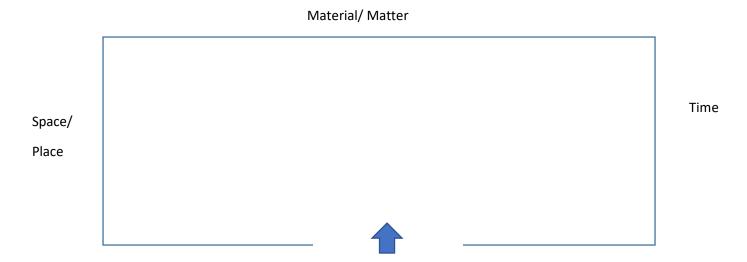
INTRODUCTION TO WORLDVIEWS

Worldview: weltanschauung

Metanarrative: a big story that makes sense of all the little stories

Introductory thoughts:

- > You will have questions
- ➤ You cannot <u>not</u> have questions → everyone does!
- > Eventually they will be the same questions
- > Questions that **demand** answers
- > Questions that are all connected to this world / experience
- > Questions that are all connected to all the other questions



This is kind of obvious and a given in that we cannot really imagine anything else! We can imagine a different place, a different time(s), & even different kinds of matter but we will still have space, time, and matter.

QUESTIONS:

1. **Origins:** Where am I from?

2. **Destiny:** Where am I going?

We grow up
We grow old
Our parents grow old...older...death!

Is this the second question we think about or the first?

3. Morality: How should I then live?

<u>1 Corinthians 15:30</u> And <u>why</u> stand we in jeopardy every hour? <u>1 Corinthians 15:31</u> I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily. <u>1 Corinthians 15:32</u> If after the manner of men I have fought with beasts at Ephesus, what advantageth it me, <u>if</u> the dead rise not? **let us eat and drink;** for to morrow we die.

4. Meaning: How & where do I find meaning, purpose, & significance?

We might call this happiness

5. Identity: Who am I?

This is a post post-modern question. Very few people seem to have ever thought much about this question.

The sources of identity are **many**...and there are **many kinds**: primary, secondary, tertiary; good, OK, bad; eternal, temporal...

6. Evil | wrong | (sin): What went wrong? What is wrong?

Everyone knows something is wrong.

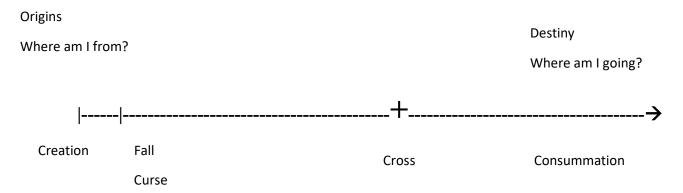
We might not have a good explanation or good language to explain it, but we know it!

Every worldview deals with this in some way:

- \triangleright Body is the prison house of the soul \rightarrow so the goal is to escape the body
- > Evil, pain...are an illusion
- > Evil is simply the present state of evolution
- > Evil, sin, & wrong are part and parcel of the fall and must be dealt with

7. Redemption | salvation | liberation: How do we fix the wrong / evil?

Christian worldview / metanarrative in outline form:



Romans 11:36

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory for ever. Amen.

Romans 11:36

Ότι ἐξ αὐτοῦ καὶ δι' αὐτοῦ καὶ εἰς αὐτὸν τὰ πάντα· αὐτῷ ἡ δόξα εἰς τοὺς αἰῶνας. Ἀμήν.