

HEBREW Mindset

- Relationships are ultimate
- Truth is objective and applies to everyone
- Recognizes that much cannot be known
- Accepts that much cannot be understood
- Truth is revealed and received progressively
- God is the source and revealer of wisdom
- Faith and trust are essential

- Belief is relational and personal

- Assumes existence of God

- Description of God: focus is on the relationship with God—“Abba”
- Kingdom of God begins in this life
- Eternal life begins now and is about our relationship with God
- Focuses on community
- Thought process: I need to understand enough to allow me to respond, apply, do, follow

- Appreciates mystery

- Believes in supernatural, unseen world
- Believes in spiritual warfare

- Dependent/interdependent mindset
- A disciple does what the rabbi does and becomes like him

WESTERN / GREEK Mindset

- Knowledge is ultimate
- Truth is subjective and owned individually
- Believes truth is knowable

- Believes understanding is essential
- Once discovered, truth rarely changes
- Wisdom is discovered and owned by men
- Proof, empirical evidence is essential
- Belief is intellectual and requires proof
- Believes if God exists, His existence can be proved or disproved
- Focus is on the attributes or characteristics of God

- Kingdom of God is detached from this life
- Eternal life happens after death, if at all
- Focuses on the individual
- Thought process: Let me see what I think and feel. If I cannot completely understand, or think differently, am confused, or if I don't feel “right,” then I'm stuck and cannot move forward
- Appreciates facts and knowledge only, with little tolerance for mystery
- Believes only in what can be experienced with the senses
- Thinks spiritual warfare is “superstition”
- Self-sufficient mindset

- A disciple knows what the mentor knows and does not have to be like him