

ATHEOS:
6 PATHS TO
DESTRUCTION

VOLUME I

ATHEISM/AGNOSTICISM
TOTALITARIANISM
HUMANISM

**In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.**

—John 1:1—

**What can be known of God is
evident among men, for
God has shown it to them
...so that they are without excuse**

—Romans 1:19-20—

**Be instructed, you judges of the earth.
Serve the LORD with fear.**

—Psalms 2:10-11—

**But without faith it is
impossible to please Him,
for he who comes to God
must believe that He is,
and that He is a rewarder of those who
diligently seek Him.**

—Hebrews 11:6—

DEDICATION

This first volume of the *ATHEOS* series is dedicated with love and gratitude to my parents on the occasion of their 61st wedding anniversary. Between the two, you'll not find even one Atheist, Totalitarian, or Humanist.

Thank God!

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+ Don’t miss the “Cheat Sheets” on pages 89-95; handy reference charts!

IMPORTANT NOTES

The Suggested Resources listed on pages 96 & 97 should be of great help to the interested reader. Even less than “standing on the shoulders of giants,” I see myself as peering out from the corner of the giant’s shirt-pocket. I’m small stuff in this world, but I truly value the dedicated, conscientious teacher-giants that God has so graciously provided in this very age. Even the leftish, atheistic Wikipedia can be harnessed to serve God’s purposes. God has used, after all, the likes of Pharaoh and Cyrus as unwitting accomplices to accomplish His will in history. Also, the SCRIPTURE REFERENCE INDEX on pages 134-137 could well be used as a Bible study of many essential truths connected to the subjects discussed in this volume.

ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS WORK

Books of the Bible

Gen	= Genesis	Matt	= Matthew	OTHER:
Ex	= Exodus	Rom	= Romans	AD= <i>anno domini</i>
Num	= Numbers	1 Cor	= 1 Corinthians	(year of the Lord Christ)
Deut	= Deuteronomy	2 Cor	= 2 Corinthians	BC=Before Christ
Josh	= Joshua	Gal	= Galatians	BDB=Brown-Driver-Briggs
1 Sam	= 1 Samuel	Col	= Colossians	Gr.=Greek
2 Sam	= 2 Samuel	1 Thes	= 1 Thessalonians	Hebr.=Hebrew
Psa	= Psalms	2 Thes	= 2 Thessalonians	HCSB=Holman Christian
Prov	= Proverbs	1 Tim	= 1 Timothy	Standard Bible
Ecc	= Ecclesiastes	Heb	= Hebrews	LIT=Literal Translation
Isa	= Isaiah	Jas	= James	NT=New Testament
Jer	= Jeremiah	1 Pet	= 1 Peter	OT=Old Testament
Lam	= Lamentations	2 Pet	= 2 Peter	<i>sic</i> = “thus”/as is in original
Ezk	= Ezekiel	Rev	= Revelation	WEY=Weymouth’s NT
Dan	= Daniel			
Hos	= Hosea			
Mic	= Micah			
Hab	= Habakkuk			
Zech	= Zechariah			
Mal	= Malachi			

GENERAL INTRODUCTION TO THE *ATHEOS* SERIES

ATHEOS—just what is that all about?

Primarily, this three-book trilogy is about bad ideas—bad ideologies—that have a dismal track record in history. What’s more, they are ideologies which are doomed to *perpetual* failure, with no hope of succeeding in the long run, for one good reason: their proponents are engaged in the ultimate futility of attempting to re-create the real universe that is. Like it or not, all that is, all that is real, all that is possible, all that will work, is subject to the limits set by the Creator-Sole-Proprietor-Governor of the universe, the God described in His Word, the Holy Bible.

There’s an obvious common thread that unites what may at first appear to be unrelated idea systems: the theme of *struggle*. Darwin and the evolutionists described the struggle for survival of all living organisms; Hitler’s struggle was put in the form of an infamous book, *Mein Kampf* (“My Struggle”); Marx built the whole system which bears his name on the historical struggle between classes; Humanists struggle for *human* supremacy in all areas of life; Islamofascists struggle for a complete union of mosque and state under *shariah* law; leftists struggle for government control by an elite over the “ignorant masses”; the would-be re-definers of God—false religionists—struggle in their re-definition mission; even professing Christians struggle to “bring in the kingdom of Christ” (and The Rapture, to yank us out of “*these* last days”) by political maneuvering. We’ll see that all of these struggles are doomed to fail, and are not worth the effort. The ultimate irony in all of this should become clear as we move through this discussion: in seeking the path of *least* resistance and maximum autonomy—call it *expedience*—all of these thought-system designers have in fact forfeited ease and real freedom and *brought* upon themselves the resistance of Almighty God. God actively opposes all of the ultimate plans of the God-opposers. Obedience and *real* progress or the unattainable expedience and certain failure of disobedience, those are the two choices; the path *of* life *to* life or the path of death.

Face it: there's no escaping the realities of the only universe in which we exist, the only universe in which we *can* exist. There's no going outside of it, no hope of re-arranging it, and no possibility of creating an alternative universe per another design. This is it, folks. We all have just two choices: either accept the realities of God's universe or don't. Either way, the consequences will follow; they can't be stopped.

God-fearing, God-honoring acceptance is the only way to go through life on this earth. Working *with* God—recognizing His ownership and authority—is the only sane option. **A universe without God (*a-theos*) is not possible.**

Pretending that either the Creator doesn't exist or that He walked away from His creation in indifference won't do any good. Claiming that He has *ceased* to exist or even *could* cease to exist is insane blasphemy. If we could ask “God-is-dead” Nietzsche (mhM—met his Maker—AD 1900) if God is alive now and still on the job, upholding His universe every nanosecond, his tormented reply from his vantage point in Hell would likely be unintelligible and unprintable, but fully understood nonetheless!

God, as the uncaused self-existent Creator of all things, is the Ultimate Reality. Without Him, nothing would be. Period. Now, individuals may not *like* that fact, but it's a fact all the same; no vote will be taken. It's an independent, objective fact that founds (undergirds) all reality. The Creator has fashioned a *stupendous* creation solely for His own glory; *that's* why anything and everything exists! Moreover, The Sustainer (**Col 1:17; Heb 1:3**) operates through an established, perfect order that's superseded only by His *supernatural* interventions in space and time on occasions of His choosing alone. The moment-to-moment, age-to-age rule is simple: ***God's universe, God's rules.***

Two of the primary rules of God's universe are:

1. God defines, humans merely opine; God speaks in facts, humans can offer only opinions. **I say what is right—Isa 45:19**
2. Since God defines reality and speaks only truth, **truth=reality**

A word of caution may be in order here, a word to the would-be wise.

If you're already fighting what has gone before—I mean both in these introductory sentences and in the proffered lessons of world history—you've likely succumbed to one or more of the soul-diverting, soul-deceiving, soul-destroying ideas at which we'll be looking. Putting it in the form of a contemporary cliché', you're “drinking the Kool-Aid,” trustingly imbibing the poison-laced drink of the *untrustworthy*, and to your own destruction, like the victims of the Jonestown cult massacre. But it certainly doesn't have to be that way, and in God's universe—by His overriding grace—getting back to the path of the Truth (see **John 14:6**) is always possible; that's where God wants you to be walking. “Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?” asks God through the prophet Amos (**Amos 3:3**). The answer is intuitive, instinctive, obvious, and even practical. Who better to walk with in agreement than the giver of all life and possessor of all power, God Almighty? He's the *last* Being that *anyone* should even *think* to offend if they wish to survive, much less thrive!

Assuming that the reader and the writer are on the same page—we both see the sheer practicality and wisdom in *not fighting* the all-powerful One, who also happens to be the *sole* source of all *grace*—the writer can let you in on the “game plan.” The plan is straightforward and well-ordered, coming straight from God Himself: He has seen fit to declare His perfect will in an inerrant, infallible, inspired format, the written Word of God. Call it The Holy Bible, Scripture, Holy Writ, the Inspired Writings, The Good Book, or even “God's Playbook,” we will accept its teachings without question, and in their entirety. Whatever disagrees with the very Word of God will be utterly rejected as neither God-pleasing nor true (**Prov 30:5-6; Isa 8:20**).

The short-form Biblical case will be presented, with some effort made to head off common objections. In some parts, we'll refer to the works of other writers—other than those inspired writers of The Bible—whose views have been informed and shaped *by* the Bible. In other cases, we'll give the God-opposers just enough rope to hang themselves by quoting their own words, thus exposing their designs and folly. In many cases, the direct *antithesis* between the truth of

the infinite, omniscient God and finite, fallible men will be demonstrated so plainly that “he who runs may read” (**Hab 2:2**). That says nothing about any personal skill, but much about the power of God’s Word. God alone is infallible; He *can’t* make mistakes. Even *Archie Bunker*, that renowned theologian of Queens, New York knew that. He blurted out this simple, crass explanation to his “Meathead” son-in-law, Mike: “Gawd don’t make no mistakes, buddy boy. That’s how He got to be Gawd!” Like I say, crass, but it shows that even the simple-minded understand that a total *inability* to make mistakes—to err—is part of what defines the *God-ness* of God; His divine nature precludes even the *possibility* of erring or “messing up” as we say today (we who are somewhat polite, at any rate; there are other terms in popular use).

Where Archie erred was in his implication that God somehow *became* God—as if he just worked his way up through the ranks, never slipping up in his ascent to the elevated position of *The Boss*. No, God has always *been*, always been God, always been mistake-free. And so His Word is mistake-free, as well. *This* is why we all must turn to God’s Word. Only His Word is mistake-free. The difference between the mistake-free, factual, immutable (unchanging) declarations of God and the mistake-riddled, ever-changing opinions of sinful men is *infinite*. What’s significant for the reader at this point is this: I know that difference exists. You can trust me to the extent that what I say lines up with Scripture, and I trust you’ll come to the conclusion that I’ve been fairly con-scientious in reflecting its teachings. Bereans of the world, unite! (see **Acts 17:11**).

This present work, Volume I: **A**theism/**A**gnosticism—**T**otalitarianism—**H**umanism, or, *And Without God In This World*, deals with three worldviews that are practically one and the same. With many interchangeable parts, they’re virtually indistinguishable at bottom. Their common objective is to dethrone God; the common struggle is against God and reality in His universe. The lines between atheists, totalists (short for *totalitarians*, which gets to be an annoying mouthful), and humanists are often blurry and insignificant. When it comes to their shared opposition to God, they’re all “open borders” advocates; movement between camps on the anti-God side is fluid. An atheist can be a totalist and a humanist too, you see, and *all* of the anti-God crowd are evolutionists by default.

We'll look at each of the three in turn and uncover some shades of differences between 'em, but for the most part, we'll recognize the great amount of overlap and commonality. Their **unity in opposition to God** is the key observation. Conversely, a God-follower can't be either an atheist, a totalist, or a humanist. That's because God exists and reigns exclusively. He is on the throne in the real universe, and He won't share His glory with another:

Isa 44:6—I am the First and I am the Last; besides Me there is no God.

Isa 45:5—I am the LORD, and there is no other; there is no God besides Me.

Isa 42:8—I am the LORD, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another

Each human being owes his/her very existence and supreme loyalty and love to the Creator-King, but only law-abiding civility—*under God*, in accordance with His will—to fellow humans, including any human governments. This is what the God-opposers turn on its head. But we'll see this soon enough.

Throughout this *ATHEOS* series, we will...

- + Take God at His Word in all points, ever trusting His God-breathed truth (**2 Tim 3:16-17 and 2 Pet 1:21**); the Bible is our *Template of Truth*;
- + Depend upon the illumination (light-shedding) and leading of God, The Holy Spirit (**John 14:17, 26 and 16:13**) speaking through the apostles;
- + Keep in mind always the fact that only the Triune God has always *been*; knows all things without exception; and is everywhere present, so all other speakers and teachers fall infinitely short of God's breadth, depth, height, and reach;
- + Compare the *opinions* of humans who are fallible (error-prone) and finite (limited in all ways and respectability) with the *declarations of fact* that God has put in spoken and written form;

I, the LORD, speak truthfully; I say what is right-Isa 45:19-HCSB

- + Acknowledge only those opinions that line up with Scripture as trustworthy; those that fail in that regard will be rejected as false (**Isa 8:20**), or incomplete and inadequate at best;
- + Attempt to identify false (anti-God, antibiblical) ideas and systems that *have* failed, as well as those currently in vogue but equally destined for ultimate failure (usually nothing new, but another case of the dog returning to his vomit - **Prov 26:11** and **2 Pet 2:22**); separate the tried-and-true from the forever-false failures.

Then, it'll just be a matter of sticking to the path of The Truth. We will please God, with His help.

Jesu Juva (Jesus, help)

AD 2014

AND WITHOUT GOD IN THIS WORLD

Section One

ATHEISM/AGNOSTICISM

The worst ideas of all time.

Without a doubt, atheism is the absolute worst idea ever. And *doubting*, of course, is what *agnosticism* is all about. While atheists have been around for thousands of years, agnostics—*technically* speaking—have only been around since 1870, when evolution-pushing Thomas H. Huxley coined the term, *agnostic* (Gr. *a-gnosis*, “without knowledge”) to describe his own concept of the existence of God. He maintained that neither the existence *nor* non-existence of God could be proved, so that the proper course was to doubt, while leaving open the *possibility* of God’s existence. How gracious and open-minded was he, this Huxley!

Since self-defined atheists may bristle at being lumped together with those slackers who merely *doubt* the existence of “God,” we’ll play along with them for a sentence or two to set them apart as the *real*, *bona fide* (Latin irony intended) God-opposers, the anti-God standard-bearers.

Atheists (Gr. *a-theos* , “without God/no God” or “Godless”) deny outright even the possibility that God may exist. Whereas the agnostic treads more softly in society—keeping earthly and heavenly options open (he/she thinks)—the atheist struts defiantly in open rebellion to the God that *conscience* (“with knowledge”) tells him is indeed there. The atheist tells his own conscience to shut up so he can banish God from His own universe.

So there you have my take on the atheist’s take and the agnostic’s take, but what is the fact of the matter? We’ll have to leave opinions behind and see what God has declared in His Word.

The classic go-to passage in Scripture on this matter of unbelief contrary to built-in knowledge is **Romans 1**. We could spend dozens of hours and hundreds of pages right there—and we will devote fractions of that in this work shortly—but let’s start out in a slightly-less famous passage: **Heb 11:6**. A glance will tell us much about *both* atheism and agnosticism, and both will clearly be found wanting in God’s scales.

Heb 11:6 (NKJV) - But **without faith** *it is impossible to please Him* , for he who comes to God must **believe that He is**, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Okay, let’s assess what we’ve got here. In order to “get anywhere” with the Governor of the universe, one must first believe He is there at all; simple and obvious, right? That wipes out the atheists, if we take them at their word in their utter denial of God’s existence. But down go the agnostics with ‘em, for a less obvious reason: they’re neither actively/positively believing He exists *nor* are they seeking Him. No faith! Hence, *impossible* to please Him.

Let’s say it another way. Neither the God-denier (atheist) nor the God-doubter (agnostic) *believes* in the existence of God. Remember, the agnostic only allows for the *possibility* that He *may* exist, and that falls far short of *believing* ; it’s a fatal difference. God requires of us an active, positive move of faith towards Him as the rewarder of *diligent seekers*. The double-minded man described in

Jas 1:6-8 may leap into the Bible student's mind at this point, and with good reason. Look at what God says:

Jas 1:6-8 (NKJV) - But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for **he who doubts** is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; *he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.*

(KJV) - **But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering...**

(LIT) - **But let him ask in faith, doubting nothing...**

...a double-souled man, not dependable in all his ways

The “take-away” (lesson) is clear: one must both *believe* that there is Someone (**The Lord**) listening to his/her prayer *and* that The Lord will honor the request made in faith. There's no place for doubting, wavering, or “hedging your bets.” You have to know Who you're talking to, what you're asking for and why, and finally, that The Lord is able to grant your request and fulfill your Godly desire. Professing atheists cut themselves off from any favors potentially bestowed by God because they obstinately insist that there's no favor-bestower in Heaven (or anywhere else). But fence-straddling agnostics fare no better because they *lack* faith in both the bestower's existence and His ability to grant the favors sought.

So the bare-minimum starting point lies beyond both the atheist and the agnostic; they're in the same boat, rowing in a circle. Until one trusts that God *is ...and...is* a rewarder of those who diligently seek him, it's impossible to please Him and “have His ear.” In times of sheer desperation, even the fervently unrighteous unbeliever may turn to the God who just *might* be there for such emergencies (“no atheists in foxholes” theory). But it will be too little, too late. The prayers of unbelievers “hit the ceiling” as we sometimes say; they go nowhere, meeting the same kind of stiff resistance that unbelievers displayed towards God.

Lam 3:44—You have covered Yourself with a cloud, that prayer should not pass through.

Do I have more Bible for that? So glad you asked! Chart #1 follows.

To see with your own eyes that God is far from some grandfatherly, rubber-stamping bureaucrat who lives to pour out benefits on all, refusing no one who seeks them, consult this handy text-comparison chart:

GOD DOES HEAR....

the godly may find Him—**Psa 32:6**

the righteous—**Psa 34:15, 17**

those who fear Him—**Psa 145:19**

the upright—**Prov 15:8**

the righteous—**Prov 15:29**
(but “far from the wicked”)

worshippers of God, those who do His will—**John 9:31**

a righteous man—**Jas 5:16**

those for whom the Holy Spirit or Christ intercedes—**Rom 8:26; John 17**

the righteous—**1 Pet 3:12**

The LORD is near to all who call upon Him in truth—Psa 145:18

GOD DOES NOT HEAR...

rebels against the command of God—
Deut 1:43-45

wicked-unrighteous-hypocrites—
Job 29:7-10

prideful, evil men, & empty talkers—
Job 35:12-13

those with malice in their hearts—
(including believers) **Psa 66:18**

foolish ones who reject God’s wisdom & counsel, mockers— **Prov 1:22-32**

those who won’t hear the Law—
Prov 28:9

God’s people when doing evil—**Isa 1:15** and **Hos 5:6**

when sinners put barriers between God and themselves— **Isa 59:2**

covenant-breakers— **Jer 11:10-11**

idolaters, rebellious leaders—
Ezk 8:18 and **20:3, 31**

evil misleaders, abusers of the people
— **Mic 3:4**

those who wouldn’t listen to the LORD — **Zech 7:13**

the doubting— **Jas 1:6-7**

those who ask wrongly (including believers)— **Jas 4:3**

The LORD is set against those who do evil—Psa 34:16

To reiterate: the self-described atheist who will never bother to pray (or publicly *admit* it, at any rate) and the self-described agnostic who might occasionally send up a “just-in-case/it-couldn’t-hurt” so-called “prayer” are **in the same boat**. To apply two different labels is to make a distinction without a difference; it means nothing in the end. Both are in a boat that’s destined for the lake of fire. Their time on earth is running out, and a hopeless eternity stretches out before them. I, for one, *cringe* in horror at the thought of *unending* misery—without any hope whatsoever of escaping that just punishment doled out by the Judge who knows all the facts of the case. He can’t be deceived; He knows all you’ve done.

Heb 4:12-13—For the word of God is living and effective and sharper than any two-edged sword, penetrating as far as to divide soul, spirits, joints, and marrow; it is a judge of the ideas and thoughts of the heart. No creature is hidden from Him, but all things are naked and exposed to the eyes of Him to whom we must give an account. (HCSB)

Psa 90:8—You have set our unjust ways before You, our secret sins in the light of Your presence. (HCSB)

Prov 15:11—Sheol and Abaddon lie open before the LORD—how much more, human hearts. (HCSB)

It makes me shudder when I see both public and *private* atheists (*practical* atheists, living as if God does *not* exist, and Christians-in-name-only) *striding* right into a Hell that *does* exist—on the authority of Jesus Christ Himself—without a second thought.

Atheists, agnostics, professing Christians, and non-Christians alike, I urge you to have that all-important second thought. Carefully examine your position. Respond to your God-given conscience and common sense. Don’t “kick against the goads”—those pricks of conscience that Saul (before he became the apostle Paul) was fighting against (**Acts 9:5, 26:14**).

Now would be a good time to turn to Paul's God-breathed teaching in **Romans 1**. And we will.

Assuming that most Bible students are familiar with the classic expressions used in the King James Version on **Rom 1:18-32**, I'd like to acquaint readers with three renderings in English that better approach our current usage (sound a bit closer to the way we communicate today). In chronological order, here are;

- 1) Richard Weymouth's **New Testament In Modern Speech**, third edition, 1912
- 2) J.B. Phillips: **The New Testament in Modern English**, revised edition, 1972
- 3) **Holman Christian Standard Bible**, 2003

Note: even here, we'll see how the language has changed over this *recent* 91-year span, and there are— at this writing—10 *more* years between the Holman translation and us. Even so, I hope you'll enjoy this brief excursion and arrive at new or strengthened truth.

Rom 1:18-25 (Wey) 18 For **God's anger** is being revealed from Heaven **against all impiety** and against the iniquity of **men who** through iniquity **suppress the truth**. 19 **God is angry: because what may be known about Him is plain to their inmost consciousness; for He Himself has made it plain to them.** 20 For, from the very creation of the world, His invisible perfections —namely His eternal power and divine nature— have been rendered intelligible and clearly visible by His works, so that these men are without excuse. 21 For when they had come to know God, they did not give Him glory as God nor render Him thanks, but they became absorbed in useless discussions, and their senseless minds were darkened. 22 While boasting of their wisdom they became utter fools, 23 and, instead of worshipping the imperishable God, they worshipped images resembling perishable man or resem-

bling birds or beasts or reptiles. 24 For this reason, in accordance with their own depraved cravings, God gave them up to uncleanness, allowing them to dishonour their bodies among themselves with impurity. 25 **For they had bartered the reality of God for what is unreal,** and had offered divine honours and religious service to created things, rather than to the Creator—He who is for ever blessed. Amen.

Before we move on to the Phillips translation, let's take note of key phrases;

1. God is angry
2. Because what may be known about Him is plain to the inmost consciousness (the text note shows “in (or, within) them”)
3. For He Himself has made it plain
4. His invisible perfections (eternal power and divine nature/deity/status as God) have been made intelligible (understandable) and clearly visible by His works (the very creation, creation itself)
5. Men (humans) are without excuse
6. They had come to know God, yet they did not give Him glory as God nor render Him thanks
7. They became absorbed in useless discussions, and their *senseless minds were darkened.*
8. While boasting of their wisdom *they became utter fools*
9. Instead of worshipping the imperishable (can't die) God, they worshipped images (which can't live on their own)
10. *They had bartered the reality of God for what is unreal*

Look especially at the words in italicized bold print above. These three concise, power-packed phrases speak volumes about the state of the atheist/agnostic; all you really need to know about where they land in God's universe is here. Their feet are firmly planted in mid-air, as someone has wisely observed. *Senseless minds; utter fools; gave up reality (truth) for what is unreal (falsehoods,*

untruth, lies). There are your atheists-agnostics in a nutshell, folks.

Now we'll let J.B. Phillips weigh in. This time I won't highlight anything in bold, but keep in mind the key sections we've just pulled out from Weymouth for the previous brief examination.

Rom 1:18-25 Now the holy anger of God is disclosed from Heaven against the godlessness and evil of those men who render truth dumb and impotent by their wickedness. It is not that they do not know the truth about God; indeed he has made it quite plain to them. For since the beginning of the world the invisible attributes of God, *e.g.*, his eternal power and deity, have been plainly discernible through things which he has made and which are commonly seen and known, thus leaving these men without a rag of excuse. They knew all the time that there is a God, yet they refused to acknowledge him as such, or to thank him for what he is or does. Thus they became fatuous in their argumentations, and plunged their silly minds still further into the dark. Behind a facade of "wisdom" they became just fools, fools who would exchange the glory of the immortal God for an image of a mortal man, or of creatures that run or fly or crawl. They gave up God: and therefore God gave them up—to be the playthings of their own foul desires in dishonouring their own bodies.

[heading] *The fearful consequence of deliberate atheism*

These men deliberately forfeited the truth of God and accepted a lie, paying homage and giving service to the creature instead of to the Creator, who alone is worthy to be worshipped for ever and ever, amen.

Doesn't this translation bring even more home to the contemporary reader? I sure think so. Let's break this down as we did with the Weymouth rendering.

1. Holy anger of God
2. Disclosed against those who *render truth dumb and impotent* (put *that* in your pipe and smoke it!)

3. It's not that they don't know the truth about God; he has made it *quite plain* (no mincing of words here either)
4. The invisible attributes of God (for example, his eternal power and *deity*) are plainly discernible through things he has made which are commonly seen and known (the creation)
5. Thus men (humans) are left "without a *rag* of excuse" (I love that! As if to say, "Don't *even...*,"—that popular expression today; "Don't even start with me, you'll get nowhere with that!")
6. They *knew all the time that there is a God* , yet they refused to acknowledge him as such
7. They became *fatuous* (complacently or inanely foolish, according to Webster's) in their argumentations, and plunged their *silly minds* still further into the dark (foolish, silly, and in the dark; quite a trifecta, isn't it?)
8. Behind a facade of "wisdom" *they became just fools*
9. Fools who would exchange the glory of the immortal God for an image of a mortal man or of (other) creatures
10. *The fearful consequence of deliberate atheism* : These men *deliberately forfeited the truth of God and accepted a lie*

Putting the Phillips phrasings together, we see that human beings knew all along that God exists, but when they refused to acknowledge Him, they became fatuous and silly-minded, plunging ever further into the dark (*away* from the light of truth), becoming just fools. Fools that they became, they worshipped not the immortal (ever-living) Creator, but mortal men (dependent *upon* God for life) and even creatures *not* made in God's image. *They deliberately forfeited the truth of God and accepted a lie*. If it could be said better than that, I'm at a loss to see how.

Just the same, we'll now turn finally to a 21st Century translation, the Holman Christian Standard Bible. In case anyone's wondering about the English Standard Version, it might be characterized as between the NKJV and this Holman translation. We proceed (again, no highlighting; you know the drill).

Rom 1:18-25 (HCSB) 18 For God’s wrath is revealed from heaven against all godlessness and unrighteousness of people who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth, 19 since what can be known (or *what is known*) about God is evident among them, because God has shown it to them. 20 From the creation of the world His invisible attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood through what He has made. As a result, people (they) are without excuse. 21 For though they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God or show gratitude. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless minds (hearts) were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles. 24 Therefore God delivered them over in the cravings of their hearts to sexual impurity, so that their bodies were degraded among themselves. 25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served something created instead of the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

Yes, amen to that! So here’s the HCSB string, in brief: God’s wrath is revealed against those who *suppress the truth* , since what can be/is known of God is *evident* because God has shown it to people. Even his *invisible* attributes (*i.e.*, His eternal power and divinity) are clearly “seen” (understood) through what He has made (the creation). *As a result, people are without excuse*. For though they *knew God*, they didn’t glorify Him or thank Him. So *their thinking became nonsense*, and *their senseless minds* were darkened; they *became fools*. *They exchanged the truth of God for a lie*.

Once again, there really are no mysteries left to ponder here either, are there? It’s straightforward prose, telling it like it is.

Having looked at just three post-King James versions of the same inspired teachings that can be found in the KJV, some things should be obvious by now (*painfully* obvious, maybe, as I’ll now be able to put away the bludgeon). The points that leap from the page—only varying in expression—are the following.

1. In God’s eyes, there are no atheists. See how Paul’s God-breathed words—however updated in service to people of different times in languages they could understand— spell out this fact: God’s existence, eternal power, and deity/divinity/unique status as God has been shown to all people through His amazing creation so clearly that they are without excuse; although they *knew God*, they *turned away from Him and the truth* . At the risk of applying that bludgeon to the head yet again, you can’t know some one who doesn’t exist, and you can’t turn away from such a being either. You can’t *not* know God, because He as the Creator has hard-wired that basic knowledge into all of His reasoning creatures (humans); “atheists” can only *pretend* or *wish* that God isn’t there, but to get to that point of denial, they have to first overcome all of that built-in circuitry and in turn, short-circuit their brains (*become* fools, *against* knowledge). They install a ceiling that cuts off the flow of wisdom coming from above:

Jas 1:5, 17—If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God...every good and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights

2. What we call atheism is in reality a rejection of reality (**the truth of God**); it’s *suppression* of the truth—consciously pressing- or stomping-down truth that seeks its rightful higher level in the God-given mind. It’s *willful* ignorance. People aren’t *born* card-carrying fools, but many *become* fools (remember, those are ultimately the words of the Holy Spirit, not this writer only: they *became* fools).

Listen to the echoes:

“...their senseless minds were darkened...they became utter fools” (Wey)

“...became fatuous...and plunged their silly minds still further into the dark...they became just fools” (Phillips)

“...their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless minds were darkened...and they became fools” (HCSB)

and...

“...they had bartered the reality of God for what is unreal (the lie/
the false)” (Wey)

“...deliberately forfeited the truth of God and accepted a lie” (Phillips)

“...they exchanged the truth of God for a lie” (HCSB)

3. No matter how they’re categorized—atheists, agnostics, God-deniers, God-doubters, or just plain unbelieving pagans—they all are headed for the same destination, barring a turning to the appointed Mediator-Savior (**1 Tim 2:5; Acts 4:12**). They all will experience God’s *anger* (ceaselessly outpoured *wrath*) for their sin against their own consciences (remember the definition: “with knowledge”).

Without excuse means just that. “Atheist” Bertrand Russell (mhM AD1970) claimed that he couldn’t believe in God’s existence because He hadn’t provided sufficient evidence for it. Stunning, world-class, *arrogance in ignorance* aside, here was a man who chose to become a fool and chose the obvious lie over the obvious truth; he successfully killed his conscience, having suppressed it into oblivion. *Or* ...maybe he was just putting on an act of bravado for his fellow God-denying “intellectuals” (*professing to be wise*). Well, sadly, Richard Dawkins (mhM *not yet*) agrees with him, and short of turning to Christ, he’s also striding into Hell, the place of fools.

THE RUSSELL-DAWKINS CLAUSES

Allow me to introduce another term—in addition to *evillusion*—that is of my own mintage (as far as I know, I “coined” both terms; feel free to use them at no charge [...ahem]). This second invention of mine is the term, “The Russell-Dawkins Clauses” of Romans 1. Specifically, I refer to verses **19-22 & 28**. These God-breathed words strike like unerring arrows at the hearts of the Bertrand Russell-Richard Dawkins atheistic type. For vivid pictures of God Himself shooting such arrows at His enemies, see **Num 24:8; Deut 32:23, 42; 2 Sam 22:15; Psa 18:14, 64:7**, but especially **Psa 7:11-13**.

God is a just judge, And God is angry with the wicked every day...He bends His bow and makes it ready. He also prepares for Himself instruments of death; He makes His arrows into fiery shafts—Psa 7:11-13 (NKJV)

...and Psa 45:5:

Your arrows are sharp in the heart of the King's enemies...(NKJV)

Got the picture? Now let's examine those "Russell-Dawkins Clauses" in **Romans 1** which cut off any imagined chance to escape the wrath of the angry Judge via the supposed "not enough evidence" defense that Russell and Dawkins have suggested. [Remember, once again, that Russell already knows it doesn't work, but Dawkins is still relying on it.]

Rom 1:19-22, 28—Because what may be known of God is manifest/evident in/among them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead/divine nature/deity, so that they are without excuse. Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools...[v. 28:] And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which were not fitting. (NKJV)

So here's the breakdown: what *may/can* be known of God *is evident*, for God *has* shown it to them (all people everywhere in every age, including the willfully blind "intellectuals" of whom we are particularly speaking); the nature of God (His eternality and deity, or undisputed "God-ness," if you will) are clearly

seen *and understood* , so much so that *all are without excuse*; they *knew* (all *know*) **God**, but they refuse to even give Him the time of day (bare acknowledgment, and even less, thanks); they *became* futile in their thoughts (brought futility, foolishness, and light-squelching darkness *upon themselves*); *claiming to be wise, they became fools*; because they tried to kick God out of their craniums, God gave them up so that they could finish the job of eroding conscience completely away and proceed to do whatever popped into their debased (depraved/corrupted/perverted) minds. I suggest to the reader: look into the sordid, immoral life of Bertrand Russell to see what pops into such a mind (and what follows). Hint: if no God exists, all is permissible (Dostoevsky).

Do you see now why I give the name that I do to these verses (**Rom 1:19-22 & 28**)? Putting it simply as I can, these verses seem to be *made* for professing-to-be-wise *fools* like Russell and Dawkins. I mean, those arrows of God strike home! Though what can be known of God *has* been shown to them, and God pointedly says that *they knew Him*, they rejected Him, so God gave them what they wanted in *this* life (godlessness), in a just exchange for *eternal hopelessness*. They got their way for a speck of time on earth, but God gets His way—in enacting justice—forever. Only fools will persist in fighting God and His eloquent messengers, His ever-testifying creation and ever-faithful implanted human conscience. We'll say it again, echoing Scripture: one isn't born a God-denying fool, one *becomes* a fool. The very existence of God and why He is God (what "makes *Him* God" above all else) is universally known. *General* revelation is the theological term for this common knowledge. While eternal salvation requires *special* revelation that's imparted solely by God's grace in reaching His elect (chosen) souls with the Gospel, the *evidence* that the Russell-Dawkins Fool School claims to be lacking is—say it with me—*clearly seen and understood, so that they are without excuse*.

One last thing on this particular head. As I see it, there seem to be a few apparent parallels here to situations described in the book of **Jeremiah**, particularly in chapters **7 & 8**. In this section, God is asserting His right and freedom to deal with the false prophets, evil "worship," and the hypocrisy of Judah in claiming God's own temple as *their* protection. The leaders are especially taken to task.

Jer 8:9-11 (NKJV)—The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken. Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD; So what wisdom do they have?...From the prophet even to the priest everyone deals falsely...saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ when there is no peace.

Did you discover the same connections that I see? First, you’ve got “wise men” who’ve rejected the word of the Lord (God’s testimony about Himself), and God asks—through His prophet, Jeremiah—*So what wisdom do they have?* This amounts to asking, “Why would anyone listen to someone who’s rejected God’s word? *Ever?* What do *they* know about anything?” If the fear of the LORD is the *beginning* —”square one”—of knowledge, how much true, essential knowledge can those who *don’t* fear the LORD ever obtain? A similar question would be, “Why would you listen, not to God, but to utter fools who rejected the very Source of all wisdom? What sense could *that* possibly make?”

The second connection is equally open to view. Doesn’t “saying, ‘Peace, peace!’ when there is no peace” remind you of saying, “Excuse, excuse!” when there is no excuse? It fairly screams that to me. Doesn’t that precisely describe the Russell-Dawkins situation “*to a t ?*” The descendants of the false prophets of Jeremiah’s day are with us today; they’ve just changed the tune. It was Peace, peace! when there was no peace coming, and now it’s Excuse, excuse! when there is no excuse to be had. *So that they are without excuse. Slam!*...goes the gavel of God. *Slam!* goes the eternal prison door.

The final parallel to which we’ll point at this time can be found in **Jer 7:4**, where God also speaks to ancient Israel through His *true* prophet, Jeremiah. The Jews were presumptuously claiming immunity from God’s chastisement on the basis of the temple’s location in Jerusalem. As if that geographical fact overrode their rank disobedience! They were told not to trust in “**these lying words, saying, ‘The temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD, the temple of the LORD are these.’**” How about, “The temple of the university, the temple of human knowledge, the temple of the wise elite are these?” Does it ring a bell? False presumption, false sense of security. Fools of a feather fall together.

MORE BEDROCK BIBLE FOR YOU

We could've started off this section with the following well-known passages from the Old Testament. And they could well have been in the reader's subconscious along with mine even before I dropped a hint on the previous page. But since we've been pointing out the folly of self-described intellectuals/the wise and the upbraiding (comeuppance) they receive from God in His Word, let's bring 'em in now.

Psa 111:10 (NKJV)—The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom

Prov 1:7 (NKJV)—The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Prov 9:10 (NKJV)—The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

For even the casual Bible-reader—or the ardent Bible-*attacker*—these passages are fairly familiar, especially as they occur in much the same form in these *three* instances; emphasis is almost demanded. An initial observation might well be: whatever *fear of the Lord* is, it's clearly essential to even *begin* to obtain wisdom (or knowledge). Of course, that's true. Because God said so. So the next question is naturally, "What does that term mean, 'Fear of the Lord?'" That leads us to a (brief) Hebrew word study: KJV/NKJV English *fear* = Hebr. *yirah* Str. 3374, *reverence*; BDB adds *piety* (they kept it simple for us, didn't they?). But when you go a little deeper into these lexicons and others, the aspect of exceeding dread is also brought out. This has more to do with recognizing the awesome, *unstoppable* power of Almighty God; if He's set on pouring out His wrath on you, there's nothing in between that can fend it off (which is where Jesus Christ, His appointed sole mediator, comes in!—**1 Tim 2:5**). Christ Himself referred to the proper fear of God:

Matt 10:28 (NKJV) — And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell/gehenna.

Luke 12:4-5 (NKJV)—And I say to you, my friends, do not be afraid of those who kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do. But I will show you whom you should fear: Fear Him who, after He has killed, has power to cast into hell; yes, I say to you, fear Him!

From this, a couple of things should be readily apparent; 1) Jesus Christ Himself said that even *believers* (He was speaking to His disciples) *should* fear the One who has power to cast into gehenna-hell, and 2) this kind of fear is only proper towards God; don't fear someone who can kill your body, but can't do any more than that to your eternally-existing soul. To put this in modern-day perspective, *don't* fear the boss who can fire you, the bully at school, the gangleader, the overpowering athlete, the critic, the government, the tyrannical oppressors who inhabit the government, or even radically insane terrorists. They can only do so much to you *temporarily*, after all. But *do* fear the Holy One and flee to the protection of Christ!

CHECKING IN WITH *THE SEPTUAGINT* (LXX from here on in this work)

The Septuagint (from the Latin *septuaginta* for “seventy”—representing the number of scholars traditionally believed to be involved in its composition), was the Greek translation of the original inspired Hebrew Old Testament. Seventy (or some say 72) third century BC Jewish scholars did the work in Alexandria, Egypt under Ptolemy Philadelphus. Going by sheer number of quotations, NT authors borrowed from or relied upon the Greek LXX more than the Hebrew text. This is more a reflection of the prevalence of Greek-speakers/readers in the first Century AD under the Romans—including many of the Jewish commonfolk—than a seal of inspiration. No responsible teachers of which I'm aware claim the LXX translation in its entirety is *inspired*, or in other words, on par with the Hebrew

OT (especially since most editions included the non-canonical books known as The Apocrypha). Still, LXX saw more widespread use in the days when the NT was being written, and it's significant that our complete Bibles today follow the Greek *order* of the OT books, and not the Hebrew-Jewish order (Law-Prophets-Writings, with what we know as 2 Chronicles at the end).

The LXX renderings of the three passages we've just examined follow.

Psa 111:10 (designated as Psa 110 :10 , since LXX combined Psa 9&10 into one Psalm 9)—

The fear of the Lord is the beginning/sum of wisdom, and all that act accordingly have a good understanding; his praise endures for ever and ever.

Prov 1:7—The fear of the Lord is the beginning/sum/top of wisdom; and there is good understanding to all that practice it: and piety toward God is the beginning of discernment; but the ungodly will set at nought wisdom and instruction.

Prov 9:10—The fear of the Lord is the beginning/summit of wisdom, and the counsel of saints is understanding: for to know the law is the character of a sound mind.

Notice first the “new” words that we find here: *sum...top... summit* (of wisdom). These are alternative renderings of the Greek word *arche*, Str. 746 in the NT, usually meaning *commencement* or *chief*. You can quickly grasp the fact that there are both aspects rolled into the one English word, *beginning*: the commencement (starting point/first step) and the highest/chief point (top or summit, the culmination, or sum). Another way of putting it might be: the fear of the Lord is both the *starting point and the peak* of true wisdom; step one *and* the reaching of the summit. Or, for those who prefer more lowly, “up-to-date” terminology, it’s “the whole enchilada.” Says Solomon in **Ecc 12:13: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all.** That pretty much *says* it all, does it not?

In this trio there is much truth. We find that those who *act accordingly* (in fear of the Lord) and *practice it* (fear of the Lord), and *show piety toward God* gain *good understanding* and the *beginning of discernment*. The *counsel of saints is understanding*. For **to know the law is the character of a sound mind**. However, *the ungodly will set at nought wisdom and instruction*. Quite a contrast!

Psa 110:11—...and all that act accordingly have a good understanding

Prov 1:7—...and there is good understanding to all that practice it: and piety toward God is the beginning of discernment; but the ungodly will set at nought wisdom and instruction

Prov 9:10—... the counsel of saints is understanding: for to know the law is the character of a sound mind.

What we're seeing here is nothing less than the *total* difference between the path of understanding, discernment, wisdom, light, and eternal life, and the path *devoid of wisdom but full of eternal destruction*. **Fear of the Lord leads to instruction; no fear of the Lord=destruction.**

What have we learned from this brief exegetical (drawing-out) exercise, courtesy of LXX?

In positive terms:

- + Fear of the Lord leads to good understanding.
- + Piety toward God leads to discernment (grasping the obscure and seeing true differences).
- + To know the law (inseparable from the Lawgiver, God) is the character of a sound mind.

Negatively speaking:

- _ *Not* fearing the Lord does *not* lead to good understanding; one can't even *begin* that way.
- _ *Not* showing piety (reverence) to the Lord will *not* bring discernment; you're sure to fall for lies.
- _ The ungodly forfeit essential wisdom and instruction; they are *not* of a sound mind.

Who would you follow to the top/peak/summit of true wisdom? Would it be *wise* to trust in a guide who...

- _ doesn't know the way;
- _ has never taken the first step towards the top;
- _ has never even seen the summit because he's blind;
- _ lies through his teeth about all of the above;
- _ could not care less about you than he cares for a dead twig;
- _ would push you to your death if given the clear opportunity;
- _ will spend his eternity cursing the God that he swore didn't exist?

Of course, this describes the *atheistic* "guide" (a blind, know-nothing, lawless fool who hates you for loving God).

On the other hand, there is **THE Way, THE Truth, and THE Life (John 14:6)**. He's the One who told you whom you should fear (see again **Matt 10:28, Luke 12:4-5**); He *embodies* wisdom, He is **the power of God and the wisdom of God (1 Cor 1:24)**, and in Him are **hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge (Col 2:3)**; "to many blind *He* gave sight" (**Luke 7:21**); He *made* the seeing eye (**Col 1:16**); He castigated blind fool-guides and condemned them to hell (**Matt 23**); He **can not lie (Titus 1:2)**; He is the good shepherd who **gives His life for the sheep** and who **knows the Father—The One whom we should fear (John 10)**; those that *He* guides *will* gain the summit. Unless one has—or convinces himself that he has—an eternal death wish, there is only one Guide. It's either the sane path of instruction or the insane

path to destruction. Remember the subtitle of this series: *6 Paths To Destruction*. Remember, too, that I am not the guide you need, but I'm *pointing to* the One Sure Guide, The Way-Truth-Life God-man, Jesus Christ.

THE BIBLE TELLS US WITH CERTAINTY WHO THE REAL FOOLS ARE

It's only because God *does* exist that *anything* else and *everything* else does. All things trace their existence back to God as the Great, Eternal First Cause, the self-existing One. In this way, all created things point to the Creator as the *ultimate* existence from which all else is derived.

Only the fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." (Psa 14:1, 53:1).

Psa 10:4 (NKJV alternate translation)—The wicked in his proud countenance does not seek God; All his thoughts are, "There is no God."

The heavens testify of God's glorious existence every minute and in every language (**Psa 19:1-6**). As we've already seen, what can be known about God is evident. Even His *invisible* attributes are clearly *seen and understood* by His creatures, so that no one has an excuse (**Rom 1:19-20**). Every person capable of reasoning is equipped with a conscience, a hard-wired bundle of God-acknowledgment. This is why the Psalmist says that the fool *says...in his heart* that there is no God; the undeniable fact is that God *is*, so the fool fights against implanted knowledge, pretending it isn't there. Like children pulling sheets over their heads to make themselves invisible to "monsters" or someone thinking that whistling in the dark will afford some actual protection against lurking assailants, the fool invokes the mantra, "there is no God," in vain hopes of making the ever-living First Reality, THE Truth, a non-entity. That's not gonna work. In Him we exist, continue to live, and move (**Acts 17:28**). Sounds to me like the fool himself wants to go "poof!" (cease to be). I have to wonder: how many bratty kids could get away with telling *their parents* that *they* don't exist (and continue to live and move as before?! How far would *that* go?).

Even if God provided a trillion charts, graphics, videos, scientific demonstrations, audio recordings and live speeches, blind and deaf persons would yet remain in the dark stillness. According to God’s Word, all humans are, in fact, blind and deaf in *spiritual* terms, and willfully so. Why do I say *willfully* blind and deaf, as if someone would *choose* to go without sight and hearing? Because of conscience. It has been established that everyone *knows* deep down about God’s deity (divine nature) and eternal power, as well as the fact that we all owe Him due glory and thanks (**Rom 1:20-21**). Those who fail to give God His due *become* fools (**Rom 1:22**); they *make themselves* blind and deaf and dumb in the *eternal, spiritual sense*.

Fools choose futility and forfeit felicity. They made *themselves* fools by ignoring the built-in safeguard of conscience provided by the Creator. Conscience—when it’s intact and allowed to function as designed—will point to the astonishing beauty, variety, immensity, and order of the creation, but won’t stop there to focus on the *works* of God as if they’re equal to God Himself. Conscience will go on from there to gently but firmly shake you by the shoulders and say, “HE did that! HE upholds all of it! HE is to be marveled at and thanked!” The unrodded, unsuppressed conscience is God’s ever-faithful servant in directing our attention heavenward and outside of ourselves, moving always from the lowly, impotent and profane, to the highest omnipotence and holiness. This *general* revelation—through creation and conscience —shows God to all who won’t willfully reject Him and truth; in other words, to all who don’t want to become fools by plucking out the eyes of the soul. *The conscience bears witness* (**Rom 2:15**).

Two different types of revelation are taught in the Bible. *General* revelation is “standard equipment,” and it doesn’t require physical sight or hearing. It’s the basic knowledge of God’s existence, power, supreme majesty, goodness and holiness that’s built into every innate (born-in) conscience. *Special* revelation is the saving knowledge of faith that is *not* universal, and *not* a part of the natural man’s “factory-issue” mindset; it’s optional, and it’s God’s option to grant it to whomever He will (**John 6:37, 44, 65**). This *special, saving* revelation is extended to the sinner through—and in the form of—God’s Word (heard or read). In fact, “Revelation” was often used by writers in earlier centuries as a synonym

for the whole Bible, not just “The Revelation of Jesus Christ to the Apostle John” (the last book of the Bible), which was often called, “The Apocalypse” (reflecting the Greek word, *apokalupsis*, an uncovering/revealing).

We’re *all* born enemies of God—despite conscience, and as a matter of selfishly desiring autonomy (self-rule)—and only God can turn us around, towards Himself (**Rom 8:7; 1 Cor 2:14; Jer 31:18**). It’s then, when God grants the *twin gifts of repentance and faith* through *re-generation* (being born *again*), that *special* revelation comes into the picture. Regeneration gives us spiritual eyes to see and spiritual ears to hear so that we can receive His declared, holy will as it’s revealed through His written and spoken Word. Our duty as individuals is clear and simple: obey the dictates of God-given conscience, and do *not* ignore it, bypass it, or suppress its inherent truth. Fear God and step toward truth.

Another thing we’ve already found in God’s Word—and therefore, it’s true—is that Truth-suppressors cut themselves off from obtaining further essential knowledge; they throw it all away—the baby, the bath water, and any hope of eternal life. When you exchange the truth of God for a lie, you exchange life for death, hope and the *realization* of eternal happiness for eternal hopeless misery (**Rom 1:21-32**). However, responsibly responding to conscience is the universal first duty, and a duty that’s *clearly* recognized (**Rom 1:20**).

Here’s something that’s rather remarkable—speaking of **Rom 1:20**. That English phrase *clearly seen* (used in that verse to describe how well God’s *invisible* attributes are “seen” or perceived and understood), marks the only appearance of the original Greek word **kathoratai** (**katharao**), Str. 2529, meaning to *distinctly apprehend ; fully behold; perceive clearly*. So if there’s one thing that *everybody* apprehends/perceives/knows/*gets*...it’s that God is there and expects us all to acknowledge Him *as He is*, acting in accord with the conscience He gave to each one of us. The “atheists” (God doesn’t believe that *they* really exist, and *He* knows what He’s talking about) have been warned like everyone else: fear God or pay the temporal (earthly) *and* eternal consequences. You know it’s true, so don’t fight a battle that’s impossible to win. You might as well try to level Everest by knocking your forehead against it.

WHO'S THE FOOL? WHO KNOWS?

If anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know—1 Cor 8:2

- * God knows all and can not lie.
- * God says: the fool says in his heart that there is no God; all his thoughts are that there is no God.
- * “Atheists” deny the existence of God, and are therefore fools by God’s definition.
- * Atheists are therefore truly fools.
- * God says: the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- * “Agnostics” don’t fear the Lord, as they doubt His sheer existence and don’t actively revere Him.
- * Agnostics can’t even begin on the path toward discerning essential truth from destructive lies.
- * They are by God’s definition among those He has given up to debased, unsound minds and doom.
- * Self-described atheists and agnostics are on the same path of eternal destruction without Christ.

MORE FROM GOD’S WORD ON LIVING WITHOUT HIM

(I’m looking at *you*, atheists, agnostics, and all *practical* atheists)

The only NT occurrence of the Greek word *atheos* (Str. 112, “without God” or “godless”) is found in **Eph 2:12: ...having no hope and without God (*atheos*) in the world.** In the immediate context, the inspired Apostle Paul is explaining that Gentiles (non-Jews)—who were “far off” from the covenants (the promises to bless the Jews through physical descent from Abraham, as in **Gen 12:3**)—were **brought near by the blood of Christ.** And isn’t that just what we’ve been talking about? Let’s do a with God/without God comparison. Note the stark contrasts:

With the fear of God/The Lord >>> wisdom, knowledge,
understanding, discernment

Without the fear of the Lord >>> no beginning toward wisdom/
knowledge, etc.

With God >>> hope

Without God in the world >>> no hope

With the blood of Christ >>> no longer strangers to (outside of)
the covenants

Without the blood of Christ >>> cut off from the covenants,
outside of God's promises

With Christ (fearing and trusting in God and His appointed Mediator)
>>> salvation

Without Christ >>> no Mediator, no salvation; face God's wrath
with no Shield

**Gen 15:1—Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your
exceedingly great reward.**

Amazing! If I'm a *spiritual* descendant of Abraham, the father of the faithful (**Gal 3&4**) *Almighty God* can be *my* Shield! The One who shoots His arrows at His enemies and can't miss (recall those "arrows" passages?) will put *Himself*—in the person of Christ—squarely in place against the harm and death I deserve, and give me instead—by grace—eternal protection and happiness.

Now let's magnify the contrast, emphasizing the other side of all this, the "living without God" side: **Eph 2:12: ...having no hope and without God (*atheos*) in the world.** This ought to make us shudder— "*no hope*"—either as taken *personally*, if we fit the description ourselves, or on behalf of—and in empathy with—fellow humans who only differ from us in not being recipients of God's *saving* grace. We're all recipients of His *common* grace (**Matt 5:45**), so that's where *personal responsibility* in responding to His *providence* and day-to-day

benevolence comes in. But those words, “NO HOPE” should strike absolute terror in our hearts! Can there be anything *more* terrifying than an *unending existence without hope* ??? Hope is what we can cling to in even the most desperate times in this life: there’s always a hope—however slim—that things *can* change for the better; pain *can* lessen, a disease *can* be cured; an enemy *can* become a friend; rescue from oppression, imprisonment, and torture *can* take place, and on and on. But in eternity in Hell, what goes on and on is CAN’T! The unrelenting misery *can’t* be altered or diminished in any way once it’s begun. No parole, no reprieve. *Hope is gone forever* once you enter Hell, that inescapably real place of no escape. “Abandon all hope, you who enter here” (Dante) is not a direct Bible quote, but it *is* an accurate reflection of what the Bible teaches because it’s what Jesus Christ teaches. No, the very idea of having *no hope whatsoever* makes my mind reel and my heart race. If I’d have zero claims on hope, all I would have would be *unending despair*. *That* would mean insanity!

I don’t even want to dwell on this subject. It can literally make me sick, just the thought of being in that situation of unabated utter hopelessness. Personally, I’m inclined to believe that—since Jesus actually spoke in detail more about Hell than Heaven—He wanted to *force* us into contemplating the realities of a forever-damned existence without hope of relief. I *have* thought about it often and as deeply as I can stand it, but then it overwhelms me. That is, *until* I realize by the certainty of faith, that—although it was *not* just a “bad dream” or the product of an untutored imagination—it won’t be *my* lot in the afterlife. There would be enormous presumption in that if all certainty wasn’t rooted exclusively in the saving power of the person and work of Jesus Christ. He is the ***God-appointed Redeemer (Acts 4:12)*** in whom all promises are yes and amen! (**2 Cor 1:20**).

But this exercise of trying to imagine yourself in that very real and completely hopeless eternal state? I must recommend it at least to anyone who hasn’t yet thrown their arms around the Savior, and even to those who *have* embraced Him but tend to forget what He’s bought for them with His precious blood. I think I’m standing on holy, Biblical ground when I say that (read Christ’s own words in the Bible; He alone knows *exactly* what Hell is like and who will occupy it). And anyone who teaches annihilationism or “no hell” can’t be trusted at all.

So let's ease away from that horrific abyss and point out once more the path of true wisdom and true life: reality in God's universe. We'll first briefly revisit the *wrong* way—the way of fools and God-deniers/without-God stumblers—and proceed from there to sum up this section. Finally, we'll “name names” (call out the arch-misleaders and blind guides to be diligently avoided: “The devoid”).

In Paul's epistles there is a wealth of God-breathed truth concerning the differences between finite (limited) and fallible (prone to error) human knowledge and the infinite (unlimited, comprehensive) and infallible (*incapable of error*) **essential knowledge/wisdom of God**. Here's a good example:

2 Tim 3:7-9—7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 8 Now as Jannes and Jambres [Pharaoh's magicians in Ex 7 & 8, according to Jewish tradition] resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; 9 but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.
(NKJV)

Look at verse 7 above. This verse has intrigued me (and sometimes haunted me) for years. Was all my learning—in *all* areas—just a waste of time and effort, since it would leave me short of knowledge and truth? Well, we've already seen the Biblical answer to that: The Truth stands at the end of the path of instruction that begins with the fear of the Lord and proceeds through The Word. We're talking about *essential* knowledge versus knowledge that “puffs up” (fluff, in other words; knowledge that will be useless in eternity, see **1 Cor 8:1**). Ah, so *there's the rub!* One can pile up constantly-shifting, leapfrogging, true-today-false-tomorrow human scientific knowledge, oodles of awards and oohs-and-ahs of recognition and praise, and even be the belle of the world's ball for awhile, but when that all comes to an end—and it will—none of it will mean a thing in the *endless* state of hopeless despair ahead for that one (without Christ). It wasn't *essential* knowledge; knowledge of God and His gracious salvation from unending

dark emptiness. By the way, if you're counting on "partying" with your roommates in Hell, you'd best think again about that. If God would allow the tormented to engage in any kind of societal interaction, He'd be granting a huge post-judgment mercy to them that He has never mentioned or hinted at, much less promised. In fact, in such a scenario, God would be *unjust*. It would probably be more just on God's part to *isolate* each soul. Another sobering thought!

For our last Holy Spirit-inspired insights from Paul on the Bible's definition and view of fools/the unwise/the livers-without-God, let's do a "lightning round" survey. Here we go (all NKJV):

Rom 2:12-16—...law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness...their thoughts accusing or else excusing them in the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ
[conscience convicts of sin, individual judgment awaits]

Rom 3:18—There is no fear of God before their eyes
[remember what we said about that, the *fear of God*]

2 Cor 11:19—For you put up with fools gladly, since you yourselves are wise! [sarcasm, anyone? Paul's not *for* putting up with fools, he mocks and decries it]

2 Cor 11:23 (same context)—...I speak as a fool...[Paul was indignant about being forced to boast about himself in listing his credentials as a true minister of Christ; bragging about themselves is what *fools* do well (and constantly, to much effect *among* fools)]

Eph 5:15—See then that you walk circumspectly/carefully, not as fools but as wise [*fools* here is Gr. *asophos*, Str. 781, *unwise*, literally *without wisdom*]

1 Cor 15:33-34—Do not be deceived: “Evil company corrupts good habits.” Awake to righteousness, and do not sin; for some do not have the knowledge of God. [by now, you may be able to guess how “do not have knowledge” reads in the original Greek: *agnosia* Str. 56, *ignorance/without knowledge*; says everything you need to know about *agnostics!*]

On that note, we’ll wrap this up. Here’s the call-back: *So what wisdom do they have?* (remember **Jer 8:9**). **Agnostics** are by Biblical definition *ignorant, without knowledge*, so in answer to the question, “What wisdom do they have?” we must reply: nothing useful, essential, or eternal. We can’t go to them for the words of eternal life, as we *can* and *must* go to Christ (**John 6:68**). As for out-and-out atheists, they prove their worthiness of eternal damnation by blinding themselves to ultimate realities and becoming fools, cut off at *non-step #1* from true, essential wisdom (no fear of God, no advancement toward essential truth). They hold out for an *impossible universe without God*.

Allow me to be clear: when I see what staggering intellects many self-described atheists/agnostics possess—in terms of human knowledge—I’m intimidated to the extent that I know my intellectual powers pale by comparison. I’d say I fall somewhere in the bulging middle on the intelligence bell curve; I’m no genius. *However*, I’m careful and *wise*—if you will—in selecting those whose lead I’m willing to follow. At bottom and in the end, I know I should follow the lead of only those who *do* fear the Lord, who *have* some essential wisdom to teach and share. It only makes sense to seek wisdom where it can be found; all other efforts are wasted. So those who don’t recognize that all knowledge ultimately comes from the All-Knowing One are not worthy of my consideration as teachers or guides. They offer nothing that I want or need. Let Ephraim alone, he’s joined to idols of self-worth (see **Hos 4:17**).

The bottom line: *God’s universe, God’s rules, and God’s Truth. Amen!*

NAMING NAMES: WHO *NOT* TO FOLLOW
(Messengers of deception and dedicated to destruction)

These two lists are based on data made available in one or more of the following three sources;

1. Ray Comfort's book, *The Atheist Bible* (NT with commentary by Comfort, 2009)
2. David A. Noebel's book, *Understanding The Times* (Summit Ministries, 1991)
3. wikipedia.org, Lists of Atheists and List of Agnostics, lists accessed 11/12/13.

The lists represent self-descriptions and public admissions; people put themselves on these lists, and the views are current as of 11/13/13, the time of this writing. It is also to be noted that there's substantial overlap between the two categories—as is evident by scanning the two sets of lists on *wikipedia*—which only serves to emphasize two points: 1) we're dealing with a number of really confused souls, and 2) as I've previously contended, both parties (atheist and agnostic) occupy the same boat in God's eyes. One final disclaimer: I don't mean to charge any of these people with being devoid of intelligence, but I do charge them with a lack of *moral* intelligence, as is reflected in shirking their basic duty toward God.

ATHEISTS (some of the more prominent ones, in alphabetical order)

Woody Allen (writer/director)	Clarence Darrow (lawyer; Scopes trial)
Isaac Asimov (sci-fi writer)	Richard Dawkins (self-appointed current atheist-at-large/in-chief)
Dan Barker, wife Annie Laurie Gaylor (Freedom From Religion Foundation)	Marquis de Sade (original <i>sadist</i>)
Bartok, Berlioz, Bizet (composers)	Daniel Dennett (bold " <i>new atheist</i> ")
David Ben-Gurion (1st PM of Israel)	Barney Frank (corrupt, "gay" congressman)
Martin Borman (Hitler's pers. scty.)	Sigmund Freud (psychiatrist/writer)
Nicolae Ceausescu (Romanian dictator)	Bob Geldof (Live Aid/Live 8 head, socialist)
Arthur C. Clarke (futuristic writer)	

Mikhail Gorbachev (Communist to this day)

Antonio Gramsci (Communist chaos advocate)

Che' Guevara (Communist rebel leader)

Sam Harris ("new atheism" kingpin writer)

Ernest Hemingway (writer; blew his own brains out)

Theodor Herzl (founder of Zionism)

Christopher Hitchens ("new atheist"; mhM 2011)

Ted Kaczynski ("Unabomber")

Alfred Kinsey (perverted sex "researcher")

Nikita Krushchev (Communist premier; "We will bury you")

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin (Marxist dictator)

Marilyn Manson (rock "musician")

Mao Zedong (Chinese Communist dictator, mega-mass-murderer)

Karl Marx (the Marx in Marxism)

Golda Meir (4th PM of Israel)

H.L. Mencken (caustic critic/writer)

Slobodan Milosevic (Yugoslavian dictator)

Benito Mussolini (Italian Fascist dictator)

Ingrid Newkirk (co-founder of PETA)

Friedrich Nietzsche ("God is dead" philosopher, hero to Hitler, Mussolini)

Madalyn Murray O'Hair (founded American Atheists)

Painters: Duchamp, Matisse, Monet, Picasso, van Gogh

Pol Pot (mass-murdering Cambodian Communist dictator; Killing Fields)

Gavrilo Princip (assassin who started World War I with a bang)

Yitzhak Rabin (5th PM of Israel)

Ayn Rand (Russian-born writer, "objectivist")

Gene Roddenberry (Star Trek creator)

Bertrand Russell (philosopher and lecher)

Russian composers (almost all of 'em)

Margaret Sanger (Planned Parenthood, eugenicist, racist)

Jean-Paul Sartre (existentialist writer)

Michael Shermer (*Skeptic* magazine)

B.F. Skinner (psychologist; behaviorist)

George Soros (ultra-leftist financier; "god" in his own mind & to the left)

Joseph Stalin (Russian Communist dictator/genocidist)

Josip Broz Tito (1st Yugoslavian Communist puppet-marshal)

Leon Trotsky (Communist rival to Stalin)

Mark Zuckerberg (Facebook founder/CEO)

(2014 update): Darren Aronofsky, director of "Noah" (no kidding)

For more exhaustive lists by fields, see wikipedia, List(s) of Atheists.

NAMING NAMES: WHO *NOT* TO FOLLOW
(Messengers of deception and dedicated to destruction)

AGNOSTICS (some of the more prominent ones, alphabetical order)

- Saul Alinsky (Marxist agitator; *Rules For Radicals*)
- David Attenborough (BBC evolution-promoter)
- Austrian School economists: Friedrich Hayek, Ludwig von Mises
- Samuel Beckett (absurdist playwright)
- Ingmar Bergman (Swedish director of dark, hopeless films)
- Ambrose Bierce (*The Devil's Dictionary*)
- Warren Buffett (liberal rich guy; see Luke 16, 18)
- Thomas Carlyle (essayist, admirer of paganism)
- Charlie Chaplin (a comic genius, I'm told)
- Noam Chomsky (America-hating "professor")
- Composers: Berlin, Brahms, Copland, Faure', Holst, Mahler, Schubert, Schumann, Richard Strauss, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Verdi
- Francis Crick (co-discoverer of DNA structure)
- Salvador Dali (eccentric surrealist painter)
- Charles Darwin (believed God existed, but only as an "evil" one to be hated)
- John Dewey (father of American *miseducation*)
- Ronnie James Dio (rock vocalist, songwriter)
- Arthur Conan Doyle ("Sherlock Holmes")
- W.E.B. DuBois (educator, Communist at death)
- Bart Ehrman ("happy agnostic" prof)
- Albert Einstein (spoke and wrote of God as real, but only as a creator; similar to deism)
- Betty Friedan (women's-lib leader)
- Francis Galton (Darwin's cousin; eugenicist)
- Bill Gates (Microsoft billionaire; see Luke 16, 18)
- Stephen J. Gould ("Jewish agnostic" evolutionist)
- Matt Groening (*The Simpsons* creator)
- Bob Guccione (*Penthouse* magazine publisher)
- Robert Heinlein (sci-fi writer)
- Joseph Heller (writer; ironic title: *God Knows*)
- Edmund Hillary (climbed Everest, yet doubted)
- Edwin Hubble (scientist; namesake telescope)
- David Hume (18th C. skeptic-writer)

Aldous Huxley (psychedelic substances abuse; *Brave New World*)

T.H. Huxley (biologist; coined the term)

Robert Ingersoll (“The Great Agnostic”)

William James (philosopher-psychologist)

Robert Jastrow (astronomer, writer)

James Joyce (Irish writer)

Franz Kafka (surreal distortion; “Kafkaesque”)

Immanuel Kant (ironic first name, isn’t it?— “God with us”)

John Maynard Keynes (socialist economist)

Larry King (TV talking head; undecided, confused like Pitt)

Stanley Kubrick (this helps to explain some of his films)

Thomas Mann (advocated moral chaos, socialism)

Dave Matthews (rock musician/song writer)

Brian May (Queen guitarist, song writer)

Edvard Munch (“The Scream” artist and little else)

Bill Nye (“The Science Guy”)

Eugene O’Neill (award-winning playwright)

Neil Peart (Rush drummer, lyricist)

Sean Penn (actor, dictator groupie, “gay” activist)

Brad Pitt (actor; “partly atheist, partly agnostic” !!?)

Sidney Poitier (actor-director)

Karl Popper (Austrian-born British philosopher)

Carl Sagan (*Cosmos*; “billions and billions of years”)

Edward Said (anti-semitic fraud-prof; mhM 2003)

Larry Sanger (co-founded wikipedia; at least he’s honest about it!)

Arthur M. Schlesinger (close associate of Kennedys)

Mary Wollstonecroft Shelley (wrote *Frankenstein*)

Edward Snowden (that NSA sellout-traitor)

John Steinbeck (American author)

Howard Stern (unabashed media-hogging pervert)

Sting (rock musician, actor, *miseducation* activist)

Edward Teller (H-bomb)

Charles Templeton (evangelist-apostate)

Mark Twain (author; what a shame!)

Alfred Russel Wallace (beat Darwin, but Darwin won publishing race)

Ludwig Wittgenstein (Austrian-born philosopher)

Women’s Rights activists: Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Steve Wozniak (co-founded Apple computers)

More? see wikipedia’s List of Agnostics.

SOME FALSE “CHRISTIAN” TEACHERS TO AVOID

Despite the fact that only God can give an accurate advance picture of Hell, that unseen but very real place that’s part of the creation of the Creator, Christ (**Col 1:16; 1 Cor 8:6; Heb 1:2, 11:3**), there are several “Christian” misleaders who teach that either hell doesn’t *literally* exist or that nobody will spend eternity there. In this broad category are included both annihilationists and universalists. Annihilationists claim that there’s no hell to endure because when humans die, that’s it; they’re *annihilated* / cease to exist in any form / are brought into nothingness. Universalists aren’t concerned with the existence of hell either, since they claim that *everyone* will eventually wind up in heaven (and, *yessss...* that includes Hitler, Mao, Stalin, Herod, Nero, and Attila the Hun). While He walked on this earth in visible, physical form, Jesus Christ—again, *The Creator*—spoke with absolute authority on the subject of Hell. And recall: ***God’s universe, God’s rules; God can’t lie; God knows ALL and God speaks fact, not opinion.*** What this all adds up to is that when it comes to the existence and nature of the thing called *hell*, (*gehenna*, or the place of *final, eternal torment*, NOT *sheol/hades*) there is ***exactly One Authority***. Finite-minded speculators and wishful thinkers like the following are to be avoided like the plague on this:

Herbert Armstrong	E. Earle Ellis	Clark Pinnock
Basil Atkinson	Roger Forster	Oliver Chase Quick
Hosea Ballou	Edward Fudge	James Relly
William Barclay	Charles Gore	Seventh-day Adventists
Rob Bell	Steve Gregg	(but not all)
Greg Boyd	Michael Green	Ulrich Ernst Simon
GB Caird	John Wesley Hanson	George Storrs
Harold Camping	Philip Edgecumbe Hughes	John RW Stott
Christadelphians	George T. Knight	Thomas Talbott
Church of England Doc - trine Commission 1995	Adolph E. Knoch	William Temple
George de Benneville	William Law	Elhanan Winchester
	Origen (3rd Century AD)	Thomas Whitemore

Also *not taking a stand* on Hell: FF Bruce, CS Lewis, NT Wright (Caution!)

AND WITHOUT GOD IN THIS WORLD

Section Two

TOTALITARIANISM

The worst *political* idea of all time.

TOTALITARIANISM IS...

My 33-year-old Webster's "New" Collegiate Dictionary has it like this:

- 1: Centralized control by an autocratic authority
- 2: The political concept that the citizen should be *totally subject* to an absolute state authority [italics mine]

As usual, it's hard to improve on Webster's. But what is "autocratic authority?" Same edition:

- 1: A person (as a monarch) *ruling with unlimited authority*
- 2: One who has *undisputed influence or power* [italics mine]

Webster nails it again. Getting about as technical as I care to get in this work, a totalitarian *system* requires a *totalitarian person*, an autocrat/dictator/despot (these terms also courtesy of Webster's, 1981), at the top in *total control* of anything and anyone under him. Just remember: **Despot on top. Like a massive paperweight**, nothing under him moves without him moving first.

So what we have to keep in mind—always—as we go through life, is that machine-like people *do* exist in this world who get no higher satisfaction than they do from...

1. obtaining great, unchallenged power, ultimately centralized/concentrated in a single person, and
2. expanding that power and control to *totality*, from macro-aspect on down to micro-aspect.

In other words, real people really exist who have an insatiable need to run your life, my life, and every life. And ***all without God***. Indeed, any totalitarian sees himself *as* God, so he demands the subjection-loyalty-devotion—well, the *fear*, anyway—that belongs only to the true, ever-living God who created the universe and forever sustains it.

DEFINITIONS AND SHORTCUTS

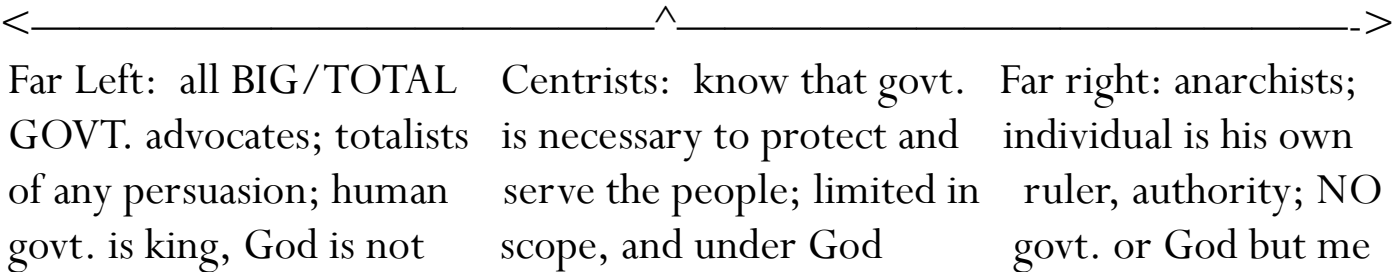
In order to save time, paper, and ink, and to somewhat preserve the patience of writer and reader alike, the whole words, “totalitarian” and “totalitarianism” will be used sparingly the rest of the way in these pages. Let's make a pact: If I write, *totalist / statist / autocrat / despot / dictator / fascist / Islamofascist / communist / collectivist / socialist / leftist / ruling-elitist*, etcetera, you agree to understand my meaning as “***God-replacing control freak***.” Fair enough? Because, you see, that's simply what it comes down to, those two central elements: ***away with God and seize all power***.

Now I'm neither so naive nor simplistic that I don't recognize that differences exist between totalist camps that are very important to *them*, but keep

this simple fact in mind: what we're trying to do here is to see things as *God* sees them because *God* is the definer of reality, and the subjective perceptions—opinions—of pipsqueak humans melt away into nothingness under His gaze. I'll go with God's declarations of fact, and others can have man's opinions.

Some will want to quibble all day long about the exact structure of the “political spectrum.” I realize that, and I suppose that's due to the fact that they're convinced they have nothing better to do with their time. Some will strongly object, for example, that “fascists” belong on the “far right,” and not on the same end as the communists (“far left”). Just so we can dispense with this objection and proceed to *major* points, let me say that writers like Jonah Goldberg (*Liberal Fascism*, 2007) have ably and repeatedly demonstrated that fascists do indeed belong on the *left*, because that's the **big/total government** end of the spectrum, and definitely NOT the *absence-of-government* end (anarchy; *no* government), the *real* far right. It's only because well over 90% of the predominant media and public educators are in lockstep-left mode in attempting to move any relatively conservative thought to the “extreme far right”—way out of the mainstream—that this faulty definition has taken hold. At the end of the day, most of the “mainstream media” are in fact far-left socialists/communists, and they vehemently protect their own. They see it as their duty to define opposing (conservative or truly mid-spectrum) thinking into insignificance as “out there.” The Nazis were despicable mass-murderers, so they must be removed as far away as possible from good folks like “Papa” Stalin, who could never bring himself to do harm to any soul. So the thing to do is to call anyone to the right of yourself a Nazi. Simple, effectively communicated, and understood. Bring in the next right-winger, please, so he may be fitted with a Nazi helmet, the official headgear of those far-right fascists.

THE POLITICAL SPECTRUM, AS I SEE IT (Take it or leave it; it's my book)



So this is the political spectrum which we'll have in mind throughout this work. Let me only justify its nature and simplicity by pointing out that no matter how one slices it, two facts remain;

1. All who comprise the left are constantly seeking to *grow* government and *concentrate its power* into the hands of the few, and ultimately, the hands of one human being.
2. All who comprise the left are consciously and directly in *opposition to God* ; God is by nature squarely in the way of any and all totalist schemes, and totalists know it!

Folks, that *includes Islamists* who claim to be servants of Allah, dedicated to carrying out *his* plans for the world and history, and not just their own. Another lie from The Left! On point number 1 above, Islamists are obsessed with taking over the world, concentrating all power into the hands of the *worldwide caliphate*, with *Shariah law* for everyone. They make no secret of this; they proclaim it constantly, loudly, and belligerently. Get *total* power and use it *totally*. What could be simpler? What could be more totalitarian? For this reason, on point number 2 above, the *true, triune God* of the hated Christians must be removed in order for their totalist scheme to work. Since even *they* know that removing the true God is impossible, removing “people of the Book” (the Bible, and not the Koran/Qu’ran/or however they’re spelling it *this* week) becomes job #1 and the first priority. From the cradle, Muslims are taught to hate, persecute, abuse, and kill Christians *and* Jews. Both religions—both groups—stand in the way of a unique *political system wrapped in religious garb*. It’s political *first* and foremost, with religion in the secondary position as the vehicle, and intimidation and violence as the methodology for achieving the political goals.

Really, it should come as no surprise that Hitler’s fascists and Muslim Arabs worked so well together in the 1930’s & 40’s, as do today’s communists and Islamofascists. “The enemy of *my* enemy [the triune God, Christians, Christianity, Jews, Judaism, and the OT God who doesn’t go by the name of Allah] is my friend.” For specifics on this I can recommend, *United In Hate* by Jamie Glazov, 2009, and *The Nazi Connection to Islamic Terrorism* by Chuck Morse, 2010.

To stay on point, but to lighten things up just a tad, what's being asserted here is the old adage in a new form: if it looks like a duck, walks like a duck, and quacks like a duck, it's a duck. If it has all the appearances and well-known traits and methods of totalitarianism, guess what? It's totalitarianism. Quibblers, take your Quibbles-R-Us Kart and your Qu'ran outta here.

Which brings us to Democrats. *Wha-a-a-t?!? How did we get there all of a sudden?* you say. Well, because, like the Apostle Paul, I tend to hear objections that others may not have been hearing, and I feel compelled to answer them *tout de suite*, as the French say, or “toot sweet!” as normal people say. So here goes.

As readers' eyes were already glazing over, I kept hearing screamed objections like, “How dare you! Who do you think you are, lumping “left-leaning” (socialistic) Democrats in with the likes of Hitler, Mussolini, Lenin, Stalin, Mao, Pol Pot, the Kims of North Korea, and all of history's mass-murdering monsters?!?” and...”Yeah! What the——?” from the less articulate. [helpful note: I committed this grievous lumping *faux pas* when I put “BIG Govt. advocates” on the far left of our working political spectrum; they were smart enough to catch the implication for today's Democrats, so give 'em credit for that at least]

Okay. I will presently make answer. Grab yourself a cup of chamomile or kava-kava and hear me out, dear objectors.

First of all, which *American , present-day political party* is the only major party that *officially, fervently, ferociously supports and promotes* the “legal” mass-murder of MILLIONS of unborn/preborn (and sometimes, *newly-born*) human infants *each year* ? That is unconscionable, shockingly-evil mass-murder if anything is! The torturous slaughter of *defenseless innocents* !?!? What evil can transcend that? And what unforgivable crimes do *you* say they committed, for which cause they must die? Did they, perhaps, have the *audacity* to *hope* to live? Or did they maybe show up at an *inconvenient* time? Surely, *there* are some **inconvenient truths**; surely, you hope-squelchers know all about the **audacity of hope**! Every single one of those fully-human lives was sent to earth by God, the giver of all life, and for His sacred purpose. I'd hate to be in your shoes on your own personal

judgment day, because, believe me, *The Judge* has no facts hidden from Him. He knows exactly who, and to what extent, is responsible for each of those baby-murders. Oceans of blood are on your hands, “Democrats.” Unlike the millions upon millions of human lives that you burned up, carved up, and threw in the trash—before they could see the light of their first day outside the womb—***YOUR judgment day (Heb 9:27)*** will arrive without fail, and in *that* case, judge-shopping or judge-manipulating won’t work one bit.

So be advised, “Democrats.” You have no moral leg to stand on and no high horse to ride. How any professing Christian can claim to be both ardently pro-abortion (or indifferently, “pro-choice” for that matter) *and* a God-fearing, God-pleasing Christian is beyond all comprehension. Let’s spell this out: if the official Democrat platform is pro-abortion without exception—and it is—then the official Democrat platform stands in *direct opposition to God*, the giver of all life, the Creator of souls. “You shall do no murder” (**Ex 20:13**) is God’s sixth of the Ten Commandments, those laws that know no political gerrymandering; they apply to all. And here are two brief, but telling and relevant side notes;

1) At the 2012 Democrat Convention, any/all mention of “God” was shouted down, removed by voice vote from the wording of the party platform, and then—illicitly by convention rules, and grudgingly, in the face of violent jeers—restored to fine-print, whispered status. In other words, a very vocal majority hated any mention of “God” *period*, but a sop was thrown to a “snivelling” few. The prevailing attitude was: “Fine! Let the babies have their bottle! Whatever! Just as long as we *true* (D)s get our way in the end—a nation and a world *without* God!” As I said, relevant and telling.

2) At the 2012 *Republican* Convention, 10 (ten) references to God were included in the official wording. An ***immediate word of caution*** should be inserted here. I’m NOT saying that (D)=evil and (R)=good. **Psa 14:3, Rom 3:10-12, 23, and Gal 3:22** blow that notion right out of the water. *All* have sinned, and *all*

are born selfish and hellbound, and will get to Hell if they go it alone without Christ. Political party affiliation means nothing to God, the Commander of all hosts (armies), who respects no persons or parties (**Acts 10:34 & Deut 10:17**). Joshua got this directly from the lips of God when he encountered Him in that unmistakable Christophany (appearance of the pre-incarnate Christ) reported to us in **Josh 5:13-15**, where we read,

...when Joshua was by Jericho,...he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “Are You for us or for our adversaries?” So He said, “No [! No, *neither!*] but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come.”

If you comprehend what transpired there, you’ll get my current point. The upshot is that Almighty God is neither Republican nor Democrat, and neither side (“us” or “our adversaries”) can get Him on their side. Joshua asked a direct, either-or question, and God gave him a direct, NEITHER answer! The lesson that’s so well-taught here, and was so well-learned by Abraham Lincoln during the American Civil War, is that **if your battle plans are going to succeed, you must be on the side of God.**

*However...*having said all that, it’s still a revealing contrast, isn’t it, between the (D) and (R) conventions and platforms? A grudging two mentions through clenched teeth vs. ten references to a God whose approval is sought and acknowledged as necessary in order for this nation to survive and thrive.

The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; All those who hate me [God personified as wisdom] love death—Prov 8:13, 36 NKJV

To revisit the objection: “mere socialists-leftists-ruling elite Democrats must wear that ugly “totalist” hat, too? Yes, by all means. While I don’t make the rules or define the terms, I do try to live by them. Those rules don’t come from fellow, finite, fumble-in-the-dark sinners, but from the only eternal God, forever holy, righteous, all-wise and just. All humans are either willingly subject to the true Creator-God (made willing in the day of His power, **Psa 110:3**), or in active, conscious rebellion, seeking a way out, a way to live without Him. Sometimes, for political advantage, even those who are in perpetual rebellion will indulge in a sort of “godspeak” meant to endear themselves to a certain segment of the unwashed masses which happens to represent a large bloc of votes. Pandering to Christians and “people of faith” is what we’re talking about here. “That’s what *I’m* talkin’ ‘bout!” amens Hillary among black churchgoers; Mr. Inconvenient, Al Gore, gets preachy and jiggy-with-it when he senses the need to throw out some vote-bait; and the Perpetual Campaigner’s tailor-made black preacher’s voice and cadence come out like clockwork when the audience is largely “religious” to some degree, and largely melanin-enhanced, shall we say.

[Just so nobody misses my inference, the last-named cartoonish-but-dangerous chameleon is the one who’s tried to pass himself off—all too successfully, I regret to say—as “Barack Hussein Obama II (NOT BHO *Junior* , by the way, which is a clue right there in itself). Originally in this place, in the first typed draft of this work, I took leave of the main path of the discourse to drop some strong hints regarding what I believe is the *true* story of his origins, background, and official citizenship. However, since it would be an unnecessary distraction if included in the present work, wherein we’re concerned primarily with the way everything lines up—or *does not* line up—with Scripture, suffice it to say for now that there are at least two more narratives that answer more questions and fill in far more gaps than the publicly-proffered narrative. For anyone interested in being exposed to more truth on the matter, please stay tuned. If God wills it (**Jas 4:15**), I’ll produce a work (early 2015?) called, *American Tyranny*, and such hints, signposts, and info pertaining to totalitarianism in our own homeland will be provided there. Believe me, that subject’s examination *could* extend to great lengths and still be inadequate. Totalism’s now so deeply engrained here that we need *many* to wake us from slumber and point the way to the fire exit.]

SO DEMOCRATS AREN'T TOTALISTS, EH?

Alright, let's take a look at the well-worn path that totalists have historically taken. As we go through these steps, think of not only Hitler and his Nazis (National *Socialists*, remember), brown-shirts, and SS/Gestapo; Stalin and *his* secret police and all his cowering minions; "Chairman" Mao Zedong (nee Tse-Tung) and his cultural revolutionists (by the way, Mao, way to go on slaughtering more millions than those first two slackers combined!); Pol Pot and his "anti-intellectual" purge of the greatest *percentage* of his *own* people, "smarty-pantses" or not, an award-winning effort in *that* category of ultra-evil; and we could go on and on with Mussolini, Castro, Chavez, Tito, Ceausescu, etc., ...*but also...*the Community-Organizer-In-Chief (and In-*Perpetuity*, so it seems). I must warn those of you who are somewhat alert and tuned into reality that several of these similarities might virtually jump off the page and smack you in the forehead. But here we go, ready or not:

Step 1: Agitate the people. Name the #1 problem that they (WE) have, whether they know it's even a real problem or not.
[hints: You're not one of the Haves; you have less than you deserve. Why is that? It should tick you off BIG-time!]

Step 2: Name the problem and rub it in the people's faces. Keep naming, keep rubbing until the people are sore and fighting mad. It's wrong! Unfair! Get mad, you *victims*!
[hints: Look around; you know who has all of the money/power/good jobs that rightfully belong to you? The Jews/the capitalists/college-educated/whites/Republicans/gun-clinging religionists! Evil, *all* of THEM! Thou *shalt* covet!]

Step 3: The people are now angry. Who's to blame, again? They are repeatedly told, flat out: it's *THEM* (Those others who are not "WE"). The battle lines must be made clear: WE vs. THEY; US vs. THEM. Isolate the "bad guys." Now what are WE gonna do about this Problem #1 (of the moment,

the *PRESENT CRISIS*). Well? Are you with us or...*them*?

Step 4: Tell the riled masses that if they only turn over all power to we *good* guys, who can solve all problems and who have only the people's best interests at heart, well, CHANGE can and will come. All problems will go away. HOPE can be yours! [and absolute power can be OURS, but that last part may never be publicly uttered]. Now who's gonna solve your problems? Who's "your daddy?" Heil Hitler, spokesman of the Fatherland! PAPA Stalin, protect and guide us! FDR is our true, benevolent, New Deal father! Look, *The ONE* "WE've been waiting for" has arrived! Oh, happy, happy day!

Step 5: The people, born selfish as we all are, scream: "Yes! Take the power, by all means [literally]! Give us everything that you've promised! Everything our hearts have desired, and even those things we didn't know we needed to have! Yes, we CAN! Yes, we CAN have it all, and at no cost to *us*! Hooray for Der Fuhrer! Hooray for Papa Joe! Long live Chairman Mao! Long live Ho Chi Minh! Hooray for "The One!" [they *did* call/*are still* calling him that, remember]. Free Health Care! Welfare checks for those who simply don't like to work! A gas tank that will never run dry! Food-stamp-filled fridges and freezers!" [a *Jew-free* land; whatever, ...it all works, it's "all good"]

Step 6: Now that we *have* the power to squelch all of the opposition, we'll do so with the help of the people. *We* are now The Haves! Ferret out the naysayers, critics, and dissenters; shut 'em up or turn 'em in, and we'll be glad to take it from there. [citizens' purging patrol, front and center!] We thank you [now] for your loyalty to The Cause, The Revolution. Suppress all of those who imagine that THEY have freedoms that THEY got from another source, but WE have not given to them.

[if you're at a town hall meeting, shout down any criticism of ACA/Obamacare; when you do so, you're being a patriotic American; or even better, tell those unbearable moralists, the "extreme, far-right Christians," to get back into their churches and stay there or we'll *really* give 'em something to pray about! or...turn in your Jewish neighbor or the harbinger of Jews, because when you do so, you're being loyal to the Fatherland; turn in any enemy of Papa Joe, and you will be properly rewarded; Pol Pot values your ratting on those "intellectuals" and money-grubbing non-agrarians (non-peasant-farmers) etc., *ad infinitum*. Anna Rosanna Danna was right: with the totalists, "it's always *something*"]

Step 7: Now that The Revolution/The Reich/The **Fundamental America-Transforming War-Action (FATWA)** has taken hold, that seized power must be expanded, consolidated, and expanded and consolidated again until *total*. We've noticed here in Central Command that despite our dedicated efforts *here* to ***totally regulate the flow and content of information***, that some independent thought exists, and some dissension is still heard; some independent, state-hating thinkers and dissenters remain active and—need we say it?—alive. This is most distressing, since it's an indication that some of the people have joined in with these enemies of the beloved, benevolent state—these *infidels*—and aren't doing their part in eradicating the opposition. We (your Big Daddy Government) will stifle what "free speech" remains through policy enactments, blackmail, propaganda, disinformation, and fixing elections...[hints: the "Fairness Doctrine" and FCC micro-regulation on a macro-scale, EPA and IRS bullying, NSA spying, *several obvious* cases of massive election fraud—Hitler, Stalin, Castro, Chavez *et al* would be *so* proud!]...but *the people* have to do *their* rightful share, too, or they must be removed as the obstacles to *total* power that they have proved themselves to be. For the good of the people, *all* power must be ours.

Step 8: We warned you! Round ‘em up, line ‘em up, and fire! For the good of the people, many—*millions*—must die. Anybody who doesn’t *fully* get with the program gets exile (slow death) or death (relatively quickly). The choice is ours, as are all choices. “Under *God* ?” Ha! No, you get ***under the boot!*** And under the boot you’ll stay or you’ll be “terminated with extreme prejudice!” [I’m exaggerating, right? Read on.]

[Hint: It’s a well-documented fact that in *this* country—here and now—several government agencies, under ***Democrat*** control, mind you, are actively stockpiling *billions* of rounds of ammunition, purportedly to be used in response to an *unnamed* looming crisis. The crisis is unnamed, but you can bet your bottom bullet that the government—“*our*” government—will *provide* that crisis *internally*. Steps 1-7 *will be repeated* as often as it takes, because ***among all totalists, power once-taken is never relinquished without an all-out fight***; history abounds with examples. If courageous forces for good and freedom hadn’t stopped Hitler, Mussolini, and the Japanese imperialists, they would’ve kept going until somebody *did* stop them. The same goes for Stalin and the Russian communists, the communist Kims in North Korea, Castro’s Cuban communists, and *American* hard-left socialists (they’re communists-in-training, folks, at the least; they call themselves “progressives,” but they all have communist DNA). To rejoin the thought then: the 7-step template won’t go unused; it’s the totalist “Bible.” All kinds of non-/extra-legislative measures will be taken speedily and without public knowledge so that we can “find out” what was entailed in those measures. We, the great unwashed masses who *literally* stink in the nostrils of Harry Reid (quote re: the Capitol tours) are, you see, as Nancy Pe-*lousy* thinks, just too dense to understand the necessary machinations of Government, the idol-god of “progressives.” We stupid stinkers just clog up the wheels of Progress. For *shame* !

Now, who is it—*really*—who is dense? If you're out there and not seeing Demo-*rat* [*sic* , but not a typo; I mean it!] totalitarianism in this very country, you are either blind or asleep and dreaming of Utopia, just as the leftists have effectively programmed you to do.

In the interest of full disclosure, I too, back in 1976, actually gave my vote to one of those America-hating, nation-ruining (D)s. To this day, I regret having voted for *Jimmy Carter*, of all people. So *I* was duped by one of history's *biggest* dupes! [how many American leaders have actually kissed Leonid Brezhnev, much less seemed to *enjoy* it?] The point is, I know from personal experience how one's head can be turned around and inside out by skillful manipulators. In my case, it was because Carter was being touted as a "born-again Christian," while the same was not being said about Gerald Ford. As a 21-year-old college student, I was clueless about abortion as even an issue, much less such a central and morally-defining one, and I'd considered myself to be a Christian. So, off to vote for the peanut-farming "Christian." I have repented of that sin—and it *was* a sin—and solely because of God's grace towards me by the blood of Jesus Christ, I've been forgiven; of that I'm confident. Since that election, I can't recall ever again voting for a *known*, publicly-acknowledged (D) at any level. "Now go and sin no more"—**John 8:11**. An extreme broad-brushing reaction, you might say? Not at all, and here's why:

At *every* level, since at least the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision, the *national* Democrat *pro-abortion* policy has been *de facto* party policy. Even at the lowest local level, you pay your dues ultimately to the national party, and your allegiance belongs to the party's platform. If you want to go "off-script" on a particular issue, you'd better be doing it not for the sake of conscience, but in order to siphon votes from unsuspecting dupes, *AND*...you'd better win! Now it's obvious to me that, unless a candidate has sufficient wealth to campaign without party help, that candidate had better toe the national, official party line. Or else risk exile from the party. The (D)s do not like independent thinkers, and they don't like *actual* Christians. The only "christian" acceptable to today's (D) is a "*social justice*"-obsessed christian-in-name-only. Remember, to the totalist of *any* persuasion, there is no God, only Government *as* god. **The hat fits the (D)s to a t.**

Another point worth considering is: if a person is *really* pro-life, what in the name of Margaret Sanger and Jack Kevorkian are they doing in the Demo-*rat* party?!? [I know, I said it again; it stays] That person must be twins, because *one* person couldn't possibly be that stupid! When you join the 'rats, you join the Agenda of Death. Get *away* from them!

Oh, here, I'll try *this*, maybe *this*'ll work:

IT'S THE *MORALITY*, STUPID! [does *that* help?]

Point the third: remember, dear voter, that little (local) (D)s grow up to be *big* (D)s someday, and often that's not far down the road. Don't even give them a start, because great harm can—and probably will—ensue. Don't *you* take part in his/her ascendancy to the totalist's ruling elite, and then *you* won't get part of the blame or have to answer to The Judge for that sin, too (aiding and abetting a **God-opposing merchant of death**, and *I'm not kidding!*). Only one word of caution: this goes, of course, for any (R)s or (I)s or (Greens)/whatevers who do not respect that most fundamental of all rights, the very right to *life* itself. God gives every life and God knows how each life ends. If you take part in murder or support it in any way, well...I'd say that you should run for cover, but there isn't any. Better to turn to the One who sees *all*, repent, and be forgiven (and then sin no more; don't return to your vomit, **Prov 26:11, 2 Pet 2:22**).

Let me put this another way. Yes, I sincerely believe that to vote for any God-opposer is an actual sin that must be covered by the blood of the Savior, just like all other sins. Sin without sincere repentance and the forgiveness of God through Jesus Christ will result in eternal misery without parole. Don't ignore the obvious: *all totalists*—and by now the reader should be aware that this does include “Democrats” and “progressives” by very definition because of their official platform and common agenda—are living in active opposition to God's will and without His forgiveness. You can't serve two masters (**Matt 6:24**), as our Lord Himself said: you'll hate one and love the other and despise one and be loyal to the other. The rule for souls is, “*one God (master) per soul.*” That is the rule put in place by God, the Creator-Sustainer-**Sole Governor** of the universe.

TOTALIST TYPE-BYTES

The following little tidbits, or what might be called by generous souls, “aphorisms,” are offered here as brain-stickers; they might come in handy when one is trying to recall what’s involved in totalitarianism. *Memory-joggers*, if you will, followed by short “translations.” [we’ve already seen, “**Despot on top**”]

*** Every totalitarian nightmare begins with Utopian dreaming.**

—Totalists get their foot in your door by promising perfection in the “here and now”—*this* life, *on earth*—but later, reality inevitably hits home and crushes you.

*** Communists make the best elitists.**

—Once in power, when *they’re* The Haves, the capitalist-pig-haters become the head capitalist pigs. Break out the limos, posh state dinners, ultra-luxurious accommodations, private resorts (on the Black Sea, perhaps, or Martha’s Vineyard?) and globe-trotting, taxpayer-robbing vacations. Oh, and golf; lots and lots of golf. And city-shutting-down private “date nights” for the *truly* elite of the ruling elite. The Have-Nots cease to be a problem, at least until the next campaign season, when it’s time to use them again to stay in total power. Does any of this ring a bell?

*** Under God or under The Boot.**

—Does this really require any explanation? It’s more or less the central theme of this whole section on totalitarianism. We’ll just clarify: “The Boot” is that of your godless overlords on your throat. Try to exercise your free speech from *that* position!

*** God’s universe, God’s rules.**

—Again, self-explanatory, and a theme of the whole *ATHEOS* series. *His* rules are reality, and there for our good. All rules that attempt to counter His are neither real nor good.

*** The last word in autocrats, bureaucrats, and Democrats is “rats.”**

—Literally true. Look at each of the three. Strongly indicative.

As far as I know, I’ve followed nobody in coining these phrases. In fact, I’ve often put forth what I consider to be my shorthand platform, suggesting that it could be well-used by Christian-conservative concerns:

*** Pro-Life, Pro-Liberty, Under God.**

—Life and liberty can only flourish under God’s protection and blessing. If you value life, you look to God, and not to men.

If you value liberty (true freedom), you look to God, not men.

AND THE UNSTATED BONUS: true JUSTICE prevails.

Some well-known phrases have admittedly formed the basis for what I half-consider to be my own. I can take no credit for any of the following. They cover the ground well and are justifiably famous:

—**Give me liberty, or give me death!** (Patrick Henry)

—**Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God;
Obedience to tyrants is disobedience to God.** (battle cry)

—**God grants liberty only to those who love it, and are
always ready to guard and defend it.** (Daniel Webster)

—**If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God,
then we will be a Nation gone under.** (Ronald Reagan)

—**That which you permit is that which you promote.** (?)

—[earlier forerunner]: **Neither the wisest constitution
nor the wisest laws will secure the liberty and
happiness of a people whose manners [morals] are
universally corrupt.** (Samuel Adams)

YOU WERE ONCE “WE,” BUT NOW YOU ARE “THEY.”

We could probably add this “aphorism” to our mini-set just rendered:

* **“Communists make the best cannibals.”** Communists that have ascended to the top of the heap are not only elitists of the most imperial kind, but they are *paranoid and jealous elitists* who have very little patience for any disagreement with their “party” (read: *personal*) agenda. As Bill Federer reminds us in his right-on book-DVD, *Change to Chains*, communism is just another name for monarchy; the head commie is the king [yet another aphorism?]. Since there can only be one king, heads must roll, and former comrades must be shot, strung up, or ice-picked to death (think Master Commie-Cannibal Stalin and his dispatching of Trotsky, a *former* rival who’d put *thousands* of miles between himself and Papa Joe, as well as several years, all to no avail). ***Communists eat their own.*** Communists, as the “pure” *ultra*-socialists, will use fellow socialists until they’re no longer of use, but then they must be *permanently* removed. Hey, if you wanna make an omelette, you gotta break some eggs, right? And if the omelette’s been made, throw out the shells! That’s just common commie sense.

So as it was with Lenin and his rivals, and Stalin and *his* rivals (nearly everybody then alive, it seems), and Mao and *his* rivals (ditto) and on and on we go...so shall it ever be. But are you thinking that can’t happen in America? Puh-lease! Do I detect a whiff of turnips? Did you just fall off the truck? Just try this: endear yourself to a group of leftists—it’s easy to find them just about anywhere, even at your “Christian” church or school—and gain their trust. Obtain your “street-cred” (credibility among the bros and sisters) by spouting all of the totalist-leftist-democrat-mainstream media platitudes or by merely smiling and nodding your fool, disconnected head in agreement. *Then...*and I caution you: only if you *want* to be laughed at mercilessly, tenaciously ridiculed, castigated, thrown aside or under the bus (often, that could mean *literally*, so keep that in mind), and beaten and left for dead (verbally and/or literally!) and defined into non-existence (yes, again, possibly *literal non*-existence, due to the literal assault you may endure), I tell you, only *then...*should you go ahead and try to move the slightest bit to the right on a political issue. And with them, *everything’s* political.

Since they know where you live, anyone who lives with you or is related to you or merely keeps occasional company with you will now be at risk for similar suspicion and similar treatment. Granted, they may not come after you or yours right away; it may not be worth their time. And the ridicule will come first because it comes easiest to hand and is the most effective weapon in the human arsenal. This from the godfather of radical politics, the Marxist devotee of *Lucifer* (um, that would be Satan, or the Devil himself, dear reader), one Saul Alinsky. He wrote and taught that very idea: ridicule is easiest to use and the hardest attack to overcome, so it's the most effective (from *Rules for Radicals*, 1971). So if you decide to become an *ex*-leftist-totalist-progressive-liberal (D)-socialist or whatever, expect the mocking before the castigation, and the banishment before the physical punishment. Or not. The order of things may vary, but in the end, it all shakes out the same: ***totalists do eat their own***. You're among the "We" until the head We-guys decide you are in fact among the "They." Then you're dead meat (often, ...you guessed it, *literally*). If you could bring back Ron Brown, Vince Foster, or the potentially pivotal Clinton delegate to the 2008 (D) Convention that had an Obama-supporting assassin come to his office and gun him down, maybe you'd get from *their* lips just what transpired, where they went "wrong."

The moral of the story: if you decide to shoot for the top, you'd better be real sure you will make it to the *very* top. Corollary: communists are the arch-socialists, the purists of the left, so those weak-kneed socialists who offered their backs for your ascent into the castle of power will eventually (by implication) have to offer their necks to your sword when the ascent has been made. They have become expendable, and if they were so untrustworthy that they willingly threw their own nation over to merely seek your favor, they can't be trusted to keep their place and not seek your throne. Communists do understand *that* much.

On that last point, just what is it really that the hard-lefters understand? Basically, what conscience tells each of us, as long as there's even a shred of it left: human beings are selfish and corrupt by nature. Any one of us is capable of any sin in the book, when in the wrong place at the right (opportune) time. Most of us can be talked or pressured into committing even unimaginable evil. This is *original sin*, the operating system we're born with, and the default response-setting.

When original sin meets desire and opportunity, look out!

Jas 1:14-15—But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death. (NKJV)

So we're first tempted by our *own* desires. Then, when enticement from the outside gets past the defenses of the conscience, a kind of evil mating takes place. Before you know it, there's a full-fledged, active sin on your hands, and if not checked, it will bring harm—even to the point of death—to someone.

But is this something relatively new, cooked up by the apostle James to aid him in an over-the-top sermon against immorality in his day? Not at all. It goes all the way back to the very first generation of human beings on this planet. Let's now travel way back in time, and to the front of our Bible. In **Gen 4:7**, the LORD said to Cain, *before* he committed the very first murder:

If you do well [obey My commands], will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, *sin lies at the door*. And its desire is for/toward you, but you should rule over it . [NKJV, with my italicized emphasis]

Here God Himself, in a very direct way, warns Cain about what's going on in his heart—which is fully-known to God—and how evil can still be prevented by ruling *over* sinful desire instead of yielding to it. The **socialist two-step** (no matter the particular variety of socialist) is simply,

- Step 1: know, and ***remember always***, that we're all born with a *corrupted* and further-*corruptible* nature that's prone to evil;
- Step 2: ***encourage*** wrongful desire—***covetousness***—and show each soul how to go ahead and commit any full-blown sin that will put more distance between it and the true God.

It's rather ironic, I suppose, that those who rely so much on humanity's *inherent* tendency to respond to inner evil desires—as well as supportive external enticements—to succeed in their totalist takeovers, are those who are always going on (in *public* , at least) about the “inherent goodness of man!” Ironic or not, this is what they do, *constantly*. When we discuss Humanism some pages down the road, we'll see how these agendas all interlock. *All* totalists and God-opposers realize that they must first convince the people of their “natural goodness” if they want to get anywhere, despite the fact that they know this to be the *reverse* of the truth. It's means to the end, and it does not have to be justified. So they lie through their teeth, and lie so often that sooner or later, who can possibly separate lies from truth when even the *speaker* can't do it in his/her own mind?!? [by now, I probably don't even have to tell you just who comes to *my* mind when I contemplate recent examples of this self-confusing, self-deluding psychosis]

But enough about (D)eluded (D)eceivers who are (D)emonic (D)estroyers of America and responsible for (D)ebacle-care. [did you guess correctly?]

Since some of what we recently quoted from God's Word has come from the book of James, let's pull some more relevant nuggets from that inspired epistle of our Lord's (half-) brother. We'll look at chapter four.

Jas 4:2—You lust and do not have [you're Have-Nots].
You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war/battle. Yet you do not have because you do not ask [God, your Father, the giver of all good, see **Jas 1:5 & 17**] [*Or...*] **You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss** [*wrongly*, knowing it's not in line with God's will], **that you may spend it on your pleasures** [like I said]...

Let's pause here before moving ahead. *James* labeled some folks as the “Have-Nots” *centuries* before Karl Marx did! He offered a *real* solution that is polar opposite from the devilish Marxist *non*-solution, but he did recognize pretty much the same problem here, didn't he? People weren't getting what they felt

they deserved to have. But James *doesn't* go along with their *covetousness*. Instead, he names it as a serious sin that belongs in the same class with murder and unnecessary warring. It's the 10th of Ten Commandments (**Ex 20:17**). Then he proceeds directly to what they *should* be doing if they want to obtain something: line up your desires with what God is willing to give you, and go to *Him* with your *honorable* request; such a request will be granted, and you will obtain. Your problem gets solved, and God is glorified by your going to The King, the only One who can really do the exact thing that needs to be done. The negative side of the same coin—what *not* to do—is either to ask for that which God does *not* want you to have (prohibited for your *protection*), or to go to God's *enemies* for help (like the Israelites were wanting to do with those “bruised reeds,” the Egyptians: **2 Kings 18:21, Isa 30, 31, 36**; no help was forthcoming *there*!).

Allow me to “oversimplify” this: **want only the good, and go first to God for it.** A simple prayer that I (sometimes) remember to offer to the Father of Lights is, “**Father, grant me boundless energy to do only that which is right.**” Two important implications are tucked into those few words: first, it's necessary to have the physical resources and wherewithal to do good; not much can be accomplished when you're bedridden, clutching your throbbing head, infested as it is with a monstrous, debilitating headache [believe me, I know whereof I speak]; second, physical wellness and energy to do *wrong* is evil, anti-God energy, and in the end, it will be thwarted by holy, almighty God, and therefore wasted. I don't admire in the least a person who “has a steel spine” or is relentlessly “passionate” when in pursuit of an anti-God agenda. Not all ends are justifiable, after all, and I'm not in the business of putting evildoers on a pedestal just because they *really, really* care about what they're doing, which just happens to be *really, really* evil. They'll get zero respect from me for that because the King whom I serve hates all evil, no matter how passionately it's carried out. This *should* be a no-brainer, but even for people very close to me, it apparently is not.

Jas 4:4—Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. (NKJV; could he have said this any clearer?)

The proof of that passage which we've just quoted is in this pudding:

a) Every totalist scheme is based on making people sin more and putting ever-greater distance between themselves and the true, holy God.

b) Into every gap between God and the human soul steps an ENEMY of God, a new “god” of some sort, the sinner’s “new best friend.”

c) This “new best and dearest friend” will inevitably come from the world, and not from God. God has given us ONE ever-faithful and ever-true friend and Mediator, the God-man, Christ Jesus (1 Tim 2:5; Acts 4:12: only ONE name by which men must be saved, so only ONE Savior. Period!)

Maybe we can distill it to this: **Totalitarianism is God-replacementism**. That is a *memorable* little chunk, and *true*. If we can keep that much in the front of our consciousness, perhaps we can remember also what the inspired writer James wrote in the last verse of this fourth chapter:

Jas 4:17—Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. (NKJV)

I offer a quick expansion-application for 21st-Century Americans: since God-given conscience unerringly points to the way of obedience to God's commands and our duties before Him, it is a *sin of omission* to *not* vote—while we still have the right and privilege!—for *godly* candidates in every election. Such candidates are admittedly few and far-between, but given a choice between a God-*acknowledging* candidate and a God-*denying* candidate, we've clearly been given our first indication of which way to go. Another *sin of omission* is committed when we don't do our homework; when we don't look at party platforms, *individual* stances on the central, moral issues, and the *individual's* personal morality. Can we really trust somebody on their *third* marriage, for example?

Part of this last point is the tendency for “conservative Christians” to trust without exception *any* (R)epublican, as if all (R)s are equal and good and pure. Not the case, not even close. A knee-jerk, *un*-considered vote is just as bad in God’s eyes, I’m convinced. After all, it was *God* who built this country from scratch and fought many battles *for* us—if the truth be told—to win us the *sacred privilege and right to vote* into office those whom we desire to be *our representatives* in this *constitutional republic* (we are NOT a straight-out democracy, folks, and the founding fathers *detested* that chaotic political arrangement; many of us need to read the true history of our founding era). Here again, the communists have better understood our system than we do ourselves. That’s why they keep co-opting the “sounds-good-to-me” terminology of “People’s Republic of...” China/North Korea/whatever, and the “German *Democratic Republic*” for *East* Germany, if you recall! This proves once again that what they also say about (many, not all) lawyers is true: “How can you tell when *communists* (or mere “socialists”—it works in all cases) are lying? The answer: their lips are moving.”

[instantaneous disclaimer, to clear the air: I sincerely appreciate and strongly support *virtuous, truly Christian-oriented/Christian-friendly* law organizations like the Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF) and Judicial Watch; both have deserved and received this conservative Christian’s financial support, humble as that is; the “George Soros of the right” I am not, not by a *loooooonng* stretch!]

But back to **Jas 4:17** to pick up one last sin of omission that’s easily overlooked. When we do *not* call evil evil and fail to speak out against it, we’re definitely guilty of another *sin of omission*. Passages in God’s Word like **Luke 12:47**, **Rom 1:32**, and **1 Tim 5:22** provide bedrock support for such assertions. Working backwards, in the Timothy passage, we’re commanded, “**do not partake in other men’s sins**,” which is only one step removed beyond being *ap-provers* of other men’s evil, whom Paul strongly denounces in the Romans passage as equally-deserving of death as “**those who practice such things**.” This is strong language, but apparently necessary in order to get through to some professing Christians in his day and ours! “What you permit you *promote*.” Say and do nothing against evil, and Burke’s law kicks in: evil will triumph. The Luke passage reminds us: if we know God’s will and don’t perform it, He is *not* pleased!

CLEARLY, WE OWE MUCH TO GOD

- + It was He who *created* the universe and all things, living and non-living
- + It is He who *sustains* this astonishing, complex created order
- + The Holy Spirit's *restraining power* among *all* humans is the only thing that stands between us and *all-out* evil and irreversible destruction
- + It was *God* who built America from its beginnings *through* godly men and women; He directed their steps (**1 Sam 2:9; Job 12; Psa 37 & 40**) [note: it's well worth the reader's time to look up these cited passages; not only do they detail valid complaints of the godly, but they describe the Source of all true deliverance and name *God's* enemies as our own]
- + We received those "***unalienable rights***" to *life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness* **from none other than God**. Government is a *taker* only, for it has nothing of its own to give. It's *crucial* to remember this!
- + It was ***God's*** active, minute-by-minute ***providence*** that propelled the United States to victory over a monarchy that had ceased to carry out God's will for judicious government, that had become tyrannical and yes, *totalitarian* in practice, if not in conscious or purported design. No less an honorable, godly figure than George Washington stated that anyone who didn't recognize God's providential hand in bringing deliverance to oppressed Americans is "worse than an infidel"—a blind, ungrateful "believer" is worthy of no more respect than a total "atheist."
- + It was God, also, who provided our three-part, separated-powers governmental structure. Read—and re-read until you get it and can pack it away in your brain for good—**Isa 33:22**:

***For the LORD is our Judge, the LORD is our Lawgiver,
the LORD is our King.***

Amazing, isn't it? The Founding Fathers—even the deists among the many Christians—were Biblically-literate, and they didn't miss this passage. It's *foundational*. Just in case this needs to be simplified a bit more for our modern-day understanding: here you have the ***Judicial, Legislative, and Executive*** branches of our American government.

Once again: the LORD is our Judge, Lawgiver, *and* King. *He* embodies all three roles in His infinite, all-wise *triune* deity, as only He can. This served as the primary example or model of the form that earthly, human government should take. James Madison, the principal architect (humanly speaking) of our U.S. Constitution, had been—as so many others—a student of John Witherspoon, the Presbyterian (Calvinist) clergyman-educator who signed the Declaration of Independence. Undoubtedly, Madison had **Isa 33:22** in mind when he set about restructuring our experimental governmental design to better conform to the Scriptural model. No, the founders *didn't* establish a theocracy, but a *republic* of the people's rule (democracy) *through* representatives of the people, but *all under God*. God has given us all of that.

+ It was God, then, who gave us the *sacred privilege* of electing for ourselves those people whom we deem worthy of being our representatives *under God, as well as towards God*. There's no warrant whatsoever for voting in *ungodly* representatives of *our will*, since it's the same as putting our *individual* souls in direct opposition to *God's will*. To restate this:

When we *abuse* the sacred privilege and God-provided right to choose those whom we want to represent our own will and views, we put ourselves in direct opposition to God's will.

We get the government we truly deserve for opposing God's grace in His acting through good, judicious government by *His* design (under God).

+ Summing up, we owe our gracious God *everything* in the way of devotion, loyalty, service, naming and fighting against ungodliness, and supporting, promoting, and fighting *for* godliness. Our infinite *sin-debt* has been paid—for those of us who trust in Christ alone—but the debt of our Christ-enabled, *post-justification* obedience, the debt of acting in daily gratitude remains. Politically speaking, this means *at a minimum*, voting *responsibly* (well-informed, ever with an eye towards God's will, not our own selfish will). A Christian's vote should never be within reach of purchase by the highest bidder. We are all here, instead, to do the bidding of The Highest.

SO YOU'VE BEEN DUPED

If it's only recently that you've realized that you, too, have been misled, duped, and used by evil people for evil purposes, there's a greater likelihood that some sober realizations are fresh in your mind. But as I've already indicated in this work, even though real forgiveness can and does follow real repentance, regrets can still teach us through remembrance of serious mistakes in judgment. Recall how I will always regret my both-eyes-open vote for one of those lying (D)s in 1976, my first time as a voter. Nobody forced my hand, and nobody forced me to agree with—and support via my vote—an evil agenda. I was indeed duped, but not coerced beyond my will to resist. I put the will and words of very fallible and sin-soaked humans ahead of the will of God and His *infallible* Word. In that regard, I joined the *billions* throughout history who did the same thing, and just maybe, ...so did you. As long as there are people on this earth, there will be sinners on this earth, and there will be an earth full of liars and people who will be “okay” with hearing lies and believing them. Those are just the facts.

So there will always be dupers and dupes, users and victims, and “good” people will be abused as far as possible by the most evil among us. Knowing this, what are we to do about it? In three small words, *turn to God*. If you're truly a Christian, an obedient follower of Jesus Christ, you already know that the Christian's best weapon—*anywhere* in this earth system—is prayer to God the Father, prompted and guided by God the Holy Spirit, in the name of, and by the merits of, Jesus Christ. Remember that God Himself said so in many places in His inerrant Word: **Jas 5:16; Rom 8:26; Eph 6:17-18, 2:18; Heb 4:16; John 14-16**, for just a few prominent examples. And in **1 Thes 5:17** and **Luke 18:1**, God tells us to make a holy habit of prayer, and to never lose heart. Our true, heavenly Father doesn't engage in “call screening” when one of His adopted sons or daughters is “on the line.” No! His only Son's infinitely-precious blood paid all of the tolls and any “entry fees” to access the Throne of Grace. God is the source of all blessings and all solutions. How can we ever forget to go to Him?!

Two things absolutely astonish me. First, the reaction I get from “politically-astute” Conservatives when I suggest the following “strategy:”

We can't expect *anything* good—politically speaking—to happen for us if we're not praying for it. When I suggest that, it's as if I've lost all touch with reality; eyes roll, sighs are sounded, and to the wastebin goes my off-the-wall, *impractical* idea. Second, it's astonishing how often *I* forget that most important truth (*practical* atheism at work). If this is the case with even truly Christ-centered, God-conscious Christians in America—*whoever* they may be—that they're expecting rousing success in the realm of politics while failing to be roused to prayer, why it's small wonder, isn't it, when God doesn't grant us political success? To say it another way, we have no *right* to expect success if we don't make use of God's appointed means of prayer, that *privilege* Christ Himself has fought to obtain for us! Let us hear the very Word of God:

1 Cor 7:23—You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men;

2 Cor 3:17—Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty;

Gal 5:1— Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

(NKJV alternate translation): **For freedom Christ has made us free; stand fast therefore.**

It is *right here in these Biblical texts* that we have a Rock-solid case made for American patriotism. *True* patriotism is rooted in the realization that *Christ* has won for us all that we have that is good. We can admire all of those men and women who have been profitably used by God to build, serve, and preserve this great country, as well as those who are presently striving in that godly direction; and we *should* admire them. But if you'll allow me to use a metaphor, although millions of hands may have been on the rope, only Christ's pulling was necessary, sufficient in itself to win the tug-of-war. Whether by many or by few or with no help at all, Christ conquers. All power and all glory belong to Him, and so...

God hates totalitarianism! (Isa 42:8, 48:11)

AREN'T TOTALIST SYSTEMS VALID *POLITICAL* CHOICES?

A reader might well ask the question above, thinking that a leftist-totalist system is just as valid a choice as our constitutional republic (representative democracy). The inference is that after all, it's just a *political* choice, and not a matter of faith or religion. If any reader is indeed thinking that, let's back up the truck, since I've apparently failed in my mission in writing this section to this point. And if you *are* still right there with me, a short review might be beneficial anyway for both writer and right-thinking reader.

First off, let's revisit the definitions and **earmarks of totalitarianism**;

1. **Centralized control** by an *autocratic* authority
 - a) autocrat=one who rules with ***unlimited authority***
2. The ruling power insists on ***total subjection of the citizenry***
3. Autocratic rule=***undisputed power and influence***, top-down, and ***all the way down***, to the smallest detail of life

Together, let's pause right now and reflect on what's just been laid out for us in very clear terms: **none of what defines a totalitarian leaves any room for God!** *Unlimited, centralized human control*, from top to bottom? C'mon! Try to tell me that a *totalist* system can still find room for God in it? There's ***total incompatibility*** between a God-honoring, Godly system of God-ordained, judicious government *under God* and a man-centered system that deliberately attempts to displace God entirely. Frankly, for people who can't see this now, I have little hope that they ever will see this flashing-neon truth.

God does *indeed* hate totalitarianism; how could He not? So, no more of this claptrap about leftist ideology being acceptable under God. No, no, a thousand times, **NO!** At every point, totalist schemes are directly, dead-set against God and government by *His* design, and under *His* ultimate authority. Do **NOT** try to put together what God has put asunder! It *never* works!

A POSITIVE LESSON FROM HISTORY

In my work, *Evillusion (The Evil Illusion Of Evolution)*, I spend a great deal of time pointing out *hard* lessons to be learned from world history regarding the creation-evolution “controversy” (I really hate to even elevate evolution to the level of a viewpoint worth controverting, since there’s no *real* validity in it; it’s *all* manufactured illusion). In *this* work, however, I’m happy to report that there’s a very *positive* lesson that American history provides us (in addition to the folders bursting with horrible, *negative* lessons from world history). But let’s get right to the good stuff.

Think back to those Bible passages recently quoted (**1 Cor 7:23; 2 Cor 3:17; Gal 5:1**). There’s an obvious common thread there: it was Jesus Christ, *King* Jesus, who ultimately fought for and won *for us* our lives of freedom in this most-unique land. He liberated us in every true sense of the word, and every true liberty we have derives from Him. It was in fact a God-ordained, Christ-led revolution against an increasingly-christless British monarchy. And it succeeded in toppling the tyrant because Christ can’t ever lose, and the will of God can never be finally thwarted. Not that people in every age don’t *think* that they *can* thwart God’s will, as if it’s just a figment of weak-minded Christian imagination. No, it’s real alright, and it’s what holds this universe together. Our founding American generations knew this and lived with this knowledge on a day-to-day basis. They didn’t have to be reminded for a mere hour or so per week; they carried God in their thoughts throughout the day, the week, and the length and breadth of the country that was being formed by God. An alert, ongoing God-consciousness was in their DNA.

Two slogans/battle cries of the American Revolution were:

- 1. Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God.** (or alternative):
Obedience to tyrants is *disobedience* to God.
- 2. No king but King Jesus!**

What wise and stirring words! They *should* reflect the thoughts and sentiments of all Americans who've ever lived since. Furthermore, we see in these two memorable phrases that the battle lines are clearly drawn: **God vs. tyrants; true God vs. would-be gods, true King vs. would-be usurpers; freedom by and under the holy hand of God vs. enslavement by the hands of evil, sin-driven men; King Jesus vs. king-anyone else; GOD VS. TOTALITARIANISM, WHATEVER ITS FORM.**

The gist of this *positive* lesson is simple, yet profound: just look how far this nation came while under the freedom-giving King Jesus! Let that sink in. Go ahead: reflect on it, grin ear-to-ear, savor it. It's okay to say, "Wow! Look what the Almighty has done for us!" Having turned that over in your mind for awhile, proceed next to dedicating yourself to *recovery* of that God-directed, God-blessed path, and clearing out the God-opposing usurpers who've ruined just about everything they've touched. **Again, "It's the morality, stupid!"** It's not the (booming) economy or national security or wireless high-speed internet for everyone! *None* of that is even possible if we continue to fail to acknowledge God in His existence, and in His rightful place as Judge-Lawgiver-King. *His* rules of morality have never changed, and they most certainly never will (**Heb 13:8, Jas 1:17**, etc.). There are no shifting attitudes among the Godhead; God never "gets religion" *sinner*-style! His holy and perfect will is never amended.

We can readily see that there was and is a marked correspondence between our behavior as a nation (prevailing ethics-morality) and God's willingness to bless us, as well as the *proportion* of His blessing. As the Parent of parents, God knows that whatever you reward you can expect to see more of from your children; that goes for the bad as well as the good. If you want your children to grow up to be responsible and productive adults—*contributors* to society—give them responsibilities, however small, from the outset and reward them when they come through with good performance. On the other hand, if you continue to allow your kids to be lazy, bratty, and wild, you're just asking for more of the same kind of behavior by letting it go and *grow*. In the Bible, Eli serves as an object-lesson in bad parenting, and so does David (read, *e.g.*, **1 Sam 1-4 & 2 Sam 13-19**). Both households were permissive and dysfunctional; they paid the consequences.

Here are two reminders that fall right into line with what we're now talking about. Think of them as opposite sides of the same Truth-coin, if you will.

First, on the *good*-model side of the coin is the family as God has designed it. He's designed it to be the ultra-successful basic building block of every society, and for quite a long time, we understood that in America; we knew that's the only way to go. God built America through such God-fearing families, both those who became famous (Jonathan Edwards and generations of his descendants, for example), and those whose names haven't entered history in any big way (of which there were *millions*): the God-designed family yields God-blessed results for the nation of *such* families. This is another of those "conscience things." Only the blindest or densest can even begin to deny these truths; it's there for all to see, and for every conscience to confirm.

The other side of the coin points to the same truth, though coming from the other direction. Marxism-communism-socialism-radicalism-totalitarianism—again, whatever you call it—actively and relentlessly attacks the family unit, the basic, *foundational* building block (per *God's* design, remember). Now why would they do that? Read it for yourself in the *Communist Manifesto* (1848) and *Rules for Radicals* (1971), just for starters. Don't worry, you won't have to slog through page after page in these works and others to get the point; the poisonous idea pervades throughout. And who could forget Hillary's *It Takes a Village*? In case you didn't know, the "village" is the *government*, and the message is clear: your children belong to the government, and not to you "parents." ***Big Government is the only true parent in the leftist world.*** In the totalist world, if you simply *have to* think in terms of a "nuclear-family" (traditional), the government is the Daddy, the *earth* is the Mommy, and your Mommy is very busy defending herself against her hateful attackers—by which we mean *Republicans*, as if we need to mention it—so Mommy turns over the child-raising to the Nanny, Ms. Bureaucrat. There, are you happy now? This is how the village raises the child. Any questions? Well, save 'em for somebody who's got more time than I have. I'm off to worship Mother Earth by sacrificing a fetus, then to the NEA convention, where the theme is *always* "It's all about the children" (but not really, it's *never* actually about the children, but we laugh about that all the time; fun!).

But what did that preceding paragraph have to do with pointing to the need for traditional, God-designed families? Just this: since Marx made the breakup of the family a central goal, *all* leftists-totalists have made that goal central to *their* strategies. Think about it: if the traditional family is in any way God-oriented or even merely God-*acknowledging*, there exists a tremendous obstacle to their progress towards a God-LESS society. *Everything* that can even potentially provide a connection between God and the individual must go! It must always be State-to-masses, never God-to-individual. The ruling power (State/Dictator) can only relate to the masses, the *collective*. We need only to remember that Hitler set himself up as Daddy, Stalin did the same, Mao portrayed himself as the wise Father, and so on. And what happened in each and every one of those regimes? Total disaster and millions upon millions of deaths, and that's what happens *every* time the dog returns to his own or some other dog's *vomit* and gives socialism another whirl. Would *you* ever be so extremely stupid as to eat what somebody else upchucked, when there are tables full of readily-available, tasty, healthy food? Of course not, you'll maintain, but if you still find yourself wanting to try socialism, you've been drawn to that same old vomit.

GODBALL

What we're really talking about here is the historical track record. Even if you're not a Christian, even if you've never cracked open a Bible, just the secular historical record of the crimes of totalist monsters ought to shake you awake. In baseball parlance, socialism hasn't had a hit in hundreds of at-bats. And there's a simple reason for that: socialists aren't swinging their bats at pitches, but at the *people* whom they profess to love. They're playing a different "game" entirely; they have zero interest in this "baseball" because what they're about is "**godball.**" In "godball," there's a king who is god, the pitcher, the hitter, and the umpire. If the god-king-umpire says you're out, you are out. But in godball, *nobody* is *ever* safe. And if somebody's unclear on the rules of godball, that's what the "re-education camps" are for, or "pre-spring training" (winter comes before spring, you see). In godball, the score is fixed at Government *infinity*, individual 0. The innings of the game, the start and finish, all of that is determined by the godball king. You want to see the rulebook? Here, look into this narrow metal tunnel. At the end of it, you'll see your "rulebook!" Pow!!! Power grows from the barrel of

a gun said Mao, and under totalist systems like his, that's "scripture." If power is yet to be first-obtained, it must be taken from the existing powers-that-be. The immovable Power That Is ("I Am"—the eternal God) is of course, non-replaceable. But not in the warped mind of the totalists. They will demonically fight Eternal Reality #1 and all derived realities (all truth) with every ounce of strength they can muster. Still, they don't start by fighting against God *directly*, but indirectly, and from the bottom up. In other words, they can't remove God Himself from the universe He created, but they *can* with great success remove God's *institutions*, thereby severing the God-individual connection wherever it remains. **That's why totalists invariably attack 1) the family, as instituted by God; 2) marriage, as instituted by God; 3) sexual relationships within God-instituted marriage only.** To stab at the heart of God, so to speak, one can only destroy what He has established as extensions of His holy will. "Killing" God off means thwarting His will (as if it were even possible).

So the totalists always aim high but start low; ***undermining is the first step, the prelude to power-taking.*** Remember what Marx said: dethroning God is priority #1. In a profane echo of **Matt 12 & Mark 3**, the "strong Man" must be bound first, before you can plunder His house. Have you got it now? If you can't bind God, you can still "cripple" His effectiveness by removing Him from the area you want to invade; from the premises, or from all thought, discussion, and avenues of influence. Totalists seek to dethrone God by taking away His *throne* since they can't take *Him* away. And *that's* why any mention of God must be removed from the "public square" (public discussion that implies the validity of the Judeo-Christian concept of God). If there's no God *on* the throne, it's an *unoccupied* throne and therefore not a throne at all; hence, there is no ruling authority after all *until totalitarianism fills that seat of power.*

When people speak of the "long march through the institutions," this is precisely what they're talking about: destroy the family, marriage, public education, free and public religious speech, and in turn, all of society's *true* morality will crumble into dust. The plan is to ***create a moral crisis and then pretend to offer the only solution to the crisis!*** It's just that simple, just that absurd: set the house on fire and then present yourself as the Fire Department!

THE CRISIS-CREATION BUSINESS

When we say that government is never a producer, but always a taker, we mean that government has no assets of its own, so it must take everything it needs to function from taxpayers, and fee/penalty-payers. Also, we mean that it can produce nothing *GOOD*. But there is something that those *in* government *can* produce, and they excel at it: crises (crisis after crisis after crisis); they are unbelievably prolific in that regard! So another thing that totalitarianism is...is a *Crisis Factory!*

At the time of this writing, we are suffering through yet another *government*-produced crisis, that of the *ILLEGAL Alien Border Crisis*. In this case, as it so often is, this fire has been started by one “Barack Hussein Obama,” and he refuses to put it out because he *wants* this nation to burn down! Don’t think for even a cotton-pickin’ minute that anyone else is *directly at fault* for this “humanitarian crisis.” It’s a purely *total* itarian crisis perpetrated by the executive branch of “our” government, and to whatever extent that humanity suffers because of it, the blame must be laid at the feet of the Perpetual Perp! The Usurper is to blame for his undisguised wooing of unaccompanied minors to come and crash the gates of the formerly-united states. Make no mistake, this evil thug does not see human lives threatened and lost (on *both* sides of the southern border), but (D) voters (however *ILLEGAL*), and in the very near future (2014 & 2016, mind you!). Anybody who can’t see through this is obstinately blind.

[Note: Every time I discuss “immigration reform,” I take great pains to emphasize that EVERY ONE of these *ILLEGAL* aliens is a *CRIMINAL*, pure and simple; when one breaks the law, one commits a crime, so *a lawbreaker is a criminal*. How can so many of us forget this entirely?!? Possibly worse, how can the vast majority of us *turn our backs on those who are patiently playing by the rules, attempting to enter this country LEGALLY, and with the intent of becoming active in ADDING TO this nation, and NOT DESTROYING IT* !?! *Never forget: if you want more bad (criminal) behavior, simply reward it and make it ever-more possible*. All pro-amnesty do-gooders are aiding and abetting evil and heaping injustice on those who obey the laws. Stop!]

Just *one* of the present crises has now been highlighted, but the string of Obama/(D)/totalist crises is unending...*by design*. This crucial truth must be grasped. Again, this is what totalists do: first, create a crisis, and hammer it home that there *is* a real crisis that *demands action* (set the fire and call attention to it); second, when the people clamor for a solution (“Please put out the fire, we beg you!”), you step in as the Fireman extraordinaire, in fact, the *only* fireman available; third, the *only* way to put out the fire is to smother it with tons and tons of tax monies. [what was *Osama*-Obama asking for *this* time? 3.7 BILLION *more* taxpayer dollars to throw on the fire that HE started?!? Reprehensible!]

Without getting too deep in the details, this strategy of overwhelming institutions, systems, and the electoral process, and ultimately, desperate, hope-starved individuals is sometimes referred to as the Cloward-Piven strategy. You can get a good definition of this and its history in any number of sources, both on the right and the left (leftists lionize Cloward and Piven as ingenious political pioneers, and those of us to their right do not see them as heroes, but as despicable destroyers). But what this strategy boils down to is simply this: make the current system look so hopelessly inept that the prevailing thought is that it must be overturned. This, too, is merely crisis-creation. Yes, the institution or system—any institution or system—is going to have problems, so that’s not the argument. *However*,...under the ***rule of law***, the institution-system is *legally* in place, having been agreed upon (in our American system) as ***constitutionally-accept-able and judicious*** and, historically anyway, *morally sound under God*. And here’s where advocates of “gay” “marriage” will shout loud and often about the ridiculously high divorce rate among heterosexuals (*normal* people, per God’s unchanging Word); the poor results obtained under current law are pointed out as evidence of a need to abolish the current laws and system. In other words, many people make serious judgmental errors when *the law* gives them plenty of room to do so: no-fault divorce legislation; multitudes of out-of-wedlock, responsibility-free births; single-parent welfare incentives (hard-to-resist enticements). Such society-harming trends under current law provide all the ammo totalists need to make the claim, “the system isn’t working.” They’re right about that, but they have extremely short memories: *they* set up the current legal environment that *caused* these negative outcomes. *They started the fire*, as always!

So Marxist-communist-socialist-totalist-(D)emocratic thought begins another cycle of denouncing the current system, offering (demanding) an extreme solution that will certainly be rejected by moral, sane folks, and then “compromising” on a half-way measure that really goes as far as they’d intended all along with that “smaller” step. Destruction by *increments* is much easier to achieve than destruction by full-fledged, open assault against an alerted, entrenched defense. Wise as serpents they are, harmless as doves they are not (**Matt 10:16**). So every time that a totalist publicly bemoans how not enough progress has been made—how they didn’t get what they wanted—you can be sure that when they’re out of sight and earshot, there’s a lot of gleeful backslapping going on, because they got *exactly* what they wanted for *this* go-’round. On to the next “dialogue”-overreach- “compromise”-incremental victory! [the *dialectic* wins]

Let’s briefly review and rephrase the preceding.

- In order for power to be taken, it must first be desired (*coveted*); “You gotta want it!” Totalists want all power above all else.
- In order to begin on the path to power, the existing powers must be made to look as *inept, ineffective, not* representative of your personal views, and therefore *immoral*; in a word, *contemptible*.
- In order to actually *obtain* maximum power, the masses must be enlisted as “allies” in The Great Common Cause against the powers-that-be. An army of “foot-soldiers” is needed to do the dirty work on the front end of the Revolution, but can be discarded later when full power has been obtained, and the *personal, inner-circle army* can be relied upon to do what’s necessary.
- In order to *totally* control the flow of information and all movement under the incoming/new regime, all contrary voices must be silenced (one way or another). True power-consolidation and expansion can then take place.
- Once in power, the *only* tasks are to expand it until *total* and defend what you hold *at all costs*. The end-game has then been achieved, and all that’s important in this life—the *only* life, according to totalists—is in your hands. Total power is everything.

IT ALL STARTS WITH COVETING

What we've just been relating can be succinctly summed up.

The totalist creed:

- 1. Covet power**
- 2. Get power**
- 3. Maximize power**
- 4. Defend at all costs**

I think that's as simple as anyone can make it. Even—maybe especially—a die-hard leftist would concur with this distillation. Radical Marxist guru, Saul Alinsky, could certainly agree with it, and he might well wonder aloud why he had to use so many more words to say essentially the same thing. I suggest to the reader to internalize those four short sentences. Then, when you suspect that you're seeing a pattern of totalism-in-process, you can be confident that you're onto something valid. You're not "seeing things"; it's not "just your imagination." No, it most certainly is happening right here and now in America, just as it happened in Britain, all over Europe, throughout Central and South America, Asia, and Africa. Socialism, the "gospel of envy," as Churchill correctly called it, has gone out worldwide *at the expense and to the exclusion of the true, saving gospel of Jesus Christ*. Once again, we see—and *will* see even more clearly—that totalism is completely antithetical to Christianity and to the Triune God. And it all starts with *coveting* (a word Alinsky would probably *never* use; he would plug in "want" or "desire above all else" in the 4-step formula I've given above).

We'll get such semantics out of the way first. "Coveting" in the working definition that we'll use here merely means to *inordinately desire to possess something that rightfully belongs to another*. A distinction or two should be made. A desire to have for yourself something *similar* to what belongs to another is not necessarily wrong and not coveting; wanting something *also*—like another person has, but for yourself *in addition* to that person—might well be okay. God Himself places desires in our souls that are worthy of effort, like a desire to

achieve a level of financial, academic, political, or athletic success, for just a few examples. But a desire for wrongful usurpation or theft is damnable sin before one even leaves the gate; true sin against the true God has been committed before leaving square one. Where do I get that? Well, it's right there in the Tenth Commandment, rendered for us in **Ex 20:17**. **“You shall not covet.”** Wanting anything (includes *anyone*) that rightfully belongs to your neighbor (any other human being, as Jesus illustrated in **Luke 10:27-37**) is coveting, the sin that's prohibited by *God's* Law. Again, the sin isn't in wanting to possess something *similar, in addition* to another person, but wanting that very possession that belongs *only* to another. Coveting is envying another person for what they have, and desiring to *deprive them* of their possession(s). Envy-covet-steal is the progression.

What totalists call “redistribution of wealth” *God* calls “coveting” and “stealing.” Whenever government wrongfully takes (*steals*) from one person (a responsible taxpayer) and then gives the takings to another person (who has NOT earned that money/benefit), it is covetousness AND theft on the part of the *Government Thief in search of votes*, AND the recipient of the *stolen* property who had been prompted by the government to *covet* just what they ended up receiving. Of course, we need to remind ourselves that government itself is morally-neutral. *People* IN government do the coveting and the stealing and the murdering and the parent-dishonoring, and so forth. In *God's* eyes, there's a 100% correlation between members of government and *sinner*s in government. But in *God's* eyes, too, are *degrees* of sin, *degrees* of guilt, and both forgiven and *unforgiven* sinners. For the unrepentant-unforgiven, Christ will be the *condemning* Judge, and for the repentant-forgiven, He will be the *rewarding* Judge. Either way, He is the One to whom each of us must give a final, eternally-binding account (**Matt 25:31-46; John 5:22-23; 2 Cor 5:9-10; Heb 9:27; Rev 19&20**). And when the all-seeing, all-knowing Judge hears an attempted excuse like, “Big government is necessary to give the people everything they need, so big taxes are necessary, too,” He'll have none of it on any level, and for a hundred good reasons. Consider only a few good reasons: 1) *God* is the supreme governor 2) *God* is the ultimate source and provider 3) *God* is to be worshiped, and not the state or the statist sinner 4) *God* is the Lawgiver, and His laws are irrevocable 5) *God's* laws against covetousness and theft have been broken without remorse.

For any reader who thinks I'm overstating the case or bringing in too much under the umbrella of "do not covet" and "do not steal"—as if they do *not* apply to governments as well as people—allow me just two quick reminders before we call in a Holy Spirit-inspired writer to advance and settle the case. First, government is not a living entity, it's only a concept/system *peopled by* and *run by* living humans. Second, living *people* are morally culpable; we all sin and each one of us will stand before Christ as Judge when we cease to live on this earth and enter into the boundless afterlife. Keep these things in mind as we proceed with my present thesis, which is...

TOTALITARIANISM IS IDOLATRY

As the reader may well recall, the number one goal of totalists is to create a vacancy in the throne of God. We've said that totalism is God-replacement-ism. It certainly is that. And since God prohibits having any other gods (at all) in the very first of His Ten Commandments (**Ex 20:3**), who can deny that any attempt to put something/someone else in God's place on the throne is in fact promoting and upholding an *idol* ? It's as plain as day to the mind in working condition. But as promised, let an *inspired* teacher, the apostle Paul, set things straight in very direct fashion:

Col 3:5—Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth [sinful inclinations which inhabit our earthly bodies]: **fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.** [italicized emphasis mine]

This can't be missed, it's there in black and white: covetousness IS idolatry. Covetousness *equals* idolatry. What God prohibits in the *last* of His Ten Commandments is what God *also* prohibits in the very *first* Commandment. Now we are in no way accusing God of redundancy here. God doesn't tell us the exact same thing in different words any more often than is necessary for *all* people at several different levels of understanding to let the lesson sink in. So there is something else at work here, and I think it's this: covetousness is just a *subset* or a natural part of idolatry, the "Mother of all sins," so to speak. Idolatry is sin #1.

If we look at it that way, Paul’s pronouncement, inspired by God the Holy Spirit, makes perfect sense. **Covetousness is a form of idolatry.** So in this manner, the First Commandment is inextricably linked with the Tenth Commandment, and they serve as *bookends*, so to speak. The upshot is that *all* sins are rooted in idolatry because it’s the *primary disobedience* towards God as God Himself AND His holy, immutable Law, which can not be separated from His holy being. The “other shoe” is that all *active sins* are begotten in *covetousness* ; you’ve got to want something before you can go after it. And the socialist of any stripe, preaching the gospel of envy, is more than happy to tell you what you *should* want, what you *should* covet. This is quite clear, isn’t it?

Is it true, then, that *all* sins are linked to both idolatry and covetousness? There’s an easy way to find out. Let’s take a short walk through God’s Ten Words or Commandments, The “Decalogue,” and I believe the light will come on quickly. We’ll see—together—that every time we engage in sinful action, the thought behind it is...

We want to take for ourselves what we believe God has failed to give us in the proportion that we deserve.

First (Commandment)—Who says *He’s* God? *I* want to be God. After all, *I’m* wise as can be, fair, and above reproach. I know *I* exist, and I don’t see evidence outside of myself for “God.” *I deserve to be the deity, and I’d be better at being God than “God.”*

Second—God has not shown himself to me in ways that I can understand and receive him. I want *images* that I can see and relate to. *God has not shown himself sufficiently to me, so I will define him as I see fit .*

Third—*God has not given me enough freedom to use any language I please; or... “God” does not exist, so how can I take his name in vain?*

Fourth—*God has not given me enough freedom to use all of my time in whatever way I choose; or... “Keep WHOSE day holy? “God” does not exist, so there’s no holy day in my world!”*

Fifth—*God has not given me enough freedom in the matter of honoring or dishonoring, obeying or disobeying my parents; I demand the latitude that belongs to me as a citizen of earth; or...*

Which father? Which mother? My “old man” who abandoned me, my stepfather, or the gang leader who’s been the only real father I ever had? Or that stiff old dude who was always saying that anything I ever did was wrong? My birth-mother or my step-mother or her lesbian partner? Or that stiff old lady who was always trying to tell me about Jesus and that kinda stuff. I deserve to be independent, free of “authority figures.”

Sixth—*God has not given me full freedom to remove from my life any obstacle to my living it my way. If someone disagrees with me, it’s POW-time! They get hurt or dead. [this includes even those who have the temerity to exist in a mother’s womb with hopes of surviving to see the light of day; they are only potentially inconveniences, but that’s not enough to keep them from being cruelly murdered by the millions every year! Ahem !]*

Corollary: the life of ease, personal wealth, and happiness belongs to me, so get in my way and you will pay! Or...

If there’s no God, then all is permissible. There’s no law against murder if there is no law period because no lawgiver exists.

Seventh—*God, that tyrant, hasn’t given me true sexual freedom: unrestricted, uninhibited sex of any kind without guilt or consequences. It’s as if he wants me to be lonely and miserable; Or...again, if no God, then no law and no problem!*

Eighth—*God has not given me everything I need or want, so I will take it, and I’m not to blame for his mistake. He shortchanged me, but I’ll make it right; Or...might makes right; the Haves must be made to change places with the Have-Nots if there’s to be any social justice. If we want social justice in this world, we must bring it about, because there is no higher power.*

Ninth—*God has not given me a good reputation or enough freedom to bend the truth to my advantage.*

Tenth—*God has blown it; nothing is the way I deserve to have it.*

Have you ever looked at the Ten Commandments that way? It's eye-opening, isn't it? But just in case the concepts got lost in my wordiness, here's a condensed version of what we discovered. In each case, we feel justified in breaking the particular commandment because we're convinced that God has short-changed us in that aspect of our lives. So below we've listed what God is wrongfully withholding from us, as we allege:

First—God or not, *we* deserve the rank and privileges of *deity*.

Second—God has not shown himself enough, so *we* **define** “god.”

Third—God or not, we have the right to absolutely *unfettered speech*; we are the sole masters of our own tongues.

Fourth—God or not, *my time is my own*, 24/7, 365 a year.

Fifth—God or not, we are **independent of higher authorities** and we **owe honor to none but ourselves**.

Sixth—God or not, I have the right to *remove obstacles* to my happiness *through harm or murder*.

Seventh—God or not, I have the right to *complete sexual freedom*.

Eighth—God or not, I have the freedom to *take whatever I want*.

Ninth—God or not, the *freedom to lie for advantage* is mine.

Tenth—God or not, if I don't have it, I have the right *to* have it.

Okay, let's pause for a moment. The Ten Commandments that we have just gone through twice are *universal* in their application, and if one is honest, universal in scope, when properly understood. By that we mean that all sins fall into the ten general categories outlined by God for all people in all times and cultures. No human being lives outside the reach of the Law of God. But then come along the totalists, who *turn everything totally on its head*. They'll shout that there is no God, and if that doesn't work, they'll shout that “God” is irrelevant. If that doesn't work, they'll do their best to make you forget God and try to live a godless existence of utopian bliss. If you're still not on board with the program, you become part of the *pogrom*, the uber-purge of enemies real and imagined. The initial *shouting* is past, and the *shooting* begins. The shooting goes on until somebody shoots the shooters or there's nobody left to shoot. At the rate Stalin was going, he would've soon found himself at the head of a people-vacuum.

Simply put, whatever is godly is something the totalist hates, and whatever is ungodly is something the totalist craves. Like creation and evolution, there is no common ground in the matter, nor can there be. Either God created and rules or he did not, and mankind rules. When it comes to governments, you either have God at the head or a gun at your head; under God or under the boot, as we've said. And once again, we're *not* talking about a *theocracy*, because in His wisdom and benevolence God has seen fit to construct (by *His* providential hand) a *constitutional republic* on this very soil in America; it has been blessed to an *unprecedented degree*, so that no one in their right mind can contend that this all happened *despite* God's will. The point is so simple: it's God *or* totalitarianism. All totalists are God's enemies, and not a friend of God can be found among them. You see, *God* will not be duped. While we strain and crane our necks to get a glimpse of what's happening on this horizontal plane, God effortlessly sees all from the *vertical vantage point*, and His gaze penetrates to every depth and every subatomic particle. Nothing escapes His notice, not even an individual thought. So God can see His enemies, His adamant opposers, coming a million miles away. God's enemies are enemies to *our souls* as well. So in His mercy, and with the perfect vision and impeccable "military intelligence" of an omniscient scout, He warns us—time after time after time: "soul-destroyers are coming towards you, so be prepared, and that means *now*!"

And all too often, what is our response? "Hey, I wonder if they're bringing that new, better-tasting vomit with 'em?"

We'll close this section with several side-by-side comparisons between a God-ordained, God-designed government system of *blessing* and a man-designed system that God does *also* ordain (**Rom 13:1**), but which He uses to mete out *judgment* to a chronically-disobedient people. All governments are ordained by God, but some are conduits of blessing, while others are conduits of curses. The kind a nation gets is, in the end, the kind it deserves.

Obedience to tyrants is *disobedience* to God.
Disobedience to tyrants is *obedience* to God.

GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD BY HIS DESIGN	ISSUE/CONCEPT	GOVERNMENT UNDER THE BOOT OF MEN
<p>God first, the people second</p> <p>Evil and ungodly</p> <p>Power granted by God, but shared by the people through representatives</p> <p>Primarily the responsibility of parents who are accountable to God</p> <p>Primary reason for God to protect, bless, and advance any nation</p> <p>Perversion of justice: Ex 23:6-8; Deut 16:19; 1 Sam 12:3; Psa 26:10; Amos 5:12,15; Acts 24:26</p> <p>Violation of 10th Commandment, equated with idolatry in Col 3:5 & Eph 5:5; covetous ones have no inheritance in Kingdom of God (Rom 1:29; 1 Cor 6:10)</p> <p>God gives gifts to individuals for His reasons and <i>holy</i> purposes, merit not negated</p>	<p>Allegiance (to)</p> <p>Autocratic rule</p> <p>Centralization/ concentration of power</p> <p>Child-raising/ Education</p> <p>Christians</p> <p>Corruption</p> <p>Coveting</p> <p>Cronyism</p>	<p>The state/ruling power alone</p> <p>The only way to progress</p> <p>All power ultimately concentrated in one human head of state; people subservient</p> <p>Exclusive domain of the “Village” (Government); kids <i>belong</i> to it from birth</p> <p>Worst obstacles to progress, must be ignored or silenced; out-of-touch with reality</p> <p>The necessary and natural oil that keeps things running smoothly; just how government works, so get over it</p> <p>Basis for all socialism, the “gospel of envy”; you <i>shall</i> covet before the state can help you with the problem you didn’t know you had; Utopia open to you</p> <p>The ruling power gets to pick winners and losers (think, <i>Solyndra</i>)</p>

GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD BY HIS DESIGN	ISSUE/CONCEPT	GOVERNMENT UNDER THE BOOT OF MEN
Free market, with moral constraints under God's Law	Economy	Centrally-planned, top-down, the State is the law
Families raising godly offspring for God (Mal 2:15; Ezra 9:2; Eph 6:1-4)	Educational focus	"Your children belong to us" (Hitler), to be educated to love and obey the State
All individuals created equal in the sight of God, should be given equal <i>opportunity</i>	Equality	Man has evolved, wasn't created; Govt. equalizes all <i>outcomes</i> (excepting new elite)
God the Father sees, cares, protects, rewards (Matt 6, 23:9)	Father Figure	Government is your Big Daddy, but don't cross him! (think, "Papa Joe")
Ordained & granted by God to mankind as an inalienable right	Freedom of assembly	Only State-approved assemblies allowed; violators harshly punished
No religion to be <i>forced</i> upon anyone; matter of individual conscience	Freedom of <i>religion</i>	<i>Religious</i> freedom (<i>public</i> expression of non-state religious practice) not allowed
Sacrosanct right of all individuals; <i>also</i> a matter of conscience and personal accountability to God	Freedom of <i>worship</i>	One is (supposedly, at least in political rhetoric) free to worship <i>privately</i> (lip service paid to this right)
Another God-ordained, inalienable right restricted only by His Law	Freedom of speech	Non-existent, for anyone outside the ruling elite and perceived loyalists

GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD BY HIS DESIGN	ISSUE/CONCEPT	GOVERNMENT UNDER THE BOOT OF MEN
Real and essential; let us <i>pray</i>	God-individual connection	Complete fantasy; let us <i>play</i>
Govt. is there only to protect and serve the people (“of/for/by the people”), and individuals matter	Government-people relationship	The collective masses exist only to serve and protect the ruling power; individuals are totally expendable
Merit should be rewarded, sloth must not be rewarded (2 Thes 3:10-11)	Government or <i>Giverment?</i> (Entitlements)	Take from the productive and give to the unproductive; buys loyalty and votes
Nothing wrong with <i>legal</i> entry into a country under the rule of law (<i>e.g.</i> , Deut 27:17, Job 24:2) with the intent of <i>adding to</i> national prosperity; <i>illegal</i> entry is coveting, criminal trespassing, theft, and destructive to the invaded territories	Immigration	Watch how people “vote with their feet”: which way are they gate-crashing? Trying to get out or trying to get in? Open-borders advocates throw gates open until votes are secured and control over the new wave of “useful idiots” is total; then, look out!
Christ-won, Christ-secured, so let no man be enslaved by another(1 Cor 7:23, Gal 5:1)	Liberty	Paperweight analogy: nothing moves until the king moves; State-slaves for life
True <i>liberty</i> to obey God’s Law, which is only there for our own good, individually <i>and</i> collectively; necessary moral restraints	Liberty or licentiousness	<i>Licentiousness</i> (God is not in the picture, so anything goes); the more moral chaos, the more govt. is called for, justified

GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD BY HIS DESIGN	ISSUE/CONCEPT	GOVERNMENT UNDER THE BOOT OF MEN
<p>Limited to job description: protect and serve the people</p> <p>Necessary to protect the people and their <i>worthy</i> interests; defense against <i>outside</i> attacks</p> <p>What <i>God</i> does: Job 12:23; Isa 26:15</p> <p>Triune God alone</p> <p>Responsibility to help <i>voluntarily</i> (charity free of coercion) whenever/wherever possible, but they will always be with us: Mark 14:7</p> <p>God has established it and safeguarded it as a right in His Law: 8th & 10th Commandments</p> <p>Individual dreams, goals, and their pursuit laudable and to be encouraged to aid human society; subject only to God and His Law</p>	<p>Limits on government</p> <p>Military</p> <p>Nation-building</p> <p>Omnipresence, omniscience, omnipotence</p> <p>The poor</p> <p>Private property</p> <p>Pursuit of happiness</p>	<p>None, really. Government-as-god is unlimited</p> <p>Useful weapon against outsiders AND the people; <i>all</i> State interests are worthy and automatically justified</p> <p>“Is not this great Babylon, that <i>I</i> have built?” (Dan 4:30)</p> <p>The ruling human power</p> <p>State-constructed “Utopia” will be “poverty-free” due to <i>involuntary</i> redistribution; note: almost 50 years since “War On Poverty” launched</p> <p>No such thing under totalism; all property is <i>community</i> property (where communists take their name)</p> <p>The State will tell you what you’ll do, where you’ll live, and what makes the <i>State</i> happy, which is all that really matters</p>

GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD BY HIS DESIGN	ISSUE/CONCEPT	GOVERNMENT UNDER THE BOOT OF MEN
Objective, defined by God	Reality	<i>As perceived, ever-shifting</i>
Each life, from conception to death (per <i>God's</i> timing) is sent to earth by God, and therefore, sacred; <i>He</i> says we each have the right to life	Right to life itself	The individual's life means nothing, except as a part of the collective; for the purposes of the State until deemed useless <i>by</i> the State
The Triune God's eternal, heavenly throne	Seat of power	Wherever on earth the ruling human power sits
Each one created by God; multitudes of them redeemed by God	(The) Soul	No such thing; the State owns all bodies <i>in toto</i> , each one <i>soul-less</i>
God, and they are <i>inalienable</i> (can't be taken away by men)	Source of all rights	The ruling human power; <i>always</i> subject to removal
Lawful and necessary for the <i>benefit</i> of the people (Matt 22:15-22 & 17:24-27; Rom 13:6-7) to fund large, agreed-upon (duly legislated) projects	Taxation	Spend <i>first</i> , confiscate funds <i>second</i> is the way it works; name the State "requirement" and then bill the taxpayers for the redistribution process; like your \$, but not you
God has delegated the right and responsibility to elect our representatives, so we must be properly informed about what they're doing on our behalf	Transparency in government	Entirely unnecessary, not worth the government's time; just slows real progress, and the masses are too ignorant to understand govt. workings anyway

GOVERNMENT UNDER GOD BY HIS DESIGN	ISSUE/CONCEPT	GOVERNMENT UNDER THE BOOT OF MEN
<p>God <i>can't</i> lie (Titus 1:2), commands <i>us</i> not to lie (9th Commandment), and in our courts we swear <i>to God</i> to tell the truth, whole truth, and nothing but the truth (so help me, <i>God</i>); truth is <i>constructive</i>, lies <i>destructive</i></p>	<p>Truth and lies</p>	<p>What is truth, anyway? Your truth may not be my truth, and all the truth that matters comes from the mouth of the ruling power, which reserves the right to “lie” for the good of the people; thus “lies” are often the most useful truth</p>
<p>There is no wedge to sever the God-individual connection for those who trust in Jesus Christ alone; He is the Almighty wedge-removing Mediator (1 Tim 2:5)</p>	<p>(The) Wedge of separation and division (“divide and conquer”)</p>	<p>The Wedge takes many forms, any of which can be most effective: hammer it in between family members, classes, “races,” but especially between God and humans</p>
<p>The will of the one true, triune God is supreme and will be done</p>	<p>(The) Will</p>	<p>As the ruling power wills, so shall it be done, and without question</p>

WRAP-UP

One thing can be said for the totalists: they are unswervingly consistent. They are wrong *100%* of the time; they've got *everything* turned inside-out and backwards. Why, even a broken clock, with its hands fixed in place, is at least right *twice* each day! But totalists are *totally* wrong *at* every time *in* every time!

Final suggestions: There's *only one more page* (!) of my material to get through in this section, but please read and absorb it. Beyond that, I'm content to turn you over to more qualified writers such as those listed on the ensuing pages.

F.A.T.W.A.

Early in this section, it was asserted that the political-religious system of Islam is indeed a form of totalitarianism. There won't be any backing away from that assertion here. We will reiterate: Islam (literally, “*submission*”) is a *political system first*, though it's dressed in religious garb in order to be able to take full advantage of religious freedom in this country (as well as others). *Full advantage? Make that full advantage and then some*, as Muslims have succeeded in becoming the darlings of the politically-correct set. Anything Judeo-Christian must be eliminated, and the “religion of peace” must be given every consideration.

Back on page 56, I introduced the acronym, *F.A.T.W.A.* for **F**undamental **A**merica-**T**ransforming **W**ar-**A**ction. Alert readers probably caught on right off the bat: there are three “veiled” references involved. First, the current *bad* ministration, when coming into power, bragged that they were just five days away from “*fundamentally transforming America.*” Of course, it became obvious almost immediately that the fundamental-transformation process was going to take on all the aspects of a leftist, fascist “holy War,” where **A**ction, *constant aggressive action*, was the keyword (this is another thing regarding the methodology of fascists that was made quite clear by Jonah Goldberg in *Liberal Fascism*). So there's the second reference, which readily leads to the third: *fatwa* is an Arabic-Muslim word for an edict—usually a death sentence—issued by a religious authority (only an *Islamic* religious authority, of course). In the case of Osama Obama's *fatwa*, a death sentence against *America* is being carried out by the Osama himself and apparently, it's going to be death by a thousand cuts.

If you happen to be committed to the complete-skeptic's stance, that those of us who see virtually seamless co-operation between this Manchurian Candidate Impostor and the Islamofascists are way off the mark, keep your mind open just enough to absorb two quick facts: 1) for both Alinsky-trained Marxists and Qu'ran-trained Muslims, the ends justify the means, so lying to infidels/enemies is perfectly acceptable, even honorable (Muslims call it *taqiyya*; Marxists call it “business as usual”); 2. “Barack Hussein Obama” is both Qu'ran-trained and Alinsky-trained; he never feels obligated to tell the truth. Think hard about that.

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- (Just about *anything* by Sowell is well-considered and on the mark)
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+ = Do not miss * = Educational AND Entertaining

A Nation Adrift. 2004. New Liberty Videos.

+*Agenda: Grinding America Down*. 2010. Copybook Heading Productions.

America's Islamic Threat. 2012. Christian Action Network.

Broken Promises: The United Nations At 60. 2005. Citizens United Foundation.

+*Change To Chains: The 6000 Year Quest for Control*. 2011. Amerisearch, Inc.

(8 video expositions on the content of the book by the same name, published by Amerisearch, St. Louis, MO)

District of Corruption. 2013. Judicial Watch, Inc.

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FOR *MANY* INFORMATIVE RESOURCES ON RELATED TOPICS

Christian Action Network

Citizens United

Truth In Action/D. James Kennedy Ministries (formerly Coral Ridge Ministries)

Heritage Foundation

The Voice of the Martyrs (www.persecution.com)

Wallbuilders (David Barton)

COMIC EDUCATOR: TIM HAWKINS

AND WITHOUT GOD IN THIS WORLD

Section Three **HUMANISM**

The most *pervasive* idea of all time.

Reader participation time; fill in the blank: “As long as there have been *humans*, there has been _____ism.” Yes, since the sixth day of Creation, there has been an unbroken string of natural humanists. All that really means is that since the Fall of Adam and Eve, we humans have a natural tendency to covet the place of God The Creator over all that belongs to *His* universe, including ourselves. Oh, we haven’t always had groups of people who self-identify as Humanists (capital H), but if they’d thought about organizing under the umbrella of Humanism way back in ancient Biblical days, ...*wait a second* ; they *did* !

With the initial genealogies of **Gen 5** having just been presented, God directs our attention in **Gen 6** to Mankind’s thorough, *worldwide* descent (**Gen 6:1-13**). God refers to *all of mankind* as “man” when He says in **Gen 6:3**,

My Spirit shall not strive/abide [“put up with”] *man* forever, for *he* is indeed flesh; yet [more] **his days shall be one hundred and twenty years** (NKJV) [the limits of His grace towards those thoroughly wicked generations would extend only 120 years more].

The first details we want to notice here are:

1. God saw 99.999999999% of “men” as “flesh” (sinners devoid of any conscience-led soul-stirrings toward God). The picture is that, with the lone exception of Noah (**Gen 6:8**), all “men” were walking, virtually soulless meat;
2. **Gen 6:4** refers to “mighty men” who were “men of renown.” Question: unless you have a *hierarchy* built on relative strength and fame/reputation (renown), how could God speak in this manner? Clearly, the people themselves had at least some *organization* in their *worldwide opposition to God* as the King (the “wickedness of man was *great in the earth*” and “the *earth was filled* with violence”— **6:5 & 6:11**) . “*All flesh had corrupted their way* [singular] on the earth”—**6:12**. In other words, “all men”/ “all flesh” weren’t passive and disunited in their opposition to God’s rule; they were actively *corrupting their way* and putting their own kind on the throne *together*;
3. We don’t have to read how some “International Humanist Society” was founded in those ancient days to see what was going on. “Man” wanted God out, and Man in. This is *humanist* thinking, plain and simple. Humans—all of us—are naturally born with a strong desire for autonomy (self-rule). A God-opposing individual who has enough sense to reckon that he or she doesn’t have what it takes to get to the top and be *The King of all Men/ Flesh*, will gladly let another *human* take on that role and that honor, but the transcendent *God...?* No way!
4. Putting this all together, we can easily recognize the universal and natural affinity for *humanism over and against God*.

“WE’RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER”

Although I’m not sure that any of today’s humanist-driven organizations have ever used the above as an *official* slogan, for *my* money, it would be a good candidate. Because this is just how “they *get* ya!” It has to be about the easiest-sell going. The “togetherness” conveyed is hard to resist, especially for those who are rudderless to begin with. Think of how cults and gangs work, for example. They pick off isolated “losers” and pretend to give them warmth, acceptance, and direction. Humanism is the all-time “feel-good” 24/7/365 campaign. I’m OK, you’re OK, and all humanity is OK; at least compared to that killjoy ogre, “God.”

Pack this away as theme #1 for humanists: **humans rule, God is out.**

The corollary is this: since God is a very *big* monster, it’ll take *every single human being* in the universe to *join together in opposition* to him, if he is ever to be displaced. But we can do it. If we can convert or squelch into irrelevancy all those who want to follow the Enemy of humanity, it can be done. And wouldn’t that be so way-cool if we did it? I mean, kick God out of *our* lives, and for good?

Here’s a brief thought-experiment. *Relax*, this won’t be tough. Just guess who said the following:

“My object in life is to dethrone God and destroy bigotry.”

- (multiple choice):
- A) a famous living humanist
 - B) a not-so famous living humanist
 - C) a not-so living humanist
 - D) a guy with the blood of millions on his hands
 - E) both C & D
 - F) none of the above; something’s fishy here

Answer: F, but only because I subbed “bigotry” for “capitalism.” Otherwise, E (both C&D) would’ve been correct, since *Karl Marx* made the statement.

Now, the way I worded that question and the possible answers was deliberately deceptive in order to make a point. By putting that modern-day buzzword “bigotry” into the quote, I tried to take advantage of typical humanist sensibilities that are propagated and received as “gospel” everywhere these days. The point is that humanism has got most of us singing their tunes, and the tail is wagging the dog. When they show the flashcard that reads BIGOTRY, we respond to our non-stop conditioning to think either of race, religion, or homosexuality, don’t we? (There might well be other categories; I just can’t keep up with them).

But back to the Marx quote, and back to Marx, the *humanist*. Yes, the inhuman humanist. You find that odd, do you? Let me explain in short bursts:

Atheists can be totalists can be humanists, and probably are.
(they are united in their *opposition* to God)

Christians *can’t* be atheists, totalists, or humanists.
(we are all servants and worshipers of the true God, *The King*)

(For the big-word-users): **There is a total *antithesis* between the theocentric (God-centered) worldview and the anthropocentric (man-centered) view; no room for *synthesis*.** [the law of “Fish-or-cut-bait”]

Karl Marx made it his life’s work to *first* dethrone God, and *then* destroy “capitalism” (*his* slur on free-market economies, so there’s another example of how easily we’re co-opted into supporting God-opposing language). Totalitarianism, which Marx most certainly was advocating (the *father of communism*, the purest strain), always seeks to dethrone God first, and *then* get and hold all power. And humanism completes the unholy, A-T-H trio by seeking to dethrone God first, and then, happiness will break out all over the Utopian Universe: Don’t worry, be happy; there’s no Mr. Killjoy to kick us around anymore!

Reader, you do see this, don’t you? An atheist can easily find like-thinkers in the totalist and/or humanist camps. And it can work just as easily going in the other direction, or in any direction among the three, which are practically *one*.

Technically speaking, Marx was not an atheist. He just hated God with an abiding passion, knowing all along that there wasn't anything he could do to make God *truly* non-existent. So he devoted his life to making Him non-existent in the minds of other humans. Marx—the humanist—said, “Man is the highest being for man.” That's raw humanism, cut-and-dried; *no* God, and Man at the top *as* God.

It's true far more often than not: an atheist/agnostic is a totalist and a humanist. None of the three systems—supposedly religious, political, and philosophical, respectively—can flourish or even survive with the true God anywhere in the picture. ***Opposition to God***, we say again, is the ***common ground***. If any human being thinks that he or she is arch-enemy #1 of any A-T-H-ist, they should stop trying to flatter themselves. *You're* not the primary target, and not by a long shot. But the A-T-H-ists can take *you* out, whereas they can't possibly—*actually*—take God out. They can't kill God, so you'll just have to do. And if you think about it, that describes Satan's whole career and mission. This is not a coincidence.

Consider some of the methodology that can be found in atheistic, totalist, and humanist movements. In each case, the complete “unnecessariness” of God is maintained, stressed, and relentlessly beaten into the brain. In each case, we are all told that Man can do just fine without some “God” who is nothing more than a product of pathetic imaginations, a sort of mental crutch that's always at hand. Do you want a true friend on whom you can depend? Well, here I am, Comrade Earth-citizen, or...I'm from the Government and I'm here to help, or...Hey, we're all in this together. The message: There's no God, only us.

When I first set out to write a book (which turned into a trilogy) about 6 paths of destruction that would fit the acronym, *ATHEOS* (without God/godless), I naturally thought of *each* of the three *-isms* examined in this particular volume in its own turn. But really—and ultimately—there's very little difference between them. They're practically interchangeable in their goals and where they end up: the goals won't be realized, but final and eternal destruction will be. So in the interest of moving things along in this section on **H**umanism, from here we'll confine the discussion to the Humanist Manifestos and interaction with 'em.

FIRST, THERE WAS THE *COMMUNIST MANIFESTO*

In 1848, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels co-wrote and released, *Manifesto of the Communist Party*, or what is usually referred to as *The Communist Manifesto*. That manifesto closely followed a draft written by Engels in 1847, *The Principles of Communism* (published in 1914). In both can be seen the roots of 20th-21st Century Humanism. The gist is this: out with God working through families by His design, and in with the family of Man without God. (Let me suggest to all readers to read for themselves The Manifesto; copies are available for download and included on some educational CD-ROMs; I'm working with a downloaded and printed copy that includes all prefaces and other related documents, so my sources for what follows are right here, at hand).

The attack alluded to above—on God's basic unit of all society, the family as He's designed it—begins in the first chapter. Not far into the text, 11 out of 12 consecutive paragraphs begin, "The bourgeoisie...." This is a run of blame-delegation paragraphs, where Marx (principally, as Engels later pointed out repeatedly), lays full blame for every social ill at the feet of "the bourgeoisie." By *bourgeoisie* Marx really means *ruling-class families*, as is proved in this most ironic paragraph, the 4th of the 12 mentioned:

"The bourgeoisie has torn away from the family its sentimental veil, and has reduced *the family relation to a mere money relation.*"

Why do I say, "ironic?" It's hard to miss the sarcasm of the family's "sentimental veil," but he charges the bourgeoisie—his sworn enemies—with tearing it away *from themselves*. So this is a very confusing statement by a very confused man. Was he pretending to *defend* the family as it had been in his zeal to blame the ruling class for *everything* that could be perceived as bad? Or did he intend to throw two fatal stones at once? Whatever the case, the last clause is clear: to him, families had become mere machines for passing on wealth and perpetuating the class distinctions. This strain of thought is made explicit in the first, second, third, and tenth "planks" of the communist party "platform" listed in chapter two of The Manifesto. See for yourself:

1. *Abolition of property in land* and application of *all rents of land to public purposes*. [private family farms, lands, estates, and establishment of family businesses—rents/uses of any land—are all swept out by this]
2. *A heavy progressive or graduated income tax*. [this is *gradual, incremental* confiscation of wealth by the government; You want to earn loads of capital? Fine! You can turn an ever-greater proportion of it over to the government! Earnings belong to the State Family, not yours]
3. *Abolition of all rights of inheritance*. [*very clear, no?; Prov 13:22—A good man leaves an inheritance to his children’s children. ComMan 2:3—The State inherits all.*]
10. *Free education for all children in public schools*. [it can only be “free” if all taxpayers pay for it; children become robotic parrots of Statethink by nature and by design; human beings are wrenched from the true family of God’s design and purpose and converted into State-supporting property (isn’t *that* ironic, too?)]

Here’s another telling passage:

“The bourgeois *clap-trap about the family and education*, about the *hallowed co-relation of parents and child*, becomes all the more disgusting, the more, by the action of Modern Industry, all the family ties among the proletarians [the only *good* people] are torn asunder, and their children transformed into simple articles of commerce and instruments of labor.” [italics mine for emphasis]

As far as I can tell, Marx here contends that the owners and managers of “Modern Industry” are the only ones who *really* break up families by exploiting especially the children as workers in their factories. Because there’s a kernel of truth in this, this is an entry point for communist ideology into Christian circles. While this argument carries some weight, Marx is being uber-hypocritical in making it. He himself cares not a fig for preserving families—*any* traditional families, regardless of class—but is instead hellbent on abolishing them all.

So Karl Marx was no more a friend to God-designed families than he was to God-designed, God-provided gifts to mankind of any sort, notably freedom. According to Marx's reverse-engineered version of all human history, God had no (good) part in it, and everything that occurred in human history had *evolved* that way. *Especially* religion. When Marx gives a voice to his objectors, see if you detect the same *projection* in his statement that I do. ["Projection" being, as I understand the psychological term, the act of accusing another person of holding a supposedly *opposing* view that you in fact *agree* with! You *project* your innermost thoughts and motives onto another party in public view, and attack 'em, and thus expose your *own* in the process; communists, Islamists and (D)s are *world-class* at this! "Look what *they* do or say, but that *I'd/we'd* never do or say!"]

[Marx has a *critic* saying this, remember]

"There are, besides, eternal truths, such as Freedom, Justice, etc., that are common to all states of society. But ***Communism abolishes eternal truths, it abolishes all religion, and all morality***, instead of constituting them on a new basis; it therefore acts in contradiction to all past historical experience."

Now, I may not be using the psychological term correctly, but isn't it obvious that by putting these charges in the mouths of imaginary critics of Communism, Marx is actually betraying his own true goals? After all, just look at how all Marxist movements have interpreted him; they *all* do in fact seek the abolition of all ***eternal truths, religion, and morality***. This *is* Marxism, this defines it.

"I thought we were through with Totalitarianism!" you say. No, no, no. What we're trying to accomplish here is to show that Humanism is deeply rooted in Marxist Totalitarianism. And we'll keep saying that humanists and totalists are ***very often embodied in one person***: the same displacement of God and His institutions, the same public courting of fellow humans, albeit for different (stated) purposes. When we proceed from this very brief glance at the Communist Manifesto's main thrusts—stabbing at God, religion, and *God's* institutions of the family and private property—we'll readily see how the Humanist Manifestos grow out of that root document. That, reader, is the plan.

HUMANIST MANIFESTO (1933)

Some things to look for and to keep in mind, as we examine leading Humanists' own descriptions of where they stand:

1. As with atheists and totalists, *misdirection* is the first step of the humanist strategy: take a person's eyes off God, and you've got them where you want them: in a state of idolatry, and on the path of eternal destruction (like themselves; misery loves company);
2. For humanists, like both atheists and totalists, there are no moral absolutes and there are no absolute truths; since such things would have to issue from an eternal, unchanging, omniscient God, God must be dismissed from His own universe, and Man ascends to the position of Arbiter (*Man decides* what is true, and truth is ever-shifting and ever-evolving);
3. In the Man-defined universe, there's no room for any *actual* spiritual or *super-natural* elements; there's nothing other than the physical-material, whatever exists *naturally*, though it's convenient to speak of things like the "human spirit" or the "generosity of the human spirit"; [another IRONY alert]
4. Considering 1 through 3, the Creator-God who is self-described and self-defined in His own eternal, infallible and unchanging Word (the Bible AND Jesus Christ, The Word incarnate) can *not* have any part in the Humanist universe. God as He exists (the divine, supernatural Spirit—**John 4:24; 2 Cor 3:17**), and in His offices as Judge, Lawgiver, and King (**Isa 33:22**), is excluded from all Humanist thought. *Man* (humanity) is the judge, lawgiver, and king, so he "*is the measure of all things.*" [Quote from Protagoras, in the *5th Century BC* ; as I said before, humanists had been around a long time before they became **H**umanists with the capital H; further attesting to this is the fact that the Tower of Babel organized-rebellion episode described in **Gen 11** occurred roughly 18 centuries *before* Protagoras lived, who made *his* statement about 2500 years ago!]

Okay, without further exposition, here is the first sentence of the 1933 Humanist Manifesto (available online, among other sources):

*The **time has come** for widespread recognition of the radical changes in **religious beliefs** throughout the **modern** world. [bold emphasis mine, here and throughout, and my commentary will always be offset in these brackets]*

[Right off the bat, these Humanists, representing Humanity, have decided that “the time has come”—because we live in “the modern world” that has resulted from evolution in all areas—to get out the measuring rod and the defining inkpens. The first thing to be thus treated is the area of “**religious beliefs**”; after undergoing the “radical changes,” just where did they land?]

[A bit further on, they continue]: ***Religions** the world over are **under the necessity of coming to terms with new conditions created by a vastly increased knowledge and experience.***

[**Religion must bow to Science**; interesting use of the words, “created by” isn’t it? *The self-existing eternal Creator can’t create, but lifeless processes can!* As they say in *Barney Google-land*, “Won’t wonders never cease?!?”]

[And here is the central theme and the justification for it]: *In every field of human activity, the vital movement is now in the direction of a candid and explicit humanism.*

[I didn’t bother to use any bold emphasis because it should be quite clear that they’re saying in effect, “Humanism is now the only game in town. No sense beating around the bush, so here is your complete fact-set, all laid out.”]

[And here come those facts]: *In order that **religious humanism** may be better understood we, the undersigned, desire to make **certain affirmations** which we believe the facts of contemporary life demonstrate.*

[Here it is again, so we can interact with it more easily on the same page]:

*In order that **religious humanism** may be better understood we, the undersigned, desire to make **certain affirmations** which we believe **the facts of contemporary life demonstrate.***

[Okay! Where does one start? First of all, *they* aren't shy about calling humanism "religious," so why should opponents be mocked for calling humanism a *religion*? Secondly, "the undersigned" have set themselves up as the definers and high priests of this new and necessary religion, because it is only they who are qualified to make "certain *affirmations*" (they're not making *guesses*, in other words) *on behalf of all humanity*. Put another way, from the mass of worldwide humanity have emerged this *elite* group who have rightly understood what has been demonstrated by "the facts of contemporary life." Sliced to the bone: *they* get it, and the rest of us don't. "We have to pass this [2000+ page] bill so that you can find out what's in it." Amazing how often that Pelosi quote comes to mind! Thirdly, if the "facts of contemporary life" keep *evolving* as Science *vastly increases knowledge and experience*—and Science itself is always shifting to new ground, never staying in one spot for long—then this religion that's being defined is being defined only for a *tick* in time; religion by their definition becomes virtually superseded and extinct with the last period in their latest text! Whereas true Christianity is fixed *in time* and *for eternity* by God's pronouncements of fact in the Bible, the proposed humanist religion is a constantly-moving target, and therefore worthless to people in *any* age! After all, how can you live your life as a member of The Church of What's Happening *Now*? (thanks, Flip Wilson). "*Now* becomes the Past *instantly*! It's just that *elusive*, so you can't depend on it at all, much-much less as a polestar of guidance in your life. *Please*, reader, we both know that God gave us much more brainpower than the wisest of us will ever use, but it takes only a "standby/sleep mode" setting to get us through to this truth: any religion worth its salt must be a well-defined, well-ordered one. At a bare minimum, it must provide *real stability* in a person's life, something on which one can lean with confidence. What good would your home be to you if it was in a new, unknown location every time you tried to return to it? It'd be worthless, of course, and a "religion" of a mere moment in time is equally worthless.]

(After paying some dutiful generic lip service to religions for having been “*means for realizing the highest values of life,*” and acknowledging that “*religion itself remains constant in its quest for abiding values, an inseparable feature of human life,*” [Translation: yeah, yeah, humans gotta involve themselves in the *quest* [search] for “highest/abiding values”—it’s an *inseparable* feature of human life—but...]) *Today man’s larger understanding of the universe, his scientific achievements, and deeper appreciation of brotherhood, have created a situation which requires a new statement of the means and purposes of religion.*

[Wow. To continue from where we left off just before this last bit, in a nutshell, they’re saying: “Yeah, yeah, everybody’s searching for higher, abiding values because that’s part of being human, (guess that evolved, too) *but...*we, the undersigned, are here to tell you exactly where that quest ends, exactly what your religion must be (belief-set and means of practice), and why you must hold to that religion (purposes). This new statement of ours defines the new religion as it has been received from the hand of Science and sponsored by the good people at Coca-Cola, who “would like to teach the world to sing, in perfect *har-mo-nee.*” And the new, mandatory religion *is.....*(drum roll; the envelope, please) **Humanism!** Oh! Oh! What a come-from-nowhere victory! Who could’ve predicted it? Three cheers for Humanity!!! Long evolve the king/queen of evolution to this point, though eminently replaceable by yet-higher life forms!]

[Maybe I should include wet wipes with my books to wipe away dripping sarcasm]

[Before we leave the most-recently quoted statement of theirs, please take note of a couple more things. One is that “religion” (the old, traditional stuff) has apparently dropped the ball *big-time* in failing to establish and appreciate “brotherhood.” At this, I have to snicker. Obviously, this statement was written before feminists could insist on adding “sisterhood” as well. But I digress. Their point is that Science and its holy implications had to instruct religion on this issue, as on all others. At this, I must roll my eyes, “Oh, *brother!*” Because it was *evolutionists* who consistently taught that the human *race* was divided into *races* through the

differing rates of progress on the evolutionary branches. You get nothing of the sort from reading The Bible, that book of God that must be rejected in favor of *On The Origin of Species...or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life* and the overtly-racist, *Descent of Man*. Ahem. The other thing we should notice here is that these godless humanists again have man's "larger understanding," "scientific achievements" and "deeper appreciation" *creating* a situation "which requires a new statement." So it's not even "man" who creates the situation by *applying* his understanding to achieve and appreciate, but those extensions *from* man that live on their own and do the creating! Granted, that may sound like semantic nit-picking, but consider this: *the entire evolutionary process is—they would have us believe—a mindless, undirected, yet CREATIVE ENTITY*. People, you can't have it both ways. You can't totally *de*-personalize a process that *requires* a person behind it to make it go! Even a computer requires a programmer. A *lifeLESS* entity can't pass along life to another, simply because it lacks the thing to pass on in the first place. And here, these humanists have decidedly tipped their hand; they're claiming that the "situation which requires a new statement" has been created by forces outside of themselves, and even outside of all human control, as if *the lifeless evolutionary mechanism has called for it*. Incredible! They've *de*-personalized both God *and* humanity, and *personalized* a lifeless process and given it ultimate creative power!]

[Regarding this "new statement of the means and purposes of religion]: *Such a vital, fearless, and frank religion capable of furnishing adequate social goals and personal satisfactions may appear to many people as a complete break with the past*. [Nahhh, get out! Where could anybody get *that* impression?] [Note, too: "*social goals*."]]

[Final lip service to outdated religions]: *While this age does owe a vast debt to the traditional religions*, [go on, we're listening] *it is none the less obvious that any religion that can hope to be a synthesizing and dynamic force for today must be shaped for the needs of this age*.

[Traditional, non-evolving theism out, ever-synthesizing religion in.]

[Let's look at that last statement again]:

*any religion that can hope to be a synthesizing and dynamic force for today **must be shaped** for the needs of **this** age.*

[Some rejoinders from a traditional theist (believer in God):

1. Who says that any religion today *must* be an evolving, synthesizing one? *You* maybe, but not God. A dynamic force? Yes, absolutely. Evolving and synthesizing? Never.
2. Who says that religion *must be shaped* by the needs of this age? *You* do, but I don't have any *need* to listen to you. I *do* need to listen to God, however. Evolution and synthesis have no part in His Kingdom. Primary human needs don't change.

SEMI-TECHNICAL BUT HELPFUL NOTE

Summun bonum is a Latin phrase for “the highest good.” At issue here are two things: 1) How is the *highest good* to be defined, and 2) Who does the defining?

Obviously, humanists claim the right to define it, and they'll usually say something like, “The greatest happiness [in the here and now] for the greatest number of people.” Now that sounds good and sweet and all, but people can have very different ideas about what can make them happy, and many of those ideas do *not* take into consideration what makes *other* people happy; so somebody still has to “play God.” However, if we let *God*—who *made* the universe for the *benefit* of humans, and whose glory is wrapped up partly in that workmanship and ongoing care—if we let *Him* decide what is the highest good, we can actually make progress towards that God-defined goal: love, honor, and obey the King, and He will shower blessings on His children that will radiate outward to all humanity in general. The highest good from The Highest Good; now *that* makes sense!

3. Only *people* are capable of “religion.” But once again, you have the inanimate, unintelligent, directionless *process* of evolution (of *social needs* in this case) dictating what *has to be* to humans! And you call yourselves *human* ists?!? Hang your heads, poseurs!]

[The last words of their introduction—the last words before listing their 15 *affirmations*—are these]: *To establish such a religion is a major necessity of the present. It is a responsibility which rests upon this generation. We therefore affirm the following:* [*Establish religion?!? I thought they were against that!*]

[It was a *major necessity* to *establish such a religion* (“vital, fearless, and frank,” remember) right *then* (*yesterday*, if not sooner!), *within that generation* (so those alive in 1933 could see it happen before they died, and future generations could live free, without God). Apparently, the world was going to *Heaven* in a handbasket, so something had to be done! Or at least, too many Christians were so heavenly-minded that they weren’t any earthly good (a kernel of truth in that, perhaps?)

[Well, it must have cheered their holy humanist hearts to see Hitler named as chancellor of Germany that very year, and take over as dictator from 1934 onward. And Stalin, in 1935, decreed that Russian children as young as 12 were subject to the same punishments as adults—steal potatoes? 8 years in a labor camp for you! Nice *human* rights, eh? But at least Hitler, Stalin, and Mussolini had *all* done so much to kill traditional (outdated, non-evolving) religion, right? Each one was an ardent evolutionist, so how bad could they be, right? And who could say that the *new* religion they followed—and insisted upon with “dynamic force”—was not “vital, fearless, and frank?” That it was, and that they were—in spades. They were listening to the elite humanists; they got the message. That message was, “The time has come” (first four words of the *Humanist Manifesto* of 1933).]

[One “hanging chad” before we let the humanist affirming begin. In case any reader thought that my characterization of Karl Marx as a humanist was out of bounds—despite his unmistakably clear humanist statements—let’s let Paul Kurtz, co-author of *Humanist Manifesto II*, weigh in with his assessment. He called Marx “one of history’s great humanist thinkers,” and said that he was a Humanist (capital H) because “he rejects theistic religion and defends atheism.” (David A. Noebel, *Understanding The Times*, 1991, p. 57). Believe me now?]

THE 15 AFFIRMATIONS

FIRST: *Religious humanists regard the **universe** as **self-existing** and **not created**.*

[Eternal Creator-God out, eternal universe-god in. We should remember, too, that humanists can be polytheists (have multiple gods) or atheists (claim to have no gods); they just are never bound to the one true God described in the Bible. So for them, it's nothing to have man as god, the universe as god, a dictator as god, and Mother Earth as god, *etc.*, one minute—in one conversation—and in the next minute—the next conversation—no god of any kind. Their “creed” might be summed up, “Whatever.” The god-thing is no big deal, as long as particular humans get their way and God is banished.]

SECOND: *Humanism believes that man is a **part of nature** and that he has emerged as a **result** of a continuous **process**.*

[It's obvious now that I didn't exaggerate when I charged humanists with attributing creative power to a *PROCESS*; they claim right here that *man* (humanity itself) is a *RESULT* of a continuous process. And what might that process be, pray tell? Why, Darwinian evolution, silly! *Evolution*, courtesy of the self-existing universe. One other thing on this: “man” is merely a *part of nature*, and does not have dominion over it as God says in His Word (**Gen 1:28-30, 9:2**).]

THIRD: *Holding an organic view of life, humanists find that the traditional dualism of mind and body must be rejected.*

[Hiding behind terms like “organic” and “dualism” as they are, some *huge implications* could easily be missed: 1) “Thinking” is reduced to chemical combinations, reactions and spurtings (flattering, no?); and 2) The *soul* is given *no place in the human being*. Let's pause and chew on this for a while. “Traditional religion”—as these humanists characterize it, and that certainly includes Biblical Christianity—holds to a unity of mind *and* body in a human being; humans have

a *dual* nature. Furthermore, the *soul* **does** exist *within the mind* as the *non-physical, invisible* “person-part” that will live on after separation from the body. All of this is Biblical, and therefore true. But humanists, as well as all evolutionists by default, insist that something that can’t be seen or handled simply does not exist. Hence, the “soul” can’t exist and does not. The body is all there is, so any “thought” must be a result of a physical, chemical process or two; there’s no alternative. Intelligence then is just a matter of the “right” sequence of chemical brain-squirts lining up, and out pops what we *traditionalists* have always called a “thought.” Who knew? (Reminds me of Aaron and the ancient Israelites throwing a bunch of jewelry into a fire, and “out came this calf” —Ex 32:24)]

[Frankly, this ought to kill off humanist “thought” in a heartbeat. I mean, if they can’t even recognize that such a thing as *thought* or emotions like love, loyalty, or any kind of faith in *anything* **can** exist without a chemical basis—how can they reliably explain anything at all? We can’t even ask them, “What were you *thinking*?” because they don’t believe in non-material thinking because they don’t believe in a mind that’s *not* a slave to the body! No thoughts, just synapse-snaps.]

FOURTH: *Humanism recognizes that man’s **religious culture** and civilization, as clearly depicted by anthropology and history, are the **product of a gradual development** due to his interaction with his natural environment and with his social heritage. The individual born into a particular culture is largely molded by that culture.*

[We can agree with that last, quite unnecessary statement, but then we ask, “And why do you THINK that is? Chemicals, do your thing!” Also, we must add that not all religions originate in the imaginations of humans, as humanists so often charge. Biblical Judaism and Christianity are *received, revealed* religions; *God’s* ideas, not mankind’s.]

[Here it is again, except for their last “Well, *duh!*” sentence.]:

Humanism recognizes that man’s religious culture and civilization, as clearly depicted by anthropology and history, are the product of a gradual development due to his interaction with his natural environment and with his social heritage.

[Note with interest the following; 1) The sciences of Anthropology and History are running the slide show here, and all other commentary is disallowed; they are **clearly depicting** things, consarn it, so keep any contrary brain-squirts to yourself! 2) Man’s culture(s) and civilization(s) (both *should* be *plural*) are the dog that’s wagged by two tails: Natural Environment (I capitalize intentionally) and *social heritage*. Now, we can see, hear, smell, and touch Natural Environment elements, so we know *they* exist, but when was the last time that Science had a specimen of *social heritage* on a lab table, ready for dissection? Catch my inference? Well, if all that exists is atoms and the void (Democritus), or the *material* universe (cosmos) is all that is, was, or ever will be (Carl Sagan, 1981 Humanist Of The Year; I’m not kidding, look it up!), where did “social heritage” come into the picture? What is its chemical formula? I’m just asking, O Wise Ones! Since you’ve cornered the market on intelligent *thinking...er, ...uh.....*chemical reaction sequencing-translating (I hope I got that right!), I come to you for the answers. But take your time. 3) They might as well come clean about it: when they say “gradual development,” they’re only trying hard to *not* say “evolution.” It’s what they mean, but these authors seemed to realize that they’d already laid a whole bunch of land mines through which they themselves might have to walk someday. If they use another term that detracts from their basic underpinnings—evolutionary theory is the basis for *all* parts of their “religion”—maybe some people will *gradually* forget that and begin to be suckered-in by more appealing aspects. Bottom line: we want you to believe in evolution as much as we do and as much as we teach, but we’re just not going to call it that. As long as

everyone understands that religious culture has changed with the times and has always reflected *chemical imbalances*—as opposed to the *correct* synapse-firings of the bodies of we, the undersigned, —it’s cool. All other religionists are unfortunate rockheads, but *we* are the **Royal Affirming Theologians Society (RATS)**. Heed us!

IT’S EASY TO SEE WHERE THEY’RE HEADED, ISN’T IT?

This seems to be a good time to break off from this point-by-point analysis. It is, after all, fairly obvious that the whole Humanist position, as expressed by these “official” mouthpieces for Humanism, is just shot through with contradictions and riddled with holes. Honestly, it drains my energy and ruins my day to have to encounter wild inconsistencies and non-explanations at every turn.

- They are affirming a body of thought, but *without* thought.
- They are affirming an immense, complex, well-ordered universe that was not created by a super-intelligent God, but by a collection of atoms incapable of any intelligence.
- They are affirming that God did not create Man, but Man created “God” by a process of chemical synapse-firings in his *thoughtless* cerebral cortex, and *coincidentally*, the *same* brainsquirts in the *same* sequence happened *billions of times over* in *billions of independent bodies over thousands of years*.
- They are affirming that God does not exist, but they insist on replacing Him, and they affirm the soul doesn’t exist, but want every soul’s allegiance! This is cockamamy chicken-dung.

These are just a few observations on what lies just beneath the surface of everything Humanists assert, for anyone who cares to look. Only because I indicated that we’d look at the Humanist Manifesto (I) in its entirety do I feel the need to get through it all. But the *good news* for writer *and* reader is that we’ll switch to a more concise format. Only *some* of their phrases will be highlighted, I’ll try to limit my commentary, and I’ll trust those who want to analyze things further to build upon what we’ve established and draw their own conclusions.

[Continuing with their FIFTH affirmation]: *Humanism asserts that the nature of the universe **depicted by modern science** makes **unacceptable** any **supernatural** or cosmic **guarantees** of human values.*

[Modern Science (they might as well capitalize the name of a member of their Pantheon, right?) defines the universe and calls all the shots. This puts the kibosh on anything beyond what Science can discover (beyond Nature, the *super-natural*), so *guaranteed* human values (read: fixed moral absolutes) that would have to come from a *supernatural Being* (God) are therefore *unacceptable*.]

[Further, under the FIFTH]: (humanism) *does **insist** that **the** way to determine the existence and value of any and all realities... [We will tell you just what exists and what does not, and what has any value...] by means of intelligent inquiry [#1] and by the assessment of their relations to human needs [#2]. Religion **must** formulate its hopes and plans in the **light of the scientific spirit** [Whoa! Look at that word! “Spirit?”—where does that come from? What chemicals compose this “scientific spirit” and how much does it weigh?] and method.*

[Religion—and all knowledge—is subject to Science as Grand Inquisitor and Infallible Judge. If it meets the needs of Man, it’s in.]

SIXTH: *We are convinced that the time has passed for theism [belief in a living, active God or god(s)], deism, [belief in an absent god that was once active] modernism, [somewhat vague, but refers to trends circa 1933] and the several varieties of “new thought.” [Well of course they hate the last-mentioned! First of all, because there is no *mind* (except as a collection of *physical components*), there can be no *thought* (*period*). But nonetheless, these deniers of “thought” insist that the many *competing* schools of “new thought” are all wet, and that *their own* brand, “ScienceSpeak ”(?) is THOUGHT *defined* .]*

[So under their SIXTH Affirmation, the point is that all previous religions have been rendered useless and extinct; time to move on.]

SEVENTH: (paraphrased): *Religion=actions, purposes, experiences which are **humanly significant**; includes labor, art, science, philosophy, love, friendship, recreation; no more sacred-secular distinction.*

[Religion is here defined as whatever humans like to do to express their humanity. It's "all good" on the horizontal plane (man-to-man), and there is *no vertical plane* (God-man relationship, or that to which *God* has assigned significance). This is Humanism in its God-dismissing essence: God spoils all *good and true religion*, which is the complete brotherhood (oh,...and *sisterhood*) of all human beings. A pipedream!]

EIGHTH: *Religious Humanism considers the **complete realization of human personality** to be the end of man's life and seeks its development and **fulfillment in the here and now**. This is the explanation of the **humanist's social passion**. [Self-pats on backs.]*

[No God, no Heaven, no angels, no Hell, no soul, no Great Beyond; this is all there is, so we must all do our part to make sure that "social justice" is done for everyone; no "God" is there to do justice.]

NINTH: (more of the same, paraphrased): *Traditional religionists have always wasted their lives in worship and prayer, but we humanists get our "religious fix" from living the good life and promoting World Humanism. [For their exact words, consult a copy of this. Fun!]*

TENTH: *It follows that there will be **no uniquely religious emotions and attitudes of the kind hitherto associated with belief in the supernatural**. [That it does; it most certainly follows! Thank G...er,...uh,...thank *goodness*, that is the goodness of *man*, that the nasty business of belief in the supernatural is dead.]*

ELEVENTH: (paraphrased): *Make no mistake, [stuff] happens. But armed with the evolved, collective intelligence of humanity, you can face anything in a **manly** way [they would have to add, “or womanly” (way) since about the late 60’s]. Also, no “unreal hopes and wishful thinking.” [Yeah, some of you just never learn, do you? How many times do we have to tell you that “God” is unreal? Or “Heaven’s above, and not on earth? Wishful thinking is all that is!”]*

TWELTH: *Believing that **religion must** work increasingly for joy **in living**, [on earth, the ONLY life there is] religious humanists aim to foster the creative in man and to encourage achievements that add to the satisfactions of life. [Another thing that religion must do. And you *thought* you knew something about religion! Note also that they “aim to foster the creative **in man**.” Seems to me that if they mean it, they should reclaim some of the creative power that Evolution’s been hogging since the 19th Century; like *all* of it!]*

THIRTEENTH: *Religious humanism maintains that all associations and institutions exist for the fulfillment of human life. [SHOCKER: I agree with this to a certain extent. Only I would substitute the word *benefit* for fulfillment, and add, “and more importantly, to give glory to God.” The statement would then read, “All associations and institutions exist for the *benefit* of human life, and *more importantly*, to give glory to God.” I’d sign on to *that* if I was able to sign anything at all after some of these “tolerant” humanists beat me senseless and chopped off my hand. Or slew me for defending the *institution* of God-designed marriage. Tolerance *rules!*]*

(the last line under #13, paraphrased): *All traditional religious institutions, forms, methods, and activities must be shaped-up or shipped-out. [Their exact word is “reconstituted”—rebuilt from scratch, in other words—according to the Scientific-Humanist, one-size-fits-all Grand Template. One Temple of Man, one Template. Many *gods* ... but You-Know-Who can’t be acknowledged.]*

FOURTEENTH: [Call this “*The Demand for Socialism*” clause. Surprised? Shame on you! Just how long ago did you doze off?] They say, “*The humanists are firmly convinced ...that a radical change in methods, CONTROLS, and motives must be instituted. A SOCIALIZED and cooperative ECONOMIC ORDER must be established to the end that the equitable [equal, regardless of effort or worthiness] distribution of the means of life be possible...Humanists DEMAND a shared life in a shared world.*” [Like I said, here they demand socialism.]

[Now can you see why I claimed that this *Humanist Manifesto* was rooted in the *Communist Manifesto* ? It’s plain as day. Communism and Humanism have been linked arm-in-arm in this affirmation/demand. One thing I’ll grant: we do live in a *shared world* . But that’s another “Well, *duh* !” non-statement; it restates the obvious. And to then make that flimsy nothing-statement the basis for the conclusion that we *MUST* re-distribute the “means of life” so that everybody on Planet Earth is *equally poor* is inexcusably invalid.

Don’t stop me if you’ve already heard this one, because Margaret Thatcher nailed it cold: “**The problem with socialism is that sooner or later you run out of other people’s money.**” When all the taxes, fees, and penalties (other people’s money coerced by government for redistribution) have been spent,... *now* what? This is the immorality, near-sightedness, and idiocy of socialism.]

FIFTEENTH AND LAST: [Hip-hip hooray!]: *We assert that humanism will: (a) affirm life rather than deny it; [except for babies in the womb and old folks we won’t miss too much] (b) seek to elicit the possibilities of life, not flee from them; [possibilities forus, not those fetuses and elderly who get in the way] and (c) endeavor to establish the conditions of a satisfactory life for all, not merely for the few. By this...humanism will be guided, etc. [Stay tuned for the wrap-up and the Postgame Show—next page.]*

(Closing sentences): “...*the quest for the good life is still the central task for mankind. Man is at last becoming aware that he ALONE is responsible for the realization of the world of his dreams, that he has within himself the power for its achievement. He must set intelligence and will to the task.* [Will, Human Will.]

[There, now doesn't that stir your blood to get out there and gang-tackle Christians, tear down God's goalposts, and hold high the holy banner of Humanity?!? Huzzah! Give US the Good Life, or give YOU death!]

The world of Man's dreams is a world without God.

*My law-givers are Erasmus and Montaigne,
not Moses and St. Paul—British humanist,
E.M. Forster.*

*The greatest thing of the world is for a man
to know how to be his own—Montaigne.*

*Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments,
just as the LORD my God commanded me—
Moses, Deut 4:5.*

*For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to
himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if
we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we
live or die, we are the Lord's—**St. Paul, Rom 14:7.***

FAIRLY BRIEF LOOKS AT HUMANIST MANIFESTOS II & III,
AND WE'RE DONE

(As Dieter on *Sprockets* might say, “Their story has grown tiresome.”)

Two more “official” Humanist Manifestos were released to the public since the first in 1933. In 1973, *Humanist Manifesto II* was composed by Paul Kurtz and Edwin H. Wilson and generally agreed to by approximately 315 original and “additional” signers. It was intended to be a revised update of its forerunner, in the “spirit” of ever-evolving standards as dictated by new scientific discoveries in all fields of inquiry. It’s obvious, by its content, that evolutionary theory undergirded everything for humanists in 1973, just as it did in 1933. There are differences in language and terminology, and the affirmations are presented as a set of “common principles” and “positive” ones at that, not for “man,” but for “human-kind.” We’ll—as promised above—take only a brief look at some of the language updates and slight variations from the form and thrusts of *Humanist Manifesto I*.

1. In the Preface, the authors acknowledge a curve thrown at them by history, as they are compelled to recognize that “Nazism has shown the depths of brutality of which humanity is capable.” Go figure, what with Nazism being evolutionary theory applied to its logical ends. It seems though, that the humanists were taken by surprise by that turn of events and other totalitarian human rights abuses, for they claim to have learned from them that “inhuman wars can be made in the name of peace.” Really? Hmmm. Something to get those brain chemicals working on, eh?

2. Further on in the Preface they claim, “*Faith*, commensurate with advancing knowledge, is also necessary” (in addition to “an affirmative and hopeful vision”). But exactly two sentences later, they resume the attack on “traditional theism (*faith* in a God). And just in case there’s any confusion regarding the God to which they’re referring, they say, “faith in the prayer-hearing God, assumed to live and care for persons, to hear and understand their prayers, and to be able to do something about them.” Faith in *that* God is “an unproved and outmoded faith.” Oh. “*Salvationism*, based on mere affirmation, still appears as harmful, diverting people with false hopes of heaven hereafter.” Oh again; I sit corrected.

“*Reasonable* minds [they don’t believe in minds apart from body, yet they must insist that these non-existent “minds” be reasonable!] look to other means of survival.” So all of us who are “traditional theists” are wrong on two essential points: 1) There is no God period, much less a prayer-hearing God, and 2) There is no heaven to go to after this life, so the whole human game is to *survive* as long as possible. How unselfish and altruistic!

3. Before leaving the Preface and launching into the prologue, they state that this document, too—like the 1933 manifesto—*should* be superseded; planned obsolescence, in other words. To be sure, this reinforces my point about the total lack of stability in this pseudo-religious system. They’ve got their feet firmly planted on a lake of jello on a 120-degree day. Another analogy: they stack their affirmations high, then remove them, starting from the *bottom* of the loose stack!

4. In a prologue that runs on for 8 paragraphs, the co-authors warn against misuse of technology [yes, go on...] but also implicitly against *underuse* of technology, because it can be used to “control our environment,” “conquer poverty” “significantly modify our behavior,” “alter the course of human evolution,” and “unlock vast new powers” among other things. Do you see any red flags here? I certainly do. They then proceed to refer to “apocalyptic prophecies and doomsday scenarios” that cause many to “flee in despair from reason.” To a certain extent, I can agree, if we’re talking about false “christian” teachers, but just who were the ones churning out the most famous dire predictions around 1973? I’m looking at you, Rachel Carson (*Silent Spring*) and Paul Ehrlich (*Population Bomb*), both of whom became humanist heroes. The attack on (outdated/outmoded) religion continues: “Traditional moral codes...fail to meet the pressing needs of today and tomorrow.” And “False ‘theologies of hope’ and messianic ideologies...cannot cope with existing world realities.”

5. Still in the prologue, [hang in there, the pace will pick up!] we’re told that by extending the uses of the scientific method, we’ll build constructive and moral values [yeah, just like the Nazis did with such cheering results!]. And here is where familiar phrases found in *HMI* reappear: “not just for the favored few” and “a shared world.” “*Only...global measures will suffice.*” [Red flag?]

6. In the closing paragraphs of the prologue, it's asserted that "Humanism...can give personal meaning and significance to human life." [What's with this "can" business? Your whole work is supposed to be a *manifesto*, a set of confident declarations and near-guarantees for all humanity; don't back away from us now with this wishy-washy *can* stuff! We want what works! *Is Humanism the answer* or is it not? Inquiring "minds" want to know! Give us meaning and significance *now* !]

7. Key phrases in wrapping up the prologue: "**We affirm a set of common principles...that are a design for a secular society on a planetary scale.**" And "we submit this new Humanist Manifesto **for the future of humankind.**" [Design...*Secular*...Planetary Scale...Humankind (ALL): If you don't see a pattern here, you're earning a "D" in discernment. Nonetheless, here are a couple of hints: 1) Totalism; 2) in Atheistic opposition to God.

Sure enough, the FIRST affirmation is four paragraphs long, and it's all anti-God. God is specifically named twice as the enemy, and the following statements capture the tone of the whole diatribe:

1. *As nontheists, we begin with humans, not God, nature not deity.*
2. (But) *we can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species.*
3. *No deity will save us; we must save ourselves.* ['nuff said?]

SECOND (affirmation): "Promises of immortal salvation or fear of eternal damnation are both illusory and harmful. They distract humans from present concerns, from self-actualization, and from rectifying social injustices." [So now we know; note also that advocacy for socialism has been opened up already with the reference to "*rectifying social injustices.*" Universal, eternal justice (God's justice) is of no concern for them, and not even a valid category. It's all about focusing on—not being distracted from—worldwide *human* social justice; *that's* self-actualization, baby! That's a check you can cash!]

THIRD: "Moral values derive their source from human experience."

THIRD (continued): “Ethics is autonomous and situational...stems from human need and interest. To deny this distorts the whole basis of life.” In sum, “We strive for the good life, here and now.” [Well, they do make themselves clear on this, anyway. Note how “situational ethics” is held up as the humanist standard.]

FOURTH: “Reason and intelligence are the most effective instruments that humankind possesses. There is no substitute; neither faith nor passion suffices in itself.” “The controlled use of scientific methods...must be extended further in the solution of human problems.” [How the chemicals in one’s brain perform makes all the difference. The Bible teaches that the fear of the LORD is the beginning of all knowledge/wisdom **Psa 111:10; Prov 1:7, 9:10**, not fear of Science, human reason, or evolution-caused synapse-jumping.]

FIFTH: “The preciousness and dignity of the individual person is a central humanist value.” [Unless that individual person happens to be in a mother’s womb or is an elderly or infirm person who’s “just taking up space.” Or an individual who has the misfortune of trying to live out her/his precious life with dignity in a totalist State. Or that individual suffers from “illusory” theism. And so on.]

SIXTH: “In the area of sexuality, [new territory alert!] we believe that intolerant attitudes, often cultivated by orthodox religions and puritanical cultures, [are your ears burning like mine?] unduly repress sexual conduct. The *right* to birth control, *abortion*, and divorce should be recognized.” [And you thought I was exaggerating just above! Stay tuned, the “right to die with dignity” and “euthanasia” show up in the SEVENTH!] “Without countenancing *mindless permissiveness* or unbridled promiscuity, a civilized society should be a tolerant one.” [This is just the most delicious irony! They’ve demanded “autonomous and situational” ethics (varies from person to person, and from one situation to another), which throws the door wide open to *any* kind of behavior, and they’ve claimed that the “mind” exists only as an extension of the body. *Yet* ...they’ve got the unmitigated gall to decry “*mindless permissiveness*” when it comes to use of the body in sexuality! Putting it another way, they’ve got the body ruling the “mind”—whatever that is—and yet they want to blame the mind for “unbridled promiscuity,” as if the all-controlling body isn’t gonna go after what it wants!]

SIXTH (cont.) [What's more, just *who decides* (in this God-less system) what is to be permitted, and what—if anything—goes beyond the boundaries? Remember what Dostoevsky wrote: “If God does not exist, *all* is permissible.” ALL. So much for any real concern with “mindless permissiveness.” Sheer hypocrisy!]

SEVENTH: Here they call for the “full range of civil liberties,” which include—as I earlier indicated— “an individual’s right to die with dignity, euthanasia, and the *right* to suicide.” [All without eternal consequences.] “We would safeguard, *extend*, and implement the principles of human freedom *evolved* from the Magna Carta to the Bill of Rights, the Rights of Man, [atheistic French Revolution] and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [United Nations, 1948].” [They would extend—implies “expand”—these mostly government-granted “rights” to the *exclusion of actual, God-given rights*, as listed in our Declaration of Independence, which is notable by its absence in their list of *named* influential documents; both the Declaration and the pre-amended U.S. Constitution, without the Bill of Rights, are passed over in their “evolving” litany.]

EIGHTH: “We must extend participatory democracy in its true sense to the economy, *the school, the family, the workplace, and voluntary associations*. [Kids can outvote and overrule teachers and parents, authority is removed from bosses, and homosexual activists can force their way into religiously-oriented organizations. All across the board, *usurpers* are given the *veto* vote. Straight “participatory democracy” is nothing more than majority rule or *minority* rule gained through force (*tyranny* of the majority without minority recourse *or* of the *minority* due to usurpation, as they force their will upon the majority). This is what America’s Founders took great pains to avoid; they considered it to be “mob rule.” Instead of that nonsense, they erected a system of *representative* democracy and constitutional checks and balances. But humanists don’t want that:] “People are more important than *decalogues*, [direct attack on The Decalogue, The Ten Commandments] *rules, proscriptions, or regulations*.” [Nope. The universe exists for God’s glory, and *holiness* is God’s universal rule; His holiness will be respected, revered, and sought after by His creatures. His Law *is* more important than people, no matter how harsh that may sound to our sin-stuffed ears. There *is* a chain of command, and it starts with God, who then works through families of His

own wise design. Parents are given the sacred responsibility to see that their children know Who has made the universe and what makes it tick. If they don't like what they're hearing, they still do *not* have the right to rewrite the truth and vote God out of office! Then it's time for "tough love." Weak parenting is ungodly and has the long-term consequence of a ruined people. When the mob rules, there are no rules. But rules issued by *God* are only there for our protection; we not only need them, we can't survive without them.]

NINTH: "*The separation of church and state and the separation of ideology and state are imperatives. (The state) should not favor any particular religious bodies through the use of public monies, nor espouse a single ideology and function thereby as an instrument of propaganda or oppression, particularly against dissenters.*" [Have you ever heard such a blatantly hypocritical howler in your life?!? Today in America and other formerly-free countries, the State IS the church, the State IS the ideology, the State IS the sole religion. That is, with the lone exception of that "religion of peace," Islam. The State gives *that* "particular religious body" free reign and free expression to the *exclusion* of other religious bodies, especially the Christian and Jewish ones. Now, to be fair, in 1973 this wasn't so apparent, and we have now the benefit of an additional 40 years of hindsight. Yet it points to the chronic nearsightedness of these Humanists: they never are able to identify the *true* enemies to human freedom. Here's some advice: "We have met the enemy, and he is us" (*Pogo* comic strip). Tolerate the intolerable, and you get more of it. Uproot the good, and evil grows in its place. Make evolution THE public monies-supported doctrine of origins, and turn all the people into mere animals. Make *Secular Humanism*—declared a valid *religion* by Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black in 1961—the *de facto* State religion, and "propaganda or oppression, particularly against dissenters" becomes a thoroughgoing, nationwide, daily state of affairs. Just ask a Christian college student who's attending a public monies-supported school if he/she can speak freely about their faith. There exists today a virtual ideological monopoly; we need to see this.]

TENTH: This one is a bit lackluster, and mostly pragmatic. In effect, they say they're open to various economic systems, but the hints in their terminology nudge one towards socialism. They probably felt they needed to put *some*

distance between themselves and the National *Socialists* and Hitler, and the ever-mounting, increasingly obvious atrocities of the Union of Soviet *Socialist* Republics. Being fair-minded and all, they left open the possibility of some form of (said grudgingly, in a whisper)... *capitalism*.]

ELEVENTH: “The principle of moral equality must be furthered through elimination of all discrimination based upon race, religion, sex, age, or national origin.” [Sounds pretty good, right? Notice anything missing from the *updated* list? Yes, *sexual preference* wasn’t on the list in 1973. That tells you something about the territory carved out by the homosexual-transgender lobby in the last four decades! Also, “sex” is usually “gender” in today’s *politically-correct* speech.]

Further down under this head, a call goes out for a “minimum guaranteed annual income.” [a socialist tenet]. Then we are told that they are “concerned for the welfare of the aged, infirm...” [the usual, requisite laundry list follows here]...for all who are neglected or ignored by society.” [Can the reader possibly guess which extremely, truly “disadvantaged” group was left out? Yep, the defenseless people residing in wombs. You wanna talk about “neglected” and “ignored?!” To the humanists, as well as the totalists, as well as the atheists, the supreme human right is to be able to murder our offspring without restraint or consequences. *Sick!*]

TWELTH: “We have reached a turning point in human history [sez you!] where the best option is to transcend the limits of national sovereignty and to *move toward the building of a world community...*”; “*world law*”; “world order based upon *transnational government*.” “This would appreciate cultural pluralism and diversity.” [By fitting all cultures under *one boot*?! You are delusional!] “It would *not* exclude pride in national origins and accomplishments...” [How, exactly, would that work, when nationalities have all been wiped out in service to the *world community/transnational government*? This is a blind, baseless assertion! And if you’re advocating world government under the *United Nations*, you’re *really* barking up the wrong tree! Member nations that have the longest rap sheets for human rights abuses are basically running the show, and UN “*peace-keeping forces*” often lead the way in atrocities committed against innocent civilians. If you check the track record of the UN, you’ll have zero confidence in it.]

THIRTEENTH: “We must renounce the resort to violence and force as a method of solving international disputes.” [NEWSFLASH: There *are* bad people with bad intentions in this world! This sort of person doesn’t merely *resort* to violence, but *lives* for it! And *force* is their lifeblood. Could the Japanese imperialists or the Nazis have been dissuaded from *their* plans for a *world government* by a bunch of unarmed common folks just sitting down in their path, holding hands, and singing some *Kumbaya*-ish anthem?! It’d be mass-grave time all over again!]

After this platitude come at least two more: a call for international courts and for “the *development* of [why not just say, “evolution of...?”] the *arts* of negotiation and compromise.” [Hey, great idea! We could feature the teachings of Neville Chamberlain and Vidkun *Quisling* at UN seminars!] Then follows this gem: “*War is obsolete.*” [See for yourself: the third sentence under THIRTEENTH. Of course, this comes as quite a surprise to most of us with a pulse. It seems to us that war is far from a thing of the past, especially when perpetual *jihad* is a central tenet of a certain political-religious system. War, unfortunately, will always be with us. And as long as relatively *bad* people continue to pursue their wicked goals and to *start* wars, it will be up to relatively *good* people to take up arms and *end* them. *That’s* reality, Humanists, so flush your airheaded pipedreams!]

FOURTEENTH: This one’s all about how “the planet earth must be considered a single ecosystem,” and how “the cultivation and conservation of nature is a moral value.” [We can agree on the second part; it is *A* moral value, but it’s not *THE* moral value. Christians have a duty towards God to be good stewards of His creation, and that means both *wise use* of resources as well as replenishment and preservation of them. However, when “saving the planet/Mother Earth” trumps all else, that’s idolatrous disobedience towards God the Creator. Besides, claims of that sort are disingenuous; they’re meant to distract from the *real* goal of installing an irreversible, *all-controlling world government*. The clue is right here before our eyes: they’ve just been talking about a unified *world, transnational government*, and then they segue into the *one world ecosystem* (singular, not plural; borderless, not the concern of individual nations). The alert reader will have no problem identifying this as yet another *totalitarian* scheme. Capital H **H**umanists have set their sights well above local welfare and happiness.]

FIFTEENTH: We're informed here of another "moral obligation." This time, it falls upon the "developed nations" to provide, through "an international authority" [here we go again] "*massive* [shopping list]...assistance, *including birth control techniques*, [but of course, the *Sanger* doctrine of selective extermination!] to the developing portions of the globe. World poverty must cease." [It sure takes guts to make that declaration when Jesus Christ Himself said that world poverty *won't* cease (**Matt 26:11; Mark 14:7**). And once again, *redistribution* of wealth on a worldwide scale is gonna be the mechanism for killing off poverty. From the Haves to the Have-nots, and all will be heaven on earth.]

SIXTEENTH: [Remember, this is the new and improved version; *15* affirmations just won't suffice in 1973, when *17* are needed!): Technology is lauded as a "vital key to human progress and development." *Boring*. But look at this, two sentences down: "We would resist any moves to censor basic scientific research on *moral, political, or social grounds*." Now isn't *that* interesting? Aside from the obvious issue of *creationist* research, could they possibly have opponents of *embryonic stem cell research* in their crosshairs? To this day—40 years past this manifesto—not one significant discovery has resulted from *embryonic* stem cell research, as opposed to the stunning stream of successes in *adult* stem cell research. Sure makes it look like they really, really have it in for those otherwise *potential* human lives in the embryonic stage! *Any* reason to kill more babies is good enough for them; like the pharisees about which Jesus spoke in **Matt 23:15**, they'll travel land and sea to find a way to convert just one more living human being into a dead one, these *Humanists!*]

SEVENTEENTH: [The *last* at last!): Call this one "open borders for all commu—nication and transportation (at *first*)." Once "a worldwide system of television and radio for information and education" has "evolved," we'll have learned to "live openly together," according to them, "or we shall perish together." Well, since living openly together is *never* gonna happen as long as sinful humans are involved, if I were a betting man, I'd put my life's savings on "perish together." Above, I added "at *first*" for a very good reason. Under the *world government* they keep insisting on, once borders and distances are negated, the Big Boot would easily cover the population, and then it's "Tyranny for everyone!" outside the elite.]

“IN CLOSING”: Key phrases: *The world cannot wait; these are the times; inflexible moral and religious ideologies [must] be transcended* [there’s your shot at bigotry, that ugliness in humankind that proceeds only from *traditional religious ideologies*, lest we forget]; *we are responsible for what we are or will be. Let us work together for a humane world* [read: human *only*, without God] *by means commensurate with humane ends* [ditto above; God is nowhere in this picture, so whatever He might want is immaterial]. *Let us call for an end to terror and hatred* [Hey, you can call for it all you like, but it ain’t gonna happen, bub! But feel free to wander into an Islamic terrorist-training camp and make your “love pitch.”] *The true revolution is occurring and can continue in countless nonviolent adjustments* [like I say...you see, the problem is that some folks are not as committed as you are to nonviolence ...but,...well, suit yourself!]. Speaking of commitments, *commitment to all humankind is the highest commitment of which we are capable* [recall that Karl Marx said essentially the same thing: “man is the highest being for man.”]

Two summary statements to note:

1. *What more daring a goal for humankind than for each person to become, in ideal, as well as practice, a **citizen of a world community**.*
2. *These affirmations are not a final credo or dogma but an **expression of a living and growing FAITH**.* [my boldface and caps for emphasis]

MY TAKE, IN SUMMARY

Though they changed some words here and there, they didn’t change the ideology affirmed in the first Humanist Manifesto to any significant degree. If the 1973 version *evolved* out of the 1933 prototype, it didn’t evolve all that much; maybe it added a couple of finger-like projections. It’s a bit more politically correct, and more distance is put between Humanism on the whole and religions of any sort, or so they seem to be claiming. It’s now *secular* humanism, not *religious* humanism. But then again, they affirm away for page after page, and they *still* land in quasi-religious territory: “not a FINAL *credo or dogma* but an expression of a living and growing **faith.**” So we’re right back to *an evolving religion*. Sad!

HUMANIST MANIFESTO III

[I don't know...should we even bother?]

We'll keep this very brief, and then class is dismissed. Thanks for your kind attention, and I hope your follow-up therapy sessions are fruitful.

Written in 2003, and intended to be “a successor to the Humanist Manifesto of 1933” [curiously, *not* a successor to HM II], this one is subtitled, *Humanism and Its Aspirations*. It fits, mercifully, on one page, and the backing page is the “signatories” page. The opening statement reads thus:

Humanism is a progressive philosophy of life that, without supernaturalism, affirms our ability and responsibility to lead ethical lives of personal fulfillment that aspire to the greater good of humanity.

That sets the tone fairly well: progressive (evolving), no supernatural elements to hinder the leading of ethical, fulfilling lives, and humanity on the whole wins. A new term, *lifestance*, is introduced; it's guided by reason and has evolved. The scientific method is singled out again as the best arbiter and problem-solver. Humans are the result of unguided evolutionary change, and nature is once again said to be self-existing. “We accept our lives as all and enough.” Ethical values are derived from human need and interest, tested by experience. The individual's fulfillment can be found in service to humane ideals. “Working to benefit society maximizes individual happiness.” They want to “develop global community.” They “support a just distribution of nature's resources and the fruits of human effort.” [Just one wisecrack here: how do you *justly* distribute the sun's warmth, and abundance of rainfall, for example? just askin']. They respect those of differing yet *humane* views (ah, there's the kicker!). They work for “an open *secular* society” (confirms the “kicker”), and we have a *planetary duty* to protect nature's integrity and so forth. They aspire to their vision “with the informed conviction that humanity has the ability to progress towards its highest ideals. The responsibility for our lives and the kind of world in which we live is ours and ours alone.”

Bottom line: they're determined to go it alone, *without* God, in God's universe.

LIST OF HUMANISTS, SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS AND PROMINENT

(Sources: wikipedia.org and *Understanding The Times*, by David A. Noebel)

HOTY-denotes Humanist Of The Year award-winner

- | | |
|--|--|
| Steve Allen (television personality) | Norman Lear (TV producer) |
| Isaac Asimov (sci-fi author) | John Lennon (the Beatle, "Imagine") |
| Jeremy Bentham (urged welfarism) | Seth MacFarlane (<i>Family Guy</i> creator) |
| Leonard Bernstein (conductor) | Huey P. Newton (Black Panther head) |
| Niels Bohr (Danish physicist) | Bill Nye (HOTY 2010; "Science Guy") |
| Johannes Brahms (German composer) | J. Robert Oppenheimer (the A-bomb) |
| Lester R. Brown (Earth Policy Inst.) | Neil Peart (Rush drummer, lyricist) |
| Mary Calderone (SIECUS; don't ask!) | James Randi (The Amazing Randi) |
| Noam Chomsky (leftist linguist) | Gene Roddenberry ("Star Trek") |
| Arthur C. Clarke (sci-fi writer) | Carl Rogers (American psychologist) |
| Confucius (Chinese philosopher) | Carl Sagan (billions and billions of lies) |
| Aaron Copland (American composer) | Edward Said (Palestinian radical) |
| Francis Crick (DNA structure guy) | Jonas Salk (polio vaccine) |
| Richard Dawkins (HOTY 1996) | Margaret Sanger (racist "birth control") |
| Daniel Dennett (HOTY 2004) | Jean-Paul Sartre (Marxist existentialist) |
| John Dewey (Father of mis-education) | Rod Serling (<i>The Twilight Zone</i> host) |
| Ann Dunham (mother of a "Barack") | Peter Singer (advocate of infanticide+) |
| Roger Ebert (film critic) | B.F. Skinner (behaviorist; HOTY 1972) |
| Albert Einstein (Humanist Soc. of NY) | Benjamin Spock (leftist "baby doc") |
| Friedrich Engels (Communist Manifesto) | Gloria Steinem (leftist feminist, activist) |
| Joseph Fletcher (situational ethics) | George Takei (actor, LGBT hero) |
| Sigmund Freud (Austrian shrink) | Ted Turner ("Mouth of the South") |
| Betty Friedan (leftist feminist) | Mark Twain (author; sad, but true) |
| Stephen Jay Gould (HOTY 2001) | Nikola Tesla (electrical genius; AC) |
| Che' Guevara (communist guerilla) | Peter Ustinov (British actor) |
| Katharine Hepburn (actress) | Gore Vidal (writer, activist) |
| Christopher Hitchens (atheist writer) | Kurt Vonnegut (writer, satirist) |
| Julian Huxley (HOTY 1962) | Faye Wattleton ("Planned Parenthood") |
| Penn Jillette (atheist illusionist) | Walt Whitman (American poet) |
| Jack Kevorkian ("Doctor Death") | Edwin H. Wilson (co-author, <i>HM II</i>) |
| Paul Kurtz (co-author, <i>HM II</i>) | Steve Wozniak (Apple co-founder) |

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

With a face made for radio and a voice made for print, it's no wonder that he writes. And as far as credentials go, we won't need to take up much space with that either. Grade school valedictorian, high school honors graduate; college: Bachelor of Science degree, majors in English and Sociology. Academically, other than decades of self-directed study, that's about it.

He's worked for both the world's largest employer (the United States Government) as a "communications facilitator" (mailman), and the world's largest retailer, Walmart. In between, he spent four years at a Christian K-12 school system. Various manual labor stints and low-level management make up his whole work history, but he now has the time and opportunity to stay at home and "use his words."

Content with his current lot in life, he knows **Christ** has led him to this place. He is thankful for the truly amazing grace that the **Author and finisher of faith and salvation** has shown towards a thoroughly-unworthy sinner such as this book's author.

He [Christ Jesus] became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him—Heb 5:9

...Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of faith (Heb 12:2)...who made the worlds (Heb 1:2)

Now *there's* an author you ought to get to know!

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If you agree that the laborer is worthy of his wages (Luke 10:7 & 1 Tim 5:18), and you have benefited in some way from any of my written works, please consider sending me any token contribution that you feel **comfortable** in sparing (that could include free books written by others). Certainly, no one *owes* me anything, but as a *personal* not-for-profit ministry of sorts (I have no income source now other than Social Security), it would be nice to get somewhere close to breaking even on publishing efforts! But in any case, I sincerely hope that the Lord has used me to open some eyes to His truth, and that more will be moved to glorify Him.

Steve Rauen 5673 Bethel Rd SE TRLR 19A Port Orchard WA 98367

AND WITHOUT GOD IN THIS WORLD

STEVE RAUEN

OCTOBER, AD 2014 (UPDATED DECEMBER, 2025)



-
- + God's universe, God's rules.
 - + God defines, man merely opines.
 - + Resistance to tyrants is obedience to God.
 - + He makes nations great and destroys them;
He enlarges nations and guides them.
 - + Pro-life, Pro-liberty, Under God.
 - + Under God or under the boot.