



# *The* Wonder Springs Chronicle

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## The Wonder Springs Chronicle

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## *The Self Indulgence Pandemic*

We began the year writing about the multitude of possibilities for stupendous change events that can alter the future of our civilization. So far those events continue, but just localized to specific places in the United States and around the world.

However, in the last two and a half months of moving, I have begun to see that there is an underlying disease that is really bringing it all about. That is the pandemic of Self Indulgence. Notice that Self Indulgence is capitalized, making it a more treatment resistant strain, of self indulgence death that marks all of human history.

During that moving time frame, my own personal level of infection of the Self Indulgence malignancy has become more evident than I could have ever realized. Each day holds a new change that I can not control only live through. Some of those

challenges are physical, some psychological, some fiscal, many combinations of these and other factors, have been presented in ways I have never seen in my life, would or should have foreseen, or could have made plans to avoid. In short, I have begun to understand in a new way, what living beyond your comfort zone is all about. In the Bible the struggles of the Apostle Paul, have begun to at least foster a faint glimmer of insight.

If you agree with Al Gore's hype, that human caused emissions of green house gases will alter catastrophically all life on planet earth in this century, the root cause is still the Self Indulgence Pandemic SIP . I personally believe that there are a whole host of symptoms that will bring green house gases, if they really are a problem, in line with the external climate change reality, long before anything humanity will do has any effect on Carbon Dioxide emissions.



Climate change however, is something we must deal with on planet earth on a continual basis. Whether that be global warming or global cooling, depends upon your life's epoch and whether you would like to establish it as a human religion in opposition to God's will.

SIP is really both the cause and reality of what is wrong with America today. SIP is manifest in our leadership, in that they don't lead. SIP is manifest in our churches, in that they teach only about Jesus the moral teacher that helps you with life's problems. SIP dominates our enterprise stuff, that will give you happiness with just the swipe of a plastic card. SIP is the focus of our educational establishment, that teaches you create your own reality in life by your desires, regardless of your, gifts, talents, or discipline. I could go on, but needless to say we are all infected with the SIP cancer without even knowing it. Furthermore, most people don't even care, that is how prevalent SIP has become.

There is good news however, SIP is treatable, even though it can not be cured completely. But to understand SIP in the proper context we must look back to the dawn of human history.

Humanity has one of two mutually exclusive origins. In one way we were created by God in the image of God as outlined in the Genesis account in the Bible and explained more fully in later books. God created mankind as very good, only different from God in the requirement for a gap between the God Creator, and the created humanity. In the Biblical account, humanity has infinite value.

The other paradigm we define as an evolutionary model. In evolution, humanity is no different from any other living organism, just more evolutionarily complex, by the process of evolutionary leaps that realistically defy all the natural laws of thermodynamics. Following this evolutionary concept, things over large periods of time will continue to get better. However, it must be noted that we assume that we are the apex of that evolutionary scheme, at least on earth, but aliens or some other life form may alter that future. Since there is no absolute reality standards, SIP is part and parcel of the survival of the fittest scheme. All though it must logically

and eventually end in chaos, unless some standards are externally imposed by some sort of autocratic or fascist authority, evolution is the prime movement behind SIP.

So the alternatives are either you can be a child of God, or a child of evolution. There is no middle ground, even though much of the church has taught for a couple of hundred years, that there really is not a difference. But this muddled unity is really a symptom of SIP in apologetics.

To be a child of God however, puts you into a different realm. A child of God truly must acknowledge a series of external absolutes to govern his or her life. That brings us to the concept of sin, introduced in the Bible in Genesis 3. Sin as such is undefined in evolutionary religious dogma. Sin is the result of not obeying God's absolutes for life and furthermore not fulfilling God's grand plan for creating us specifically in the first place. In short, sin causes us to run from a family unity with God, into a wilderness that eventually manifests itself in SIP.

What they may or may not teach you in church is that God considered sin so important in the pandemic sense, that He sent His own Son to cure the problem. On a cross outside of Jerusalem almost 2000 years ago, the Son of God, the Son of Man, sacrificed His life to pay God's debt for the sins of all mankind, past, present, and future. At that moment sin was finished. When Jesus was raised from death three days later, and witness by many, we now have a living testimony that that sin debt was paid in full propitiation.

What that means is that God provided everything we need to be restored to that created grand purpose of the beginning of time, all that we have to do is to accept it as a free gift of God's grace through the gift of faith. So few people accept this gift however, because we would rather continue to deny reality and suffer from SIP.

Human history has many examples of how individuals have accepted this gift of God's grace and changed society and culture for the better. There is no such legacy of SIP infected individuals however. SIP individuals only cause chaos, death, and destruction. For our illustration we will use the creation of the United States and let that birth develop, bringing us to our present reality of pandemic Self Indulgence.

We are taught in modern education that many founders of the United States, came to these shores to escape religious persecutions in Europe. In other words we are taught that freedom, was the reason that they came. However, if you look at a broader context, no one would leave a present reality without the hope, or vision of a better reality elsewhere. That vision is defined as faith. Even without that Godly motivation, that better future is still an adventure in faith.

In the struggles and hardships that each person faced in this journey, as problems were overcome, each person became more self sufficient. Now looking at the larger picture again, not only did these pilgrims become more self sufficient, they also became closer to God through faith, for they recognized and dealt, at on least a daily basis, perhaps at times moment by moment, with an external reality that they could not and did not control. It logically follows from this, as these persons grew in self sufficiency they also grew in the image of God that was prepared for them before the creation of the world.

It should be noted that these people did not always succeed, many times they failed dramatically, and many abandoned the faith path completely, but they continually adapted to a real reality that most of the time stupendously challenged their previously learned self sufficiency.

God only knows how many or the contexts by which we can handle these storms of life. The question goes back to whether we will handle these storms by faith, or by sin. Again there is no middle ground. Put in an even more blunt contemporary context, do you seek a life of faith or a life of security? Security first leads to SIP, there is no alternative.

As a sidelight, the present problem with illegal immigration in the United States is that these illegal foreigners are willing to walk that faith path in this country while the vast majority of born and raised Americans are not. The American Dream has died for most natural Americans, so God has imported millions of others who are neither lazy, nor

skeptical of American opportunity and freedoms. Furthermore, true Americans are so deathly ill with SIP symptoms, we are incapable of dealing with the immigration situation in any way.

The Self Indulgence Pandemic is based on a distorted view of reality. Actually in many cases it has no basis whatsoever in God's true reality at all. As a consequence it has no basis for dealing with a real world of constant change and sometimes stupendous change. In the old days while self reliance and external absolutes were still cultural values, the denying of reality was known as mental illness in the benign, and insanity in the malignant. Today however, we have redefined SIP as being normal and even desired.

The future of the world and the United States rests upon beginning treatment for SIP, for the alternative is death of a nation and the freedoms of western culture we all enjoy. The typical church response is to say that Jesus is the answer, and ultimately that is true. However, most churches really are not interested in the ultimate Jesus, they are interested in a transitional Jesus which is the Jesus for seekers, who are nowhere found in the Bible.

Most commonly SIP church's savior is typified as the Jesus of your conversion, not the Jesus of the great commission, who mandated the making of disciples not converts. Why is that? Because conversions only require cultural methods, true discipleship requires true commitment to the individual in many ways, hard work, and faith. Something most churches and pastors are not willing to do, because they too are severely infected with SIP.

SIP is so pandemic throughout the world, it is not possible to treat it with just Jesus in the general sense, because the true Jesus Christ does not and can not exist in acute and chronic SIP. Simply because these cases deny a real reality and accept only a mentally acceptable reality of limited personal capacity. Jesus Christ specifically and the God of the Bible generally, are reality beyond steroids. This true reality, SIP must deny utterly, or else the whole self indulgent life would collapse stupendously.

Confronted in their sin, Adam and Eve hid in the garden, but at least they acknowledged God's voice and He provided a covering of animal skins for their

nakeness. The voice of God is so threatening to most people today that transitional treatment is required. That treatment I would suggest is self sufficiency. Self sufficiency is a learned behavior. It deals with a reality beyond self indulgence, and is best experienced in creation or nature, just as did Adam and Eve.

As a boy roaming the grasslands and forests of Eastern Washington, I do not find creation threatening. But dropping urban dwellers into the wilderness or even an established campground will not provide the needed motivation to begin the self sufficiency journey in itself, because it is much easier to withdraw into the dysfunctional reality of SIP. What is required is a more community support mechanism to help foster that first step.

In that regard nature must be combined with service to some higher cause than even SIP sufferers acknowledge exist, even though they do not truly participate. I recently had the opportunity to visit such a camp. The specific week I was there they were dealing with young people with diabetes. There were just about as many counselors as there were participants or students. Many came from great distances to attend, and many were granted scholarships and returned with treatment drugs they could not afford. The campground was run by a Christian couple that would like to move on in faith to what God would have next for them.

Wonder Springs would like to buy the camp and enlarge it within the concept of providing nature based service opportunities for larger groups than can presently be housed, and also to focus upon treating SIP in the general population. In that respect we would like to solicit your help in this endeavor. We need to find an investor s who would be willing to invest some of their self sufficiency to make this adventure opportunity a reality. Please contact us for more information.