

Postmodernism and Youth Culture Solomon Was Right, After All

The Modernist Backdrop

The Postmodern Shift

Street Value: Are skyscrapers more real than God?

Theoretical Postmodernity

- Masters of Suspicion
 - Marx: It's all about money.
 - Nietzsche: It's all about power.
 - Freud: It's all about sex.
- Metanarratives and Local Narratives
 - The big stories are dead
 - "What's it mean *to me*?"

Practical Postmodernity

- Not "Is it true?" but "**Is it real?**"
 - You're thinking, "That's the same thing!" Not quite.
 - Example: You tell a kid not to do drugs. "Why?" he says. "Because it's against the law." But then the kid says, "You speed all the time, and that's against the law too."
 - The command is *true*, but the kid wants to see that it is *real in your life*—he wants to see you *do it*, if you want him to do it.
- Is this shift a bad thing?
 - Shouldn't be. God made us to respond to that kind of persuasion.
 - John 17:20-23

What's the good news here?

- Postmoderns are people too. They have the same needs as other people:
 - Hope
 - Forgiveness and absolution from sin
 - Love
 - For life to make sense
- "But they shoot all that stuff down!"
- Yes, they do. But God cheats. Keep telling God's story. Keep offering hope, forgiveness, and love, **and God will help them to need it more.**