



The Wonder Springs Chronicle

9 September 2009; Volume 11, Number 35

The Wonder Springs Chronicle

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Traditional Historic American Values, *Part 1*

From very recent history it seems as if the traders on Wall Street believe that their rapidly increasing fortunes are again just a few months away. To a certain extent they are correct because it really doesn't make a whole lot of difference to them because they get paid as long as the markets continue to function, up or down. The only time they really lose is when nothing happens. This brings up two questions you might like to ponder, because the future of Wall Street traders really is of no interest here, but for your intellectual musings they may be:

Does Wall Street any longer reflect the true prosperity of the country and the world, or is it just an exclusive special interest, determined to extract monetarily its due no matter the greater social costs?

Since the recent inception of a new enterprise model called "Too big to fail" has government intervention

in big business essentially sown the seeds of future economic stagnation, or worse, that will eventually have to be treated as weeds and eradicated, to again restore the diversity of the free market system?

Moving on, a few weeks ago I was reading a Wall Street Journal interview with the current Governor of Texas, Rick Perry. The essence of that article discussed present Texas prosperity while the rest of the nation languishes in prolonged recession, budget deficits, and essential despair. Early in the interview the governor pointed to a table with three books that outlined his programs for the current Texas prosperity. Those three books were "The Road to Serfdom" by F. A. Hayek; "The Forgotten Man" by Amity Shlaes, and "The 5000 Year Leap" by W. Cleon Skousen.

Both Hayek's and Shales' books are favorite references at



Wonder Springs, and over time we have written reviews and quoted frequently from their pages, however I was not aware of “The 5000 Year Leap.” Since at that time I was in Spokane I stopped at a bookstore and picked up a copy. I normally write a review of a book, music album, or article and pretty much leave it at that, but after taking in The Leap, I decided a little more depth was needed. What I read in the pages was what I long believed about the Founders and the Constitution of the American Republic, but had never read anywhere, or heard properly discussed in context. So today we begin that journey, but before we begin that context, I shall digress for a little personal context.

When you load the Wonder Springs Chronicle Front page you see right away the continuation “A Biblical Creation Worldview.” Why that line instead of a “Christian” or similar worldview? Probably most importantly, we live in a world today where the term Christianity has lost any relevant meaning and understanding in the broader society. To put it in a more common worldly context, the term Christianity no longer really stands for any specific set of doctrines or absolute standards. Christianity has become relativistic, just as in the world it attempts to reach with a gospel. Hence Christian teachings today are really not that much different than the moralism you see taught in many secular arenas.

My first experience with Christian relativism goes back to the days of Lutheran catechism. There we were taught that the creation story in Genesis had to be interpreted through the “scientific” lens of evolution. My pre adolescent view that the straightforward reading of scripture that seemed to imply a young earth, must therefore be adapted by faith to include millions and billions of years. In later years I found out that other Christians had even more bizarre theories, like a multimillion year gap between Genesis 1:1 and Genesis 1:2, but I’m getting off track.

When I went to college, I really didn’t know what I wanted to do with my life, but I was good at science so I thought I would give that a try. I soon learned that the abysmally poor mathematics I was taught in high school

would be a definite handicap in any other field of science other than biology, so that is where I sort of ended up. Not only could I handle the math, mostly statistics, which they don’t teach in high school, I really liked the classes, especially classes related to ecology.

The spring quarter of my senior year I took Field Botany, which was a class where you went out, gathered a broad variety of plants, identified them according to their taxonomy, and then dried them putting them into your own small herbarium. Being interested in mountains and the nearest mountain to Cheney, Washington being Mount Spokane, about every two weeks I made a collecting excursion to find new and varied plants I could not find on the prairie. When I made my first trip, most of the ground was covered in snow, by the time I made my last trip in late May that same snow covered area, was a meadow of more plant diversity than I could apprehend.

As I bent down to collect that one unique plant specimen, I was so overwhelmed with the complex diversity, I had to offer a little prayer that went something like, “Lord, this spectacle is way too complex for me to believe that this occurred through evolutionary processes, if that means I have to be a bad scientist, then that be so.” For about the next twenty years I continued alone in that bad scientist belief. Then I learned others shared a similar creationist view, there was an organization called the Institute for Creation Research located in California.

Shortly thereafter I also found another organization known as Answers In Genesis, again made up of those weird people who believed that the Bible was inconsistent with evolution and with true science. In fact there are now so many of us bad evolutionary scientists that last year a Jewish guy, Ben Stein made a movie called “Expelled” which dealt with the growing numbers of Creation Scientists and the price they were paying in their jobs for being bad scientists and not believing in either the scientific merit, or the atheistic dogma of evolution.

All this is to point out that I pretty much feel the same way after reading “The 5000 Year Leap, A Miracle That Changed the World.” I, as well as the whole American public, have been fed a line of until the cows come home rhetoric, about the founding

of the United States and particularly about the writing of the United States Constitution. Those exaggerations of the truthful reality for the most part come from well meaning people who sincerely, but fallaciously believe in the relevance to society of their propaganda and brainwashing attempts.

Much of this came from the Religious Right and particularly now dead Jerry Falwell, likewise James Kennedy, well aged Pat Robertson, and others that have bombarded the airwaves with the fact that this country was founded as a Christian nation and all we need to do is return to Puritan religious values and everything will be heaven on earth. It is true that many of the early colonists to American shores were devoutly Christian, trying to produce heaven on earth, but it was always their particular vision of heaven on earth. One does not have to delve too deep into history to find that Roger Williams, founder of the state of Rhode Island, was asked to leave Massachusetts because he was a Baptist and not a Calvinist or a Congregationalist.

On the naturalistic evolutionary atheist side of the debate, if they acknowledge at all any traditional religious values of the founding of the United States, they are quick to point out that that was back then and we have now evolved past that point, to some type of fundamentalist liberal progressive world, in which everyone does as they please, and peace and prosperity just sort of emerge out of the slime of anarchy and chaos.

Perhaps these people need to go back to their religious roots and see that even their religion requires millions if not billions of years for the undirected evolutionary leaps to occur, a decade or two, even by their most optimistic elitist agenda just doesn't have enough time, and definitely not enough information or energetic resources to make it happen.

In the context of Biblical creation as well as what I learned in reading the Leap, was that the Founding Constitution Writing Fathers basically prepared a secular document, meaning in theological terms common grace. However the Fathers also understood that without religious ethics and morality, common to all civilized people, the nation would quickly degenerate

into anarchy and chaos. Their miraculous product has served this nation and the world well for over two hundred years. It is only recently that this underpinning has begun to evaporate and we are now beginning to see the economic fruit of these atheistic enterprises.

Of course these enterprises include not just the business sector, but also politics, and the judiciary. The current worldwide recession was caused almost entirely by cancerous attempts to get something for nothing without risk. The resulting collusion of both the Bush and Obama administrations, to bailout too big to fail big business enterprises clearly is an attempt to circumvent natural law for the benefit of a few, and the will of the people be damned.

So we really don't live in a time of economic uncertainty, which is just a symptom of a deeper disease. What is taking place are planned attempts to replace creation's natural laws with elitist favoritism to the politically powerful who control the monetarily wealth, whom it is believed hold the chaos at bay, rather than being the primary source of that developing entropy.

We will close this week with five fundamental points outlined on page 78 of *The Leap*, describing the required religious beliefs of a free society that must be taught in schools to maintain a viable republican form of government:

1. *There exists a Creator who made all things, and mankind should recognize and worship Him.*
2. *The Creator has revealed a moral code of behavior for happy living that distinguishes right from wrong.*
3. *The Creator holds mankind responsible for the way they treat each other.*
4. *All mankind live beyond this life.*
5. *In the next life mankind are judged for their conduct in this one.*

When I think back of all the stuff I learned in school I cannot recall being taught any of the above. Even scarier is that in my life in Christian churches of varying persuasions, these five points most of the time generally were of secondary importance compared to some other religious agenda of social relevance.

Looking closely at the above values you clearly see that they are basic tenants of all human religion

from the most primitive paganism to the most highly evolved emergent Christian sect. Even atheists recognize the need for a moral code for society to function. It is just that their religious preference has no way of developing or maintaining that code, either through philosophy or some other path. The difference between Biblical Christianity and other religions is in Christianity Jesus Christ is not only the Creator, He is also that moral judge, and is also the propitiatory sacrifice that justifies mankind as keeper of that good life lived moral conduct.

So next week we will get more specific in our analysis of "The 5000 Year Leap." If you have the opportunity to get the book definitely make the purchase and read the book. There has been a lot of talk this year about "Change You Can Believe In." Contrary to the current agenda flowing out of Washington, DC, as well as Wall Street, that change is going to come about by the reemergence of traditional historic American values. Why is that going to occur? Because these values are based upon Natural Law and moral principles that interpret and function in a way Creation and human intuitions actually work.

The other sort of change, hoped for by others more progressive, is really just a fantasy creation, of those who have lost touch with true human roots, and desire to create a counterfeit reality. Not only is the moral fabric not there, neither is the Natural Law or the energetics to make their vision functional.

The 5000 Year Leap is about the American Constitution that in a couple of short centuries, so greatly surpassed all combined human progress in the previous 5000 years, that the contrast is awe inspiring. In the context of our last episode, it was the words of the Constitution that allowed for the development of music, beyond a limited sphere, to the point where you can listen to virtually any genre of music, anywhere, on a device so small that it would have thought to have been impossible even a decade ago.