



Blessed is  
the nation  
whose God  
is the LORD.

*Psalm 33:12*

## WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY COUNTRY?

America is facing a largely unrecognized existential spiritual attack that is putting our democracy and way of life at risk. This research paper exposes the motives, goals and power behind the rapid decline of core values in our country previously unchanged for nearly 250 years.

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**Update #50 Feb 2025**

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# WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY COUNTRY



## **PART 1 – INTRODUCTION**

I began this investigation exclusively out of my desire to come to terms with the rapid decline of core values in our country that had stood virtually unchanged for nearly 250 years. In the span of less than one decade I watched those principles be replaced with distorted concepts that often defied reason and would have been dismissed a few years earlier as the ramblings of the lunatic fringe. In other instances, “inclusion” has become a license to force Biblically perverse positions of self-expression to be treated with equity and acceptance in a free society.

- How did we get here so rapidly?
- What have we lost?
- Who or what is behind such a dramatic departure from long held values?

This research paper represents my carefully considered response to those questions.

The conclusions may surprise you or you might dismiss me as an uninformed reductionist, a conspiracy theory devote, or a right-wing religious zealot.

I am admittedly a biased, happily married, white male with accomplished married children and 8 grandchildren. I was a successful international business professional, then a pastor in the mega-church era. I am a full-fledged member of the “Boomer” generation and a product of the rebellious 1960s. I have lived through, witnessed firsthand and often embraced my generation’s belief that we needed a significant reformation and break from the past.

My world view is shaped by 20 yrs of business and 30 yrs of ministry experience. Originally, this was to be a personal investigation with no intention of sharing; nor was it intended to be a scholarly research paper with annotated references. **But recent national and global events have caused me to re-evaluate that position, distribute my research more widely and watch how God uses it.**

I am a truth seeker, humbled by God’s grace to me through Jesus Christ, who wants to know what’s happening to the once great country I love.

There are many factors that have seemingly contributed to these dramatic cultural shifts. A list of them would probably include:

- the proliferation of social media & smart phones-especially their influence on teenagers,
- the deluge of internet information and misinformation,
- unparalleled bitter political division,
- the weaponizing of our judicial system for political gain,
- the rise of Islam in the West, and the rise of Antisemitism in America,
- the increasingly bold terrorist organizations who operate without a moral conscience,
- the instant reporting of events that feed the narrative of deeply biased 24-hour news organizations,
- gender dysphoria,
- deepening racial division,
- the abandonment of intentional parenting,
- the attempted revision of American history,
- increasingly loud voices of radical environmentalists\*,
- the breakdown of law and order in the streets of our nation.

But I believe all of these are the result, not the causes, of what we are witnessing.

My desire to figure out why this was happening so rapidly started about 2 years ago and will probably always be a work in progress. My goal was to take a “30,000 ft” view of centuries of social, political, religious and governing systems . . . probably an unrealistic expectation.

The following discussion assumes the reader has at least a casual understanding of the influences that drove our founding fathers’ beliefs which in turn they enshrouded in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. This hypothesis also requires a somewhat informed view of the increased activity of evil spiritual authorities.

I ask you to join me in my prayer that the Holy Spirit would shed light on truth in a field where good, Godly and well-meaning people hold dramatically opposing beliefs.

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## My insight into this cultural dislocation is informed by:

- 80 years of diverse life experiences living and working in the differing cultures of Europe, the Middle East, America's East Coast, West Coast, Mid-west and South,
- "Battle for the American Mind" by Pete Hegseth and David Goodwin 2022
- "Culture Shock" by Chip Ingram 2014
- "Fortitude" by Dan Crenshaw 2020
- "The Russian Revolution A New History" by Sean McMeekin 2017
- "The Naked Communist" by W. Cleon Skousen 1958, 1964, 1966, 1979, 1986, 2007, 2014, 2017
- "The Return of the Gods" by Jonathan Cahn 2022
- "The Invisible War" by Chip Ingram 2015
- Portions of "The Closing of the American Mind : How Higher Education Has Failed Democracy and Impoverished the Souls of Today's Students" by Allen Bloom 1998,
- Portions of "Inventing Reality The Politics of News Media" by Michael Parenti 1986,
- Portions of "The Anxious Generation" by Jonathan Haidt 2024,
- Portions of "Why Does God Allow Evil?" by Clay Jones 2017,
- Portions of "The War on Children" by John MacArthur 2024,
- Hillsdale College "Marxism, Socialism & Communism" 2024 and \*"Anthropogenic Global Warming" \* Creation Ministries



### MY HYPOTHESIS

I am convinced that, America is engaged in an unprecedented, unrecognized, insidious INVISIBLE WAR for the soul of our country. This SPIRITUAL ATTACK comes in many disguised forms and proving that spiritual reality to the skeptic is problematic. Not everyone will reach the same conclusions.

Never-the-less I contend Satan targeted America at its inception in 1776 with two dominate long-term strategies that matured at the same time in the 1960s.

The key demonic characteristic of both strategies is the removal of God as the highest authority of what is right or wrong . . . good or evil.

STRATEGY #1 : Progressively replace God with "The State" as the highest authority in public education and government institutions.

STRATEGY #2 : Progressively replace God with "Personal Choice and Preference" as the final arbiter of acceptable public behavior in media, entertainment, business and social institutions.

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The inevitable progression of both of Satan's strategies is the rejection of absolute truth thereby ushering in a morally bankrupt age of relativity. Since the early 1960s our nation's understanding of truth has shifted dramatically. What was once clear is now clouded with ambiguity and confusion.

From its founding American history has been characterized by generally accepted moral absolutes which are derived from the Ten Commandments and the teachings of Christ. Regardless of political preference, race, or socioeconomic status, American society generally had consensus on its core values. However, God's absolute truth was gradually replaced by "relative truth" especially in our public educational system. That change has created a nation of indefensible opposing opinions about morality and virtue.

Unfortunately, some Christians have also fallen into this trap. George Barna's research revealed that as far back as 2009, 54% of evangelical Christians did not believe in absolute truth. In an effort to be seen as loving and accepting many Christians have compromised their thinking and embraced moral relativism often without realizing it.

It is into this cauldron of moral confusion and rebellion of traditional American values that Satan's strategic plans have taken root. A favorite "delivery system" he uses to reach his goals are the aspects of Marxism that at first glance appear to offer a more equitable and naturally inclusive society. But it is a lie! Marxist philosophy is grounded in an atheistic view of the universe where religion is seen as an unnecessary human invention.

It is sad that today many of the sincerest advocates of the progressive movement in education, politics and social institutions do not realize that the philosophical and moral framework of their causes have their origin in godless Cultural Marxism.

Appendix #3 page 38 provides a further discussion of how "Cultural Marxism" has increasingly found a receptive audience in America's public square of societal debates.

Although President-elect Trump has promised to dismantle the Federal Dept of Education and remove DEI, Critical Race Theory, LGBTQ+, and non-binary gender affirmation from our children's classrooms and textbooks, that process will be a battle, take years to fully implement and will do nothing for three generations who have already been indoctrinated. Added Jan 2025

I have chosen to focus this hypothesis/position paper primarily on the attack to our educational and governmental institutions. But in our instigative pursuits it is critical to remember the admonition of Ephesians 6: 12-13

“Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms”.

Seemingly positive changes to America’s public education over two centuries is rarely identified as a primary cause of the abandonment of our country’s founding values. But the best way to change the culture of a nation is the indoctrination of the next generation.

Abraham Lincoln famously said,

“The philosophy of the classroom in one generation  
is the philosophy of the government in the next”

Today we are witnessing the reality of that truth.

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I will spend less time on the details of Satan’s second strategy to replace God’s authority with personal choice and preference. Issues like gender dysphoria, LGBTQ+ life styles, abortion as woman’s health prerogative and personal practices that the Bible calls abominations are experiencing an ever growing public acceptance.



The research by author and rabbi Jonathan Cahn along with multiple others including a comprehensive study by National Geographic of current pagan rituals being practiced in America today may have uncovered an evil spiritual power behind these social changes that helps explain their dramatic growing influence. I discuss this in more detail in

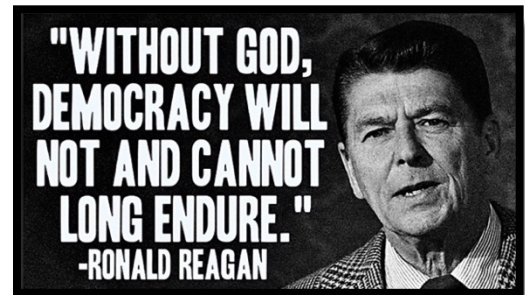
**Part #4 page 20 and attachment # 7 page 55**

But, even if this is only partly right, there can be no question that only evil spiritual authorities could sustain such rapidly growing, wide spread acceptance of movements which often abandon reason, defy the obvious or exclude common sense.

The reader will need far less convincing of the unseen forces behind these cultural changes.

I believe it is not hyperbola to say that these two strategies of Satan, to aggressively remove God from the primary institutions of our daily lives, have the potential to bring about the demise of the great American experiment...remember...

“Your hand to hand combat is not with human beings, but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage.” Eph 6: 12 (The Passion Translation)



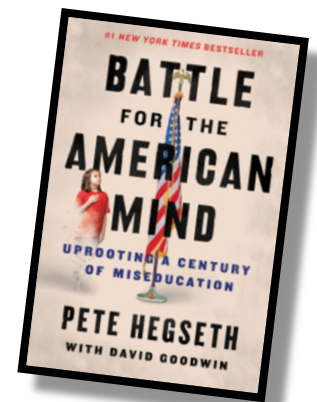
While the election of President Trump appears to have enormous momentum to return to more traditional conservative values, it will be short-lived. Political solutions cannot resolve spiritual issues. Satan will not be deterred from his objects and will likely go “underground”. Some of the most disturbing “achievements” of the progressive left may disappear from the headlines for a season, but do not be deceived, they will return with even greater destructive power and urgency. (Added Jan 1, 2025)

A further introduction to my hypothesis/position paper is most effectively accomplished by reading selected portions of the preface and introduction to the book “Battle for the American Mind” by Pete Hegseth (Yes... \* President Trump’s selection for The Secretary of Defense) and David Goodwin. I have drawn heavily on this book and their extensive research for portions of my paper.

Their perspective, intent and heart however mirror my own.

*\*Appendix # 1 - page 30 Portions of the introduction of the book “Battle for the American Mind”.*

This research paper presents the findings of my investigations, to understand what is happening to my country. While I have made every effort to ensure accuracy and reliability, some portions rely on the work of others and may contain unintended errors. This is not a flawless or comprehensive scholarly study, but rather an exploration rooted in my perspective and conclusions. I encourage others to view this as a starting point—an invitation to dive deeper and expand upon these ideas."



However, if my paper resonates with you and stirs agreement, I urge you to act upon it, inspired by the powerful words often attributed to Edmund Burke, the English writer, philosopher and Parliament member (1766–1794)."

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing".

This research paper is my attempt to do something. PAGE 7



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## PART 5 - NOW WHAT?

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I know all of this is on God's timetable and it is coming together in accordance with His will. But I also know we cannot stop sharing the gospel in every way at every moment; nor should we stop doing everything possible to resist the devil.

As mentioned in my introduction, this paper reflects the insights I have gained through my explorations, grounded in my perspective and conclusions. If my findings resonate with you and inspire agreement, then I ask you to consider taking action as you remember Edmond Burke's powerful reminder: "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

This document is my effort to do something...to begin to confront a culture that once valued God's absolute truth in his Word but now tolerates his removal from the primary institutions of our daily lives. The greatest weapon at our disposal is the influence each of us has on the people in our circle of social, work, school, church and neighborhoods. My challenge to you... Having read this paper, please ask yourself: How could you use this information to inform those within your circle of influence to recognize the urgent threat facing our country? How could you stand against the spread of relative truth and oppose ungodly directives in our education, business or governmental institutions or wherever they arise? I end with the reminder Paul has given to us, Christ's church, in Ephesians 6: 10b-14a

<sup>10b</sup>Be supernaturally infused with strength through your life-union with the Lord Jesus.

Stand victorious with the force of his explosive power flowing in and through you.

<sup>11</sup>Put on God's complete set of armor provided for us, so that you will be protected

as you fight against the evil strategies of the accuser.

<sup>12</sup>Your hand-to-hand combat is not with human beings,

but with the highest principalities and authorities operating in rebellion

under the heavenly realms. For they are a powerful class of demon-gods and

evil spirits that hold this dark world in bondage. <sup>13</sup>Because of this, you must wear all

the armor that God provides so you're protected as you confront the slander, for you are

destined for all things and will rise victorious. <sup>14a</sup>Put on truth as a belt to strengthen

you to stand triumph. (TPT) The Passion Translation (Underlining and bold are mine).

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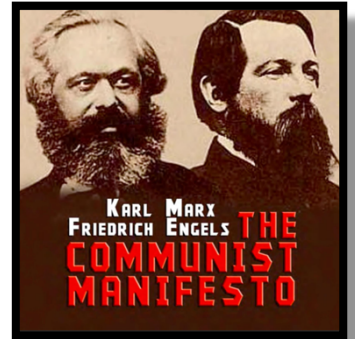
## Appendix #3

# SOCIALISM, MARXISM, COMMUNISM, DEMOCRACY, WOKE and DEI

**Karl Marx**, 1818-1883, the German political philosopher and economist was one of the most influential socialist thinkers in history. With his collaborator Friedrich Engels, Marx published The Communist Manifesto in 1848.

**Marxism** is a political and economic theory where a society has no classes. Every person within the society works for a common good, and class struggle is theoretically gone. Marx argued that throughout history, society has been based on two social classes, the ruling class (bourgeoisie) who own the means of production (factories, for example) and the working class (proletariat) who are exploited.

**Marxism advocates for an overthrow of capitalism that would lead to socialism, before eventually transforming into communism after class antagonisms cease to exist. Marxists often refer to socialism as the first, necessary phase on the way from capitalism to communism.**



### Marxism Is An Atheistic And Materialistic Worldview Based On Karl Marx.

Marxism promotes the abolition of private property, no more ownership of the means of production, with the end to move into Communism. A primary goal of socialism is social equality and a redistribution of wealth based on one's contribution to society.

Marxism has had a profound impact on contemporary culture. Modern communism and most socialist theories, including the progressive wing of our current political parties all derive from it.

**Cultural Marxism** is the latest iteration of Marxist principles applied to culture rather than economics.

This movement began in the 1950s when the Frankfurt School's Marxists (Adorno, Marcuse, Horkheimer, Lowenthal) moved to the U.S. Realizing that focusing on economics and the class structure wasn't going to work in well-established democracies with strong capitalists economies, **they decided to focus on minority grievance groups instead.**

**Cultural Marxism** remains popular among those who shape our cultural, academic, and political lives and in the popular movements pushing equity and diversity. **The modern extreme versions of the feminist movement, rainbow/LGBTQ+ movements, Black Lives Matter (BLM), "Defund Police" movements, \*extreme environmental activists, and most recently Hamas and Palestinian protest supporters all get their philosophical and moral frameworks from "Cultural Marxism".**

**Under current Marxism all human relationships are now defined in terms of the systemic oppression of one group by another a favorite battle cry of the "progressive" movement.**

**WOKE** is a political slang adjective whose exact definition changes depending on who you ask. It is derived from the mid-1900s African American Vernacular English (AAVE) originally meaning someone who is informed and "conscious of" or "awake to" racial prejudice and discrimination.

**Current Usage:**

**WOKE** is most often used as a political umbrella term for individuals who are obsessed with their view of social injustice and think of themselves on a moral high ground. They see themselves as fighting for a better world over issues such as racial and sexual injustice, gender change freedom, LGBTQ+ rights, **\*extreme environmentalism** or whatever current protest and cause is making headlines.



They are usually characterized as intolerant, indoctrinated, left-wing progressives that are close-minded and unable to accept a different perspective. They can also be ignorant to the irrationality of some of their claims and the problems they create. They are seen to be "tolerant of everything" as long as it fits into their worldview. Additionally, they attempt to force everyone else to agree or become socially criticized and eventually cancelled.

The term gained popularity at the start of the Black Lives Matter movement in 2014. The Ferguson, Missouri protests that year spotlighted the social injustices and police brutality faced by the black community following the fatal police shooting of Michael Brown. Brown's death was shortly followed by the fatal police encounters of Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, and others -- which has continued the use of the phrase in protest and activist circles.

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)**



DEI training aims to address systemic biases, discrimination, and inequalities that may exist based regarding race, gender, age or sexual orientation by providing the knowledge and skills needed to foster more inclusive environments. **Page 41**

## Criticism of DEI

Having diverse workplaces and communities inclusive of all people is a legitimate and worthwhile objective. However, too often implementing DEI policies actually do more harm than good.

- DEI leads to preferencing individuals based on their race, gender, or orientation. Therefore, others are intentionally discriminated against based on the same criteria.
- DEI tends to favor those who look different as opposed to those who are diverse in other areas, like faith, culture, background or experience. This occurs because the emphasis on the physical gives DEI immediately tangible results by making a group appear more diverse.
- DEI preference based on one's looks rather than skills and experience, results in failure. Putting limitations on the talent pool because of racial or gender quotas, significantly reduces the number of qualified candidates.



**DEI mandates are increasingly evident in the progressive movement often referred to as "Identity Politics". People point to President Biden's selection of a Vice President and his Cabinet Members as illustrations of this principle of looks or life style as the criteria rather than skill or experience.**

**There is a great deal of discussion right now after the election of President Trump that the military, Meta, Amazon and others are dropping their DEI mandates. Only time will tell if these are lasting new policies.**

# The massive resurgence of ancient Pagan rituals as reported by National Geographic

## Portions of National Geographic March 2023

Centuries ago, ancient Celts traveled windy moors to worship the horned god, Cernunnos. Ancient Egyptians crossed deserts to invoke the protection of Isis. Druids journeyed to a forest clearing to perform rituals under the moon. But over time, such deities faded into myth; the rituals went underground.

Recently, however, a resurgence of interest in Pagan practices—crystals and tarot cards, astrology, and herbal magic—has brought Paganism from the fringes back to the center of pop culture, or at least to the top of your TikTok feed. At least 1.5 million people in the United States identify as Pagans—up from 134,000 in 2001. They range from Wiccans and Kemetics to TikTok witches and heathens.

“There is, in general, a move away from organized religions and toward spirituality,” says Helen Berger, an author and sociologist of contemporary Paganism and witchcraft. Female empowerment and gay rights movements, \*the climate crisis, and a desire for a more life-affirming religion have fueled interest in the growing spiritual community, she adds.



From spellcasting in Salem, Massachusetts, to full moon rituals in Asheville, North Carolina, to transcending the metaphysical plane in Sedona, Arizona, here's how to immerse yourself in the cultural traditions of Pagan communities.

PICTURE: Witch Brian Cain addresses a gathering of the Witches' Magic Circle in Salem, Massachusetts, on October 31, 2021. The ceremony honors friends and family members who have died...

...Historically, the term pagan referred to anyone who didn't believe in Judeo-Christian principles, often belonging to ancient cultures in countries such as Greece, Rome, Egypt, Scandinavia, and Ireland...

After centuries of persecution, Paganism remained mainly a fringe practice until the **1960s**. It became an attractive religion to follow for those rebelling against restrictive social norms. In the past decade, the rise of **TikTok—#witchtok has more than 35 billion views...**

### Where to experience Pagan culture

Attending a ritual event is one way to learn about Pagan practices. Samhain, celebrated from the evening of October 31 into November 1, marks the end of harvest season and the start of winter. In Salem, Pagans observe the holiday with festivals, dancing, nature walks, and honoring their ancestors. Visitors can attend the Official Salem Witches' Halloween Ball to witness ceremonial dances, spellcasting, and other rituals.



Dixie "Queen Lady Passion" Deerman, founder and high priestess of Coven Oldenwilde in Asheville says that to experience rituals firsthand is transformational, as participants experience an ecstatic state, creating a feeling of oneness with other participants. "Immersion in ritual is akin to floating in soul-soothing water," Deerman says. ...Travelers can visit Mother Grove Goddess Temple, near downtown Asheville, to join in public rituals during the ancient holy days (and Earth Day) and participate in full moon ceremonies.

During other key Pagan holidays like Yule (winter solstice), Ostara (spring equinox), and Litha (midsummer solstice), Salem's Witch House, the only standing structure in town with direct ties to the Salem witch trials of 1692, offers live demonstrations and activities that teach about Pagan traditions.

#### Witch hunt tourism is lucrative. It also obscures a tragic history

Roger Herson, a practicing wizard, says Salem's New England Magic and Pentagram are great starting places for people exploring Paganism since they're both a "shop and school of witchcraft and wizardry," he says. "There are many witches in Salem who still practice and teach 'magick' in an authentic way, as opposed to those who are more into the glitz and glam," Herson says.

Salem and Asheville aren't the only towns known for pagan gatherings... Every July, during the midsummer solstice, WitchesFest USA—one of the most visible Pagan festivals in the U.S.—draws thousands into the streets of Manhattan for dance circles, 60 different workshops, and guest lectures from global Pagan leaders.

Pagan-friendly communities teeming with psychic shops, astrology classes, natural healers, and metaphysical supply stores appeal to the physical components of Paganism. In Sedona, a city known for its vortexes and sites of spiraling energy, it's the spiritual activities that draw thousands of tourists to the Red Rocks annually. ... local lore has it that the whole area is a vortex that enhances spiritual practices such as meditation, clairvoyance, and yoga," says Susannah Crockford, an anthropologist and author.

...Green Witch Creations, an apothecary in Sedona, provides workshops on spiritual empowerment, chakra alignment, and aura healing. It also sells chakra jewelry and crystal wands and offers tarot card readings and Reiki energy sessions ...

#### Pagan terms:

Tik Tok witch—A social media influencer who shares knowledge on witchcraft, spirituality, and magic.

Cernunnos—Ancient Celt deity who oversees nature, wilderness, and sexuality.

Isis—The most powerful goddess in the ancient Egyptian religion, she oversees healing and magic.

Druid—A practitioner of Druidry, an ancient Celtic nature-based pagan religion that believes in \*environmental stewardship.

Wiccan—A practitioner (often called a witch or wizard) of Wicca, one of the largest modern-day, nature-based pagan religions.

Kemetic—A person who follows the beliefs of the ancient Egyptian religion.