



SHIELD OF FAITH

"Take Up the Shield of Faith" - Paul

Monday, November 4, 2019

How rich and deep are the wisdom and the knowledge of God! We cannot reach to the root of his decisions or his ways. — Romans 11:33

The Root of our Trumpian Comeover

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Western civilization as we argue and debate over it today would not exist without the truth. For a couple thousand years Christian theology, once known in the West as the "Queen of the Sciences," defined ultimate truth — basic reality. This is not to say that theology wasn't a debate — an intellectual, human exercise. It was. It remains so today.

Theology, philosophy, literature, art and common sense have been dethroned. The world isn't allowed to have monarchs because it is now safe for democracy. We pretend the humanities are equal to other disciplines. The truth is rather different. We live as if only what we can see, feel, hear and touch — only what we can put in a test-tube, or reduce to a mathematical equation — can reveal truth.

So the truth is scientific. Since the truth is binary it is only reasonable to conclude that anything science condemns or ignores is false — the humanities, therefore, cannot reveal truth. Hence religion has been reduced to a political play thing for rich oligarchs who sit astride all nations on earth inventing — often with the best of intellectual intentions — their new world order.

The low quality of this intellectual world order is being revealed. This is causing the world to turn away from the new world order to the oldest world order. Mankind is always falling victim to the sin of pride. His technology is often the tool he uses to exercise his power. At the time of a city called Babel that technology manipulated atoms that we could see with our eyes — building materials. In this time of cities like Washington D.C. that technology manipulates matter that we cannot see with our eyes — atoms.

Babel focused her municipal capital on arranging building materials into a tower that would reach heaven. God mercifully intervened scattering humanity, and separating us by language. Ever since that time humanity grouped together by language, forming nations. Most of the time these nations co-existed peacefully, overcoming the language barriers in our pursuit of knowledge and understanding — truth.

Sometimes violent wars would break out. Tragically powerful nations decided to wipe out, or absorb, less powerful ones. Since war is the most dramatic enterprise known to man it ends up being the lens of history, unfortunately. War brings out the best, and the worst, in us.

Continued on the back

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God's will fades into the background in history. It does not, however, fade at all inside religion.

There are two kinds of religion, but only one God. True religion reveals Him as one in three, and three in one. False religion knows Him as many separated personalities, one absolute ruler or as an impersonal force.

The most realistic description of God is in the Christian Bible. God's Christian Church brings Him to humanity. The stewardship of culture and morality by that Christian Church over the past two millennia informed the development of Western Civilization.

The most sublime Western philosophy is Christian. True beauty in form and engineering isn't experienced in the skyscraper. The Christian Cathedral holds that place of honor. Exquisitely intense and complex music is classical, not popular. The motif for textured and loving family life, marriage and sexuality in the West is obviously Christian.

Paul the Apostle said of God, "How rich and deep are the wisdom and the knowledge of God! We cannot reach to the root of his decisions or his ways." We are not one with God. We are free. We can choose to love, trust and worship Him, or we can reject Him. The highest human cultures display the good, the true and the beautiful. These aesthetic elements are visible in all human cultures because all of us are made in His image. As we come together and create cultures and nations we cannot help ourselves. Virtues emerge.

It appears history's curtain may be closing on the epoch of english. The war, sex and usury mongering ways of the American empire have made for some interesting drama since World War II, but the world is yawning and moving on.

The Trumpian comeover isn't likely to change that much.

Regardless, the path forward with the good the true and the beautiful is right where it has always been. It is illuminated by the Christian Church. Our politics will either choose to see the light, or die in Godless darkness.

We cannot reach to the root of his decision or ways.

Amen.