

The Greatest Commandment and Who is Messiah?

Matthew 22: 34 - 46

June 4, 2023



HOW GOD CREATED

- By his voice.
- Repeated refrain of "and God said"
- The Bible reminds the reader of the immense power of the Creator



WHAT GOD CREATED

- A world, which he identifies as good.
- This world is good and purposeful.
- He also created a world that is ordered
 - 1st Day – Light
 - 2nd – Skies/Seas
 - 3rd – Land/Vegetation
 - 4th – Sun/Moon/Stars
 - 5th – Fish/Fowl
 - 6th – Animals/Mankind



CREATION EX NIHILO

- Central issue that separates Christianity and other religions.
- Secularists/atheists aim at this doctrine because the Christian worldview collapses if you undercut this doctrine
- Judeo-Christian faith believes we did not emerge by means of a cosmic accident but by a direct, supernatural work of a Creator.
- Creation Ex Nihilo – Out of nothing

An immanent God?



- ✦ God is present in the universe and involved with life on earth.
- ✦ People can experience God in their lives.
- ✦ God acts in history and influences events.

Verse 34 - 36

A lawyer questions Jesus

Which commandment is most important?

Ten Commandments

- 1 - YOU SHALL HAVE NO OTHER "GODS" BEFORE ME
- 2 - YOU SHALL NOT MAKE FOR YOURSELF AN IDOL
- 3 - YOU SHALL NOT TAKE THE NAME OF GOD IN VAIN
- 4 - REMEMBER THE SABBATH DAY TO KEEP IT HOLY
- 5 - HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER
- 6 - YOU SHALL NOT MURDER
- 7 - YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT ADULTERY
- 8 - YOU SHALL NOT STEAL
- 9 - YOU SHALL NOT LIE
- 10 - YOU SHALL NOT COVET

Exodus 20:3-17

Our society is filled with taking the LORD's name in vain

**Vain = “*shaw*” = nothingness, empty;
more than a swear word**

Involves using the LORD's name or reputation lightly

How might this look?

- 1) Carelessly using His name – *“oh God”*, or *“oh my God”*, etc.
- 2) Ascribing to God something not true about Him
- 3) Not representing God in the world around you; not standing for HIS truth

Ms. Penny-Cost



Ms. Penny Cost delivers a message during the Hope United Methodist Church virtual service in Bloomington, Illinois, on April 11, 2021. Video screengrab

- **Extolling transgenderism is not innocent fun!**
- **This is taking God's name in vain by not representing God as He Is!**

**The Law is viewed
as a whole, not
individually; break
one and you break
all of them**

For whoever keeps
the whole law and
yet stumbles in one
point, has become
guilty of all.

James 2:10

Knowing-Jesus.com



Verse 37 - 40

Love God first and people second

This order does not set well with secular humanists

Secular humanists consider humanity to be the top rung of the ladder, *not God!*

Most secular humanists promote the God-myth philosophy

This philosophy, this world view, is being taught to your kids in public education today

Kids are buying into it, hook, line, and sinker



**(Fall for Something) Hook,
Line, and Sinker**



DECEIVED!!

What does a Secular Humanist Worldview Look Like?



It shares some tenets of Post-Modernism and Marxism. In a Secular Humanist worldview:

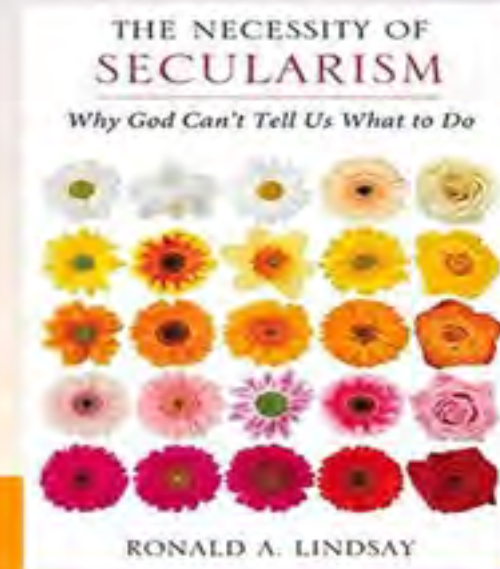
- There is no God, no self-existing being. There is no revelation from God or a god.
- There is no spirit. People are highly evolved animals, but do not have immortal souls. There is no life after death.
- There is only this physical world; the here and now. Nature/matter is self-existing.
- It claims that only those things which can be proved through the scientific method (experimentation) is accepted as true. Science is in essence a god.

What does a Secular Humanist Worldview Look Like?



Secular Humanists claim:

For the first time in human history, a significant percentage of the world's population no longer believes in God. This is especially true in developed nations, where in some societies nonbelievers now outnumber believers.



All God's laws provide for and protect His people

How does Jesus view the commandments of God?

a HIGH PRIORITY!

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind”

What stands out?

The commitment is ALL our heart,
and the focus is LOVE!

Real love for God is an all-out commitment to Him

Obeying shows you love Him - John 14: 21 and 23

Love God and love people; loving God first will result in loving people

The first 4 commandments are God directed, the last 6 are people directed

In obeying the last 6, we demonstrate love and respect for our neighbor

**How much money is
enough money?**

**For John D. Rockefeller
the answer was,
*“just a little bit more”***

www.bible.com

**He who loves
money will not be
satisfied with
money, nor he who
loves abundance
with its income. T...**

Agape love is a direction of the will

- I choose to love
- also involves doing what is best for another

Ephesians 5: 28-29 helps us to understand what love does:

“Husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh but nourishes and cherishes it.”

What does love do?

- **nourishes and cherishes**
- **provides for and protects**
- **does not devour, downgrade, destroy, payback, etc.**

How do I love like this?

- This is not a flesh thing, but a God thing - Galatians 5: 20
- This will produce the fruit of the Spirit – Galatians 5: 23 - LOVE – from love springs joy, peace, patience, etc.

Love is not simply a word we say, “I love you”, but love is demonstrated by action!

Treating someone awfully and tagging on “I love you” is the greatest form of hypocrisy

1 John 3: 18

Verse 41 - 46

Jesus turns the table

Jesus asks the Pharisees a question, “What do you think about the Christ? Whose Son is He?”

“Messiah cannot be a mere man if He is referred to as Lord by King David. He must indeed be the eternal Son of God from all eternity, having come to us in human form.” (Jim Bomkamp)

CLOSING:

Moral law continues today - ***NOT FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS!***

Believers are expected to keep the Moral law - ***NOT FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS!***

Salvation in the New Testament is clear - ***“by grace through faith in Christ alone”***

Ephesians 2: 8-9

The Law will not make a person righteous in the sight of God

The Law cannot save, it can only condemn

What is the purpose of the Law for a believer today?


- 1) Demonstrates that we know Him – [1 John 2: 3](#)
- 2) Demonstrates that we are pleasing to Him
[1 John 3: 23](#)
- 3) Demonstrates that we love Him – [1 John 5: 3](#)

Does Jesus expect His bride to obey His commandments?

YES!

The New Testament is focused on knowing what Christ taught and obeying His teachings

Jesus tells His Church (*YOU*) exactly what He expects from *YOU!*

A scenic landscape at sunset. The foreground is a lush green field, possibly a vegetable garden or farm. In the middle ground, there is a dense line of trees and bushes. The background shows a bright orange and yellow sunset sky with scattered clouds. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

JOHN 13:34-35

Love involves telling people the **TRUTH!**

We have the **TRUTH;** it is up to us to share the **TRUTH!**

The TRUTH:

There is danger ahead, the signs are clear;
will you heed the signs?

TRUTH is **TRUTH** whether you believe in the signs
or not!



It is dangerous to suppress the TRUTH of God

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness.” - Romans 1: 18

*The most loving thing you can do is tell
people the truth!*

KNOW WHO MESSIAH IS

OBEY MESSIAH'S COMMANDS

DO NOT SUPPRESS THESE TRUTHS!