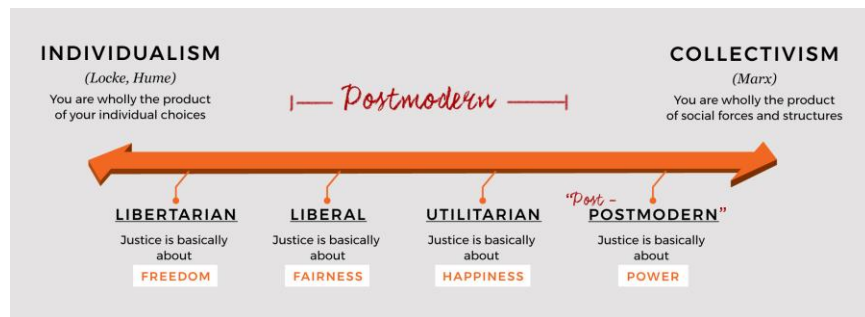


Why Is the World So Mad? Utilitarian Happiness

Ryan Morgan

Questions: Are you more of a “rules follower” or a “rules questioner”? Can you think of an example in your life? What about your spouse, parent, friend?

A Utilitarian view of life says that “Justice is served when rules make sense for the majority.”



In current Canadian politics, many decisions are not made on principle, but on “the majority of Canadians now agree ...” This is an example of utilitarian view.

“The mob is the mother of tyrants.”

Diogenes

Questions: As a follower of Jesus, what are some ideas in Utilitarianism that line up with a biblical worldview? What are some ideas that would conflict with a biblical worldview?

Read Exodus 24 and 32.

Question: What are some examples like the nation of Israel that you can think of in history where the shift in public opinion has happened quickly and ended in a destructive result?

Questions: Even if they are wrong, what is the problem with the nation of Israel deciding to worship this golden calf? What effect on this does believing in God as He revealed Himself to Moses compared to how Egypt viewed the existence of many gods?

There can be no JUSTICE without “GOOD” and there can be no “GOOD” with GOD.

Biblical worldview

Questions: How will you allow God to filter through your biases that are based on utilitarian happiness and not on His goodness? What are some examples you can think of that would help lead YOU to this place of introspection? What is your “golden calf”?

As we allow God to shape our opinion, we have a better opportunity to shape public opinion.