Outline
Lesson 2 - Philosophy & Ethics: Says Who?

I. Introduction – Have you been taken captive? - 2 Timothy 2:24-26
   A. Scriptural warning against hollow and deceptive philosophy – Colossians 2:8
   B. Carl Sagan’s Worldview – “The Cosmos is all there is, or ever was, or will be”
   C. Assumptive language – A powerful and dangerous form of knowledge
   D. Cosmic Cube – Illustrates the naturalistic worldview belief that there is nothing outside the cosmos; reality is a closed box and all truth must be materially perceived
   E. Biblical presuppositions – God is and He has revealed himself to us (general revelation through our world and specific revelation through His word)
   F. God’s Nature - Transcendent and immanent – He is above and works within the box

II. Philosophy – What is it?
   A. Webster 1828 definition vs Current definition – God has been removed from the discipline of philosophy in today’s culture
   B. Philosophical Questions – What is existence? What is the meaning and purpose of life?
   C. Universal and Particulars – Aristotle and Plato’s philosophical dilemma – How do we arrive at Truth? How do we make sense of the unity and diversity of our world?

III. Postmodernism – Can you live it?
   A. What is Right? What is wrong? - Ethical implications of postmodernism – There is no basis for ethical standards or ethical language in a naturalistic worldview
   B. Plato’s Question – “Is an act right because God said it, or did God know it was right and told us about it?” – His laws are an expression of His nature
C. Naturalistic philosophy implications – Darwin’s views in non-assumptive language

D. Statistical Ethics – Our culture determines ethics through normalcy and survey data

IV. Worldview – Formal worldview vs personal worldview

A. Lack of a personal, biblical worldview in America – We fail to see Christianity as a worldview that governs every area of life

B. Our worldview drives how we think, act, and feel – What we really believe

C. Consequences of a non-biblical worldview: We buy the lies and conform to the world

V. Conclusion and Solution – Renewing of the Mind – Metamorphoo – Romans 12:2

“Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”