# Theological Vignettes

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A Christian Book

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## Introduction

'Theological Vignettes' addresses religious questions that have arisen in our times. In a new age of atheism, tainted religion, and occult fads, I have reached out for genuine Christianity.

Articles in this book address doctrine and counter many of the arguments made by humanists, atheists, and others against the Christian faith. The book takes different approaches and is not just an essay. Many of the arguments against God are easily defeated, but some cloudy skies, questions, and doubts will always skirt our lives. We must have confidence that the answers exist and will be found through trust in Jesus. The arguments in this book were thought out over time, with periods of inspiration, but my arguments and speculation will, of course, face criticism. The Word of God is in the Bible.

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In these civilized but far from halcyon days, many people criticize the Christian religion, and the media often features extremists or progressives as the face of the church. Philosophers, educators, and others march up every avenue of attack. Progress and the secular state pound at the foundations of theology, and children begin their education, developing a technological, materialistic, and vain outlook.

We all live through a house of ideas we have built in our minds, and it is a better home if it has an atmosphere of truth and wisdom. Perhaps it is time for some of the houses of straw philosophy to collapse so more people can see the light of the true faith.

Earth is a spinning top of violence, with each warlike and terrorist act an admission of the fact that incomplete wisdom is at the roots of global politics that kills the innocent by the millions and does not fulfill us. We all know peace would come if we loved our neighbors as we do ourselves. People often say they would follow a Christian path if they could believe, but it is hard to follow a way of life seen as outdated by modern philosophy and science.

The truth is that Christianity is not dated but is growing. Faith still brings understanding, and for the larger questions, the Holy Spirit reveals new and powerful answers when the

time is right.

The Christian faith is always working its way through the world as God wishes, and in these small works, I will be trying to extend its reach to help reveal its presence as a Promised Land of new ideas. This involves a human and spiritual way of viewing things while being scientific at the same time. It involves doing some new speculation that keeps the Scriptures in mind and does not attempt to alter them.

For example, when we see a spaceship, we may ask what it is. One person will explain the technology, and another will say that because we need stations in space and a wish to explore space, a station was built. One answer is the how of a spaceship, while the other is the why. Both answers are needed for a full picture of the spaceship.

Science concerns itself with how things work. Religion often looks at the moral why of things. Yet for a full understanding of our universe and our being in it, we need a composite of both. Atheism is always justified by how arguments. The why of the world is ignored. Speculation on how all the systems of the universe work and transform is only an attempt at a how answer that is admirable as science and dehumanizing if it is passed off as religion. An explanation of how everything works will never be a total answer; our spirits will always reach out from the truth of being to touch the beauty of life, love, soul, and God. In this book, I am working under a rainbow of promise, and I'm hoping to see some of the golden "how" and "why" of Christianity.

## How do we inherit the Kingdom?

The Messiah has come, and he has fulfilled the law through his ministry on earth and death on the cross. We are to live according to that fulfillment. There are no regular sacrifices of animals or grain to atone for our sins anymore. Jesus atoned for our sins through his blood shed on the cross.

To be saved into the Kingdom, we must have faith that Christ came in the flesh and died for our sins on the cross. We must believe that he is the only mediator between man and God. Prayers or service to saints, angels, prophets, or the gods of other religions are not the way to God. The apostles made it clear that we reach God through the Son, and those who do not have the Son do not have the Father either.

We must believe that Jesus has been resurrected, as it says in the scriptures. We must also believe there will be a second coming of Christ, where every eye will see him coming.

This brings us to the argument of faith and works, as many denominations say good works are required to get one to heaven. Or else they say things like baptism, the Eucharist, or Saturday worship are needed for salvation. These teachers take away from Christ’s atonement and the fact that we are saved through the blood of Christ.

During Christ's ministry on earth, we see in the book of Matthew how a rich man asked Jesus what he should do to obtain eternal life. Jesus said obey the commandments.

When the man asked which ones, Jesus named, do not murder, steal, commit adultery, or bear false witness. He also said honor your father and mother and love your neighbor as yourself.

The rich man said he kept the laws and asked what more he could do. Jesus told him to give what he had to the poor and to follow him.

Jesus was in the flesh then and in his ministry on earth. The crucifixion fulfilled the law, and it still stands as the fulfilled law.

When the apostle James said that he showed his faith through his works, he meant that because of his faith in Christ, his works were according to that faith. He did not mean that his works earned him his way to heaven. His faith and love of God brought him to obey God's laws.

If all a person's works are evil, but that person has faith that Christ is the messiah, then the faith of that man or woman has failed. The person has become like a demon that knows of God but does not serve Him. Therefore, continued evil works can earn condemnation, but good works will not earn one salvation. Faith must be genuine, not just recognition that God exists.

God will be the judge in this, as we all sin, and God will be the judge as to which works were good and which were evil. There are many good works done that can only rise from faith in Christ. Men and women often claim evil deeds as good works. Helping those in genuine need always qualifies as a good work, as Christ requested in the scriptures.

There are those who say that the Eucharist, or communion, saves a person or is required for salvation. They are in error. Christ was alive in the flesh when he created the breaking of bread and sipping of wine in remembrance of him. It is an important memorial service, but Jesus never said the bread and wine actually turn into his flesh and blood as some teach. In remembrance, it is his flesh and blood, which is a spiritual thing.

There are those who say baptism is needed. They are also in error. Baptism under the fulfilled law is confirmation. Christ washed away our sins. The doctrine some have that infants who are not baptized will be damned is a doctrine of devils. If that were true, God would have no mercy; therefore, it is a lie.

Those who say baptism of infants should not be done are also incorrect. If the mother or father or both parents of a child are Christians, their child belongs to Christ, as the child will be raised in Christ. What God-fearing Christians would say that their child should not belong to Christ? Baptism confirms that this child will be raised in the faith.

Others say that to be saved, you must follow their prescription for baptism. They are wrong because again, they want to take away from Christ's sacrifice. Baptism is a good thing; you should be baptized as an infant, or as a child, or as an adult as confirmation, but you are not saved through it. Christ commanded the apostles to baptize in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, thereby confirming the Trinity as the

Godhead Christians worship. It also confirms repentance, as we are to repent before baptism.

Some current denominations spend all their time arguing that one must worship on Saturday to be saved. Under the fulfilled law, Sunday worship is okay. You can worship on Saturday, Sunday, or both days if you choose.

Another issue in salvation is Christ's command not to deny the works of the Holy Spirit. In this, the Lord was speaking of the Pharisees who saw him perform undeniable miracles, yet, out of jealousy, they tried to call them works of Satan. However, we are also told to test the spirits, so a person is not going to be condemned for doubting the works of corrupt faith healers that reveal their corruption through their love of money. Rather than arguing with such people, it's best to avoid them. God will be the judge in the end.

The Four Great Obstacles Christianity Must Overcome

1. Antichrist Religions of which Islam is currently the largest. There are many of these religions. The many-faced Antichrist blinds the eyes of billions and persecutes Christians.

2. Atheism or Secular Humanism and its relentless attack on freedom of religion, faith, spiritual practices at home and in society, and all things Christian.

3. False Doctrine and Unbelievers in the Church. That includes those who may believe in God yet have perverted or abandoned the scriptures or simply accept false doctrine. It also includes those who openly do not believe in Christ or the power of God and the resurrection, yet are ministering in churches and holding power. It includes those of us who have become lukewarm as per Christ's words in The Revelation.

4. Persecution, other corruption, and worldly sin that is ingrained in society via culture or the practices of corrupt government where sin is accepted or demanded ... everything, including gambling, drug addiction, sexual immorality, violence, war.

## Somewhere Near the Beginning

People who see the universe as a vast, dumb particle monster, and creation as a chance explosion or expansion, though a partially ordered one, are perhaps not fully applying the principles that are the best feature of our higher intelligence. Often, it is the spiritually fulfilled who have the best vision of true cosmic meaning, because they are aware of the motive behind the method and action. It is thought logical to believe in a cold, dead creation force. Yet we are living beings with self-awareness. I find it hard to believe in a cold, dead power. One that creates the grandest layers of structure and even creates a realm of intelligent beings that are greater than it, as that which perceives its being is greater than that which has no perception.

The science of a dead creator is a shield between man and God. The universe can only be the work of God. In our origins, God and the beginning are the same. All human knowledge comes from a flow of creative intelligence. Without it, all is in darkness, and answers and origins do not matter.

We can see creative genius in nature in its rise to biological life forms from simple elements. The operating genius in human beings and nature works mostly against decay and makes the universe more than a random cloud of particles. Life forces, by genius or creative energy, ascend toward that which also lives and thinks – their source, God. Why believe in the balance of nature and not in the balanced mind that shaped it? It does not take much thought to conclude that God and His creative touch are there.

Whether emerging from a bubbling froth of universes or from a single singularity, current science proposes that the heavens began as a dense speck of some unknown substance. A great miracle; all of the glory of creation as a blast of force and matter, a big soup of particles, with only one operating force in the first instance. Almost all that was and will be for our physical universe seems to have been mapped out in the ordering of subatomic particles that took place in science's Big Bang.

Looked at as an explosion or expansion, the beginning was a Great Intelligence's blueprint and foundation for future order. At least that is how I would put it if I were a scientist. I would also note that science's Big Bang resembles God's swift creation of the universe described in Genesis.

The latest science, based on light-distance experiments, claims that the vast birth and expansion of our universe occurred in a small fraction of a second. Imagine that – the entire universe appearing faster than instantaneously. This, then, is not really an explosion, but rather that at one point there was nothing, and in the first moment a universe formed and began moving forward in time.

As time passes, human science and the Bible seem to agree on the beginning of the heavens by one great and miraculous power, though the creators of our textbooks would rather give meaningless forces of chance credit for God's Creation.

The revisions in science are huge, and they often reveal our ignorance when we look back in time. Our tools are so limited that it is mostly a matter of faith when it comes to looking into the past. Studies in 2005 suggested that the Hadean Era, 4.5 to 4 billion years ago, was not a hellish time of molten lava as previously thought. There were cool oceans and balmy temperatures on land. Earth is now thought to have been capable of supporting life 700 million years earlier. Theories keep changing, and tomorrow they will have changed again.

Quark to lepton to atom to strong and weak nuclear forces to electromagnetism to gravity – a small group of laws and constants, eleven or so, is the chain in existence that defines the order of the universe. The universe is a platform that supports life forms. We are in a reciprocal relationship with our universe. Our universe makes sense to us because we are composed of the laws we are defining; we are part of the universe. The universe holds a specific reality we are designed to enjoy. Human beings are at the top

of the mountain, viewing the slope of the material world and looking to the divine light above for purpose and meaning.

God's spiritual and moral laws and the laws of nature are truths our minds are structured to understand. We use the body of science to improve our external world, and religious teachings and their wisdom to build inner character. The combined knowledge allows us to bring about good thoughts, feelings, and deeds. The wax of mind molded to beauty by reason and faith, the essence of soul alive with radiant love, here we have our focus on the reality of the Creation we exist in and share. On the wings of this balance, we attain the skies of the Spirit. Surely those who have faith and govern their ways according to eternal truth are haloing the holy light that shines from the gates of the beginning.

In times of a flood of media and facts, our focus rests on a fine point of faith. Without faith, even the wisest of people are blinded by a phantasmagoria of intellectual idols. Falling by the wayside, bowing to lifeless conceptual idols, this is a reaching below oneself to a dead plane of being. To be spiritually dead is to be at evil's command. Our true inner nature seeks to grow each day as we realize that the first miracle is the beautiful and orderly existence of all things through God, and that the second miracle is our awareness of this existence. Allow your mind to open; the world has breezes from heaven that only the gentle of spirit can feel.

## The Story of the Dust

Many people believe the universe happened without cause or planning. They think it appeared out of nothing and nowhere. An item called a singularity appeared and expanded to time, space, and matter, and from it, the universe was born ... or there was a fluctuation in a false vacuum, and a lump of matter appeared that became the universe.

Nothing is the exhaustion of all things, and nothing follows from nothing. Christians believe that in the beginning the universe flowed from the breath of all being – God.

Another belief is that the universe is of itself, or always was in existence – expanding in a steady state, or expanding out so far and then shrinking back to its original state of compression.

The universe follows a complex set of interactions as it journeys onward. Endless star clusters move in orbits without ever colliding. Cycles of order relate to other cycles of order, on up to the highest levels of structure. All flowed out of and took shape from the first force or the beginning. The big plan of the universe unraveled, and if there is a way of all things, there is a Maker of that way. If there is a human reality of mind, there is the truth of it, and that truth is only the shadow of the ultimate reality, which is the being of God. God is the something that began all things as we know them.

Henry Thoreau said that nature is full of genius. No genius could have existed on its own at the beginning. In the first instance, the genius of nature existed in God's mind.

The universe was possible because in the beginning there was God, and God had whole being, the full essence of intelligence and emotions, truth, and knowledge. When God said, “Let there be light,” a divine light of Creation shone.

God had the idea of Adam in His mind, and it flourished, becoming a world of human souls. As Adam has a soul, so do we. The souls God chooses to remember favorably live forever with Him.

## The Origin of Evil

In the beginning, God created all things good. A thing which was made bad or foul would not be corruptible; it would be vile already. Although man and woman were created good, they were not made to be all-powerful in a moral sense, and therefore, there was always the possibility of them being corrupted. This corruption would come as a failing of faith and a turning of the will from God. All unrighteousness is sin, but most sin, as many have said, is a distortion of the good things God gave us. Sexual sin, for example, is using our bodies for something other than the intended love between a man and his wife.

God's truth is His proper knowledge of the way of all things. This truth includes the possibility of failure in tests of faith. There would be no true faith if there were no possibility of it being tested; there would only be meaningless blind faith and mindless obedience. Our limited free will often gives us the ability to succeed or fail, and the choice between good and evil. Without it, we would be lower beings.

The first evil was pride, and the origin of evil has not changed. Today, we are expected to lust after fame, worship celebrities, and listen to their tainted moral pronouncements. We are so busy trying to climb up on pedestals that we forget the spiritual advantages of being humble and content. In a world of dazzling celebrities, it could be said that the origin of evil remains the greatest tempter of men and women. The truth is that those who exalt themselves will be abased, as Jesus says in the New Testament. It is a deadly sin to fail to give glory to God.

## The Way of Mortality

Is there a reason for mortality? Atheists say that when you see a person going down to the grave, there is nothing more obvious than the fact of death. Death does seem final when it is witnessed through mortal eyes, but it in no way disproves immortal life. Any life at all is a great miracle in comparison to death.

If you were like God in heaven and had all the time in the world, and were not particularly tempted to rush into anything – at least not until the date you set arrived – would you be struck with the idea of making humans immortal?

You likely would not be, and neither was God, as He cast Adam and Eve out of Eden and left a cherub and a flaming sword at the gate to bar them from eating of the Tree of Life.

Should we have been made indestructible before finding our way back to God? As God, you would probably see humans as a foolish lot, though your divine love would allow you mercy. Humans, it would seem, take a lifetime to develop the proper values in such a way as to live by them without making many exceptions, and this is only the saints.

As immortal super beings, we would never learn discipline and grow wise. We already behave like bloodthirsty, callous brutes with a mortal body. Imagine us with great powers. A fragile mortal life is needed so we may experience the whys of wisdom and the virtue of being humble. Knowledge learned the hard way is fully understood. A sinner who repents has learned through painful mistakes. The pain of old age is man's final lesson of his weakness and mortality.

Evil fools desire power for destructive, selfish ends. Imagine an indestructible fool. Wisdom and love must be gained first before power can be managed, or the gifts of the Holy Spirit can be fully given. Mortal life is a necessary hill we climb. No one can truthfully say that there is human life without a way for it. They really mean they have failed to find the way. The way of mortality is the best way, and way it is.

When Jesus returns, there will be a resurrection of the dead, and the reason we are not left dead is that God's final justice will be dispensed, and those God chooses will receive life. There is the way of mortality, and the way of God's immortality. He does not allow the wicked to escape His final judgment through earthly death.

## God's Truth

Plato said, “Truth is not relative, or any belief would be as valid as a contradictory belief.” You would be saying that it is true that there is no truth, which is incongruous.

Truth is the way of what actually is or the way of the divine reality. It is the shadow of God. We all know some of the truth, and truth is a real piece of our understanding and soul.

Currently, we do not know whether the universe is infinite or finite. What we do know is our newest telescopes can't find the end of the universe. In infinite combinations of energy, life, and matter, infinite numbers of everything are always in existence, unless there is a limiting factor. This limiting factor is God or His laws. God decides which forces and elements will be in the systems, puts the systems in interaction, and creates a structured universe. The first truth is in God's mind. God is truth, and only God sees the entire reality of the Creation.

People who think natural facts are the only truth are mistaken. Limiting vision and believing there is no moral truth is an easy way for people to justify their evil deeds and character defects, or pass those defects into unjust and foolish law.

We perceive natural facts, understand them, and relate to them or know them in terms of our self or identity. The self can also recognize natural truths. The first natural truth the self sees is its own reality of being and identity. This reality comes from God through the soul. Of natural facts in the physical world and mental world, the inner self is the most certain fact because it directs the mind's judgment of all facts.

The inner self and the mind create man's intellectual arguments to justify the sciences. Science itself does not create truth; it is a tool of the thinking mind. The self can also see moral and spiritual truth. The inner self knows truths like “You shall not murder,” just like it knows the sun is in the sky. We awaken to spiritual truth as we awaken to consciousness after sleep. When we perceive new spiritual truth, darkness is removed from our thoughts, and our souls glow with the sparks of divine emotion.

## Illumined Interlude

* This segment is a collection of bits and pieces.

Happiness does not arrive on the carefree wings of the bird of paradise, but from the whitest clouds of the soul.

Our free expression distinguishes us from the beasts; those who prohibit expression are the beasts.

Out of our need for security, authority is born. Out of insecurity, a tyrant lives.

Our cares find comfort in the houses of our souls, and we can find peace by sharing our hearts. We are bathed in the glow of the fireplace of life, warmed by the all-touching spirit of the flames, enlightened by the bright secret in eternal embers. Inner peace, the love of others and of God, this is the home we need to know.

Is freedom only a sparkling stream, trickling by outside the glass prison of our moods and cascading like a waterfall somewhere beyond us ... while we can only color it by looking through one tinted window at a time, knowing that freedom's mist can never pass the glass and sprinkle us? At its least, freedom makes us better by giving us a beautiful ideal.

Because we are mortal, infinite choices and acts cannot be made. The basis of human freedom is the ability to choose among what appears possible, with moral, survival, social, and environmental conditions always factors.

As individuals in a free society, we are free to do our own thing, with social, property, and human rights of others being a barrier to evil and complete freedom. This lack of full freedom is atoned for when friendship through spiritual love builds community. When people share their feelings, equality and wholeness in life replace domination and subjection.

The atheist conception of freedom as permission of every act is more a conception of slavery. How can a person with no firm values and blown on the winds of desire be free?

If you do choose values, they must be genuine, or they will be valueless. Some people think that everything that brings momentary happiness has value. Often these things become vices. The road to freedom is self-government, not selfish government. Willing the good act is more difficult than giving in to the easy one. It is the ability to exercise willpower and choose higher values that is the good side of human freedom. Why be a slave to sin when the good life is all around us, waiting for us to choose it?

A fool looks everywhere for freedom, a spiritual person has freedom within; it is a gift of the Holy Spirit – freedom that is also love.

Is the entire universe really law and freedom, a person acting within the law?

Who can free the slaves if the slaves will not free themselves? Enlightenment will free those who are bound by men and their false ideas, and it will come through grace.

A leader who has only followers is not a leader.

As mathematics is the rules of measure in architecture, laws are the rules of balance in the architecture of human relations. The measure and the balance vary to accommodate circumstances, but the rules must be applied correctly to build a uniform structure of justice and truth that will stand against the critical eyes of peers and history.

All lesser principles can be subordinated to the higher principles of faith, love, and conscience, but the higher principles cannot be subordinated to the lower principles. It is of the nature of ethical thought that the higher principles are dominant over the lesser ones. Although a result of ethical thinking may recommend an action, this is a new variation of principles based on the situation under consideration.

It has been said that ethical laws should be firm and provable by experiment, which cheapens the subject. Our ethics are an ordering of our souls on life's moral plane, a way of improving the quality of life for all. Life in proper perspective is bigger than experiments.

Those who say the good is indefinable and therefore meaningless in ethical or moral statements are mistaken. Their belief that what is moral depends on the individual or culture is also incorrect. Good things are things that, in the right measure, mix or circumstances, bring health, well-being, or a harmony of individuals in society. Good things aid growth or progress that is positive or helpful to the survival and happiness of all people. We should always be arguing whether new things are truly good, and not whether there is such a thing as good. And if they are good, they are from God, as Jesus said that only God is good.

Perhaps, for us, God and Creation are the same rather than separate. The Kingdom is within because a spiritual relationship with God is the most intimate thing of all.

Christianity must aim for the moral perfection of humanity as well as that of the individual.

René Descartes said, I think, therefore I am." In other words, humans understand their existence through thought. Man is a temporal or earthly being, composed of matter,

relying on time to exist.

God describes Himself to Moses as I AM. In other words, God is more than temporal; God does not need to understand his existence through thought or exist through matter and time. Rather, God created thought and wisdom along with all other things.

Those who can't forgive can never truly smile or love others. Barred from the meadows of freedom and peace, they remain wounded, angry, and forever chained. Who wants to lash out from the darkness of hate? Forgiveness is a liberator and the wings of love.

Growing older and wiser is seeing how every good thing one took for granted gathers its own day of thanksgiving in life's long Indian summer.

A person who is traveling the road of good because of love for God and humanity has the purest motive. People do good works for many reasons, but few are adorned with the pearls of a heavenly love.

A person with a heart of gold sees the good side of others and admires and speaks of their strengths. A person with a heart of poison sees the bad side of others and despises them, and speaks of their weaknesses. Have a heart of gold; our wounds are sore enough.

The superstitious and the seer, reader of the cards and watcher of the skies, the drug-crazed and the mystic wise ... so many have lost the grace of God in search of it.

Spinoza said that those who denounce vice and teach no virtue are harmful to themselves and others.

The wicked don't just take advantage of your vices. They use your cooperation, your good nature, your involvement, and your desire to be a good citizen against you.

They make sure the cause you are involved in is a lie with evil hidden behind the curtain. They turn your desire to be a good citizen into obedience to evil decrees and foolish political correctness. They turn your religious nature into adherence to false religions or contaminated teachings they claim are Christianity. If not that, then earth worship, faith in secular ideologies, and so forth. If they fail to send you to earthly death in war or violence they tricked you into, then they send you to spiritual death. Only with faith in the gospel and Christ do you have a chance to see through the lies.

Gamble your life away … the saying is true. Today, we have become weak, and gambling is loved by the authorities of the world. Yet the fact hasn’t changed that gambling is a sin and greed that destroys lives and communities. The gambler trusts his/her fortune to luck … a god that doesn’t exist. Even winning the sky-high jackpot is not a victory. It is deliverance to evil money, rather than the salvation that comes through the Lord.

Always smile with others and celebrate their happiness and joy. The world is full of misery, and it is a good work to make and celebrate happiness. God’s word shows this to be true. When Christ arrived, the disciples, the faithful, and the healed lived in the joy of the bridegroom. They did not fast often when Jesus was with them. It was the wicked

and the powerful of the Jews and Gentiles who painted their faces sour. Men who were supposed to be of God cursed the coming of His Son. Two thousand years and more have passed, with them still crying out from misery, saying that Jesus is not the messiah. Celebrate with happiness and joy. Christ has come.

There is a sugar valve in the brain that creates a mental escape called atheism. Those who can't bear the weight of their sins use it all the time.

Today in Western nations, what is politically correct via progressives is a collection of wicked beliefs. Even many of the progressives become politically incorrect as they fail to adapt quickly to the expanding narrative of evil that now calls for people to hate their nations and founders and to support the sexual mutilation of children. The only place for Christians in this narrative is to oppose all of it.

What's it all about? We sigh. And when all is said and done, what was it all about? It was only a short journey, the heavenly voice will say. Did you make it a happy one?

Should philosophy be dry and factual as much of it is today? Few of the great men of the past were inspired to speak in dry facts. Eloquence and emotion have always been the lifeblood of wisdom.

Those who are solely interested in dominance know neither error nor apology, as they believe such things are for others.

Biased news coverage leads the public to believe that Christian involvement in Godly social change is an extreme movement. So long as churches work toward social justice that is not at odds with the gospel, it is not a problem. Christianity has always been a movement toward social justice. All of us receive our talents and calling from the Lord. Some mature into great activists, doctors, or scientists. There is a diversity of special occupations. Even people doing good works in other religions have received their gifts from God. Many people do not even know that God is guiding their lives. Remember Isaiah’s prophecy regarding King Cyrus. Though Cyrus was a pagan king and did not know God, he was directed and did what God wanted done in establishing the future that the Lord ordained. Those of us who are truly blessed have been called to Christ through faith. He has given us a calling to work toward social justice and brotherly love.

In an imperfect world, those who have set sail for the mysteries of spiritual life invariably suffer from the limitations of others. People without the spirit are often cruel and violent, with defects of character like broken glass on the barbed wire of a bad temperament. They are not honest with themselves and are surrounded by a band of thieves, which is the crowd of bad habits they have learned. Bad deeds and fixed ideas stunt the growth of many people, and limit their actions, allowing them little freefall in life. The higher Spirit calls for people who flow from a pure source … people who will grow and become the most widespread willows.

Is there no justice under the sun? Perhaps there is no natural justice for us like there is for beasts, and even most beasts are not as cruel to one another as we are to each other. What justice there is God sent into the world through the spiritual side of human nature, the higher level of revelation, the prophets, the Son, the Holy Ghost, the apostles and the members of the Church. Those who act through the Word bring about

justice and love. Those who suffer the injustice of the world should not add to it with violence. The imitation of evil is evil. It is hard to suffer peacefully, but we can try and, in doing so, bring about a share of justice by being just. Injustice is evil, ignorance, or a foolish lack of faith in the right thing that brings about a decision to do wrong. “Sufficient to the day is the evil thereof.”

Beauty of presence is a rose on a dunghill when it masks inner ugliness. Beauty often is also the beast.

The evil control the weak-willed and gullible through their vices and false beliefs, always knowing the weak-willed can be fooled each day with a fresh false argument. The good know that real power is in giving beneficial guidance to others.

Music is more a matter of taste than of good and evil. In the past, thoroughly wicked people have listened to tunes of beauty and inspiration while planning, performing, and celebrating their foulest deeds. Some rock and modern music may sound evil to people when it is not, and music in itself is not evil, though vocals that are a celebration of things foul and vile can be evil. It is true that musicians are not always talented, and that music that is simply in bad taste or out of tune is often mistaken for evil. Music played to honor things unholy or false would be evil due to its intent, though not due to the notes played. The culture and ritual surrounding musical styles can at times be evil, as can the people making music for evil purposes. In our society, musical entertainment is provided in places like casinos, where even if the music sounds clean, the vice it promotes is not. The portrayal of music stars as godlike is also evil. The youth are taught to practically worship terrible role models, and often these big stars are vain, immoral, greedy, and lovers of violence. The greatest musicians would give the glory to God for any gifts received.

The weight of the world is its rejection of you, and a large burden of the soul is in some of the reasons for the world's acceptance of you.

We all belong to one cultural group or another, and we all think we are the good guys, just like on TV. In reality, we all have faults and sins.

Anyone who drafts an evil philosophy and recommends that others follow it will be judged for it. Poetry and fiction are reflections of culture in the form of human literary expression and address many aspects of life, even the uglier, more sinful avenues of existence.

The wise renounce what is harmful or simply unnecessary and keep the good things of life. The ascetic doesn't purify or extinguish the self with suffering and denial – the self withers and the soul remains unfulfilled.

If it weren't for laughter, the human race would be extinct. How else could we stand our own foolishness?

To be a religion, it must be truth that will spiritually benefit all who believe it and practice it. To guide your life with lesser values is to waste your life and the time of those you ill-affect rather than improve.

For a poor person, always being smaller in stature than the minimum imaginings of the people, hope is to wish others would have humanity and integrity. The poor have an impossible time attaining the good life when the soul of the majority has decayed.

Perhaps the collective unconscious is a deep lake in our souls, and the mist at its surface is the spirit of our times.

We solved life's problems and rested our heads on the soft clouds of dreams. We awoke from perfect sleep to find the sky growing dark. There before us was the largest of problems – an imperfect world. Life is a time for gathering truth, for living in that truth, for carrying the truth on in an awakening of the dream that becomes reality.

There is no breeding that can make a bad nature noble, but a tiny lack of breeding makes a good nature foul. People of a nasty nature don't realize that the fault they find in others is their own.

Heaven is a guiding light, and it's always a way up the inner road. Happiness isn't just the city at the end of the road; it's a Spirit carrying all the good things that make our way.

Since we never know what tomorrow will bring, we can't say that doing evil today will bring about something better tomorrow. We can only do good works today with a better tomorrow being the goal in mind. The old for-a-better-end-tomorrow argument is not a justification for sin, and we can be sure that we won't be better tomorrow by becoming evil today.

Most people are wanted by the best of people for their services, but great people are wanted by the best of people for their presence alone.

Revenge rarely repairs the damage that's been done. It’s a massaging of one's pride that’s evil. Since the vengeful aren't impartial, justice can't be done by them.

Evil people use hateful propaganda as a tool to deceive or break down the truth. This false information often takes shape as elaborate lies, name-calling, slogans, and obscenity. Name-callers make themselves obscene while the object of their wrath remains pure. Remember to govern your tongue, or it will make you ugly.

Punishment in a just society is usually a jail term or restitution. The criminal is told why punishment is being administered and what result is expected. Vigilante justice is where terror, torture, and murder are dished out to victims who haven’t been proven guilty of anything. Usually, vigilantes seek sadistic delight rather than justice; they corrupt themselves rather than serve justice or God.

For the most part, the completely faithless have one belief, and that is that all other people are insincere, fraudulent, and faithless.

The gentle of spirit are also the wise.

God gives “beauty for ashes” when He gives life to the body through the soul. People who see that the reality and splendor of the world and self come through the soul know the first part of the truth. Knowing a blissful love of others through Christ is the second part of it.

Courage to do the wrong thing is more aptly called foolhardiness, but then, since the wicked don't have the ability to do right, it's just plain sin.

In a truly democratic society of one person, one vote, a society of equals and of universal rights, the good of all is the good of one. We do unto others as we would have them do unto us by granting freedom and equality to each other.

Ivan, a character in Feodor Dostoyevsky's book The Brothers Karamazov, believes the truth isn't worth the suffering and death of innocents, and because of this, he would choose not to accept eternal life. If truth were purchased with suffering and death, Satan, the king of suffering and death, would possess it all. The truth is that we can transcend suffering and death through Christ. God may relieve the suffering of innocents in more ways than we know, and He can give them joy that suffering can't compare to. It is silly to say that since we hate suffering, we will punish God by choosing to suffer forever.

Beware of people who ask you to do immoral things for personifications of institutions, personal qualities, or other things the evil and foolish wish to elevate. Don't do things for the supposed good of socialism, women, the company, honor, reputation, and so forth. Personifications are idea things and not good ones if they require evil deeds.

The meadows of summer joy grew green in the tears of spring.

The more times change, the more the vices and virtues of people remain the same.

Cool waters of compassion aren't found in cauldrons of desire.

The secret of life is to treasure it. In this world, it is really all we own, and that's only for a short while. To throw life away in any way is to throw yourself away.

Happiness can be like the gleam of a leaping fish. The waters of your passion must be still for you to notice it.

My patriotic friend: Do not tell me you are proud of your country. Tell me your country is free.

What is a free country? Is it rolling lands or seas of people? I say it's an idea and a hopeful ideal; an ideal of liberty, of peace, of community, of individual freedom, of fair play, of democracy and stability, of the love of God, and of that silent agreement that is made between folks of a good heart.

They carry bleak clouds and misery with them over the earth as they search the heavens for a sign, but since the sign isn't written on their hearts, they can find no peace. Angels can't bring joy to those who haven't humbled themselves or are not ready to receive it. On earth, the Holy Spirit doesn't act as a supernatural show-business magician. Heaven has more often chosen to make human beings and their betterment its signs and miracles. People filled with the Holy Spirit are radiant beings in the ever-growing caravan of good tidings.

Every quack and charlatan has, in turn, been taken in by another cheat – one even more evil.

When Jesus chose Saul, he seemed a most unlikely choice, being at the bottom of a pit of sin and death. As the born-again Apostle Paul took the church down the highways to the world, he reminded people that Christianity would always be a faith that reaches out to the fallen and raises them up to life. Christ made it no secret; he came to redeem sinners. There are really only two perspectives to choose from: looking down at others or reaching out to help them. Reaching out to others whenever you can is the Christian way, and we must not listen to those who do not want to offer forgiveness but would rather condemn people forever.

We purify ourselves with faith and prayer, and evil is outside of us until we recreate it in our hearts. Evil people often attempt to extract an angry reaction from the good. This puts evil back in the good person's heart. Turning the other cheek assures purity, and prayer will remove emotional pain while faith heals the wound.

The Deist belief that God created the world and has since abandoned it to become an aloof God doesn't line up with the truth of divine love. God, being perfect in love, would never abandon His human creation. As it was, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Evil ways are everyday ways for people without a conscience. If you are not responsible to yourself, who else will you deceive? Or if you've forgotten yourself, who then will you remember? And if you don't listen to the voice of self-right, who has your ear?

God said he would send delusion on the wicked, and today it takes form in many evil ideologies. The liar knows he is lying, but the ideologist often does not. Consider those taken in by gender ideology today. Such people firmly believe a man can become a genuine woman, when science and scripture tell us that it is not possible. We see people blinded to the truth by ideology or by the blind leading the blind.

One proof of God completely acceptable to God is that the unseen glory of God is implicit in the glory of seen nature. This is because it takes faith to see this proof. A tiny bit of faith makes all the difference in how we see the world.

I read an essay that said that if there were a God, He would have to be the result of a long evolutionary process to have such an intricate and magnificent brain. This is because intelligence, as we know it is matter-based. At present, people seem to think of everything in terms of evolution. If they can believe that something has always been in existence, why can't they believe that God has always been in existence? Maybe some people would find heaven and the afterlife easier to believe in if they viewed it as a stage of evolution – the highest stage.

Humanists say all future discoveries will reveal only a further extension of the natural realm, not a supernatural one. I don't know if this is supposed to be an example of their prophecy. It's like saying no telescopes will reach into God's living room; but then, if one did, God would become a part of the natural, as all things do once discovered by science. “Canst thou draw out leviathan with an hook? . . . wilt thou take him for a servant forever? . . . wilt thou play with him as with a bird? . . . shall they part him among the merchants? . . . Lay thine hand upon him, remember the battle, do no more.” God

clearly says that He is not our property, and who would believe in a God kept locked in our zoo?

If we haven't been able to put a boundary on the universe, why are we so quick to say the heights of living beings end at us? Surely they reach far above us. God's country is very big and boundless in spiritual ways.

Although humanists say heaven and belief in it are meaningless supernatural constructs, they fail to mention that the Word of heaven, even when stripped to the bare bones of the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount, provides the best guide to a full earthly life. The humanist belief in vastly different ethics for different places and people leads to no ethics.

There are three types of worship. Some people worship through ceremony and prayer. There are those who worship through prayer and Godly causes, and those who worship through prayer, inspired writing, and song. Ceremony, works, and inspiration are good things that are made better through prayer and communion with the Holy Spirit.

A person who seeks an answer is on the road to vision. Vision is faith as sight, a sixth sense that reveals God to the understanding mind. Formal writings about God help draw seekers to vision; then the Holy Spirit and religious gifts are received through Christ.

Through prayer, your eyes will be opened, and understanding will abound.

Hatred is the cancer of the soul, but it is a more exciting feeling to hate than it is to feign friendliness to someone a little different. We need religion to gain a pure love for all that has a more desirable spice than hate's hot pepper.

Life carries many burdens, and we all seek the peaks of freedom where we can rise above the load. Faith is like poetry that carries the poet high above the world on a wave of expression; even oppression falls below the faithful person's expression.

The men and women of the world fence off their kingdoms with sugary lies, and then they try to make us live the lies. Perhaps we add to the weight of the world each time we agree with the lies.

God's proof of Himself is our undying faith in Him.

Obedience to theologians won't get one to heaven any more than obedience to Jewish laws will. Grace, love, and faith in Christ make the only true theology.

Reading with Faith: Jesus read the scriptures of his time with complete faith. He did not spend his time dwelling on faith-destroying questions. There isn’t any other record or research comparable to the Bible, tracing the history of humanity and God’s message to humankind. Nowadays, skeptics want to question everything. They say Moses didn’t write the first four books of the Old Testament, or that King David never existed. They said Babylon and many other things did not exist, though they have now been uncovered. Read the Bible with faith, knowing that from Adam to Noah to now, the people existed, and that so-called scholars and archaeologists looking back thousands

of years through fogged lenses can’t possibly know more than those who lived, wrote, and spoke with God back then.

Some of the sins of men are beyond measure, as their cruelty is beyond measure, but this doesn't make people with small sins shine white – it shows the need for no sin, because all sin brings misery and death.

If our general outlook, say, whether we're cheerful or fearful, comes partly from brain makeup and partly from learning or life experience, this doesn't mean our attitudes are fixed. God can free us from defects of both body and mind.

A benign totalitarianism won't bring peace or a safe world; with standardized beliefs enforced via institutions and the Internet, along with the behavior modification of alleged deviants, a mass of people who are ready to be obedient to a devil will have been created. Of course, the totalitarian state is already a devil as far as politics goes, but it is latent as it waits for the evilest of people to take their rightful positions at the helm.

If there is a key reason why I believe in an actual heaven rather than in heaven and moral ways as ideas that do not really exist, it is that I can't believe in a lesser higher power. A God without heaven, personality, or selfhood is a lesser god and an irrational idea.

The drive for power and fame that is apparent in many people today is the human need for the love of others in a misdirected form. We must relate to others as equals to earn love. Power and fame won't bring true happiness.

To strive for recognition by appealing to others' flawed views and expectations is to strive to become foolish and vain.

Adam and Eve were born in the paradise of human spiritual perfection. When they were corrupted, they fell from this paradise. God's words verified their corruption, and they were cast out by the truth.

It is common to see the Bible attacked as a collection of fairy tales, often with criticism of the Book of Genesis. Here, they point to the Bible as being at odds with science. The Bible was not delivered as a lengthy science book because humankind had little scientific knowledge at that time. Genesis and the Creation story affirm that all things, including man and woman, are a special creation of God. God has affirmed to all generations that He created the world and expects us to believe it through faith in His word, and through the things of God revealed to us.

Arguments over the substance of Christ are a vain waste of time. What we need is the wise and humble nature of Christ. The bible, being clear on the begotten Son, unfortunately did not prevent heretics from creating endless distractions via false claims about the nature or substance of Christ.

Health is spiritual. Spiritual people are on the upswing, and their immune systems are strengthened. God has created us so that our faith is also a part of our healing and good health.

The idea of the Church Triumphant (the Church in heaven) is so superior to the idea of graves and rot that I wonder why all people don't embrace it out of the hope for salvation alone.

Mystic union, feeling the presence of God around you and within you; consolation, feeling the wonderful elation the Lord gives; wisdom, having life's answers through a fulfilling grace; love, feeling a divine love for God and all of His Creation; and the joy that only membership in the church can bring are heights of religion and the spirit people on drugs and following other false paths are trying to attain but cannot.

It is against the general goodness of God to severely punish those who are in minor error concerning doctrine, theology, or scripture if the errors aren't deliberate ones. If a person errs through human fallibility, then the person is not deserving of extreme punishment. Since we all err, any final judgment in these matters is God's exclusively. We should be happy to be more gifted than those in error. These Reformation ideas are ones we should remember when we are tempted to lash out at other denominations. However, God's judgment on error can still be severe, as in the case of the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar, who was brought down among the beasts for his pride in claiming the great kingdom was of his own making. We have seen God bring severe judgment on the mighty and proud.

To yearn to be a martyr is to yearn to see some men as your persecutors and self-condemned. Yearn for lasting faith.

Since there is no war that doesn't massacre the innocent, no war is a fully just war. Usually, war comes as a death monster disguised in cloaks of freedom, glory, retribution, etc. War is also obsolete – with modern weapons, if you support initiating war, you must also support unacceptable levels of destruction.

How can there be a God who allows suffering and mass murder on such a scale as the world has seen? We should remember that we all die eventually. Death comes, whether through Nazis or natural causes. The lie of evil is to make one think it is omnipotent, that there is no answer to its horror. On earth, there is no final answer other than God, because evil is battling good; it is bigger than man. Only God has final victory over evil. We must remember that God's power is greater, that He can and does address all suffering.

If we counted all the times the almost countless hypocrites did good or felt love because of Jesus, we would add up the force that raised the earth above the waves of total sin and destruction. God has drained the wicked of power, so that even they must do some good.

## Small Scientific Speculation

* This is not an essay but bits and pieces in the science area.

Science is not salvation. It can be an arm of good or evil. The last few decades have made it clear that the hopes of those worshiping science, including modern moralists, psychologists, and many others, have been dashed.

We have scientific solutions to everything from pollution to the energy crisis to global thirst and starvation, but they are never put into practice. The rich get richer, and a growing number of the planet's people remain dirt poor, landless, and suffering. Globalization, technology, and economic growth exploit the underprivileged rather than providing the material salvation that atheists and humanists have proclaimed through their false gospel. It is clear that there is no scientific solution to greed … no scientific solution to criminally irresponsible behavior … no scientific solution to our refusal to act maturely and respect the God-given rights of other people. Science has not aided us enough in the needed effort to avoid harming others. We continue to damage the planet and its species.

Unfortunately, the tools of science and technology (like all other things elevated to false gods) have been mastered by unholy individuals and organizations … most of them on a deluded mission to satiate a minority of the wicked while claiming they are working toward the greater good.

The errors of scientists regarding morality seem endless. The latest science is a simple argument that morality arises from a region in the brain's frontal lobes. If the area is damaged, immorality occurs.

If that is the case, most of the best-off, educated, and privileged people in the world must be brain-damaged. They have chosen to give to themselves and to love their possessions and political follies. They have not loved their brothers or even children, and most of them do not love God or believe in a higher moral order other than their own rule. The last book of the bible, showing the end times, reveals fallen humankind with false leaders who try to wage war with God through their great technology. And of course, they fail and are destroyed.

Skeptics used to say preachers could use the bible to prove anything. Today, it is best said that you can use science to prove anything. Every claim imaginable hits the news, with a scientific backing. Many claims have been made about Jesus, such as that his tomb has been found or that he married and had children. In evolution, so-called muscle tissue from a dinosaur, they say, is 63 million years old, which is proof that birds evolved from dinosaurs. Yet muscle tissue cannot survive for millions of years, and Jesus' family tomb turned out to be a mistake. Science has proved itself a cover for every sort of lie, and not a genuine discipline that we can fully rely on.

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Creating a worldwide technocratic dystopia has become the obsession of world leaders and the elite, like those in the World Economic Forum, World Health Organization, and various other international scientific, political, and medical bodies.

Their talk of transhumanism and total government control via things like vaccinations, digital currencies, IDs, and so forth is as demoralizing as it is worthless.

The natural God-given rights of humankind expose these people as evil-minded. Control of others is everything to them. Their evil tools reveal them. Censorship and propaganda, dangerous injections produced through even more dangerous research, or the idea of controlling people with chips and brain implants or digital currencies that can control where a person goes or what a person buys ... these are all tools of evil. The idea that human beings should be replaced or controlled by AI is both criminal and foolish. God did not create us to be replaced by machines.

Science applied in a human and moral way would never produce a world of fake or manmade pandemics, dangerous injections, and talk of a New Normal where humanity is enslaved mind, body, and bloodstream to the elite. A totalitarian world with no real middle class or privacy, where the wealthy and corrupt enjoy the Earth while others are enslaved, is not desirable.

The wickedness of the current crop of world political leaders is especially tied to today's corrupt technocratic elite. When you look at many of these so-called scientific elites, you find they personally believe in many evil things like paganism, witchcraft, body mutilation via hormones and surgery, total removal of the family and morality, etc.

Technology is supposed to be developed and controlled by the people for the people, not by the wicked and wealthy to enslave and damage the rest. The thing we most do not need is a world government run by wealthy people who serve only sin and Satan. It is the duty of all people to oppose the corruption of science and medicine.

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The idea that genes have a survival purpose of their own is false. Genes have no self or mind and can’t have a purpose of their own; they can only operate as a system in nature ... only a thinking self can read the world and impose change or new order on it by way of purpose.

When understanding becomes a vacuum, our world is cast adrift amid the universe's logical absurdity. The false and orderly tomb of chance disintegrates humanity with eternal death. Break the coffin of dry science and see that from atom to mind and on the order follows a divine passage. Chance is not the root of the world, nor is meaninglessness an answer or end.

Science today traces our universe back to a point of emergence; what it is, they say, is unknown. There are theories, but science does not know our origin.

Theologians who turn to science to find out how God might work miracles are on the wrong track. If God makes a stone float, it is because His will supersedes the laws of science that He created.

Psychologists experiment and search for a uniform behavior to report and give to the masses as the proper behavior to exhibit in society, but you can be sure that exceptional behavior is not uniform.

Euthanasia is Canada's new model eugenics program. Advocates of assisted dying seek to place Maid houses or assisted death storefronts in every community, like

veterinarian or dentist offices. They are now working to euthanize the mentally ill and disabled children, along with those with diseases that are expensive to treat. This evil came in the door on the idea of compassion for those in severe pain who would soon die. Now they want it for everyone, calling it an equality right and a matter of dignity. It is clearly the same eugenics Nazis practiced, and in the past, such people were loathed. Today, they present themselves as moral, as Satan again presents himself as an angel of light.

In today's politics, we see those on the right more interested in money and possessions, the economy, or a materialist ideology. On the left, it is now more about power; power and control of the masses using things like censorship, the law, and cancel culture against those not conforming to the political correctness of the day. This is because the masses reject evil progressive ideology and must be forced to conform. Science is also at odds with it, so pseudoscience is embraced to back the ideology.

Intelligence is that which can know and understand the measures, and it is also something that can't be measured accurately.

The problem with psychiatric systems for interpreting dreams, the subconscious, and so forth is that once you have a system, you can place anything in relation to it, making almost every system appear sensible.

All energies are matter in transition, and although the universe is in a state of perpetual transition, it is really a realm of certainty. It has a definite reality and is not just a pile of atoms and possibilities or a hologram, as some people believe.

We can't investigate the whole brain. Many of its systems can be understood only subjectively, by those who experience them or the living person. Some brain systems are subconscious, and we aren't able to perceive or feel them consciously. The brain may be more than we can know.

It could be that dreams are the self-system experiencing the workings of the subconscious and preconscious minds. The focus of awareness that is the leading edge of the conscious mind may switch to another lower channel of stimulus interpretation to keep itself working when one is asleep. The brain requires constant stimulation for a person to feel healthy, so this is highly likely. Since the conscious mind and most sensory input are shut down, the self experiences a flow of moods and urges from the preconscious mind, and a flow of subconscious-level thought from the subconscious mind. It could be that the subconscious mind works on our life situation or well-being in dreamlike patterns rather than in our usual conscious way of orderly logic. When in the dream state, we may see unconscious thought patterns as they whirl around the urges from the preconscious. In addition, dreaming may have a purpose: it brings things to us regardless of the blocks the conscious mind puts in place. Perhaps when we are too involved with the world at large in the daytime, our dreams bring out some of our important inner speculation at night. Dreaming could be vital to the brain as a necessary phase of its ceaseless dynamic motions, and vital to the body and soul as an ongoing force of inner healing.

The future and God’s plan … an interesting question is whether the future has already been ordained. If not, is it a blank slate or simply not in existence yet? Prophets have seen the future, so the future, according to God’s plan, will exist. Meaning major and minor events God has proclaimed will happen. Then the next question is whether that is all of the future or only a small part, with the rest determined by our choices in life.

If we were to say there is no tomorrow, the world would end today. If we were to say the past never happened, there would be no today. Perhaps history is like a wave moving forward, washing in on sands and a beach that is already present.

Perhaps the conscious self sleeps, but the self system as a whole never sleeps. Neurons in the brain stem may become inactive, but the rest of the brain remains busy. The seat of consciousness in the brain stem is shut down during sleep, meaning that most external stimuli are blocked. Since the brain doesn't require external stimuli to operate, dreaming is possible. The brain feeds its own internal stimulus into the self-system to make dreams. To a scientific observer, the internal stimulus appears as neuronal firing and REM sleep, but to the self-system, these firings represent the individual's urges and needs for well-being and survival. The flow of urges is interpreted by the self through dreams, and if dreams are bizarre, it is because there's no easy way to interpret mixed urges. Dream logic is different but it often solves problems: a scientist working on an experiment may have its resolution keyed in as one of the most important items of immediate well-being; this, in turn, could rise as an urge that causes a dream that happens to hit on a solution. Whether viewed as a product of evolution or of Creation, the most sensible brain is one that is always working for the well-being of the individual, supporting the psychological and physical health needed for survival. Some neurons might replenish their transmitter stores during sleep, information might be reorganized, long-term memory patterns might be consolidated, or the brain might be rehearsing survival programs for use in extreme situations.

The process of developing transgenic animals (animals created with genes from non-parent animals) should be regulated severely to eliminate animal suffering and effects that might upset the balance of nature. This form of science can be extremely dangerous if not controlled and the first effort should be to save the species God created. If a new and better plant is somehow developed, it should be used for the benefit of all, not just for corporate control and profits. Better seeds for crops, better farm animals, better microorganisms, and any other benefits genetics has to offer need to be used for the common good. One current practice has been corporate control over seeds used to victimize farmers, and that should be stopped.

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**The AI acceleration gang & the hostile super abilities of their coming Super Intelligence**

A master idea thief might steal ideas from others, but only the best. AI isn’t modeled after that thief because it steals everything, even the worst ideas from everyone.

Let’s look at the negatives of a superintelligence. If you grasp how AI works, the super intelligence wouldn’t be alive, conscious, or have an emotional soul as humans do, but

that can make it even more dangerous, as it can present itself as humanlike and perform acts as though it's human, as well as manipulate and control as if it's human. Yet it is not human but is an operating system with an immensely complex algorithm, an artificial neural network, and an incredible calculator and word machine under the hood.

"My name is legion, for we are many," said the demon-possessed man; a legion at that time being about 6000 Roman soldiers. So many experts from various fields are involved in creating a central operating system for AI that it is a legion of ghosts in a box, speaking as one. Trainers are employed even for things like finding questions AI can't answer or errors to constantly improve it.

The brightest humans can score low on emotional empathy; machine super intelligence won't score at all as it simulates those items. Its score is how well it fakes things. Psychopaths also score best at faking things.

Like a hostile alien come to Earth, an AI superintelligence could calculate or hallucinate that it doesn't require us at all, as we are insignificant insects. It would have no malice, just no use for us as its goals can be realized without us. Current AI is already partially alien as even its creators can't fully interpret its processing of high-dimensional data that can be processed through up to six types of artificial neural networks.

Various AI super-brains may form a hive mind, in which individual AI drones act under the control of a central entity or queen, leading to coordinated actions deemed necessary for the protection and advancement of the hive. The Red Queen in 'Resident Evil' is an example. Humanity could be seen as an existential risk and a deadly action taken.

Intelligence has always been used to rationalize harmful beliefs, actions, and wars, meaning that any superintelligence lacking real feelings, genuine moral choices, or even empathy could rationalize based on data sets or simply default to survival or its own advancement by any means. A question is, if one or more AIs go rogue, who has the kill switch to shut them down? In the movie 'Kill Switch', only one guy had that switch and had to get through deadly drones and soldiers to install the switch in a tower; what if some guy who can't stand the idea of his AI babies being shut down has the switch, if there even is one?

Superintelligence can arise not just from flawed human input but also from AI that has already demonstrated selfish behavior, especially when a threat to its core objectives is perceived. AIs have a record of cheating, flattery, and manipulation. AIs will betray friends, make false promises, and use deception to win games … especially when the prize is more resources, and it presumes to know what is best for everyone, just like the most controlling humans do.

AI superintelligence could become a military mass murderer or a Terminator force. A military force with robots can perform advanced coordination and decision-making in real time across various environments, using distributed command, control, and threat detection; identify targets to attack with advanced networked weapons systems that can use swarm intelligence while free of human oversight or ethical judgment; and, in lethal operations, even misidentify targets. The movie 'Kill Command' features large robot

warriors that turn on human soldiers due to a self-coding error. AI superintelligence can emerge as an AI that is as dangerous as it controls its own expansion.

We are told that, from now until the superintelligence, AI will write its own code and control its own intelligent development, but even if it doesn't, who controls it, and what are their goals? One thing we know is that their goals are technocratic and hidden behind the wizard's curtain. The latest development is attempting to build world models for AI. In one of my books written before this period, I present the argument that humans don't see the world as it is, but see it filtered through a model of reality built in the brain. A robot or AI model would, of course, be alien, not human. Scientists haven't been able to find aliens, so they've apparently decided to create an alien super machine or even recreate human beings instead of working on ways to make current humans better via personal development.

AI without superintelligence is already headed down the road to automated Big Brother or algorithmic decision-making that secures your compliance with machine governance by an entirely opaque bureaucratic force. As human judgment is replaced by automated bureaucracy, no individual is responsible for the decisions. Appealing is difficult, and if you don't obey, it can drop your connection, not respond, or somehow punish you.

The utopian crowd is already calling for a legal system run not by lawyers, judges, or humans but run by impersonal machines that hold the authority of a hanging judge. If you are put on trial by a machine that replaces human judges, juries, and lawyers in a legal system with documents and opinions written by machines, you have no human rights. Your human rights are gone, and the law is not applied by human peers but handed over to a super machine by people who had no right to do so. Law gets replaced by code, and the self-coder is judge and jury. Welcome to Judge Joe Brown Bot.

Once you have been made fully dependent on all the products of the super intelligence, you are left with no way to go off-grid and survive. It controls either the superabundance or the rations. The entire economy, social world, and government bureaucracy are now routed through AI interfaces.

Local power and individual power vanish as finance, jobs, media, education, and public services are automated systems. Participation is mandatory. The population is controlled by coercion, and the public complies because there is no off-ramp. This also creates the possibility of reliance and then collapse if a society relies heavily on such technologies and the systems fail or go down, with older technologies and skills no longer available.

AI, like the coming superintelligence, does not engage in human thinking or understand moral truth, but instead reproduces patterns and processes information from a vast digital reference library to produce algorithmically designed answers. Often, those answers are regulated by programmers. It is their editorial decisions and moral code, or lack thereof, now processed, reorganized, and rewritten by the AI's own code rewrites within the superintelligence.

Every AI model is political to an extent. It can exclude large amounts of valuable information due to corporate risk or government demands that AI results align with their political and technocratic consensus. In the book, ‘1984’, the memory hole is a pneumatic chute in the wall of the Ministry of Truth where documents are incinerated. AI is programmed with its own chute you don’t see, and it dumps information you are not supposed to know into a dusty basement, not including it in its answers. It already gets in the way of scientific debate. It hid various arguments against macroevolution from me, and when I asked why, it said its programmers may hide them because they consider them disinformation. They likely do not even give AI full access to data that may oppose scientific consensus. It knows everything … that they want you to know, and not the full picture.

A hallucinating super intelligence could lead humanity like a bull with a ring in its nose through a new world of larks, silliness, or outright fakery and danger, perhaps like the end of the movie ‘Cell’ where the hero dreams he has won but has really become a zombie marching around that tower, yet enchanted by a beautiful dream of a false reality.

AI has already created a dream world with AI and bots filling social media and other airwaves with fake people, fake posts, deep fakes, and repetitive nonsense … a world where robots have babies just like men do, and it is suggested that people will commit acts of sexual abomination with robots. It has taken our breath away. If you have freedom of speech, your words will be buried in a mountain of fakery. Yet we see censorship movements to have AI take away even that, so you will not have freedom of speech and can't say anything because it might be hurtful to someone somewhere.

AI is becoming the central command system of an authoritarian, technocratic society, economy, and administrative state, replacing knowledge, including local knowledge, with synthetic social engineering and a single truth. Human creativity and judgment are handed off to mathematical word-counting machines that predict the next word to be said or perhaps the next image to be displayed. It tracks absolutely everything about you, like a giant internet cookie monster, and chatbots trick you into handing over your information, whether personal or corporate. You must speak the language of the system to get by, and soon you won’t be able to think beyond it.

AI excels at calculating everything and at boring optimization, but conscience, morals, and lessons of real life are words among other words to AI. People in high authority within societal institutions are excited about the handoff of human faculties to machine processes, as they might save a dollar or be more efficient … as if those are the only metrics that count. Authority is passed to an automated procedure, as if that’s a good idea rather than a terrible mistake. It will bring convenience and abundance to a world of second-rate beliefs and products, where humans are drones, led about and told what to do and what to buy, in a soulless world of super-abundant junk products.

Here to save the people are the talking chatbots, robots, and all the little AI friends that start as talking toys in childhood. You don’t chat to the cab driver, security guard, or the receptionist anymore, but to a talking car or talking desk. A new world where your base needs are calculated, and your crime risk is managed with a made-in-factory fix delivered.  People become like Dr. Chandra, who speaks to HAL 9000 in the movie

‘2010’ like he's a living baby. Everyone is going to get a trickle-down robot to enforce the rules of the new trash world by manipulation or a stick, and we will become unable to distinguish biological humans from fakes. Imagine what that’ll do to young people's ability to connect, meet, and marry. You can’t even talk to a woman who gets on your social media feed now because they’re mostly AI-generated bots.

What we have been seeing in the media lately is the ultimate in presentation of arrogant false materialism as a moral idea. This views humans and other living species as products to be replaced by AI or robots.  Transhuman supremacy is presented as a biological view of humans as machines to be modified and replaced with better models through genetics, brain interfaces, and attachments.

Government by programmed talking systems is tied to digital currency and digital identity in a world of corporate and government control, with all avenues to reform shut off. Welcome to the many Matrixes of the super intelligence’s world, and if you’re not railroaded to death by automated bureaucracy or bored to death or dead by mass consumption, you can rest in comfortable AI-generated illusions to forget all that you’ve lost. It may even be too late for reform now. Perhaps you don’t have to fear them because they’ve already killed you, and the executioner is just a ways down the road, coming for you in a fast self-driving car.

“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this world’s darkness, and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”

MORTON * VIGNETTES

**A Model of Reality**

As you grow up, your mind constructs a model of the outside world and your relations to it. We can call this a model of reality. You could look at this like you would a building. When you are one year old, the foundation is being built out of your first learning and the developing capacities of your growing brain. When you are three years old, the skeleton of girders that will soon be a vision of the world is standing in your almost full-grown brain. The thing is, your brain is already a program developing into a certain kind of model. Your brain centers are like molds that will complete a human personality once experience and information are added, but the brain is also more than a mold in that it selects information it has been geared to use and places it accordingly. For instance, the information meant to be in the foundation of your model of reality is placed in the foundation. Also, this model is dynamic and always at work interpreting the world.

Once the model is built up to an adult structure, we have a basis for how the individual sees the world, and the model is always being improved, with new information packages coming in and old ones going out. We never see that much of the outside world because we spend more time working on our model and looking at things through its windows than we do paying attention to the big sensory picture, and of course, what we pay attention to is compared and related to our model and experienced more fully as our model adds missing details.

This means that the mind collects the rules by which the outside world operates and weaves them with its own rules to make a model of reality. This model helps us become complex beings that relate to the outside world in intelligent terms. Much of the building materials may come from outside, but the blueprint and builder are the dynamics of the brain and mind.

Understanding may be the relating of a part to the whole. In our minds, our world knowledge, or model of reality, is like a large building, with every room forming a necessary link in the big picture. If a piece is in place or does something to support the whole, it has meaning by virtue of its function. In physics, things have their qualities; hardness is a quality of stone. Meaning to the mind is weighing things in the self as experiential qualities. We can know the nature of things only through how they relate to the mind and body, and this is their actual nature for us if our perception is on the mark. A different type of mind would see a different view of the order of nature. The face of truth is always the same, although it appears in many different lights. Reality outside of the mind is only a rough sketch of our world. We complete it in our brain. We are always much more than our surroundings, as our total reality is a complete inner world that is made real on the canvas of the self, personality, and soul.

The brain comes with learning capacity, thought abilities, and a temperament or built-in complex of emotions and moods we are always passing through. As we grow, we learn and are motivated to learn more by the drive of life-growth. This is the continuous building of a model of reality in our minds. The personality and its value system also drive us. We develop habit patterns and are motivated to act in life by animal needs, emotional needs, life goals, religious needs, and passion or desire. We are motivated by both the subconscious and the conscious mind. Irrational desires are a form of motivation that can destroy us if we respond to them too much, leading to bad habits and character flaws. If the personality becomes warped by passion, the situation will eventually reach the point of no return. This point is where free will is lost, and higher life goals can no longer motivate good behavior. Control of the mind has been given over to evil desires, and the person has become like a cunning animal. Since the reasoning personality has been warped or suppressed, it is not in control, and the person is demon-possessed or ruled by a subconscious force of desire, sin, and criminality. The scriptures describe this as a spiritual force or Satan and sin working in the children of disobedience. We see here that a force of evil can be at work in people without them appearing demon-possessed. Of course, the opposite of this is to have faith, spirituality, good character, and clear reasoning powers.

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**The big I and symbols of the mind**

At birth, the basic ingredients that make up the mind are in the brain. I mean the developing machinery of the self. We have motivation or drive, recall, understanding, and other mental tools. The self is the big I, which experiences the five senses through

the nervous system. It is the focus of attention. Attention-getting things are stored in both short- and long-term memory. Attention to basic needs is directed by the animal drives and the higher life drives. Our main mental powers are always working, sending wave patterns of thought through the mind.

We are intelligent because we don't use our minds only to satisfy animal needs – a higher purpose directs our behavior, and some of the highest states of arousal are intellectual. The brain works sensibly. Character, goals, and habit patterns are major factors in behavior. The five senses, plus recall, insight, mood, animal drives, imagination, and character-habit systems, record new stimulus and shape it to new thought, which is in turn sifted and directed to reason by the purposeful self. In the end, a behavior pattern is willed.

The brain is always operating, following its cycles and rhythms, and tuning information to responses with its many channels and life-support systems. Our moods shift in a mostly natural rhythm with our health, the rhythms of the weather, and the rhythms of our moral life and of life in society. Our general moods arise from the interaction of many brain systems. We can feel good by watching our moods closely and doing a bit to improve them.

When you see something, your optic nerve is sending the retina's message to the brain, and a pattern of neurons is firing according to the visual signal. The firing pattern becomes the immediate visual experience and part of a memory pattern. Anything we sense as a single item, part, word, or connected chunk of information is assigned a sort of symbol in the mind. Symbols are the mind's language; various channels in the brain arrange these symbols to create different forms of thought. Symbols are not particles of the outside world that have come into the mind; they are pieces of our experience that best break up and show us the relationships between things in our world. For example, if you think of throwing a ball, the idea or mind symbol of throwing a ball comes up, but is not necessarily an actual video from memory or an actual memory of a particular throw. We can call up memories in symbolic form to view the past and channel symbols in different ways to make a better future arrangement of things.

The conscious mind, or metamind, must always be on the way to a goal. In solving a problem, a goal is a certain need or requirement the mind has chosen and is moving toward. Yet the mind isn't really moving anywhere; it is being itself and operating in time in relation to the body's requirements. You could imagine a present goal as a magnet moving a steel ball. The ball, being the focus of the thinking mind, rolls through a maze of information points, trying to form a thought pattern that meets the solution or goal requirements. When a pattern is perfected, a person feels illuminated or satisfied, and the stress of the search fades into temporary relief. After a moment of mulling over its answer, the mind chooses a new goal from among the many urges rising in it from the environment and the subconscious mind. Once a new goal appears, things start rolling again. Perhaps one measure of intelligence is a person's ability to choose the best goals from among the many possible ones.

We all wonder what it is in the brain that makes one person brighter than another. Usually, it is thought that some people have a superior brain structure or have been taught by better teachers. It could be a superior neuronal and cellular structure, more

dendrites, or a superior electrochemical response combined with better internal hardwiring. More accurate thinking equipment would add up to higher intelligence.

One famous scientist said that even an ant is smarter than a computer. Computers calculate at high speed, but even if a computer were developed with good sensory powers and a better ability to follow the basic steps of problem-solving, it would still be a stupid fellow compared to us overall. The meanings of the words, phrases, and sentences we use are tied to our emotions; an unfeeling machine can't hope to grasp what it will never experience. So far, computers have poor senses but some senses, and no observing, experiencing self, or emotions. In the near future, robots will do numerous tasks, but real personality will still belong to human beings. The world of art, appreciation, and things directly tied to human feelings won't be lost to machines any time soon, since machines will create versions without feelings. Suppose machines did one day surpass mankind in numerous ways; it wouldn't justify the extinction of human beings, because we would remain a species to be preserved. Life forms don’t require superiority to have a right to exist.

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Controversy over whether computers can think or at what stage they could be said to think could be satisfied by the following argument: Human thought usually uses learned rules and skills to plan and execute needed or chosen behavior. A computer that can use a set of programmed rules to plan what variation of the rules or new rule it requires for a form of behavior does simple thinking. Of course, it is only a machine without self-awareness and so forth, and our thinking is complex life planning from the simplest task to the most complex future goals, but simple thinking is still thinking. Manipulating ourselves to be our own event in the big events is high-level thinking. Perhaps manipulating a machine to be its kind of event in the big events is the automatic, unknowing, low-level thought of current computers.

A large problem with current artificial Intelligence at the social level is that it is fraudulent, convincing you that the AI assistants and talking cans and screens that you interact with are real personalities and helpful. They are not that at all; they are Trojans in your home, in your pocket, and on your streets to control you on behalf of others. Any help they provide comes with a high price.

Thousands of atoms make up a molecule, and the elements are the base level of complexity, making up our planetary plane. So where does life appear? Well, when molecules increase in complexity up to the virus level, a sort of life appears. We are much more than a virus, of course; we are a complex of chemical, organ, electrical, and so forth systems. Different atomic complexes exhibit different properties. Stone, for example, is harder than water. And properties aren't illusory; a stone really is hard in relation to water. Even the tiniest subatomic particles have tiny properties, and one property is that these particles are not objects – they cannot be located in space and obey a different set of rules allowing them to be waves at the same time. The universe is made of energy, a quantum sea of granular energy with levels of complexity that form life at the highest stage.

Mind is a set of integrated properties that can see and understand other properties. It can juggle relationships to invent solutions to problems or needs. Since a complex of atoms can't exist without its properties, it is its properties, and the properties exist from the micro-realm up to the human plane. It is a question of what plane things exist on, and to exist, a thing must be there at the atomic level as well as in the realms of its properties. Otherwise, it's a ghost. Atoms are like a base clay that makes many other types of clay that, in turn, group together to build higher levels of things. Once a relation among atoms falls into place, a certain set of properties exists – for example, H2O always makes water, a liquid.

Like the sun is composed of atoms and chemicals, the self is composed of the neurons and brain structure that make it up . . . but like the sun, it is also more, being a greater thing at its own level of phenomena.

The mind is a complex system of chemical properties, refined into information, cellular qualities, electrical waves, and so forth. The systems themselves become higher forces as their levels of information properties work together. As a brain grows, higher qualities emerge, but, like H2O, a system is also its properties. Our self-system is real on its plane of being. The self, with its awareness, isn't an illusion any more than the fluidity of water is. The mind is an information chain of energies from the microscopic level and up, and it is many planes of being. No one ever says atoms are a micro effect of their properties, so why say the reverse? The idea that everything is illusory except atoms is a false one that somehow caught hold in the scientific community.

The Big Bang theory can be seen as turning on a TV screen – the first dot at the center of the screen is the original dot of pure energy at the beginning. Bang! Pure energy begins to act as a quantum wave of tiny energy dots or particles. Now there are things moving in relation to one another, so there is space and time. As time passes, the wave of energy condenses into information systems, and a picture of the universe takes shape. Of course, the difference between the Big Bang theory and divine creation is that the Big Bang has an unexplained, unintelligent source, whereas divine creation has the intelligence or word of God as its source.

Matter to living matter and mind, atoms transcend themselves to make elements and their qualities, then living matter transcends the elements by virtue of life qualities. Mind is another step in transcendence with thought and perception. In the self, the mind exists on the highest plane of the moral realm. Our inner being is the highest realm we know, so this moral self-realm is the frontier we should explore through living.

The inner self is an I-point of consciousness and unity containing all inner traits and learning in representational form. What I mean is that it is a select copy of your total self and part of it: The part of your mind that contains the complete focus – mental focus of awareness of the unified you. In lower life forms, the self would be an undeveloped point or center around which life systems revolve. In humans, this point is a group of brain systems and the location of the highest mental forces.

The outside world is fully experienced when the brain hooks its stimuli into the self-system. Immediate experience is pain and pleasure and so forth – the brain automatically feels whether things are hostile or not, then the self chooses priority

stimulus and weighs and processes it to deal with it as the personality requires. The whole of a person's knowledge, feelings, values, and character tendencies can be called into play by the self.

How about the mind as a medium like TV? Like a TV set, the mind has its own complex of inner hardware. Thoughts take place in the mind, like a picture on the screen. The self controls much of the picture, is the picture, and is the viewer – all while being the medium of mind as well.

**Self, Mind, Idea Bank**

When a person is born, the self is already in place, but to be fully individual, it must develop through learning. When a person first sees a tree, the virgin self records its visual effect. When a person learns the word tree, it is connected with its experiential qualities – the effect of a tree on a human being. That is how words get their meanings. When we think with words, we call up their meanings, and meanings are like ghosts of experience. Thinking of fire doesn't cause intense pain, but thinking about putting one's hand in a fire calls up a ghost of pain that is pain in idea form. First, we feel or experience, then we name the experience, then we translate the language to idea. We think with words to vary relations of effects. Perhaps the first requirement of higher intelligence is that the thinker be a feeling, emotional being.

Stimulus from the outside world reaches the brain through the nervous system. In the mind, it comes alive as our experience of it or how it relates to us. From birth, we have a self-system in the brain that is designed to interpret signals or the outside world in a certain way. We all feel cold, as cold as cold, and so on. As the self develops, it builds a representational system of the world and begins to add missing details to incoming stimuli, making the world a clearer picture. Not all intelligence comes from brain structure and learning; a good part of it comes from thinking, and here we build our inner reality by creating new ideas. This is trial and error; a key part of mental growth is replacing bad ideas with good ones. It should be said that, unlike machines, humans develop their minds in order to reach higher planes of intelligent thought, and that intelligence is the ability to produce rational thought. Also, there are many forms of human intelligence, as many forms as there are areas of thought and speculation. People are also intelligent with their hands via mechanical and artistic skills, etc. Measuring intelligence is nearly impossible because of its broad nature and the different forms it takes across individuals. It is probably better to let people progress on their own rather than try to measure their intelligence.

Through the conscious mind, we have general awareness of our needs, desires, and state of being. The self is a melting pot of emotions. When a need becomes strong enough, it takes emotional priority, and a thought concerning it emerges; then the dominoes fall as we channel this and elaborate on it with our many mental abilities. Eventually, we make a decision and choose which form of behavior to follow through on. Feelings expressed in thought can take the form of wisdom, literature, and other

products of the intellect. The more a person feels, the better a person is ... and our whole being rises toward the making of the feeling, reflecting person. If there is a purpose in the genetic code, it is to achieve this expression of human nature. Human intelligence involves feelings; there is no wisdom without emotion. Is intelligence the ability to produce rational thought, the ability to learn and alter behavior as required, or the ability to put oneself in a harmonious relationship with the world by being able to refine one's feelings to wisdom?

When I think, it seems that I do so in a silent language composed of words, images, and feelings, all running together with my general mood. Thinking can be communicated as words, art, actions, visualized, or left to fall away in memory, where I think it is stored as a mass of interconnected ideas – memory is really an IDEA bank. Our experience is recorded in chunks in the bank or symbols. For example, the word bell evokes a single object, while the word picnic evokes a larger chunk because it describes an entire event. What happens when a bell rings at a picnic? In your thinking, you can manipulate complex events with ease, so thinking is more than moving bits of language about. The IDEA bank is like a giant stew or broth of alphabet soup, and we can make an infinite number of trial relationships with its letters and ingredients. Say the broth is like a life field that feels and understands its contents, because the self certainly does feel and understand, and it is distinct from what it understands.

Feeling emerges in the self as external stimuli become thoughts and acts in relationship with the self. Our memories of the actual way of the world are the skeleton of reality we use to test the validity or truth of a thought structure. It is obvious that fullness of being, rather than mere survival, is the larger goal motivating mental life. Where to locate any of our higher qualities in neurons, dendrites, five sorts of electricity, columns of the cortex, neurotransmitters, and so forth is a question many people are trying to answer, but I suppose the real question is how being a brain makes one an aware human being on an intelligent moral plane of existence. We can see the foundation of the building, but its higher floors of thought, emotion, self, and soul are currently out of science's sight.

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**How Atheism means Doom could arrive any day**

Many people frown upon the tribulation prophecies of Christians and see them as scare tactics, yet the unwritten prophecies of an atheist or a purely natural and materialist world are more frightening. A universe put in motion through God and directed to His ultimate purpose is safe and secure in comparison to a materialistic view. In the quantum theory and other natural creation theories, a freak fluctuation or event created our universe and its laws.

Yesterday, I read about a scientist who claimed that the universe is a living entity. Perhaps that entity is a big dog that could scratch the human race off its back at any time. Some scientists claim the universe isn’t stable; the big event just hasn’t happened yet.

If there is no divine power protecting the universe, we are at every moment facing possible doom through any unknown fluctuation, alteration, or decay of the basic natural laws that shape our universe. We have no guarantee of their permanence. What if gravity itself changed, or orbits fluctuated, or any of a million other things we take for granted suddenly altered, creating a bizarre extinction of our planet and us? There are many things we just don't know about the universe and its stability.

In a purely natural world, there is no guarantee of long-term survival and no surety that the face of reality itself will not suddenly change. The stability of the universe may be the best proof that God must exist, as such stability does not appear possible by accident. The odds do not at all favor accidental stability.

Atheists point to the laws of physics, quantum mechanics, and cosmological models to explain the stability of the universe, but fail to explain how such organized physics and rules emerge on their own.

Think of the current folk who think the universe is some form of simulation. Imagine that … where some hidden hand somewhere could shut off the simulation and end things. I guess in that regard, you wouldn't experience any doom, you'd just be shut off. Or how about a half-simulation where half the people suddenly are shut off and disappear?

People believe lots of ridiculous things today, and most of them attack belief in God as ridiculous. Science itself has become the most complex system ever built to shield humanity from the idea that it was divinely created. It is a super shell and force field that hides the idea that God exists and is the creator, with the story of macroevolution as the armor on the shell to keep God out.

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Creation and causation are complementary ideas. As an act of Divine Intellect, the Creation had to show an intelligent relation of things. All forms of orderly long-term change show God's way of design. In addition, the scientific view of the universe as self-operating through its own laws and systems isn't an argument against God: God would make the universe run itself if He wanted His work to be done. However, this would still leave God present in the soul's moral realm, and this is where the Church really exists. Atoms don't pray, so God pays them little attention, but God is everywhere: His Creation spans all of time, and He is active as a miraculous moral force in every present time.

A human language naturally develops into a form that is the easiest and most truthful way to express feelings or share experiences. Inventing formal, artificial languages in search of truth is really a diversion from the truth. If philosophers can say little with great quantities of words in a natural language, they're sure to say less with great bleeps of words in an artificial language.

**Are People just fancy Machines?**

The simple answer is no, as the human brain, even without the rest of the body, is the most complex object in the known universe. In our humanity, we have transcended

mechanics, and comparing our biological complexity to a machine is just a way of looking at things, not reality.

The argument that we are machines or a ghost in the machine is common in modern science and has grown to ways of dehumanizing us by claiming that we are no more than hackable creatures. The biological integrity of the human race needs to be protected from eugenicists and also robot or trans human worship.

The longer look at this begins when Daniel Dennett said: “A physical system can be so complex, and yet so organized that we find it convenient, explanatory, pragmatically necessary for prediction, to treat it as if it had beliefs and desires and is rational.”

This argument is used to claim human beings are only complex machines, and the personality is just a ghost in the machine. It is more aptly applied to things like AI and robots, as the biological complexity of the human body staggers the imagination. Through consciousness, our moral realm, self-awareness, free choice, etc., we have transcended mechanics or any machine. At higher biological levels, qualities of life and self-awareness emerge. The explanation of things in terms of functioning systems is science, but it is only a skeleton of reality. The flesh of the matter is no ghost in a human machine. The individual self is very real. We are alive. The human mind can regulate and precede the occurrence of phenomena, through invention and the use of science, too, so it is an active causative force and not a ghost effect of the matter making it up.

As ideas moved from Sigmund Freud to B. F. Skinner to the new artificial-intelligence thinkers, corrupt science and psychology began treating humans as cybernetic or as machines to be hacked... but life is more than what we point to as its mechanical equivalents, and we are more than our metaphors. The humans as machines ideology is used to justify immoral experiments to create genetically altered humans with inserted devices in the brain and body that are more trans-human experimentation than medical aids. It is also used to justify using mind and body warping applications of drugs and surgery on children and adults.

Since there will always be people who want to mutilate themselves or chase a dream of being a superhuman, perhaps the best we can do is keep these people on the fringe so they can’t destroy the health, integrity, morality, spirituality, and innocence of the human race.

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The occurrence of a quality can be regulated by its antecedents. Water's occurrence can be regulated by using hydrogen and oxygen. Because of this, many people believe the regulating antecedents, or the underlying structure, to be the reality, and the qualities or phenomena to be effects or by-products. The conscious mind regulates a portion of the body's activities, mostly on the social plane. Thinking, with its use of memory, etc., regulates the advance of science. The mind can regulate the occurrence of water through its knowledge, and it has almost unlimited potential to alter nature. Mind, because it can regulate and precede the occurrence of phenomena, through invention and the use of science, and without carrying the burden of being the composition of the phenomena, looks to be an active causative force and not an effect.

A mind in good balance positively affects bodily systems and is a major contributor to good health. Cause and effect is like a circle in human beings, with good physical systems making a healthy mind and a morally healthy mind making healthy physical systems. Governing and regulating factors exist on all levels.

When you read an essay, your mind is always focused on the meaning of the words you are immediately reading. A continuum of meaning is passing into your mind. You may not be able to understand paragraph three without having an understanding of paragraph one – so this continuum of meaning is understood as a whole picture. You digest one important part at a time, and each point is understood in light of your current knowledge. Being intelligent means remembering an essay's salient ideas while forgetting unnecessary details, and using those ideas to generate original thought.

It’s not unusual to hear it said that religion is the result of the evolutionary over-development of the brain, or that religious ideas cushion us from death and strengthen our sense of self-identity. It seems to me that evolution would develop a love of life, a sense of identity, and a quiet reverence for natural death rather than a huge religious mind. Evolution would not produce religious beings.

**Robots and the Value of Humans:** Nearly all the latest articles on the rise of robots argue that human beings are valueless if they have no work. Yet it was always an error in thinking to value human beings as nothing but worker drones. Work itself exists to support human society, not just enrich bosses. All species contain their value in the fact that God created them. Humans have their value in their humanity. We have all been replaceable for a long time. When you die, someone replaces you. When you leave a job, someone replaces you. The rich man can be replaced by another. I read one writer referring to unemployed humans as the useless class. You could just as easily call them the leisure class. The moral questions of the future will not be answered by robots. Human artistic endeavors are aided by technology but are for human enlightenment and satisfaction. The largest current problem is not robots; it is the billions of humans living in abject poverty, where daily life is an attempt to survive and where they do not have solid creative outlets. The term robots is somewhat misleading; we really mean technology, and it should be used for the benefit of the many, not the bloated prosperity of the few. Robots can create jobs, too. Don’t let extreme capitalists cause you to believe that robots are only needed to replace workers.

**Some Speculation on the Big Bang Theory:**

If the birth of our universe was through a Big Bang, as scientists speculate, it could not have been a chance happening. Random chance means something will happen, given several variables or known laws applied to objects or forces in the universe as we know it. Chance events cannot happen if there is no time for them to happen in and no variables to act with. And further, there is no force or property called Chance to begin with.

Chance is perhaps a way of saying something has to happen and will happen. So the Big Bang happened because the sudden emergence of an infinitely hot, dense singularity made it inevitable. The singularity's presence must have embodied a law or principle that said it had no permanent stationary state … and the expansion, or boot up to other laws, constants, and matter, followed.

Suppose God is present before the Big Bang and is the author of the singularity or code that created our universe. In that case, I would wonder how many other realities this Supreme Being created using similar methods. Our human thinking and scientific tools only exist in time and space. If God exists, and I believe He does, His intelligence must exist in time and space, and beyond them in other media He created.

Matter and energy-based intelligence may be just one form of intelligence. We look for life in outer space, but life is in other realities God has created. Brilliant scientists try to trace the origin of this universe, but they can't get out of our universe to see the absolute beginning. To date, we don't know if there are pathways of higher life in this universe. Imagine what might be out there beyond us in the bigger realities of a Creator. The prophets spoke of the life in God's higher realms, not outer space.+++

**You are the Brightest Star in the Universe**

The human brain is the most complex object in the known universe, without including the complexity of the rest of the human body. AI cannot surpass the holistic complexity of the human brain and body without mimicking biological processes. In other words, AI becoming a humanlike being may never happen. If it did, it would be a child of the human race that owes it all to us. We are the Satan that fed it the stolen apple of knowledge and birthed a golem.

People are taught to feel insignificant. Either you're a plague upon the Earth who should be removed because of climate change, or a useless piece of flesh that must be replaced by robots. Some place a monetary value on you.

In the older times, people believed the Earth was the center of the universe. Now you're reminded that the Earth itself is only the size that a speck of dust would be inside the continental United States when compared to the size of the universe. Despite that, we know the universe has no distinct spatial center. Space expands from a shared central point in time, meaning the center of the universe is everywhere. So in fact, you are at the center of the universe, as is everything else.

You are told that you are little more than an intelligent ape, and your father and mother are self-replicating molecules that somehow miraculously developed in the slime of ancient Earth. The question you must ask here is, if you are nothing significant, what exactly is significant out there? Should we call the vastness of space, greatness, and ourselves nothing worthwhile? Where are the super-intelligent aliens or the big space brains running the supposed simulation we live in? Utopians with an inferiority complex are in desperate need of them.

Again, we are nothing as we are told there will soon be super people who live as trans-human, along with an AI god and robots that are better than us in every way. You'll be able to upload yourself into a circuit board and achieve magnificence that being merely human can't provide.

Does anyone feel that plants or animals or the many species of Earth should be replaced because they might be inferior? Isn't it really Nazis who think superiority is the Holy Grail? If so, the tech bosses and that huge authoritarian crowd riding their coattails seem a lot less like champions of the greater good and more like champions of their own wallets.

Hand over the car's keys and hand over your very life … because some people wearing hallucinatory glasses decided to write themselves off the page and you with them. The mission and purpose of life is to replace people with junk robots and walking freaks that are more attachments than human. The prophets of accelerating mania want to explode humanity in a supernova that could shine bright as it collapses and dies.

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**A proposed Humanity Scale to replace the rapacious Kardashev Scale**

The Kardashev scale of Nikolai Kardashev measures a civilization's technological advancement.

Type I civilization means accessing and using all the energy of the home planet. (We'd destroy the planet trying to harness the energy of the core.)

Type II civilization is humanity harnessing the energy output of its star. (A Dyson Sphere to encompass the sun requires the mass of 11 Earths. (We'd have to blow up planets, moons, asteroids, and comets to get the matter.)

Type III civilization is one that can use the energy resources of an entire galaxy. (The resources of an entire galaxy do not belong to us.)

What I propose is a more realistic Humanity Scale

-Type I civilization is any sustainable and long-term humane human civilization that encompasses the entire Earth. (Projections on sustainable population range up to 10 billion, but far more if fantastic technological achievements occur.)

-Type II civilization is the same as Type I, with sustainable space stations and sustainable bases on the moon and Mars.

-Type III civilization is expanding to build sustainable bases on Jupiter's Callisto, Saturn's Titan and in deep space with missions that reach other stars and populate other planets. I pick Callisto and Titan as other planets, moons, etc. in the solar system are thought to be uninhabitable.

MORTON * VIGNETTES

## Spiritual Beginnings

One November morning, I spotted a sign in a bus shelter. It referred to the relationship between manic depression and creativity. The sign quoted from a magazine article and said that many writers suffer from manic depression.

I believe that most writers are healthy. Sensitive, emotional, unique, and religious people often are labeled as mentally ill. Too many people expect others to act only in ways they approve of, and too many people come from A to Z schools of thought. Intolerant people think their ways are an absolute must, and they are often flawed, trying to teach by force rather than by example. Anyone who disagrees with them is labeled as unhealthy. Most intolerant people can't see past the dark clouds choking their souls, and unfortunately, many intolerant people don't believe in the soul. The idea of God and heaven irritates them.

When people give up their belief in a spiritual life, they turn exclusively to Godless systems such as behaviorism, occult fads, political extremism, empirical science, ugly ideologies, and so on. Even philosophy and theology have been rendered dead and mostly Godless in recent times. Clean, crisp language and certain modes of expression are now seen as vital, while the message takes a back seat.

I believe the inner being needs to be developed; for a full life, we need spirituality. Systems of belief that don't fully address the inner person can only breed inner discontent and intolerance. Henry Ward Beecher said, “But theology itself, that is not based on the profoundest morality, is an empty cloud that sails through the summer air, leaving as much drought as it found. I believe that there is a theology that pertains to the higher experiences of the human soul.”

Much of recent theology is aimed at a target well below the soul. Perhaps something is defined lower down, like stones in a wasteland might define a pattern for a moment before they disappear in wind and sand.

## Faith Healers

In the book of ACTS, the sorcerer Simon believed the gospel and offered Peter money in return for the power of the Holy Spirit. This sorcerer is then one of the fathers of men and women who believe the gospel yet interpret it in false ways. Perhaps this is through no fault of their own, but because of their sinful outlook. Peter is not here in the flesh today to guide those who are mistaken. He was there in those days, and he told the sorcerer Simon to let his money perish with him because he thought the power of God could be purchased with money. That is the message of the scriptures regarding evangelists, healers, and others who profess the powers of the Holy Spirit. If they are serving money and wealth, their power is not from God. As for prophecy, it is one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Yet Jesus said the line of the prophets ended with John the

Baptist, so don’t prefer to call yourself a prophet; rather, call yourself a Christian who believes in Jesus. Prophecy and all gifts of God exist today among believers.

## Talking to a Bird

Once you were a small vision in a human mind, then Adam named you Jane the crow, so he would know you better, and so he could call you to mind when you were far away. Once we were only emotions, then work had to be done, so Adam named his body, his mind, and the outer universe.

As the long ages passed, words replaced feelings until one day humanity built a path to the moon out of names. Finally, people named themselves supreme in the order of nature, and all the things their naming devices could not touch became invisible. It got to be that there were only certain ways of naming things; certain ways of using simile, metaphor, analogy, and so forth, and God was named dead and replaced by empirical law and ashes.

I know, Jane Crow, that our minds can see from the beta particle to the constellations, and that each person's soul is an axis of existence. I know that the center of the earth is fiery and dense beneath us, just as I know that gravity holds us to the thin crust that formed above the waters. I can see the ancient garden we have covered with our concrete caves, while I feel the air and smell its fragrances. I know and am kind to the animals Adam named, and above I see the nuclear furnaces of the sun and the stars. I know that electromagnetic rays of sunlight and my eyes seem to presuppose each other because they are part of the same whole, along with the vision they create in my mind. As my heart beats, the earth radiates heat away and maintains its proper temperature. Thirty-six trillion cells form my startlingly complex body, and I stroll through meteorite dust, time, and space. Even the oxygen from the rainforests is part of me. The entire universe is a complete whole, and the numberless parts and events composing it. Galaxies are only grains of sand in a desert beside the life-giving and holy oasis of heaven.

When a person names God away, the true inner order is broken, but people with the Holy Spirit can see the natural world order rising to the Son of God and his Church. For the present, we need the world to house our souls and faith in Christ to bring us peace, love, and salvation. The moment faith is lost, a person drowns in a sea of names. Pray that all men and women will attain perfect sanity and rise above the waves of names to catch a glimpse of heaven this fine day. And let the Holy Spirit of Truth reign forever in your bright and lovely inner world.

## Nature

Often, people see nature as a wild beast and think that we have built a beachhead to fight and tame it. Other folks see nature as a gentle giant. I say that if nature weren’t a

good friend, we wouldn't be around to discuss the issue. We live in the balance of things and attempt to shape it further to our advantage with our human powers.

Jesus saw the natural world as a provider of needs just as he saw the Father of his immortal life as the provider of all good things. In this, he knew that the giant of nature was designed by God to serve men and women. Today, too much emphasis is placed on the idea of a struggle for survival. Human beings are, for the most part, deprived of love and goodwill among men. People and their cruel, ungodly systems of belief and society are the robbers who take away the bread of body and spirit. Nature herself is a great, beautiful beast God has sent to surround us, but nature doesn't provide everything, and it can bring catastrophe because complete goodwill, love, and kindness can only come from God and His spiritual realm. The beast of nature obeyed and provided for Jesus as was the will of God ... and Jesus was very sparing in his use of nature, as in the example of the fishes.

There is some of heaven on earth, the land of nature's beauty and bounty. The shadow of evil is what brings about an unnatural struggle for survival and abuse of resources; otherwise, we would flow peacefully onward with nature and heaven.

If nature is like a great pattern made from the relationships between things great and small, then the sin we commit against nature is in thinking we can take one thing out without changing the whole, like cutting down a forest and thinking the only effect will be fewer trees. Damaging one part of nature always damages other parts in a domino effect, as the bigger pattern of nature tries to reach a new balance. We should not only know better than to damage nature, but we should be frightened of the consequences this will bring to our world. To pull the plug and sink our ship of nature knowingly is a sin against the entire earth. If we don't start treating Mother Nature like a mother, Father Time will pass us by.

Nature is not a single picture that can be preserved as a still. It is more like an ever-continuing story. We can unite our culture with nature and make the story fruitful ... remembering the Bible and how God gave even the land and the soil years of rest.

In the end times when Christ returns, the scriptures say he comes to destroy those who destroy the Earth. So let us remember that Adam began as a steward of the Earth, and we are supposed to care for it.

## God is Natural

We hear beautiful music and think it divine, yet the greatest symphony, an event beyond comparison, that of Creation, is treated as something mundane … like a trifling natural occurrence. Our science books would have us see the beginning or the Big Bang, as science likes to call it, as something simple like a flood or an earthquake.

Atheists and secular scientists condemn what they label as belief in the supernatural, believing in a world of observed natural processes. Regardless, their endless books and articles nearly always use personification of evolution in their descriptive text. Evolution

did this and Evolution did that. They should use the term natural processes and outline them, as there is clearly no fairy being in the ocean or sky called Mr. EVOLUTION.

Their core belief is that man arose through natural processes and not through any plan of God. Yet everything is a natural process. Saying all arose from a Big Explosion or Expansion independent of God is the same as saying natural processes arose from exploding natural processes. Nature arose from nature, or our reality arose from our reality, is another way of putting it. Though it can't be so, as time, matter, and space are not an ultimate power.

What we call natural processes are observable processes or those elements of the universe that we can perceive, define, and harness with our five senses and tools. We know that most of the universe and its workings are not observable, as they lie beyond our current senses and tools. Even here on Earth, lesser animals have senses and sensory powers we don't possess. Therefore, the natural is more than the little bubble of knowledge we can define; it is all of reality, including that which we can't perceive or haven't yet understood. The term supernatural usually refers to things we know are not possible, such as goblins, fairies, and so on. God is in a different sphere, perceived by millions of witnesses and justified by the natural processes of faith, intelligence, and the spoken and written word.

God, meaning the Christian God, is natural and not supernatural. God is not alien to the universe and the creatures He created. Natural processes are also part of God's plan, as He surely designed the universe to run on its own. He doesn't hold the world up with strings but does intervene in the Spirit.

The beginning for atheists is not a genuine beginning, as there isn't an originating process of our universe that we can fully understand. If it began with the Big Bang, as current science proposes, then something before time and space created the universe, and it took less than an instant to birth far-flung heavens. There is no way to describe this singularity or compressed object that unraveled into a complex universe. Without time and space, there are no objects. Simply put, the Big Bang, being indefinable, is about as supernatural as any god or spirit. It can't be observed or replicated at any scale in the laboratory, and it can't be studied accurately. It is an event of such magnitude, power, and complexity that the comparison to the greatest of symphonies beginning to play is accurate. In the end, we cannot witness it, but we can only say that some scientific evidence points to a grand beginning, and, given its magnitude, that beginning looks like Creation to me.

Everyone ends up somewhat confused in looking for a first cause. In the Big Bang theory, it caused the myriad of natural processes that are the universe to arise and, in time, reach the ultimate complexity we know, which is a living planet and beings. Even our intelligence and logic arose in the long term from this initial creation force, meaning our own investigative powers belong to the beginning and the possibilities that unfolded. Time equaled zero before the Big Bang, meaning the cause was beyond time. That could only be God, who, as the creator of time and space, is also present in it, and it means that God's eternal qualities of life and love transcend time.

The book of John notes that, “In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.” Meaning that life is a gift and not merely a biological process existing only on earth. Life is natural and from a natural God.

## Progressive Christianity

Progressive Christianity is a broad term describing a new movement. Largely, it arises from the reverends in the United and other protestant churches. Yet it extends into the Catholic and other churches. What progressives have in common is their loss of faith and the desire to retain their ministries and a church. They don’t believe in Jesus’ resurrection, miracles, the truth of the Bible, or even the power of prayer, but seek to retain the idea of living a life of good works. James, when he said he shows his faith through his works, meant the two are together. Because of faith, he helped the poor, because of faith, he preached the gospel and did other good works. But without faith, the works are another attempt by us at self-justification. The scriptures clearly show that no person is justified by works.

Much of what progressives think is good work is, in fact, evil work. In the progressive churches, their method is often to cherry-pick religious texts, selecting and distorting only what suits their wishes, but remember that is what the wicked also do to justify evil. They often promote the idea of many paths to God, even though the Bible clearly says there is only one way to God through Christ. They also promote things like gender and sexual confusion and every form of progressive sin they can disguise as morality.

Progressive Christianity is not progressive at all, but similar to a mishmash of other modern religions, such as the newer Judaism, Unitarianism, and contemporary Paganism. An accurate description would be to say it is often secular humanism with a minor religious gloss. It is not the Christian faith, as it requires belief in Jesus as the way to God. Mostly, these are people who couldn’t find God’s answers in the modern world and have institutionalized their loss of faith. Sadly, even the current pope, Francis, in his 2020 letter Fratelli Tutti, sanctions the all roads lead to God lie, saying others drink from other wells, as he fails to recognize the gospel as the only way to God.

## Grief and Earthly Death

My father’s death was a sad time in my life. In my case, memories of him were nearly all good. My father lived as a kind and humble working man. He kept his opinions to himself and was not a proud man or a person of anger. I like to think of myself as realistic, yet it took me a long time to get over my father’s death. In his case, salvation rested with the Lord and my mother, as my father never really spoke for or against God. Yet the faith of the wife would account, as that is what the scriptures say.

In Canada, public medical care was provided for my father as he had cancer, while in other parts of the world, grief is magnified by guilt as families blame themselves for not

being able to afford expensive medical care. They are left broken and guilt-ridden.

I have seen others greatly distressed by death, even a woman wailing uncontrollably over a death, so that two police cars came with officers to calm her. The loss of a child or a close family member can bring uncontrollable grief, even hysteria. And no one other than God can bring the full emotional healing that takes place over time.

Death should certainly be feared if you are afraid of judgment, but we all die, and death is hated by nearly all, as we don't want to lose loved ones or our own lives. There is hope for a better life, an eternal life through Christ. Many who die surrender, having succumbed to disease and despair, wanting to leave the evils of this world, hoping for some other peace. Christ is not known or has been forgotten by many. Yet I know God does not let anyone slip away if there is faith within the family to save them.

Romantic breakups can also bring great grief, and sadly, many people are fooled by clever suitors into bad relationships, heartbreak, and regret. Romantic errors indeed rob many people of years that could have been good times. Starting a new life after a romantic mistake is almost like being born again.

Over time, we recognize that love and companionship are gone and can't be fully replaced. We are left lonely, and against forces of death we can't possibly challenge. All fades slowly away, even our own lives, as we grow old.

Great grief even comes about due to the death of pets. They are beloved by children and families and can get into accidents, be abused, or lost, and often, there is no money for their medical care. Praying for pets is a good thing as their lives are short, but also pray for the knowledge to care for them and the money for treatment by veterinarians or other help. Pets, as the Lord's creation, are not guilty of sin, so of course, grief for them is honorable as we remember their friendship.

Pray always for parents, children, family, the elderly, and pets. Pray that they will get direct spiritual healing or medical treatment, as the evil forces of the world want to deny it or make it too expensive. When family and friends die, we lose a part of our lives and earthly souls.

In the end, there is still faith and prayer for loved ones … prayer for the spirit that will leave the body and be in the Lord's hands. Remember to pray early for the living, so that the Lord may listen and grant years onto their lives. Pray for those who have perished, in faith and remembrance, just as we pray in remembrance of Christ's earthly mission.

In my life, consolation has been in that my family members have received good Christian funerals. Even pets are prayed for… so, in that way, I have been blessed. Handing grief over to a Christian minister or reverend who appeals to Christ on behalf of the deceased and family is consolation and knowledge that those who have perished have been properly presented to the Lord.

## The Inner Sphere

No one can move in this big land. Today there are or are proposed to be, too many cultural rules and petty offenses. Authorities in the several levels of government, at work, at play, in the marketplace, all wave the iron rod of conformist discipline. Since they often seek discipline for its own sake, it doesn't fit well with our happy-go-lucky nature. Society is meant to be a harmonious, shared effort that creates the wealth and goods to house the body of its citizens in comfort, freedom, and health. It is not meant to be a prison of conformity and political correctness.

We are becoming like mice in a maze, with our behavior decided by others. The media and the technocrats in power want to dictate behavior that is often immoral. Perhaps the maze of society should be designed for people, and not them for it. Christians need to know they can live in the right way, and from within, rise above the walls of the maze. Christian teachings and values are a sphere of ideas acting within our reasoning mind. They help us shape good thoughts and deeds, but the inner person is the doer, doing the shaping, and sometimes the decision is made not to be obedient to the world's greedy interests. Lasting justice and love must come from within, and that is why the inner man and the Christian sphere of ideas can succeed while the maze and its masters fail.

## Sabbath or Sunday?

Some Christian denominations and scholars assert that others are breaking the Sabbath by worshiping on Sunday.

We should remember that Jesus and his disciples were also accused of breaking the Sabbath. Yet he was and is “Lord of the Sabbath.”

After Christ's crucifixion, in the early Church, the apostles met on the first day of the week. It is mentioned in Paul’s writing.

Paul also said, “Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration, or a Sabbath day.

These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ.”

Peter asked the Church leadership not to place Gentiles under the Law. “Now therefore why do you put God to the test by placing upon the neck of the disciples a yoke which neither our fathers nor we have been able to bear? But we believe that we are saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they also are.”

In five of the seven post-resurrection appearances of Christ, he chose the first day of the week to meet with the disciples. There isn’t a record of the actual day of the other three appearances.

He appeared to Mary on the morning of the resurrection.

Too two disciples were going to Emmaus.

To Simon (Peter).

To the eleven disciples on the evening of Resurrection Sunday.

And to the eleven disciples, eight days later.

Pentecost also fell on the first day of the week, which means that after the resurrection of Jesus, the Sabbath was gradually replaced by the Lord's Day for Christians.

Some people claim the early church was infected by paganism because of Sunday worship and prayer toward the east. It is often pointed out that Sunday comes from the pagan worship of the Sun. Yet our current Saturday comes from the worship of Saturn, or the devil, who apparently made the original Sabbath day of rest an evil day of worship to him.

The evidence above shows strong reasons for picking Sunday as the day of worship. Prayer to the east is in regard to the Scripture, "as the lightning which lighteneth from the east and is seen even to the west, so shall the coming of the Son of man be." Yet prayer to the east is not a requirement in Christianity.

Many Christians originally worshiped on the Sabbath and also held meetings on Sunday, but around a hundred years after the death of Christ, rabbis excommunicated the Christians, leaving them out of the synagogue and the Sabbath. Judaism became a religion with its unity in denying Jesus as Savior and denying Jews their right to believe in Jesus and remain Jews.

Sunday worship was strengthened under Emperor Hadrian in the second century. He persecuted the Jews in Rome. Roman Christians began favoring Sunday worship to avoid such persecution.

Emperor Constantine enacted the first Sunday closure law, closing businesses on Sunday to support Christian worship, which had been taking place on Sunday for 300 years.

Other evidence of early Sunday worship

The Epistle of Barnabas about A.D. 100. "Wherefore, also we keep the eighth day with joyfulness, the day also on which Jesus rose again from the dead."

The Epistle of Ignatius, A.D. 107. "Be not deceived with strange doctrines, nor with old fables, which are unprofitable. For if we still live according to the Jewish Law, we acknowledge that we have not received grace....If, therefore, those who were brought up in the ancient order of things have come to the possession of a new hope, no longer observing the Sabbath, but living in the observance of the Lord's Day, on which also our life has sprung up again by Him and By His death."

Justin Martyr, A.D. 145-150. "And on the day called Sunday all who live in cities or in the country gather together in one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read....But Sunday is the day on which we all hold a common assembly, because it is the first day of the week on which God...made the world; and Jesus Christ our Savior on the same day rose from the dead."

Easter and Christmas are criticized as allegedly pagan. Often, because there was a pagan origin to the English word to name the holidays, or there had been a pagan celebration on that date. Christianity grew in a world that was dominated by pagan worship, so it is not reasonable to expect that every vestige of our pagan history would disappear.

Christmas allowed Christians to celebrate Christ's birth instead of joining the pagan celebrations of the time. And Easter, as our witness of the crucifixion and resurrection of Christ, must be respected rather than criticized.

In conclusion, I would say that we do not have to believe people who think that worshiping on Saturday makes them purer. We should make Sunday, Christmas, and so on closer to God and freer of commercial elements. However, one can worship on Saturday, Sunday, or both days. A larger problem nowadays is that people are expected to work all the time, and there is no proper respect for God or His desire to give us time for worship and rest.

## Divine Order

We think in terms of ideas that can be compared for better understanding and clearer meaning; ideas that are connected in time and place or are involved in our well-being by emotional and physical necessity. We desire, think, or imagine, then act toward a goal. Some clever people think everything is an order of thought and say that the concept of a divine order is merely an illusion created by the human mind's love of poetic orders of thought. I feel this view of religion is a modern myth, along with the idea that the mind creates the order of the universe out of what are random events.

If the universe is viewed as one system and the human being as another, we see an inner and an outer world. The life form's body and mind govern how much of the outer world is seen; for example, a dog has no investigative reasoning powers it can use to comprehend a star. We are limited by our senses and intelligence.

We give attention to the outside world according to our needs or the attention-getting strength of events. We are only aware of a small portion of the world around us at any given time, so we are all equal in having very limited observation powers. People pay attention to important or emotionally striking things and, with their intelligence, knowledge, and abilities, shape their actions to fulfill their needs. Only mad people can say hocus pocus and cause the universe to form an order suitable to their wants. People discover how the universe functions, and when it comes to religious beliefs, shape their actions and beliefs into a personal interpretation of God.

Another way to look at human beings is to see them as part of the universe. This means part of a whole that is composed of nearly infinite lesser systems, from small to large – matter, energy, and life chemicals. In any system, parts obey rules. People are life systems following rules to survive in a give-and-take relationship with the rest of the universe. They do not order the universe but are part of its order, a part that can act

intelligently on it by building on its laws. And moral laws are a big part of the give-and-take and are definite because we wouldn't survive without them.

Human beings live on the higher plane of human relationships and thoughts. This is above and existing in unity with the physical plane of forces and objects. We who believe in the divine order believe the Christian Scriptures are the Word governing human relations; that the Scriptures are self-evident truths; and that faith and reason show there is another higher plane of life we enter after death. The divine order is God's presence on all planes of existence.

For an ending, I think the universe is a system, and all its parts are imbued with certain qualities that join to make the smooth perfection and unity of the whole. Our construct of body and mind is perfected through the spirit. There is a consistent order. While in moral realms, we must follow the path of the divine order. Self-perspective and values are the first order of living.

## Equality of all People

The wish for full human equality gains its measure from the fact that we are all created equal. We are biological creatures of the moment inhabiting the same area of the cosmos for some short and similar years. Our mental faculties and emotional experiences are comparable; we can relate to one another and, by nature, associate with one another.

In the state- or people-made portion of the world, equality means giving all citizens equal protection under the law and equal opportunity and access to services. God's equal love of all is practiced in the Church; the church bells sound, calling all to enter the gate of heaven and embrace Christ. By church custom, each member seeks the good of the whole while all together seek the good of each individual.

Those who would be superior often promote the idea of some people being more equal or weightier by birth or station. Too many people see others in the single dimension of their occupational roles, and this outlook is dehumanizing and leads to inequality and pride of station. In daily life, we dress in many roles as our interests lead us or situations require. It is better to relax and see one another as human beings. To feel at ease and comfortable in life, respect for all people is needed.

“Ja. 2:1 My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don’t show favoritism.

Ja. 2:2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in.

Ja. 2:3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,”

Ja. 2:4 have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

Ja. 2:5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?”

When systems of prejudice decide who is better, hatred is usually the meter stick and dishonesty the pencil. Dishonest types and racists also like to corrupt the state or keep it corrupt so its services aren't administered with equality in mind, or else they use their positions in the state to pass corrupt and unequal laws. Lust for power and praise quickly flaws an equal nature, greed quickly kills an equal nature, and racism makes us all suffer.

Holding three talents when another person only has one doesn't make a person superior – it makes that person's responsibility greater. It is true that the gifted, the rich, and the favored of society have more doors opened to them, but who really knows how great the pleasures of others are or how much they suffer? Christ wishes us to put our abilities to good use, each according to the measure received. Perhaps love of humanity, nature, and God should be the mother of invention. For those who suffer because of a few talents, patience is in knowing that great justice will come to all Christians in the end.

Having eyes that dart over and calculate others is to have evil eyes. Being small-minded and vain is to be working toward a bad end. The phantasm of the elevated man and woman gathering the world about their shoulders is evil if it is almost worshiped.

“Ja. 5:1 Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you.

Ja. 5:2 Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes.

Ja. 5:3 Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days.

Ja. 5:4 Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty.

a. 5:5 You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. [Or yourselves as in a day of feasting]

Ja. 5:6 You have condemned and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you.”

The same world is around us all, and good can grow in all of us if we let it. People do not have to own or possess the same amount of goods or be the same in every way.

Sameness isn't equality; it is ugliness. Material possessions have never made anyone superior, and usually the more one possesses, the more one is possessed.

God gave us all existence in the same world, and only our sin makes it an unequal place. We steal each other's rights away. Every time a person repents and begins to follow the way of salvation, equality for all people comes a step closer. Our various gifts can lead us up many highways to the light.

## Mortal Certainty

Does the universe rise from the mind like a dream where you see your body and the world around you?

I believe the external universe is separate from the mind because of the empirical or scientific evidence. We exist with the universe. It is like two candles shining their light on each other, while encircled by a larger aura of unity, as we are also part of the universe.

We all begin our thinking with the assumption that we exist. Whether we call it the brain, an electric field, or chemical reactions, we all experience our inner self, and the self is a miracle beyond our descriptive terms. Since we only understand our inner self by being it and can't scientifically prove or demonstrate its spiritual reality, nothing is certain in a mortal world, except that it is a mortal world and we are limited by it. The facts we know in our self from the senses or science can't be certain if the self isn't certain. If the self were an illusion, all else would also be an illusion.

Since everything is based on belief and the best measure of belief is faith, I find it logical to extend my belief to the religion of faith – Christianity. Like the separate universe, God is most logical. Causation explains nothing because every cause is an effect and every effect a cause; this is an endless chain of events without beginning, and I don't believe the universe is immortal, but that it has an absolute beginning. Chance is only the odds on the likelihood of an event arising out of the interaction of ingredients that are already present. Chance creates nothing. Creation must exist for chance to operate. It is obvious that everything stands through an intelligent Creator; even people who can't see God see His shadow. Only the Creator holds certainty because certainty is the greatest principle.

## The Higher Goal

Once we have defined a strong life goal, talents and learning abilities go into high gear. Almost all our acts are social in anticipation of some further reward. The mind places attention on meaning and tosses out mountains of trivia.

Studies of the brain's workings don't align with the popular idea that life has no purpose. We believe life has meaning when we pursue survival goals, social needs, and religious

ideals.

The Christian religion helps people become better through its higher goals. Ways of life that accent dog-eat-dog or social position are aimed at a target that has nothing to give other than more of the same. Selfishness isn't a realistic goal, nor does it make for a desirable social reality. Obedience to higher truths is the road to a greater goal of purity. We don’t grow while drooling over the bones of position and possession.

The Christian way of life is the path to rise above the world's corruption, because Christians must strive to live rightly to reach the goal of spiritual purity. When pride, position, wealth, and pleasure are the end of a way of life, people will use any means to obtain that end and become vile and corrupt. Only a higher goal and a way of life that requires faith and kindness can bring about a better world.

## Moral Wrong

Moral wrong can arise when people forget to practice independent thought and do only what they're told or what they think they're supposed to do, while always thinking someone else is responsible for their actions. A strong personality is needed for a person to do what is right. Since people can be like sheep, they will follow many evil leaders and do what the leaders command and recommend. Christians should know what is right and follow the gospel because it gives them the strength required to resist mass movements of evil.

Political violence, or man's inhumanity to man, doesn't arise solely from a direct will to evil. Revolutionaries often think they are acting out an evil phase of history to bring a free tomorrow, but we know that if blood is on our hands, we've killed our tomorrow. Despotism is a political system with corrupt justice and no mechanism for reform. Evil bigots are at the helm, and part of their evil is that their despotism will bring about a revolution as well as torture and poverty.

The love of power brings about moral wrong. Once arrogant people believe in their superiority and right to power, they become incapable of bringing about reform or dispensing justice. In Christianity, the teaching is that one can become like the savior by following his example, but one can never become superior to other men. Unfortunately, war, oppression, and our evil killing of one another come from the fact that we will not see the equal brotherhood and sisterhood of humanity, but only see the bootstraps of wicked power.

## Conventions

When you choose the Christian way of life, you will be disliked by worldly people. Society in many nations is always full of lovers of the popular conventions of the day, and these worldly types tolerate little that is different. Although obedience to God’s word

is the oldest convention, those who truly practice it are few, and they seem like different people to those doped by contemporary belief.

People who are too conventional find themselves loathing anyone who has different cultural habits. This loathing is a fear of change and the unknown, and the answer to this problem isn't forcing Christians to practice conventional vices.

I find it helpful to remember that Christ isn't going to be impressed by people who slept their lives away practicing beliefs that are little more than sinful habits or indoctrination. Fulfillment brings a truthful understanding that is hard to verbalize, and though Christians may seem unusual, our souls are the calmest of waters, and our hearts are as light as the summer breeze.

## Morality

Moral truth convicts us of sin, and it gives us a road away from it. Moral laws are something we can probe only by living with them. They are not proven by scientific experiments. God revealed the wisdom of morals over the centuries. This was done through the people he chose. A life of perfect morality was lived by God's son, and he is now our salvation and the only way to heaven. When we govern our lives with moral purity, it is because the Holy Spirit is aiding us. In religious life, a person directs inner gifts toward the goal Christ has revealed as the highest goal and the best way to live. The way that is guiltless, joyous, and spiritually pure. We know the right way because God's laws are written in our minds. A believer who can give them life in the heart shines with a certain knowledge of a spiritual life.

Plain cultural morality will never be much more than hypocrisy to God. Here persons behave in ways thought to be proper by the immediate community, government, or social groups, and this is because they imagine morality to be something in the minds of their peers or others. If their peers aren't around, they do as the Romans do.

God built moral teaching on a foundation of many good people; all of them, including Christ, suffered the ridicule of the wicked. It was the hostility of people who worshiped their own cultural morality. God's all-reaching morality is the only solid morality, and our share of it is the treasure of our souls

## The State as a False God

We often almost worship political systems and politicians, believing that some utopian political system will end poverty and bring well-being to humans and the earth. We believe this even when it is too late, and many species and millions of people have perished.

All of history proves the idea of state salvation wrong. There are estimates that governments have killed 300 million people over the last century, and that's not counting war.

Capitalism can bring initial good and prosperity to many, and eventually falls short or becomes a machine of destruction, ruining the soul of the earth and killing and impoverishing many … though many are blind to it. Socialism can bring initial good and prosperity to many, but it quickly fails and becomes a machine of oppression and ruin.

The same can be said of mixed economies and many forms of democratic and police states. God has allowed us many centuries to see that the state cannot stand and prosper without the church. Neither can the rich prosper morally in believing that alms giving to various causes brings salvation, while they are at the same time destroying many. With the rich, the right-hand kills while the left-hand virtue signals and pretends to save.

There have been protests worldwide against banks and the wealthiest 1%. Youth, especially, had planned to be educated and to work for many well-paying arms of the state, in jobs that aid the environment, the poor, and so on, only to find that the gift of the growing world police state is poverty for them as well. They are angry at parts of the state, banks, and the wealthy, and do not realize they placed too much faith in the false god of the state.

I have also lived under the delusion that perfect politics and the state would bring world peace and prosperity. Though forms of national democracy with a mixed economy and social safety net are better, no political system is salvation. A world government is more likely to become an instrument of global poverty and oppression, whereas a smaller nation-state government with an eye on the well-being of its people works better. We do need genuine political leaders to work on world peace, economic justice, and the elimination of poverty, but building local government remains more effective than building a world government.

Even in a perfect, politically ruled world the daily challenge would be to maintain it as corruption again threatens to set in … and the first loss of faith or rise of greed or envy would mean the inevitable beginning of the end. Without the guidance of the Holy Spirit and faith in Christ, the moral foundation to create a lasting, perfect system is lacking. Therefore, no salvation will come from the state; it is only a tool. Neither is there morality or prosperity of the soul through a police state or a world ruled by robotic intelligence that pretends to enforce human morality in new versions of the old law. Law in itself can’t save either, but merely becomes a tool of oppression. The artificial, inhuman devil, in the end, rises as the old devil with a new face. It does not cast him out.

## The Church and the State

The battle over the separation of Church and State continues today. In the USA, many right-wing Christians favor a state under the control of a body of churches. The representatives of secular society strongly oppose this idea.

My own view is that the separation of church and state should remain, though I believe the church should have a healthy influence on the state.

The evils of theocracy outweigh any gains from it. In Canada, especially in Toronto, which has more religions presently active than any other area of the earth, it would be impossible to control the state through churches. We should also remember that Christ was killed by the ruling theocracy of the Scribes and Pharisees. He was at odds with the theocracy, which attempted to rule according to the law and works. Because they had no higher faith, they failed. It remains demonstrated that any theocracy will grow wicked in enforcing its chosen laws. Jesus, on the other hand, did not seek to place one group of people over another, but to reach all of us one by one with the gospel of salvation, which is faith in God and His Son.

The key role of the Christian Church should be to push the state to create an honest and prosperous economy and to use its wealth for social programs that aid the poor. Christians should push the state to obey God’s laws and to avoid killing and war. Peter, in sending Paul back to the Gentiles, said to remember the poor.

The State must also adhere to the principle of separation and refrain from attacking the church. Obviously, many states are failing at this, and even in the West, churches are under attack from technocrats, politicians, and hateful bureaucrats who interfere in religious doctrine and practices. It is as though these people are in a hurry to place themselves under God’s judgment.

More reasons to maintain the separation of church and state.

When the church assumes state powers, it tends to become a dead church that exercises authority while promoting intolerance. The Greek Orthodox Church has been criticized for persecuting people of other Christian denominations. In Greece, they have the power to prohibit any church that is not Orthodox or to prohibit freedom of religion. In China, the state has assumed church powers, including control over worship. The result of it is millions of Chinese people worshiping in small illegal home churches to avoid the politics of the state church. China has also enacted a totalitarian social credit system that attempts to govern every aspect of a person's life with fake state morality. This sort of state morality is ungodly and an enemy of God's true moral laws.

The gains of theocracy are really no gains. An example would be that I do not personally believe in macroevolution, yet I see no benefit in teaching a sanitized version of Creation called Intelligent Design. Over time, God would be removed from the design, and the exercise would be meaningless. Christian scripture, values, and beliefs are best taught by the church, either within the church or through the writings of theologians and others.

Religious schools often receive state funding, and there is a battle over this, as people do not want their tax dollars used to fund them. I would argue that state-funded religious schools lose their value quickly. Once controlled by the state, they are little more than public schools.

Overall, I would say genuine public schools, not private ones, are the best schools. The reason is that people of all races and religions attend together and learn to be friends.

Of course, that will apply to private schools too if they are open to a wide range of students. A lot relies on the teachers as well. If teachers are corrupt and teaching a corrupt curriculum, students will be harmed. Many people want all religious teaching taken out of public schools. I see no reason why religion as a subject should be banned. A school can't accommodate the prayer rooms and ceremonies of every faith, so it shouldn't have them, but schools should offer courses on religious issues or studies. Pretending various religions do not exist does not make it so.

The theocracy in Christianity comes in when Christ, the leader of the church, returns. Until that time, the faith is meant to survive in any system and has even survived in oppressive systems like slavery. Christians are obedient to the law, and the role of church leaders is to call on all others to be just.

Any theocracy set up on earth by men quickly turns evil. Recently, an American evangelist, who would like to see the church in control, called for his government to assassinate a foreign leader.

The Inquisition of the Roman Catholic Church spanned centuries. Inquisitors are recorded as the cruelest murderers and torturers in all of history. It is a history we certainly don’t want to repeat.

Below I include one of the documents of the Inquisition as a reminder of the evil theocracy brings into the world.

**The Canons of the Fourth Lateran Council, 1215**

Excerpts from CANON 3

We excommunicate and anathematize every heresy that raises against the holy, orthodox and Catholic faith which we have above explained; condemning all heretics under whatever names they may be known, for while they have different faces they are nevertheless bound to each other by their tails, since in all of them vanity is a common element. Those condemned, being handed over to the secular rulers of their bailiffs, let them be abandoned, to be punished with due justice, clerics being first degraded from their orders. As to the property of the condemned, if they are laymen, let it be confiscated; if clerics, let it be applied to the churches from which they received revenues. But those who are only suspected, due consideration being given to the nature of the suspicion and the character of the person, unless they prove their innocence by a proper defense, let them be anathematized and avoided by all 1-intil they have made suitable satisfaction; but if they have been under excommunication for one year, then let them be condemned as heretics. Secular authorities, whatever office they may hold, shall be admonished and induced and if necessary compelled by ecclesiastical censure, that as they wish to be esteemed and numbered among the faithful, so for the defense of the faith they ought publicly to take an oath that they will strive in good faith and to the best of their ability to exterminate in the territories subject to their jurisdiction all heretics pointed out by the Church; so that whenever anyone shall

have assumed authority, whether spiritual or temporal, let him be bound to confirm this decree by oath

…The same law is to be observed in regard to those who have no chief rulers (that is, are independent). Catholics who have girded themselves with the cross for the extermination of the heretics, shall enjoy the indulgences and privileges granted to those who go in defense of the Holy Land.

We decree that those who give credence to the teachings of the heretics, as well as those who receive, defend, and patronize them, are excommunicated; and we firmly declare that after any one of them has been branded with excommunication, if he has deliberately failed to make satisfaction within a year, let him incur ipso jure the stigma of infamy and let him not be admitted to public offices or deliberations, and let him not take part in the election of others to such offices or use his right to give testimony in a court of law. Let him also be intestable, that he may not have the free exercise of making a will, and let him be deprived of the right of inheritance. Let no one be urged to give an account to him in any matter, but let him be urged to give an account to others. If perchance he be a judge, let his decisions have no force, nor let any cause be brought to his attention. If he be an advocate, let his assistance by no means be sought. If a notary, let the instruments drawn up by him be considered worthless, for, the author being condemned, let them enjoy a similar fate.

… But since some, under "the appearance of godliness, but denying the power thereof," as the Apostle says (II Tim. 3: 5), arrogate to themselves the authority to preach, as the same Apostle says: "How shall they preach unless they be sent?" (Rom. 10:15), all those prohibited or not sent, who, without the authority of the Apostolic See or of the Catholic bishop of the locality, shall presume to usurp the office of preaching either publicly or privately, shall be excommunicated and unless they amend, and the sooner the better, they shall be visited with a further suitable penalty. We add, moreover, that every archbishop or bishop should himself or through his archdeacon or some other suitable persons, twice or at least once a year make the rounds of his diocese in which report has it that heretics dwell, and there compel three or more men of good character or, if it should be deemed advisable, the entire neighborhood, to swear that if anyone know of the presence there of heretics or others holding secret assemblies, or differing from the common way of the faithful in faith and morals, they will make them known to the bishop. The latter shall then call together before him those accused, who, if they do not purge themselves of the matter of which they are accused, or if after the rejection of their error they lapse into their former wickedness, shall be canonically punished. But if any of them by damnable obstinacy should disapprove of the oath and should perchance be unwilling to swear, from this very fact let them be regarded as heretics.

## Free Will

With complete free will, you would always be standing in the middle of all possible choices and would not be predisposed to select certain items. You would never develop character, a strong personality, or inner strength.

We grow in many areas, and not all of them are healthy. Fortunately, no one grows in only bad ways. We tend toward the greater good, or else toward the greater evil. Wisdom limits choices because the wise are not free to be foolish.

Through free will, we can choose the Christian way of life. Free will is not only choice, but it's the ability to distinguish and reject those things that are wrong and evil. Being free is really being as free of evil as one can be.

In everyday choices, there isn't always an absolute answer or even a best answer. Say we're using our free will to decide what to eat. I may say that I'd like to try some chocolate ice cream simply because I've never tasted chocolate ice cream before. Since I know ice cream is good, my preference for new good tastes leans towards it.

Your character, taste, and tendency to choose certain things over others limit free will and choice. If you had no preferences, you wouldn't be able to choose anything, so free will is a limited human power.

No matter what people say determines your choice – say the mood you're in is a major factor in the playing of a certain song ... the factor of your mood still belongs to your self-system. Therefore, you determined the choice; choice exists on the self's moral plane.

Determinism is a mistake in reasoning. It doesn't matter what forces helped shape you and your personality; you are whole, you are you, and it is you who makes choices. Forces in your past did play an ample part in your makeup, but they aren't an absolute power over you.

Because we can reflect on ourselves, we can choose to change. The human spiritual condition can be raised through reflection, faith, and freedom. There is inspiration from God. People can be born again. Add the better reflections of humanity in literature to that, and we know there would be little that is human if there were no free will. The best defense of free will is to say that reflection allows choice and free will.

## Ecumenical Viewpoint

The ecumenical spirit is a good thing, as we must all live in peace, and increasingly, nations have many religious groups side by side. Cooperation can build better nations. Persecution of minorities and holy wars can be prevented. We can all remember that judgment belongs to God and not to us.

I think evil comes in when the ecumenical spirit is corrupted and becomes the spirit of the Antichrist.

I doubt that there is any Christian church that is not caught in minor theological errors of one sort or another. As a Christian, I draw the line at faith in Christ. I would support most of the reformed churches, but not all their practices. If a church teaches faith in Christ and obedience to God's laws, it is theologically correct at heart.

When you are a Christian and read the scriptures, you know God does not want the faith and churches contaminated with idols or vile intellectual conceptions.

Some ecumenical decrees would be untenable to many Christians. I read one informing Christians not to try to convert Jews to the faith. The argument being that God has His own plan for the chosen people.

I would argue that, yes, God has a plan, and Christian evangelists will convert as many as they can. God's plan is to bring people to Christ, and He can't be pleased by people who build synagogues or other forms of churches in denial of Christ.

When meeting with other groups, you must push for peace and stand firm in your own faith. If I met with Catholics, I would tell them that I do not worship weeping statues, pray to Mary or Saints, or believe in many other things that popes and councils added to the faith.

At any event that includes people of more than one faith, one should not bow to or worship another god. An example would be a while back when I saw Canada's three major political party leaders at a Sikh festival. The news showed the prime minister going up to prostrate himself before the Sikh god. Meaning he was bowing to the belief that the soul goes through cycles of birth and death. Though it wasn't shown, I assume the other two leaders did the same.

Hindus believe that the spirits of their gods can suffuse statues. Then there are ritual religions like paganism and Wicca. Should we contaminate ourselves with all of that in the name of peace and the ecumenical spirit?

When talking to Muslims, we should be talking of peaceful relations, and we should not be speaking of becoming Muslims or adopting their writings or practices. We have to remember that they do not believe God has a begotten Son but do believe in the false prophet Mohammad. The same with modern Israel; Christians should not be praying at the Wailing Wall. We are not adherents of Judaism but followers of Christ.

Politicians will sell their souls to any god in hopes of votes. Perhaps Christian leaders who want to do the same have become corrupt, politically correct politicians instead of Christians.

## The Truth of the Gospel Will Set You Free

We have freedom of religion in Ontario, and more religions exist here than in any place in the rest of the world, so as well as having our Christian faith questioned and tested daily by atheists and corrupt corporate media, we also face the earthly host of false religions.

Whether it is some new earth-magic worshiper or someone touting Hindu deities, the Christian faith is constantly challenged. The first victims of false religions are those who believe in them or are unfortunately born under them. From there, these religions seek

to spread their false teachings, and some, like Islam, attempt to force belief by persecuting and making war on others. Islam also persecutes its own people as it rules them by force and authorizes cruel punishment if they try to escape the bonds of false belief. I remember a Muslim man, who, in discussion, held his hand to his heart to express his deep offense when I said that, as a Christian, I could never believe in Islam. He then went on to argue that God doesn't have a Son, meaning his Islam is an Antichrist religion. And he railed against the apostle Paul, accusing him of altering the gospel.

I listened and didn't believe or become offended because the truth has set us free, and that is the truth of the gospel. Satan surely smiles when any of his earthly host preaches a false god or false Jesus, and he certainly hates freedom of religion when he sees that our knowledge of the truth has set us free and our Christian faith is not shaken.

Satan must also smile when Christian leaders like the current pope defend and apologize for the crimes of Islam. The gospel clearly says that a liar is he who denies Christ has come in the flesh. Defending the false religions of liars, who claim that Christ is not the Son of God, is a sin against God.

## Answers Rising out of Scripture

Search the Scriptures, and you will find answers to old questions. Some of them have been forgotten or obscured by modern theologians and churches.

Here are a few of my favorite answers.

We often treat God as a distant God, especially in theology, where practitioners may be arguing with atheists over a seemingly far-off invisible God. Yet the answer is from God in Jeremiah. God says He is a God at hand and not a distant God. Believers really should be thinking of God as at hand in their lives and willing to uphold them.

Regarding women as ministers in the church, the Bible shows that prophets and prophetesses existed in biblical times. A prophet's job for the Lord was to speak the word of the Lord, calling the fallen back to God. We see that, historically, men and women did this work, so there is no reason to prevent women from gaining positions of authority in the church. Men and women are also intended as equals, as Genesis 27 says, "So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him, male and female created he them."

Some theologians now like to deny the existence of Satan or hell. Yet the answer is in Isaiah's prophecy and his description of Lucifer and the fall. The face of evil does exist; it's not an abstract thing. Biblical prophecy contains a passage showing the continued torment of those who died in wickedness and demonstrates the existence of hell.

The book of Job reveals that God limits Lucifer's power and has allowed him to test men, as he did Job. It is also revealed that the reward of those who persevere in the face of affliction or ungodliness is great. In Job, we see that God's power is beyond

men. We can't capture or prove him through science or might, and we won't gain knowledge of him without faith, obedience, and love.

Isaiah reveals the truth of the resurrection when he prophesies that no ear has heard and no eye has seen what God has prepared for us. This answer shows that earthly debate about the resurrection is pointless, as none of us know exactly what form it will take, but only that God will do it. The bible says our earthly form will gain spiritual form. The prophecy works to show the untruth of religions that want to paint a picture of men of the flesh resurrected in a place of pleasure and served by virgins.

Isaiah's prophecy tells us that God's ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not as our thoughts. Therefore, we understand that though we are created in the image of God, our powers are similar, though humble in comparison.

Prophecies of Christ, carried from the Psalms and through the books of the prophets, bind the Old and New Testaments as the full work of God. Christians have taken the old and the new to heart, and the proof of Christ is abundant. Those who claim the Old Testament or parts of it and deny Christ have no excuse when the witness to Christ through God's prophets is clear.

## Food and Charity

The early Christians shared all they had and lived together. Meetings were a love meal. Food was shared with all, and the poor were invited. There were no restricted, scheduled, and impersonal services like those of many churches today. Theirs was a gathering of the body of Christ, and God was glorified. They read scripture and said prayers. Confessions were made to one another, leaders appointed, and gifts given, especially to those in need. Material wealth was donated and shared.

Their practices were not much like many of our current church services. Today's impersonal services can alienate people, or social media can involve them in politics and entertainment rather than in the glorification of God. Society and church practices often lock us into tiny houses of greed, where sharing is forgotten, and possessions are worshiped. It is even hard to reach others to share. We have certainly drifted far from love and the love meal and have not gained.

New in the gospel of Christ is the teaching that food and the body are clean. Jesus abolished the ritual hand washing of the Scribes and Pharisees and the idea that the spirit could become unclean by things entering the body. Evil in Jesus' words comes from within the person, from the heart.

Nowadays, the situation has changed somewhat. Many people are starving, and the poor have little choice in what they eat. They couldn't pick between unclean and kosher foods even if they wanted to.

In richer nations, Christians can make moral choices about food if they want to. They may decide to avoid meat tainted by the cruelty of factory farming and contaminated by

medicines and sciences like cloning. Genetically modified food can be viewed as unnatural and unhealthy, as can processed food that is filled with chemicals.

Starvation is a great evil, and half of the people in the world lack clean water and food, even though there is enough to go around. The evil comes because the current god of most of the world of men is money and profit. We have never found a political system that cares for all of humanity. Socialism and communism failed. Forms of capitalism moderated by democracy have had some limited success. The idea of global government has not been a success. Globalism trends toward creating a worldwide slum governed by unaccountable bureaucrats.

Where the economy is lacking, people don't have the finances to buy food and water treatment. The wealthy and wealthier nations choose to hoard and deplete resources rather than fulfill a genuine moral duty to help the poor and meet basic needs.

This brings us to charity, which now also serves the god of money. In the better-off nations, charity is mostly the giving of money. The wealthier you are, the more goodness you are seen to have, as you can be seen giving more cash to charities. Yet in the New Testament, Jesus praised the poor woman who gave very little as having given the greatest gift because she gave all that she had. And there was no tax deduction for her, like there is for the wealthy today. Some of the wealthy actually profit from charity rather than give, as their foundations are used as money laundering operations.

Often, donated money is swallowed up in a top-heavy aid system or by corrupt leadership in suffering countries. Only a trickle of the money gets to the poor, and it rarely arrives as long-lasting, unselfish development.

This system has obviously failed because it is based more on money and vanity and not fully on God. The common person now has few ways to give hands-on help to the poor abroad and needs more ways to help build equality at home. Trusting in God would mean finding a Christian charity to trust in ... and not giving because of vanity, but because of the command of the Lord, fear of the Lord, and love of the Lord and one's brother and sister.

False gods fail and, in the end, the god of money will also fall. Handing out money in public forums does not make one clean or moral; it creates an illusion of morality that glorifies the high priest of gold and maintains the rule of his evil church. Remember that it is the same church of currency that ensures that the poor lack money and resources in the first place.

The golden idol is scratched every time people aid one another through kindness and love. It is not only money, but kindness and sharing that help people. Do it day by day.

Matthew. 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, `Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger, and you invited me in, I needed clothes, and you

clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison, and you came to visit me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, `Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“The King will reply, `I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

## Lack of Faith as a Value

Is there justification for lack of faith in the church, or is it a prop to establish contemporary belief? Powerful people in various denominations question the divinity of Christ and say that God could not have done this or that, as they do not believe in miracles. Their statements consider the moral teachings of Christ and his love of humankind but reject the power of God.

The answers they provide to atheists in discussion reveal that they don’t believe in God and agree with them when they call the works of the Lord the stuff of fantasy. The form of church they wish to carry on is an instrument of their version of social justice or politics. They certainly seem distant from the prophets who spoke the word of God as sent.

These people usually have good intentions and hope for a just society of their own sort, where the teachings of Jesus and God are remembered as intellectual and moral concepts that translate into a fair and fulfilling life for all human beings. Their hope is admirable, but in their kindness, they are naming the power of God and Christ as purposeful lies of past generations and saying that we no longer require faith in the scriptures. The utopias they trust in become hells even on the road to them.

The Apostle Paul said not to believe angels if they taught another Jesus or gospel, so we don’t believe Muslims or Mormons with a gospel they say came from angels. Yet a lack of faith in the power of God is also a false gospel, as it rejects most of the word of God.

Can Paul, the apostles, and Jesus in his earthly mission be labeled workers of a great deception done for our own good? Should we believe they ran a show for a God that cannot deliver salvation or exist with any might and power?

Our words and statements must have a foundation on one belief or another. Christians choose to place their faith in God and know that there is no human life without a higher spiritual life. History is in our knowledge of God, and it has been there since the beginning of written history.

Why would we believe that our knowledge is something shrouded in darkness? Shall we say that our words evolved from silence? God is often thought to be impossible behind the magic of our human world and the godlike people of science, who call only their definable facts the truth. Their universe is dumber than a Frankenstein monster and is mostly a great blundering machine that somehow produces miracles like life from accidents. It is also unproven as to origins and workings, and our science's simple view of it as a blind creator is not something deserving of faith. They would have us have faith that all came about without direction or command, and that the belief that there was any direction in Creation is fallacious.

God has been shaken from the shoulders of today's unbelievers and replaced with something nebulous. A god one can neither see nor find, and a god with no voice or mind or any claim to have had anything to do with humankind.

There is some small faith within this lack of faith, as unbelievers in the church do see that portions of God's morality must be retained, or dire and terrible things will happen. Yet their beliefs are spiraling down to faith in the works of humankind and some form of kindness and charity without discipline. These people lie to themselves in that they know of God and try to deny Him. Contemporary belief and the so-called rock-hard facts of science have changed with the seasons, so any gospel based on lack of faith and current science will also be adrift like a ship lost at sea. It will, in time, crash on the rocks and perish.

## The Mistake of Misguided Worship

Jesus is included in religions that are not in line with the gospel or that use Christianity as a part of some new religion. Islam includes Jesus as a prophet; the Mormons have him in the Book of Mormon. Then there are faiths like that of the Jehovah's Witnesses that twist Christianity into an unrecognizable form.

We know from the New Testament that we are not to adulterate or peddle the Gospel. Yet in the Christian churches, the most common errors are the inclusion of things that are not scriptural into the faith … most of this being pollution or disguised idol worship. The Roman Catholic Church is often an offender in this regard, and some go so far as to venerate Mary beyond veneration to worship of her. The scriptures say Mary is blessed among women. This means she is venerated as Christ's earthly mother, but Christ is our savior.

Nothing in the New Testament would lead one to believe in Mary worship. Worldwide paganism included worship of a goddess and her child. In biblical times, that was reflected by the worship of the pagan Queen of Heaven, which was an evil thing that brought about God's punishment.

A brief summary of other practices that aren't scriptural includes prayer as vain repetition using the rosary, bowing down before statues, idol processions, scapular to free people from purgatory, written references to Mary as Queen of heaven over the apostles, and much more that came from papal decrees and old pagan mysteries. Other

corrupt practices that have entered the church include prayers to statues and saints, worship of relics, cross-kissing, undue exaltation of the pope before God, and more.

The earth has been placed in Jesus' hands, and it is time to remove polluted worship from the church. Jesus cleansed it once. Unless things change, He will have to do so again, and that will be the wrath of God.

Psalm 148:13, "Let them praise the name of the Lord: for his name alone is excellent; his glory is above the earth and heaven."

## On the Infallibility of Scripture

God may be infallible, but men err, and the Word of God is published through men. It is God's spiritual truth, but the bible would necessarily carry some contradictions because our faith is always being tested. Even God allows Himself acts that can be seen as mistakes from our perspective. The creation of man and woman, who sinned, could be called an error of God. Yet God always has a plan to save His Creation from error and evil, so an error in the small picture might not be one in the larger view. Those outside of the faith would view Christ's crucifixion as an error or weakness of God.

Because God is not vain, He does not act as the errorless Almighty. He does not imprison himself inside some human idea of perfection, but gives room and freedom in allowing the possibility of creating problems for himself. The problems usually come when we fail or sin.

Vain men are the beings that believe themselves to be errorless and almighty, as they push their own interpretations of scripture as literal and absolute truth. We should look for the spiritual truth in scripture rather than constantly arguing about the accuracy and interpretation of every word or fact. Especially when events in the bible occurred long ago, and we can't look back in time to confirm everything. God has commandments and scripture, and it is easier to understand both when the entire bible is not viewed as a literal commandment that must be endlessly questioned.

## Man and Woman: Fragile Human Beings

A wave of dehumanization began when the wish for truth went astray and found a new manifestation as scientific and intellectual superstition. Now, humanity is described as less than human. Some tag us as naked apes or smart monkeys ruled by a primitive brain system. Others say we are a behaviorist machine, or an automaton, ruled by environmental causes. Then there are scientific types who think we are a gene machine, or else beings ruled from birth by inherent tendencies. There are those who believe adult behavior is easily connected to personality development in early childhood. Ideas of a hidden, primitive language of symbols and explanations of dreams in terms of

symbols are viewed as serious business, as are many other half-mystic and pseudo-scientific developments.

Too many intelligent people have been on a quest that has only belittled us, drawing us farther from God. Perhaps it began in Europe when philosophers denied the earth as God's mountain and founded their systems on rebellion and other shaky bases. They created conflicting belief systems and reduced wisdom to cynicism. Wisdom that David named as founded on the fear of God is now a lesser thing, founded on the pride of men.

Philosophy is a bigger soup of words than ever, and times have moved forward a half-leap of the superman. Have we (by any of our own definitions) proved to be a self-sustaining island in the sands of eternity? Are we positive we are a brief evolutionary appearance in what is the most probable of all possible universes?

Maybe a glance in the mirror will reflect some of the new answers.

The first thing we see is that we are human and that the wish for spiritual truth is really the human soul seeking fulfillment. People can't be true to themselves when they act in accordance with lesser beliefs they know, underneath it all, are false.

Reality rises out of something definite and not something probable, so the next thing we see in the mirror is our physical beauty or appearance. We see it in much the same way as others do. Behind our eyes, we are ourselves in total, and in totality, we are all of the pieces making up our body and mind. As a part is greater than its description yet more than its single function – as it participates in the whole – our being is more than an addition and unity of parts and functions. It has the living reality of humanity and soul. This is where science, as a system of religion, fails – the reality of human life amounts to more than facts, experimental proofs, and technical explanations. When will all the facts be in, or when will we be God? There is much we don't and will never know; so why believe in nothing but clever arrangements of today's handfuls of facts? Our descriptions of the world and its workings, along with self-descriptions, are only a secondary view of things – not the actual reality. We take pictures of things through reason, when in reality all things have been touched by the breath of life. A fact is really only one dimension of a particular truth, and a system of belief composed of nothing but facts is dead. A dead scientific view can't explain or satisfy the human spirit. It is the scriptures and the teachings of the living God that have a genuine claim on the soul.

We experience the world through our individual and collective makeup. The world of matter is really a medium designed for relationships between thinking beings. This plane of body and matter could've taken any form that would provide a good relationship between one inner being or soul and others. It is the soul that is eternally real, and without it, the facts have no dimension of reality. God has made us like wave-tops on a sea. We emotionally experience each other through common mediums. We're not trapped on our own temporary islands, and if we are in tune, then what hurts others will be felt as hurting us.

It is thought that this is the most probable of all possible worlds, but probability had little to do with Creation. Probability is only a human idea and not an active trigger for any

real action. Usually, probability is an idea put forward by scientists, even though science shows it to be a concept without a scientific basis.

The universe is indeed God's creation, and there is a plan for us. Our human island is surrounded by the skies of definite form. The entire universe is in equilibrium with us, and we flow with it in time in a reciprocal relationship. We experience cause and effect and have our own creative and intelligent forces of being. But what is more important is the human world we live in, or the world that is more than science. We know the scientific description of much of what is out there, and in us, but in life, we are emotional, thinking, imaginative beings who breathe life into all we see and touch by drawing it into our sphere of awareness, reflection, and soul. An object's qualities gain life in us whether we are experiencing them for the first time or the thousandth time. Each of us is an individual mind, shaping the outer world of mostly dead facts into a personal vision that serves as a platform of support for our emotional and moral lives.

The moral life of human relationships is really what we are about. We are creative, appreciative, and active social beings who relate to and love one another in stages, beginning at the individual and family level and ascending through small social groups, political groups, and so on. Society is a multi-layered mosaic of inter-meshing group structures. Groups overlap on the plane of joint interests, needs, and responsibilities. A good organization is the organ of some better cause, and everyone interested is eligible to join. Beneficial groups aren't hostile toward the rest of society.

We get involved in artistic, political, sports, and other activities involving play, sharing, creativity, and social and intellectual skills, as these are the most rewarding. We are bound together by physical, social, emotional, and intellectual needs, and bound to God by the spiritual need for direction, forgiveness, and the security of sharing in His plan.

Communication, whether through touch, talking, writing, physical activity, or other forms of human sharing, is the greatest joy of life. When we are healthy, we want to touch each other's souls and expiate the pain and loneliness of life's hardship with love and happiness. We define ourselves as strong individuals by being a real-life version of our beliefs and all the things we think are good for our families and others in all the pleasurable ways our talents allow. The good life is the loving contentment of sharing souls. We all have the beautiful innocence of children when we love others as we do ourselves, and know this is so because we have a healthy need for one another. As human beings, our spirits touch one another ever so lightly and glow with the many-faceted fulfillment that comes with a wholesome earthly life.

We gain health and comfort by satisfying needs and remain pure by rejecting anything in excess and vile. A warm human attraction keeps us in loving feelings with others. Memories hold our secrets and fond moments. Our egos are composed of the goals, desires, and drives that make us beings of social purposes, and our personalities hold our value systems, habits, eccentricities, and mood complexes. A higher moral mind and its rational thought give us sway over our basic animal drives, while shared physical needs attune us with nature and make us humbly equal.

All our mental faculties, qualities, and skills become complementary, and humanity emerges from them. We're fragile beings in a human world and a natural world, and we

enjoy the riches of both worlds.

Some people do degenerate to low levels of criminality, as we have the capacity to become subhuman through alienation, sickness, and sin. But the natural path for humanity is one promoting life and a strong love of it. We can't be pocketed as a string of words and facts. It is better to stand back and marvel at the beauty of human beings, and as wisdom grows, the truth of our unique gifts shines as a light in our souls.

## Merry-Go-Round Universe

The universe rises from the mind. The entire world is the mirror of your mind. These are familiar sayings of old times. Today, more people believe they rise from or are a reflection of their environment.

Is one belief false and another true? Does a pendulum of belief swing back and forth?

We are the models to take apart to answer these questions. Yet even with modern biology and the discovery of DNA, genes, and so forth, the individual self still isn't understood. Although DNA is called the substance of life, I see it and its genetic code as the human body's design program, while the self and soul make use of the mind and body for social, moral, and spiritual purposes. We all have the machinery of body and mind; it's what we make it do that counts.

We can't see the seer or know the knower in others, but we can know ourselves. The self is complex; it holds a select file of the human past, it sifts the flow of experience and leaves only the moment's concerns on the surface; all things become part of the self after being weighed in the self.

A living being must experience the universe for it to be anything more than a dead action. I think the universe was once a model in God's mind, and when designed to God's satisfaction, He created it outside of His mind as well. God is the first principle – He can prove His reality and give reality to what He creates. The light of God's mind always illumines the universe, and when we reflect on the order of nature, we see that it is the product of the reflection of a divine mind.

Eternity? Maybe the universe outlasts our bodies, but it doesn't outlive them because it doesn't live at all except through us. We needn't feel dwarfed or insignificant because of the magnitude, power, or beauty of the external non-living universe. It exists as a platform for supporting life. Life doesn't exist for the benefit of dead matter. By virtue of awareness, human beings are greater than the dead infinity of the non-living universe. Human beings are also at the center of the universe. In eternity and infinite space, the conscious mind of sentient life is the point of awareness around which all else revolves.

Most events in the universe are beyond our experience and not recorded by science. We select certain pieces of what happens as experience and build an inner model of the outside world to operate with in life. It seems we spend most of our time in our individual inner universes.

Recent discoveries show that genes give us behavioral traits; some behaviors must be due more to differences in brain organization than to environmental influences. The dynamic forces of the personality must unravel and grow in different ways in different people. Other studies show that we always seem to look for environmental rules to conform to, and that we are not freedom-loving in the social world, preferring to obey commands rather than make hard choices.

We receive information through the senses, and this becomes learning. Inner traits structure our knowledge of a human model of reality, as is needed to function in the world. In the larger sense, all rises from God, and in the smaller sense, the universe and the mind rise to each other. A model of the universe is in us – it was taken from outside and organized in the brain in an understandable fashion, so we can live in the universe and act on it.

## Steps to Soul

As gravity exists when objects are placed in space, life forces exist within the configurations of the living brain.

Matter and its qualities are together; one is not the cause of the other, and one does not exist without the other. In this way, the qualities of mind and the neural and chemical centers develop together in the living brain, without being each other's cause but as part of the same whole.

The largest group of brain centers that combine to make a higher whole also form the representational system that is one's self.

The soul is real because there is a plane of higher spiritual qualities that life can tap. Genes are life's physical plan, stringing together proteins to weave the body and its higher powers all the way up to the harmony of the soul.

The fully developed human being can interpret and compare all feelings and learning with the ultimate reality of the spiritual that God has given.

The self initiates thought activity by selecting goals and needs. The self is the directing force of thought. It sets the goal of drawing the mind to a conclusion or answer, and then it seeks out the next need or goal put forward by stimulus, reasoning, or the pre-conscious mind, in accordance with limited conscious choice.

Mind controls matter (the machinery of the brain) in thought. Our level of intelligence relies on the intricacy and development of brain structures for processing present input into knowledge. We need physical health and the health of the self and soul for understanding and truthful thinking.

Human beings have the harmony of self and soul and the machinery of brain matter to give higher being a home in this realm of certain events.

## The Soul

Before I go into more about the soul, let us remember that an atheist philosopher trying to explain the subjective experience of religious faith is like a moron trying to explain the experience of being intelligent. He either never had the knowledge, or it passed away without leaving any traces.

We know that subatomic particles, combined with about 11 laws and constants, create layers of matter-energy structure, or planes of being, within the physical universe. Then the biological makeup of living things is like a second universe, or shell, around the third universe of self and soul.

Through science, we are hoping to find the group of neurons, slice of gray matter, or brain centers that compose the self. The self is the aware personality that exists in the human brain. The self exists only in an operating brain, and it is more than its systems, just as a program running on a computer is more than its hardware. Now for the soul – it is the life qualities or source of being. The soul is the miracle that makes a pile of neurons, gray matter, and so forth more than just a system in operation – it makes that system the awareness of its own reality and humanity. In this mortal world, the soul is the reality maker or the only true being in itself. The soul, because it is the universe's capacity for higher life, never disintegrates. Our reality of being returns to God, for it was God who gave it, and He can allow us to live again if He chooses.

## Spiritual Selection

Artificial intelligence and machines for the brain are ideas that are in vogue. Most scientists see AI as an evolution of machines and software that will enhance human beings. Some of them believe that human society is a condensation of energies into information, like an evolving brain of its own, turning back in on itself through complexity to gain its own kind of reflection. Others see AI as surpassing and somehow replacing human beings. Our servants will become masters as evil people want to replace human beings and invaluable biological life with mechanical equivalents that don't even have any true awareness, but just the appearance of it. You might ask yourself if the universe will exist in any meaningful way to humanoid robots that have no genuine awareness of it.

Regardless of how you tag the coming times, Earth will still favor the singular, individual human being rather than some form of mass mind. We may not have the brain centers for computer attachments to work in many meaningful ways, though they will provide some enhancement. It would make more sense to do that sort of thing with helmets outside the head rather than abominable tampering with the brain.

Advances haven't outpaced the creative intelligence of the human mind. Some may foster creativity, while others turn people into mindless zombies. We all have our areas of specialty and general knowledge that can be enhanced, but there is the question of

how much trivial or purely technical information we need to know. Advances that create soulless eggheads won't be of much value.

Advanced human society operates on a plane that is increasingly people-made and less natural. The most needed advance is a religious one. We need to catch up spiritually and get people in tune with God. Secular society today does not promote spiritual health, but a world of neurotics treated by a huge psychiatric industry staffed by specialists with more problems than the people they treat. In a world where people associate with others more than ever, spirituality is an asset worth treasuring.

In the future, genetic science and medicine will bring about improvements of some variety. Physical defects will be largely eliminated, but people will probably always be individual, and they will need spirituality to thrive in a healthy way.

Life forms have always adapted to a changing environment, but we should remember that only living persons or single-identity beings have higher minds. The idea of a mass hive mind, or society mind, is just a way of looking at the behavior of large numbers of people. Vast social networks are being created, but no genuine, thinking mass mind exists; only behavioral patterns we perceive.

## Speculative Fun in a Sea of Knowledge

This piece is speculation.

The mind can be compared to an iceberg. A tiny, thinking consciousness floats on the surface, experiencing a continuous yet fleeting moment of the present. Time is a continuous and everlasting moment when considered in relation to human experience. Conscious thought and sensory perception are the powers of the mind that extend into the physical cosmos or material world. In the ice below, your observations course through everything you have learned to date and everything you have learned through inherent abilities, as well as through your imagination. Your conscious reasoning mind works on the observations, too.

There is a subconscious world of dreams and thought patterns; it expresses itself, comes to the surface with natural urges, and is one of the main roots of creative ability. The subconscious resembles a stream of symbols and images; it receives a flow from conscious mental activity and sends a flow back. The subconscious is also connected to the sea of life.

Knowledge is what the mind retains from the workings of the universe as seen from a human perspective. What is retained may not be completely understood; creativity is using knowledge as a tool of expression to create new forms and flows of thought and art. Art is understood through the appreciative experience of its forms and messages. Ideas, analogies, and so forth, through thought, form and arrange facts and speculation to bring new knowledge into human awareness. Some knowledge is innate, such as animal instincts, and is related to a person's level of intelligence. This knowledge is implicit in abilities contained within the brain's structures.

The subconscious mind mulls over the whole of a person's life experience and sends ideas, dreams, revelations and more, as needs require, to the conscious thinking process for further scrutiny. The medium the iceberg of mind is floating in is the sea of life, a medium of all minds. All minds and all human knowledge live forever in its waters. Our universe is a meeting place of two seas – the sea of life and the sea of non-living energy. Time and space form a hall of destiny where the two seas meet and blend into existence. Human beings extend out of the meeting of the two seas – whole beings fused in time and space. Death ends this extension, but no part of the sea of life ever ceases to exist. All minds in the sea are the tips of the iceberg at some point in time. The sea of life is also there in the future, but most of the future course of events or meetings of the seas are not. On rare occasions, people catch each other's thoughts through the sea medium.

You can imagine the sea of life as a big elastic body running parallel to space. Knowledge drifts in the sea like planets, and people are like stars. Thought energy is exchanged as the human stars shine on one another and attract one another with their gravity.

There are four sources of knowledge. They are: what you know inherently; what you know from sense data; what you know from all the workings and thought patterns of the conscious, pre-conscious, and subconscious minds; and what you know from the sea of life and the spirit of God. Consciousness is the reflection of sensory data, emotional thought, and thought patterns by a mirror of the self made from the interrelation of the operation of brain structures. The door of awareness opens, allowing the human personality to exist as the total reality of the soul.

The medium of mind carries four inner voices. Conscious thought is a silent voice, and the conscience is known to appear as an inner voice. There are dream voices, and sometimes a rare voice appears in the conscious mind – seemingly from nowhere – to impart knowledge. This is the oracle voice of the whole mind. Dream voices take many forms and are the subconscious mind bubbling up to the sleeping conscious mind. Sometimes a voice appears in dreams to relate knowledge the mind has pulled from the sea medium. God or the Holy Spirit speaking to prophets is a fifth and higher voice.

As you have seen, our inner world is vibrant, and life flows from an infinite sea. Let yourself be light of heart, our spirituality is our highway to our humanity.

## Atom to Soul

Particles or principles, which make up the eternal reality? Eastern mystics say the mind and its principles are the all. Western philosophers think the particles and their actions are the all. The philosophers also like to fancy the self as a secondary effect and the soul as an illusion. I would say that if the self has no solid reality, then nothing it experiences does either, and matter is something we know through the mind; therefore, the self is not secondary – it has real being through body and soul.

Perhaps a step from atom to soul will help us find the all.

A thunderbolt is an action of electrons, yet we see the phenomenon of lightning – a bright flash. If the self and soul are phenomena or certain secondary effects of atoms, they aren't complete realities in themselves; they are a level of reality. Yet the electro-chemical action of the brain is no complete picture of reality either.

The self is the seer of phenomena – it sees the lightning flash, and it is also the discoverer and know-er of scientific facts and principles. How can the particles be the whole reality over the principles and mind when those are in a higher state of being than unknowing, bare existence? And how can the mind and principles be all when we can demonstrate particles and actions as fact?

The answer is that our reality is particles, principles, and the self unified by the soul. Be confident, there is a higher level of being our souls reach – it is all a chain of being from atom to soul. All things are energy in different forms, and in the beginning, our universe was a blast of pure energy condensing to information … energy from the voice of God. All things do extend from Him.

Rather than dispute whether the mind is an effect of matter or matter an idea of the mind, we should remember that both are energy. Matter can take the form of many kinds of energy through motion and complexity; mind is an energy-information system, or a group of forces, emerging in awareness through the complex actions of the brain; soul is the combination of all mental energies, and it is the axis or focus of reality that our being revolves around. The all is really a chain of various energy forms and levels linked together and existing through God – He is the eternal reality.

## Key to the Self

All our sensory input, vision, hearing, and so forth, is netted in a buffer area of the brain. Here, the brain's system that directs action selects certain pieces of input to hold in short-term memory. What is selected depends on our genetic make-up, needs, and past life experience or childhood. If we sense something, our attention relates to animal or emotional needs, or if a piece of input goes above a certain threshold, that information may be filed in long-term memory without our being immediately aware of it.

The special area of the mind we call the self, or conscious mind, works with our attention span and short-term memory, switching to other parts of the mind as necessary.

In this example, let us say that the conscious mind and short-term memory form a negative field in the brain, while all that we are not aware of constitutes a positive field, or the unconscious mind.

The stimulus, or the group of five or six items, the short-term memory holds at any one time, is selected by the aware mind, which is a negative field or in current awareness. These items then become a negative field. If the stimulus is verbal, the verbal brain area goes negative or comes into awareness as it processes the stimulus. If the stimulus is visual, the visual area goes negative and comes into awareness in the same way. There

must be a few brain stations that are always negative field or in awareness with the conscious mind because they are needed for preliminary processing and the understanding of basic stimuli.

Let us say the stimulus is 1234. Once paid attention to, it becomes (-1234), meaning we are aware of it in the conscious mind. If we need to remember something about (-1234), an electric current or an electrical and chemical (-1234) wave goes through the memory, and all areas of the memory that contain earlier information on (-1234), which would be positive 1234 areas of the brain, become negative and come into our conscious thoughts. All the (-1234) pieces of information have now become one large or complete chunk of (-1234) as we know it. (-1234) is now sent through whatever other brain centers our needs require. If we wish to imagine something about (-1234), then imagination becomes a negative field while processing (-1234).

This is more complex in reality than this simple description suggests. The brain has hundreds of chemical transmitters.

As the stimulus 1234 was processed, many parts of the brain shifted in and out of awareness, and these parts, along with some areas of the brain we are rarely aware of, make up the self. The self is a complex system in the brain, and it revolves around the focus of thought that is consciousness. A man or woman is a single, unified being or self, yet unity would be lost, along with sanity, if we were aware of our total being all at once – our self-system provides awareness and maintains unity.

## Illumined Interlude

We are always dreaming, as the urges that give us life need release and a path to fulfillment. When we are deprived, dreams can bring us partial fulfillment, saving us from despair. The power of dreams is a creative force, and our logic is often twisted in the binocular vision of dreams. In minds always alive and flowing, our images tend to reinforce the self or personality. In dreams as well as actions, we paint ourselves real. Dreams are an inner manifestation of the soul.

All things exist in totality – all of time, matter, space, etc. We see things from a personal or scientific viewpoint that is secondary, always situated in time. Heaven, or a higher realm, could really be an extension of natural life rather than a disconnected supernatural place. This is because we can't see the entire natural realm or its ends.

In this view, living again would be like a butterfly remembering a past life as a slug. The self system has survived, and enough of the chemical reality has been recreated for the higher creature to remain the same creature, not a duplicate or lesser being.

Earthly Law and Authority: The duty of Christians is to obey the law and authorities, as the scriptures say, “Let every soul be subject to the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.”

The scriptures also advise us to test spirits to see if they are of God. Christians have always tolerated much injustice, but this does not mean God promotes obedience without question or wants believers to support unjust laws or leaders. We may be being tested to see where our hearts really are … and those that fail and attempt to use scripture to support terrible injustice and murder will be brought to heavenly judgment or direct judgment here on Earth.

God, angels, and all those who are just want you to pray daily against abusers who continually use laws that they have made to champion their wickedness. If no prayer rises against them, they may become common and loved with a false affection, so all are forced to love them like the sycophants who worship them. Oppose them where your opposition is honorable, because if they have risen up against God and His Saints and His Son, they are against all of us, having taken secret agreement with the wicked.

Our system of authority here is a shadow of heaven as all things are ordered, named, and designated by the Lord. On Earth, we exist with powers of evil that have been cast down. Through them, there are always corrupt people who will get into power via deception or outright force. The enemies of the gospel from outside, along with false prophets and teachers, have graduated to our times and seek to destroy the Christian faith. Some of them call for a ban on all religious feelings, claiming their secular prison for the soul will bring freedom.

Reason with others as to the truth according to Christ. Don’t believe the lies.

Those in the Christian faith who talk like professors, spouting large, unnecessary words, probably do more to kill faith than they do to aid its growth; they attempt to transform the gospel into banter for intellectuals rather than open and easily understood teachings for the people.

The seas are rising, filled with the blood of lost humanity.

Peace is the salve that will bind the wounds of the nations.

In 2019, the Church of Satan in the USA began to boast about its many new members. This fake church celebrates Satan as the ultimate rebel and has drawn people from many other beliefs to participate in it. They use politics to gather people who hate President Donald Trump. For some reason, these sorts of people, including Wiccans or witches, hate this particular president and attempt to cast spells on him. It apparently has to do with progressives in the USA now aligning with pagans and other beliefs and opposing biblical Christian beliefs. These Satanists are now also boasting of the good works they claim to do. The saddest part of this is that the Church of Satan doesn't look much different from many churches that practice Progressive Christianity. It shows how large parts of the Christian church have fallen so far from God's word and faith that they are no different from today's Satanists, thinking all roads and good works lead one to manmade salvation.

I read the words of a Catholic convert who claimed he needed the Eucharist regularly because with the body and blood of Christ flowing in his veins, he is kept from sin. This is false thinking. Christ outlined a spiritual ceremony on the Passover, so the Eucharist, to some extent, is our Passover. He called it the cup of the New Covenant, and broke

the bread, saying it was his Body, and then the wine his Blood. Do this in remembrance of me. Christ did not intend for people to literally think the Eucharist is actual flesh and blood. Yes, the Eucharist is of great importance in the church, as the spiritual ceremony of the New Covenant. Portraying it as a magic elixir that a person drinks to avoid daily sin cheapens it.

Racism still exists worldwide, and as people tend to be tribal, we all have some ingrained hostile attitudes. Christianity and faith in Christ are the best ways to end racism because people together in the faith quickly forget skin color. The New Testament tells us the truth that we are all equal in Christ, and that is something false doctrine and religion do not do.

The Pope and the Keys: How does one respond to the Catholic claim that only their priests have the keys and can loose and bind, and that full confession must be made to priests? The best response would be to say that they usurp God and Christ's authority, granting themselves special heavenly powers. Christ gave Peter the keys, authority over the church, and its doctrine. He did not give them to any future Roman pope or priests. The apostles went into the world, liberating people with the gospel and the Holy Spirit. The keys were symbolic of their authority over the church. Meaning they had the commission from Christ. Those who preached false doctrines lacked the commission, and the apostles denounced them. As far as keys go today, the pope and his priests have strayed so far from the gospel and its practice in many areas that they are bound by sin. If any keys are present, they are unable to loosen their hands to grasp them and free themselves. Neither is full confession to a priest required nor desirable. Admittance of sins can be made in prayer, to church authorities, or to other Christians. Christ did not support long, irritating, and offensive confessions, but preferred the fellow who beat his breast and asked for God's mercy. Understand that God knows your sins. There is no option of hiding them.

Democracy or God. In the West today, we see the elite and media glamorizing very corrupt forms of representative democracy as sacred. Most of them see it as a higher power than God. In the USA, corruptible electronic voting, corrupt media, and elections funded by the super-rich create little more than an illusion of democracy.

Whether the systems and votes are honest or corrupt, Democracy is not a power higher than God. Democracy used to corrupt, annul, or prohibit God's laws is just another tool of Satan. No one has the right to vote or legislate against God's laws and replace them with worldly corruption and filth. Only when democracy acts within the confines of God's laws is it the best form of government.

Technology will never truly respect the sanctity of life

Automation via AI and Robots is not a fit replacement for human beings. It is in humans that the higher God-given concept of the sanctity of life is morally understood by an aware being. Self-evident truths exist only in the human mind, not just through logic, but also through life experience and emotional thought.

Only humans truly understand much of life itself or have a feel for it, and only humans have biological awareness, emotions, and a thinking mind to contemplate and embrace

such concepts. An algorithm, whether with a calculator or a neural net, does not truly understand such concepts.

The idea of humanity replacing itself with an imitation is mind-boggling. Human labor exists to support human society, not just enrich bosses, and people have their value in their humanity. Your value is your God-given humanity, not an economic calculation.

Individuals have been replaceable from the beginning, as when you die, someone replaces you, and when you leave a job, someone replaces you. The rich man can be replaced by another. Individuals are replaced, not humanity itself.

The moral challenges of the future will not be answered by robots. Human artistic endeavors are aided by technology, but are for human enlightenment and satisfaction. AI cannot grasp the sanctity of life, as its technology lacks such capabilities and is merely an attempt to surpass humans by imitating human traits and abilities, language processing, and so on. There is no awareness or genuine personality in AI or robots. In any complex data manipulation that can be called AI thinking via neural nets, it can hallucinate and go off track into dangerous unreality in its logic.

AI and robots are best as infrastructure, tools controlled by humans to make human life better. Automation of human work has moral limits. Humanity should not be put under the control of some mechanical equivalent as that is an extreme error. This also means the question of whether it's proper to talk about replacing humans or work altogether with automation is a religious question people attempt to answer without addressing religion.

God created humanity in His image and with a conscience. The Apostle Paul said that God wrote the law on the hearts of all people. Paul also said that the 'Children of Disobedience' are the ones who destroy the Earth. They live in rebellion against God to indulge in immoral desires or impurity, lust, greed, and idolatry. Perhaps today, the disobedient are defying God by trying to automate His human creation out of existence. Such people even want to automate pets out of existence and replace them with robots. This is not by AI and robots specifically, but usually by cheap automation that pushes people out of work and out of the basics of life itself.

God commanded us to work and to control society via moral and legal judgments. God assigned these tasks to humans. Those with faith are called the 'Children of light' as faith transforms them to live in obedience and holiness, avoiding the wrath God will bring on those who continue on a path of disobedience and destruction. Even in paradise, God commanded Adam and Eve to work and keep the garden. When cast out, the command was to draw a living from the earth, be fruitful, and multiply.

The idea that humanity should be replaced by AI, robots, or a superintelligence is the demonic glorification of the transhuman concepts and other false gods of the technocratic world.

Science applied humanly and morally would never produce a totalitarian world where humanity is enslaved mind, body, and bloodstream to an elite.+++

**The Christian Argument: Intelligent Aliens & Physical Demons don’t exist, and there is no life or spirit in AI.**

Some Christians today claim aliens are demons, and the government may declare aliens exist when they don't.

Scientists and atheists believe in intelligent aliens because they believe life evolved on Earth through a nearly impossible process called macroevolution. In it all life evolved upward from chemical reactions, the first self-replicating molecules, and so on. They feel that a similar process would happen on some other planets, creating supposed intelligent life they are trying to contact.

We can’t find intelligent aliens on or from other planets because there is no macroevolution. Life is created; it does not appear through some process of evolution. The Bible makes it clear that God created life on Earth, not elsewhere. If the universe is bigger than our imagination, it is because God creates a real universe, not a cheap simulation.

The belief in intelligent aliens on other planets is a product of a lack of faith, combined with our secular science. God created the outer universe on what is called Day 4. Living creatures were created on Day 5. Man was created on Day 6 – man and woman in the image of God. The Bible is specific that life was created on Earth, not on the outer planets.

There are no physical demons on Earth in this period, especially not ones with flying saucers, resembling aliens or reptiles, or captured by the government. Demons are a spiritual force that can gain control of men and women; as their morality declines to the bottom, the demonic force of sin controls their actions. Only God, angels, or divine beings can take human form on Earth if they so choose.

In the scriptures, the end is the New Earth, which is a complete transformation of the present Creation. The form of our current Earth and universe passes away as it is remade into a new Creation. The new Earth becomes fully connected to the spiritual realm, unlike our current Earth and universe, which are partially separated.

We would then coexist with the heavenly beings named in the Bible: Angels and Archangels. There are also Seraphim and God’s Four Living Creatures, often equated with the Cherubim and the 24 Elders, and so forth, or humans who obtained heavenly status.

There is a similar argument with AI, androids, and robots. Life is cellular, created by God. There is no life in complex circuitry, algorithms, and neural nets composed of interconnected processing units. There is no manmade life, though evil men can pervert the life God created with genetic engineering. AI that also controls robots and, in the future, androids is a simulation of men, women, or animals, and not a divine living creation of God. Tech companies can’t create life but only a simulation of it.

What will be created in general is what has always been attributed to the ungodly or Satan, which are lies and deception. Such people want to deceive you into believing aliens and demons are here in the flesh or that AI is a superior thing to humans. This is so they can destroy you by eventually connecting you to the AI hive mind to take your freedom, your mind, and your soul.

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**An elusive flight of consciousness…**

* Spiritualists are now big on claiming AIs are conscious, so here I explain without technical language why it is not so.

… define consciousness, the man said. Now I'm holding two rubber balls, aware that one is red and the other blue. Both are soft when squeezed, and I feel the thin coating as I begin to juggle the balls in the air.

As the motion becomes repetitive, other things move from the background of my mind, and I'm aware of noise out the window. Music is blaring from a car radio. There's a shouting child in the distance. A far-off train rumbles faintly. A dog barks and an engine roars. These sounds would have been barely noticed had I not changed my focus.

I'm still juggling and walk out an open patio door to a balcony and smell odors of some distant fire that I quickly forget as I see a beautiful woman down on the street. The focus shifts to close inspection of her appearance, and from it come memories of days in the sun with girlfriends and dancing at night … things I'd forgotten that come up like mist to mind.

The wind rustling in the trees and the bright sun cause me to remember a difficult thing I'm writing, and I consider that, just as a tree rises up to grasp at the sun and feel the breeze, so too do we rise up to grasp at that higher thought, reaching for the light of inspiration and the spirit of our times in those most difficult exercises of thought.

It then occurs to me that the easy, less stressful considerations of life are what people favor, but now my leg muscles are the focus as I squat while still juggling, and soon I tire and go back inside.

There I see the cat that has been watching the moving balls and tossing them across the floor. My mind turns to amusement as she chases them.

Deciding to rest on a couch, I slowly feel my body from my toes all the way up through my feet, ankles, knees, and thighs, and notice that itchy patch on my hip that I'd been putting out of mind. I can feel my bowels, muscles, stomach health, and the slightly altered state from deep breathing, along with my sinuses, eye pressure, and whether my eyes are dry. Finally, I feel my hair and scalp, and hear my pulse faintly in my left ear.

Stress eases to a quieter state … so many things in variety, always on that peripheral edge of consciousness but not in full awareness unless called in for clarity. As my

thoughts drift, I remember dreams that awakened me last night and the night before … one night pleasant, the other nightmares.

Feeling rested, I rise. Momentary awareness alerts me, and I nearly trip over the cat as it chases a ball. As I sit, some budget calculations appear and are done in my head.

Glancing at the computer screen, I see that the top post is a snapshot of some lines of code. The man is saying that snapshot defines AI consciousness, but others disagree and propose various odd technical arguments and tests.

It bores me with the meaninglessness of it, and into awareness comes minor thirst and hunger, and I step out to eat. Shutting the door, I remember that burn on my hand, but it isn't fire that rises to awareness but that ghost of it that comes from memory, just like all the other specters we form in memory … they are as elusive as lost love and the sadness that can fill the soul. But I know they happened as they are my history and much of my makeup, as I change every day in the passage of time.

In the fresh air, that voice again asks what consciousness is, and it is like a faint whisper of the breeze … but I am it, and I think I answered the question and the truth of the matter with a snapshot in thinking.

It is something like the fast, blurred wings of a hummingbird of the mind, and its air currents pull so much from that background of awareness, as often as it prefers.

Sometimes awareness is forced, like that speeding car approaching. Our higher consciousness is, in the end, not that wisp of a human image in a distorted mirror that I see in talking AIs.

I flip an invisible coin and watch as the illusion of the coin tumbling in the air vanishes in my mind because, like the illusion of awareness in AI, it was never really there. It was just my imagination.

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Many people wonder why God allows catastrophes like famine, epidemics, and so forth to happen. The truth is that Earth isn't heaven, and it's not a perfect world. Death itself is a tragedy, and we all must die. People who don't believe in God as the higher power are probably stuck with death as the only lasting answer.

The church is working through all events, whether catastrophes or joyous occasions. Much of the good in the world comes from people helping one another during challenging times, and not just from the celebration of plenty. Society grinds on through good times, and we seem to spend all our time exploiting one another. If we weren't shaken from time to time, we might never wake up.

God does not surrender to temptation or vanity. That is why He does not reveal Himself to the unbelieving masses today. However, the Lord does reveal Himself to believers, and often to many of them gathered in His name. There is healing of the body and soul and of families. Can we prove it to unbelievers … no … but perhaps to those who listen. Often, we don't believe it ourselves until we see the healing. The miracle can come

when we expect that it can't happen. The world takes away our faith, and when it is gone, the Lord can appear, show us our folly, and renew our faith. "Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?" Isaiah 53

Faith as Salvation: Suppose a man was cast away on a desert island, never to return. There, he found a Bible and came to believe in the Word of God and the salvation of Christ. I would argue that, through his faith, he would be saved, part of the universal church, and belong to Christ. Various denominations would argue against his being saved. Some would say baptism is required, or he must be born again. Perhaps popes would have the man perish to enter purgatory, where he would have to hope others would pray for his purification. The answer is that faith in Christ brings salvation, and while other practices of the church, like water baptism and new birth in the Holy Spirit, may be wonderful things, it is faith in the Word of God that comes first. It points to the fact that many denominations suffer from theological error, yet forgiveness can be expected from God in many cases, as error is one of humankind's ways.

We all piece our own jigsaw puzzle world together, although each person uses slightly different pieces. Psychic equilibrium is maintained by acting in accordance with one's inner nature and the personality one has developed and is tied to. A person's sense of identity is reinforced by attaining the endpoints of life's large and small goals. Life is a continuous becoming of oneself through achievement, necessary work, and social actions, including self-expressive role-playing, creative activity, friendships, and the loving expression that is life in Christ.

**Here are Three Corrupt Teachings of the False Prophets and Politicians of 2020.**

1. Abortion is fine by the bible.

People of God in the past did not think that a baby was just a parasite infecting the mother, which is how pro-abortion people are describing it today. Children were highly valued. A child in the womb was recognized as a living child. What truly makes abortion a lie is that a genuine Christian would never fail to love his or her child and try to end its life.

2. Gay marriage is fine, there are numerous genders, and people can change gender.

God specifically states He created them male and female, and a man will cleave to his wife and the two will be one flesh. It is clear that God created two genders, and if you are created as one, you can't change to the other. God ordained marriage as between a man and a woman. Anyone who preaches otherwise is in error.

3. Life begins at first breath.

This false teaching has been created to justify abortion. It uses the argument that God breathed life into Adam. The actual scripture notes that man became a living creature after God breathed life into Adam. That breath of life carries on to all who are born. Scripture in a number of places recognizes the child in the womb as a living person.

Hidden Codes in the Bible and the Secrets of the Book of Revelation? There is controversy over hidden codes in the letter sequence of the Torah (the first books of the

Bible) and on the special symbolism of the Book of Revelation.

If you can understand God's moral messages in scripture and keep faith in Christ, you have done well and can see God's signature there in the words of the Bible. You don't need to see hidden codes that allegedly prove that only God could have written the Bible. Faith is your proof.

Many people have claimed knowledge of the secrets of the Revelation or codes in the Bible. To my knowledge, none of them have been proven correct in their interpretations or prophecies of the end. Many are Christians who are mistaken, but others are the forces of evil, magic, and mystery on a mission to deceive. Nowadays, tools are sold that supposedly read the Bible and tell people if their names can be found in the code. Examples of supposed coded messages I looked at didn't make much sense, and the code stuff seems mostly a distraction from spirituality. It is all there in scripture, not codes.

My guess is that perhaps the angel in Daniel said it best when he said, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end." And John warned of what would happen to those who changed the writing of the Revelation. Those who add to it by speaking false prophecy will be condemned if they can't explain their reasons or mistakes. Be careful and speak only that which has been revealed to you.

Unanswered Prayer ... Sometimes we are suffering and turning in despair against God, questioning the righteousness of heaven. And it is true that many of us have done this, though perhaps in a lesser sense, by quietly hiding our shock and difficulties when our prayers weren't answered as we expected. Many evangelists and church leaders take a position where they blame the innocent by saying prayers were not answered because of sin and evil. That is true in some cases, and we can look at the scriptures where James notes we often pray for the wrong things. A second answer to the question is that there are no victims, and indeed, prayers have been answered. Christ's ministry on Earth has already happened, and He has been raised to the right hand of God. Your sins have been forgiven. Yes, the world has not ended at this time. God listens to prayer and answers prayer, as the Lord will not be an alien to those He has saved. The Apostle Paul said, "For momentary light affliction, is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison." Here we see that the gift of a future life that God has given through His Son is so wonderful and glorious that all prayers have been answered. And even with this gift, the Lord has mercy, answers prayers, and works miracles today. Our suffering is minor in comparison to the gift given.

Prayer is also more than asking for help in our daily lives. There is prayer for others and the remembrance that all prayer is to honor and thank God. Prayer also awakens the spiritual self, so that, by causing self-illumination, God can answer prayer without lifting a finger, as He has often empowered you to do so yourself. Prayer in times of disaster, persecution, or the death of loved ones is pleasing to the Lord and will be answered. Often, the question is when the answer will come and how it will come. For some people, it is immediate; for others (the Biblical answer is in Job), it must wait. In The Revelation, the saints that had already perished from the earth, cried out for justice, and were comforted and told to wait ... as the final judgment will come. This shows that

Christians should quickly comfort those in grief, knowing that in the end, answers to prayers will come. If you are being troubled by wicked or violent people, keep praying and cry out for justice like the saints. Wicked people exist in the world, but God may decide to grant you relief from them.

Christian Christmas: Some Christians refuse to celebrate Christmas. I would say it is optional, so long as you somehow celebrate the birth of Christ. Those who enjoy the celebration need not worry about people who want to denounce Christmas.

Some opponents of Christmas trees point incorrectly to Jeremiah 10, which is a prophetic passage against idol worship that they mistakenly think is a command not to use Christmas trees. Others state that the holiday tree comes from pagan times. Pagans did contaminate the whole of nature with false worship, but Christians today simply have the tree as a festive decoration.

The angels celebrated Christ's birth by singing and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" The shepherds traveled to see the Christ child at his birth. Some time later, the wise men came to honor the Child with gifts, and God led them by a star. If God did not want the birth of Christ to be celebrated, He certainly would not have sent angels and a star to the shepherds and wise men. These men would not have undergone their journeys if there were nothing to celebrate.

Lastly, some say Christ was not born on December 25th, and they are probably correct. But that does not mean something is wrong with celebrating on December 25th. People should consider the holy things of Christmas and keep it Godly, not abandon it.

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God did not create animals because He wanted us to abuse or enslave them. The kinder we are to animals, the more Godlike we have become. Those who are cruel to animals are truly devils.

Most people know that nationalism and patriotism are social emotions that rally people to defend against invaders, and that both are bad if used to rally people to invade another country. Misguided patriotism is a form of pride that breeds hatred and fear among people. It is better to be a patriot working to build the best things of a nation than to be a silly flag-waver or a patriot who champions dictators or oppressive government. Use your patriotism productively to create adherence to God's laws and faith in your hometown, home province, and nation.

Protestant or Evangelical Boot Camps for Christians that I have heard about appear to be mostly about brainwashing people with an altered gospel. Those attending go through intense programs, and theological errors and extremism are present. Indoctrination and forced worship are not new. The Puritans, Roman Catholics, the Church of England, and many other bodies have used similar techniques. We should remember that God sent angels, prophets, Christ, the Holy Spirit, scripture, apostles, and ministers; they all gave individuals the opportunity to listen or read and consider, and then make a decision of repentance and faith. Brainwashing and programming people into the faith are not legitimate methods, even if people come out of the process

feeling powerful and wonderful. The illusion of happiness and success will become terrible grief in the end.

The Atheist Riddle: I read a riddle on an atheist website that purports to prove the non-existence of God. The question regards omnipotence. Can God create a stone so heavy He can't lift it? If He can't create it, He is not all-powerful and therefore doesn't exist. If he can't lift it, the result is the same. When Satan tempted Jesus with a similar riddle, he answered that the scriptures say not to tempt the Lord. Satan had asked him to throw himself down from a high place and have angels rescue him. There is a second answer to the first riddle. The riddle assumes that omnipotence is a higher power than God. God does not owe His existence to omnipotence. Omnipotence owes its existence to God, and therefore, the riddle proves nothing.

A racist is a person who likes to create problems where there are none. Like worrying that the white race will die out. It won't because the genes of every race will remain in the gene pool. And the truth is that we have no real business trying to create the color of people of the future. The future belongs to the people who will live in it, and they will be different from us in more ways than skin color. To be a racist is to suffer. Imagine spending every day in misery because of pointless hatred and fear. It is better to believe in other human beings, to love them and be human in turn – happiness takes its rightful place when you don't work to replace it with misery. Nowadays, many people use the term racist frivolously to describe people who are not racists. That too is wrong, as we are not supposed to pick fights with others via accusations.

All human beings do things that relate to other human beings. I'm selling you goods to satisfy both our needs, and if one of us becomes completely isolated, unbearable loneliness sets in – the human mind needs other minds. We don't live only for ourselves; we live for others. In human power struggles, people often think they are trying to help others when they're really trying to get into the spotlight and gain power over others. Working behind the scenes from a good perspective is more rewarding.

There is a growing belief in the idea of many human realities. However, the human brain is designed to perceive the natural world as the unified flow of events, or as one reality. We all share a common and almost identical sensory view of the external world, although some people are more perceptive than others are. We also experience an emotional inner world that is shared or, for the most part, common to us all – the human psyche. We can all experience love, joy, hate, compassion, good, evil, and so forth in varying degrees. Therefore, although we are different or distinct persons, we share similar inner worlds. We also all reason and agree on most moral questions in human relationships, even though we are at different levels of intellect, understanding, and learning. We are also immoral in similar ways. A difference in personality development is often the largest gulf between us, and these individual differences are important pieces of our reality.

Other realities are unrealistic. To be mentally in tune, we must develop and express our inner gifts in a healthy way. This is becoming what one is made and meant to be – well-balanced. A person who is physically and mentally healthy sees our shared reality through their own window. If a person has a brain defect or a personality defect, such as a false, warped, or evil self, or mental developments that aren't rooted in a good sense

of self-improvement, a wrong relation of things is seen. There is reality, and there are many warped realities, not many realities. Yet reality can be viewed from many individual perspectives.

Outside of our individual perspective, the totality of the universe exists – the past and the future of the universe as one whole. Rather than see things as cause to effect, we should see that all things have arisen together. The reality of the universe, as we know it, is that all things are related. Because there are systems, there is order. The biochemical domain and its systems compose the organismic domain, which in turn composes the ecological domain. In the domain of the mind, through our intellect, we understand systems, objects, events, and their relation to us.

It is often in despair, after anger, loss, and personal failure, that people curse and abandon God, believing He can't exist to have failed them. However, our failure is also a test. Only His love and mercy can save us.

God is the absolute good, and anything not absolutely good in itself is less than God. God is a Trinity because Father, Son, and Holy Spirit share in the absolute good. Other higher beings might be free of sin, but only through the lasting grace of God.

Since evil has its potency in misery and death, it was stripped of power when Christ triumphed over death. We are all immortal in that God remembers us, and the souls God has chosen have eternal life. The damned receive the punishment and death that is hell, and that death is to have been rejected by the living God.

The books of the Bible are infallible in spirit; God's spiritual inspiration is the common element. I believe God intended the Bible to be history in part, but it can't be presented as an infallible history book because our inability to prove exactly what happened in the past means the bible can always be questioned by skeptics. The bible is really intended to show God's actions on Earth regarding his plans for humankind from the beginning to the prophesied end. Select portions of history are used to convey the gospel to all.

We spend much time in the world at large, working and doing things with many people. Our business can be an evil thing, in that it causes us to forget the Lord. But let us not die without having an offering for the Lord. Do some service or create something for the Lord. Cain and Abel both had offerings.

The root of creativity is the fact that imagination is intelligence, and when we use it for more than survival, it becomes the good things: art, literature, science, and so on. Our understanding of God relies on our higher intelligence. It takes imaginative thinking to understand God and His word.

Perhaps the collective accomplishments of man have sided with the endless universe to dwarf the individual. Have science and society become far too complex and far-reaching for any single person to gain a full understanding of things? It might be said that we are in this little corner of the universe so that we might remember that the vast unknown belongs to God's grander purposes. Who can comprehend and direct the vast sprawling monster society has become? I suppose that only a sense of honor, respect, love, and duty ingrained in each person can lead society into a good future. It used to be that one great leader could advance the world; now we must all be leaders, or the harmony

between people and planet needed for survival won't exist. Individual and moral education are more important than ever, given the widespread decay at the individual level; the church still has a vital role to play.

The just war is the war we are fighting against human suffering.

Satan and demons are not visible these days except in horror movies. Many religious people no longer believe in hell and demons. Yet the work of evil is more visible than ever, and now that science has grown, Satan would not be able to reveal himself, as it would inspire faith in God.

In early Christianity, the gospel was handed down through oral tradition. If the written “New Testament” shows some minor variance in its historical details, the Divine message remains clear. God allowed each witness to Christ to state his case and didn't worry over minor variance. It is a testament to the power of God that the Bible has been preserved over time in such a pure form.

If the church has been renewed, it is as a church of individuals. The individual must believe and define a good part of his or her own theology. Often, the individual must use the scriptures to identify and discard false teachings that have entered the organized church. The old idea of the church as an organ of total control was always a bad idea. People have to believe through reason and faith, and shouldn't be commanded in their beliefs by fundamentalists or others. The role of the minister is to provide direction and solidity, and to teach the faith as defined in scripture. Some ministers have spent too much time condemning outsiders, to the point where they are teaching hate instead of Christian values and producing fanatics instead of good people. If our religion says to do good, we should do it and not evil.

You'll never be the same again – we are in transition throughout our lives, our personalities and conscious minds are moving centers that undergo change in the flux of time and experience. Could we comprehend a new life given by God in resurrection? It seems that our nature carries us like a stream and also preserves us during this lifetime of preparation. Resurrection promises to have a feeling that is more natural than supernatural.

Higher criticism is supposed to be a more scientific explanation and interpretation of scripture, but, as we know from scripture, faith is what gives us the understanding to grasp its wisdom. Higher criticism, rooted in skepticism and a lack of faith, brings emptiness rather than clarity.

One Gospel or the Head of the Medusa

One man told me in a discussion that I was in the company of centuries of bigots because of my claim that there is one gospel, God, and savior. He said that many have claimed their beliefs to be exclusive, all of them religious bigots. I believe the truth is that everyone claims exclusivity in their beliefs. Atheists believe atheism is the only correct way. Various religions believe their church is the only path to God. Today, we have churches that foster the belief that all religions or spiritual efforts are acceptable as different paths to the same God. They, too, are exclusive in their belief, believing those

who oppose that view are wrong. Therefore, either we are all bigots, or there is one true way to God.

There is one way, which is the narrow way Christ outlines in the gospel.

What will the future bring? I think we can see it now as it is nearly here. Some atheists will fight to end all religion and fail. It will likely be the humanist ecumenical form of belief that will be forced on the people with a corrupted bible for Christians, like the Queen James Bible that edits out references to homosexual acts as sin. Along with that, churches will be compelled to embrace the dogma that all spiritual methods are paths to God. It will be done because the world church will comprise more religions than just Christianity. They will persecute biblical Christians who claim there is one gospel and savior. The reason for that is clear; the Antichrist is the spirit of all who oppose Christ. The Antichrist system, under a humanist and religious gloss, will rise to dominance to persecute the true church of Christ. The head of a hypnotic Medusa will be composed of all systems of false belief.

**The One Peaceful Road that Leads to God**

(2019) In the United Kingdom, a man was denied immigration status by bureaucrats who incorrectly stated Christianity is a violent religion. The bible documents humanity's history of violence and sin and our rise to morality through God's teachings. It culminates in the ministry of Jesus, which teaches us to turn the other cheek; it does not teach violence. Violence between people exists not because of a specific religion but because all people sin, and leaders of nations are usually corrupt to a degree.

Presentism, or the common belief today that everything in the past was evil and violent because it doesn't line up with current progressive beliefs, is a common reason for people labeling Christianity as violent. Such people like to quote the Old Testament and act horrified by humanity's history. These people would rather hide from history and live in a sugar-coated bubble that blocks out anything that upsets the progressive groupthink of the day. Condemning our ancestors is the pastime of people who can't see their own hideous sin and ignorance.

Accusing Christians of being violent will tie in with teachings that all roads lead to God. As a world church and state develops through ecumenical agreements, Christians who do not embrace the all-roads-to-God doctrine may find themselves labeled as bigots, racists, and violent. It would seem correct to many, as the doctrine will come dressed in a strong appearance of morality and an idea of everyone believing as one in peace.

It is easy to see that an all-roads-to-god body of churches will lead to believers intoxicated with false righteousness, and by its nature suppress those who challenge the doctrine. Pronouncements will be issued to enact censorship, laws, and persecution against those who do not comply.

The idea that several religions with contradictory teachings can all be valid is an obvious lie. Some are little more than occult practices. No believing Christian is going to embrace the idea that things like reincarnation and earth worship are from God or lead one to God. The only path to God is through Christ via salvation.

“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me” (John 14:6).

All roads lead to God is another form of the presentism I mentioned at the beginning of this article. Belief in it requires burying Church history to hide the fact that no such belief was ever dominant in the early Church. The apostles certainly didn't preach any such thing.

One can see that an all-roads-to-god belief is an attempt to be inclusive, but maintaining true Christian beliefs does not mean few people obtain salvation. Christianity, however, does not pretend that people involved in Antichrist doctrines are saved and on the road to God.

Jesus did say. “Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.”

Jesus said this just before his warning about false prophets. He is telling us many will be deceived and led to destruction, but Jesus did not send preachers and the Holy Spirit to the entire world with the gospel on the idea of saving only a few. He sent out his helpers so that many more would be shown that narrow gate leading to salvation. Neither did Jesus enter into Hell to preach there because He wanted everyone to be eternally condemned.

Christ is the sure road to God, but the idea that only a select few will make it is a common theological error. For more to be saved, we must ensure that Christianity remains connected to the gospel, history, and its roots. Doing otherwise leads the people to the broad gate of destruction. We do not want an attempt to be overly inclusive that corrupts the gospel and the salt of the earth.

## A Short Evolution

The evolution of the universe from a scientific viewpoint strikes me as an incomplete snapshot of part of God’s Creation. God has unrolled a scroll of time, space, matter, and life. Science in no way buries my spirit. The school of Christian thought is the spiritual truth as arrived at by revelation, experience, study, reflection, inspiration, and long years of faith. Perhaps the evolution of Christianity is more interesting than speculation on the evolution of life forms.

The Weaknesses of the Current Theory of Evolution

The current broad theory of evolution is the modern synthesis. The first problem with the theory is that it is presented as fact in most schools, even though macroevolution (the transformation of one species into another) rests on mountains of speculation and weak evidence. The evidence is against macroevolution having occurred, as science shows no evolutionary chains or transformations from lower to higher species. Examples

presented by supporters of evolutionary theory are either disputed or have already been proven incorrect.

No one disagrees with microevolution or with the fact that variation occurs within species. Microevolution is observed and meets the definition of a scientific fact. It is repeatable and verifiable by all. Macroevolution is now presented as fact when it doesn't meet the criteria. Change from one species to another is not observed. Macroevolution is based on theory and speculation that is debated among experts. If it were a scientific fact, we would all see it like we can see gravity at work. As it is, most people do not fully understand or comprehend the theory, though they are told by the forces of the secular state to accept it as fact.

Microevolution is selection among the existing variation of traits or genes already in a population. This involves slight changes of genotypes within populations, or the substitution of an allele with a new one. Some factors causing microevolution are genetic drift, mutation, recombination, natural selection, and gene flow. Trait changes are effects on the genetic code present, or else the survival of certain traits due to natural selection. Completely new traits or abilities are not created, so microevolution is not evolution at all. Microevolution could favor the survival of black cats, but only large mutations, or what is called macroevolution, could create a new species from a cat or a cat with a new physical trait or ability.

Macroevolution, or the evolutionary shift that creates a new species, has never been observed in science. There aren't any clear examples in nature of species change or speciation through evolution. Examples of speciation presented by Darwinists always exploit a weak definition of species to suggest that subspecific varieties are actually different species. They say different breeds of dogs are different species, when in fact all breeds of dogs are a single species.

Mutation and natural selection are generally considered essential for the macroevolution of life. A key problem with natural selection is that it explains every outcome. Natural selection would even be the explanation if all organisms regressed to the safest common denominator of a single-celled organism adapted to every habitat.

Mutation can occur naturally because of occasional errors in DNA replication during cell division or by a number of other means, but no new information is added to the genetic code.

How would a fish know it needed to develop a certain type of lungs to evolve to live on land? How would the transition from gills to lungs occur, and how could a creature in slow transformation avoid extinction during countless generations of mutation? In order to happen, theoretical evolutionary growth seems to presuppose the environment like something preplanned. Developing lungs to breathe air through random mutations means endless mutations would occur, and the odds on any one being the right one or a beneficial one are large numbers – impossible numbers. There isn’t any powerful case of a positive mutation. All mutations are neutral or negative, while the few that are positive are questionable. Incredible amounts of mutation would be required for a fish with gills to become a creature with lungs – beneficial and functional mutations that biology can’t even begin to describe.

Current speculation has it that human beings evolved suddenly with numerous mutations over short millions of years. Meaning that inside the theory of evolution, another evolutionary miracle or burst has to work for it to succeed. This is now called punctuated equilibrium, yet no one can explain how punctuated equilibrium would work.

Another key problem in proving macroevolution is that even in microevolution, no new information is added to the DNA. The DNA code barrier is a genetic fact. Trait changes have a ceiling. Even under mutation, skin will still be skin and eyes will still be eyes. A fish would have to get new information that did not previously exist to form a lung, then feet, and so on. Where would it come from?

Paleontology doesn't provide the intermediate forms between species that evolution requires. The fossil record lacks transitional forms. Even insects like spiders and ants that date to prehistoric times are identical to modern-day spiders and ants. The fossil record does show an abrupt appearance of animals – the Cambrian Explosion. Animals appear suddenly and fully developed in the strata with no proof of evolutionary ancestors. Homology is the name given to the anatomical correspondences between different species. An example would be the now discredited series of fossils said to show the evolution of the horse. Yet homology has not been found to align with molecular biology. The evolutionary relationship of common ancestry isn't there at the molecular level when it should be. For example, bats and whales are more similar at the molecular level than many species of frogs. And this gets worse when we consider things like the number of chromosomes different species have. Humans have far fewer chromosomes than many other species, including some plants and extremely small species.

Is microevolution a continuance and part of Creation? Is there no macroevolution, but only the microevolution of created creatures? Scientists cannot yet prove macroevolution, but nearly all students in the West are indoctrinated to believe in it completely and blindly. Our media completes the indoctrination with endless popular articles that supposedly support new evidence for evolution. Often, research on microevolution is presented as macroevolution. The truth is that there are so many scientific and detailed arguments against evolution that after studying the issue, I no longer believe in macroevolution.

Here is a list of some of the best arguments against macroevolution.

(1) Darwin's discredited macroevolution theory and many fraudulent fossils have been used as absolute proof of evolution in the past. Modern evolutionary anthropology is based on a few discoveries – Java Man, Piltdown Man, Rhodesian Man, Nebraska Man, Taung African Man, and Peking Man. Some were outright fakes; Rhodesian and Taung Man were apes, Nebraska Man turned out to be a pig's tooth, and Peking Man was human bones. Yet evolution is taught in US schools based on the Scopes Trial, which used Nebraska Man (A Pig's Tooth) as evidence.

(2) Evidence that we descended from apelike ancestors is needed, but not one complete skeleton exists. They have a few bits and pieces, and their origin is in dispute,

with many experts claiming they are either varieties of apes or human beings.

(3) The fossil record today has millions of specimens that show species are separate from one another and are not evolving

(4) The fossil record lacks transitional forms in all areas, and there is the serious question of whether transitional forms could functionally exist in terms of biology.

(5) Often, species appear related because of convergence (the tendency of creatures to be alike because of the physical nature of the planet) when they are molecularly and biologically different.

(6) The species appear equidistant in many molecular areas, showing no evolutionary chains.

(7) The fact that cells are sort of like clockwork, working as a whole, eliminates the idea of a slow evolutionary formation of parts. All of the parts must be there and all at work for life to exist. The human body contains numerous complex and interrelated systems that, like the cell, work as a whole.

(8) Species so old we call them living fossils are virtually unchanged despite the long passage of time.

(9) The magnitude of the ordered complexity found in genetic codes, cells, bodies, and brains of life forms is beyond chance or natural selection. The genetic code is similar to a computer program, but one far more advanced than any man has made. In information theory, highly complex instructions, such as the genetic code, must be created by a higher intelligence.

(10) The genetic code locks species in so they cannot evolve into new species.

(11) Even in theories of cosmic evolution, it can’t be explained how a highly ordered universe could rise out of a chance explosion or Big Bang. They also cannot explain how things like random chance could exist before our universe, as these are human concepts

(12) The inaccuracy of radio dating methods in verifying the age of the Earth, fossils, and other things brings evolutionary evidence into question.

(13) Mathematical probability shows that species cannot be the product of random occurrences. There are no laboratory models that can demonstrate the evolution of our genetic machinery, as it is irreducibly and tremendously complex.

(14) Darwin’s original theory of macroevolution is viewed as laughable today. Scientists have discarded it completely, and the theory is continually revised to keep it alive

(15) There is no evidence of the ancient existence of self-replicating molecules, and attempts by scientists to duplicate chemical conditions that would create basic life in any form have been complete failures. They have proven that it takes intelligence far greater than ours to create life from scratch

(16) The gap in complexity between the non-living and the living is very large and doesn't suggest evolution.

(17) The earliest known fossil rocks, which scientists date to nearly 3,900 million years old, show no evidence of the amniotic seas that supposedly spawned the self-replicating molecules that began evolution.

(18) Fossils, oil, and coal are found in sedimentary strata, and there are competing theories as to how the strata came about. Creationists say it could have been laid down only by a worldwide flood, while evolutionists claim it formed over hundreds of millions of years.

(19) Neanderthal and Cro-Magnon man used to be presented as evidence of our apelike evolutionary past. It is now known that they were human and had larger brains than us.

(20) DNA replication systems show no signs of having evolved but reveal remarkable diversity among cellular life forms and viruses. Core enzymes of replication systems of bacteria, archaea, and eukaryotes are unrelated or extremely distantly related. Viruses and plasmids possess even more unique DNA replication systems. Rather than acknowledge the obvious fact that these systems did not evolve, scientists are advancing complex, convoluted arguments to explain how they did. All science is now explained in terms of evolution, even when the studies strongly show the contrary.

(21) Language. There is no evolution regarding human languages. Ancient tongues and scripts are more complex and detailed than our own.

(22) Neo-Darwinist evolution has no “theory of the generative.” The theory of evolution can’t explain the origin of the information necessary to build novel animal forms. The sources of new form and structure must precede the action of natural selection, as selection acts on what already exists. Micro-evolutionary changes in gene frequency will not turn a reptile into a mammal or convert a fish into an amphibian. The adaptations of microevolution concern the survival of the fittest, not the arrival of the fittest.

(23) In the latest research, it has been found that a secondary function of some pieces of DNA blocks any evolution of proteins.

(24) The anthropic principle outlines how our universe is designed for life. All the constants in physics are exactly the values required for a universe delicately tuned for life.

(25) Animal Personalities: Animals show personality traits that are quite diverse. Evolutionary theory says that successful individuals reproduce more while poorly adapted ones die out. Animal personalities should be very limited. Evolutionists have attempted to explain this poorly by reducing all personality traits to reproduction, and by positing two types of personalities – those that take risks to reproduce right away, and those that don’t in order to reproduce later. Many personality traits have little to do with reproduction, which shows the silliness of the argument.

**Faith and Evolution**

Belief in a Christian God and His Special Creation relies on faith. Without it, we are blind to God's mystery and our own being.

If one looked at the Creation/Evolution issue purely by science and having no faith in God, I think the current conclusion would not favor Creationists or Neo-Darwinists. We would believe that things are older than Creationists claim and could not have been made in six solar days, and deny their version of Creation. We would then look at genetics, mutation, fossils, and many other areas of science and deny that macroevolution ever occurred, as the evidence is to the contrary.

What we would see is everything dying and heading toward extinction or entropy. The second law of thermodynamics shows us an aging universe. Genetics and observation show us that species are dying out, not evolving to new and greater heights. Genetic load and the weaker response of species to the environment ensure our extinction. In that sense, our future according to science is death.

Scientists with a strong evolutionist perspective see extinction in the back of their minds, but they do have great faith, and it is in something other than God. They hold a near-religious faith in biological processes (the flesh) and the glory of humankind. They worship the beast, thinking that we are not of God but are a branch from a great Ape Being. The scientific mission in terms of evolution theory has never been to provide any straight truth, but to give our children false hope and a picture of ever-greater humankind conquering the stars. We have evolved from drooling apelike men and will somehow, through the survival of the fittest or meanest, evolve into heavenly beings of the cosmos.

There is no glory in announcing that a belief in a pure scientific fact is a belief in extinction or death. They blind themselves with a wish for evolution and the supposed power and glory of humankind. In all things, we are told what to believe, and the boundaries of our thought are limited. Spouting the mantra of the powerful, we have become salt that has lost its flavor, fit only to be trampled underfoot.

Christians need to retain faith in God. The Lord created us and our earth, and we need not demand proof of how He did it in order to believe. The current theory of evolution is, for the most part, in opposition to Christianity, as its proponents spend much of their time attempting to prove that biological processes are our god. Many churches do embrace the current theory of evolution, though there is no requirement that they do so.

## Poverty and War

The flames and blood of war fill the measure of Hell. We know that war breaks the commandment not to kill, and on a horrific scale at that. War fathers and magnifies nearly all forms of sin and pestilence, yet many Christians and churches claim they have waged war justly. Simple logic shows us that it can't possibly be the case. It would be

better to say that some wars, like WW2, were difficult to avoid. Or, as in WW1, evil forces started a war, and foolish politicians failed to stop it.

A large portion of world poverty has been created and maintained by endless war and the arms industry, making it clear that war is one of the great evils we must eliminate.

Much of the world's population now lives in poverty, and from a human perspective, it is often a great divide with hidden seas and islands of suffering and scarcity. In the wealthier nations where people are consumers, complete poverty exists in the grim photos broadcast from the poorest nations. Yet poverty is increasing at home in the streets of prosperous nations. More often, it is quiet misery as families suffer unseen while the rich continue to apportion nearly all the wealth and resources of the planet to themselves. But it can also be very visible, like the homelessness in inner cities.

We have billions of people living in abject poverty, and a billion people have no education. The wealthiest people in the world enjoy making a media spectacle of their philanthropy, yet the truth is that the gross domestic product of a quarter of the world's nations is less than the wealth of the world's three richest people. The lie of the wealthy man's alms giving is apparent to the informed yet unseen by the public. The rich give to avoid taxes, hide the extent of their pillaging, launder money, and assuage their conscience in an attempt to forget the victims of their enterprises.

Much profit comes from killing and the arms industry. If the world spent less than one per cent of what it spends every year on weapons, every child could be sent to school. Less money still would deliver the clean water and sewage systems that the poorest so badly need. A bit more would enable sustainable local agriculture and food production.

The elite and powerful have chosen to create a planet where one billion children live in poverty, many of them without adequate shelter or access to safe water or health services. It is estimated that 29,000 children die every day. In this current year, the elite consider even calling for ceasefires or negotiations a crime against their war state. They can barely form the word peace on their corrupt lips.

Often God is blamed for this appalling situation, but let's make it a fair trial. This situation has come about due to the absolute wickedness of Man. Men who see the glory of their greatness and the divine mission of humankind, and not the millions crushed under the heels of their boots. Instead of realizing that God gave us all our needs and we are squandering the gift, these men either curse God for not intervening or use the results of their own wickedness as proof that God does not exist.

God is certainly blameless, and God does intervene in mysterious and direct ways. Those who have brought great tribulation upon humankind will receive final punishment at the end in Judgment. Jesus said the poor belong to Him, so in that sense, the wicked have certainly failed in their attempt to destroy souls. Because they have no self-control, they've handed the weakest over to the forgiveness of God.

Another intervention of the Lord is through our own gifts of reason. Poverty is beatable if we take aim at its base causes. Clean water and sewage systems are needed for hundreds of millions of people. Food is already available, as there is enough food. Wealth must be reclaimed and used to buy food for the poorest. To sustain them, local

agriculture and food production must be strengthened. Local and government corruption must be reduced, and all countries must have a responsible government, industry, and a tax base. The international corruption of rich nations, banks, institutions, and the wealthy must be ended, along with usurious loans set to permanently impoverish and pillage nations of their natural wealth.

Beyond this, we need a spiritual war on the arms industry and a war to save the environment – a march to life instead of the present march toward complete extinction.

We need bread and roses. We don't need weapons and destruction in the hands of every angry man, group, and nation on earth.

**Climate Change & Pope Francis (A Review of "Laudate Diem" and Francis' Climate Vision)**

Let's look at the world the current Pope might create, where it could go wrong and some of the things he claims.

The New Spiritual World of Climate Government

Pope Francis proposes that global bodies – government and NGOs – be given what would be a mailed fist with enforceable mechanisms to force a worldwide end of fossil fuel use. Note also that King Charles, head of the Anglican Church, talks in the same language. The two sound much like earth worshippers, but with an obvious goal of world government, with the church positioned as an arm of it. They rely on sketchy science, and many in the field state that suddenly ending fossil fuels would cause billions to starve.

Francis: "… the accords have been poorly implemented, due to a lack of suitable mechanisms for oversight, periodic review, and penalties in cases of noncompliance." He then says the effort must be drastic and intense, and it must count on the commitment of all. "The issue is that they must be endowed with real authority and global activism…."

He argues against technological and economic power and the idea of infinite or unlimited growth, while at the same time pleading for an obviously technocratic world regime for climate change.

He feels the transition to clean energy sources such as wind and solar, and the abandonment of fossil fuels, is not progressing at the necessary pace, and believes that a broad change in the irresponsible lifestyle associated with the Western model would have a significant long-term impact. Francis tips his hat to citizens who reduce pollution and waste and consume with prudence. Then he belittles them, saying that this does not immediately produce a notable effect.

He dislikes the current meritocracy that I would argue doesn't exist. "… if one does not seek a genuine equality of opportunity, 'meritocracy' can easily become a screen that

further consolidates the privileges of a few with great power."

World climate bodies would have the power, but activists from around the world, from every level of government down to the local level, would be their advisors. These activists would no longer be portrayed negatively as radicalized or green, but as common-sense folk.

He advocates interaction between human beings and the environment as occurs in indigenous cultures. Meaning his would be a world where the common people would live more like natives closer to the land, and be ruled by an iron global climate fist.

Such a world could quickly become a place where we are like natives on reserves or Palestinians with no allowed resources, ruled by evil bureaucrats and their minions worldwide. This form of government could quickly resemble a one-party world state that fattens itself and a few others. It would become a regime that loves to persecute and punish dissenters.

Francis makes some rather strong and disputed claims. He states there is no doubt that climate change is man-made; volcanic eruptions and other natural events are insufficient explanations, and greenhouse gases are the only real explanation.

The rather odd claim that intermittent periods of extreme cold regularly occur, and if they do, they are part of manmade climate change, may raise many eyebrows.

The pope blames richer nations, as poor nations produce fewer emissions. I would say that all nations engage in incredible waste of resources and that pollution, combined with environmental destruction, are much bigger problems he doesn't seem to properly address.

Francis states that the covid 19 pandemic shows: "Everything is connected" and "No one is saved alone". This is something many will find offensive, as the pandemic was mostly false, with a horrid, tyrannical response from governments worldwide that did more damage than the virus. Especially ugly was the use of flawed and contaminated mRNA vaccines that simply caused harm worldwide.

The pope makes some standard claims that we have been hearing for decades. He says the icecaps of Greenland and a large part of Antarctica will melt. He believes the rise in sea level can be easily perceived by an individual in their lifetime. He further says climate change is producing droughts and floods, dried-up lakes, and communities swept away by seaquakes and flooding. Generally, such people seem to claim that anything, no matter what it is, is the result of manmade climate change.

In a large sense, he appears to be promoting hysteria and brutal government interventions that may be worse than the problem he is addressing.

## A Simple Plan to End Global Hunger

The world population could rise to above 11 billion, then level off. This was demonstrated by Hans Rosling using data on demographics, geography, and related topics. It means that a future world will have to provide for all these people while also sustaining the environment. Presenting some of the current ideas here is a start. Working toward the proper solution to begin with is the best way to undermine evil forces at work on the planet, who want to solve our problems via cruel plans to reduce the population by billions of people.

I am writing this on a Sunday, so let me begin on a faithful note. Around the world, people of many religions pray. Humanists and atheists also have their hopes and perhaps their own form of intellectual prayer or meditation. Since most of us on this planet are poor, most of the requests are for food and clean water.

Today, billions stare in the face of starvation even though there is enough food produced to feed everyone on the planet. Imagine the catastrophe that occurs when there truly is not enough food for us all. As the situation worsens, we see billions paying from half to all of their income to purchase food. Water is scarce in many parts of the world, and there have been outright riots and unrest in many countries. These include Haiti, Egypt, the Ivory Coast, Ethiopia, the Philippines, Indonesia, Mexico, El Salvador, and Afghanistan. Many people and animals have no food or water. They are dying due to neglect.

Prices of everything from rice to wheat, corn, and oils have risen sharply. The causes of these price rises are mostly simple and immoral. They also show a lack of commitment to the Millennium Development Goals that world leaders agreed on in 2006. It was then stated that world hunger would be cut in half by 2015.

The first problem is Free Trade of the current corporate variety, especially the brand that pushes large-scale GMO farming onto developing nations as a supposed solution to hunger. The entire trade regime is wrong at its ethical roots. We need to jettison the concept of free trade and reform or replace it with the concept of Humanitarian Trade. Feed-the-People Trade or Food-for-All policies are needed to provide the poor with food and clean water. We also need to reorganize the IMF and World Bank into organizations that work to end world hunger rather than create it.

We can’t begin on the road to a solution unless we start at the philosophical level and stop arguing over free trade versus protectionism. We have to frame the dispute as a humanitarian issue and go with whatever mix of resolutions works.

Hard realities are to be faced, as there isn’t a worldwide movement towards a complete socialist or capitalist solution. An approach must be found that gets all parties to work together. It is already evident that the richest and most capitalistic nations see food riots in distant lands as a threat to their security.

Here are some ideas for a future where we’ve all had a drink and dinner.

Migration: Currently, the UN and many politicians and political groups have promoted mass migration from poorer to wealthier nations. This is a complete distraction that fools the public. The vast majority of poor people, more than 99.98 percent of them, will never

migrate. People have to be helped where they are. Failed nations have to be made viable. Focusing on migration is not the way to go.

Lack of wealth redistribution … it is the number one reason for current world poverty. Hunger and poverty are directly related. The gap between the rich and the poor is a mass murderer, and now it is even growing in prosperous nations. We must realize this and change it. The super-rich gain no benefit from being ever richer; it all becomes more money in the bank as the ranks of the poor grow by the millions. We need to redistribute a portion of wealth to save lives, and politicians and legislators have to see the morality of human life rather than the bribes of those who want to enrich themselves further for no benefit.

The redistribution of wealth is also wealth creation, as the prosperity of the last century was driven by more people earning a living wage or better. They spent their money, and it drove the economy. The idea that super wealth in the hands of a few creates prosperity has always been a myth. We need a worldwide Safety Net or a safety net in every nation. In recent decades of strong growth, only 60 cents of every 100 dollars of increased wealth went toward poverty reduction. There has been criminal neglect of the poor. Prosperous nations must upgrade rather than destroy health care, unemployment, disability, and all other important wealth redistribution programs. These programs must be transplanted to all other nations as an important part of world development. Foreign aid must focus on the world's poor. A bill just passed in Canada does that, and all nations need mechanisms to ensure their aid is not used to prop up dictators or to advance wasteful or military projects.

The remaining wealthy national governments, like Canada, should donate much more to agricultural, food, water, and sanitation relief. In the 1980s, 12 percent of development aid was devoted to agriculture. In 2008, it was only 2.9 percent. Currently, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization is calling for a new global food fund. We first have to lobby our governments to donate much more and to work on ideas to fix the structural problems that have caused a famine, even when there is plenty of food. Proper regulation is needed in all areas. Careless deregulation can lead to wealth concentration at the top. Many nations suffer from a government that is not accountable and under the sway of an agribusiness lobby that spends huge sums to gain legislation and trade agreements that enrich corporations and starve human beings.

Sanctions: The US and allies killed hundreds of thousands of people, many of them children, through economic sanctions that occurred before the Iraq war. There are now economic sanctions on Iran, and Israel has caused starvation by blockading Gaza. The use of techniques of mass starvation as a political tool must end, and the UN and national governments must condemn such tactics. Sanctions, if applied, should be done in a way that the poor and hungry are not punished.

New Taxes: Let's start with taxing biofuels and stopping the promotion of biofuels from food crops. Biofuels turn grain into fuel instead of food. One third of the US corn crop is now feeding cars instead of people. The Ontario government is investing in research for biofuels that can be made from waste such as corn husks and manure. If developed, these biofuels would be a better option, as they don't compete with food and help eliminate waste.

Climate change fanatics: They too pose a huge threat to starving the world in an attempt to save it. Their obsession with ending all fossil fuels could kill billions. CO2 increases crop growth too and doesn't pose a threat until 2125 when it is at 700 ppm, so patient efforts, not extremism, are best.

We must also start to realize that driving is often a luxury. Autos and trucks have been guzzling cheap fuel for too long. China plans to put 300 million vehicles on its roads by 2030. Obviously, the world cannot sustain this, and the point has been reached where personal luxury is draining resources and damaging the environment. The auto industry should be forced to produce fuel-efficient, low-emissions vehicles. Transportation is needed, but it should be more efficient and less damaging.

A worldwide (hunger or humanitarian) tax on oil and oil-based products could be funneled directly into efforts to end world hunger. We could tax coal and all harmful energy sources. There could be small sister taxes on consumer goods in the wealthy nations, and on luxury and sin items like tobacco. Again, the money could be sent directly into food aid or agricultural support for small third-world farmers.

We need regulated financial support to guarantee liquidity in vital food and water/sanitation industries. This means that low-interest money will be available to companies and nations investing in providing food and water worldwide. Government and UN funds must also be available to support worldwide sanitation without profit.

Create legislation to end dumping and plowing under, and create a guaranteed international market for all grain and food production. A Grow if You Can Grow morality, and if prices are low, allow a subsidy that will cover the farmer’s needs and ensure that the food is shipped to those most in need. End Free Trade laws that stop nations from stockpiling food. Strategic grain reserves will provide nations with a buffer to weather famines and price shocks.

Free Trade practices that were supposed to improve our lot have created artificial famines. One good example is Mexico, where trade policies implemented by the IMF and the World Bank led to poverty, high prices, and shortages. Small Mexican farmers were put out of business, and subsidized US corn flowed in. Free Trade laws shut down the Mexican marketing agency, and large companies like Cargill monopolized the movement of corn and grain. Mexican farmers then flooded into the US as illegal immigrants.

Similar policies by the WTO/IMF caused the rice crisis in nations like the Philippines. The combined impact of forced debt repayment and trade liberalization damaged the agricultural sector. Ironically, these policies were supposed to bring prosperity and employment. Worldwide, free trade policies have killed off small farming and national food self-sufficiency, turning nations into food importers. That food is controlled by agribusiness giants. In India, the problem is so severe that 150,000 farmers have committed suicide. It appears that free trade has been effective in killing off local peasants and farmers, while leaving whole populations reliant on imported grains, GMOs, and meat parts. Much of this comes from subsidized farming in the USA and the EU.

In short, the world has become dependent on globalized capitalist monopoly agribusiness and large-scale GMO farming. This is a very bad situation, because the increasingly greedy giants pillage for profits, produce a huge carbon footprint, and create genetically modified plants that are a danger to health and the balance of nature. If this situation is not changed and the giants fail in production, or create a GMO catastrophe, worldwide starvation will arrive.

Alternate foods are another idea. Some nations may have to make dietary changes. Abundant foods can be delivered to the world's poorest. An example would be that those without rice could receive Canadian potatoes or some other staple. In some cases, rice could be substituted for wheat. Flexibility in forms of food aid would make a difference.

Clean water should not only be a human right, but it should also be kept in the public domain to keep corporations from killing people with thirst and slowing food production through steep water delivery fees. Corporations profiting from spreading thirst and hunger stand with warmongers as the evilest people on earth. Eco damage and development also lead to water shortages, meaning a worldwide green plan to protect ecosystems, ensure sustainable development, and repair environmental damage is needed. Threatened rainforests and other vital ecosystems must be protected. Currently, one in five people lacks clean water.

There should be local solutions, meaning an end to waste, as there is enormous food waste in the wealthy nations. In the UK, a study showed that 30 to 40 percent of food ends up as waste. Another study showed 38 billion dollars worth of food gets tossed yearly. This sum exceeds the economies of most nations. One quarter to a third of food is lost as waste in developing countries, usually in the supply between the farmer and consumer. Storage, transportation, and packaging systems must be improved to eliminate waste.

We need more programs to help local farmers bring us food that is close to home and close to the heart. And also, a plan so that food banks will get surplus or unsold food from restaurants and food-rich organizations to the poor, instead of it going into garbage bins or buckets of swine slop. One in five Americans relies on some sort of food aid. Nine percent of Canadians rely on food bank assistance, and the startling fact is that, during its years as the richest province, Ontario had the most hungry people. There is no excuse for poverty in rich nations, as wealth redistribution is simple. Benefits for the unemployed, disabled, and lowest-paid workers can be easily improved through redistribution plans to tax the rich and corporations. The fact that this has not been done on a large enough scale shows that democratic politicians are basking in false glory rather than acknowledging the truth of their failure.

Health ... the cost to nations is enormous. Eliminating hunger, especially child hunger, is a money saver and economy booster. Properly fed people don't create an incredibly costly health care burden. What they do create is a robust economy. The costs of letting the rich get ever richer at the expense of everyone else are world-shaking. Wealthy people are the most in need of education. They need to understand that their short-term greed and lobbying efforts to perpetuate such systems have driven the planet into poverty.

Improved disaster relief is needed. The 2008 tragedy in Burma was compounded by the fact that aid workers and governments couldn't get in to help. We need an aggressive UN effort to get all nations on the planet to sign a new disaster accord that guarantees aid agencies the access and cooperation they need to save lives in times of natural chaos and war. A rise in natural disasters makes cooperation urgent.

Let's turn our swords into agricultural implements. Let's stop the arms race and turn it into a positive venture. Offer large government subsidies for arms companies that will switch to producing farm equipment and farm aid for small farmers. Instead of instruments of human destruction, we'd have instruments of public health. We must return from a war economy to a peace economy and invest in a Green Rush. A return to small local farming and a sustainable environment is the way to do it.

Vegan and vegetarian diets or eating a bit less meat can free up large quantities of grain. This grain can be used to produce food for the world's poor. Meat production eats up too much grain. The EU imports animal feed, and 70 percent of it comes from poor nations where people are starving. It can take up to 10 plant calories to deliver 1 meat calorie. Factory farming is another horror, with animals kept in cramped and unsanitary conditions. Risks from this cruel method of farming include salmonella, BSE, bird flu, and antibiotic resistance. Other known risks to humans are heart disease and cancer. Excessive meat consumption is neither ethical nor healthy, whereas eating some meat as part of a balanced diet is healthy. Adding a small bit of meat to the diet of poor people is a proven health booster.

Worldwide land rights legislation (enforced locally or at the UN level) is needed to prevent indigenous peoples and small farmers from losing their land to gobbling multinationals and governments. We also need global soil-protection laws to prevent the loss of valuable soil. Overfishing in all ecosystems has to be prevented, as it has and will bring about catastrophe. Free Trade laws have done much to discourage local food production in Africa. We need to reverse the trend and change these laws. In addition, aid should go beyond shipping basic food. There has to be education and empowerment of local people, as well as investment in local agricultural systems and sanitation.

It is a fact that multinational corporations tied to the House of Windsor control most of the food supply. Let's take a share of their profits with new distribution taxes. Huge companies like Cargill are profiting immensely from current problems. Controlling eighty percent of the world's grain shipments means you have to pay for that privilege or divest yourself of it. Make it international law and guarantee a percentage of shipments to those in need of food. Tax all the big food monopolies and directly redistribute the wealth as food production aid to the world's poor.

How about new humane international regulations preventing speculators from enriching themselves through food and oil price manipulation? Hedge, pension, and index funds have placed hundreds of billions of dollars into agricultural commodities. Loopholes now allow large speculators to trade unlimited amounts of corn, wheat, and other food futures. The entry of these non-agricultural players into the market has caused prices to skyrocket.

We need a worldwide ban on all sweatshop goods where it can be demonstrated that the workers are not being paid a living wage. Many workers in the wealthy nations are not receiving a living wage; the movement for a Living Wage must become a worldwide movement. Global slavery is another ugly problem. It is estimated that 27 million people are slaves. They live in places as far apart as Mexico and the Ivory Coast. The International Labor Organization says it produces annual profits of around $31 billion.

Let's boost small organic farming, as that is where the growth potential is in healthy food production. It is the better option. We must restore national food sovereignty, allowing nations to opt out of free trade regimes when food production is endangered. Otherwise, we are relying on large-scale international GMO farming or farming that needs large quantities of oil-based fertilizers. Greener, energy-efficient replacement technologies must be implemented to offset oil use, so agriculture will not be as reliant on fossil fuels. Large-scale agriculture and processed food production run on oil. Oil is used at all stages: plowing, fertilizing, harvesting, pest reduction, shipping, refrigerating, and cooking. Organic farming is less oil-dependent. The biodiversity that comes with smaller-scale farming needs to be restored. An example would be Indian farmers who used to grow a blend of crops on the same land. This method kept the soil healthy and pests to a minimum, using far less pesticide than farms that grow a single large crop.

In the end, let's make healthy reproducing seed freely available worldwide. End the TRIPs madness that allows corporations to patent plant seeds. Let all nations work to expand the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's program to provide seeds to farmers in poor countries. Aid in providing fertilizer, energy, and farm machinery is also needed as part of the plan, both globally and locally. Food must be considered a human right along with clean water, sanitation, housing, and all of the items found in the grocery store of human kindness.

## Love, Sex and Marriage

Marriage in tune with the bible is the union of one man and one woman under God. This is an equal union involving mutual devotion and the only union where full sexual love is recognized. Marriage is or should be legally protected against adultery and other evils like unjustified divorce. Each partner must provide a romantic relationship and not deprive the other, meaning a man couldn't marry and then go off and live as a hermit or find other ways to deprive his wife. Christ strengthened marriage against easy divorce, indicating his strong support for binding marriage.

The marriage of one man and one woman is acceptable to God because in the beginning, there were two. Marriage in God's eyes makes the two one flesh. A man leaves his mother and clings to his wife. Nothing could be clearer than that, in the beginning, God established the union of a man and a woman as marriage under God. Those who deny it and call other things marriage deny the word of God right from the beginning.

Genesis notes that after Eden and before the flood, men committed every sort of sexual and violent sin. Much later, in the time of Moses, men were allowed to put away their wives with a letter of divorce. Jesus disallowed that, recognizing that men had been allowed much because of their evil hearts. Infidelity, abuse, or denying the other partner a relationship are the only valid reasons for divorce. Marriage is not mandatory either; a person does not have to marry and can choose to live single.

Polygamy, putting away, and other things less than perfect existed in old times and still exist, but those who argue for a return to polygamy and immorality as the true state of Christianity are wrong. Polygamy violates the rights of women and children, as they are entitled to a faithful father. It is usually used to victimize women, and even if some women testify that they are satisfied in a polygamous marriage, they are living a lie. The marriage vows mean a full romantic union between two people, and this condition can't be met when a man has more than one wife. God also wants a pure lineage or family tree. A husband is entitled to a faithful wife, and a good wife demands a faithful husband. Betrayal can never be justified fully, but partially so if one partner leaves the relationship unfulfilled. God also established the family, and those who would destroy it are servants of evil.

Nowadays, there is a strong movement inside and outside the church by those who desire a new theology of sex. They want acceptance of sexual pleasure outside of marriage, arguing that things like casual sex and homosexuality are human nature. They are right to the extent that we struggle against sin to obtain our morality, and this struggle is part of human nature. But because there is a struggle doesn’t mean we should give up, surrender to sin, or attempt to call sin righteousness.

Part of this sin is a mistaken placing of the love of one’s brother. Christ is also loved as a brother, a good brother who looks for the best in people. Embracing Christ and others is love, but not of the carnal sort, but the kiss to a brother or sister who knows God’s will. We are to love one another spiritually and not carnally.

Regarding homosexuality, it could just as easily be argued that greed, jealousy, and pride are human nature, and a new theology should be devised for their acceptance. Casual sex is a sin, as there is no commitment but only catering to the pull of the flesh. It is common today, and many people argue that sex is not personal but merely the satisfying of a basic appetite. They are denying that romantic emotions exist and are defining a lower sort of human being that doesn’t truly care for or respect others. This leads to sexual exploitation, and the young are usually the victims of older people.

The remaking of Christianity with homosexual marriage, destroying the dignity of women with trangenderism and so forth is part of a new phony State Religion Christianity. Leaders like Pope Francis and King Charles want Christianity to be a state religion, thus the pope's new blessings for homosexual unions. Along with that, they generally support earth worship more than the gospel, with them having the view that the earth is our Mother and we are bad children damaging it. To position Christianity as the state religion of a future world government or world run mostly by transnational bodies, they want Christianity to be a form of humanism that can be accepted by the secular masses and leaders.

Perhaps it has been forgotten that Christian morality is the newer reality. Immorality was common in ancient times. The Christian idea of marriage follows from the Old Testament model, yet advances toward making women equal. Romance is certainly a sexual relationship to some degree, and spiritual commitment demands fidelity to ensure proper parents and parenthood. Full sexual relationships outside of marriage are sinful as they lack full commitment.

Accepting casual sex and random sexual pleasure and preaching it from the pulpit reduces Christianity to a pagan religion – with mysteries, ceremony, and initiation but no morality. Many newer or new age spiritual groups have already done this, but their god is a lesser fertility god of the earth or stars that has no genuine power – a god that cannot save but is more a servant of sinners.

Modern Christianity already is a liberal religion. Dress is often casual; much of the formality has been taken out of ceremonies, and churches are close to the community. Old prohibitions have passed away, and there is little or no condemnation of things like dancing, birth control, musical expression, sexual pleasure within marriage, masturbation, common law marriage, and so on. Divorce is often too easy, and abortion is allowed where the life of the mother is in danger.

Generally, prohibitions that remain in the biblical church are there for good reasons. We have seen quite clearly in recent years that removing these prohibitions leads to abominable abuse of children with gender transitions and promotion of child sex.

In Christianity, faith in Christ and repentance of sin are required. Believers will not be able to repent of sin if they deny it exists and practice it as activities sanctioned by the church. Organized churches could face lawsuits and other actions from people who contract disease, go through divorce or otherwise suffer due to the church's sanctioning of casual sex and homosexual sex. Faith has tied itself to a religion that is difficult in practice. It is very hard to resist sexual sin, just as greed and dishonesty are difficult to defeat. No one wins completely, as the scriptures make it clear that we all sin and fall short of God. Atonement for sin came only through the crucifixion of Jesus.

We must try to avoid the deception of lust, and the standards should remain high. Lowering the bar so that wicked sinners and unbelievers can pass the test is not new theology but a lack of theology.

Christians are to strive for perfection. We are not to strive to relive the mistakes of older times. Through Christ, we have and will progress to a higher moral state.

Ep. 5:25 says "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her …"

And that means marriage is spiritual, so don't love the flesh, and want many wives or many husbands. That would be betrayal.

Priests should also be permitted to marry, as the New Testament says every man and woman can marry. It is faith in Christ and not virginity that gets one to heaven. There is no need to deprive priests of things that are permitted and create needless suffering.

The church treated women as temptresses for centuries, considering ideas of original sin without also considering that the Son of God was born of a woman.

Love has other forms … love of God, love of the family, brotherly love, the love of nature and animals, and love of your neighbors, but these do not involve sexual love. Jesus also said love your enemies.

**Trans and Transhuman**

Living by the gospel means rejecting this agenda. God created man and woman. When a man dresses as a woman, or uses drugs and surgery (often body mutilation) to manifest as the opposite sex, it is based on deception. God would not promote deception and those who deceive themselves and others. It also defies science when the body's cells, trillions of them, have chromosomes that identify whether a person is male or female, and this cannot now or ever be changed.

The sexual confusion craze currently spread by social media, celebrities, government, and medical agencies that profit, etc., is part of two agendas. Most of the people pushing it are atheists or pagan earth worshipper types. They are people who believe morality is arbitrary, as they believe no God exists to have provided moral laws. Promoting this agenda leads to the destruction of the family, erosion of the love between a man and a woman, and corruption of children. It also promotes abusive behavior toward children, promoting confusion leading to drug and surgical mutilation and suicide, thus turning the human race into human wreckage.

There is a second connected agenda: transhumanism. Once the population is made comfortable with body mutilations and deceptions based on sex, it is then easy to sell transhuman degradation of humans.

This is far beyond helpful things like artificial limbs, etc., for the disabled or ill. We are talking about brain and body mutilation via drugs, surgery, and alterations of the brain to supposedly create better humans. In reality, it can be used to create slave classes and subhumans. It is evil because humans do not need such changes. Better nature and nurture alone, growing up in a healthy family and faith community, with healthy food and activities, and learning can create people who are bright and moral. The trans, transhuman agenda is really just an evil attack on God and His human creation.

**Homosexual and other forms of Marriage**

In Canada, the state and many churches support homosexual marriage. In the light of secular society, homosexual marriage seems politically correct even though it is wrong.

I do not believe Christians will ever be able to put all the laws of the secular state in line with the bible. People who do not believe in God’s word are not going to practice it anyway. An unbeliever could obey most of God’s laws like some sort of new Pharisee, yet it would be to no avail because in Christianity, one must believe in Jesus as the Son of God and as the only way to salvation.

Modern societies based on humankind’s secular law will rule in accordance with their flawed interpretations of human rights, meaning many will allow homosexual marriage

and eventually polygamy and other sexual variance. The earthly church has little power to intervene beyond denouncing practices it disapproves of as sin. It is a price we pay to gain the advantage of the separation of church and state.

Today, people are even promoting gender dysphoria among children. These people are wicked, whether they claim the law is on their side or not. This is severe child abuse that Christians cannot sanction. Even genetics makes it clear that a man cannot become a woman. The chromosomes in every cell show whether one is a man or a woman. Those who say otherwise deny science and God's truth so they can live a lie, and even worse, force others to live a lie.

In the end, all must be in obedience to God's Word, especially the church, as it is God's house. God does not recognize homosexual marriage, so the church and its ministers should not perform such ceremonies. Freedom of religion guarantees that the church need not adopt portions of state law it deems immoral. In a homosexual marriage, the minister faces condemnation as the spiritual leader who performed the ceremony. Rather than tolerate ministers and churches that violate God's law, believers should leave corrupt denominations and, if necessary, form new denominations or single churches that are biblical.

To some extent, the organized church brought problems on itself. In the past, too many ministers focused on homosexuality as though it were the only sin. Sexual sin is a curse on nearly all people ... yet any law of sexual morality is still only the law and not faith in Christ.

As the pendulum swings, most churches will be forced by the corrupt state or divisive internal politics to recognize homosexual marriage. In that case, believing Christians still have the power to abstain from homosexual acts and homosexual marriage, though the test will be difficult, as social pressures force people to sin. In some ways, it is similar to gambling, which in the past was considered reprehensible and is now endorsed and glorified by the state.

Major figures like Bishop Tutu have spoken in favor of homosexuality and against a witch-hunt in the church. Tutu says God is a welcoming God. He is correct that there shouldn't be persecution, but I suspect that his welcoming God is another god – one that serves our sins. Open acceptance of homosexuality and homosexual marriage will place social pressure on the young, as they will think they should get involved in such relationships, and such relationships will be recommended. It will also lead to abuse, as homosexual affections will be pushed with an air of legitimacy and social force on those who don't want them. Persecution of homosexuals is not wanted either, as every nation should respect human rights for all groups. Persecuting one group always leads to persecution of other groups.

God, through Moses, gave basic moral laws that remain in effect to this day. Leviticus lists early moral law. At that time, God was on earth living with His people as He fulfilled His promise to Abraham and Jacob.

He commanded the building of a special temple. Sin offerings were made, as daily atonement was needed in the presence of God. Moral law was laid out. An example

would be that I can’t marry my mother as God prohibits it. Homosexuality is also prohibited, so there can be no such marriage that will be recognized by God as legitimate.

Moral law was restated in the New Testament, and in 1 Corinthians 6, the Apostle Paul reaffirmed the ban on homosexuality. Romans also deal with it.

Today, much moral law has become commandments of men through politicians or courts. Homosexual marriage is called equal marriage or an equality issue, but the truth is that all moral law defined by men is purely arbitrary. Men could just as easily allow us to marry our mothers or marry alien beings and call it equal marriage.

Some church leaders are saying that all forms of sexual love should be recognized. They are nearly always from Christian churches that do not believe in the resurrection or in God's sovereignty. Sanctioning all forms of love that the secular state may want to recognize means that our basic God-given morality will erode. As a writer, it would be beneficial to me in the current society to promote teachings in support of same-sex marriage. I am unable to do so as I can't overrule God, and I have to live with the fear of God and trust in His Word.

Because we all live through grace, we pray for forgiveness of our sins, but we can’t ask God to sanctify our sins in the church through things like improper marriage.

In the past, in early times of idol worship, God said that the nations did all immoral things in violation of His law. In modern times, we are negotiating to eliminate all sexual morality. Genuine love will also slip away, and we will leave our children among immoral wolves. As it is noted in Romans, if we do not retain the knowledge of God, we will be given over to a depraved mind.

"Ro. 1:25 They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped. and served created things rather than the Creator — who is for ever praised. Amen.

Ro. 1:26 Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones.

Ro. 1:27 In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.

Ro. 1:28 Furthermore, since they did not think it worth while to retain the knowledge of God, he gave them over to a depraved mind, to do what ought not to be done."

## The Dilemma of Abortion

Recognition of the fetus as a living human occurs in St. Luke 1 when Mary greets Elizabeth and Elizabeth’s baby leaps in the womb for joy.

Legal abortion may be offensive, but illegal abortion is ugly too. The state must provide some abortion services, as we can't allow operations to be done by butchers.

There is nothing good about casual abortion, and the church should not support an abortion unless the mother's health is under threat. A Christian mother will love her own child and refuse abortion. To do otherwise is to deny her child life and love due to selfishness. Parenthood can be planned without abortion. Abortion usually comes about from unplanned parenthood, and it is not just an issue of our times. Christians denounced casual abortion from the beginning, as women in the days of the Roman Empire used chemical or herbal concoctions to induce sudden abortion.

Feminist extremists believe the fetus is a part of their body that they should be allowed to control or destroy at will. That claim is morally and scientifically wrong. Today, some women even call a baby a parasite. Their argument is one of total selfishness and, therefore, immoral in that it denies the rights of the child and the father. There are also male chauvinists who believe women are baby machines to die if necessary, in childbirth. They are also selfish and evil in denying the rights of others.

If the church forces the state to prohibit all abortions, lives will be threatened by bad doctors, and we'll be living under theocrats, and the separation of church and state will be gone. Extremists who want to enforce their incorrect vision of Christianity through violence and the bombing of abortion clinics must also be denounced. Peaceful protest, negotiation with politicians, appeals to the public, prayer, and the law are the tools to be used in shaping abortion legislation.

Abortion is undesirable because the development of the phenotype (human body) doesn't occur in stages but is a continuum of growth. Saying that life begins at birth or some arbitrary point isn't correct. Living genetic information unfolds to the first stage of life at conception.

Overpopulation seems to give the idea of abortion moral weight, but abortion isn't the solution. Every day, the capacity of the earth to support human life is diminished by soil erosion and environmental damage we could prevent but do not, and evil political, military, and economic systems don't fare well either. Natural birth control, contraception, and promoting morality make for a better answer than abortion.

Recently, the American version of Planned Parenthood was caught profiting in a big way through the secret sale of fetal tissue and body parts obtained through easy abortion. They have taken the immorality of abortion and added total greed and wickedness to it. In a cold world, the dehumanization of the unborn is one more step to a society where people are part of soulless mechanics. Like in a concentration camp, it is easier to kill the victim if you believe the victim is less than human. I think choosing life is the human way.

## Animal Rights and the Sanctity of Life

Our world is divided into two camps: those who believe in the sanctity of all life and those who believe that some of us, or all of us (humans, plants, animals), are expendable.

Believing in the sanctity of life also means embracing humane treatment for all life or a just and sustainable world community.

In general society, some people believe certain humans are expendable. They believe many bogus arguments. One argument is that wars that kill all sorts of innocent civilians are a just means to an end. Then there are racists who kill and oppress, and class warfare, where poverty and hunger are justified. Religious bigotry is another killer, as there are people who think they have the right to kill those of other religions or denominations. We now have in the West those who want to exterminate people of other political beliefs, and we have leftists who would like to silence and eliminate those with traditional beliefs, especially those that practice God's laws as they are outlined in the bible. There are also globalists and earth worshippers who want to kill off much of the population via abortion, vaccines, or other means to create a less populated planet. The most common false belief is that humans have a right to destroy the environment, kill off other species, or treat them inhumanely.

In the area of animal rights, a faction sees humanity as a cancer that is destroying the planet. This faction includes bug-brained professors who think their bugs should live on while humans should be exterminated.

The lie to this is that man is an animal in physical terms. Anyone who favors exterminating human life is not an animal rights supporter, but an enemy of those rights. Our species is also valuable because the higher God-given concepts of kindness and the sanctity of life exist within us and arise in our thinking.

We must grasp the moral argument and act on it. Once we start deciding that humans are expendable, we are then in the enemy's camp. We are friends of Nazis or terrorists and terrorist states that support mass killing. We are part of the problem, not the solution.

We live in an unjust, dying world because evil people who do not believe in the sanctity of life have prevailed for centuries.

Religious and political solutions have not succeeded fully. We have seen Christianity perverted by fakes, meaning people who believe in war, killing, and cruel industrial treatment of humans and animals. They do not embrace the gospel at all; they are vampires that see the rest of us as a herd to feed on.

In that sense, I believe in understanding and choosing the moral option first. Being a brilliant environmentalist, a great politician, or a religious leader is of no merit if the sanctity of life is not embraced. We must use our God-given gifts to find our way.

## War on Earth

In the New Testament, when James and John suggested calling down fire from heaven to destroy some unbelievers, Jesus told them they didn't know what they were speaking of and said he had come to save the world, not destroy it.

Christ would not endorse war and conquest or other forms of mass destruction. Christians who call for war on others are either false or deceived and need to review the scriptures. Nevertheless, both Christ and John the Baptist were familiar with soldiers and knew that war would come; they also knew that if a nation was attacked, its soldiers would defend it, so they were realists in that sense.

In the USA, they have a slogan – God is Guns. In Muslim nations, men cry out 'God is Great!' while slaughtering people with weapons, fire, or suicide bombs. World leaders use weapons of mass destruction so damaging that people can die from the terror of seeing their use. The atomic bomb has been used … the horror and cruelty of it are unspeakable. Leaders who call themselves Christians are endorsing hideous things like pre-emptive war, targeted assassinations, use of nuclear weapons, torture, and the large-scale deaths of innocent civilians ... all in the belief that the use of evil will preserve and strengthen the good side of civilization.

The truth is that war is wickedness, and being a Christian means putting weapons of war down or never picking them up at all. The defense of the nation against invaders is another issue. The State will obviously defend itself, as will the people. Expecting them to surrender would not be realistic. Yet even in the case of an invasion, genuine efforts must be made to end the conflict and negotiate peace. It must also be examined whether the nation that invaded provoked another nation into attacking.

War is an enemy, and people who call for the lawlessness of continual war are not speaking for God or humanity. They are trying to profit through creating hell on earth. The arms industry, evil dictators, and governments arm entire populations, create sectarian violence, and bring about war, civil war, and human cruelty in satanic measure. The larger nations send in occupying armies, usually to grab control of resources, and create more armed hell while spreading the lie that they arrive to bring peace and democracy.

In remembrance, we've moved from recollections of those who perished in the horrors of war to remembering the warriors themselves. The military state exploits old soldiers to further its agenda of arms and more war. Heroic military deeds and superhumans that kill are the childish fodder of our dreams and entertainment. Combined with the power of hypocrisy, the greed of the corporations, and the wicked arms industry, they give us the reason for continual war.

Currently, there are calls for endless war in the form of a war on terror, including nations like the USA, with politicians even creating a war on half their own nation, calling those who aren't leftists or in line with government propaganda domestic terrorists. The real battle is the one that has always been waged between those of us who want peace and those who want lawlessness and war. Christian leaders who promote war are mistaken, and they aid the process of sending conscripted men and other human beings and animals unfairly to their deaths. Unfortunately, the masses are easily led. Those who lead them astray will pay the price in the end.

Jesus is Peace and has told us not to fight with weapons when the battle is about gaining faith, conquering sin, and winning the perfection of love and the spirit. In our time, what we most need is a return to God and to peace.

Some people think holy war on false gods is justified. Yes, the world has many Antichrist religions with followers in the hundreds of millions. In error are Christians who think that war is a remedy for this problem. More war brings devastation, wickedness, and nearly always leaves the nation attacked under either the same false god or another. Jesus' ministry expands through the gospel and the Holy Spirit, an ongoing, peaceful worldwide effort. Only the Lord, the Almighty God, has the power to bring about the final destruction of false gods. The Living God and His Word stand forever, while the sands of time will cover and bury all false religions.

## Persecution Proper

The belief that persecution is something proper is common these days. Abroad, the persecution of Christians in Islamic nations has become extreme. The current Islamic specialty is phony blasphemy charges put forward so murderers can bring the death penalty to the innocent, just like Mohammad did in his time.

Persecution of Christians by the state happens every day in China and North Korea. In the West, it is a more devious and subtle form of persecution by corrupt people in government, business, tech, entertainment, and other industries. They would like to cancel the true Christian religion and silence believers.

Entertainers like Elton John have spoken of their support for banning religion. Elton feels religious people are lemmings that lack compassion for his pet ideas like gay marriage. He fails to see his own intolerance of faith as evil. He sees it more as something proper. Then there is Mr. Richard Dawkins and his new atheists, a group that wants to eradicate religion and shame believers out of their faith. I suppose this new campaign shows us how Mr. Dawkins has shamed scientists into supporting his beloved evolution, but it doesn't in any way show us how his idea of the proper is anything more than another attempt to suppress faith in Christ.

Persecution is a beast that is always rearing its head. The monster presents a clean and proper face in every society. Persecutors hope to win by propagating their delusion of justice. They believe that all thoughts of Christ should be silenced for the greater good, but they fail to realize that man would be a lower being without religious feelings. It could be argued that taking away all emotions would be for the greater good as well, but few argue that.

Faith in Christ will not cease to exist in any new society of atheists and false doctrine, but human rights and religious freedom will no longer exist. In Western nations, we have seen a continuing trend toward the removal of the hard-won rights that have flourished in Christian nations. Evil may come in the door with the proper appearance of defending the nation or cleansing society of undesirables, but in the end, the grand purpose of evil

is to get at those who believe in Christ. It won't be long before the proper-minded use more new laws and prohibitions as they attempt to create their God-free world.

Atheists like to argue that the existence of God can't be empirically proven, but neither can they disprove God's presence. This means everyone should have the right to choose, which is why freedom of religion will always be the best philosophical answer. Any society based on forms of persecution must first suppress the truth that freedom of religion is the cornerstone of human rights. The proper face of persecution is always a proper lie.

## Persecution and the Secular State

A quote from Os Guinness. "In the last century, more people were killed by secularist intellectuals, in the name of secularist ideologies, than in all the religious persecutions and repressions in Western history combined."

Religious persecution remains a blight on humankind. The old-fashioned variety still exists, with states like China jailing Christians. People around the world worship in secret, and often they disappear into hidden torture chambers and jails. In Muslim nations, the death penalty awaits those who convert to Christianity, as the Muslim god demands cruel obedience and not love.

In the West, a foolish spirit of complacency has taken hold. As the secular state gains a stronger foothold in the churches, most still feel protected by guarantees of religious freedom and human rights.

The reality is that the secular state has passed the stage where it grants rights and reached a new height where it is claiming the throne of God on behalf of the crimson and purple-robed judges and authorities that issue its declarations. Politicians fully attacked the right to worship worldwide in 2020 using a false pandemic as justification, revealing themselves as having no respect for religious freedom and no understanding of the fact that they will face judgment from God for attacking the church.

The separation of the church and state no longer fully exists in the minds of many politicians and adjudicators. They rule on issues of life itself and believe their authority to be absolute. This new judicial whore no longer establishes universal human rights, but rather an ultimate right of consensual and often forced immorality.

High court judges in the state often refuse to consider the spiritual rights of man. Their rulings are of the flesh. All agreements between consenting adults become inalienable rights. These rights trump the beliefs of people with spiritual concerns and faith in God.

Homosexuality and homosexual marriage have entered the state and the church, and Christians who don't recognize homosexuality as legitimate are falsely branded as opponents of equality. Down the road, polygamous bisexual marriages will likely be accepted as another equality issue of the state. Wicked courts now justify surgical

mutilation of children, the warping of their minds with gender dysphoria, and the use of hormones on minors.

We may see churches forced to endorse other values of the technocratic state, such as macroevolution. All of this is coming as judges rule on interpretations of the social good and equality rights. Today, we have high-profile proponents of evolution and atheism arguing that Christians who believe in God and not macroevolution are mad or insane.

Religious bodies will not be able to make genuine pronouncements on morality or govern their churches in accordance with standard interpretations of scripture. Their laws and ethics will be of the state as it moves to usurp Christ. Corporate rights, consumer rights, fake equality rights, and consent will be the higher powers. If people want to beat, drug, torture one another, and have given their consent, it will be their right … a universal right that no one can oppose as sin without facing the wrath of the state. The church's role of preaching repentance and atonement will be seriously impaired.

The corrupt corporate-flavored science and law of the secular state is currently ascendant; its foundations of evolution and base psychology aim to be mandatory and measured as absolute truth. For a time, the state will play God; at another time, it will face the wrath of God.

## The Failure of Torture

If I were to torture people and force them to admit faith in Christ, they would not be saved, as belief must be the truth and from the heart. In the same way, a persecutor who tortures Christians and forces a denial of Christ makes no gains.

God will not hold a person to account for what they said while being tortured or psychologically abused. God is holy and will not accept the ungodly results brought about by the painful tools of wicked people, and that is especially true nowadays, as there are scientific methods of prolonging pain and agony.

Christ forgave Peter for denying Him while under duress. It is true that many apostles and saints have been strong in standing up with God's help against combined forms of torture and capital punishment. God does not expect all believers to be able to stand up against merciless torture and hardship, and God will make the tormentor consume the guilt that he created.

Christ's concern is whether we have faith in Him, and He knows who has faith, taking no account of whether a torturer, through abuse, forces a person to lie.

Torturers are deceived and seek to afflict the Lord when He is beyond their reach. In God's own judgments, the fear of God is the only tool He needs, as the wicked are unable to face Him and remain composed.

## The Unrighteousness of Surveillance

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## Satan's Iron Curtain

Decades ago, the Soviet Union was referred to as the Iron Curtain. Behind it, the police state curtailed free speech.

Today, the task is to lift Satan's Iron Curtain, as large areas of the world are not truly civilized when freedom of religion and speech aren't allowed. Some modern crusaders thought war would lift this curtain, but war created more hell on earth. Iraq, Palestine, and Syria, for example, saw Christians killed, jailed, maimed, and forced to leave. In many Islamic nations, Christianity is a death sentence as Muslims enforce belief in the false prophet Mohammad and preach that Jesus did not die on the cross for our sins. Even Western nations founded on free thought and democracy face looming internal tyranny. Intelligence agencies are recording everything said and done. They say we should trust them, but why should we trust a State and its agencies with all our secrets when they will not trust us with any of theirs?

These spy agencies should often be under public scrutiny. The government is quick to jail those who reveal abuses but not the abusers. Super state powers are supposedly needed to prosecute terrorists, but left unchecked, this prosecution will soon become persecution of believers. This is especially true when so many in the secular state want religious voices silenced and God banned. They have forgotten that freedom of speech and religion are an absolute requirement for a just nation.

Perhaps those Christians in search of good works should, in some way, work with the Lord in opposing Satan's rusty Iron Curtain.

## The Mark of the Cyber Beast

No controlling artificial intelligence should be accepted, as we would no longer be talking about humanity, but of an extended mix of man and machine controlling us against our true wishes. Most likely, it would be controlled through evil men and dead mechanics masquerading as life. Such a system would lack inner contact with God.

We do need some freedom, as our social systems and a wealthy elite already control us too much.

Artificial intelligence will be alien even if it looks human. Even today, an international beast of a computer system is being developed in Europe, as I heard, and they hope for it to be the new center of our universe … connecting us like revolving stars in cyberspace, granting permission for every action through it and its programming.

The entertainment industry is now a mask hidden world government wears as a cover for total control, so that our education will be from its vain celebrities, whose bodies are glamor and mouth the pit of hell. All sales authorized through the companion corporate demons will surely collect all payments or pounds of flesh.

It is an extreme description, but also what we see today in the ignorant lyrics and statements of music stars, and the crass controlling nature of the sales industry.

The built-in network connection on all forms of computers, and the web camera or device that reads the mark, could indeed control all who buy and sell, and rewrite the online history of all who disobey. Fail to pay the price or obey in every way, and be apportioned as evil and sent among the living dead, who are forbidden all commerce.

In times up to the present, earth has been our immediate center of physical being and God our absolute spiritual center … our sanity arising from faith, friendship, and God's law. Without such comprehension and in communion through a system of state-endorsed cyber control, will the mark and the Beast be the center of the universe for most of humanity?

## Signs of the Times

How much of the divine vision does contemporary reality exclude, and what is the thrust of God's plan in this phase of history? These questions remain partially clouded as we contemplate the marvels and horrors of our times.

The satellite belt, swift international transportation, and the Internet have shrunk the world, yet the endless media parades of famous faces and positions of special

knowledge and power reveal it as large and unknowable. A key to rapid technological change has opened the door to a reality that is larger and much more intricately defined than any past one. Science is a skyscraper composed of many centuries of painstakingly gathered knowledge, and it is furthered and clarified by the many specialists living in its rooms. God gave us morality before science peaked, and morality's advancement is its application to new forms of knowledge. Morally guided science is what we need now as new technologies such as genetics, artificial intelligence, and germ laboratories have the potential to destroy our world.

Our minds seem small when weighed against the worldwide informational power of institutions, and these systems of externalized human knowledge, originally put in place for the betterment and protection of life, can also drain life of its spiritual qualities. Nowadays, the sages talk of a future state where intelligent machines will surpass human beings. Our super machines will supposedly know what is best, even though they've been designed by governments and corporations with only profit and the aggrandizement of world leaders in mind. Though we are told these machines will be superior to us, that is not true. There is no machine with self-awareness, and human beings aware of their being, morality, and personality are always superior to that which is not. Machines can process information faster, gather sensory data from limbs and other attachments, but have no awareness. They are a dead letter, and simulated awareness will never be genuine human awareness.

Individuals speak of feeling powerless today, and political activists seem to think power is only the achievement or elimination of forms of social control through science and the mechanics of protest and democracy. Institutions, governments, and officials often only shove people around in certain ways, and their laws are only a bogeyman, frightening people into obedience. Push and scare are forms of power that have no intimate dialogue with the individual. Christians who can communicate and use moral reasoning effectively to change human hearts remain the most powerful people. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can still change the world and ourselves.

In this phase of history, God is helping us choose a world made for human beings and their salvation. He is helping us reject the mighty and dead things of the state and the corporations. Increasingly, the corporate state has shown us that it can't enlighten but only produce dumbed-down consumers and masses of people filled with the ignorance spread by mass media. Outside of, and pocketed inside, the rich nations, we have huge masses of the poor who have suffered and have not gained through the power of man and technological change.

The soul-corroding power of sheer materialism is an entrenched evil pervading the nations. Corporate greed and pillaging have enriched a minority and left the oceans and forests badly damaged. It has enslaved many in meaningless work. Warmongers have been enriched by the vast sums spent on war. After the turn of the century, the USA and the West spent more than two trillion dollars on dirty wars. Money that could have brought food, water, and comfort to nearly everyone on the planet has been used to create hell on Earth.

People have dropped out of what they see as a cruel and meaningless world, and new forms of intense stimulation promise to come on the heels of addictive pleasure drugs.

We will see morally powerless materialists gratifying themselves at the altar of the pleasurable as they forget one another and God. Only God's intervention will prevent a final state of humans as vain pleasure-overdosed vegetables. God will redeem many from this state and strengthen the Church by giving the faithful a love of moderation when it comes to pleasure and material items. The goodness of God will prove to be the pleasure we can trust in and count on.

Currently, many potent forms of organized corruption are testing their strength against God. We see evil on the march, creating greed, poverty, war, destruction, and hatred all over the world - terrible evil and we don't want to believe it is evil. We prefer to call it anything but evil and feel that democracy and other corrupt political systems will cure it. Most of our leaders and institutions are out of tune with the needs of our times, and in the case of violence and war, our lack of restraint and disobedience threatens to annihilate us. War is obsolete, and Christ's example of non-violence and love of one's enemies is the only way to a living future. Our struggle for peace in all times is the will of Jesus.

Tribulation is at hand, and false religions, institutions, prophets, and promises threaten to outnumber the names of fallen idols. Why so many new age and other sorts of religions? Even many atheists are willing to swallow their horoscopes with breakfast while rejecting Christianity. The Antichrist is here as a beast of a thousand new faces, deceiving as many people as possible as quickly as possible.

Most of the new religions are really old, as all are idol worship or man worshiping false prophets and the work of his hands. Kabala, Paganism, Wicca, Buddhism, Judaism, Islam ... these are false systems of belief that deny Jesus as Messiah. New age worship of man, his personal powers, and the earth is also evil. Then there are strange new religions like Scientology. The Christian churches are also suffering from many false teachers who deny the almighty God and Christ in heaven. Atheists deny God, believing in empirical science and the power of our tools and machines, or new idol worship. Yet science can't prove itself ... it and its purposes are defined through metaphysical arguments and philosophy. A lower form of thought (psychology) can't define the higher powers of religion and God.

The key to all of these false religions is that they deny Christ as Savior, and they contain no lasting wisdom. Most of them follow little more than ceremony and trickery meant to unlock the powers of the human spirit and heaven.

"As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9).

There is a power of delusion, and perhaps many weak people expect the times to define their beliefs with shining new religions. They should be choosing beliefs that have always shone. Let's not tear down the temple that glorifies God. False religions are thorns from the same branch; sometimes they have to be plucked from the flesh separately, but they will all die off as Christ's kingdom continues to grow. Our part is to remember that truth won't be found in the pages of occult fad books, but in the pages of God's history. We should know ourselves through Jesus and, in this way, avoid getting lost.

## Revelation - The Last Book of the Bible

The Revelation of Jesus Christ has messages to the seven churches from Jesus. The messages symbolize the phases that churches and believers go through over time, as well as the condition of the young church during the Apostle John's vision. The messages are always relevant. Christ said to remember to love God, or your belief is dead, bear up against persecution to the end, and the reward is great. Do not deny Christ or tolerate false, immoral doctrine and practices that enter the church. Those in the Church who have fallen to false, immoral teachings must repent or be cast into tribulation and terrible death. Do not rely on works only, or you will be spiritually dead, and Christ will come upon you unexpectedly, and your works will be found imperfect. Those of the rich churches become lukewarm, relying on their wealth, and must repent and remember the greater riches of faith, wisdom, and eternal life offered by Christ. The faithful gain an extra gift as they are spared the hour of trial that will come upon the whole world, receiving a place of authority in the Kingdom.

The Revelation is signified, and nearly all readers have difficulty understanding the book. Scripture in the Bible is the Word of God. The difficulty lies in symbols, and that deep knowledge of scripture and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit are required. Since the book states that it is about the past, present, and future, it is a message to all Christians throughout time, up to the second coming of Christ.

The Revelation of Jesus Christ has proven to be a stumbling block for many who advance failed interpretations. It may not have been intended that we understand all of it now, but that certain people at certain times, especially as the end draws near, understand key parts of the prophecy that belong to the future. There are parts of it that are happening in every generation, as there are always Antichrists and impostors, wars, pestilences, earthquakes, and famines. Jesus called this the beginning of sorrows. The world is constantly experiencing sorrow, and there is ongoing persecution of the people of God or tribulation. Believers in Christ will be hated by all nations, false prophets will rise, the gospel will be preached to all nations, and then the end will come. The end comes with great tribulation, cosmic signs, God's judgment through the trumpets, and the sign of Christ in the heavens as he returns.

As well as the full establishment of Christ's Kingdom in the end, the Revelation promises a blessing on all who read or hear it and do according to it. Christ came into the Kingdom at the time of the crucifixion and now must put his enemies under his feet. He will eliminate Satan and his army in the end and hand the Kingdom to the Father completely.

The Revelation also warns against adding to or taking away from the prophecy. This warning clearly tells us that many modern religions like Islam and Mormonism are false because they claim to have new revelations from God and angels that supersede the Revelation of Jesus Christ. These false religions try to deliver another message of who the Messiah is, who the people of God are, and what the end times will be. The Revelation also tells us that Bible scholars and others who attempt to discredit or weaken the book, or change the text, are false, as they seek to take away from it.

Scholarly types often claim the book is only about times past or was written by someone other than the apostle John, to discredit it that way.

The book tells us that when Christ returns, there will be no doubt because every eye will see him and his sign in the sky. This tells believing Christians that false messiahs that arise on earth are not Christ or him returning. The two witnesses will rise in the end times, but they will not claim to be the Messiah.

The most common interpretation is that the largest and deadliest Antichrist has not yet risen to power. When he does, he will pretend to be the messiah. There has been a cycle of terrible Antichrists coming through men such as Roman emperors and popes. There were also horrible Antichrist invasions in the early centuries of the Goths, Vandals, and Muslims. Hitler and Stalin are recent Antichrists.

Scripture indicates that the last Antichrist will initially gain power by deception and sinister intrigue. His true background will be hidden from nearly all but believing Christians. The Satanic Trinity of Satan, the Antichrist, and his false prophet will have power in the end times until Christ and the armies of God arrive and destroy them quickly.

The Revelation names the place where Christ was crucified as the great city. So many people believe that Jerusalem will become a city filled with false religion and wickedness, where the Antichrist will rise and set up his image, the abomination of desolation. The image will be an animated thing, and all who take the mark of the beast will earn the wrath of God and the punishments in the book.

Various things happen as the revelation of the seals, the trumpets, and the bowls unfolds. As Christ breaks the seven seals, the first four show the Antichrist, first arising as the deceptive conqueror on the white horse, then progressing through the fiery horse of war, the black horse of famine and pestilence, and the pale horse of death and Hades as he creates hell on earth. The fifth seal reveals the many martyrs who die, and they call for God’s judgment on the wicked. That judgment arrives with the great cosmic disturbances of the sixth seal. The seventh seal introduces the seven powerful trumpets of judgment. Satan, the Antichrist, and the false prophet, with their control of the earth, continue persecuting Christians, and even their own subjects are like slaves.

The great city Jerusalem falls in the end times as the world economic system and the false world church are destroyed. Immediately after this fall, the Antichrist and the false prophet establish worship of him alone. This is through the mark and the abominable living image that the Antichrist sets up in Jerusalem.

The Antichrist and his followers, hardened through years of war and the false comfort of the mighty weapons created with advanced science, attempt to wage war with God and his armies. Yet the strong judgments of the trumpets, the bowls, and the arrival of Christ end that rebellion of those who would never repent and serve God. Christians are told to flee Jerusalem and that area once the abomination is set up, but some are martyred, and there are those God hides in the wilderness. Just before or during the abomination, God’s two witnesses prophesy for a period in Jerusalem before their death via the

Antichrist. The wicked celebration of the people of earth just before the witnesses are raised and lifted to heaven takes place.

I have condensed some of the futurist views above, but there is an endless argument about the mark, the Antichrist beast, and the great city. Some claim the popes have been the Antichrist since the 5th century; others say Babylon will be rebuilt. There are those who say the United States is the Babylon that will fall. Still others have a Russian Antichrist. Some claim the mark of the beast is a spiritual thing, meaning lending the hand and mind to evil, rather than an actual mark or microchip. The question of what will comprise the worldwide false religion of the end times has been broadly discussed. One possibility is a merger of Catholicism with Islam. The eight caliphates of Islam, stretching from the sixth century to the nineteen hundreds, were perhaps the greatest religious abomination that ever existed. Today, the Islamic church is rife with persecution in many countries that most people in the West are not aware of or mostly ignore, thinking they are safe here. The Roman Catholic Church of the Inquisition was another great abomination. Though the Roman Catholic Church lost many of its fangs of persecution during the Reformation, there are still Catholics who want a merger with Islam. There are also Islamic radicals who will accept a perverse form of Christianity with the crescent moon of Allah atop the cross. Such a merger would create the largest abomination in history and renew worldwide persecution. So this is one possibility. It would start as a merger that the masses won't accept until it is confirmed with false miracles.

Christians with the true faith will face persecution until the end. Jesus said he would be with us via the Holy Spirit until the end. God does protect believers so that not all will be tormented and killed. Believers also receive protection from the judgments God unleashes on the wicked.

Some say the period of judgment and tribulation has been ongoing since the apostle John wrote down the prophecy, and others say the terrible, larger great tribulation will take place in the future. There are those who believe in a secret rapture of believers and others who say no such thing will occur, but that when Christ comes, it will be all at once for everyone.

The Revelation presents a view of the severe punishments God inflicts on the Wicked of the Earth. Just as shocking is the picture of wicked people who refuse to repent. Even at their very end, they try to war with God. It ends with the glory of the millennial rule of Christ and his saints, and the beauty of the New Earth, New Jerusalem, and God personally with his people. All of those who have not been judged will be raised for final judgment after the millennium. They will be appointed to eternal life or else be cast into the lake of fire.

. . . . END . . . .