

Socialism and Christianity each have their own primary presupposition, and these concepts are exactly opposite. One says that humans are basically good and will improve with time, the other says that humans need a Saviour, a Redeemer.

In the words of John F. Kennedy, "Our problems are man-made, therefore they can be solved by man. No problem of human destiny is beyond human beings." That is the great western mindset. Communism has bowed to it. Christianity resists it continually, sometimes more successfully than others, but in the end Christianity will prevail.

Socialism is a prominent world view. Included in it are certain beliefs and convictions. Socialism requires that all beliefs be tested. Nothing is to be accepted by faith. Each person must consider any and all beliefs and traditions no matter what area of life they involve. After due consideration the individual decides which beliefs are the most logical and which ones will work for the good of humanity in general.

In Socialism the answers to human problems and challenges must be sought by critically examining each problem. Firm factual evidence and scientific methods must be used in these examinations.

Ethics are important in Socialism. However, the principles of ethical conduct must be developed in the light of how much they will enhance the wellbeing of all.

In Socialism the concept of truth is constantly changing. There are no objective, permanent truths, no absolute truth. Only new knowledge can help humans to grow collectively and thus recognize the ever-emerging new truths by which we live.

For the Socialist only this life is important. The afterlife, if it exists at all, is not to be the concern of the humanist. We must strive to make this life better for everybody by growing in our understanding of the past and striving to live in concert with those who disagree.

The final goal of Secular Socialism is to build a better world for all by the open exchange of ideas and tolerance. The good of all and tolerance are watchwords of Secular Socialism.

Socialistic tolerance is not the same as the grace of God. It is interesting to consider how Socialistic tolerance is the man-made form of divine grace. For the Christian God has paid the price for the separation of God and mankind and extended his free acceptance to mankind in Christ. He then instructs Christians to extend free acceptance to others in gratitude. This is indeed tolerance. It is a meeting place even though the underlying reasons are different. The Humanist wants tolerance because he or she believes in the worldwide brotherhood of mankind without God. Christians can join with Humanists on issues that they have in common and still explain the reasons for their beliefs.

Just remember that conclusions often come from different motives. Socialists only have their own will power to bring about change. Only in Jesus Christ do men and women have the power of the Holy Spirit to bring about personal change.

But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, so that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord." 1 Cor. 1:30-31