

Economics

Christlike Thinking in This World

Adult Training Seminar Session 12 – Kevin Schoonhoven 12-8-19

Review

“...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ” 2 Corinthians 10:5

How does Jesus want me to think and represent Him on this issue?

Worldview is . . . submission of your mind to Christ evidenced by your willingness and commitment to follow Him and His teaching in all areas of life – Discipleship!

1A. Foundational Reminder – Sufficiency

- 1B. Savior – John 10 & Colossians 2
- 2B. Scripture – 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Psalm 119:105
- 3B. Spirit – Galatians 3:3 & His Titles

2A. The Process of Developing a Christian Worldview Restated

- 1) Humble Your Heart – Check Your Motives (Proverbs 3:5-7)
- 2) Read the Entire New Testament Gathering the texts addressing or related to the issue
 - Is there a clear command which mandates or prohibits certain aspects of this area of life?
 - Word Studies & Cross References – Concordance Search of Synonyms.
 - Look for Examples that are exact or parallel
- 3) Identify Areas of Biblical & Theological Foundations that Apply
- 4) Seek the Help of God Given and God Gifted Teachers Empowered by The Spirit
- 5) Write down your reasons and have discussions with others
- 6) Get true facts vs propaganda—Consider the source & the content (Titus 1:15)
 - The place for input from unbelievers
 - Experience & Emotions vs Objective Truth
 - Consider your Cultural Context But it's not Final
- 7) Hold to your convictions without wavering yet with humility
- 8) Pray throughout the process and prayer as a lifestyle
- 9) Apply what you learn to your life (choices & conversations)

3A. What is Our Culture's View of Economics, Teaching in Public Educational System & Current News?

***Romans 12:1-2

“Nonetheless, it is not desirable for Christians to be completely ignorant of the economic forces at work in our culture. In 11 of His 39 parables, Jesus showed a familiarity with a variety of economic concepts: investing (Matthew 13:44-45), saving (Matthew 13:52), debt (Matthew 18:23-35), wage structures (Matthew 20:1-16), leasing (Matthew 21:33-46), banking (Matthew 25:14-30), debt cancellation (Luke 7:41-43), accumulating reserves (Luke 12:16-21), cost analysis (Luke 14:28-30), estate planning (Luke 15:11-32), and brokering complex deals (Luke 16:1-12). The Bible does not place a premium on ignorance; thus, believers should have a basic understanding of and appreciation for economic principles and practices. The danger comes when understanding and appreciation turn into obsession and anxiety” (p. 133 Right Thinking in a World Gone Wrong by John MacArthur & Pastoral Staff)

4A. National Economics (Macroeconomics)

Recommended Resources

- Mike Winther "Institute For Principle Studies" www.principlestudies.org
- R C Sproul Jr Biblical Economics
- Wayne Grudem Politics According to The Bible

1B. Christ is King continuously reigning over all past, present and future Economic Systems, Policies & Details
Ephesians 1:22-23, Colossians 1:13-14, Romans 14:16-19, Philippians 3:20-21

2B. The State of the American Economy is NOT the Most Important thing in life

3B. Regardless of the economic system in place, we cannot escape living in a fallen world.

4B. God has extended abundant Common and Special Grace to all people
1C. Common Grace

Comparison of Voluntary Exchange vs Forced Confiscation as Economic Systems

2C. Special Grace

What are some personal applications a person could make to their life based on the above perspectives on macroeconomics?

5A. Personal Economics (Microeconomics)

Two overarching perspectives:

- 1) God is the owner and you are the steward
- 2) Your responsibility as a Christian is to work, plan and give for the exaltation of Jesus Christ, your King

Key Thoughts & Passages that should shape our worldview relative to personal economics

1B. God is the Owner of All Money (Psalm 50:10-12, Deuteronomy 8:17-18)

2B. Man is the Steward of God's Money (1 Corinthians 4:1-5)

3B. Stewardship Reveals the Heart (Matthew 6:19-21)

4B. Stewardship is a Spiritual Issue (1 Timothy 6:17-19)

5B. The Biblical Worldview regarding Stewardship

1C. Be a Faithful Worker – Creation Ordinance (Genesis 2:15)

- Colossians 3:22-4:1, 2 Thessalonians 3:11-12, 1 Timothy 5:8

- Ephesians 2:10

2C. Be a Careful Planner – 6 Components to Wise Planning

1. Don't be consumed by consumption - Live Within Your Means
2. Don't borrow yourself into bondage (Proverbs 22:7) Avoid debt
3. Don't cosign your way into a corner (Proverbs 6:1-5) Becoming Surety
4. Don't sell your soul for success (Proverbs 22:1, 28:19-20)
 - a. Mark 8:36
 - b. Luke 12:16-21
5. Don't confuse risk with recklessness (Proverbs 21:5) Diversification
6. Don't neglect to prepare and protect (Proverbs 27:23-24)

***Disclaimer – Matthew 6:25-34

3C. Be a Generous Giver – Whose Kingdom are you in? Which King are you serving?