

Module 1 Key Ideas and Objectives

Key Ideas

1. God wants our worldview to reflect an understanding of His purposes.
2. The Bible reveals a unified story of God's purpose.
3. History contains the outworking of the purposes of God.
4. God creates the universe and mankind for His glory.
5. God initiates a relationship with mankind through general and special revelation.
6. Mankind rejects and distorts God's revelation of Himself.
7. Satan is actively involved in a battle against God's purposes in our lives and on earth.
8. God carries out His redemptive purpose through a covenant relationship with His people and through Israel, preparing a way to redeem all of mankind through His messiah, Jesus Christ.
9. God continues to reveal Himself to all peoples at all times.
10. All religions represent both man's heartfelt desire to know God as well as human and Satanic distortions of that relationship.
11. God's people are actively responsible for drawing all people to God through Christ, through whom all the families of the earth will be blessed.

Content Objectives

By the end of Module 1, you should be able to:

1. Define the key components of a worldview, differentiate between a worldview, culture, and religion, and evaluate your own worldview.
2. Give examples of God revealing Himself to mankind through both general and various forms of special revelation both within and without biblical accounts.
3. Understand the incredible complexity of the universe, matter, DNA, and life and evaluate the probability of random processes achieving such complex results.
4. Explain the importance of God's active creation of the universe as a foundation to a Biblical worldview and evaluate the scientific and biblical validity of various views of creation and the modern theory of evolution.
5. Explain the significance, extent, and ramifications of the fall on man's relationship with God, on humanity, and on nature.
6. Trace the biblical account of God's redemptive purpose from Genesis to the exile and explain how His glory to the nations is accomplished through the biblical events within that period.
7. Give examples of God's inclusion of Gentile nations in His salvation and also examples of the outworking of His purposes in extra-biblical history.

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8. Describe the purposes of God in His relationship with Israel and identify the covenants and their significance.
9. Explain the purpose and the significance of the Law and atonement.
10. Identify and describe the key components of major world religions and the partial truths within them that can serve as bridges to bring adherents to a knowledge of God and His Messiah.
11. Write an overview of Israel's history, beginning from Abraham to the exile, including the role and place of the patriarchs, judges, major kings, prophets, and other significant leaders.
12. List the major ancient civilizations and describe their chief characteristics.
13. Chart the main message of each major and minor prophet in the Old Testament.
14. Draw a timeline from 2000 BC to the birth of Christ, noting historical and biblical people, epochs, events in 400-year periods.
15. Explain the relationship between the Old and the New Testament and give a credible defense for a central "promise" as the focus of Old Testament theology.

Skill Objectives

By the end of Module 1, you should be able to:

1. Ransack a book for worldview and key points.
2. Explain the importance of inductive learning and follow guidelines for Socratic discussions.
3. Identify and correctly use the principles of hermeneutics and inductive Bible study.
4. Identify valid and invalid arguments.
5. Critically analyze the accuracy and validity of the argument of a book or article.
6. Write a well-organized essay.
7. Research and write a well-documented paper using proper form and referencing.