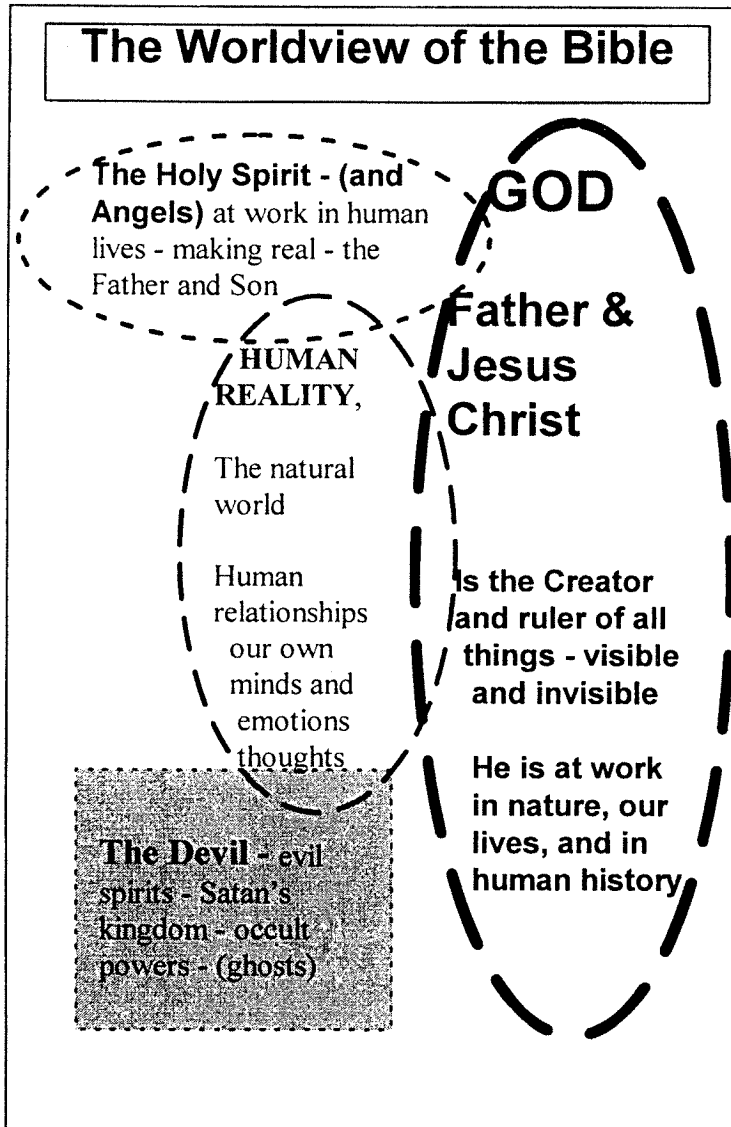


## E. THREE MAPS OF DIFFERENT WORLDVIEWS

### 1. Biblical Worldview

Below is a diagram that shows the worldview of the Bible. The Bible was written by human beings that were inspired by the Holy Spirit. So the Bible reveals to us the way that God sees reality. From God's perspective we may discover what is really real.



a) Start with the circle in the middle. That is you and your own experience and understanding.

b) The lines are broken to show that the reality of God, the Holy Spirit, Angels and the Devil all connect with our reality and the natural world.

The Bible believes that both the Holy Spirit and evil spirits are real and that they may effect us.

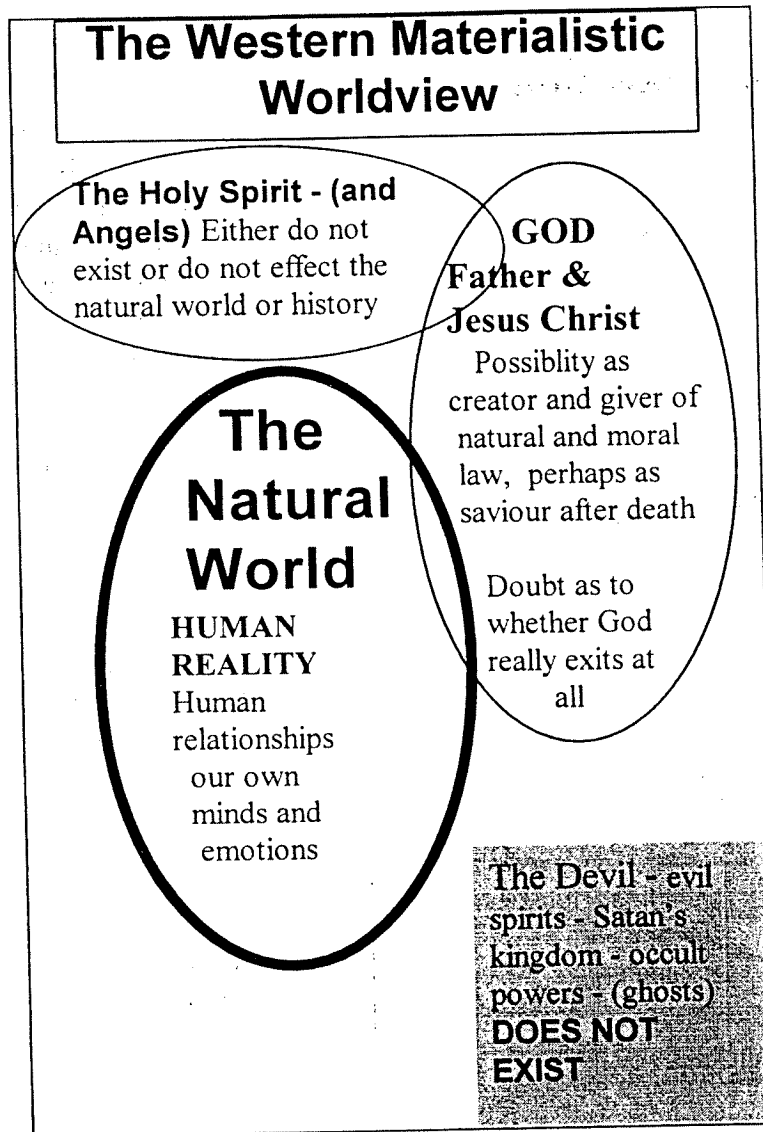
c) From the Bible's perspective God is more real than anything else in the whole universe.

d) The Bible also believes that the natural world is not only real but created

good.

## 2. Western, Materialistic Worldview

This is the world view that has developed since the "enlightenment" in the West. This is the view of reality most apt to be assumed in secular colleges and universities. This is where many people, in the United States, Canada and Western Europe "live." Even Christians and churches have adopted this view of reality, as a result they do not take seriously a personal God at work in our daily lives.



a) Start with the circle in the middle, this is the natural world and our own experience. For the Western worldview the natural world is the part of reality that is really real and important.

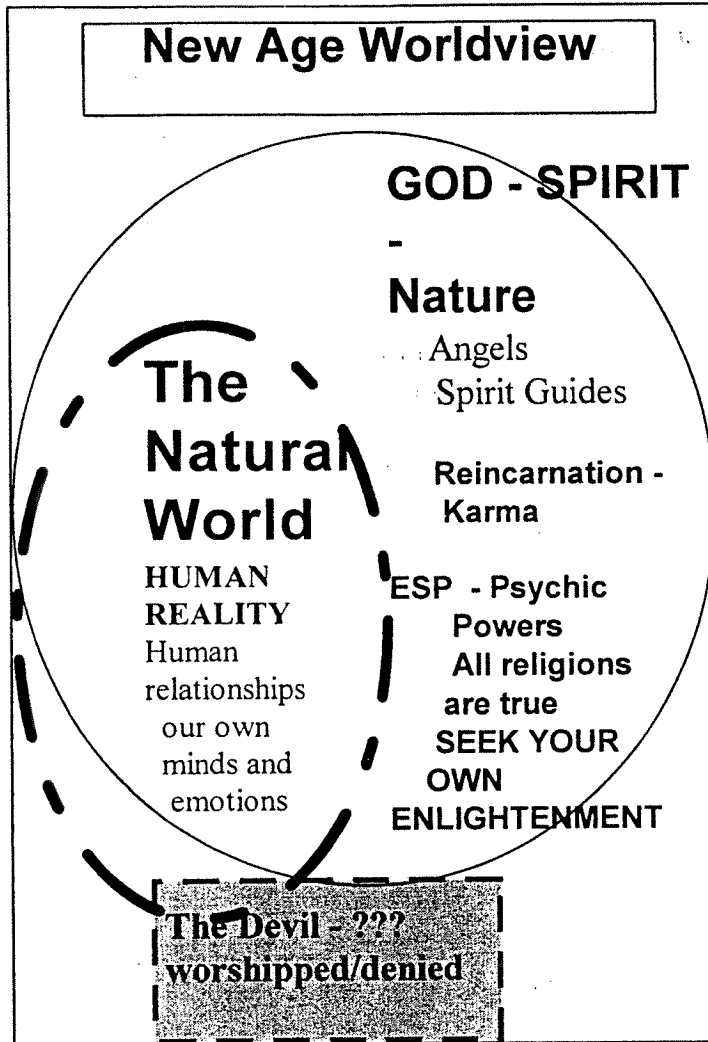
b) THE NATURAL WORLD is in a closed circle because even if God and spiritual reality does exist, it does not connect in any meaningful way with the natural world or with human beings. This view of reality assumes that human beings are on their own to create their own reality. We should not expect miracles or the Holy Spirit to speak to us. Jesus is a great moral teacher. Is there life after death?

c) God is still in the picture but He is seen as not connected to this world in any personal living way. If God is believed in at all, it is as the spiritual force that created the natural world and built in certain moral laws.

d) Generally does not "believe" there is a devil or evil spirits.

### 3. A New Age Worldview

The world that you are growing up in is very different than your parents. In the West, a major change is taking place in our worldview. Now there is a much greater openness to the spiritual and supernatural than ever before. Much of this is coming in the form of the New Age movement and the occult.



a) The New Age world view takes very seriously the spiritual realm. God is seen as spirit that is often connected to and expressed in nature. This way the "god" circle includes the "nature" circle.

b) Souls, angels, spirit guides are all seen as real and as beings that may effect human life. Human life is caught up in the law of karma and future life is understood in terms of reincarnation.

c) Many forms of revelation are accepted. All religions are seen as true. One must seek their own path to enlightenment.

d) The new age view of reality seems not to take seriously the reality of a personal devil and evil spirits. But there are some who worship the devil and seek evil occult power.