



Truth Claims (Micro-Propositions) for Biblical Worldview

Immersion

Literature/English/Language Arts:

1. "Literature has the serious moral purpose of providing role models that help us to form the ideals and aspirations we live by: it achieves that purpose through concrete images of virtue and vice."¹
2. God created storytelling as a method of communicating truth (Eckel, 2003).
3. God reveals himself in words; becoming skillful with words enables us to more deeply experience God's revelation and share it with others.
4. Studying the etymology and meaning of the words we use is a way to mark the passage of time and to understand how ideas influence human culture.

¹ Donald T. Williams, *An Encouraging Thought: The Christian Worldview in the Writings of J. R. R. Tolkien*. (Cambridge, OH: Christian Publishing House, 2018), 83.

5. In stories, the battle between good and evil is a reflection and result of human sin (Eckel, 2003).
6. The forms of poetry and prose reflect the rhythm of reality, speaking profoundly to our very being.
7. Literature can reveal the inner workings of a human's soul like perhaps no other medium. In this regard, it can be superior to film, which generally cannot offer insights into a person's motives and thoughts the way literature does.
8. The ability to use words and symbols to communicate is unique to humans as image-bearers.
9. The form and structure of language reflects the orderliness of God and allows human beings to share meaning.
10. Words must be stewarded well in order to accurately communicate the truth about the way things really are.
11. "Excellence in communication skills is a means of revealing God's character to other people" (Overman and Johnson, 2003, p. 68).
12. The structure of stories (in literature and film) reflects the Biblical metanarrative of Creation-Fall-Redemption-Restoration.

13. Daily use of language is an expression of virtually limitless creativity.

Every sentence we speak or write is an opportunity for original creativity.

14. Words are representations of intangible concepts and ideas. True words accurately reflect the way things actually are.

15. While the meaning of words can change over time, humans should steward those changes by faithfully documenting and acknowledging those changes.

16. Words can build up or tear down others.

Math:

1. The precision, accuracy, and exactitude of measurement are rooted in God's perfection (Eckel, 2003).

2. Mathematical patterns are predictable and reliable because a faithful, dependable God established them (Eckel, 2003).

3. Arithmetic enables us to account for reality that manifests through the passage of time.

4. Geometry enables us to account for reality that manifests through physical space.

5. Mathematics is a language God has enabled us to discover, through which we can understand and marvel at God's invisible nature and the universe he has created.
 6. The structure and function of every facet of the universe is dependent upon the reliability of mathematical truth.
 7. Mathematical principles provide evidence of a Creator/Designer of the Universe (Overman and Johnson, 2003).
 8. Human beings can employ math to exert good and Godly rulership over creation.
 9. Math requires precision, self-discipline, and patience. These qualities can be cultivated in humans through humble dependence on God and his Spirit.
 10. Mathematics offer humans a way of thinking about the world which multiplies our ability to reason clearly about the past, comprehend the framework of our present experience, and plan for the future.
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Science:

1. "God is the sovereign Lord, Creator and Sustainer of all things that exist" (Eckel, 2003, p. 154).

2. God gave man responsibility to rule over the animals and to develop, cultivate, and protect the earth (Eckel, 2003). This is commonly called the "Creation Mandate."
3. Science can be used to create and cultivate flourishing cultures.
4. God has revealed his eternal power and divine nature through creation (Romans 1:20). Therefore, human beings can learn about God through close exploration of nature.
5. All scientific theories (explanatory models for the way things work) are based on assumptions.
6. Scientific principles enable human beings to cure what is broken in cultures, organizations, and individuals.
7. Using science to promote true human flourishing is consistent with our calling to be used by God in the process of restoring all things to him.
8. A biblical worldview provides reliable and consistent underlying assumptions about the way things truly are, without which science would not be possible (Myers and Noebel, 2015).
9. Nature follows established laws, evidencing a rational, purposeful designer (Pearcey and Thaxton, 1994).

10. The Biblical worldview provides motives for scientific inquiry: to show God's glory and to explore the wisdom of the Creator (Pearcy and Thaxton, 1994).
11. "Natural occurrences" and miracles BOTH have their origin in God's gracious work of upholding all creation.
12. The study of science helps us to tell the magnificent story of God's creation and his work of upholding creation.
13. When we work with "stuff" in science, we must humbly acknowledge that it is Someone Else's "stuff."
14. Natural laws are really the law of God, approximately and imperfectly described by human beings (Poythress).
15. All the regularities of the natural world ought to move us to gratitude. God is "serving" us through the normal, regular operation of the universe.
16. The Fall impacted everything. However, in God's providential care for humanity, many processes and functions remain functional (orbit of planets, the water cycle, digestion, etc.). Everytime we observe things working the way they should, we are seeing first-hand evidence of God's common grace.

17. Scientific reasoning is not purely neutral. All reason is controlled by the heart orientation of the person (people) doing the reasoning.
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History:

1. History has a purpose and an end designed and decreed by God (Eckel, 2003).
2. History is linear: it is going someplace, and it is going there on purpose (Finn, 2015)
3. God established where all people throughout all time were to live.
4. History is essentially the record of man's interactions with God and his purposes.
5. The forces that come to bear upon human societies are not random, chance forces.
6. Recorded history is reflective of man's efforts to document human experience. However, there is only one truly accurate representation for every event in history. Two (differing) representations of a past event cannot both be simultaneously true.
7. "God governs the rise and fall of governmental leaders" (Overman and Johnson, 2003, p. 67).

8. Reflection on history enables us to be wise so we can stand against the manipulation and deceit of false worldviews.
 9. Because history is the record of God's work in his creation, we should expect that by studying history we should learn what to desire, what to think, and what to do.
 10. There exists significant temptation to lie about history or interpret history in dishonest ways in order to protect oneself or advance one's agenda.
 11. It is possible to arrive at the truth about history, though we are often susceptible to deception. This should prompt us to be humble and sober in our study of history.
 12. The Bible reveals the super-structure for all history - Creation/Fall/Redemption/Restoration.
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Fine Arts:

1. When we create, we are utterly dependent on others' work (their ideas/tools/media/etc.). We never create **out of nothing** the way God does.

2. "Color, form, texture, and sound are part of God's creation, and testify to God's existence and creative/artistic aspects" (Overman & Johnson, 2003, p. 69).
3. "As with all aspects of mankind, communication through art and music is subject to God's standards of conduct" (Overman & Johnson, 2003, p. 70).
4. Beauty is objective and based on the beauty and excellence of God's good creation.
5. Beauty opens our hearts to virtue, inspiring justice and reflection.
6. Art can be considered a worshipful response to God's revelation of who he is.
7. When humans create art, they are expressing an important element of the image of God in them.
8. Artistic expressions need not be overtly "Christian" in their content in order to glorify God and reflect his excellence.
9. Music is fundamentally mathematical, with a form and structure that relates to reality itself.
10. God granted OT artisans unique abilities in all kinds of craftsmanship when building the Tabernacle.

11. Creativity is a characteristic that is essential to humanity's role as caretaker of creation.
 12. The essence of our humanity is not merely in utility and practical application - the urge to create and enjoy beauty is fundamental to who we are (Fujimura).
 13. The universe exists because God loves to create (Fujimura).
 14. Great art - whether it is musical, visual, or experiential (drama, etc.) can help to orient our hearts towards worshipful living before God.
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Athletics:

1. Human beings should care for their bodies as the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.
2. Athletes should strive for excellence, to the glory of God.
3. Mediocrity in sport is often born of laziness, apathy, or rebellion and reflects poorly on God.
4. Athletics is an ideal forum in which to nurture the development of Christ-like character in students. Humility is central to the heart of the Christian athlete.

5. Sports ideally expose students to many of the elements of real life: teamwork, setbacks, victory, following absolute rules, submitting to authority, etc. Properly embraced, this exposure can help to prepare students for life after high school.
 6. Athletics is perhaps the most significant connecting point between body and spirit in our culture.
 7. Our bodies are the tools/vehicles whereby we carry out God's will. Apart from the function of our physical bodies, we cannot do his will while here on earth.
 8. Discipleship occurs in the realm of the body.
 9. Disciples of Christ should exert mastery over their body, and athletic training can help nurture such mastery. However, humble mastery can easily be replaced with arrogant idolatry.
 10. Athletics can be a forum for authentic relationships.
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World Languages

1. Diversity of languages reflects the beauty and diversity of God's creation, in spite of the fact that diversity of languages finds its origin in

man's arrogance (Tower of Babel). God transforms the effects/results of evil for his purposes.

2. Learning other languages can help us to honor the humanity of others who are not like us.
3. Learning world languages is a form of offering hospitality to strangers.
4. Reconciliation among people groups requires language bridges to be built.
5. God's intention is for his people to be a blessing to the nations.
Language helps us to do so in an incarnational way.
6. Language is a domain in which God expects us to exercise humble and godly stewardship.
7. Learning another's language is ideally a demonstration of humility and submission towards others. It is a way to serve.
8. Learning another's language invites the "other" into relationship/fellowship.
9. World languages are "containers" for culture.
10. God knows all world languages.