

Friday with Fred – August 4, 2017



Our World is Rapidly Worsening

-A.E. Houseman-

As Christians I think we would all agree that Houseman's assessment of our culture is correct and all too self-evident. I'm sure there are many reasons for this fact. Behind the scenes in the spiritual realm the Devil, Satan, the Prince of Darkness blinds the eyes of the unbelieving and distorts the truth of God's word. One of the biggest lies is articulated by Atheism.

The worldview of Atheism rejects the sacred and reduces everything to the secular. It comes through many venues. One source is Romanticism and its resulting Humanism. This led to Scientific Positivism or Darwinian Naturalism. (Nature is the whole show.) This produced the chilling political philosophy of Karl Marx called Materialism. His goal was to eliminate the sacred and reduce everything to the secular or the material. This view reduces everything to physical, material or trace elements, and results in seeing, according to B.F. Skinner, "no essential difference between a rat, a radish, or a person." In Atheism there is no transcendent objective truth from God, only subjective values that change on the whims of man. Ethics that determine right and wrong or good and bad are replaced with the options of legal or illegal. Morality in a secular world has mutated from its sacred source because 'True Truth' is the casualty in a culture devoid of the transcendent Christ.

It is true that our world is rapidly worsening, but this is not a new state of affairs. The Lord Jesus and the early church did not live in a friendly environment. Hostility and hatred toward Christ and Christians is to be understood not as the new norm, but the norm. Jesus told his apostles, and by extension us, that the world will hate Christians because the world hated Christ. Jesus said, *"In the world you will have tribulation but take courage I have overcome the world."*

So, unless your goal is to sneak into heaven incognito, then welcome to the war. But remember, the nature of the war is not only secular or physical on earth but spiritual in the heavenly places. We must always remember that we wrestle not against flesh and blood but against rulers and powers and spiritual forces. (Eph. 6:12). So take up the full armor of God. (Eph. 6:13-18)

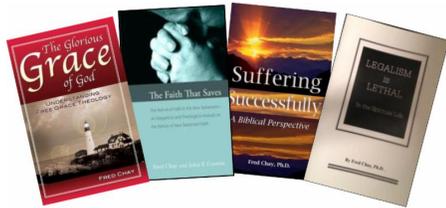
We need them all, but which piece of the armor of God do you need most today?

Serving Him with you
Until He comes for us,
Fred

It was the apostle Paul who promised;
"All those who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution."
(2 Tim. 3:12)

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