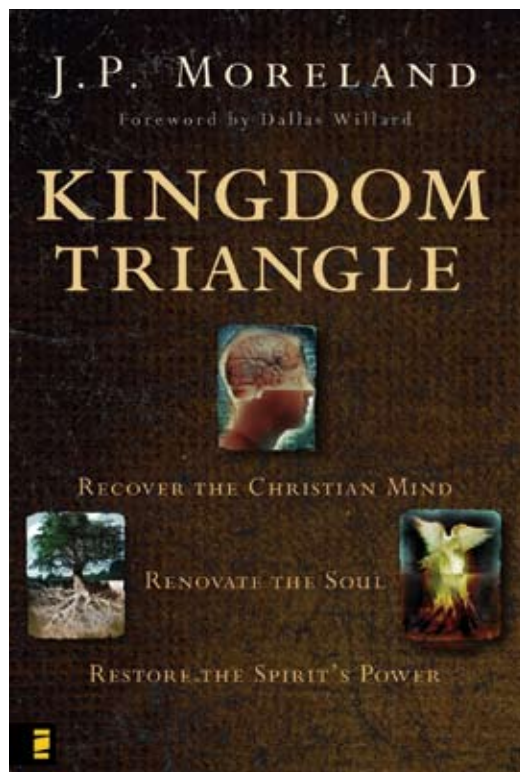


## The *Kingdom Triangle* Revolution Begins Here



“My passion in writing this book is to foment a revolution in how we do church and how we conceive of our presence in the world as Jesus’ apprentices and representatives. You need to become an activist to spread this revolution as effectively and earnestly as you can.”

—**J.P. Moreland, in *Kingdom Triangle***

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“Here’s a compelling call for renewing the mind, replenishing the soul and releasing the Spirit. This is vintage Moreland: passionate, practical, well-reasoned and ultimately hopeful. It’s an important book that must not be ignored.”

—**Lee Strobel, author, *The Case for the Real Jesus***

# NEWS

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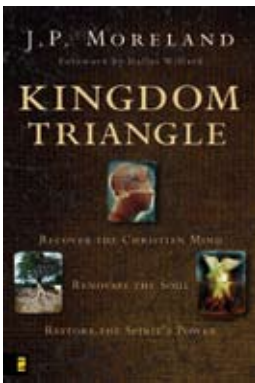


**Media Contact:** Leslie Speyers  
leslie.speyers@zondervan.com  
616.698.3345

## How the “West” Was Lost—and How it Can Be Recovered

Respected scholar J.P. Moreland pens manifesto urging Christians to recover mind, soul and spirit amid Western society’s dominant worldviews of naturalism and postmodernism

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.** – J.P. Moreland is a longtime investor in the cultural capital of Christianity. Today, the well-respected philosopher and apologist shares a three-fold approach of “kingdom living” that promotes the maturation of contemporary Christianity and transforms the church.



In *Kingdom Triangle: Recover the Christian Mind, Renovate the Soul, Restore the Spirit’s Power* (Zondervan), Moreland’s provocative prognosis of society’s current worldview reality equips Christians with a compelling vision for Christianity to regain a voice of authority and persuasion in the culture.

In a cultural climate dominated by scientific naturalism and post-modernism, Moreland shows how religion has been exiled from public forums; truth has become relative; science claims to have all the answers; while Jesus has become only a footnote of dusty theology in secularized universities.

Following a detailed assessment of today’s crisis, Moreland begins to chart The Way out. Like fire requires oxygen, matter and a spark, a Christian revolution of Kingdom living requires three key elements, Moreland says:

- The recovery of the Christian mind
- Renovation of Christian spirituality
- Restoration of the power of the Holy Spirit

*Kingdom Triangle* is Moreland’s manifesto. His critiques are challenging, but the *Kingdom Triangle* isn’t another cliché ridden “cultural crisis” book. With the skillful mind of a philosopher, the heart of a pastor, and the biblical worldview of a theologian, Moreland addresses the church in love, encouraging the embrace of vibrant Kingdom living.

With backing from Christian thought leaders like Dallas Willard, Lee Strobel, Ravi Zacharias and Chuck Colson, the *Kingdom Triangle* is a feast of insight and soul food that equips thoughtful Christians and churches to live skillfully and wisely—the way life is meant to be lived.

*Kingdom Triangle: Recover the Christian Mind, Renovate the Soul, Restore the Spirit’s Power.* Zondervan, June 2007. ISBN: 978-0310272441. Hardcover, \$16.99.

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## Bio: J.P. Moreland

**J. P. Moreland** (PhD, USC; ThM, Dallas Theological Seminary) is one of the leading evangelical thinkers of our day as a prolific philosopher, theologian and Christian apologist. He is a Distinguished Professor of Philosophy at the Talbot School of Theology and director of Eidos Christian Center.



With degrees in philosophy, theology and chemistry, Dr. Moreland has taught theology and philosophy at several schools throughout the United States. He has authored or coauthored over forty books, including *Philosophical Foundation for a Christian Worldview*, *Scaling the Secular City*, *Does God Exist?*, *The Lost Virtue of Happiness* and *Body and Soul*.

He is coeditor of *Jesus Under Fire* and a frequent contributor to popular Christian magazines and scholarly journals. Dr. Moreland served ten years with Campus Crusade for Christ, planted two churches and has spoken on over 200 college campuses, in hundreds of churches and in over 25 debates.

Moreland and his wife and partner in ministry, Hope, have two married daughters, Ashley and Allison.

## Behind *Kingdom Triangle*:

Moreland wrote about his passion behind *Kingdom Triangle*:

"This is the book I've been waiting all my life to write. For 36 years I have tried to be a radical for Jesus and to make a difference. This book brings together a life of what I hope is fruitful impact on the culture for Christ. It's my manifesto; it's my legacy to the church."

It's Moreland's passion for Christian excellence that has fostered his widespread respect in the evangelical community and beyond:

"I want to foment a revolution of evangelical life, spirituality, thought and Spirit-led power. My purpose is to mobilize, inspire and instruct an army of men and women for a revolution on behalf of the cause of Christ. The crisis of our age requires nothing less than a

## About: Zondervan

Zondervan, a division of HarperCollins Publishers, is a leading Christian communications company in the world. Zondervan produces Bibles, books, new media products, and children's products from its Zonderkidz group. Visit Zondervan on the Web at [www.zondervan.com](http://www.zondervan.com).

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**For an interview with J.P. Moreland, contact Leslie Speyers  
at 616.698.3345 or [leslie.speyers@zondervan.com](mailto:leslie.speyers@zondervan.com)**

## Interview Questions: J.P. Moreland

Author of *Kingdom Triangle*

1. Could you give a brief summary of scientific naturalism? Postmodernism?
2. How has naturalism and postmodernism infected the Christian church?
3. What three elements must Christians recover in the *Kingdom Triangle*?
4. You write that many contemporary Christians don't grasp the rich knowledge tradition of Christianity. What do you mean by a knowledge tradition? How does a knowledge tradition differ from a faith tradition?
5. What is the "renovation of the soul"? Why is it important?
6. How do Christians "restore the power of the Holy Spirit"?
7. You call the Kingdom Triangle your "manifesto." Why? What is the future of the Christian church if it maintains its current course?
8. What is your critique of the U.S. church today? Emerging churches? What is "Kingdom" living?
9. Christianity is exploding everywhere—except in Western culture. Where is the church growing globally? Why isn't it growing in the West?
10. What were the three factors of the growth of the early church?
11. Many Christians are skeptical of miracles today. Could you share your own healing experience and those of others? How can the Western church regain supernatural power?
12. What is the "hunger for drama in a thin world"? Why is our culture so bored?
13. Making "happiness" the focus of life is morally and spiritually inadequate. If "happiness" is culture's answer, what is the Christian "good life"?
14. What is the "empty self"? How has it invaded our culture?
15. You write that Christians need to be more confident and courageous with their faith. How do Christians stand up with becoming defensive or arrogant?
16. How have debates about religion, ethics and politics turned out to be about power rather than truth and authority?
17. Is science a threat or help to faith? What about Intelligent Design?
18. You're frustrated with the secularization of universities. What's happened to U.S. universities since the 1960's? What can be done?

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## Story Ideas:

*Kingdom Triangle* by J.P. Moreland

**What Are Postmodernism and Naturalism?:** Postmodernism and naturalism are prevailing worldviews in the West, but many are confused and mistaken about what they are. In *Kingdom Triangle*, Moreland educates readers on the roots and impact of these worldviews on society and the church.

**Moving the Western Church Forward:** Moreland's solution for recovery of influence in the Western church is threefold:

- "the development of the life of the mind, learning what and why one believes, acquiring a thoughtful Christian worldview;
- "the cultivation of an inner life, developing emotional intimacy with God, engaging in classic spiritual formation practices, absorbing the great formative literature in the history of the church;
- "learning to live in and use the Spirit's power and the authority of the Kingdom of God, developing a supernatural lifestyle, receiving answers to prayer, learning to effectively pray for healing and demonic deliverance, growing in hearing God's voice through impressions, prophetic words of knowledge and wisdom, dreams and visions." (196)

Investigate each factor Moreland suggests for revitalizing the Christian faith.

**The Rise of the Global Church:** Examine the rise of the global church, what Moreland calls "one of the transforming movements in the history of religion worldwide" (166). Why is Christianity in Third-World countries flourishing while Western Christianity is lagging behind?

**The Future of the Church:** Moreland writes, "We can no longer afford to do church the way we have frequently done it. We can no longer afford to build churches around powerful communicators who do our studying and thinking for us, and we can no longer build our services around providing bits of entertainment for an hour or so a week. Already addicted to passivity and entertainment, these are precisely what empty selves are looking for" (143). Examine alternative methods for church in the twenty-first century.

**Do Miracles Still Happen?:** A former skeptic, Moreland shares stories of his own miraculous healing, as well as stories of other supernatural events worldwide. The miraculous, Moreland suggests, is a major driving force of the growth of the global church. Is the miraculous missing from the West? Why are Christians skeptical?

**Christianity's Knowledge Tradition:** Moreland writes that many Christians are uneducated about Christianity's great knowledge tradition. Profile some of the great accomplishments of historic Christian thought while examining practical ways twenty-first-century Christians can regain Christianity's rich knowledge tradition.

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## Endorsements:

*Kingdom Triangle* by J.P. Moreland

"I profited greatly from reading *Kingdom Triangle*. J. P. Moreland is one of the keenest thinkers of our day; in this book he will challenge you and in the surprise ending perhaps provoke you. But if so it will lead to a very healthy discussion that is much needed within the evangelical church. A fine and thoughtful piece of work."

—**Chuck Colson, founder, Prison Fellowship**



"J. P. Moreland helps us position ourselves for effective action on a number of issues vital to the Christian faith in our times. With clear insight and lucid explanations, Moreland puts the thoughtful Christian in a position to understand the issues swirling about us today and to return to a responsible presentation of 'the way of Christ' as a way of knowledge. No one is better prepared by thought and experience to do this than Moreland. He knows about knowledge and about knowledge of the way of Christ. It is his life."

—**Dallas Willard, author, from the Foreword**

"Here's a compelling call for renewing the mind, replenishing the soul and releasing the Spirit. This is vintage Moreland: passionate, practical, well-reasoned and ultimately hopeful. It's an important book that must not be ignored."

—**Lee Strobel, author, *The Case for the Real Jesus***

"J. P. Moreland reveals the hunger in each of us to be part of a grander story and systematically shows how postmodernism and naturalism fail to adequately address this hunger and to offer a coherent way of living. A powerful assessment of the Western church and culture climate with practical, compassionate insights for the Christian journey."

—**Ravi Zacharias, author and speaker**

"This book is gutsy. As I was reading it, I felt like the proverbial frog in the simmering water getting a wake-up call about my spiritual life."

—**Daniel B. Wallace, co author, *Reinventing Jesus***

"J. P. Moreland has a first class mind and a heart to match. *Kingdom Triangle* is an astute analysis for our culture and its mindset and a profound way forward for the evangelical church. I highly recommend it."

—**Lance Pittluck, senior pastor of the Vineyard Church of Anaheim**

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## Quotables:

*Kingdom Triangle* by J.P. Moreland

"My passion in writing this book is to foment a revolution in how we do church and how we conceive of our presence in the world as Jesus' apprentices and representatives. You need to become an activist to spread this revolution as effectively and earnestly as you can." (200)

### **Made for greatness**

"I suspect you have had this same longing for drama, faint though its realization may seem when your life appears boring and you feel trapped. We were made for greatness, but there is something about our culture that undermines both its intelligibility and achievement." (20–21)

### **What is postmodernism?**



"Postmodernism is primarily a reinterpretation of what knowledge is and what counts as knowledge. More broadly, it represents a form of cultural relativism about such things as reality, truth, reason, value, linguistic meaning, and the self. In a postmodernist view, there is no such thing as objective reality, truth, value, reason, and meaning to life." (23)

### **What is naturalism?**

"The first component of naturalism is the belief that scientific knowledge is either the only kind of knowledge there is or an immeasurably superior kind of knowledge." (41)

### **Happiness is "oil and water"**

"The path of discipleship and the life of an empty self mix like oil and water. When people live for pleasurable satisfaction, they become empty selves and, because God did not make us to live for 'happiness,' their lives fall apart." (25)

### **Boredom: our greatest fear**

"Society is increasingly populated by passive people whose greatest fear is not suffering but boredom. In today's 'meaningless' milieu, that neurosis is usually incarnated in a desensitized, oversexed culture addicted to promiscuity and pornography that fails to satisfy our God-given longing for drama." (28)

### **Power in Western culture**

"Because the power in Western culture—the universities, public schools, major news media, movies, television, music and other forms of contemporary art—are dominated by naturalism and postmodernism, they cannot sustain the drama necessary for their own work to have the meaning they so desperately desire." (30)

-more-

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## Quotables:

*Kingdom Triangle* by J.P. Moreland

### **Christian courage**

“Christians today need a lot more courage and confidence that what they have to offer is true, reasonable, and critical for a wide range of issues at the center of the public square. For too long we have looked for ways to insert a word about Jesus into culture discourse that is largely secular, and we often lack the courage needed to speak up about our views without coming off as defensive on the one hand and arrogant on the other.” (38–39)

### **Jesus and world history**

“Jesus simply towers over any other figure in world history. In the last fifty years, his church has experienced the greatest expansion in two thousand years, and there are no signs that this harvest is going to slow down.” (59)

### **Intimacy with God**



“Why can’t one be intellectually careful, emotionally together, and comfortable with a life of intimacy with God and a vibrant inner life, and one who is learning to be naturally supernatural? This threefold cord is the way forward, and I pray for a revolution in which an increasing number of individuals and Christian communities and churches corporately will be aggressive in developing all three aspects of holistic discipleship.” (196)

### **Doing church differently**

“We can no longer afford to do church the way we have frequently done it. We can no longer afford to build churches around powerful communicators who do our studying and thinking for us, and we can no longer build our services around providing bits of entertainment for an hour or so a week. Already addicted to passivity and entertainment, these are precisely what empty selves are looking for.” (143)

### **Too many words?**

“The Western church has grown too dependent on words, and not nearly dependent enough on the power of the Holy Spirit. The Enlightenment induced much embarrassment about divine activity in today’s world, and this tendency has outlived the demise of the Enlightenment.” (172)

### **Kingdom living**

“The gospel of the Kingdom is the idea that the direct rule of God is now available to all in and through Jesus Christ, and that one may live from the power of that rule in the realm of the Kingdom.” (173)

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