

A Clash of Worldviews
Traditional Worldview Meets Western Worldview

A. Traditional Worldview

B. Western Worldview

Supreme Being

Supreme Being (?)

Intermediate Deities and Spirits

Material is all there is

Sickness a curse from spirits or deities

Sickness has natural
cause.

Healing through spiritual means

Healing through MD's

Knowledge through spiritual means:
Prayer, magic, dreams, visions etc.

Rational and Empirical

Which 'god' has the most power?

Is there a God?

Biblical World View

I. Supreme Being: Genesis 1:1 – Revelation 22:21 speak of One True God who becomes flesh in the person of Jesus Christ. He is supreme ruler over all things.

A. Gen. 1:1, Isaiah 44:6-7, 24, 46:8-13, Colossian 1:15-20, Hebrews 1.

II. Spirits AND Matter:

A. 2 Kings 6:8-23 esp. 16-17. Isaiah 6:1 – 3. I Samuel 16:14 – 23.
Daniel 10. Mark 1:39. Luke 10:17 – 20. Matt 7:21 – 22. Ephesians 6:10 – 12.

B. Genesis 1. Psalms 8. Psalm 19:1-6. John 1:14. Colossians 1:15-17.

III. Sickness and Healing

A. Deuteronomy 28:21 – 22, 27 – 28, Luke 13:10 – 17, Luke 4:39, Luke 11:14
Isaiah 53:4-5, Matt. 8:16-17.

B. Mark 5:25 – 26, 1 Timothy 5:23, Col. 4:14.

IV. Knowledge

- A. Genesis 37 Joseph's Dreams, Genesis 40-41 Dreams Abound, 2 Chronicles 20: 14-17. Daniel 10. Matt 1:20, 2:12, 13,19, 22. Acts 2:17-21, 5:1ff, 10:9-23, 16:6-10. I Cor. 14:24-25.
- B. Luke 1:1-4. Acts 26:24-27. I Corinthians 15:1ff. 2 Peter 1:16. I John 1:1-4. Romans 8:32 As an example of logic. Actually all the letters of Paul and esp. The book of Romans are examples of logic.

V. Key Questions

- A. YHWH vs. Egyptian 'gods'. Exodus 5ff. YHWH vs. Baal I Kings 18:18ff. Jesus announcing the Kingdom of God is a power encounter. Matt. 12:22-28.
- B. Psalm 14:1. The Bible does not give any arguments for the existence of God to those who would deny His existence. It does call people who say there is no God fools which means moral degenerates.

"By further reflecting that the clearest evidence would be requisite to make any sane man believe in the miracles by which Christianity is supported,- that the more we know of the fixed laws of nature the more incredible do miracles become, - that the men at that time were ignorant and credulous to a degree almost incomprehensible by us....." Charles Darwin

"Now that the forces and the laws of nature have been discovered, we can no longer believe in sprits, whether good or evil." Rudolph Bultmann

"It is impossible to use electric light and the wireless and to avail ourselves of modern medical and surgical discoveries, and at the same time to believe in the New Testament world of spirits and miracles." Rudolph Bultmann

Since Charles Darwin discovered natural selection as a mechanism that explains complexity, explanations that include God are not necessary.

Paraphrase of Richard Dawkins in debate with John Lennox