

A DEVOTIONAL THOUGHT

The Architecture of Everything

The What — Five Dimensions of the FRAME

Colossians 1:15–20 • Romans 12:2 • Daniel 1–12

ANCHOR VERSE

"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him." — Colossians 1:16

Foundational → **Relational** → **Aspirational** → **Managerial** → **Eternal**

What's Real? → Who Am I? → How Should I Live? → How Do I Engage? → Where Am I Going?

The Awakening

If the first devotional in this series answered why a biblical worldview is necessary, this one answers what a biblical worldview actually includes. The challenge is not convincing people they need a worldview — it is helping them discover that they already have one, and that it may be incomplete, inconsistent, or borrowed from somewhere other than Scripture.

FRAME is not a system imposed on the Bible. It is an architecture revealed by it. From Genesis to Revelation, Scripture addresses five irreducible questions — about ultimate reality, human identity, purpose and morality, engagement with the world, and eternal destiny. These are not categories invented by theologians. They are the questions every human being asks, whether consciously or not. And every worldview — biblical or secular — must answer all five.

The secular worldview has answers. Marxism has answers. Islam has answers. Hinduism has answers. The question is not whether you have a framework for these five dimensions of existence, but whether yours is the framework God has revealed. The invitation of this devotional is to walk through the architecture of the FRAME — to see the shape of the whole before examining each dimension in detail.

The Foundational Text: Colossians 1:15–20

The Christ-hymn of Colossians 1 is not merely a Christological declaration. It is a worldview declaration — perhaps the most compressed and comprehensive one in all of Scripture.

"The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together." — Colossians 1:15–17

Read these verses slowly. They address every dimension of the FRAME:

- **Foundational:** Christ is the image of the invisible God — ultimate reality is personal and revealed.
- **Relational:** All things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, were created in Him — including human beings, who bear His image.
- **Aspirational:** All things were created through Him and for Him — purpose is not self-generated; it is received from the One for whom we exist.
- **Managerial:** Thrones, powers, rulers, authorities — the structures of governance and stewardship — all find their origin and accountability in Christ.
- **Eternal:** He holds all things together — and the entire arc of history moves toward its resolution in Him (Col 1:20).

Colossians 1 does not give us five separate doctrines. It gives us one integrated vision of reality in which every question — foundational, relational, aspirational, managerial, eternal — is answered by the same Person. FRAME is not a grid we impose on Christ; it is the architecture His lordship produces.

The Five Dimensions of FRAME

What follows is a first-pass introduction to each dimension. Later devotionals in this series will develop each one in depth. The goal here is to see the whole before examining the parts — to understand the architecture before walking through each room.

Each dimension has topics associated with it, representing the key knowledge/concept areas within each dimension.

F — FOUNDATIONAL | *What is ultimately real and true?*

Topics: God, Truth, Reality

Core Conviction: *God is personal, triune, and the Creator of all that exists. Truth is objective and revealed. Reality includes both physical and spiritual dimensions.*

Everything else in the FRAME flows from what is established here. Get the foundation wrong, and the entire structure collapses. The Foundational dimension asks the most fundamental questions any worldview must answer: Who or what is ultimate? How do we know what is real? What exists? Biblical Theism gives answers that are distinct from every competing worldview: a personal God, not an impersonal force; objective truth revealed by God, not constructed by culture; and a reality that includes both visible and invisible dimensions — not materialism's flat universe or New Spirituality's dismissal of the physical as illusion.

R — RELATIONAL | *Who am I in relation to others?*

Topics: Humanity, Gender & Sexuality, Family

Core Conviction: *Human beings are created in God's image with dignity and moral accountability. Gender is binary by design. Family is divinely ordained as the foundational unit of society.*

Identity is not self-constructed; it is received from the Creator and expressed in community. Because God is relational within the Trinity, we are made for relationship. This dimension addresses the questions every culture is currently fighting over: What is a human being? Is gender fixed or fluid? What constitutes a family? Biblical answers are not socially constructed preferences — they are creation-order realities established before any culture existed to offer competing definitions.

A — ASPIRATIONAL | *Why am I here and how should I live?*

Topics: Purpose of Life, Morality, Ethics

Core Conviction: *Life's purpose is to glorify God and know Him through Christ. Morality is absolute, grounded in God's unchanging character. Ethics are faith made visible in conduct.*

If the Foundational dimension establishes what is real and the Relational dimension establishes who we are, the Aspirational dimension answers why we exist and how we should live. Purpose flows from origin. If God made us for Himself, then life's highest aim is relationship with Him and fruitfulness for His glory — not self-actualization, not cultural impact, not even moral self-improvement. Morality is not a cultural negotiation; it is a reflection of God's unchanging character. And ethics are not theoretical — they are faith enacted, visible in consistent conduct.

M — MANAGERIAL | *How do I engage and steward the world?*

Topics: Science, Politics, Economics

Core Conviction: *Science and faith are compatible. Government is ordained by God but limited by human fallibility. We are stewards, not owners, of the resources God entrusts.*

The Genesis dominion mandate is not revoked by the Fall; it is redeemed. We are called to engage the created order — through honest inquiry in science, faithful participation in governance, and trustworthy stewardship of resources. This is not withdrawal from the world or uncritical embrace of it — it is the pattern of Daniel, who was ten times better than the Babylonian alternatives without ever becoming Babylonian. Faithful stewardship of God's world in every domain — intellectual, civic, economic — is an act of worship, not merely a professional obligation.

E — ETERNAL | *Where am I going?*

Topic: Afterlife, Ultimate Destiny

Core Conviction: *Human destiny is eternal. Heaven or Hell depends on relationship with Jesus Christ. The eternal stakes give weight to every other dimension of the FRAME.*

Everything in the FRAME leads here. Remove this dimension, and the urgency drains from every other one. Why does worldview formation matter if there are no eternal consequences? Why does gospel proclamation carry urgency if death is merely the end? The Eternal dimension is not peripheral theology — it is the controlling horizon. It is what makes the invitation of the gospel not merely important but urgent. And it is what enabled Daniel to risk temporal loss for eternal gain, knowing that the kingdoms of this age are real but temporary, while God's kingdom is real and forever.

The Biblical Architecture: FRAME as an Integrated System

Not a Checklist — An Architecture

The five dimensions are not independent categories to be addressed in sequence and then filed away. They are an integrated structure in which each dimension shapes and depends on the others. The architecture is top-down and cumulative:

- **Foundational** commitment to God and His truth shapes everything downstream. What you believe about ultimate reality determines what you can say about identity, purpose, governance, and destiny.
- **Relational** identity flows from the Foundational. If God created human beings in His image, that establishes human dignity and accountability. If He created gender as binary and family as the foundational social unit, those convictions are rooted in the Foundational, not merely cultural preference.
- **Aspirational** purpose and morality are unintelligible apart from both Foundational and Relational. Why do we exist? Because God made us. How should we live? In a way that reflects His character and accomplishes His purposes. The standard is external to us — not constructed by us.
- **Managerial** engagement with the world flows from all three previous dimensions. We steward science, governance, and economics faithfully because God made and owns the creation, because humans bear His image as workers and leaders, and because we exist for His glory, not our own.
- **Eternal** perspective sustains and integrates the entire architecture. It is what makes suffering tolerable, faithfulness possible, and urgency rational. Without the Eternal dimension, the other four become commendable but ultimately purposeless.

Daniel: The Living Illustration

Daniel is the gold standard — not because he was spectacular but because he was integrated. Every dimension of the FRAME was intact, coherent, and demonstrable across seventy-plus years of faithfulness in one of history's most aggressively hostile cultures.

- His Foundational conviction about God was unshakeable: 'He is the living God and he endures forever' (Dan 6:26), declared not by Daniel but by the pagan king whose life Daniel's God had just disrupted.
- His Relational identity was received, not constructed: 'Daniel resolved not to defile himself' (Dan 1:8) — he knew who he was before Babylon tried to tell him.
- His Aspirational purpose was God-centered, not self-preserving: he continued praying three times a day even after the death decree was posted (Dan 6:10), because his life was oriented toward God's glory, not his own survival.
- His Managerial excellence was genuine and observable: even his enemies 'could find no ground for complaint or any fault, because he was faithful' (Dan 6:4).
- His Eternal perspective enabled him to risk temporal loss for eternal gain: knowing that 'many who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake — some to everlasting life,

others to shame and everlasting contempt' (Dan 12:2) made the present moment's pressures manageable.

The Gospel and FRAME

The NEW LIFE gospel framework maps directly onto the FRAME architecture — revealing that salvation itself is a worldview event, not merely a spiritual transaction.

- **Foundational:** God initiates. Salvation begins with God's sovereign work of conviction — He reveals the need, stirs the heart, and makes change possible.
- **Relational:** Identity is transformed. The believer moves from broken and fallen to 'new creation' (2 Cor 5:17) — transferred from the dominion of darkness into the kingdom of the Son.
- **Aspirational:** Faith responds through repentance and surrender — not as works that earn, but as 'obedience that trusts.' Purpose realigns from self to God's glory.
- **Managerial:** The Spirit empowers for stewardship and mission. The new life radiates outward: Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).
- **Eternal:** The entire movement is unintelligible without eternal stakes. The urgency of the gospel invitation, the seal of the Spirit as 'guarantee of our inheritance,' and the kingdom transfer all assume an eternal horizon.

The gospel does not add a spiritual layer onto an otherwise secular life. It reframes everything — from ultimate reality through eternal destiny. This is why the FRAME methodology is not merely useful for apologetics or cultural engagement. It is the shape of the gospel itself, applied to every dimension of human existence.

Connections to the Revival Journey

The six-week revival curriculum follows the FRAME progression in remarkable detail — and understanding this connection reveals why genuine revival always produces whole-life transformation, not merely emotional experience:

- **Week 1 (Foundational) — Urgent Dependence:** Revival begins by establishing who God is and that He is the source of everything. Before anything else can be renewed, the Foundational must be secure. Urgency without clarity about who God is produces restless activity, not genuine awakening.
- **Week 2 (Relational/Aspirational) — Repentance:** Examining identity before God (Relational) and measuring life against His absolute moral standard (Aspirational). Who am I in light of who God is? What has He declared right and wrong, and where have I wandered?
- **Week 3 (Aspirational/Managerial) — Supernatural Prayer:** Prayer realigns purpose from self to Kingdom (Aspirational) and engages the world through intercession (Managerial). Shifting from earthly prayer to eternal prayer is a worldview shift — seeing people as souls with eternal destinations.
- **Week 4 (Managerial/Eternal) — Brokenhearted Boldness:** Faithful engagement with the world (Managerial) motivated by eternal stakes (Eternal). Brokenhearted boldness is the natural expression of a person who sees through the FRAME — who understands that the people around them are heading toward an eternal destination.
- **Weeks 5–6 — Generational Transmission and Sustained Movement:** Both require a framework that can be articulated and transmitted. FRAME gives the next generation not just feelings to replicate but a structure to inhabit.

The Question That Matters Most

FOR REFLECTION

Which of the five FRAME dimensions is most underdeveloped in how you currently think and live?

The following five questions are not meant to produce guilt. They are diagnostic — invitations to honest self-examination that lead toward the clarity and integration the FRAME is designed to build:

- **Foundational:** Do I know what I actually believe about God, truth, and reality — and can I articulate why I believe it, not just that I believe it?
- **Relational:** Is my sense of identity more shaped by Scripture or by the surrounding culture? When the culture's definition of who I am conflicts with God's, which one wins?
- **Aspirational:** Does the way I spend my time and energy reflect the purpose I claim to believe in? What does my calendar say about my purpose?
- **Managerial:** Am I engaging the world as a faithful steward — excelling in science, governance, and economics as an act of worship — or withdrawing from it as though it doesn't belong to God?
- **Eternal:** Does the weight of eternity actually influence how I treat the people around me today — or is eternity a belief I hold without it changing anything?

A Prayer from the Awakening

Father,

You created all things through Christ and for Christ — and yet we live most of our lives as though the categories of existence are separate from You. Work is secular. Politics is messy. Science belongs to the laboratories. Relationships are personal. And faith is reserved for worship gatherings and private devotions.

Forgive us for the fragmentation. You have not given us a department of existence called 'spiritual' that sits alongside the rest of life. You have given us a FRAME — a coherent architecture of reality in which every question, every decision, every relationship, and every aspiration finds its answer in You. Help us inhabit that architecture rather than just admire it.

Renew our minds around the whole shape of Your truth. Let the Foundational deepen until the Relational is settled, the Aspirational is redirected, the Managerial is faithful, and the Eternal is the horizon that reframes everything else. Give us the integrated life — not the fragmented one — the life that Daniel lived, the life that Jesus calls every disciple into.

In the name of Christ, in whom all things hold together,

Amen.

Scripture Treasury

Foundational texts for meditation and further study

The Christ Who Holds Everything Together

Colossians 1:15–17 — *"The Son is the image of the invisible God... all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."*

Colossians 2:3 — *"In whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."*

F — Foundational

Genesis 1:1 — *"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."*

John 14:6 — *"I am the way and the truth and the life."*

2 Corinthians 4:18 — *"What is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."*

R — Relational

Genesis 1:27 — *"So God created mankind in his own image — male and female he created them."*

Deuteronomy 6:6–7 — *"These commandments are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children."*

A — Aspirational

Matthew 22:37–38 — *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."*

John 15:8 — *"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."*

Micah 6:8 — *"Act justly, love mercy, walk humbly with your God."*

M — Managerial

Psalms 24:1 — *"The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it."*

Colossians 3:23 — *"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."*

Matthew 25:21 — *"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things."*

E — Eternal

John 3:16 — *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

Daniel 12:2–3 — *"Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt."*

Revelation 21:4 — *"He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain."*