

## Ten Differences

*Jonathan Ekeland and Bob Walton*

### Public Schools

**Purpose of Education:**

*To prepare citizens for a humanistic society that tolerates all lifestyles*

**Content of Education:**

*Humanism - no values are absolute and no truth is final*

**Control of Education:**

*The State determines the content and methods of education*

**Science:**

*Naturalism - everything comes from matter, time, and chance*

**History:**

*Controlled either by autonomous man or by an impersonal process*

**Math:**

*A tool that is useful because it seems to work in manipulating the natural world*

**English:**

*Literature must be representative of all cultures, which are seen as having equal value, and has no inherent meaning*

**Teachers:**

*Varied backgrounds - Christianity or some other religion, humanism, atheism; may be straight or gay*

**Rules:**

*Determined by state and federal laws and guidelines*

**Peers:**

*Varied religious backgrounds, often receiving little moral instruction or values at home or church*

### Christian Schools

**Purpose of Education:**

*To prepare citizens for the Kingdom of God who are equipped to spread the Gospel*

**Content of Education:**

*All of life is studied in submission to the Word of God and its precepts*

**Control of Education:**

*The school functions in loco parentis, reinforcing and supporting parental values*

**Science:**

*God is the Creator and Sustainer of all things; science involves knowing God through knowing His world*

**History:**

*Controlled by an omnipotent God who knows the end from the beginning*

**Math:**

*A reflection of the mind of an orderly God who has made us in His image to understand His world*

**English:**

*Students are exposed to a variety of quality literature, which is appreciated as a demonstration of common grace and interpreted in the light of God's Word*

**Teachers:**

*Born-again, committed believers seeking to model Christ before their students*

**Rules:**

*Determined by God's Word and its moral standards*

**Peers:**

*Students from Christian homes who are there because their parents support Christian values*