

MARK AVERS ①

- INTRO =: Title is "so many churches... so many ^{Religious} ~~churches~~"
might have said, "... So many worldviews!"
- Worldview - framework of belief... why were here...
 - Caught like a cold
 - Three major worldviews - Atheism/Pantheism/Deotheism
- Present each view
 - Person's dilemma or problem
 - Fallacies... how livable for us

I - ~~scientific~~ views / Optimistic Humanism, Pess. Hum, Relativism

① OPTIMISTIC HUMANISM

1) Man is good - secular / Christian

Greek culture, Renaissance, Enlightenment, 1800's

- Jean Huxley "Today in the 20th Century, man has reached the point in his evolutionary process where we've finally crossed over to when man can control his own destiny."

2) Problem - ignorance - educate to civilize

3) Progress is inevitable - time to achieve utopia

J.F.K. - "all man's problems are created by man, and all of his problems can be solved by man."

② = Fallacies of OPT HUM

1) History - 1950's not utopia

- wars, famines, ecology,

Educated people & countries... Germany

- Education not bad but not necessarily making man more loving.

- Ignore war - technology for peace

computers, laser, nuclear power, space, medicine

- Psychology - help man overcome certain basic instincts,

- more emotional problems now - educated outside roles

BEYOND RUSSIA - dedicated optimistic humanist,

• It is in our own hearts that will live,

man's nature is not basically good... there

are problems in the heart which need to be changed.

- inner self not healed by education

Blind Faith - Dr. Wald - T.V. interview - plan on street

(2)

II PESSIMISTIC HUMANISM

- OPTIM - no God great! PESSIM - no god... no spiritual aspect... death is end of memory.

Jean Paul SARTRE "Any finite point without an infinite reference point is meaningless and absurd"

- How to live? - Create a meaning - Existentialism

ALBERT CAMUS

"If ultimate meaning does not exist, because all of life is just chance... then you should manufacture your own meaning."

- McDonalds... either choice equally valid.

Hedonism - pleasure - avoid pain

Fallacies

- No one is ever consistent... no one has ever lived as if their life had no significance or meaning.

Sartre - Interview before death

"I can't face myself as just so much dust... even tho this contradicts many of my other ideas, I often think of myself as having been created."

- Kansas - Dust in the wind - who would want to live?

ALBERT CAMUS

"Why not commit suicide?" random molecules

- Stone in pond

HEDONISM - party

OPTIM - Blind Faith

PESSIM - reject view & kill himself

III Relativism - No absolutes.

- True... for me! you believe in God fine... is ok for you
- If we agree - true for us but never THIS IS TRUTH
- no God - no absolute standard.

who decides

- Individual - leave wife, break speed limit - chaos
- Majority Rule - USA
- Elite Rule - Communism

Fallacies - NEVER consistent - I'm ok yours ok - BUT
- Absolutes - relativists of 60s - hey man do your own thing - Vietnam WAR IS WRONG!

III Relativism - Somehow we all intuitively believe what is wrong for me is also wrong for you.

Majority rule - 51% 70% 90%?
1973 Supreme Court ruling unborn fetus

Rule by elite - Communism
- Medicine to select few
- Planning future generations

"Not what ought we to do - but what can we do?"

IV Embrace Supernatural w/ bits & pieces of humanism & relativism,

PANTHEISM - something more than man
Eastern Mysticism - force in all things.

- Hinduism ? god is force we want to be part of
- Buddhism

Hindu - physical universe an illusion
Buddhist - real but not important

Problem - Wheel of Maya

- Reincarnation - nightmare
- KARMA - arbitrary law to get to Nirvan

Hindu think they, Buddhists think they but
reach NIRVANA - one w/ great all

In this life - meditation / OM
- separation from distractions

Not to communicate w/ GOD but reach state
of no emotion, no thoughts... blissful loss of consciousness

NIRVANA - blending of our spiritual essence
into great force - drop of water.

Fallacies - No basis for individual significance
Who am I? - meaningless

No need for personal relationships - Buddha.

- Japanese man - The world is ~~seen~~ / you value ^{but} your existence
- god is all f in all good & evil

- no basis for personal morality
- no basis for social injustice being decried.

- starving kids - KARMA
- RATS - the way it is

NO MORE ANSWERS for LIFE than PESS. Humanism

Supernatural

V

MONOTHEISM

- God - not in awe of us,
- Christians rely on Biblical perspective.
- Created Universe - not illusion
- important purpose
- God is everywhere but not in rocks or me or you
- REV 3:20
- GOD is absolute TRUTH and absolute GOOD - no evil in Him.
- man's dilemma - created to be perfect but sinned... violated God's character.
- God judges sin...
- man's problem not ignorance - guilt
- Back to God thru KARMA? Reincarnation?
- One life to choose in

ROMANS 3:21-26 - best passage - How to have relationship.

• Righteousness or right standing thru Christ's death on cross. How?

- Justification - vs 23, 24 ... declared righteous by God ... as if never sinned.
- no self effort - external or inner resolve of will
- God gives us righteousness - no sin barrier.

Phil 3:9

"not having a righteousness of my own, but that which is thru faith in Christ, the righteousness or right standing which comes from God on the basis of faith."

How? vs 24 free gift or grace not Karma
grace - do not deserve it ... cannot earn it.

But wait ... my sin violated God's character ... how can He be mad then accept me?

Propitiation - satisfaction ... God is satisfied all my sins are paid for...

Yes penalty - death - Adam's sin.

vs 21 OT ... Sacrificial system

JOHN 1:29 - Behold, lamb of God

Propitiation - 2 John 1:2 Christ is the
" for our sins, not for ours only,
but also for the whole world,
Free gift to us - Paid for by Christ
He experienced hell - separation from
God for us.

Redemption vs 24 - redemption in Christ,
- Payment of our price
- Slave w/ price on head,
Christ paid our price... we couldn't pay
\$1,000,000 IRS - 10,000,000 debt
Christ's death sufficient... becomes effective
or effective when we accept Him
as our Redeemer.

Christian
Worldview - for how we live?

- no guilt for sins... forgiven
- learn more @ God... await eternal life
- NOT Blind Faith
- Life has meaning, w/ relationship w/ God, others
- We don't abandon family but get more involved.
- Life is not insignificant
 - role in God's plan
 - incredible privilege
- Personal problems - healed by Spirit
- Social injustice - understood as result
of sin & met with love & confidence
of Christ's power to change lives.

Jean Paul
SARTRE - Since God does not exist, there is
no reason for life, we are born without
purpose, we live because we are too weak
to end life, and we die by chance.

Christian - God does exist, there is significant
and exciting reason for life, we are born to do God's purpose
and we live by His grace... when we die we go to
be with Him! - xianity rational, factual, & livable

