

## Four Worldviews of Spiritual Realities

### 1. Animistic Worldview:

- 1.1. Amoral spirits and a high god:
  - many earthly spirits, capricious, amoral, powerful, bother humans.
- 1.2. Human centered:
  - living, dead and unborn.
- 1.3. Ancestral influence:
- 1.4. Magical view of power:

### 2. Indo-European Worldview:

- 2.1 Moral dualism: God and evil as opposites. Evil ontologically real and ultimate.
- 2.2 Tri-level universe: heavens = gods, society = humans, nature = animals.
  - heavens - gods centered, determine levels below.
- 2.3 Top value is Order, evil is chaos.
- 2.4 Battle for order:
  - focus on power and control
  - focus on battle and conquest
- 2.5 Hierarchy is necessary and good to keep order.

### 3. Western Secular Worldview:

- 3.1 Dualism of Supernatural/Natural.
  - Supernatural is God centered, religion, cosmic and spiritual
  - Natural
    - human centered
    - science, public truth
    - historical, biographical
    - fact
    - amoral
    - secular, autonomous
  - Supernatural
    - Spirit centered (God, angels, demons)
    - religion, private truth
    - cosmological
    - faith, feelings
    - moral
    - sacred, transcendent
  - connection between them is prayer and miracles

- 3.2 Excluded middle: no spirits on earth.
- 3.3 Autonomous individual, human centered, freedom and rights.
- 3.4 Hierarchy is needed to maintain order
- 3.5 Stress on structure and synchronic analysis of natural order
- 3.6 Positivism

#### 4. Biblical Worldview:

- 4.1 Contingent dualism:
  - creator and cration
  - spirits part of creation
  - creation dependent on God's providence for its ongoing existence.
  - God is all powerful, and has final authority
- 4.2 Evil is contingent, not eternal - rebellion against God, idolotry
- 4.3 Relationships are the basic value:
  - God-God, God-human, human-human, human-angels/demons), etc.
  - chaos is o.k.
- 4.4 Lordship of Christ is central issues:
  - discipleship, not our search for God, but his revelation to us.
- 4.5 Equality:
  - value service, respect and servant leadership. Footwashing, communion with God!. Signs of the church
- 4.6 Responsibility, not rights are the center:
  - community, covenant
  - knowledge is to know a person s/o. hermaneutics belongs to the community.
  - knowledge = cognition + feelings + response.
- 4.7 Battle with evil a question of legitimacy
- 4.8 History is the basis for knowledge and reality.
- 4.8 Critical realist