



# *The* Wonder Springs Chronicle

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## The Wonder Springs Chronicle

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## *Business Ecology: Arrogance Squared - Insecurity in the Light*

There are many places on the web today where we can view current pictures of planet earth from space. If we were able to compare our current photos with those taken a century or two ago we would see some very sharp differences. Today there would be more brown and less green as forests and grasslands have given way to deserts. We would also see that the glaciers are getting smaller. But perhaps the greatest difference in the day photos would be the increasing areas of the world devoted to metropolitan centers, and the dwindling size and diversity of rural towns and villages. Our present nights we would see artificial lights of those same urban cities. During the day air pollution has shifted from Europe and North America to China and the rest of the developing world, again around the apex of human urban civilization.

In the context of what we defined as comprising a worldview last week, could these different pictures indeed be a true contrast on what has happened to human civilization and culture as we have progressed forward into the 21st century. To review last week a worldview paradigm consists of four components. These four components common to all humanity are: origins, meaning, morality, and destiny. These four comprise our worldview or our reason for being.

From the world pictured from space we plainly see the results of our changing personal as well as social worldview paradigms.

Origins: We are taught in school that the big blue ball all happened by chance, through a primordial swamp and a lightning storm we came into existence. If that is too far fetched then we must have come from some



alien visitor, who didn't bother to stick around to see what it had done. God only knows, that God Himself could not have done this, that is way too threatening to our insecurity to truly have happened. Just as in the Babel Bible myth, we truly are on the road to bring heaven to earth through our cities, it is just our evolutionary destiny.

**Meaning:** We find meaning in cities not from the land. Large cities are required for western civilization basically to overcome the primitive common grace roots of community strength. So instead of requiring leadership to bring unity between power and authority, we maintain order by elite rulers rather than true leadership. So we go to meaningless jobs, created by design to keep us powerless and to provide just enough funds to go to our job and to buy more stuff, thus keeping us too tired or bored to think really about why we are here.

**Morality:** Since autocratic rulers really have no power base, we have used artificial lights to give us a sense of security to protect us from one another. Do these lights really provide security, or is that security just an illusion also?

**Destiny:** Well we made it to the city from the swamp, I suppose that is enough. Actually that is all there is. That's so great, let us make the world like us and call it progress and everything else primitive. Just like that apes to man timeline we have been indoctrinated with in our education. If we truly were Homo Sapiens however, would all this so called wisdom have created such an inhuman society. Perhaps we need a new species Homo Arrogance, for we are truly alone in a world surrounded by other people. We have no real ties to one another, and no security either. We are surely a threatened species, with no present, no eternal destiny. Get what you can by whatever means necessary we have defined as success, to further the farce, we have called this sham wisdom and enlightenment.

Better yet we have become no longer man, like in the politically and gender neutral human beings, we have evolved the personality of arrogance squared even though we light up the world with artificial light. Everything we stand for is a sham of reality, because there is nothing

of eternal illumination in anything that we do.

In that by gone era the church would have called for a revival or an awakening of God's spirit to change the church and then culture. But just as in some Bible Old Testament myths, Ichabod, all glory has departed. We must seek change in something more elemental, more primitive, more common, less revelatory. How about just a mission to create a real worldview and in the process create a personal life and eventually a community life, that leads from somewhere real, through a present real, to a future reality.

So what is your mission in life?

Not what are your goals, those simplistic generalities that you begin with each year and give up for Lent, whenever that is. I would suspect however, you really never thought of your life as a mission. After all, you have been trained to be a consumer and your only product must fuel that consumptive albatross.

Before we get to that, completely independent of last week's article, I was offered secondhand verification of those 25 50 people group numbers coming from an important anthropologist. His concept was that 25 50 people were the largest group you could gather around the safety of a bonfire. Will this mission you are about to construct work around the security of a big fire, after some stupendous change event turns out the lights? Receiving this information second hand, I do not know whether the original work presented it in this way, but as presented to me, these 25 50 people needed the light of the fire to protect them from other people not from wild animals.

I find this quite amusing, because obviously the anthropologist had never built or maintained such a fire and sustained it for a long period of time. This is simply because, as Native Americans call this "White man's fire" to build and maintain this type of security, realistically requires a chainsaw to cut the wood, a pickup truck to carry the wood, and a cheap supply of nutritious food, because the labor required to maintain this security would greatly effect your ability to do your other tasks directly related to group survival. At special times of feasts and important visitors such a fire might be build, but truthfully it would be an all consuming burden that could not be sustained except on special occasions.

Small cooking and warming fires, use much less wood and serve groups of up to about 5, which form the basic building groups of an effective community. Furthermore, small fires don't light up the night sky, saying to hostile marauders there is something over there we might go and steal.

So will your mission work around a white man's fire? If stupendous change takes away all of your riches and civil order has broken down what we now take for granted, can you and your neighbors, that you don't even know, expect to find security around a bonfire, or will it just become an attraction for roving bands of thugs.

The words "arrogance squared" comes from a song by Jack Gladstone, a Blackfoot Indian raised in Seattle and who now lives in Kalispell, Montana and once played football for the University of Washington Huskies. The line from "Faces of Blizzard Buffalo Honor Song" describes the advanced attitude of most early whites to the western lands. The whole line states, "A linear mindset with arrogance squared." The song's real context is about the slaughter of the Buffalo for hides and money alone, and the subsequent dividing of the land to grow food for cattle, that without help cannot survive the plains winter.

Does a linear mindset with arrogance squared really describe our current view of the earth from space? Honing in through satellite imagery does that relate in anyway to your isolation within the pictures of your so called local community, where you may know your neighbors name, but little else. Would you really feel comfortable sharing a survival bonfire using the rubble of your homes as a fuel source with these speaking acquaintances?

This week ends the eighth year of consistent publishing of this newsletter, either as "Chronicles of Diversity" or the "Wonder Springs Chronicle." Next week we will begin year nine. From the vision of today's vantage point after the end of May, God only knows the future. There still is no money to move or to continue this as a ministry, that is no hype, no spin, just fact.

So the mission of Wonder Springs is to provide leadership training, basically from

a creation science or Biblical worldview. No evolutionary, totally naturalistic worldview will work within the reality of stupendous change. If you look seriously at our world today from space, certain places provide a form of insecurity in the light, but virtually no true temporal security and absolutely no eternal security.

If you die before it all unravels, leaving your toys behind, to move to another place, you will not only have to answer "Why should God allow you into His eternal heaven?" but also "What did you do with the gifts God gave you?"

Someplace along the line the church has redefined it's mission from making disciples as the Bible dictates, to making converts. As such the Bible clearly states it is God who does the election and provides the saving grace through Jesus Christ alone. Will the warm and fuzzy love of Jesus save you from the thugs who may roam American streets, just as the thugs in Bagdad now come into our homes every night on the television newscast. Television is not reality, even though it may be 60 inches wide, broadcast in millions of High Definition colors. Television bullets don't kill you. Somebody trying to take your television by force, that may be a different scenario.

Wonderful church buildings are great. However, when they fall down will any of the programs of the local church continue? I would venture to say only to the extent that the local church is actually part of local human communities, not a burden, including a financial burden overriding true community requirements. Small groups will not cut it, because small groups again are just another level of organization above and ineffective at reaching hurting people, just because they do not have enough people to have the diversity of skills, nor the resources to do anything effective.

The only hope for metro communities is for the church to have trained leaders with basic community leadership development skills, before they are needed and have implemented them beyond the church itself, to sinners not at the time saved by grace alone.

So what are you doing with the gifts God has given you? Most of the time we think of money sitting in a bank account, or invested in a future

we do not control, while we passively live the worldview we describe in the opening.

That will surely lead to heavenly rewards!

The real problem today is really “a linear mindset with arrogance squared” and insecurity in the artificial light which is directly linked. The light is really made by electricity passing through high pressure sodium bulbs. You turn off the electricity and the illusion of safety disappears, to be replaced by succinct reality that self assured arrogance is really not a survival skill.

Before satellite imagery we used to call arrogance sin. Today sin has disappeared and arrogance has become the only virtue of most of the elite who try to claim our allegiance so that they can reign over us, and not get involved in the messy hard work of true leadership.

As a text book of divine revelation, the truth of the Bible is that arrogance outside God’s provision, when it has reached its apex, is rapidly destroyed. Arrogance within God’s covenant community is dealt with by discipline of a loving Father. That discipline may look harsh, unless it is set in context to the alternative.

Ministry and mission in the world today are really the access and administration of resources, most of them with some financial requirement. Wonder Springs will not continue without help from those who believe this world really needs leaders not rulers. Nor will it continue because people think that this is all there is, because it isn’t. The future of this world rests with the reality of Jesus Christ and His saving grace alone. Anything else is just arrogance squared, secured by an artificial light of human technology. Turn off the light and fear and chaos shall rule in the darkness.