

# Responding to the Philosophy of Postmodernism

*Quin Friberg*

# History of thought and philosophy in the past five century

Rationalism

Empiricism

Naturalism

Existentialism

Post-Modernism

(Truth is made, not found)

# Post-Modernism Became Popular in the past 50 years

## True Origins?

Genesis 3:4-5 “Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”

# 1. There is no reference for Words in language

“There is a limitless instability in language, words do not have a point of reference, you have your point of reference for language and I have my point of reference”

Ravi Zacharias

Language is relative, not fixed

Strange that they use words to  
convey that message

Anthony Freeman uses Isaiah the  
Prophet to illustrate the  
postmodern worldview when the  
prophet speaks of wooden idols

“What the writer of this splendid piece failed to realize was how close his own case was to that of the pagan whom he was lampooning. The idol-worshipper had constructed his god with wood, our author had made his God out of words: that was the only difference.”

# First Postmodern Building



At the very foundation of this idea, they must assume language is absolute to convey their message that it isn't

But this is postmodernism, it doesn't allow for objective truth (Including language)



# The Biblical View

“Then God said”, “Thus says the Lord”, “Word of God”

John 14:6: “Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through Me.”

## 2. No Laws of Logic that are objective and undeniable

This may be hard to comprehend

There are four basic laws:

### 1. The Law of Identity

Example: An apple is an apple

## 2. The Law of Non-Contradiction

Example: I exist and don't exist

## 3. The Law of Excluded Middle

Example: It's raining, or it's not

## 4. The Law of Rational inference

Example: Classic Syllogisms

Laws of logic are  
rejected and  
contradictions are  
embraced

Does this make  
sense?



“Why does our worldview have  
to be logically coherent”

If logic is universal, it must be grounded in an objective mind

If no objective mind (God) exists,  
logic doesn't exist

Which means when someone asks "How old are you" you can answer "25" or "Cheese"

# First Postmodern Building



If your worldview allows for contradictions, why can't you use my worldview?

If absolute logic (law of NC) doesn't exist, could it?

Those who claim logic is subjective have just made an objective statement

### **3. No foundation for Morality**

Postmodernism is very concerned with suppression and authority

They believe morality is not objective, but subjective, and therefore we cannot make judgment statements



“Postmodernism, by contrast, recognizes how much of what we 'know' is shaped by the culture in which we live, is controlled by emotions and aesthetics and heritage, and in fact can only be intelligently held as part of a common tradition, without overbearing claims to be true or right.” (Carson)

Cultural Relativism is the most popular form believed today

This is a form of subjective morality and involves rejection of any objective standard

Does this make sense?

If cultures (or individuals) decide  
what is right or wrong:

1. You cannot condemn horrific  
acts of violence (Like Hitler)

2. Improvement doesn't exist

Yet scripture predicts the opposite

Romans 2:15: “Who show the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves *their* thoughts accusing or else excusing *them*”

The Bible explains humanness

# The Postmodern worldview fails in it's foundation

