
Philip Graham Ryken

Series Editor: David S. Dockery
Everything we think, say, and do reflects our worldview. Whether we realize it or not, basic beliefs about God, humanity, history, and the future inevitably shape how we live. Philip Ryken, prolific author and president of Wheaton College, explains the distinguishing marks of the Christian worldview, helping us to engage thoughtfully with our increasingly pluralistic society. Based on the notion that ideas have consequences, this accessible resource will help you see life’s big picture by equipping you with a well-reasoned framework of Christian beliefs and convictions.

The truth is that we all have a worldview. Each of us possesses a fundamental, well-reasoned belief system which not only guides our daily walk, but is also the reason why we react/respond the way we do to the various circumstances we are facing. As Philip Graham Ryken says in his book Christian Worldview: A Students Guide: At the same time, the way other people respond reveals their worldview—their faithfulness in keeping a commitment, for example, or their unbelief in the existence and providence of God. Ideas have consequences. Even ordinary interactions reflect our commitments and convictions about the basic issues of art and science, work and play, family and
society, life and death. Whenever we bump into the world, our worldview has a way of spilling out. It comes out in what we think and love, say and do, praise and choose. Therefore, if everyone possesses a worldview in some form, then how can we as born-again Christians not only obtain a Christ-centered worldview, but persistently refine that worldview in such a way that it always pleasing to our Lord? Before Ryken embarks on how to obtain and refine a Christian worldview, he spends a good bit of time defining what constitutes a worldview and why it is so crucial for us to make sure that our worldview is a wholly Christ-centered one if we want to be pleasing to the Lord. According to Ryken, ideally, a worldview is a well-reasoned framework of beliefs and convictions that helps us see the big picture, giving a true and unified perspective on the meaning of human existence. To put it more simply, it is the structure of understanding that we use to make sense of our world. Your worldview betrays what you believe about why you are here, who you are, and what is your purpose for existence.

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