

The *why, what, and who* of

# Think Again!

## DVD Workshop

**A primer in Biblical Worldview  
accompanying the text by  
Dr. Christian Overman:  
*Assumptions That Affect Our Lives*<sup>1</sup>**

This DVD course is approved by ACSI for  
1 CEU in either Biblical Studies or Educational Studies

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<sup>1</sup> To order the text, call 877.624.0230 or go on-line to [www.biblicalworldview.com](http://www.biblicalworldview.com)

# Testimonials and References

*"The whole thing was meaningful to me. I want everyone I know to experience it!"*

*"Repeat it as often as possible."*

*"This was the best seminar I've ever attended. And I've been to a lot of them!"*

*'[My daughter] needed this in high school.'*

*"I pray the Lord will continue to open every door for Worldview Matters to get your message to the masses. As the cultural sweep toward postmodern thinking continues to infect our educational institutions, home and churches, the need for what you are doing is greater today than ever."*

**Chuck W. Colson, Prison Fellowship Ministries, Washington, D.C.**

*"We were so impressed that we brought Christian and Kathy Overman to Houston to videotape their course for our Distance Learning modules. It is so important that we are making it the core required course..."*

**Dr. Ralph. W. Neighbour, Jr., President, GLOCAL Training Center, Houston**

*"...the unnoticed influence of the secular worldview in which we have all grown up is so powerful that we need all the help we can get to make the shift to a Christian worldview. The Overmans' Think Again! workshop is a real help in this direction, and I recommend it heartily."*

**Dr. Albert E. Greene, Jr., author and educator**

# Why?

*People of the Western world are said to be living in "postmodern" times. Yet, much of what we see happening in Western culture bears a striking resemblance to life in ancient Greece, during her latter stages of decay.*

*There is an important difference, however, between our present situation and that of dying Greece. Namely, the West has the benefit of a Judeo-Christian memory. The Greeks did not. And because of this memory, it is possible to hope for a future much brighter than that of ancient Athens.*

*Yet, while there may be hope, there are no guarantees. The West's Judeo-Christian memory is growing dim. And while many have forgotten what a biblical worldview really is, many others have never heard this view clearly articulated in the first place.*

*Psalm 11:3 tells us, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" While the foundations of biblical thought haven't been destroyed, they have certainly been obscured. If there ever was a time to re-articulate the foundations of biblical thought in the marketplace of postmodern ideas, it is now.*

*Even for Christians, the lens through which we view the world, or the grid through which we interpret life, has been clouded by the dust of competing worldviews, some of which have been blowing soot in the air since ancient times.*

*Our purpose in *Think Again!* is to clean off the lens of the mind, so we can make better connections between every part of our life and the bigger picture of a biblical frame of reference.*

*It is a workshop you will "think again" about--long after it is over!*

# SPECIFIC CONTENT & OBJECTIVES

## Overall Goals:

- a) To increase the participants' confidence, joy and passion for living, through seeing how every-day life fits into the bigger picture of a biblical frame of reference
- b) To increase the participants' ability to live and think "Christianly" in a pluralistic culture
- c) To increase the participants' ability to influence contemporary society through daily life and work
- d) To increase the participants' confidence in absolute truth during a post-Christian age of relativism

## Course Objectives:

Participants will:

- a) sharpen their communication skills through understanding the issues connected with naturalism, pantheism and biblical theism
- b) discern the times in which we live by recognizing how worldviews affect culture
- c) respond effectively to postmodernism through understanding what it is and why it is here
- d) recover from secular thought by understanding its roots and rationale
- e) understand how to unify faith, life and work, by replacing "sacred" and "secular" dualism with biblical integration skills

## Content/Topics/Outline:

Part I: Examination of assumptions regarding God, Creation and Mankind, as perceived through the worldview of naturalism and pantheism compared with biblical Christianity. Discussion of the cultural impact of these respective assumptions. Specific topics include:

- a) the role of assumptions in all thought and action
- b) how assumptions affect culture
- c) what "secular thought" is and where it began
- d) how "naturalism" is expressed in our culture today
- e) contrasts between naturalism with theism
- f) evidence for a Designer in creation

- g) the biblical view of God as a "Person" and the effects of this idea on culture
- h) the biblical view of the Creator as a "Sustainer"
- i) the biblical view of mankind as bearing the "likeness and image of God"
- j) the logical consequences of the "image-bearing" quality of mankind

Part II: Examination of assumptions regarding Moral Order, especially contrasting biblical Christianity with naturalism, and the effects of evolutionary thought in the moral realm. Specific topics include:

- a) the effects of Naturalism upon the idea of "moral order"
- b) contemporary views of moral order
- c) historic views of moral order
- d) roots of moral relativism
- e) the biblical basis of moral order
- f) the difference between "free will" and "free choice"
- g) the postmodern approach to moral order in contrast to biblical Christianity

Part III: Examination of the biblical worldview assumptions regarding Purpose, and the role of work in our lives. Specific topics include:

- a) the Greek roots of Western 'dualism' and the development of the sacred/secular compartmentalization of life out of the "form" and "matter" ideas of Plato
- b) the negative effects of dualism in Christian thought
- c) the biblical alternative to Greek dualism
- d) illustrations and examples of Christians who have been successful in integrating their faith with their work
- e) the applications of the biblical view of work as an act of worship in contemporary culture

Part IV: How to think "integratively" with a biblical worldview, and how to apply this thinking skill to all of life. Specific topics include:

- a) critical thinking skills applied to assessing worldviews behind behavior
- b) defining "biblical worldview integration"
- c) questions to ask when determining how particular matter can be integrated with a biblical worldview

# Seattle Pacific University Course Evaluation Summary

**INSTRUCTOR NAME:** Chris Overman  
**COURSE TITLE:** Comparing Worldviews  
**CRN #, DISC No:** A 181B  
**QUARTER & YEAR:** Autumn 2001

**Total # of Evaluations: 10**

<i>SA</i>	<i>Strongly Agree</i>	5
<i>A</i>	<i>Agree</i>	4
<i>N</i>	<i>Neutral</i>	3
<i>D</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	2
<i>SD</i>	<i>Strongly Disagree</i>	1

1. This course met my expectations.
2. The instructor was well prepared.
3. The syllabus was easy to understand.
4. The course content was consistent with the statement of purpose written above.
5. The instructor modeled effective teaching methods.
6. The course maintained my interest until completion.
7. The instructional techniques provided an appropriate amount of active learner participation.
8. The instructor effectively assessed acquisition of skills/knowledge.
9. I would recommend this course to my colleagues.
10. The course content matched the description in the course marketing information.
11. I acquired new skills/knowledge as a result of taking this course.
12. The instructor was knowledgeable about the topics presented.
13. The objectives for this course were clearly identified.
14. The instructor made effective use of class time.
15. The learning from this course will be useful in my current or future work.
16. The amount of work required was appropriate for the number of credits.
17. I would be interested in taking other courses on this topic.

Mean	SA	A	N	D	SD
4.90	90	10	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
4.90	90	10	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
4.90	90	10	0	0	0
4.78	89	0	11	0	0
4.78	89	0	11	0	0
4.80	80	20	0	0	0
4.90	90	10	0	0	0
4.90	90	10	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
5.00	100	0	0	0	0
4.78	89	0	11	0	0

**NOTE:** *This is a Course Evaluation Summary from the Think Again! course taught through Seattle Pacific University. The average mean score, inclusive of all questions asked, is 4.92 on a 5-point scale.*

## About the Author

**Dr. Christian Overman** did his undergraduate studies at the University of Washington, receiving a B.A. in Music in 1972, and a B.A. in German Language and Literature in 1976. He earned a Master of Education degree from Seattle Pacific University in 1984, with an emphasis in the philosophy of Christian education, studying under Dr. Albert E. Greene, and he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree in 2007 through Bakke Graduate University, in Seattle, Washington, studying under Ray Bakke. He is also a Certificated Centurion, studying under Chuck Colson.

After teaching at elementary and secondary levels for several years, with experience in both public and private schools, Christian served as Principal of a Christian school, where he continued in this administrative role for fourteen years. In the year 2000, Christian and his wife, Kathy, founded *Worldview Matters* [see [www.biblicalworldview.com](http://www.biblicalworldview.com)].

Dr. Overman has presented workshops throughout the United States, as well as in Central America, Asia, Africa and Europe. He is an adjunct faculty member of Seattle Pacific University, and often speaks through the Association of Christian Schools International.

He is the author of *Assumptions That Affect Our Lives*, *God's Pleasure At Work*, *The Difference One Life Can Make*, and co-author of *Making the Connections: How To Put Biblical Worldview Integration Into Practice*.