

Introduction:

Sometimes I think about the changes my Papal Beasley saw in his lifetime. Electricity in every house, indoor plumbing, automobiles, man walking on the moon, and so on. But those changes did not come in a short but a long period of time. We often adapt and don't even realize the changes that have occurred. Humanism has changed our society by changing our points of reference over a long period of time.

I) God and Our Country

A) **Religious freedom was one reason our country was established. But not just religion but Christianity**

1. Religious groups came to this country seeking religious freedom. (Puritans, Quakers, Methodist, etc.)

- a. **First Charter of Virginia** (granted by King James I, on April 10, 1606)

"Lastly and chiefly the way to prosper and achieve good success is to make yourselves all of one mind for the good of your country and your own, and to serve and fear God the Giver of all Goodness, for every plantation which our Heavenly Father hath not planted shall be rooted out."

- b. **The Mayflower Compact** (authored by William Bradford) 1620

"Having undertaken, for the glory of God, and advancement of the Christian faith, and honor of our King and Country, a voyage to plant the first colony in the northern parts of Virginia, do by these presents solemnly and mutually, in the presence of God, and one of another, covenant and combine our selves together..."

- c. **John Adams and John Hancock:**

"We Recognize No Sovereign but God, and no King but Jesus!" [April 18, 1775]

"Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." --October 11, 1798

2. Many of our early laws reflected the Bible -- blue laws where it was illegal for businesses to be open on Sunday; divorce laws in most states allowed divorce for unfaithfulness, cruel behavior, and mental illness, etc.
3. Congress begins every session with prayer
4. For many years schools started with prayer every day, 10 Commandments posted in school buildings, Bible used in literature classes, McGuffey Readers taught moral and spiritual lessons.

Thomas Paine:

"It has been the error of the schools to teach astronomy, and all the other sciences, and subjects of natural philosophy, as accomplishments only; whereas they should be taught theologically, or with reference to the Being who is the author of them: for all the principles of science are of divine origin. Man cannot make, or invent, or contrive principles: he can only discover them; and he ought to look through the discovery to the Author."

"The evil that has resulted from the error of the schools, in teaching natural philosophy as an accomplishment only, has been that of generating in the pupils a species of atheism. Instead of looking through the works of creation to the Creator himself, they stop short, and employ the knowledge they acquire to create doubts of his existence. They labour with studied ingenuity to ascribe every thing they behold to innate properties of matter, and jump over all the rest by saying, that matter is eternal." "The Existence of God--1810

B) Gradually our country has trended away from God,

Hebrews 2:1 Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

1. Prayers have been outlawed at all school and extra-circular events. August 15, 2009 "School Principal, Athletic Director could go to jail for Prayer Before Lunch at School" This was a lunch for school employees after school hours and not students

were present.

2. Students have been told to not bring their Bible to school.

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.-A 10-year-old student at Karns Elementary School and his parents, represented by attorneys with the Alliance Defense Fund, filed a federal civil rights lawsuit Wednesday against representatives with the Knox County school system. School and district officials prohibit students from reading and discussing the Bible during recess.

3. **Declaration of Independence**

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

4. Chaplain at Harvard is an atheist.
 - a. Puritans established Harvard College in 1636, shortly after arriving in Massachusetts Bay. Harvard's mission statement, given in 1642, was clearly evangelical:

"Everyone shall consider as the main end of his life and studies, to know God and Jesus Christ, which is eternal life."

II) **Humanism and Our Institutions**

"The purpose and program of humanism is to evaluate, transform, control, and direct all associations and institutions. The state is the means by which such is accomplished -- however, whenever, wherever, and whatever areas the state may choose." Robert Wagoner, 1988

A) **Humanists have used our legal system to advance their theology,**

Deuteronomy 16:19 ***"You shall not pervert justice; you shall not show partiality, nor take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and twists the words of the righteous."***

1. Using the Supreme Court
 - a. ***Roe v. Wade*** in 1973 struck down state laws banning

abortion

b. U.S. Supreme Court Decisions - (arranged by date)

McCollum v. Board of Education Dist. 71, 333 U.S. 203 (1948)

Court finds religious instruction in public schools a violation of the establishment clause and therefore unconstitutional.

Burstyn v. Wilson, 72 S. Ct. 777 (1952)

Government may not censor a motion picture because it is offensive to religious beliefs.

Torcaso v. Watkins, 367 U.S. 488 (1961)

Court holds that the state of Maryland cannot require applicants for public office to swear that they believed in the existence of God. The court unanimously rules that a religious test violates the Establishment Clause.

Engel v. Vitale, 82 S. Ct. 1261 (1962)

Any kind of prayer, composed by public school districts, even nondenominational prayer, is unconstitutional government sponsorship of religion.

Abington School District v. Schempp, 374 U.S. 203 (1963)

Court finds Bible reading over school intercom unconstitutional

Murray v. Curlett, 374 U.S. 203 (1963)

Court finds forcing a child to participate in Bible reading and prayer unconstitutional.

Epperson v. Arkansas, 89 S. Ct. 266 (1968)

State statute banning teaching of evolution is unconstitutional. A state cannot alter any element in a course of study in order to promote a religious point of view. A state's attempt to hide behind a nonreligious motivation will not be given credence unless that state can show a secular reason as the foundation for its actions.

Lemon v. Kurtzman, 91 S. Ct. 2105 (1971)

Established the three-part test for determining if an action of government violates

First Amendment's separation of church and state:

- 1) the government action must have a secular purpose;
- 2) its primary purpose must not be to inhibit or to advance religion;
- 3) there must be no excessive entanglement between government and religion.

Stone v. Graham, 449 U.S. 39 (1980)

Court finds posting of the Ten Commandments in schools unconstitutional.

Wallace v. Jaffree, 105 S. Ct. 2479 (1985)

State's moment of silence at public school statute is unconstitutional where legislative record reveals that motivation for statute was the encouragement of prayer. Court majority silent on whether "pure" moment of silence scheme, with no bias in favor of prayer or any other mental process, would be constitutional.

Edwards v. Aquillard, 107 S. Ct. 2573 (1987)

Unconstitutional for state to require teaching of "creation science" in all instances in which evolution is taught. Statute had a clear religious motivation.

Allegheny County v. ACLU, 492 U.S. 573 (1989)

Court finds that a nativity scene displayed inside a government building violates the Establishment Clause.

Lee v. Weisman, 112 S. Ct. 2649 (1992)

Unconstitutional for a school district to provide any clergy to perform nondenominational prayer at elementary or secondary school graduation. It involves government sponsorship of worship. Court majority was particularly concerned about psychological coercion to which children, as opposed to adults, would be subjected, by having prayers that may violate their beliefs recited at their graduation ceremonies.

2. **ACLU** - humanist organization that supports any anti-bible position.

- a. Homosexual marriages now the law as the Supreme Court Ruled in 2015, ***Obergefell v. Hodges***

The Supreme Court of the United States ruled that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

3. What does our God say?

Amos 5:15 *Hate evil, love good; Establish justice in the gate. It may be that the LORD God of hosts Will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.*

Amos 5:24 *But let justice run down like water, And righteousness like a mighty stream.*

- a. Our society has become drunk on its own "freedom"

Proverbs 31:5 NKJV **5** *Lest they drink and forget the law, And pervert the justice of all the afflicted.*

B) the Mass Media

1. Radio, television, newspapers, movies, etc. They exist for two reasons, 1. to make money, 2. to teach an ideology
 - a. Music -- used to promote sex, drugs, violence, resist all authority. Music videos not only gives the lyrics but also the visual impact
 - b. Television with cable channels are on 24/7/365,

Philippians 4:8 *Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things.*

- i. vulgar language, materialism in its shows and commercials
- ii. Situation ethics

- iii. Illicit sexual content -- 65% of shows during prime time contain sexual messages; 70% of people in a sexual relationship on tv are unmarried.
- 2. Why? Writers, producers, and executives -- 97% pro-abortion, 80% approve of homosexuality, 54% nothing wrong with adultery, 93% seldom or never go to church
- 3. Most news stories concerning religion are ignored unless there is a scandal, religion is generally portrayed as negative.

C) Schools

- 1. Not all teachers are humanists but some are and the system is devoted to the teaching of humanism
 - a. John Dewey a devout humanist is called the father of our modern educational system.
 - b. *"I am convinced that the battle for humankind's future must be waged and won in the public school classroom by teachers that correctly perceive their role as proselytizers of a new faith: a religion of humanity that recognizes and respects the spark of what theologians call divinity in every human being...The classroom must and will become an arena of conflict between the old and new -- the rotting corpse of Christianity, together with all its adjacent evils and misery, and the new faith of humanism, resplendent with the promise of a world in which the never-realized Christian ideal of 'love thy neighbor' will finally be achieved."* -- John Dunphy
- 2. Values clarification (situational analysis, moral relativism) taught in various classes such as sociology, psychology, science, etc.
- 3. Common methods such as the life boat exercise gets the students to decide who will live or die.

Isaiah 5:18 Woe to those who draw iniquity with cords of vanity, And sin as if

*with a cart rope; **19** That say, "Let Him make speed and hasten His work, That we may see it; And let the counsel of the Holy One of Israel draw near and come, That we may know it." **20** Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! **21** Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight! **22** Woe to men mighty at drinking wine, Woe to men valiant for mixing intoxicating drink, **23** Who justify the wicked for a bribe, And take away justice from the righteous man!*

4. Evolution taught as a fact and creationism or intelligent design is ridiculed.
 - a. The State of State Science Standards in 2005 gave Indiana an "A" with one of their reasons being because of their curriculum handled "human evolution" so well.
 - b. On the other hand it gave Kentucky a "D" because of the absence of the word "evolution" in the material. Although the material did in fact teach evolution but it did not use the "E" word.

D) Religion has become more and more social in nature and less and less about man's soul

1. Denial of the deity of Jesus, question Bible authority.
2. Refocus religion to man's social needs,

Acts 22:16 *'And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord.'*

3. No absolute moral laws, hence, the acceptance of homosexuality, drunkenness, gambling, etc.

III) What Should We Do

A) Pray for our leaders,

1 Timothy 2:1 *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, **2** for kings and all*

who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

- B) Turn off the TV and complain to the networks and sponsors
- C) Realize the difference between than which is legal and that which is right,

Acts 4:19 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge.

- D) Teach our children, *Ephesians 6.4*
- E) Preach the Gospel to our neighbors

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

- F) Do not fellowship but stand up against evil,

Ephesians 5:6 Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. 7 Therefore do not be partakers with them.

Ephesians 5:11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them.

Conclusion:

The darker the night the brighter the light. God's word is still the light to our pathway. It is through the Gospel man is saved and societies are changed.