**Assignment #1 – Core Essential Elements**

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PHI-815

August 31, 2024

**A Christian Worldview Perspective on History**

Worldviews explain the past, present, and future. Our worldview is based on core tales and ideas. Christianity centers on creation, the fall, atonement, and restoration. This Christian worldview offers a unique perspective on past and contemporary events through its unified narrative that links religion and history (Peterson, 2024). Christianity centers on creation, fall, atonement, and restoration. Creation began because God envisioned a flawless and peaceful world. Disobedience to God's plan—the Fall—led to sin and brokenness. God is redeeming the earth and humanity via Jesus Christ because of the Fall. God will renew and refine creation at the end. A new order will result. Non-Christian secular epistemological frameworks may use different tales and presumptions. Historical materialism, humanistic principles, and factual facts may be important in secular worldviews. Because they emphasize scientific data, these methods may overlook the influence of religious practices and beliefs on our understanding of history. () claims that secular historians examine the past via social, economic, or political lenses rather than religious ones.   
The OGS Epistemological Quadrilateral helps compare worldviews, including Christianity (Suarsana, 2021). The quadrilateral corners represent observation, general knowledge, particular knowledge, and synthesis. Observation yields historical and empirical data. Using logical intellect and science, we can gain "general revelation" about God. Unique insights come from religious literature and personal experiences. The synthesis of components creates a cohesive worldview. Using Special Revelation, Observation, and General Revelation in Christian history enhances it above secular methods (Hadi et al., 2021). A Christian perspective on the past may help us understand the creation, fall, redemption, and restoration story. Christians may find hope and meaning in history via this lens, thinking everything occurs for a reason. It encourages readers to see previous events through the prism of God's ongoing action by telling a Christian tale. Christians' worldview offers a new and comprehensive vision of history. It helps explain history and human experience by placing them in the context of Creation, Fall, Redemption, and Restoration. Comparing secular epistemologies with this method shows that historical studies must include religious viewpoints.

**Loretta, you did a great job discussing the course's essential element of Historical Methodologies. Not many students recognize that historical thinking from a Christian worldview perspective is at the heart of the purpose of this course. It is the only history-related course in the entire curriculum. Christian historical thinking is a skill that provides the wisdom that comes from understanding grand narratives, indeed the meta-narratives that provide the framework for interpreting events with the benefit of an eternal perspective. As Frodo tells Sam in the Lord of the Rings, it is helpful to understand what story you have become a part of. When you connect your story with God’s Story, it provides insights about the stories people look through like colored glasses that distort or clarify the significance of events. You showed a nuanced grasp of the value of what this class is all about. Keep up the great work! -- Prof. David Ward**

**References**

Hadi, F. S., Sani, H., & Allaham, N. R. (2021). The History of Worldview in Secular, Christian, and Islamic Intellectual Discourse. *Tasfiyah: Jurnal Pemikiran Islam*, *5*(1), 49-74.

Peterson, B. (2024). Christianity. In *Research Handbook on the History of Political Thought* (pp. 110-120). Edward Elgar Publishing.

Suarsana, Y. (2021). Religionizing christianity: towards a poststructuralist notion of global religious history. *Method & theory in the study of religion*, *33*(3-4), 259-288.