

Romans Series

Lesson #128

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Dean Bible Ministries

www.deanbible.org

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The Epistle to the ROMANS

Worldview Shift
Romans 12:2



Rom. 12:1, “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

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συσχηματίζω

suschematizo

pres pass impera 2 plur

“to conform to; to be pressed into the mold of something”

μεταμορφόω

metamorphoō

pres pass impera 2

plur

“to change form; to be transformed internally”

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be **conformed** to this **world**, but be **transformed** by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

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αἰών *aiōn*

dat masc sing

age, eternity; here the *zeitgeist*—the
spirit or thinking of the age

Rom. 12:2, “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

ἀνακαίνωσις *anakainōsis*
dat fem sing
renewal through
rebuilding; renovation;
transformative overhaul

νοῦς *nous*
gen masc sing
mind, thought attitude,
thinking, manner of
thinking

James 3:13, “Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

James 3:14, “But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.

James 3:15, “*This* wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic.”

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Two Worldviews

**Satanic/Demonic
Human viewpoint**

**Divine
Biblical**

The Worldview Mixmaster

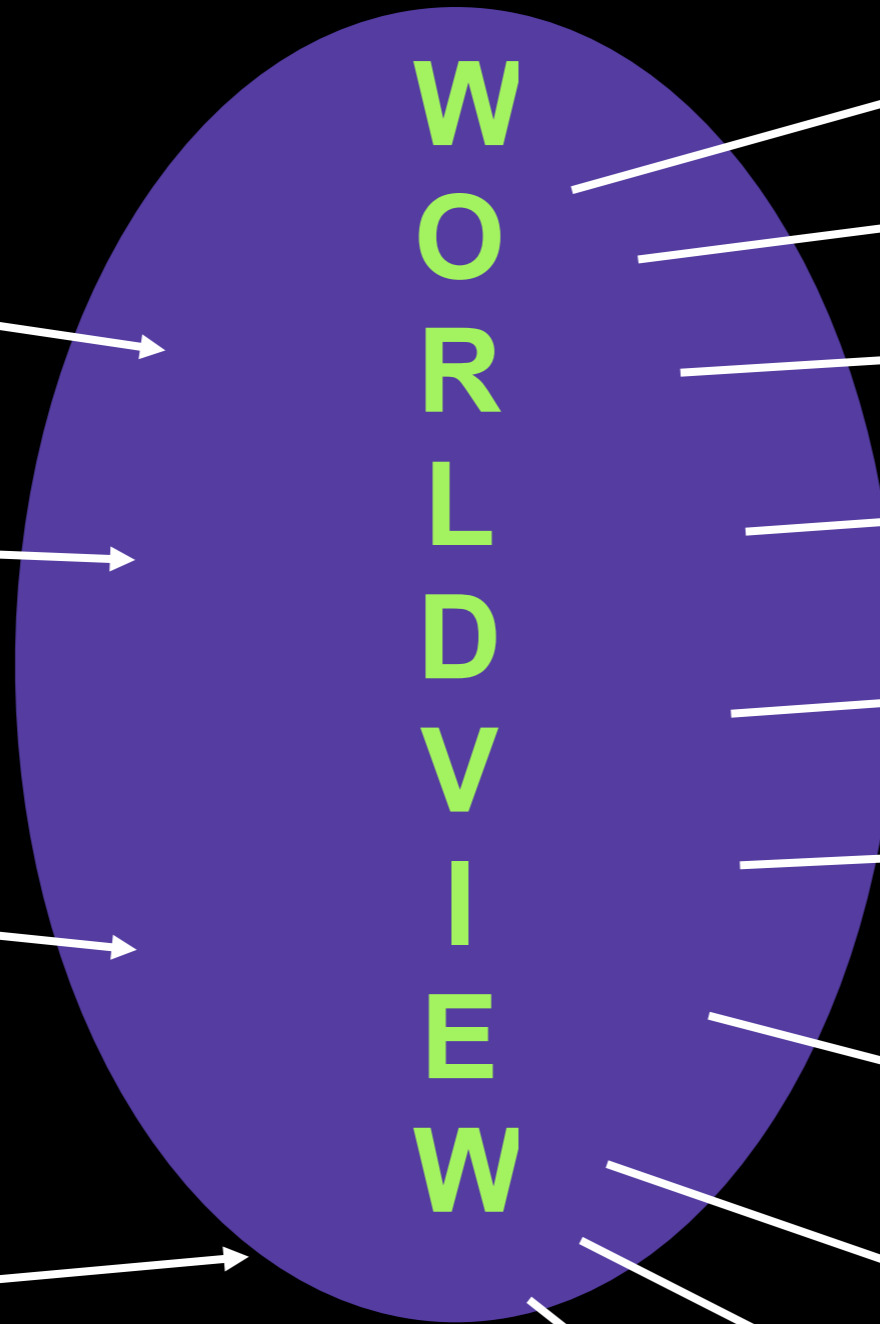
4 Areas of Assumptions

Ultimate reality

Human race

Knowledge

Ethics



Origins

Religion

Man

Nature, creation

Science, math

Society
(marriage,
family, politics)

Suffering and
solutions

Law

Art, Music, theater

Economics, business

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN EVERY WORLDVIEW

- 1. What IS Ultimate Reality?**
- 2. What is the *nature* of external reality?**
- 3. What is mankind?**
- 4. What happens when a person dies?**

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS
ANSWERED IN EVERY
WORLDVIEW

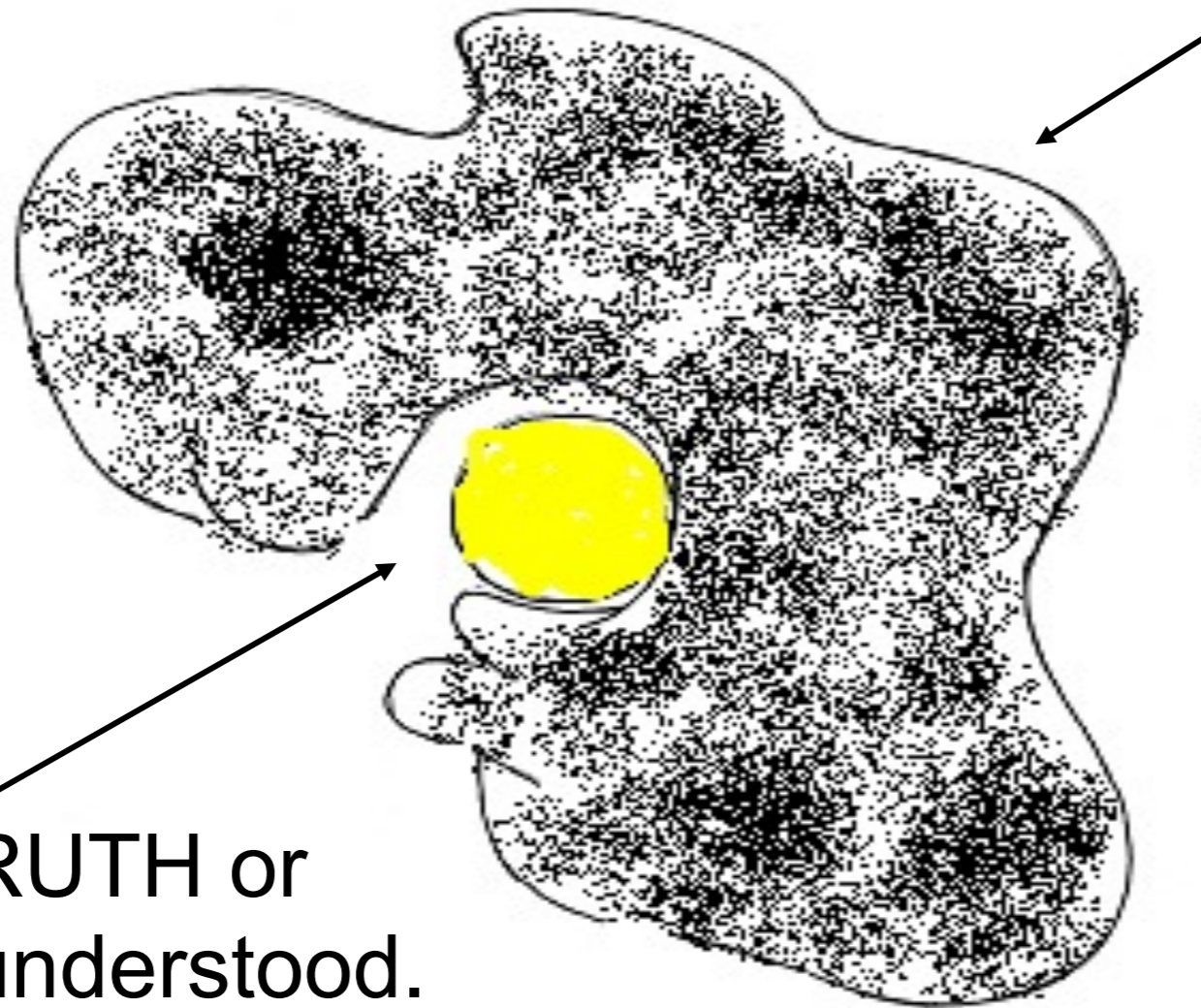
FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN EVERY WORLDVIEW

5. Why can we know, how do we know, and can we know anything with certainty?

FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS ANSWERED IN EVERY WORLDVIEW

- 5. Why can we know, how do we know, and can we know anything with certainty?**
- 6. How do we know right from wrong?**
- 7. What is the meaning of history?**

Human Viewpoint Neutralizes the Word of God

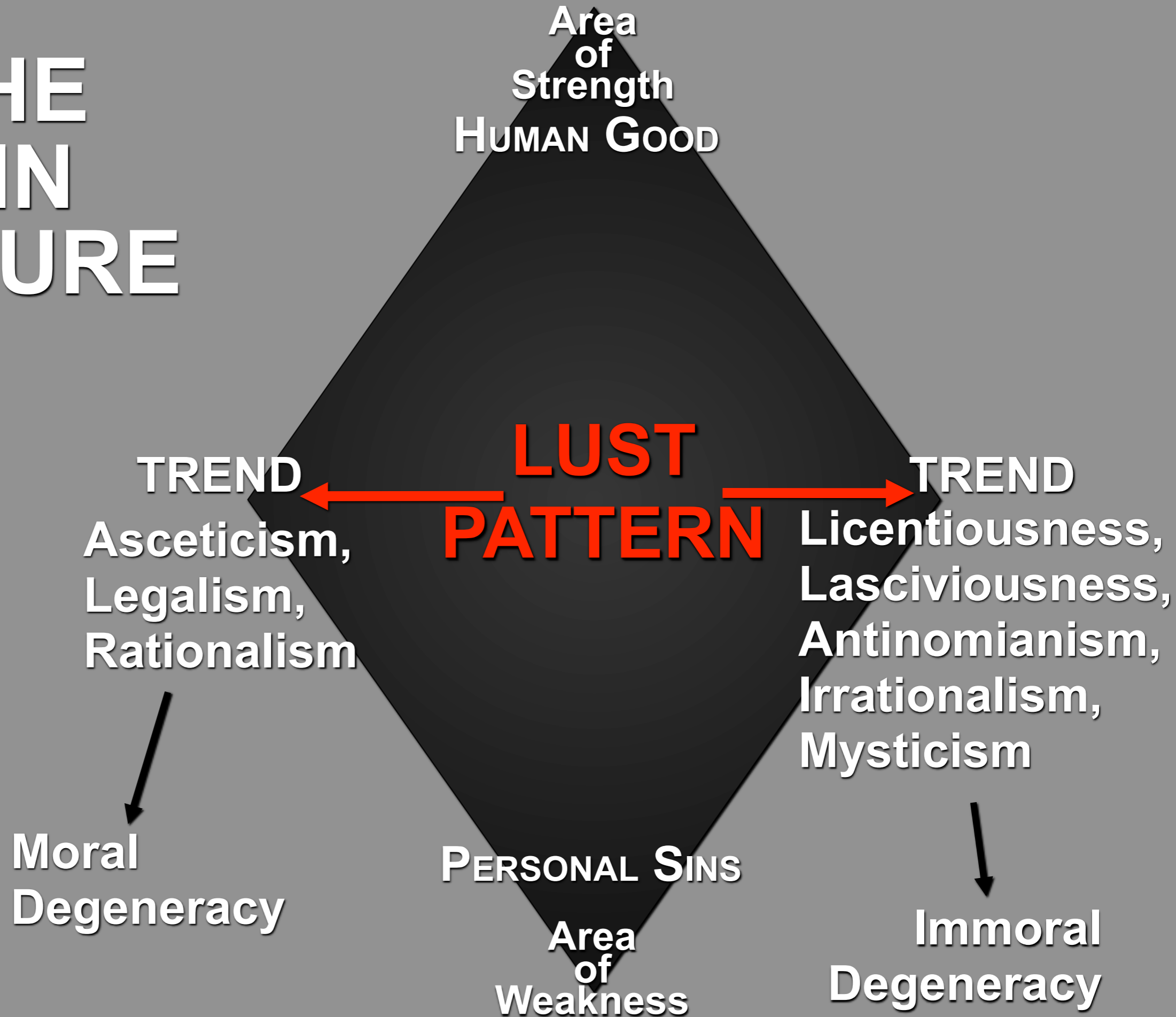


A biblical TRUTH or doctrine is understood.

Unbelief reinterprets and absorbs the doctrine within its own categories, isolating and neutralizing it.

“Pagan worldview absorbs and recasts doctrine”

THE SIN NATURE



GOD

Personal–Infinite

INFINITE–
IMPERSONAL
Universe

FINITE UNIVERSE

Man
Animals
Vegetation
Matter/Energy



god
Man
nature

The Basis of Knowledge

Autonomous Systems Viewpoint of Perception Divine	SYSTEM	STARTING POINT	METHOD
	RATIONALISM	Innate ideas; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	EMPIRICISM	Sense perceptions; External experience; Scientific method; Faith in human ability	Independent use of logic & reason
	MYSTICISM	Inner, private experience; Intuition; Faith in human ability	Independent; Nonlogical; Nonrational; Nonverifiable
REVELATION	Objective; Revelation of God	Dependent use of logic and reason	

MODERNISM

Immanuel
Kant:
Subjectivism

RATIONALISM

EMPIRICISM

SKEPTICISM

EXISTENTIALISM

19TH–20TH
Centuries

Post-
Modernism

Descartes

Locke

The Enlightenment ca 1640–1780



**No Meaning, No God
Existential Darkness, Despair**

DETAILS/PHENOMENA

People

Observable phenomena

Things

Events

Language

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

Human Nature Mankind is thoughtfully created in the image of God; spiritual and physical.

Humans are material machines. The universe is purely physical. Nothing exists beyond our senses.

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

Human Nature Mankind is thoughtfully created in the image of God; spiritual and physical.

**No opinion;
suspicious of any
dogmatic
assertions.**

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

**View of
Morality**

Mankind is internally corrupted by sin, but can still do relatively good things, though short of divine righteousness.

Mankind is inherently good; but ultimately good and evil are relative terms.

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

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**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

**View of
Morality**

Mankind is internally corrupted by sin, but can still do relatively good things, though short of divine righteousness.

Denies objective evil; Morality is a cultural construct; there are no absolutes.

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

**Free
Will**

**Diminished by sin;
still morally
responsible.**

**Autonomous and
self-governing.
Choose their own
direction.**

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

**Free
Will**

**Diminished by sin;
still morally
responsible.**

**People are
products of their
culture and only
imagine they are
self-governing.**

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

View of Reason

Reason is necessary but not the basis for understanding reality; it discovers some truth, but revelation is also needed.

Rationalism and empiricism are the only basis for discovering truth.

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

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**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

View of Reason

Reason is necessary but not the basis for understanding reality; it discovers some truth, but revelation is also needed.

Denies objective reason, rationalism is a myth.

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

Subject

B-C

**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

**View of
Progress**

Mankind isn't progressing toward anything; advances are positive, but there is no utopia brought in by man.

Mankind is progressing by using science and reason.

Comparison of Modernism, Post-Modernism and Biblical Christianity

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**Modernism/
Post-Modernism**

**View of
Progress**

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Denies objective reason, rationalism is a myth.

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**ἀγαθός *agathos*
nom neut sing
good, intrinsic
good**

**εὐάρεστος *euarestos*
nom neut sing
(verbal) acceptable,
pleasing**

**τέλειος *teleios*
nom neut sing
complete,
perfect**