

<b>CULTURAL FEATURE</b>	<b>ASSUMPTION</b>	<b>CONCLUSION</b>
Clothing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immodest to go naked (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. One covers one's body only if hiding something (Gava people—Nigeria)</li> <li>3. For ornamentation only (Higi people—Nigeria)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Must wear clothes even to bed.</li> <li>2. Go naked to prove yourself.</li> <li>3. Wear on 'occasion' only. Rearrange or change in public.</li> </ol>
Buying	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Impersonal, economic transaction (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. Social, person-to-person (Africa, Asia, Latin America)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fixed prices. No interest in seller as person. Get it over quickly.</li> <li>2. Dicker over price. Establish personal relationship. Take time.</li> </ol>
Youthfulness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Desirable (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. Tolerated. To be overcome (Africa).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Look young, act young. Cosmetics.</li> <li>2. Prove yourself mature. Don't act young.</li> </ol>
Age	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Undesirable (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. Desirable (Africa)</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dreaded. Old people unwanted.</li> <li>2. Old people revered.</li> </ol>
Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Primarily formal, outside home, teacher-centered (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. Primarily informal, in the home, learner-centered, traditional (Africa).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Formal schools. Hired specialists.</li> <li>2. Learn by doing. Discipleship. Proverbs, and folktales.</li> </ol>
Family	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Centered around spouses (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. For the children (Africa).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compatibility of spouses all-important.</li> <li>2. Mother-child relationship paramount.</li> </ol>
Rapid Change	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Good, Change = "Progress" (U.S.A.)</li> <li>2. Threat to security (Africa).</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage rapid change and innovation.</li> <li>2. Conservatism valued. Aim at stability.</li> </ol>



What age is this woman?



Young?



Or Old?

# The Excluded Middle

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>TRANSCENDENT WORLD BEYOND OURS:</b> <i>includes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—hells, heavens, other times i.e. eternity</li> <li>—high god (African); Vishnu, Siva (Hindu)</li> <li>—cosmic forces; karma</li> <li>—Jehovah, angels, demons, spirits of worlds</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>RELIGION</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">faith sacred miracles other-worldly problems</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SUPERNATURAL FORCES ON THIS EARTH:</b> <i>includes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—spirits, ghosts, ancestors, demons</li> <li>—earthly gods and goddesses who live within trees, rivers, hills, villages</li> <li>—supernatural forces: mana, planetary influences, evil eyes, power of magic, sorcery, witchcraft</li> <li>—Holy Spirit, angels, demons, <i>Signs and Wonders</i>, gifts of the Spirit</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EXCLUDED MIDDLE</b> by Westemers</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>EMPIRICAL WORLD OF OUR SENSES:</b> <i>Includes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>—folk sciences to explain how things occur</li> <li>—explanations based on empirical observations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•person shoots an arrow into a deer—he attributes death to arrow</li> <li>•one cooks a meal—attributes “cooked meal” to fire under pot</li> </ul> </li> <li>—theories about natural world— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•how to build a house; plant crops; sail canoe</li> </ul> </li> <li>—theories about human relationships— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•how to raise children; treat spouse, etc.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SCIENCE</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">sight &amp; experience natural order secular this-worldly problems</p>

# Shifting Your Paradigm

1. Investigate alternative worldviews by:
  - Read and re-read the New Testament
  - Read Kingdom Theology Books
  - Expose yourself to stories from churches outside the West
  - Join a Training
2. Find a church whose worldview accepts the "excluded middle" and observe what is happening.
3. Start where you are. Pray for the sick.