

WORLDVIEWS

by Liz Quist

Prepared for the 2010 LDSEHE Education Conference in Buena Vista, Virginia

Elder Neal A. Maxwell:

What fascinates me about the gospel is that it gives us a galactic view of existence, and we need to take that into account.

Douglas F. Tobler, coordinator of BYU's European Studies Program:

Intellectuals, as other people, will be likely to listen to an ideology promising hope and an eschatological vision of what human existence can become if they come in contact with practicing Christian scholars. Thus the achievement of wholeness in ourselves becomes a key to discharging our intellectual responsibility. Central to all the rest of what Mormonism might offer is the affirmation of God's existence and our relationship to him. Just as Nietzsche propelled the secularization movement forward with ten-league boots by declaring the death of God, so we can humbly try to reaffirm that existence by the evidence of his life in us.

http://lds.org/ldsorg/v/index.jsp?hideNav=1&locale=0&sourceId=81681f26d596b010VgnVCM1000004d82620a___&vgnnextoid=2354fccf2b7db010VgnVCM1000004d82620aRCRD

We'll be discussing:

1. Waking up from the construct
2. History: Pre-Modern to Modern to Postmodern
3. Three rivaling versions of Postmodernism, one of which will likely become the next major Postmodern movement

Major Questions	Pre-Modern	Modern	Post-Modern
What is the highest power?	God	Man	God in us
Epistemology – how do you know what is true?	Revelation through designated authority	Reason/Empiricism	Pragmatism
Eschatology – how will the world end and who will save us?	God	Human Institutions	Transcendental Man

General discussion of worldviews: The American Century, The Coming Aristocracy, The Social Construction of Reality, various books by Samuel Huntington

“Cosmic Humanist” worldview: Celestine Prophecy, The Alchemist, Theory of Everything, Leviathan, Beyond Fear, Hero with a Thousand Faces, The Gift of Change

“Family Postmodern” worldview: And There Was Light, Wild at Heart, Captivating, The Road Less Traveled, Rex Publica, Crunchy Cons, Tramp for the Lord, Dinnertime Revolutions, Cure for the Common Life

“Entrepreneurial Postmodern” worldview: The Wealth of Nations, Atlas Shrugged, Roots of American Order

Liz graduated from George Wythe University with a Masters in Leadership Education under the mentorship of Dr. Oliver DeMille. She has also enjoyed mentoring dozens of GWU students through their Scholar Phase.