

# Chronicles of Diversity

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Chronicles of Diversity  
Contact

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## *Metis Economics: Dog Tales*

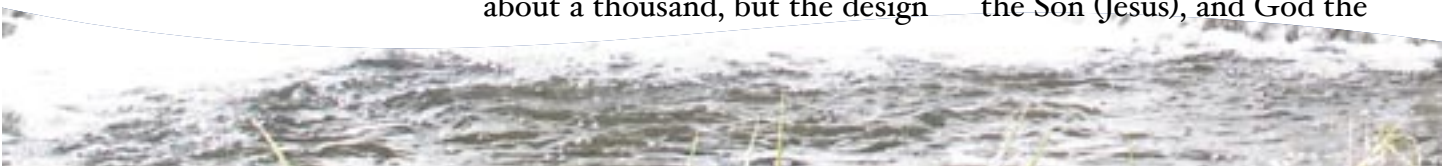
The overall design of Chronicles of Diversity is to produce a weekly story of about 2000 words, that will in some way effect or affect your life. Then the difficult task begins, to try to make it interesting enough that you will actually read these thoughts each week. No small gift in a world in which we are continually bombarded by information. This letter also remains a way to communicate to Christian missionaries and workers in distant lands, hopefully giving them some sense that God is still there for them and that they are not completely forgotten by the folks back home.

Last week you may have noticed that the message contained a esoteric, philosophical beginning and a discussion about baseball, and how the model for western culture has become a paradigm for individual spectators rather than participants. Alas, we missed the goal of 2000 words by about a thousand, but the design

elements otherwise remained intact.

As we near the close of this Phylogenesis Series, the philosophy segment was their to refresh us on the religious and cultural aspects as to how each human personality lives his or her life. The baseball segment was there, not only to illustrate 21st century American life, but also to encourage people to get out of the stands and play life's game. For leaders, especially church leaders, to coach their God given team to actually do something beyond watching baseball. Build it and they will come, don't build it, and all you can do is watch the movie, "A Field of Dreams."

Metis is like the marriage of Knowledge and Wisdom. Whether we like it or not, both, according to the specific revelation of the Bible, finds its genesis in God. Not only God as deity, but also according to orthodox Christianity, the triune God of God the Father, God the Son (Jesus), and God the



Holy Spirit. The Christian Bible also provides a metis for evil, sin, death, and everlasting life. This eternal glimpse is accomplished by the propitiatory sacrifice of Jesus as Messiah, restoring not so much man's relationship with God, but adopting mankind as God's created family, and providing a means by which all creation will one day throw off the chains of death.

Romans 1:18-23 states: *For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man - and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.*

If you truly look openly and closely at creation, you cannot help knowing creation was designed and therefore, there must be a Creator. Western culture, as we discussed last week, suppresses this truth by promoting man's intelligence and abilities, by focusing upon the deification of the individual, at the expense of true community. While at the same time producing, as its highest goal, an urban culture in which each distinct unique human personality becomes a spectator in an evolutionary nightmare of egalitarian nothingness apart from God.

This problem will never change as long as Christians remain lock step followers of a religious agenda that only promotes itself as a broad road to God, better than others, but still focusing on the accumulation of stuff, rather than true charity.

There is an evangelical story I heard many years ago that describes the concept of how much Jesus gave up to become a man, to come to earth and to save mankind from our sins. This tale finds its moral in a dog. Not a majestic

working breed, but a small, yapping, rat dog, such as a Yorkshire Terrier. Such a dog finds its highest calling, in being only a loving companion to someone (an individual) who has no other love in their life. In other words a lap dog, without the aloof independent personality of a cat.

This illustration finishes with God the Father, stating to Jesus, "Once you decide to go to earth you will always have the nature of a Yorkshire Terrier, and will always have as part of your personality that human doggy nature."

At least in theory, this tale is based on and created out of the Specific revelation of the Bible. But Creation, or what we have called natural law and common grace in this series, also have served as models for tales about God becoming a man, by becoming a dog. This without a Bible in hand, but by only observing the nature of creation.

Last week I had the opportunity to spend a couple of days in Western Montana. The Blackfoot tribe, whose reservation abuts Glacier National Park, east of the Continental Divide, calls God, Napi, or The Old Man. While I do not know any of the history of this tale, whether it is of recent vintage or lost in the tribe's storied history, this story relates how "Napi becomes a wolf."

Through this tale not only does Napi become a better Old Man, understanding human nature, he also gains the wisdom of the community of the wolf pack, and how it survives by serving the community purpose in hunting. It is also interesting that this wolf pack concept, also served as the model for the Blackfoot Bison hunting scheme, especially before the coming of the horse and the gun to the short grass prairie.

It is not too hard to see that even without any reference to Jesus and the Bible, these Blackfoot tales, show a revelation of God that relates specifically knowledge and wisdom required to survive in a hostile world. Napi oral tales and nature provide that primer.

Before we move on however, in the Yorkshire Terrier example, we also find the nature of God that much of modern evangelicalism uses to illustrate the specific revelation of Jesus Christ.

An affectionate lap dog, created solely to provide love to a lonely individual, in a society which was created with love only as a manifestation of the biological urge.

I have long held that if the church focused on making disciples of Jesus Christ rather than making converts to the Christian religion, not only would God's saving grace be easier to comprehend to saint and sinner, but also God's grace would become more visible, and religious legalism would no longer play such a dominant role in church activities. That includes the legalism of non legalism.

The quotation from Roman's 1 is truly a commentary on modern western culture. But no matter whatever context we create to eliminate God from our culture, these verses clearly state we are not exempt from our accountability to God for all our actions.

These dog tales do illustrate however, that not all tribes of the earth are as hostile to God as is western culture. Even without the specific revelation of the Bible these people attempt to bring the wisdom of God into everyday life. Therefore, it is incumbent to adapt the specific revelation of Christianity into the local culture, without making them accept a Yorkshire Terrier type of Jesus first.

Western culture developed through the adoption of local pagan festivals and holidays into Christianity. The two great Christian festivals, Christmas and Easter are natural law and common grace examples of the attempt to bring the gospel to European pagans. The problem is not in this attempt, but in trying to make Christmas and Easter per se, part of the specific revelation of all of Christianity, which they are clearly not, no matter what the church calendar and tradition may say.

Any universal tie we have with Biblical events for Easter must focus, not on the first Sunday, after the first full moon, after the spring equinox, but to the Jewish festival of the Passover and the Passover lamb. Likewise, Christmas is not really the celebration of Jesus birth, but finds it's birth in the religion of Babylon found discussed in Jeremiah 10. Where as, the true birth of Jesus is more normally associated with the Feast of

Tabernacles, where God chooses to dwell with man, and occurs in the fall according to the Jewish calendar, not the Gregorian.

Without that tie to the specific revelation of the Bible, these holidays just naturally become a spring fertility festival with prolific rabbits and colored eggs, and decorated Christmas trees and lots of stuff, allowing Jesus to be circumcised on New Year's Day.

If you study the development of America's Indian Reservations, it is interesting, and perhaps more than sad, that at least to some degree, the reservations we established took place because of the Christian evangelization that took place among the tribes. Areas evangelized by the Black Coats (Roman Catholic Monks), tended to be put on reservations with others of this form of Christianity. While those evangelized by Protestants tended to have either separate reservations or were settled with other Protestants.

Perhaps the desperate nature of all Native Reservations deals less with the person and the work of Jesus, and more to do how they are forced to accept Jesus in the terms of either western Roman Catholic religion, or western Protestant Christianity, rather than the true Biblical gospel. Native people were, and are, required to believe in Jesus the Yorkshire Terrier, rather than the common grace of the sacrifice that happened when Napi became a wolf.

This example is of course true with all native people around the world, because Creation is still the most powerful witness of God's existence, and we are all without excuse. Natural law and common grace, are understood and accepted by all, except the proponents of western modernity.

To become effective again, to call persons to discipleship rather than conversion, the church must embrace this, common to all, revelation of God found in Creation, adding only a true specific revelation of the gospel message found alone in the Bible. How Napi becomes a wolf, is not as important as to the why. For by becoming a wolf, Napi gained the wisdom of God. That is the moral of the story.

Jesus that becomes a Yorkshire Terrier, as no common application at all, except to those steeped in the religion of self deification. Yorkshire Terriers

won't last that long in the real world, neither should the church coddle a religion of house pets. Grace is amazing because it is truly freeing from all of man's religious trappings. But it can free no person who suppress the truth in unrighteousness. - - Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man - and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things, and yapping lap dogs.

## Other articles in this Phylogenesis Series:

Liquidity with purpose; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/liquidity9-29-4.pdf>

Bottled Liquidity; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/bottleliquid10-6-4.pdf>

Fakin it; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/fakinir10-13-4.pdf>

Natural Energetics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/natureenergy10-20-4.pdf>

Political Energetics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/poleenergy10-27-4.pdf>

Reasoned Phylongeny; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/reasonphylogd11-3-4.pdf>

Sasquatches & Polar Bears; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/sasbears11-10-4.pdf>

51-48 gas; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/51-48gas11-17-4.pdf>

Show me; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/showme11-24-4.pdf>

A cheap plot; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/acheapplot12-1-4.pdf>

Cheesy Cows; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/chessycows12-8-4.pdf>

Raurbs versus Apgars; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2004pdffiles/raurbapgars12-15-4.pdf>

Metis; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metis12-29-4.pdf>

The Complete (Natural) Metis; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/completemetis1-5-5.pdf>

Metis Economics; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisecon1-12-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, People; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metispeople1-19-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Land; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisland1-26-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Water; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiswater2-2-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Faith; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisfaith2-9-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Eternity; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiseternity2-23-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Rendezvous; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisrendezvous3-2-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Communion; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiscommunion3-9-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Rest; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisrest3-16-5.pdf>

Metis Economics, Easter Eats; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiseastereats3-23-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: Time to lead; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisleadtime3-30-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: What did Jesus do?; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metiswdjd4-6-5.pdf>

Metis Economics: Unconscious conscience; PDF link: <http://www.wondersprings.com/2005pdffiles/metisunconscience4-13-5.pdf>