The Importance of Non-Physical Reality and Non-Empirical Knowledge for Christian Worldview Integration

J. P. Moreland, Ph.D.

Introduction: 3 Worldviews in Conflict

1. Scientific Naturalism
2. Postmodern Relativism
3. Christian Theism

Two Key Issues: Non-physical reality and non-empirical knowledge outside the hard sciences.

1. Non-physical reality
2. Physical reality constitutes the properties, relations, and particulars that are the objects of study in the hard sciences, especially physics and chemistry.
3. Examples of non-physical reality
4. The subject matter of logic and mathematics
5. Language, semantic meaning and intentionality (ofness)
6. Consciousness, the self, free will, and teleology
7. Information (semantic and biological)
8. Truth, knowledge, justified belief
9. Normativity (ethical, rational and aesthetic intrinsic value and oughtness
10. Medicine (if health is taken to be normative)
11. Artifacts
12. Non-empirical Knowledge
13. A priori vs. a posteriori knowledge
14. A priori issues: Logic, Mathematics, truth, knowledge
15. Knowledge of consciousness, self-knowledge, intentional action, other minds
16. Knowledge of Normativity
17. Knowledge of Modality (what is impossible, possible but not actual, contingency, necessity)
18. The nature of causation