

The background of the slide features a photograph of a broken incandescent lightbulb. The bulb is shattered, with numerous sharp, translucent glass fragments scattered across a surface. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent red filter, creating a somber and dramatic atmosphere. The main title is centered over the upper half of the image.

Christianity in a (Post)Modern World

Postmodernism & Truth

Where Did It Come From?

- **Question of Knowledge (Epistemology)**
 - How do we know what we know is certain?
- **Modernism – *The Enlightenment of Man***
 - **Approx. 1700s to early 1900s**
 - **Rise of the Humanistic Standard**
 - Knowledge is through human experience (*Kant*)
 - **Development of Universal Rules/Meta-Narratives**
 - Emphasis on naturalistic explanations (*Hume*)
 - Naturalism and scientific certainty

The Rise of (Post)Modernism

- **(Post)Modernism – *The Nihilistic Turn***
 - **Language is Uncertain/Ambiguous**
 - **Truth cannot be understood through language**
 - **Nothing can be understood without language**
 - **Therefore, we cannot know Truth (*Nietzsche*)**
- **Example of language & knowledge (“*dog*”)**
- **Consequence on Morality**
 - ***Beyond Good & Evil – Nietzsche (1886)***

Common Postmodern Phrases

- **“Well, that’s true for you, but not for me.”**
- **“Who are you to judge others?”**
- **“Different roads, same destination.”**
- **“It’s arrogant to say I should follow your values.”**
- **“Choose the church (or religion) of your choice.”**
- **“It’s all a matter of perspective or interpretation”**
- **“I feel like this is the right thing for me.”**
- **“We should focus on love, not doctrine.”**

Postmodernism or Christianity?

- **Foundations of Postmodernism**
 - **“The Truth is we cannot know (T)ruth.”**
 - **No universal standard or narrative**
 - **Unity through denying absolutes**
- **Foundations of Christianity**
 - **Knowing the Truth – John 8:31-32**
 - **One Standard & Narrative – John 12:48**
 - **Unity through the Absolute – John 17:17-21**

Nothing New Under the Sun

- **Religion of Cain**
 - **Genesis 4:1-5, 6-11**
- **Right and Wrong are not mere perspectives**
 - **Proverbs 16:2, 25**
- **Consequences of Postmodernism**
 - **No standard – Judges 21:25**
 - **No right or wrong – Genesis 6:5**
 - **Bible is a lie – 2 Corinthians 5:10-11**



Christ, Not Postmodernism

- **“Since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints; because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel which has come to you, just as in all the world also it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth; just as you learned it from Epaphras, our beloved fellow bond-servant, who is a faithful servant of Christ on our behalf, and he also informed us of your love in the Spirit.”**

– Colossians 1:4-8