

Thinking Christianly: How Do We Shine?

Embracing a Biblical Worldview, Lesson 7—Sociology¹

Introduction

“Because Roman civilization perished through barbarian invasions, we are perhaps too much inclined to think that that is the only way a civilization can die. If the lights that guide us ever go out, they will fade little by little, as if of their own accord... We therefore should not console ourselves by thinking that the barbarians are still a long way off. Some peoples may let the torch be snatched from their hands, but others stamp it out themselves.” –Alexis de Tocqueville²

Sociology: The study of human _____ and _____.

Ideas Have Consequences

Secular sociology:

“Reality is socially constructed,
our behavior has hidden social causes,
and much of life is profoundly ironic.”

Gilligan’s Second Island

The Family

Genesis 2:22-24—Why would the family be a basic building block of society?

Deuteronomy 24:5, Ephesians 5:24-25—How does God view the importance of establishing a meaningful relationship between husband and wife?

Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 20-21; Joshua 4:4-7; Ephesians 6:4—What role do parents play in the lives of their children?

A biblical definition of family:

_____ + _____ + _____ + _____ = a family.

The Church

Romans 12:4-5; I Corinthians 12:12-14, 27; Colossians 1:18—How does the church function like a ‘body’?

Why is the church important to the preservation of society?

¹Jeff Myers and David A. Noebel, *Understanding the Times: A Survey of Competing Worldviews* (Manitou Springs, CO: Summit Ministries, 2016), 306-334.

²Alexis de Tocqueville, *Democracy in America*, trans. George Lawrence (New York: Harper Perennial, 1988), 464-65. Quoted in *Understanding the Times*, 308.

The State

Genesis 9:6—How does this verse lay the foundation for civil government?

Romans 13:1-4—What are the two purposes given for a role of government?

I Timothy 2:1-4—Why should we pray for those in authority over us?

Implications of a Christian Sociology

The importance of the individual as a social being.

The embrace of human value.

The recognition of both the individual and society.

What other implications can you think of?

Conclusion

<https://www.truthforlife.org/broadcasts/2017/05/5/gods-design-for-the-family-part-1-of-2/>

Coming Next:

May 14th: No CE Hour—Mother's Day

May 21st: Thinking Christianly about Law

May 28th: Thinking Christianly—Where Are We Not?