

# CHRISTIANS ARE UNWANTED IN AMERICA

WE ARE AT WAR  
CHRISTIANS ARE LOSING THE BATTLE

*“O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.” Jer. 10:23*

*By Pastor Del Wray*

Recently a post on the internet was received from a preacher friend out of Louisiana, Pastor Joseph Porter, titled “The Unwanted Preacher” by an old time evangelist named Vance Havner. The post struck me and immediately the question entered my mind, is it the preacher that’s not wanted or is it the Word of God that he is proclaiming that’s unwanted? Jesus said, *“Marvel not, my brethren if the world hate you”* 1 John 3:13. Is it the preacher or is it his message? In America today is a strong movement to remove all influences of the Bible, to remove all influences of Christianity from our society. As mindless as I am I naturally ask myself why? Why has America turned its back on God? In this paper, I’ll try to show you why America has replaced the God of our Bible with a new religion “Humanism” it is not coming. It’s already here! It has already done much damage. It has already eaten far into the structures of our society. It kills unborn babies. It hurts youth with drugs. It dirties minds with profanity. It turns children against their parents. It robs families of their wealth. It severely damages and often destroys Christian families. If left alone, humanism will eat its way through the country until eventually it has destroyed all Christian homes and churches.

“It was March of 1775 when a young attorney rode horse back into the small town of Culpepper, Virginia. He was totally shocked by what he saw! There, in the middle of the town square, a man was tied to a whipping post, his back laid bare and bloody with the bones of his ribs showing through the flesh. He had just been whipped. He had been, like Jesus, scourged mercilessly with whips having been laced with pieces of metal.

The attorney is quoted as saying, ‘When they stopped beating him, I could see the bones of his rib cage. I turned to someone and asked what the man had done to deserve such a beating as this.’ The reply given was that the man being scourged was a minister who refused to take a license. He was one of the twelve men who were locked in jail because they refused to take a license.

This minister said: ‘I will never submit to taking your license. I am controlled by the Holy Spirit and authorized by God Almighty and will not allow you to control me by a license, no matter what you may do to me!’

With that statement, those who were trying to control these ministers and their ministries by requiring them to be 'licensed,' took this minister and scourged him to death three days later.

Shortly afterward, this young attorney arose to address his fellow delegates in the Virginia House of Burgesses. He concluded his famous speech with these words. Gentlemen may cry, Peace, Peace! But there is no peace. The war has actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the North will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!"

Disclaimer: While I do not endorse everything in all this material, I find it extremely informative about modern humanism and how it operates in our society. These resources are very valuable for assisting Christians in understanding the times in which we live.

*Disclaimer: This pastor is in no way in agreement with the Church of Christ. Copyright. The above manuscript was a speech given by the author at the annual lectures of the Shenandoah Church of Christ in San Antonio, Texas in February of 1989, and published in their lectureship book, Terry M. Hightower, ed., Embattled Christianity: A Call To Alarm The Church To Humanism, Shenandoah Church of Christ, 11026 Wurzbach Road, San Antonio, TX 78230, 213-227. The complete speech of Patrick Henry may be found in A. Craig Baird, American Public Addresses. (NY: McGraw-Hill, 1956), 29-36.*

When Patrick Henry saw religious persecution, what did he do? He spoke up!

Why can't we see that Christianity is at war with religious humanism? Our churches are full of religious humanists. We must sound an alarm regarding humanism and the dangers it presents to Christians. I wish it were possible for me to shout, as did those watchmen on ancient walls, "The enemy is coming!" But that's not the message about humanism which we must convey. That message would imply that we are here and that humanism is off over yonder somewhere. Our message, one which leaves us with a sinking feeling, is more comparable to the announcement that "we've got termites in our woodwork!" Sound the Alarm, humanism is here and we're in a WAR! We are in a war that most Christians blindly can't see or comprehend. "Christians are Unwanted in America" Why?

The question that naturally comes to mind is why? Why are Christians today being denied their religious freedoms? Why must Christians face discrimination in the workplace? Why are Bible reading and prayers now prohibited in public schools? Why are the Ten Commandments no longer welcomed in our court rooms? Why the movement to remove all influence of the Confederate Flag from view? Why is Jesus' name not allowed to be used in our classrooms or in the military when the name of Allah can be invoked? Why has there been a general change in cultural attitudes toward God, Christ, the Bible, the Church, and Christians generally? Why do public policies of government agencies now frequently discriminate against Christians? May I say Christians are no longer wanted in America?

The answer is that a new religion, a religion totally opposed to Christians, has arisen, quietly and almost unnoticeably, to positions of great influence and power. It began to rear its ugly head during the Renaissance. For a while, it was suppressed by the Reformation movement.

However, it reasserted itself and produced the so-called period of the Enlightenment. Slowly, but with increasing rapidity, it grew. It is now the primary religious threat to Christians in America. This religion is “secular” humanism.

We will not understand why religious freedoms are denied to Christians until we realize that we’re in the middle of a religious war. Humanists also want religious freedoms. Humanists want the freedom to peddle hardcore pornography without opposition from Christians. Humanists want the freedom to abort their unwanted, unborn babies. Humanists want freedom from public recognition of God. Humanists want freedom from Christian morality and ethics. Because humanists want freedom from lifetime marriage commitments, they have fought for and obtained no-fault divorce laws in many states and obtained very lax divorce laws in most other states. Because humanists want acceptance of homosexuality, they now fight for legislative enactments against all sexual discriminations. They want to legalize homosexual marriages. Then homosexual and lesbian poor families can receive government welfare from taxes paid by Christians.

The religious freedoms desired by humanists are obviously not compatible with religious freedoms desired by Christians. Freedom of religion for one group means denials of religious freedoms for the other. Either Christian values dominate our society and give freedom of religion to Christians but deny it to humanists, or humanistic values dominate our society and give freedom of religion to humanists but deny it to Christians. Either one or the other will prevail and thereby suppress the other. Religious freedoms for both groups cannot co-exist.

The humanistic worldview is the basis for many current public policies that produce religious discrimination against Christians. As Christians begin to perceive what is happening, Christians are usually startled to observe that humanists now occupy the high ground. They are firmly entrenched and well fortified in the principalities and powers of this world.

Christians can understand better why their religious freedoms are often denied to them when Christians learn how basic concepts within humanism are transformed into public policies. A brief look at two of these concepts should be sufficient. The first concept is that of the theory of evolution. The second is a rejection of the supernatural. These two may be considered together inasmuch as one is but the flip side of the other.

The theory of evolution has to do with much more than biology. Those who accept the theory as fact generally reject the existence of God, creation, the spiritual nature of man, the deity of Christ, salvation from sin, and life after death. The theory is presumed to be the key to all knowledge. Humanists contend that the universe is self-existing, that all things evolve by chance, that humanity is but part of nature and that only through nature can man know anything. Notice what all this implies regarding the formation of public policies.

Will Christians be persecuted in America?

First, if it is true that all things evolve, as declared by the theory of evolution, the Bible must also have evolved. Within thirty years after Charles Darwin set forth his theory of evolution in *Origin of Species* in 1859, the evolution of the Bible was popularized in colleges and universities.

Although it had been universally believed for over 3000 years that by the inspiration of God, Moses had penned, 1400 years before Christ, the first five books of the Old Testament, it now became fashionable to believe that the Pentateuch had evolved from sources referred to as J, E, P, and D, and by combinations of those letters, and that the Pentateuch came to be in its present form only a hundred years or so before the Jews were taken into Babylonian captivity. In like manner, other Old and New Testament documents were also said to result from evolutionary developments. These notions deny the inspiration of the Bible. They reject divine authority. They make biblical messages no more significant than any other great piece of human literature.

Second, if it is true that all things evolve, as declared by the theory of evolution, then there are no fixed legal standards. All things, including law, must be relative. Slightly more than a decade after Darwin wrote *Origin of Species*, the evolution of law began to be taught by Christopher Langdell, Dean of Harvard Law School. This revolutionized the study of law in the United States. By applying the theory of evolution to law, legal statutes need no longer be absolute. Legal statutes no longer mean necessarily what they say. They can only mean what the courts say they mean. When the humanistic theory of evolution is applied to law, it is then impossible to have rule by law. It is only possible to have rule by men.

Third, if it is true that all things evolve, as declared by the theory of evolution, then, since mankind is the highest form of known natural intelligence, people assume they must decide what is best for themselves and other natural creatures in their changing natural circumstances. In essence, man becomes his own god! Moreover, since some people are considered more intelligent than others, then it is assumed that the more knowledgeable must decide what is best for everyone. This elite group of knowledgeable people, dominated by the legal profession, must govern everyone. This they try to do through civil governments, directing all economic and other human and natural resources according to their own wills.

Now it must be admitted that a majority of Americans today do not believe in the theory of evolution. However, a very large number of the designers and makers of public policies in government bureaucracies today do believe the theory is true and, therefore, act accordingly. Moreover, many theists who work in government bureaucracies fail to translate their Christian beliefs into public policy declarations. By that failure, many theists may act like they believe the theory of evolution. Public policy is often made, therefore, without the fear of God, with little appreciation of biblical truths, with no understanding of man's spiritual nature and needs, with no consideration of judgment to come, and with little thought for life after death. It is believed that man is basically good, and therefore, according to humanistic theory, human authority is valid and sufficient.

Public policies would be vastly different, however, if theist made policies based on their beliefs. Imagine what public policy would be if made in accordance with concepts of the existence, relevance, and providence of God; the authority of scripture; the doctrine of creation; the spiritual nature of man; the reality of sin in all accountable humans; redemption through Christ; judgment to come; and the eternal destiny of the soul. Under these conditions, public policy should be based on absolute standards, recognize a rule of law rather than a rule of men, and seek consistency with the Word of God.

While humanists may momentarily be passively tolerant of politicians who publicly invoke the name of God, they are highly displeased if public policies are made in keeping with Divine principles. Humanists insist on the rejection of traditional religious beliefs as unscientific and inappropriate for human guidance. They want government policies to be altogether “secular.” They imply that the First Amendment requires the total separation of religion from all civil government. However, the First Amendment was originally intended to restrict only the Federal Congress but not to restrict the legal bodies of the various states nor to restrict the religious practices of the people.

Moreover, the founding fathers of this nation realized the necessity of religion for good government. George Washington said, “Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports... Reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles.”

The U. S. Congress, in 1787, declared with the passage of the Northwest Ordinance that “religion, morality, and knowledge” are “necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind.” John Adams observed that “Our Constitution was made for a religious and a moral people. It is wholly inadequate for the government of any other.” Moreover, Thomas Jefferson was president of the school board in the District of Columbia when the books used to teach reading in the schools were the Bible and Isaac Watts’ hymnal.

Notwithstanding this intent of our founding fathers, humanists want to neutralize the influence of Christianity in civil governments. Humanist Manifesto II declares that “The separation of church and state and the separation of ideology and state are imperative.” However, all governments must operate by religious or ideological principles. If governments do not operate by principles of the Christian religion, then they will operate by principles of some other religion. Some humanists think humanism is a religion. Others say it is not. But no one can deny that humanism is an ideology. What humanists really want is to substitute humanism in place of Christian influence upon civil governments. To do this, they must neutralize Christianity.

Although the process of secularization was already neutralizing Christian influence in America, the neutralization process has quickened since 1947 by a series of legal decisions by the Supreme Court. Some statements by the Court will demonstrate that the Court now differs from our founding fathers regarding the role of religion in government and in society.

In the 1947 case of *Everson v. Board of Education of Ewing Township*, the Supreme Court said that “the ‘establishment of religion’ clause of the First Amendment means, at least, this: Neither a state nor the federal government can set up a church. Neither can pass laws which aid one religion, aid all religions, or prefer one religion over another.” However, our founding fathers would have disagreed because when the First Amendment was ratified, nine of the thirteen original states had their own established churches.

Regarding a specific school prayer, the Court declared in 1962 in the case of *Engel v. Vitale* that it was improper to place the “power, prestige, and financial support of government..., behind a particular religious belief.” Since the prayer was of no specific denomination but reflective of Christianity generally, what the court did was to establish disbelief in God as the national

religion in America. An even stronger statement was made by the Court in 1968 in the case of *Board of Education v. Allen*. The Court said that “to withstand the strictures of the Establishment Clause there must be a secular legislative purpose and a primary effect that neither advances nor inhibits religion.” In 1985, the Court was, even more, explicit. It declared in *Thorton v. Caldor, Inc.* that “to pass constitutional muster..., a statute must not only have a secular purpose and not foster excessive entanglement of government with religion, its primary effect must not advance or inhibit religion.”

These Court declarations regarding the First Amendment have had the effect of exchanging a citizen’s right to freedom of religion for society’s freedom from religion. Moreover, because of these Court declarations, every agency of civil government considers it now proper to remove the Christian religion from all public practices. ***In essence, the theory of evolution is now replacing the Bible as the foundation of civil governments in America. That’s the major reason Christians now face religious discrimination in America.***

What about the future? Will current trends in religious discrimination lead ultimately to Christians being physically and violently persecuted in America? Perhaps! Historically, there have been two stages of the attack on the church. First, the state and its agencies are secularized. Second, the state attacks every prerogative or privilege of the church in an indirect manner so that, in disguised fashion, its right to exist is denied. For the most part, the Supreme Court has already secularized the state. Various prerogatives of the church are now being attacked. Religion is being removed from the schools and other public domains.

It is possible that churches in America may someday face restrictions that have been imposed in communistic countries since communism is but a political form of humanism. These restrictions are: first, churches and their members must be registered; second, only in registered church buildings are Christians permitted to worship collectively and to talk about the Lord; third, Christians are forbidden to teach religion to their children; and fourth, Christians are given the least desirable menial jobs.

To some degree, these restrictions are already being imposed in America. For example, churches have to be registered with the IRS regarding tax laws. Sometimes the federal government seeks to bring a church under control through IRS audits. Zoning ordinances also restrict Christians from gathering within certain designated areas for worship. The state, through its various bureaucratic agencies, is asserting itself and making demands that Christians often seem too willing to concede to the state.

Civil legislation leading toward the persecution of Christians, if it comes, will likely be in the form of restricting freedoms of religion to whatever the state perceives as necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morality. On the surface, this sounds good, but such laws would give the state authority to determine the nature of morality. It would probably contain wording which would prohibit intolerance or discrimination based on religious belief. It would probably not allow for any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religious belief.

Such a law would prohibit a Christian employer from preferring a Christian job applicant.

It would prohibit a job applicant from preferring a Christian employer. It would make parents subservient to civil authorities in teaching religion to their own children. Many other implications might also be derived from such a law. Do not think that such a law might not be passed. Such a law has already been passed in the Australian Commonwealth.

Unhappily, some Christians have little recognition of the issues at stake. Their attitude seems to be that Christians should not seek to influence laws and regulations passed by civil governments, saying that we cannot advance the Christian religion in government and politics because these must be religiously neutral! Don't you believe it? Our religion must direct us in everything we do. Paul said, "Whatever you do, in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord" Colossians 3:17. Neutrality in politics, or in any other area of life, is a rebellion against God!

Christians today are finding themselves often in situations like that faced by Peter and the apostles. The Sanhedrin council had called them to the task, asking, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name?" The council had presumed, like many civil governments now presume, that they could license the preaching of the apostles. But Peter and the other apostles said, "We ought to obey God rather than men" Acts 5:28-29. That should be our resolution also.

However, just as the apostles were persecuted for their refusal to obey those Jewish authorities, so also Christians today must expect to be persecuted. When persecutions come, and they will then may our attitudes be as was theirs. May we rejoice that we are counted worthy to suffer shame for His name, Acts 5: 41?

To what extent will persecution come? Will we be beaten, as were the apostles? Will some of us be killed, as was Stephen Acts 7:54-60 and James Acts 12:2? Already some like the Baptist preacher in Lewisville, Nebraska, have gone to prison because they refused to yield their Christian convictions.

Christians should keep two things in mind. First, persecution seldom occurs everywhere at the same time. Second, the enemy attacks weak places first, where he can expect to achieve an easy victory. That victory, however, may establish a legal precedent by which the enemy is enabled to attack and win stronger positions.

Because you may not be persecuted when others are, and because you may think yourself strongly fortified, you may think you need not fight alongside other Christians in the battle for religious freedoms. That's what the enemy wants you to think. That kind of thinking leads to defeat for Christians. Martin Niemoeller well describes that kind of thinking and its futility. He said,

"In Germany, they came first for the communists,  
I didn't speak up because I wasn't a communist.  
Then they came for the Jews,  
I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew.  
Then they came for the trade unionists,  
I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics,  
I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant.  
Then they came for me.  
By that time, no one was left to speak up.”

In view of the accelerating growth of humanism, it seems abundantly clear that professed Christians are not being the salt of the earth, the light of the world, and a leavening influence on society. Professed Christians are not exterminating the termites of humanism. The sad fact is that many professed Christians seem altogether unaware of the existence of humanism. Such Christians are therefore totally incapable of assessing the damages done by humanism. More significantly, such Christians are unable to oppose humanism.

If humanism is ever exterminated, and if our culture is ever to be firmly established upon Christian principles, then all who profess to be Christians must act immediately to implement Christian values within all civil governments and agencies, and also within all other institutions, organizations, and human associations. Unless the Christian religion comes to prevail over the religion of humanism in America, then we may expect that, as humanists more fully achieve their goals, this nation will continue on its downward path of moral degeneration.

As we look at the goals of humanism, and the degree to which they already have achieved their goals, we who profess to be Christians should be alarmed at the effectiveness with which humanists are achieving their objectives. If ever there has been a time in these United States for Christians to respond to shouts of alarm, this is that time.

When Patrick Henry saw religious persecution, he spoke up. What will we do?

The Christian religion vs. the religion of humanism

Humanism cannot succeed in its quests because they leave God out of their plans. Humanists believe that men are capable of guiding and directing themselves. They know not that “it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps” Jeremiah 10:23. They know not that “there is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death” Proverbs 14:12; 16:25. They know not God's declaration that “all who hate me love death” Proverbs 8:36. They know not that Jesus is “the way, the truth, and the life” John 14:6 or that Jesus came “that we might have life, and have it more abundantly” John 10:10.

A society built on humanistic principles is a society which will destroy itself. This is the very reason I continually cry out that America is in “*self-destructive*” mode. Our society does not seem to be rapidly deteriorating. But much of this deterioration is because people have turned away from Christian principles and seek guidance from humanistic values. It's time we had a great Christian mobilization of our values and practices in every area of American society today!

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[SOUND THE ALARM, THE GOAL OF HUMANISM](#) is an extremely important article that must be read, I highly recommend!

*Pastor Del Wray*



