

## **Ministry, Church and Society**

### **Study Guide, Exam #1**

Most of the exam, as you can see from the following study suggestions, will center in Sire's book. So, be sure you have "digested" it thoroughly.

1. Come prepared to give a favorite quotation from Sire.
2. Know Sire's four-fold purpose for writing his book (page 15).
3. Know the Worldviews presented by Sire:
  - a. Christian Theism
  - b. Deism
  - c. Naturalism
  - d. Nihilism
  - e. Existentialism
    - i. Atheistic
    - ii. Theistic
  - f. Eastern Pantheistic Monism
  - g. New Age
  - h. Postmodernism

Know enough about each of these positions that you could connect various ideas with the worldview which they represent in a series of matching questions.

4. Be able to define the concept of Worldview based on how Sire explains it.
5. Be able to give the seven questions that Sire says are answered by almost every comprehensive Worldview.
6. In his chapter on Christian Theism, Sire says that human history can be subsumed or wrapped up under four words. What are those four words?
7. In "Choosing a World View" — a section in the chapter on "The Examined Life" — Sire gives four characteristics of an adequate world view. Know those four characteristics.
8. Know some of the ways in which religious people view and interact with the larger culture surrounding them (the material from Kraft/Neibuhr given in class)