

MODERN AGE / POSTMODERN AGE COMPARISON

I created this chart for the Evangelism in the 21st Century class to help all of us get a better visual grasp on the differences in effective evangelism and communication 30 years ago compared to now. The first part describes how the Modern Era was mathematical and scientific; hence we had the “FOUR Spiritual Laws” and “Steps to Peace with God” tracts to give someone as we shared our faith. We used “evidence” that demanded a verdict to attempt to prove the truth of the gospel. I discovered that much of this generation is not really concerned with whether what we believe is “truth” or not. They are more interested in what pragmatic difference faith can make in their lives. While the Modern Era showed that faith in God can be intellectual, all the new scientific technology often still left an emptiness in lives causing this generation to emphasize relationships (hence people have hundreds of ‘friends’ on Facebook who they have never actually met!).

Here is the chart with some key characteristic differences. You can tell I am a preacher at heart look at all that good alliteration! In His Service, Larry Bubb

“From Issachar’s descendants there were 200 leaders who understood the times and knew what Israel should do.” I Chronicles 12:32

“... I have become all things to all men that I might by all means save some.” – Paul (I Corinthians 9:22)

MODERN AGE

Mathematical/Scientific
(Four Spiritual Laws)

Evidence

Facts

Proven

Rules/Regulations

POSTMODERN AGE

Artistic/Inspirational
(No Spiritual Laws)

Experience

Feelings

Pragmatic

Relational/Relativism