

CHRISTIANS VS WORLD

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History of Christianity

2018

TENSION



Christians



**Did you know that Jesus
prayed specifically for that?**



*My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the **world**, even as I am not of **it**. Sanctify them by[a] the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the **world**, I have sent them into the **world**.*

(John 17:15-18)



*For God so loved the **world** that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

John 3:16



*Do not love the **world** or anything in the **world**. If anyone loves the **world**, love for the Father[a] is not in them.*

1 John 2:15

Dilemma



- ☐ Being in the world, a world that God loves, a world with a mission to accomplish.
- ☐ Do not love the world. Not of the world.
- ☐ Is it possible to reconcile both statements?

Basic concepts

- CULTURE: beliefs, values and priorities in a community.
- CULTURE is the result of the human interaction with God's creation.
- WORLD: in a negative sense, the Bible refers to the human agents controlled by Satan and in rebelión against God.

A composite image of Earth and the Moon in space. The Earth is shown in the foreground, with its blue oceans and white clouds. The Moon is visible in the upper right corner. The background is a deep blue space filled with stars.

RESPONSES CHRISTIAN VS CULTURE

Responses Christian vs culture

OPOSITION Y SEPARATION

We are pilgrims and in a foreign land.

- Mennonites,
- Anabaptist,
- Millerites

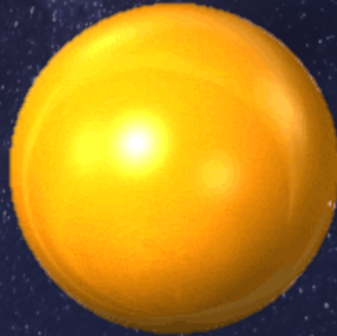


Isolated themselves from the culture.

Responses Christian vs culture

TENSION

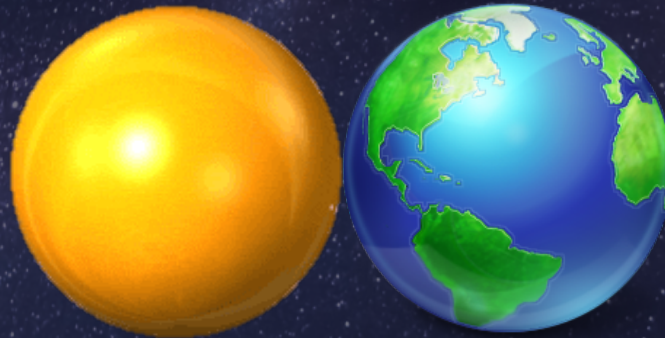
Christianity as superior to culture



Responses Christian vs culture

TENSION

Yuxtaposition to cultura

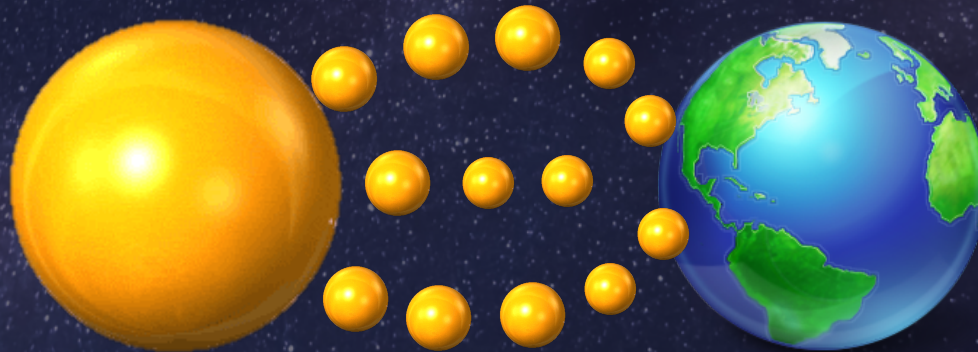


Christians live in tension between the divine ideal and human reality,
between sin and grace.

Responses Christian vs culture

TENSION

Christianity as culture transformer



Culture is sinful, redeemable. The problem is perverted good, not essential evilness.

Responses Christian vs culture

ASSIMILATION



Culture is basically good, to be accepted. This assimilation tends to compromise the gospel, presenting Christ as a moral lider.

Question

Do you agree with one of the responses? Why?

Would you design another response?

Toward an Adventist response

- Nurture a biblical worldview that includes the Great Controversy motif
- Seek a critical engagement with the surrounding culture
- Study God's Word, pray for discernment and listen to the insight of other committed adventists.

Conclusion

- Abandon the world for the love to Christ
- Being transformed and purified
- Go back to the world to live as God teaches until His return

Consider Mark 5: 1-20