

Introduction

Crafting one's Christian worldview is a lifelong journey that can occasion intellectual stimulation superseded only by immersing the mind and heart in Scripture study and meditation. I have learned much from this collection of resources; I commend them to you for prayerful study. Of course there are other helpful texts. Caution: there are both science and Christian materials on this topic that are more like propaganda than reasoned analysis or discernment. Seek out material that broadens your understanding from the perspectives of Scripture, church tradition, reason and your experience of God.

There are two sections in this list: books and internet sites.

Books

Being a Christian in Science

Walter R. Hearn, 1997, InterVarsity Press.

Biochemist for twenty years who then changed careers and edited newsletter of the American Scientist Affiliation to explore relating issues of Christian faith and science. Excellent discussion with personal illustrations.

Love Your God with All Your Mind: the Role of Reason in the Life of the Soul

J. P. Moreland, 1997, NavPress.

Chapter nine discusses vocation and an integrated worldview. The Christian needs to understand how practitioners in their career typically answer worldview questions, and how as a Christian he or she will respond. By all means read the entire book; this chapter is worth several readings.

Christianity and the Nature of Science: a Philosophical Investigation

J. P. Moreland, 1989, Baker Book House.

The author facilitates and encourages Christians to think more clearly about the relationship between science and theology. Detailed description of science from a philosophical perspective designed to show that science and Christianity are not inherently incompatible.

Philosophical Foundations for a Christian Worldview

J. P. Moreland and William Lane Craig, 2003, InterVarsity Press.

I keep this comprehensive text close by as I read and write. The five parts of the text are introduction to the nature of philosophy, and why it is important to have a broad overview as one crafts his or her particular worldview; epistemology; metaphysics (ontology); philosophy of science; ethics.

The Gospel in a Pluralist Society

Lesslie Newbigin, 1989, Eerdmans Publishing Company

The first seven chapters were my introduction to the issues that some people claim render compatibility between science and religion impossible. Reading them started my

journey to awareness of the importance of being Christian first and program evaluator second. Until then I had no idea how my evaluation training and experience were at odds with my Christian faith. After several readings of these chapters I began to identify evaluation approaches that were less problematic from a faith perspective but were regarded as sound evaluation by a substantial number of professional evaluators. I have been a serious student, not just a practitioner, of evaluation since then.

Total Truth: Liberating Christianity from Its Cultural Captivity

Nancy Pearcey, 2005, Crossway Books.

This book is a comprehensive worldview training manual for Christians. It raises awareness about how our culture influences our thinking and doing regardless of inconsistencies with our faith. It gives practical advice for thinking through your worldview and reshaping it to focus on your relationship with God, Christ and the Holy Spirit.

Science and Faith: an Evangelical Dialogue

Harry L. Poe and Jimmy H. Davis, 2000, Broadman and Holman Publishers

In the words of the authors, “we have sought to take both science and the Bible seriously.... This book is written primarily for Christian college students and their teachers who struggle with how to believe the Bible and accept modern scientific discoveries at the same time (p. ix).” A science-Christianity dialogue is presented for five topics: how we know something; origin and structure of the universe; origin of life; the quantum world, contradiction, and the Triune God; chaos theory and the return of Christ.

Is Reality Secular: Testing the Assumptions of Four Global Worldviews

Mary Poplin, 2014, IVP Books, InterVarsity Press.

After living chaotically out of different secular worldviews, soon after she became a tenured professor the author began to secretly explore Christianity. Somewhat chaotically she eventually defined a Trinitarian triangle of Truth, her Christian worldview. Provocative reading as she builds a case for concluding that reality is not secular.

The Transforming Vision: Shaping a Christian World View

Brian J. Walsh and J. Richard Middleton, 1984, InterVarsity Press.

Aim of the book is to help college students develop an integrated worldview that is faithful to the Scriptures and motivates Christian obedience in a secular age. The bibliography contains essential reading in many disciplines published in 1970s.

Hidden Worldviews: Eight Cultural Stories that Shape Our Lives

Steve Wilkins and Mark L. Sanford, 2009, IVP Academic, InterVarsity Press.

Two theologians “shine a spotlight on the profound challenges to Christianity and faithful Christian living that come from worldviews that compromise the cultural soup we swim in.”

Internet

This list of resources is for those who prefer to explore smaller chunks of information on the internet. I googled “Christian Worldview Science” and selected a variety of sites that I believe discuss worldview in a way that facilitates thinking through your own worldview.

Alexander, Denis, Can Science Explain Everything?

<http://www.bethinking.org/does-science-disprove-god/can-science-explain-everything>

“Scientific naturalism is the view that only scientific knowledge is reliable and that science can, in principle, explain everything. This paper surveys the inherent weaknesses in this philosophy, illustrated by the naturalistic attempt to extract ethics from biology. Different Christian responses to naturalism are considered.”

Bethinking.org exists to help you make sense of the big questions about life: Engage with the important questions of life; explore what Christians believe and why; Compare Christianity to different religions and beliefs; relate the Christian faith to all of life. A number of posts deal with science and religion topics.

American Scientific Affiliation

<http://www.asa3.org/ASA/education/views/index.html>

This site explores how worldviews affect decisions and actions in everyday life, for individuals and societies; what we should teach students about worldviews, and how, and why. It is a gold mine of links to resources selected to stimulate creative reflection on worldview implications for Christians who practice some form of science.

All about Worldview

<http://www.allaboutworldview.org/>

“We believe the pursuit of truth is the highest calling of humanity. We are a collection of people who have wandered many paths, but all discovered that same truth. We are passionate about sparking authentic life journeys and sharing compelling content with skeptics, seekers, believers, and a hurting world.

...

Many people refer to us as “Christians,” but we consider ourselves followers of Jesus. Like Jesus, we reject many of the issues found in “organized religion” (man-made attempts to reach God through rules and rituals). ... Although we reject man-made religion, we consider the personal pursuit of God as paramount in each of our personal life journeys. We also believe that ultimate, saving Truth is found only through God’s Son, Jesus Christ.”

Drury, Keith, A Christian Worldview?

<http://www.drurywriting.com/keith/worldview.Christian.htm>

“Is there one single Christian worldview all Christians share in common—what might be called the Christian worldview? Or are there several worldviews that are different but all might be called “Christian?”—what we might call a Christian worldview.”

Jones, Douglas, The Challenge of the Christian Worldview

<http://solochristo.com/theology/Apologetics/challenge1.htm>

“The challenge of the Christian worldview is simply this: there can be no knowledge, reason, science, or warranted thinking of any kind if the Christian God does not exist. The biblical worldview provides the inescapable preconditions of all knowledge. Claims of knowledge in mathematics, physics, economics, biology, politics, psychology, logic, linguistics, etc. are only justifiable within the Christian worldview.”

Peterson, Michael, Science and the Christian Worldview

<http://seedbed.com/feed/science-and-the-christian-worldview/>

Eleven-minute YouTube video describes the debate between science and religion as a clash of worldviews. Peterson believes that an integration model for theology and science is appropriate.

“Seedbed is a gospel-farming community of like-hearted, like-minded men and women who stand in the stream of the great orthodox tradition of the faith once delivered to the saints. We are heirs of the Wesleyan/Arminian theological vision for mission, and we long to see this way of being and doing church thrive again in our day.” Several posts on the Seedbed Blog deal with science topics.

Saints and Skeptics

<http://www.saintsandskeptics.org/>

“The mission of this evangelical organization is to use rational persuasion to communicate the central claims of Christianity and to encourage and equip the Church to respond to the questions raised by skeptics.” There are a number of articles on science and Christianity.

Testing Worldviews

<http://worldview3.50webs.com/index.html>

“The Purpose of this Web Site is to help you test and choose a worldview which is logically consistent and not self-contradictory, but best accounts for the most facts of reality, history, science and human experience.”