

Creation Revelation



God is in the details

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Thy word is true from the beginning: and every one
of thy righteous judgments endureth forever.

Psalm 119:160

TRUTH

The atom bombs are piling up in the factories, the police are prowling through the cities, the lies are streaming from the loudspeakers, but the earth is still going round the sun. (George Orwell, *Shooting an Elephant*, 1950)

There is no such thing as absolute truth.... People are less deceived by failing to see the truth than by failing to see its limits. (Sénac de Meilhan (d. 1803), *Histoire de la Vicomtesse de Vassy*)

To attain the truth in all things, we ought always to believe that what seems white is black if the Hierarchical Church so defines it. (Ignatius Loyola, *Spiritual Exercises*, 1548)

Artistic growth is, more than it is anything else, a refining of the sense of truthfulness. The stupid believe that to be truthful is easy; only the artist, the great artist, knows how difficult it is. (Willa Cather, *The Song of the Lark*, 1915)

Discerning Truth Requires Work

The Lord God spoke to Isaiah the prophet many years ago words that are still so true today when He said:

Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever: That this is a **rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things,**

prophecy deceits: Get you out of the way, turn aside out of the path, **cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us.** (Isaiah 30:8-11)

Many today have only superficial knowledge of their world and events. Just like in Isaiah's time, many people today get upset or offended when confronted with issues that argue against their preferred rosy view of the world in which they live. They stop up their ears and shout – "Leave me alone, I don't want to hear it!" Hosea spoke God's word to the children of Israel when they failed to honor truth.

Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is **no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God** in the land.... **My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge:** (Hosea 4:1, 6)

People relish comforting words. They want no harsh words spoken in their presence. That's why many seek a church where the only message is one telling of God's love. They might say, "Don't speak harsh things, and certainly never mention the judgments of God!" Certainly, prophecy of the end-times is never to be mentioned. This is the message of Robert Schuller. It is also the message of Rick Warren in his books, *The Purpose Driven Church*, and *The Purpose Driven Life*, both compatible to the teachings of "possibility thinking" guru Robert Schuller. The goal is to fill the pews in churches "where never is heard a discouraging word." Many are flocking to hear these watered down messages where the complete Word of God is never spoken.¹

In the hallowed halls of academia the message is shouted openly "truth is relative." The message is that your truth is your truth and my truth is my truth. According to the philosophy of this present age, there is no absolute truth. The Ten Commandments are relegated to obscurity. In today's busy society, people often leave the thinking to others. They simply do not seem to have sufficient time to think about what is truth. They let others think for them, such as people in schools or media that seem to speak ideas that resonate with their idea of truth. All the while, never thinking that the truth they hear may, in fact, not be the truth, or only partly true.

Thomas Edison is reported to have said the following:

Only 5 percent of the people think; 10 percent of the people think they think; the other 85 percent would rather die than think.

How do people know whether they are truly thinking, rather than just think they think?

Thinking is hard work. Knowing the truth in today's world is even more difficult. David McCullough reports in his biography of *John Adams*, concerning the eagerness of the young John to learn. At age 14, a textbook edition of Cicero's *Orations* was one of his proudest possessions. At age 15 "he was pronounced 'fitted

for college,' which meant Harvard."² How many of our children today would even know who Cicero was, let alone desire to read him?

Years ago when I was a boy in a Catholic (Jesuit) High School, one of my instructors, a priest, encouraged me to acquire a lifelong "thirst for knowledge." Those words have stayed with me all of my life. While, too often, I might think that I think, I have had a lifelong thirst for knowledge. The twenty-five year old John Adams wrote in his diary: "I must judge for myself, but how can I judge, how can any man judge, unless his mind has been opened and enlarged by reading?"³ Too many today, like the Israelites of old in the Isaiah quote above, do not hunger for truth in the world in which we live. They would rather not know the truth, when that truth might offend their sense of patriotism or disrupt their placid existence. They are not interested in viewpoints other than the comfortable ones with which they prefer to surround themselves. To some, sometimes the truth is a frightening thing.

Differences

People perceive truth in different ways. That is because they have no standard of absolute truth to guide them. Either truth is found in the Commandments given by the Creator God that loves us, or truth is created in the philosophies by man for man. These differing philosophies result in differing worldviews, or the way we perceive things should be. In Colossians 2:8, Paul warns us to beware of the philosophies of men.

Beware lest anyone cheat you through **philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men**, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ. (Colossians 2:8 NKJV)

There are various worldviews that are subscribed to by different people in the world. These worldviews govern the way people think and view their world and local events that take place around them. It is most important for people to understand the differing worldviews because it then becomes possible to understand why the person next door cannot follow your ideas of the meaning of world events. Examples of worldviews would be the Secular Humanist worldview or the Marxist/Leninist worldview. These two worldviews are the predominant worldviews of most of the media in this country. Essentially, these two are very similar, but

the Biblical Christian worldview is diametrically opposed in all respects. Sadly, due to the tensions that have been introduced by the secularists within the media and academia, the Biblical Christian worldview has been successfully supplanted or severely corrupted. Many Christians have bought into parts of the opposing worldviews. What we see in this country is like a last gasp, as the Christians are tenaciously trying to hold together their influence on the moral fiber of this nation. The Biblical Christian worldview is dying as the dominant worldview of this once Christian nation. If things continue as they are, this nation will soon mirror the social conditions of Europe, where churches stand empty and the family is threatened with obsolescence.

Within Christianity there are additional worldviews that explain differences in thought processes of professing Christians. One such difference is in the way Christians view end-time events. As a young believer, I used to think that all Christians thought alike. I thought that I could shop at a Christian bookstore and read teachings of likeminded writers. I soon became disillusioned as I learned that all Christians do not think alike. Many Christians do not regard the prophecies of the end-time events to have a future fulfillment. They spiritualize the book of Revelation, and they believe that the Church has replaced Israel. This explains why that some of our leaders, while professing to be Christian, ignore Scripture reference to the restoration of Israel in their support for the Palestinian cause.

As Christians, it is important to understand these differences in secular and Christian thinking. Part of the Secular Humanist and Marxist worldviews is the idea of world government, which the Marxist refers to as the New World Order. Along these lines, Berit Kjos provides the following comments regarding the 1995 State of the World Forum in her article, Gorbachev's Plan For A United World:

"I was very pleased," said Gorbachev in his concluding message, "that in our discussions here at the forum there was no trace of the futile debate about what is better, capitalism or socialism.... We should seek a synthesis of ideas and values that have proven their viability..." Of course there wasn't any controversial debate. Gorbachev only welcomed leaders who basically agreed with his views. The Communist leader never

admitted openly that individualism was incompatible with the new world order. But several of his plenary speakers did. Astronomer Carl Sagan explained it well. He showed us pictures of our tiny blue planet in the midst of a vast galaxy in a far vaster universe – then scolded those who still view the minuscule individuals of the earth as significant pieces in the immense cosmic puzzle. In other words, the whole or the collective is what counts – not the people.⁴

This is communism pure and simple, expressed openly by Carl Sagan; a man well respected in American academia, during a meeting attended by world political, educational, and religious leaders. Carl was expressing a different worldview, a worldview of a new global world order. The late Carl Sagan and his like are the leaders in the world of academia. They are the ones that write the textbooks to convey how and what the world should be like. Their influence is vast as they capture the hearts and minds of succeeding generations.

Whether we choose to believe it or not, Christians are losing the battle of worldviews. We cannot speak of our "religion" for fear of offending someone. There are definite signs that the end of the dominance of the Biblical Christian worldview is coming to an end, and in fact, has already ended. The problem is that many people do not want to upset their comfort zone to know the truth. For them the distorted sugarcoated message in the modern history books is truth enough. The truth is, many Christians today cannot handle the truth. They have lost the Republic and they are losing the idea of democracy for the sake of a socialistic idea of a peaceful, cohesive world state, and most can't see it or don't want to face it.

Our government is being restructured for the tolerant society. So tolerant that the criminal element have more rights than the ordinary citizen. Christianity and its symbols, together with God's Ten Commandments, are progressively and systematically being declared unconstitutional.

Restructuring Minds

To fit into the new society, the educational establishment, together with all forms of media, is restructuring the minds of the citizen, especially the children, to fit into the new vision of secular society. The regionalizing of the world, such as the European Union (EU), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the more recent Central

American Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA), is systematically knocking down the inhibiting national boundaries. Both NAFTA and CAFTA will eventually be finalized in Free Trade Agreement Americas (FTAA), which will then accomplish the same boundary dissolution being achieved by the European Union. Even the European Union is seeking expansion southward into Africa and eastward into the Middle East and Asia. Eventually, with manageable regions, a world body, such as the United Nations, can govern the world efficiently. None of this can be accomplished without loss of sovereignty and lowering of US and Canadian living standards at the expense of achieving parity with the Central American nations. The news media, may mention these agreements, but consistently do not reveal sufficient information so that the average citizen can evaluate the consequences. The average citizen leaves it to their elected representative to figure it all out. Like the unsuspecting frog in the pot, the heat is turned up ever so slowly. Should we depend upon the good faith of our elected representative? Aldous Huxley writes,

[D]emocratic institutions are now being undermined from within by the politicians and their propagandists.... Democratic institutions can be made to work only if all concerned do their best to impart knowledge and to encourage rationality.... But... politicians and their propagandists prefer to make nonsense of democratic procedures by appealing almost exclusively to the ignorance and irrationality of the electors.... The political merchandisers appeal only to the weaknesses of voters, never to their potential strength. They make no attempt to educate the masses into becoming fit for self-government; they are content merely to manipulate and exploit them.... The methods now being used to merchandise the political candidate as though he were a deodorant positively guarantee the electorate against ever hearing the truth about anything.⁵

The Media

The people of our nation are conditioned to being fed news in little sound bites, more as entertainment rather than news. In this country, there are only a handful of people that decide what is news and how it gets reported. A number of

years ago, there were many independent “mom and pop” newspapers throughout the land reporting local news with independent thought, and many reported national news of interest. Early electronic media consisted of a “party line” connected by a live telephone operator. When you picked up the phone you were instantly connected to an operator who said, “number please.” The number of my grandfather’s store was “123.” Your news became everyone’s gossip as news began to travel faster. Slowly, mom and pop could no longer compete in a world of syndication and super fast electronic communication. The local newspaper gave way to large conglomerates until only four major media outlets controlling the nation’s radio, television, and newspapers essentially monopolize what constitutes news in this country. In so few hands, the news is often compromised by the dominant worldview of the controlling corporations. This is only natural to do so. Their prevailing worldview is not Christian. According to Aldous Huxley, “In the democratic west there is economic censorship and the media of mass communication are controlled by members of the Power Elite.”⁶

Everyone has his or her own slant on the news. Spin is the order of the day. People can be manipulated and will not discern the truth. According to Aldous Huxley:

[C]hildren are nowhere taught, in any systematic way, to distinguish true from false, or meaningful from meaningless, statements. Why is this so? Because their elders, even in the democratic countries, do not want them to be given this kind of education.... In its present form, the social order depends for its continued existence on the acceptance, without too many embarrassing questions, of the propaganda put forth by those in authority and the propaganda hallowed by the local traditions.⁷

The news is generally reported in such way so that it is always favorable to a particular viewpoint of the reporter. How then is the average person able to discern truth? It’s always that the weapons of mass destruction were never in Iraq, not that they may have been moved to Syria, as some evidence suggests, and few have reported. People are bombarded with sound bites giving opposing positions, but few corroborating facts. The facts are manipulated and distorted to conform to whatever political or social agenda is being pushed at the moment.

Manipulation of people by keeping them in tension is called dialectics. This is a principle developed by Georg Hegel, and embraced by Karl Marx in the Communist system. The idea is that whenever rulers want to make an unpopular change, they introduce a tension that is in opposition to the existing order. Government providing the preplanned solution achieves relief from the tension. The resulting freedom from tension is so appreciated that the solution is generally accepted by the masses. If you understand this principle, you can detect its application in critical situations as reported by the media. An example would be the evils of gun ownership. When gun legislation is desired by government to abridge the constitutional right to own guns, the media reports the evil use of weapons in society daily, until the desired result is achieved. The threat of nuclear war during the "cold war" years served as the tension to allow the government to act without fear of opposition by its citizens. Nothing would slow the spending of vast sums of money in the "arms race" to assure our safety from the Communist menace.

Americans may be ignorant of world events, but America still has its values, but those values are subject to manipulation as well.

Redefining Traditional Values

In a recent publication of *The Humanist* magazine, Charles E. Gray attempted to define America's conscience – its "traditional values." Those values are not Christian, according to Gray, but values developed by faith in reason, rather than faith in God. The secularist's idea of values would hold the dignity of man to the level where man replaces God in our society. Freedom of religion is included, but only to the extent that the religious values agree with the "higher general values" as defined in the secular society.⁸ The article would not attribute America's values as being Bible based. This may be partly true today, as those values are being gradually replaced by secular humanist values devoid of God. Gradually, Americans are being persuaded to abandon the "myths" of the Bible in favor of the sure answers of science and philosophy. They say that it is not reasonable to believe that God created from nothing, when science assures us that the evidence of reason says that all evolved from space dust. If science is on such a sure foundation, why is the secularist ever fearful of allowing opposing views of origins in the hallowed halls of academia, and staunchly

oppose anyone that would expose the fallacies of their theory?

America's values have been compromised by men's desire to put men in the position of God. In today's society, the Ten Commandments are made irrelevant by a values system based on meeting man's desires. That values system is evidenced by the content of what we have come to accept in our movies and television programming. What is now acceptable would have been considered shocking just fifty years ago. Moral values are gradually changing, and it is the mindset of the liberal courts that are making that morality change the norm. In the Fall 2005 issue of BR (Bible Review), Columnist Mary Joan Winn Leith argues that both the Bible and the Constitution should be subject to evolving interpretations based on the cultural tradition and mores of a changing society.⁹ If this is true, then, what is right and just is based on the values of the majority, rather than the fixed Word of God, or the words of the Constitution. God's law, as well as man's law would then be subject to the whim of society. She is arguing for moral relativism. Isaiah wrote of those that would compromise what is right and just with these words:

Woe unto them that call **evil good, and good evil**; that put **darkness for light, and light for darkness**; that put **bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!** (Isaiah 5:20)

We live in an ever-permissive society, and we are all guilty of allowing the change. We do not demand what is morally right, and for the sake of the prurient interests of society, we are silent. We are guilty of sending back to office those lawmakers that allow our values to be degraded. We are bombarded with the idea that we must be a tolerant society and what is acceptable for one may not be acceptable to others. We are told that we must respect other people's rights to live as they please. Unfortunately, man has ever proved that he is incapable of controlling his pursuit of evil. In making just laws, man acknowledged that he must be protected from himself, and must be given clear standards by which to live. Unfortunately, man is also capable of compromising those just laws to allow his unfettered pursuit of evil, and he certainly doesn't want interference from God.

The Commandments

In the Bible, God gave the Israelites the Ten Commandments to live by. These commandments

have universal application, and are good for mankind in all cultures and generations. George Orwell, in his book *Animal Farm*, wrote of seven commandments written on the barn wall after the animals took over the farm from the evil farmer. Those commandments were for the good of the animals and testified of the equality of all animals. Gradually, the smarter pigs assumed the role of the expelled farmer, living in the farmhouse and directing the activities of the farm. Almost imperceptibly, the other animals noticed that the commandments began to change. Under cover of darkness, the pigs began to modify the commandments until all freedom was lost to the other animals, until finally there was just one commandment left on the barn wall – “All animals are equal – but some animals are more equal than others.”¹⁰

Isaiah wrote that the leaders of his day were like blind watchmen, each looking for his own gain:

His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber. Yea, they are **greedy dogs which can never have enough**, and they are **shepherds that cannot understand:** they all look to **their own way**, every one **for his gain**, from his quarter. (Isaiah 56:10, 11)

Our Founding Fathers gave us a Constitution to define the rights of each citizen, and to accomplish order in the land. Within this great Constitution, these Founders divided the power between three branches of government in order to thwart the abuse of power that one might experience if all power was invested into one entity. For the most part this has worked well, until some in the judiciary determined that, instead of interpreting the Constitution in the light of its original intent, they could simply define the Constitution as a “living document” and interpret its meaning by standards of a changing social and moral value in society, or by their own personal standards – like the blind watchmen. Like the pigs writing on the barn wall, the Constitution is being modified for an ever increasingly permissive society. The problem is that with each change allowed, freedoms are eroded for the sake of a more tolerant society. Like the Ten Commandments, if the meaning of the words of the Constitution can be so subtly changed, then there can be no assured basis for law. The Constitution now means what a judge says it means, regardless of the intent of the words. Truth

is twisted to accommodate the changing morals of the nation. There is even a “thought police” to enforce the new tolerant society.

Political Correctness

A number of years ago I was introduced to political correctness (PC) when I attended the wedding reception of a cousin. I was seated across the table from a woman and her husband. The woman turned out to be an ordained Methodist minister. I brought up the subject of abortion, naively thinking that, as a Methodist minister, the woman would be opposed to abortion. How wrong I was. Not only was the woman rabidly in favor of abortion, she insisted that I use certain terms in my opposition to it. She objected to my use of the term “pro-life.” Instead, she insisted that I refer to myself as “pro-birth” instead. Apparently she was offended that “pro-life” implied that she was “pro-death,” which, in truth, she was. For her, truth was an exercise in defining terms.

Political correctness defines what and how people should speak and think.¹¹ It need not be true, but it must always be correct, so as not to offend or express values irrelevant to today’s society. For the sake of being politically correct we lie to ourselves.

One method of politically correct speech is that people sometimes speak or write in such way that the average person can’t possibly understand what they say or write. This is a method used by many in academia, so they can speak openly, but disguise the truth of what they are really thinking and teaching. The reason is that they depend upon public funding and the public might not approve of what is really going on in their minds and classrooms.¹²

Political correctness on campus is generally one-sided. While it is politically incorrect to utter words that might offend those of certain leftist groups, such as “gays, lesbians, or members of an ethnic minority, it is politically correct to denigrate those deemed politically incorrect, such as white males, fundamentalist Christians, conservatives, or Republicans.¹³

Included within the idea of political correctness is treating history as a political agenda. A tendency today is to write history in terms of these political agendas. In doing so, historical facts become distorted, and outright lies creep into textbooks. Revising history for political agendas was a prominent feature of Stalinist Russia. To the politically correct revisionist, “assertions are made

as statements of fact... when 'political agendas' become more important than history [truth] itself, one does not need to let facts or the lack of scholarly evidence get in the way of one's assertions. If history does not serve the purposes of displaced, oppressed minorities, it is simply changed."¹⁴ This is not to deny that minorities have been oppressed unfairly, but only to say that history should not be modified to suit political agendas.

Dr. David Thibodaux, in his book *Political Correctness: The Cloning of the American Mind*, indicates that for the sake of being politically correct, we allow multiculturalism, Afrocentrism (the idea that "European civilization was derived from Africa and... Europeans... frantic[ally]... deny this truth"), and genderism (gender feminism) to set the agendas within our educational system, even to the point of distorting the truth.¹⁵

Multiculturalism has caused a move to redefine traditional courses of study in order to promote ethnic diversity, and to add additional courses such as gay and lesbian studies. An example of promoting non-European ethnic causes would be that, to the political correct historian, the unconstitutional American internment of Japanese-Americans during WWII becomes historically more important than the attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. To make Japanese-American internment the focal point of WWII is to distort history [truth].¹⁶

In Afrocentrism, the self-esteem of so-called European white male dominated western "racist" culture is sacrificed to promote the self-esteem of ethnic minorities, giving a reduced emphasis to the contributions of the white western culture; thus Africa becomes the source of all good, while Europe is the source of all evil. One result of this politically correct thinking is to confuse and distort the truth (history) by "inaccuracies and omissions in their [Afrocentrist's] treatment of blacks in the ancient Mediterranean world." This is contributing to a further fragmentation in our society.¹⁷

The central theme of gender feminism is male domination of women's productive and reproductive labor. To them the Constitution has been reduced to "the embodiment of the White Male with Property Model." For them, the politically correct position is that of "pro-choice." They would not use the politically incorrect term "pro-abortion."¹⁸

The dishonesty in the entire abortion issue boils down to three facts. First – the choice between saving the life of the unborn or the mother

is a decision between the doctor and the family, not requiring legalization by Roe vs. Wade. Secondly – the incident of pregnancy during rape or incest is statistically insignificant, almost non-existent, which leads to the third fact. Thirdly – the first two facts make the vast majority of abortions simply a matter of convenience.¹⁹ The most recent advances of medical science, that shows that the fetus is human at conception, cannot sustain the pro-abortion argument that the fetus is only a blob of tissue. The politically correct crowd never shares these facts. The truth never sees the light of day. Is convenience a reason to terminate a human life? Even the argument for abortion in the case of rape or incest must be weighed against the fact that abortion is the murder of a separate human life that is innocent of whatever sin may have been committed.

Conclusion

This has been a simple overview of what truth has come to represent in our society. Truth has been abandoned for the sake of tolerance and political agendas. When beholding Jesus, Pilate asked Him "what is truth?" That is the same question we are faced with today. We are abandoning absolute truth for a relative truth where everyone has his own truth, and we must be tolerant of that truth. The subjects of religion and politics in polite society are forbidden because we have our own sense of righteousness. We avoid the hard questions because we might hurt the sensitivities of someone.

Jesus did not mince words when he spoke to the rulers of His day. He called the Pharisees "whitewashed tombs" and "brood of vipers." He told them that "by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."²⁰ Look at the following interchange between Jesus and the Pharisees reported by Mark:

Then the Pharisees and scribes asked him, Why walk not thy disciples according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashen hands? He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of **you hypocrites**, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me. Howbeit in vain do they worship me, **teaching for doctrines the commandments of men**. For **laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men**, as the washing

of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do. And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.... Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye. (Mark 7:5-9, 13)

Political correctness is not new. Even in Jesus' day, His non-political correctness would soon get Him killed. He offended practically everyone except His followers. He even told His followers that they would be persecuted because of Him. We should beware of both the religious and political leaders that bring us "smooth things." They gain a vast following by speaking only words that tickle the ears. Jesus said that we should:

Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. (Matthew 7:15)

We cannot justify ourselves before God. Our little scheme of compromises will eventually catch us as we reject truth after truth. We are accountable for ourselves before God. Reflecting on what Isaiah wrote many centuries ago, we prefer lies and smooth things instead of the truth. Except for the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on that cross many years ago, we cannot stand righteous before a Holy God, no not one of us, because all have sinned (Romans 5:12).

If you have not confessed Jesus Christ as your Lord, and repented of your sins, you will stand exposed, alone, and guilty before the Throne of God on Judgment Day. Paul gives a list of the many sins of mankind that will prevent them from entering the Kingdom of God:

Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. (Galatians 5:19-21)

John adds cowards and liars to the list: But the fearful [cowardly], and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death. (Revelation 21:8)

This doesn't leave much wiggle-room. Consider carefully your life and choose Jesus Christ, Who paid your penalty so that you can stand righteous before God's Throne. ΑΩ

¹ Rick Warren, THE PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995; Rick Warren, THE PURPOSE DRIVEN LIFE, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002, pp.285, 286; James Sundquist, WHO'S DRIVING THE PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH: A Documentary on the Teachings of Rick Warren, Oklahoma City, OK: Bible Belt Publishing, 2004 by Rock Solid Publishing, pp.123, 201. Quote "where never is heard a discouraging word" from the song *Home on the Range*.

² David McCullough, JOHN ADAMS, New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2001, p. 34.

³ David McCullough, JOHN ADAMS, New York, NY: Simon & Schuster, 2001, p. 223.

⁴ Berit Kjos, GORBACHEV'S PLAN FOR A UNITED WORLD, Article, 1995, www.crossroad.to/text/articles/gorb10-95.html.

⁵ Aldous Huxley, BRAVE NEW WORLD REVISITED, Published together with *Brave New World* as BRAVE NEW WORLD & BRAVE NEW WORLD REVISITED, New York, NY: Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., Harper Torchbook edition, 1932, 1946, 1958, 1960, pp. 45, 46.

⁶ Aldous Huxley, BRAVE NEW WORLD REVISITED, Published together with *Brave New World* as BRAVE NEW WORLD & BRAVE NEW WORLD REVISITED, New York, NY: Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., Harper Torchbook edition, 1932, 1946, 1958, 1960, p. 28.

⁷ Aldous Huxley, BRAVE NEW WORLD REVISITED, Published together with *Brave New World* as BRAVE NEW WORLD & BRAVE NEW WORLD REVISITED, New York, NY: Harper & Row, Publishers, Inc., Harper Torchbook edition, 1932, 1946, 1958, 1960, pp. 87, 88.

⁸ Charles E. Gray, AMERICA'S TRADITIONAL VALUES: The Conscience of a Nation, *The Humanist* magazine, September/October 2005, American Humanist Association.

⁹ Mary Joan Winn Leith, TEXT AND TRADITION, Interpreting the Bible vs. Interpreting the Constitution, *Bible Review*, Fall 2005. Mary Joan Winn Leith is associate professor of religious studies at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts.

¹⁰ George Orwell, ANIMAL FARM, New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1946, 1974, 1989, 1993.

¹¹ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, pp. 15, 16.

¹² David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, p. 19.

¹³ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, pp. 24, 77, 78.

¹⁴ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, p. 42, 46.

¹⁵ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, pp. 31, 69, 97.

¹⁶ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, pp. 32, 35, 48, 50.

¹⁷ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, p. 90.

¹⁸ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, pp. 97, 98.

¹⁹ David Thibodaux, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS: The Cloning of the American Mind, Lafayette, LA: Huntington House Publishers, 1992, pp. 100,101.

²⁰ Matthew 23:27; 12:34, 37.

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Topics will have a primary focus on the Defense of Scripture, including Creation (Genesis), Humanism, and Prophecy (Revelation). Other topics of interest may be presented. Questions, comments, and suggestions are encouraged.

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E-Mail: CreatRev@hawaii.rr.com; Mail: Robert & Mary Tozier, 92-222 Hoalii Place, Kapolei, HI 96707. Tel: 808-672-7229 - ALOHA! ΑΩ