

“Secular Humanism: Defined & Compared”

Lesson #3

1. Key Verse

Colossians 2:8

2. Key Statement “Secular Humanism Is A Religion”

- The Classroom Instead Of A Pulpit
- The Teacher Instead Of A Minister
- The Humanist Values Instead Of A Traditional Christianity
- Education As The Means Of Social Change

I. The Bible Of Secular Humanism

- The Humanist Book Of Belief Statements: Humanist Manifesto
- The Humanist Manifest Contains.....
 - Statements Of Belief
 - Declarations Of Principles
 - Statements Of Worldview
 - The Humanist Creed

Secular Humanism - Manifesto's: Human-Authored Statements Of Belief

Biblical Christianity - Scripture: God's Revealed Word

Four Major Humanist Manifesto's

1. **Humanist Manifesto I (1933) - Worldview**
2. **Humanist Manifesto II (1973) - Application**
3. **1980 Declaration Of Humanism - Application**
4. **Humanist Manifesto III (2003) - Modern Summary**

Humanism In Six Words

1. **Knowledge**: How Do I Know? **Reason & Evidence**
2. **Nature**: Where Did I Come From? **Evolution**
3. **Ethics**: How Do I Know Right From Wrong? **Human Needs & Experience**
4. **Fulfillment**: What Is Life's Purpose? **Human Accomplishment**
5. **Relationships**: Where Do I Find Meaning? **Human Relationships**
6. **Responsibility**: What Is My Responsibility? **Improve Human Life & Society**

II. The Faith Of Secular Humanism

Humanist Manifesto I (15 Statements Of Faith)

1. **No Creator**
2. Man Arose Through **Evolution**
3. Man Has **No Soul**
4. Religion Is A Creation Of **Human Cultures**
5. **No God**
6. **Traditional Religion** Must Change For A **New Religion**
7. Redefines Religion As **Man-Centered**
8. Redefines **Man's Purpose**
9. **Man** Only
10. **Man** Alone
11. Humanism **Transforms** Mankind
12. Separation Of **Spiritual** From The **Secular**
13. **Moral Relativism**
14. Reshape The **Economy** And **Social Structure** Of Society
15. Humanity Must **Build A Better World**

III. Christianity Compared To Secular Humanism

1. **Authority**: How Do We Know Truth?

- **Humanism** - **Reason, Science, Evidence, Experience**
- **Christianity** - **God's Revealed Word** (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

2. **God**: What Is Ultimate Reality?

- **Humanism** - **Non-Theistic/Naturalistic**
- **Christianity** - **One Eternal Personal God** (Genesis 1:1:)

3. **Humanity**: What Is Man?

- **Humanism** - Man Is A Product Of **Nature/Evolution**
- **Christianity** - Man Is **Created By God** In His Image. (Genesis 1:26-27)

4. **Purpose**: Why Are We Here?

- **Humanism** - To Discover Meaning Through **Achievement, Knowledge, Happiness, Service, And Improving Human Life**
- **Christianity** - To Give **God Glory** And Fulfill His **Purposes** (Isaiah 43:7)

5. **Morality**: What Determines Right And Wrong?

- **Humanism** - Ethics Developed Through **Reason, Experience, Consequences, Human Needs** And The **Welfare** Of Individuals
- **Christianity** - **God's Revelation** (1 Peter 1:15-16; Micah 6:8)

6. **Salvation**: What Is Man's Solution?

- **Humanism** - Problems Are Solved Through **Education, Reason, Science, Ethical Action, Cooperation** And **Social** Improvement
- **Christianity** - Man's Fundamental Problem Is **Sin**. God's Remedy Is **Salvation** Through **Jesus Christ** (Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8-9)

7. **Death**: What Happens When I Die?

- **Humanism** - There Is **No Afterlife**
- **Christianity** - Physical Death Is Followed By **Eternity** (Hebrews 9:27)

8. **Truth**: Is Truth Objective?

- **Humanism** - Truth Claims Must Be Tested By **Reason**, **Evidence**, And **Experience**.
- **Christianity** - Truth Originates In **God**. God Never **Changes**. God's Word Is **Truth**. (Malachi 3:6; John 17:17)

9. **Jesus Christ**: Who Is Jesus?

- **Humanism** - A **Historical** Or **Ethical** Figure.
- **Christianity** - He Is The **Son Of God** Who Came Into This World To **Die For Sin**, **Bury Sin**, And **Raise Again** For A **New Resurrection** (1 Corinthians 15:3-4)

10. **Suffering & Evil**: Why Is The World Broken?

- **Humanism** - Suffering Arises Through Natural **Conditions**, Human **Behavior**, **Ignorance**, Social **Conditions**, **Psychological** Factors And Other **Natural Causes**
- **Christianity** - Creation Has **Fallen**. **Human Sin**. **Rebellion Against God**. (Romans 5:12)

IV. A Christian Response To Secular Humanism

Key Verse: Matthew 5:13-16

Christ's Call To All Believers Is To **Witness**

- To **Glorify** God In This World
 - **Minister** To The World
 - **Care** For This World
-
- The Great Promise Of Humanism: "**Life Without God Is Good**"
 - The Great Promise Of Christianity: "**New Life** In Christ Is **Eternal Life**"