs and religious background but encourage them to do what works best for them. always Empathizing with the patient. Valuing the individual and applauding strength and individuality

Citation

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