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Contact Information:

Jerry Bannon

Publisher

Wonder Springs

7950 Seward Park Ave. S.

Seattle, Washington USA 98118

phone: 206.660.0697

blog: www.wondersprings.org

email:

jerryb@wondersprings.org

chronicle@wondersprings.org

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Stupendous Change Leadership Series: Metis Reasons

Francis A. Schaeffer is probably the most astute theologian of the last half of the 20th century. In “How Should We Then Live” he points out the working paradigms of our post modern, post Christian world are personal peace and affluence. In “The Great Evangelical Disaster,” he shows that these paradigms stem from the 1930’s.

Interrupted by WWII, virtually everyone alive has been indoctrinated into some form of this mind set. From post war baby boomers and forward we all have been educated that we are products of random acts over eons of time and a lightning storm. This presupposition states we have no value other than those common to other forms of life. However, contrary to this presupposition, in Genesis 1:26 we find that all of mankind is created in God’s likeness, by God’s design. Men and women

are truly different than all the rest of the forms of life. This has been believed by Jews over their history and by Christians for the last 2000 years. Created in God’s image, is absolute truth.

About 200 years ago, enlighten in our own wisdom, people began to systematically remove this tenet of God’s existence and mankind’s God given image from western culture. Thereafter, Charles Darwin became the father and god of modern evolutionary science. It was further necessary, for atheistic evolution to be possible, to postulate a past of great age and uniform progression. These are the philosophical forms of naturalism or materialism, meaning that everything that was, is, and will be, have natural or materialistic causation. There is by definition nothing supernatural, or beyond the natural.



Thankfully, all forms of representative government were well established through the Protestant Reformation before these natural revelations. Both Adolph Hitler, Stalin, and other recent despots base their existence upon modern revelations of man's wisdom and the development of an enlightened ruling elite, despot, or intelligentsia, to make choices for those less evolutionarily developed.

Think for a moment however, that each human being knows, as supernaturally imparted truth, that they were truly created in God's image, not evolved through some constantly changing ooze of protoplasm. How would these people react to this valueless philosophy? Basically as people react in our world of personal peace and affluence.

In a world that says I have no worth, I know differently. I am continually bombarded with information that says I am nothing, I am worthless. Furthermore, my whole educational indoctrination says I have evolved from only naturalistic chance. I might know differently at my deepest level, but how do I shut out all the noise of this chaotic world?

The great promise or power of the iPod is that it shuts off the noise and replaces it with music that edifies me as a person, a unique created personality of God's design. If I want to learn something, I can do that too, or watch something as video. I might not understand why I do this, but my iPod is my source of personal peace. In a world in which everyone wants a piece of me, my iPod forces them to withdraw.

Back when I was in the service in Germany, I quit getting the daily paper, because all that was in it was bad news. "I get all the news I need on the weather report," has since become my news axiom. I may not be, "The Only Living Boy in New York," but I do have some concept of cultural noise when I am about to cross "A Bridge Over Troubled Water."

Every morning I get two weather reports delivered to my email Inbox and I have three other weather links on my Bookmarks bar. If I want some news, I can just see if something is interesting among the ten news sources and stock reports on my internet home page. If there is

nothing interesting there I can still look at a number of other links which might report something in more depth than the traditional media. However, I must participate in the WorldNetDaily Poll to see just how well I think like their other poll participants.

About a year ago, I moved from basic cable to limited cable, because I didn't need anymore rich pundits promoting themselves, their views in the name of what is actually extremism spun as fair and balanced reporting. I'm sorry, human culture is built on consensus not on being right. With all the money I saved from cable I joined Netflix. Most of the television I now watch is delivered to my door in an envelop, and disappears the same way. Get this, pretty much all of it is edifying in some manner.

I think the only radio I listen to, other than when the power was off during the winter storm, is the WSU Cougars when they are not on television. Any other program that I find of value, comes into iTunes in the form of a podcast, to listen to at my time, and not through the commercials. When I drive to Spokane or elsewhere, my iPod plugs into my car radio. My Top Rated playlist has 62 songs, 4.3 hours, which run from front door to front door without a repeat, without some one to tell me how they are going to change my life for the better by whatever they are selling.

The point that Schaeffer makes in his observations, is that the '60s generation wisely rejected their parents shallow personal peace and affluence paradigms. However, after their journey through this cultural desert, they found nothing to replace those paradigms and they returned full circle ending up at the same point, only further down the chaotic cultural scale.

So where was is most of the evangelical Protestant church in all of this?

"Let's see, first of all you need a pietistic relationship with Jesus, like me. You need to be an active participant in all the religious right social causes of the day, like me. You need to have your radio constantly tuned to either edifying Christian teaching, or edifying self promoting contemporary Christian music, like me. You need to live the successful Christian life, with your well diversified portfolio of stocks and real estate, like me. You don't need to get into any Christian doctrine, because that causes separation and controversy, it is not what

Jesus did, it really is what Jesus would do that is really important. Jesus was very tolerant of other people's beliefs.

That's saint me in a nutshell, but if you have a few more months to spare, I can tell you more about me, I like to stay accountable to my brothers and sisters in Christ.

"Oh, I almost forgot, I would like you to go to church with me this Sunday. There we will repeat a bunch of mantras about what You, or He, or Jesus did for me. Then the pastor will give a wonderful sermon of what Jesus can do for your life, and if you ask Jesus into your heart, you can become a highly evolved evangelical Christian just like President George Bush, and me. I thought God might be calling me to a great ministry, but I realized that it was just the devil, God loves me just as my sloppy agape self. Praise the Lord!

Metis is not a term in popular usage. In general terms it relates to the cunning use of both knowledge and wisdom. It also means a person of mixed ancestry or half breed. A combination of the two would also seem valid. In Canada, such metis, as the ethnic term, refers to the off spring of European fur trappers and First Nations women. In the states these western invaders have been considered to possess only arrogance squared. That means they have vast knowledge and self perceived wisdom. Multiply those together and you have the white man. Native tribes however, had likewise metis learning from creation, but it was not used in that same context, which they perceived not as arrogance but natural humility.

I would submit that metis however, is much more valid in the Biblical sense. From the Bible in total context, it is a book of limitless knowledge and wisdom. They are definitely linked, basically through natural and spiritual maturity. Likewise in creation we may possess knowledge of what can be defined as descriptive observable science, but true metis requires wisdom based upon God's absolutes, not human centered reasoning.

That knowledge can be complex like how in cell physiology we all ride a Krebs Cycle, or determining whether the top soil in the

scablands of Eastern Washington was formed adjacent to where it is found, or whether it was deposited by wind, water, or some other source. This descriptive science will utilize sophisticated analytical techniques such as neutron activation analysis.

However, even relatively simple methods like recording and listening to a bird's song, or counting the number and variety of plants down a measuring line in a meadow, will quickly make the participant aware of unique knowledge, before known only to God.

Metis is the process of converting that knowledge to wisdom. There are really three different paradigms for this conversion. The first is the evolutionary product of the Enlightenment we discussed in the beginning of this article. In this worldview, finally human beings have overcome the repressiveness of religion and are rapidly on our way to naturally figure out everything. This begins with that primordial soup billions of years ago and continues at least to our successful conquering of global warming. Thereby, we establish nirvana here on earth, much to the praise of our continuing to evolve descendants or clones.

The second paradigm states that the world is way too complex to have evolved through natural processes. As a result there must in some way be a designer. That designer can take the form of God, or gods, or alien visitors from somewhere more evolutionarily advanced than we are, or even complex evolution for evolutions sake.

Third is the Christian Biblical paradigm of a Triune God, sin and death, propitiation and adoption by faith of redeemed humanity by Jesus Christ's death and resurrection, for the hope of an eternal future, not an eternal past.

All three paradigms or worldviews, are truly mutually exclusive. This article, this blog, this website and I personally believe that the Biblical paradigm is the only source of absolute truth. It is only absolute truth that can give one the basis for true metis reasoning.

Here we find company with rapidly growing numbers of Christian reformers, revivalists, and revolutionaries. What seems to be the unique calling of this ministry however, is what do you do with that true metis.

Francis Schaeffer, working from L'Abri in Switzerland in the 1960s through the early '80s developed an apologetic of Christian theology and philosophy which very much characterizes our present western culture, the evangelical church, along with a Christ centered focus, to maintain the absolute nature of truth that the Bible claims for itself.

Modern Creation Science really has two roots, the first in Australia and the second in America in the auspices of the Institute for Creation Research. ICR recently completed an eight year scientific research project called RATE which stands for Radioisotopes and the Age of The Earth <http://icr.org/rate/>. This is a major creation science descriptive observational project. This study found the presence of radioisotopes of elements present in many substances where they should not have occurred if the earth was truly as old as the evolutionary paradigm promotes. Probably the most interesting, in a general interest way, is the finding of Carbon 14 in diamonds, which according to evolution is one of the oldest substances on earth.

Answers in Genesis, works in the niche that educates us that if the world is truly millions and billions of years old, then Genesis 1-11 can not be true. If that be the case then neither can the claims of the Christian gospel. As a consequence evolution's attack comes from the front of millions and billions of years rather than on the cross of Christ itself, but evolution still undermines the authority of the Bible and Christianity as the one true faith.

How do you apply a young earth worldview to a world that does not believe? The primary front is first and foremost the gospel presented in the Bible. But should Christians then just accommodate the minute by minute noisy, chaotic, assault on Christ and His church? A self righteous testimony is not going to make a difference, because enlightenment evolution wrote the bible on arrogance squared.

The Enlightenment stands and falls upon the foundation of human reason. Christianity is built upon the foundation of faith in God. Hence, as is an insurgency war, the Christian's attack must be on all fronts. The offensive weapon is the Word

of God, but we must look beyond just the Bible to the metis of creation also, God's spoken revelation.

To say that it is a young earth is one thing, to demonstrate it in descriptive observational science is a very good thing. However, evolution's touch reigns in all of culture. Christianity must take the applications of creation science and the Bible to the culture. This is the calling of Wonder Springs. In Death Valley, Wonder Springs is one of the few spots that one may drink water to keep you alive in a real desert. The same is true for current western culture.

For a long time I have supported this concept out of my time and resources. God has put me in this desert wilderness to understand His provisions and faithfulness, not really by my choice. As I have been working on this stupendous change series, it has consumed more and more time and my personal resources have dried up completely. I feel that God wants me to focus completely upon building upon the concept, stated so well by Francis Schaeffer in the last century, "How Should We Then Live."

Applied applications of God's laws of science gave me this computer on which I write this blog. Those laws made the internet possible so that it can be distributed to places impossible just a few years ago. I hear the fan in my furnace humming warm air into the room, for it is cold outside.

Now is the time to apply that science to the human personality. The choices are: you are really a meaningless blob of evolved flesh; or you are a unique eternal personality, created in the image of God, for His mysterious reasons. The real question is not how we got here, the real question is where you will spend eternity, heaven or hell.

God will make a way for this ministry to continue and to grow into what I believe has now become a full time enterprise. Culture's primary tenet, that "personal peace and affluence," will not get you to heaven. In fact, even though to some degree, we all believe that it will, personal peace and affluence will not stand against the test of modest stupendous change.

If you check back to the beginnings of the Chronicles of Diversity in the website archives, you will understand the precepts of this ministry are build upon God created natural diversity and energetics, or applied precepts of descriptive

observational science. In that eternal future, after removing the effects of sin, those same principles will still apply.

At this time I ask you to join this adventure, through your active involvement.

There is the old saying, "In the land of the blind the one eyed man is king." We truly all live in a culture that is blind to absolute reality, it is also dying, and is so ill that it can not cope with significant real disaster, cataclysm, apocalypse, pandemic, or catastrophe. The blind have no choice because stupendous change is not defined in their worldview, while God makes it part of life and all things. I have a vision on where this path may lead, I now ask you to join me in this pilgrimage so that blind eyes may again see.

Paul had such an experience on his journey to Damascus. His new Metis vision gave him the reasons to attempt to change the gentile world forever. God has created new types of Paul and Pauline out there, they are blind, together let us help them to see a dark vision of a new heavens and a new earth where the effects of sin will be no more. I now need your help.