

East Cooper Baptist Church
June 18, 2017-Sermon Outline

Live with Intelligent Discernment in Light of the Reality of Christ
Colossians 2:8

“See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ.”

See to it that no one kidnaps, plunders, steals you by high sounding nonsense.

“Therefore, let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall.”

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Corinthians 10:12

“Take care then how you hear.”

Luke 8:18a

“And he said, “See that you are not led astray.”

Luke 21:8a

“Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.”

Hebrews 3:12

“Every one of us has a worldview, and our worldview governs our thinking even when-or especially when-we are unaware of it. Thus, it is not uncommon to find well-meaning evildoers, as it were, who are quite sincerely convinced that they are Christians, and attend church faithfully, and may even hold a position of leadership, but who have absorbed a worldview that makes it easy for them to ignore their Christian principles when it comes time to do the practical business of daily living. Their sincerely held Christian principles are in one mental category for them, and practical decision making is in another. Such persons can believe that Jesus is coming again to judge the world and yet live as if the standards of this world are the only thing that needs to be taken into account.” Philip E. Johnson, professor of Law (retired), University of California-Berkley

	Naturalism	Proto-Gnosticism or New Age	Christianity
God	God does not exist or if he exists he cannot be defined.	Impersonal force/ distant creator or pantheism.	God is the triune, eternal, personal, almighty, just, and holy Creator.

Metaphysics	Natural order is uncreated and eternal.	The creation is either a horrid mistake or the extension of divine energy.	The World was created by the eternal God.
Knowledge	Human sense experience.	Truth lies within; it is attained through mystical consciousness.	Truth has objective standing; it is independent of human desires; humans can know, because God created them, as rational creatures in his image.
Ethics	Individually determined.	Relative and cannot be ultimately known.	The moral law is grounded in the being of God who communicates to us in the Scripture.
Humanity	Humans are in the process of evolving.	Humans are eternal spirits.	Humans are created in the image of God; male and female.
Human dilemma (Basic Problem)	Superstition and ignorance.	Unaware of our infinite potential.	Sinners in rebellion against God and deeply flawed.
Solution to the Human Problem	Research and advancement.	Transformation of consciousness.	Salvation by faith in the finished work of Christ upon the cross.

Adapted from "World Views in Conflict," by Ronald H. Nash, pg.

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See to it, that no one plunders you:

*T=Think well (this is a labor intensive and glorious calling.)

*C=Live in vital community with other people who exist on the basis of Christ and the apostolic truth.

*L=Listen to people and love them well.

*P=Passionately plead, as you present the gospel of grace.

"There is no danger of being naïve or uncritical about false and dangerous messages embedded in secular culture, because a worldview gives the conceptual tools needed to analyze and critique them. Believers can apply a distinctively biblical perspective every time they pick up the newspaper, watch a movie, or read a book."

Nancy Pearcey, Total Truth, pg. 56