

CHRISTIANITY VS. HUMANISM: THE ULTIMATE STRUGGLE

We hear a lot these days about pluralism, that we live in a multicultural society with many different cultural and ethnic communities coexisting in America: hispanics and blacks, Jews and Buddhists, gays and orientals, etc. There are all these different lifestyles and entities, but they are all supposed to come harmoniously together in the public schools where a spirit of tolerance exists for every lifestyle and world view but the Christian one.

There was a time when the public school was supposed to be the unifying agency in our society, turning immigrant and minority children into Americans. But the public schools no longer believe in that concept. They believe in Multiculturalism and Globalism which hold that there is no one American model that all can aspire to or identify with. In other words our public schools now teach that the traditional Judeo-Christian model of American values derived from the Founding Fathers is no longer valid as the model to be held up to children.

And so the public schools no longer unify Americans. They perpetuate differences.

Actually, the great unifier in America is no longer the school, but television. That's where we get our image of America for better or for worse.

But there is one aspect of this pluralism that the public schools can't quite integrate with their concept of Multiculturalism in which all lifestyles and world views are considered equally valid. And that is the growing schism that is dividing our country into two opposing

camps, two opposing cultures.

America now has basically two cultures: one humanist, the other Christian. Not only do these two cultures represent distinctly different world views but they are in direct conflict with one another. Which means that America is really in the throes of a very real cultural and spiritual civil war. Each side has its own philosophy, its own moral codes, its own leaders, its own agendas for the future.

Polarization is taking place at all levels: politically, culturally spiritually. There are obvious signs of it everywhere. Take the matter of the media. There is the Christian media and the secular media which is controlled by humanists. There is Christian radio and television and secular radio and television. There are Christian publishers and bookstores and secular publishers and bookstores. If you visit a Waldenbooks or a B. Dalton's at your local ~~local~~ shopping mall you will find a vast array of periodicals in the magazine section but not a single Christian magazine. Its section for books on religion will feature books on all sorts of cults and Eastern religions, but its Christian books will be few. Yes, the secular bookstores do carry the Bible, but only because the Bible continues to be a best seller. And, of course, the secular bookstore carries lots of anti-Christian books because that is the cultural climate we live in.

On the whole, the secular world wants to believe that the Christian world does not exist. For example, the December 1985 issue of Esquire magazine, which had as its motto "Man At His Best," published its 1985 Register of America's New Leadership Class -- a registry of men and women under forty who are changing the nation. The categories

from which these leaders were chosen were Business and Industry, Arts and letters, Science and Technology, Education and Social Service, Politics and Law, Entertainment, Sports and Style. Religion was not even included as a category. To Esquire religion is simply irrelevant. It doesn't exist as anything of importance. That tells us more about the secular mindset than anything else. It is not merely an indifference to God; it is a conscious denial of God.

Naturally, secularists resent it when we remind them that Christians exist, that God exists, that His law prevails.

But nowhere is the conflict between the two sides and the division sharper than in the realm of education, for education implies a vision of the future, the shape of future generations who will either preserve America's Judeo-Christian character or destroy it. That is why the schools have become the nation's most ferocious battleground for control. Control of what? Control of the future.

The humanists, both secular and otherwise, must frustrate and ultimately destroy the growing Christian school and home-schooling movements if they are to lay permanent claim to the future, a future which, to the humanists, seemed only a few years ago to be securely and irrevocably theirs.

And so they have embarked on a nationwide campaign to regulate and control church schools and home schools. There is hardly a state in the union that has not seen a clash between secular educationists and Christian parents and schools. Church schools have been closed and ministers and parents put in jail, children taken from their parents, families forced to flee across state lines for safety. It has happened in Nebraska, Idaho, Alabama, California, Oklahoma,

Texas, Missouri and elsewhere.

Christians don't have to wait for the Russians ~~to come~~ to take their freedoms away. Their freedoms are being taken from them by their American neighbors who now believe that state law supercedes God's law.

I am not so nearly afraid of the Communists destroying our freedoms as I am of the fifty state boards of education doing the job -- and doing it with our tax money.

What must Christians do? First, we must reassert the principles of our Founding Fathers who founded this nation on Biblical law. There is nothing in the original Constitution that in any way conflicts with the teachings of the Bible. In fact, the Constitution ^{is a reflection of those teachings, an embodiment of Biblical law.} ^{It is a deeply Christian document.} That is why we have been able to enjoy our freedoms for as long as we have, because of the solid Biblical foundation of our political system.

Let us consider the founding document of this nation -- the Declaration of Independence, our original social contract. That inspiring charter of freedom spurred the colonists to wage a long, difficult and bloody war in order to fulfill that Declaration. As you know, King George III did not hand the signers their independence on a silver platter. They had to fight and die for it, and if they had not been willing to make that sacrifice we would not be here today.

That Declaration tells us that all men are created equal -- that is, equal in the eyes of God -- and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Note that we derive our

unalienable rights from our Creator, whose existence today cannot be acknowledged, let alone celebrated, in the public school. What the secularists want us to believe is that there are no unalienable rights because there is no God. They want us to believe that our Founding Fathers were quaint, old-fashioned gentlemen with a naive, simplistic belief in a Supreme Being. They want us to accept the notion that all rights are derived from the state and its bureaucrats.

Our Declaration further states "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Which means that only when men live in Christian liberty are they free to create a government worthy of their aspirations. In a Christian society the purpose of government is to secure the unalienable rights of the citizens who create it. This concept limits the power of government, and our Constitution was created to set those limits.

But sinful man will always seek ways to loosen the constraints on evil. The result is that today we have a government that has vastly expanded its domain at the expense of its citizens' freedom and wealth. The government now has a lien on all of our property and our earnings, and now it is in the process of taking full possession of our children. The government school has become not only the symbol of that constant aggrandizement of power, but it has become the engine of totalitarianism in our society.

Christians do not need the supervision of secular bureaucrats, no more than Christians need the supervision of atheists. The secular educators who have ruled public education since the turn of the century have produced academic failure and moral degeneracy of a magnitude ^{hitherto} unknown in Western civilization. In stark contrast,

Christian education is a great moral and academic success. It does not need the supervision of those who have failed.

It was Francis Schaeffer who made Christians acutely aware of the irreconcilable differences between the humanist and Christian world views. They cannot coexist peacefully because they are essentially involved in a life-and-death struggle against one another. To the Christian, humanism is simply satanism, and the goal of Satan is to divorce man from God and to lead him to hell -- first hell on earth and then to hell everlasting.

God sent Christ to save man from such a fate. How does Christ do this? By offering us forgiveness of sins, salvation, and eternal life. He is the Messiah professed in the Old Testament, a Savior and Redeemer who came to extend the covenant of Abraham to all of mankind. The blood of Christ washes away the sins of those who accept Him.

But the humanists do not recognize the existence of sin, because, after all, what is sin but disobedience toward God. But in the humanist world view there is no God to obey. There are only the blind forces of nature which are quite indifferent to the human condition.

The result is that we not only have two different world views, but two different states of consciousness or awareness and two different kinds of consciences. The conscience of a Christian tells him that it is wrong to kill an unborn child. The conscience of a humanist tells him that not only is such murder quite acceptable, but it is morally good if it prevents such social problems as overpopulation, or permits a woman to continue her career without

inconvenience. The humanists know that they have already murdered ~~18~~²⁰ million unborn children and this does not give them any sleepless nights. I'm sure that there are many women who suffer secretly because of the abortions they've had. But humanist leaders suffer no such twinges of conscience.

This total lack of a sense of guilt over what they are doing is in itself a symptom of a perverted conscience, of the innate depravity that John Calvin said resided in fallen man's heart. Several years ago some 14,000 dead unborn infants were accidentally discovered in a dumpster in Los Angeles. When Christians became aware of this grisly discovery, they decided to arrange to have these infants given a Christian burial.

But, believe it or not, the humanists protested and took their case to court, arguing that permitting these "products of conception," as they call them, to be given a Christian burial would be tantamount to admitting that these were human beings. It took two years for the courts to adjudicate the case while the dead infants were kept in storage. The court ruled in favor of the humanists.

Does this not dramatize the extent of the perverseness of the humanist conscience? Does this not tell us that we are dealing with a form of satanism that permeates our society from the highest courts right down to the local birth control clinic where the actual killing takes place?

A perverted conscience is a criminal conscience, a conscience in servitude to Satan.

The National Education Association represents the teaching profession in America and its approves of abortion on demand. It

also advocates teaching children to accept abortion, euthanasia, and suicides as moral solutions to human problems. The purpose of values clarification and death education is to make abortion, euthanasia and suicide acceptable to the young mind. What such instruction does is help develop a perverted conscience in the child -- a conscience in conflict with the Christian conscience that child may have been given at home.

Christian awareness has made us conscious of what humanism is and what it is doing to the souls of millions of American children. There is no doubt in my mind that Satan has targeted American youth for destruction. And that is why we have this incredibly high suicide rate among teenagers, rampant drug use and sexual promiscuity. The media is now bombarding us with the absurd notion that, in the face of the growing plague of AIDS, there such a thing as "safe sex" that teenagers can enjoy by simply using a condom.

A Unitarian minister was ~~recently~~ ^{some months ago} shown on television handing out condoms to his congregation, and many high schools are now handing out ^{to students} condoms/as if they were candy bars.

When will they learn that the wages of sin is death? Maybe after a million or two are dead. Meanwhile, the humanists are leading millions of American youngsters to the slaughter.

How do we, as Christians, deal with this madness, this insanity? Second Corinthians, verses 14 through 17, provide the answer:

Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? . . .

Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, said the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing ; and I will receive you.

The public school has become the unclean thing -- with its values clarification, sensitivity training, situational ethics, multiculturalism, globalism, evolution, behaviorism, transcendental meditation, yoga, eastern religion, sex education, out of body experiences, role playing, death education, etc. The public school is now completely in the hands of Satan.

The Christian school must be a fortress for Christ where children grow strong in their love of God and love of righteousness. We are in a spiritual war, and our children need our guidance and protection.

But apart from educating Christian Children, what are Christians to do to preserve Christian freedom? What did the Founding Fathers do?

They met.

They argued.

They agreed.

They declared.

They organized.

They gathered an army.

They waged war.

They won.

We thank God for raising up the Founding Fathers, these courageous, brilliant men of principle and faith who were willing to sacrifice all comfort and wealth so that good might triumph. We are the beneficiaries of their sacrifice.

God provides, either directly or through the efforts of men and women inspired by Him.

God provided the Children of Israel with manna. He fed them directly.

But God provided Christians with freedom in America through the inspired efforts of the Founding Fathers.

Somehow many Christians tend to confuse these two means. There are many Christians who feel that they don't have to do anything but wait. They don't have to meet, argue, agree, declare, organize, gather an army, or wage war. All they have to do is wait.

Why didn't the Founding Fathers sit and wait? Because they believed that God gave them brains, and courage, and inspiration -- to be used. Those without brains, courage or inspiration have no choice but to wait.

But which group of Christians will serve the future of this country better, those who fight actively to preserve Christian freedom, or those who do nothing?

In my opinion, the Founding Fathers should serve as a model for us today, and the history of how they managed to create this great nation ought to be studied closely in every Christian school. Why? Because what is desperately needed today is the same vision, courage and determination which drove them to perform extraordinary deeds.

Without vision, the people perish. But what is our vision? Some Christians infer that we don't really need a vision, that all we need is to wait for the Rapture. But since no one knows when the Rapture will take place, do we in the meantime let the forces of Satan take control of our land, enslave us, rob us of our children? Do we Glorify God by permitting Satan to triumph?

Those who sit and wait do not Glorify God; they surrender to Satan.

And what is vision? It is the ability to see what is happening all around us and to see a way toward a future in which God is glorified and His law upheld as the basis of our free society. Vision is the opposite of blindness. And what are those things that blind us: material wealth, comfort, false doctrine, false religion, temptation, cowardice, sin.

Isn't it interesting that both sin and the lack of vision lead to the same consequence: death.

The humanist public schools now teach death education because they are preparing America's children to create and sustain a sinful, disobedient, blasphemous and perverted society.

Dr. R. J. Rushdoony describes humanistic education as "the institutionalized love of death." Humanists love death because they are in love with sin, with disobedience. That is why they are deceiving our children into believing that there is such a thing as "safe sex" in this deadly age of AIDS; that is why they are passing out condoms to teenagers. They might as well be passing ^{out} poison pills. The only "safe sex" is that which takes place in marriage in accordance with God's ~~admonishments~~ ^{commandments}, for as we all know, the wages of sin is death.

Christian education is the institutionalized love of life -- because Christ is life and He promises life eternal. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Without Christ these words would have never formed in the minds of the Founding Fathers nor flowed from their pens, for they are Christian concepts, and they describe what Christian freedom is all about.

CHRISTIANITY & HUMANISM - 12

Only Christians with vision, courage and determination could have dedicated their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor to the cause of Christian liberty. We need that same vision, courage and determination today.

Of course, it is all well and good to talk in generalities, to inspire action. But what indeed should we do? What needs to be done?

In the first place, we must stop aiding the enemy. We aid the enemy when we put Christian children in public schools, because the presence of those children is a sign of approval by the parents. When Christian parents "approve" of public education then they are obliged to support it with their tax money. There is no greater sign of disapproval than to remove one's children from the humanist government schools.

There are those Christians who argue that they send their children to the public school to be a "light." But how can an untrained child do the work of an adult missionary? Isn't it more likely that the child will be influenced by the intense humanist indoctrination that now permeates the curriculum and textbooks of public education? What the child needs is the armor of God to protect him from the corruptions of this world, and he can only acquire that armor in a God-centered Christian school or home.

I fear that many Christians put their children in public schools, not because they truly believe their child can be a "light," but because they would rather ^{not} suffer the inconvenience or make the financial sacrifice that a Christian education may entail.

But I ask you, where would we be today if the Founding Fathers had not been willing to suffer inconveniences and sacrifice everything they possessed? Where would we be?

We cannot even conceive of their not having made the supreme sacrifice for our freedom. That is why they are the great men that they are, and that is why we venerate their memory.

And here's another important reason why Christians must remove their children from public schools. When they do so they also remove their need to support the system. I am convinced that now is the time for Christians to take their case to court and argue that forcing a Christian to support atheist education is patently unconstitutional, a serious violation of religious freedom.

In fact, the Virginia statute that established religious freedom in 1786 states: "To compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions he disbelieves is sinful and tyrannical." And yet that is exactly what Christians are being forced to do. Atheists are not forced to support Christian education, so why should Christians be forced to support atheist or humanist education?

These two actions alone on the part of Christians would do a great deal to restore Christian freedom, for the humanists want only two things from Christians: they want their children and their money, and if Christians are giving them both, who ^{do you think} is going to win this war?

It is up to us to decide whether or not we are to be the last generation of Americans to enjoy Christian freedom. And make no mistake about it: the humanists are determined to destroy Christian freedom. While they do all in their power to keep Christianity out of the public schools, they are now focussing more and more of their attention on Christian institutions themselves. The Tammy and Jim Bakker affair has already spurred a Congressional investigation into Christian television, and the ^{Fall, 1987,} ~~latest~~ issue of Free Inquiry, the secular

humanist magazine, has called fundamentalist Christian schools a "national scandal." The humanists are now insinuating that Christian parents are violating their children's rights by putting them in Christian schools. The editorialist in Free Inquiry asks: "By what justification . . . can fundamentalists restrict their children's opportunities to grow intellectually, to develop their skills of critical thinking, to be exposed to a range of alternative ideas? That is what is at stake in our call for public scrutiny of the textbooks and curricula of fundamentalist schools. Our writers and researchers have found these schools intellectually deficient and culturally narrow."

And do you want to know what the secular humanists think of Christian educators? Alan Peshkin, professor of education at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, writes in Free Inquiry (p. 9): "I see the evangelizing true-believer as an arrogant doctrinal imperialist who impugns the integrity of nonbelievers."

Christianity vs. Humanism: The Ultimate Struggle

continued - p. 14

What the secular humanist is trying to establish is the notion that fundamentalist Christian parents are guilty of child abuse because they are depriving their children of ~~their rights~~ a pluralist, secular education. What they are saying is that parents have no right to educate their children in ~~the~~ a manner that does not conform with the government schools.

Secular humanists have a very peculiar view of parents rights. They simply don't believe in them. Incidentally, as a believer in Christ, do you consider yourself to be an "arrogant doctrinal imperialist who impugns the integrity of nonbelievers"?

Since secular humanists are absolutely sure ~~there~~ that there are no absolutes, they are intolerant of ~~the~~ Christians who believe there are. It's a strange kind of thinking process. I don't think the Christian believes "impugns the integrity of nonbelievers." He simply considers such persons to be living in error. Since secular humanists believe that Christians are in error, why ~~must~~ they do that make them "arrogant doctrinal imperialists."

It is the Christian home schooling parent, who is ^{not the humanist,} being dragged to ~~be~~ harassed by the state, dragged to court and put in jail. A Christian mother in Chattanooga, a black woman living in a project, had her two daughters taken from her because she was home schooling them. She did not believe that she needed the state's permission to obey God's commandment to educate her children in a godly way. But the secular humanists believed she did. Apparently she is one of these "arrogant doctrinal imperialists" because she believes that Christ is

is truth. But the lady has offered no resistance, she wants no lawyer, she is one Christian soul standing ~~fighting~~ against the godless humanist state — and she is not fighting. The state is fighting her, but she does not fight back. It is the ^{humanist} state that has become the "arrogant doctrinal imperialist."

The role of the Christian school is to preserve our Christian heritage in the face of the humanist onslaught, to be a fortress for the Lord, to permit ~~for~~ Christian parents to educate their children in the Word of God.

The role of the Christian school is to carry out the parental mandate based on God's Commandment in Deuteronomy.

The role of the Christian school is to provide the child with the spiritual armaments needed to fend off the forces of ^{satanic} corruption in our society.

The role of the Christian school is to develop a Christian intellect that will glorify God and serve His will.

What about humanist imperialism? The Humanist manifesto states:

"Religious humanism maintains that all associations and institutions exist for the fulfillment of human life. The intelligent evaluation, transformation, control, and direction of such associations and institutions with a view to the enhancement of human life is the purpose and program of humanism. Certainly religious institutions, their ritualistic forms, ecclesiastical methods, and communal activities must be reconstituted as rapidly as experience allows in order to function effectively in the modern world."

R. J. Rushdoony, the Calvinist Theologian, has characterized our age as a transition between two eras. He writes in Intellectual Schizophrenia:

The ~~era~~ era now rapidly drawing to an end has had, as one of its most characteristic cultural products and agencies, the state-sponsored school.... The state schools and their philosophy are decisive and important aspects of a now faltering and waning culture, and they are a very present power. As long as their culture endures, they will endure and prosper, but they cannot outlast their particular premises and culture.

That was written in 1959, almost thirty years ago. Today the government schools are in such a state of disintegration that even its ~~leading~~ some of its most devoted advocates are admitting that they may not survive.

Clearly we are at the end of an era, the statist, collectivist, humanist era and we are heading into a new age — not necessarily the new age of our modern-day pagans, but ^{hopefully} a new age of Christian revival.

Dr. Rushdoony writes:

The end of an age is always a time of turmoil, war, economic catastrophe, cynicism, lawlessness, and distress. But it is also an era of heightened challenge and creativity, and of intense vitality. And because of the intensification of issues, and their world-wide scope, never has an era faced a more demanding and exciting crises. This then above all else is the great and glorious era to live in, a time of opportunity, one requiring fresh and vigorous thinking, indeed a glorious time to be alive.

What kind of a culture is emerging? To get an idea, we must examine the various cultural forces at work.