

# CULTURAL MARXISM

## *Undermining America's Morality*

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.” *Proverbs 14:34*

### **Terminal Decadence**

Every nation in history has experienced a cycle called Terminal Decadence, a period of moral decline which leads to a nation's extinction (John MacArthur).

Typically, a nation deteriorates in four phases. The first phase is peace and prosperity, but prosperity is deceiving. It causes self-indulgence – the second phase – as people tend to neglect the cause of their success. Self-indulgence naturally leads to the third phase – idolatry and immorality. Because of its immorality, a nation faces the final phase – judgment and destruction (*Job 12:23*).

The cycle of Terminal Decadence does not happen overnight, rather it occurs over a long period time, usually unnoticed. Like termites in the walls of a house, immorality weakens the fragile frame of society, until the whole structure quietly caves in. Morality, then, becomes the key to a nation's survival, and its judge is the God of heaven, to whom all nations must answer.

The nation of Israel experienced the cycle of Terminal Decadence. At first, Israel enjoyed peace and prosperity after entering the Promised Land. Then, it slid into a mire of self-indulgence during the Period of Judges. Next, Israel embraced idolatry and immorality during the reign of the Kings, until finally God judged the nation by splitting it (Israel and Judah). Eventually, both nations were destroyed and taken captive by enemy forces (Assyrians, 722 BC, and Babylonians, 608 BC).

The Lord reminded His people of His sovereignty over nations. “Can I not do to you as a potter does to his clay? As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand. If I announce that a certain nation is to be uprooted, torn down, and destroyed, then that nation renounces its evil ways, I will not destroy it as I had planned. If I announce that I will build up a

nation, then it turns to evil and refuses to obey Me, then I will not bless it as I said I would” (*Jer. 18:6-11*).

What makes a nation stable? Solomon said that righteousness is the answer (*Prov. 14:34*). The stability of a nation is linked to its morality. Morality refers to what is moral or right by God. Immorality is that which is wrong by God. Since He is sovereign, nations are accountable to Him and to His standards of righteousness (*Deut. 20:17, 18; Gen. 15:16*).

How does God respond to national immorality? The Bible tells us that God blesses those nations that are moral, but He judges those nations that are immoral. God will judge individuals in the afterlife. However, God judges nations while they exist.

The cause of Terminal Decadence in a nation is immorality, but what is the cause of immorality? It is man's sinful nature. It is not in his nature to perpetuate goodness, righteousness, or virtue. It is his nature to promote evil, immorality, idols, and self. Sin is the cause of America's problems. However, there is another agitator in the mix – our spiritual enemy.

### **Grinding America Down**

Satan hates God. He hates God's people. He hates God's Word, and he hates God's plan. Therefore, Satan hates the United States, the one nation founded largely by Christians on biblical principles. No doubt, Satan has undermined its Christian heritage, Christian character, and Christian institutions. But how? What has been Satan's strategy for destroying America?

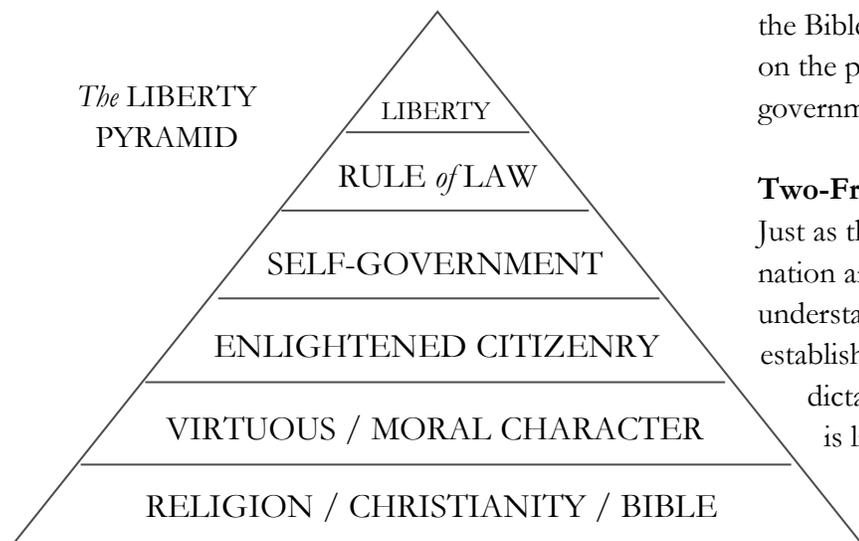
The Devil is described as the father of lies (*John 8:44*) and one whose goals are to steal, kill, and destroy (*10:10*). Over time, Satan has stolen the knowledge of our nation's Christian history. We have forgotten all that God has done in our past. Satan has destroyed our religious base, our foundation of Christian principles and practices. He has masterfully introduced ideas and philosophies that contradict our founding principles (deism, Darwinism, socialism, secular humanism, relativism, postmodernism, environmentalism, etc.). Finally, Satan has killed our collective sense of morality. In doing so, he has undermined our nation's stability.

Dr. Jedidiah Morse delivered a sermon in 1799 from *Psalm 11:3*, “If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?” Here is an excerpt from his sermon.

“Our dangers are of two kinds, those that affect our *government* and those that affect our *religion*. They are, however, so closely allied that they cannot be separated. The foundations which support the interests of Christianity are also necessary to support a free and equal government like our own.

“In all those countries where there is little or no religion, there you will find tyrannical governments, gross ignorance and wickedness, and deplorable wretchedness among the people. To the kind influence of Christianity, we owe that degree of civil freedom and social happiness which we now enjoy. In proportion as the genuine effects of Christianity are diminished, either through unbelief or of the corruption of its doctrines or the neglect of its institutions, in the same proportion will the people recede from the blessings of genuine freedom and approximate the miseries of complete despotism.

“Whenever the pillars of Christianity shall be overthrown, our present republican form of government, and all the blessings which flow from them, must fall with them.”



## The Liberty Pyramid

Americans in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century understood that our enduring strength came from our religious and moral framework. Even Daniel Webster, in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, understood this truth. He said, “To preserve the government, we must preserve morals, and morality rests on religion. If you destroy the foundation, the structure must fall. When the public mind becomes corrupt, laws are a nullity and constitutions are wastepaper.”

Liberty is uncommon. In fact, tyranny has been the norm of history and liberty the exception. For liberty to survive and thrive in a nation, several pieces must be set in place – the rule of law, the practice of individual self-government, an educated or enlightened citizenry, people with virtuous or moral character, and religion. In the case of our forefathers, religion refers to biblical Christianity.

The Founders knew the importance of religion and morality. Samuel Adams wrote, “Religion and good morals are the only solid foundations of liberty and happiness.” Benjamin Franklin said, “Only a virtuous people are capable of freedom. As nations become corrupt and vicious, they have more need of masters.” Benjamin Rush wrote, “The foundation of a republic is in religion. Without this there can be no virtue, and without virtue there can be no liberty, and liberty is the object of all republican governments. Christianity is the only true religion. In proportion as men adopt its principles and obey its precepts, they will be happy and wise.” Finally, Joseph Lumpkin wrote, “Banish the Bible from the land, succeed in loosening its hold on the public mind and the experiment of self-government will prove a failure.”

## Two-Front Invasion

Just as the Founders understood how to construct a nation and secure liberty, America’s enemies understand how to deconstruct our nation and re-establish tyranny. Joseph Stalin, the Communist dictator of the Soviet Union, once said, “America is like a healthy body, and its resistance is three-fold: its patriotism, morality, and spiritual life. If we can undermine these three areas, America will collapse from within.”

When considering how to dismantle America's Liberty Pyramid, our enemies have ordered an assault on two fronts – from the top down and from the bottom up. The top-down attack has been led by the Fabian Socialists, otherwise known as Progressives (or the Left). They have focused their attention on the rule of law, particularly how to unshackle the federal government from the Constitution. Though it has taken the Fabians many decades, they have been very successful in undermining the Constitution's authority and protections.

The bottom-up attack, which is the brainchild of Antonio Gramsci, has been much more effective. Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937) was an Italian Communist who believed in Marx's ideas but not his methods. Classical Marxism, that of a natural political revolution by the oppressed of society, did not prove to work. Gramsci's theory as to why revolution failed was that while the oppressed may desire to rise up and overthrow the system, their cultural values would not allow them to do so. Undergirding the culture of Western civilization are Judeo-Christian ethics, a commitment to biblical morality and religious influence (which Gramsci called "hegemony").

Therefore, Gramsci believed that for Marx's ideas to take root in Western civilization, the culture had to be transformed first. Society's attachment to biblical morality had to be destroyed. Thus, Gramsci's approach was to replace Classical Marxism with Cultural Marxism, which is to follow Stalin's advice – "If we can undermine America's patriotism, morality, and spiritual life, then it will collapse from within." Cultural Marxists would wage war against America's moral and spiritual heritage.

### **The Frankfurt School**

In America, Gramsci's ideas were set in motion in the 1930s by John Dewey and members of the Frankfurt School (originally named the "Institute for Marxism"). John Dewey, known as the "Father of Modern Education," was a Fabian Socialist, signer of the *Humanist Manifesto* (1933), co-founder of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and President of the socialist League of Industrial Democracy. Brannon Howse, author of *Grave*

*Influence*, wrote, "John Dewey has wounded America to a degree that very few people have."

Dewey travelled to the Soviet Union in 1928 to help the Bolsheviks establish their Marxist education system. Then, he returned to head the Department of Education at Columbia University. Soon, Dewey was appointed President of the National Education Association (NEA). He was instrumental in inviting the Frankfurt School faculty to the U.S. in 1933 (Communists from Germany). "Together, they set about implementing Cultural Marxism in every area of American life. Their goal was the destruction of Christianity, the creation of chaos, and the transition of America from Cultural Marxism to [Classical] Marxism, which is socialism" (Howse).

The members of the Frankfurt School got right to work, taking influential jobs in American universities and colleges and articulating their philosophies in an abundance of documents. Dewey believed the best way to impact Americans in a short time was through education and media. Frankfurt School propaganda has produced many of the well-known movements that we see in America today – deconstructionism, tolerance, postmodernism, political correctness (PC), critical theory, multiculturalism, feminism, the sexual revolution, the LGBTQ crusade, and more. Thus, our moral rot was set in motion.

Once its anti-American forces were in place, the Frankfurt School influence spread like wildfire in the 1940s and 1950s, so much so that it caught the attention of prominent politicians such as Senator Joseph McCarthy. McCarthy began a campaign to investigate, expose, and remove these dangerous influences (known as McCarthyism), but he was quickly villainized by his political enemies for intolerant witch-hunting. McCarthy was eventually censored by the U.S. Senate, sidelined and silenced.

Another Congressional effort called the House Un-American Committee (HUAC) also tried to expose pro-Communist and treasonous agitators in education, media, and Hollywood, but it too was condemned for its invasion of free speech, free press, and personal opinion. In other words, leaders of the

United States, although hyping the Red Scare to the American public (dangers of nuclear war and Communist take-over), were turning a blind eye to this infiltration of our own country.

Once the Frankfurt School members had trained two decades of teachers and professors, the “Baby Boomer” generation came along. The “Baby Boomers” are the largest generation in American history, children born during or just after World War II. They were teens and twenties in the 1960s and 70s, just beginning or having graduated college. Frankfurt School intellectuals tapped into and utilized this massive generation to begin the cultural revolution. The seeds of rebellion blossomed, and the “Baby Boomers” went wild!

### **The Cultural Revolution**

The “Baby Boomers” questioned everything – authority, law, tradition, American political and economic ideals, even Christian morality. As a result, “the wheels came off the wagon.” First, there was the Hippie Movement, led by free-spirited, countercultural non-conformists who ignored boundaries, tested limits, and rebelled against social norms, all in an effort to bring about Utopia. Hippies rebelled against capitalism and viewed money as evil. Hippies contested any restrictions and lived in a “free” society. They dropped out of college and quit their jobs and, instead, lived in communes or poor houses and depended on food stamps. They celebrated Earth Day, hugged trees, and believed in “flower power.” Though Hippies wanted to “stick it to the man” (authority), they became dependent on “the man” for survival.

Next, Cultural Marxism infiltrated the art and music industries. The new medium was rock-n-roll, another way to pump out the message of rebellion and irresponsibility. Along with rock-n-roll came drugs and alcohol, which Hippies thought were a means to escape life and “free” their souls. Thus, they got “stoned” or “buzzed” on marijuana (a.k.a. weed, grass, pot, dope), LSD, or cocaine, and enjoyed psychedelic hallucinations.

Synonymous with drugs and rock-n-roll was sex. Alfred Kinsey and Herbert Marcuse marketed sexual exploitation as normal, convincing Americans to challenge traditional sexual restraints (Christian virtue or abstinence). Thus, the Sexual Revolution began, known by the motto “Make Love Not War,” which led to a plague of pornography, sexual diseases, and unwanted pregnancies. In 1960, the birth control pill was approved, and in 1973, Margaret Sanger’s abortion clinics, known as Planned Parenthood, were “legalized” by the court’s decision in the case of *Roe v. Wade*, to “free” women from responsibility.

Another effect of the Cultural Marxist movement was radical feminism. Betty Friedan ignited this movement with her book *Feminine Mystique*, in which she decried the traditional roles of women in society (i.e., wife and mother), which “destroy” their freedom and restrain them from reaching their full potential. Radical feminists also pushed for the acceptance of homosexuality. Though Friedan marketed her ideas as enforcing “equality” on society (egalitarianism, sameness), her real goal was to destroy biblical marriage and the family.

This cultural revolution naturally led to an anti-American spirit throughout the country. Hippies despised and burned the flag, reviled their political leaders, and loathed patriotic sentiment and the American Dream. America’s terminal decadence was accelerated, perpetrated by a host of deviants. The influence of the Frankfurt School was unmistakable. The disintegration of our nation had begun. Our religious and moral base was revolutionized by the first wave of Cultural Marxism, and the second wave was on its way. As we witness a moral freefall, how long will it be before our judgment and destruction?