

How to De-Program Yourself From all of the Blasphemous Ideas You Learned in Public School

Who's Pulling *Your* Strings?

For more than 160 years American educators have been turning out Marxist “Manchurian Candidates,” who have been subtly indoctrinated to respond to cultural issues in ungodly ways, all the while thinking that they are “card carrying Christians.” The operative word here is “think,” and it is the way they have been taught to think (or not to think) that is the brilliance of the public (government) school movement to systematically de-Christianize our youth. The majority of America’s pastors should be ashamed that they have allowed their God to be systematically blasphemed on a daily basis without presenting a forceful voice of opposition to their congregations.

Buddy Hanson

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Think You're Ready to Make Your Decision on How to Educate Your Child?

If so, what are you going to say when the phone rings
and the caller asks:

“Why don't you pass the time by playing a little solitaire?”*

Make this your answer:

**“Bug off, Satan,
I'm giving my children
a Christian education!”**

* In the Manchurian Candidate the suggestion to play solitaire was an irresistible command to Sergeant Raymond Shaw. When he saw the Queen of Diamonds, it compelled him to follow the orders of his Communist brainwashers to assassinate the nominee for President of the U.S. Today, such a suggestion could be Satan's code to have us rationalize :

“The public school my children go to is not like all the other public schools. Their teachers are kind and caring Christians who, together with my children, are being 'salt and light' to other students.”

This is Satan's attempt to have your children be his unwilling pawns in bringing honor to him, instead of to Jesus, as they make their daily decisions.

Preface

Picture this: The war is over and you return home a hero. You are a Major and your platoon has received accolades for bravery with one member receiving the Medal of Honor for single handedly saving the lives of all but two members of your platoon. Everything appears to be going well until you begin having nightmares that include flashbacks of very disturbing scenes in which the Medal of Honor recipient kills two members of your platoon. You wake up screaming, and begin to think you are losing your mind, because when someone asks you about the Medal of Honor winner Sergeant Raymond Shaw, your answer is:

Raymond Shaw is the bravest, kindest, warmest,
most wonderful human being I've ever met in my life.

As these words come tumbling out of your mouth, you wonder why you would say that about a person that you and the other members of the platoon greatly disliked: a person who even admits that he is not a very likable person. Still, the nightmares continue and when you discover that another member of your platoon is having similar nightmares, you set out to solve the mystery. What you don't know is that Sergeant Shaw is receiving phone calls in which the caller says, "Raymond, why don't you pass the time by playing a little solitaire?" After a few minutes the phone rings again. "Did you see the Red Queen? This is what I want you to do. Tomorrow, go to such and such a place and kill so-and-so." Shaw, unaware of the trigger word "Red Queen," would then proceed, zombie like, to his prescribed destination and carry out his orders.

To make a long (and dramatic) story short, the Communists plan to use Sergeant Shaw as a sleeper agent to kill the nominee for President of the United States, so that his step-father, the Vice Presidential candidate can become the Presidential nominee. The trigger word "Red Queen," which turns out to be the Queen of Diamonds, causes him to turn his focus on the brainwashing that he and the other members of the platoon underwent. As the truth begins to unfold, you remember that instead of the reported heroics of Raymond Shaw, your platoon was captured, then brainwashed to believe that Shaw saved you from the communists. During this process the Queen of Diamonds was used to focus his thoughts upon following the orders of his Communist handlers, *without knowing why he is doing it!*

Richard Condon's 1959 thriller novel, *The Manchurian Candidate*, was adapted in a classic film that popularized the concept of brainwashing a person to do sinister activities. The idea of a person or group of persons being "programmed" to automatically act in a particular manner captivated movie goers in 1962, and again when it was re-made in 2004. This begs the question: "If the Communists can do that to mature military personnel, why couldn't someone do this to the immature and unsuspecting minds of public school* children?"

* Public schools are not really "public" at all. The "public" has no say in the curriculum, the school their children must attend or the discipline (or lack of it) in that school. Instead the civil government teaches an anti-Christian worldview that totally omits the Christian roots of American history, and self-government. Instead of depending upon individual initiative and self-government, today's curriculum promotes a tyrannical, central governing nanny state. In addition, there is no instruction provided to support the reality of absolute truth (since, if there were, the children would know *who* they are, *how* they got here, *what* they are supposed to do, and *how* they are to do it,

“No way, Hanson!” you say. “There’s absolutely no way our public schools could motivate students from Christian homes to automatically make decisions that fly in the face of their religion, *and then not even realize what they were doing!* Besides, I came through the public (government) schools without having my Christian worldview negatively impacted.”

My response to that is “Not so fast!” Before concluding that your worldview hasn’t been implanted with suggestions to serve yourself with your daily decisions, instead of serving God and others, check your premise with the following list of “Trigger Words,” and see if your typical response mirrors the “conditioned response” Satan prefers, or whether it mirrors the “conditioned response” that Jesus prefers.

The Power of Suggestion

“Trigger” Words	Satan’s Conditioned Response	Jesus’ Conditioned Response
Jesus	Savior	Savior, Lord, & King
God’s Word	True, but has a few contradictions.	Inerrant and no contradictions.
Purpose of God’s Word	To comfort us during Satan’s domination of the earth.	To instruct us in how to live and govern ourselves and complete the defeat of Satan.
Christ’s Kingdom	Church	The entire earth.
Our duty	Evangelism	Evangelism & discipleship
Our attitude	Be nicer than non-Christians, but not confrontational.	Personal holiness, which includes rebuking unholy acts.
Worldview	Live according to God’s principles <i>inside</i> our homes and churches (“religious realm”), and according to man’s principles <i>outside</i> in the “real life” realm.	Live according to God’s principles in <i>all</i> situations and in <i>all</i> circumstances, because God has given us <i>one</i> ethical standard to be used at <i>all</i> times.

Instead the curriculum is designed to “dumb the students down” so that they will become good “wards of the state.” Indeed, the government schools teach the “religion” of the state, and serve as its “churches,” or should we say, “synagogues of the state.”

How did you do? If you found that your worldview is unscathed by your years spent in civil government indoctrination, pat your self on the back, because research indicates that only *five percent* of adult Christians have a Christian worldview. Compare that to the statistic that approximately *95 percent* of adult Christians were “educated” (perhaps I should say “indoctrinated”) in the government schools and you will have the first of several “hmmm moments” as you go through these pages.

How you react to them will give you a good indication of whether your profession of faith is real and you are indeed a Christian, or whether it is based upon some misinformation and you are merely a person who is attempting to live a moral lifestyle. Remember the conditioned response that the “Manchurian Candidates” automatically said when asked about Sergeant Shaw?

Raymond Shaw is the bravest, kindest, warmest,
most wonderful human being I’ve ever met in my life.

Just for fun, let’s string together the individual portions of Satan’s preferred conditioned response and compare it to the conditioned response preferred by Jesus. In both cases we will be responding to the question of what we, as Christians, believe and stand for. In other words, “What makes Christians tick?”

Satan’s Preferred “Conditioned Response”

Jesus is the Son of God and came to earth to rescue us from our sins by doing what it is impossible for us to do: live a perfectly sinless life. His Word is true and only contains a few contradictions and it comforts us with thoughts about how wonderful it will be in heaven when we are once and for all free from Satan’s domination of the earth.

In the meantime we should do our best to present a testimony that we are “nice” law-abiding people, but we should be careful not to be confrontational by “imposing” our beliefs on others.

Our duty as Christians is to tell the Gospel message to as many people as we can, because we increase Christ’s Kingdom whenever we add new members to the church. When we are *inside* our homes and churches, we tell each other about God’s Word, but when we are *outside*, in the “real life” realm of life, we respect other people’s beliefs by not forcing Christian principles into the workplace or school room.

Jesus’ Preferred “Conditioned Response”

Jesus is the Son of God and came to earth to rescue us from our sins by doing what it is impossible for us to do: live a perfectly sinless life. In addition to being our Savior, He is also our Lord (boss) and King (ruling over our civil rulers). The Bible is without error and is our instruction book on how to live and govern ourselves according to God’s will, because it is our duty to “take dominion” of the earth (Gen. 1.26-28), and eventually “crushing” Satan’s head” (Gen. 3.15; Rom. 16.20). Jesus assures us that He is now ruling the earth from heaven at the right hand of God the Father where He promises to “reign till He has put all enemies under His feet.” (1 Cor. 15.25) Since God has given us *one* ethical standard to be used in *all* situations and in *all* circumstances, we are presenting a Godly antithesis to the cultural agenda of non-Christians. This means that we should not only tell the Gospel to others, but help each other grow in God’s grace and knowledge through discipleship. (Matt.28.18-20)

Both of these “conditioned responses,” or “life scripts” are lengthy and would not be used in every response or in deciding every decision, but they do provide a working framework for how to respond to the various situations that present themselves to us on a daily basis. So as you think about which “response,” or “script” most accurately describes the way in which you are currently living, remember that it was only when the Manchurian Candidates began to realize that someone was “pulling their strings” that they were able to correctly deal with their situation. This is the purpose of *How to De-Program Yourself from all of the Blasphemous Ideas You Learned in Public School*.

It's been said that “the road to hell is paved with good intentions,” and unless and until we realize that, with the best of intentions, we are doing a much better job of *servng Satan than Jesus*, we will have no reason to make any corrections in our lifestyles.

Former college and professional football coach Lou Holtz says, “Life is 10 percent what happens to you and 90 percent how you react,” and my prayer is that your reaction to your everyday situations and circumstances reflect Jesus’ preferred “conditioned response, rather than Satan’s. Speaking of football, one of the most

valuable teaching tools of coaches is game films, because “the films don’t lie.” A player who does not believe that he is incorrectly performing a particular technique can see on the game tape that he didn’t execute a play properly because he failed to perform the technique correctly. No player sets out to mess up a play, just as none of us sets out to make bad decisions, but the game tape is unbending in its depiction of the truth. Players learn to check their egos at the door of the film room, and that is just what we need to do when we encounter a biblical principle that challenges our current way of making decisions.

The Format

The first five chapters, (named “Cuts” to remind you that your “non-Christian conditioned strings” are being cut) explain the answers to the “Personal Worldview Checkup:”

First Cut -- Education

Second Cut – Civil Government

Third Cut – Worldview & Lifestyle

Fourth Cut – Decision-Making

Fifth Cut – Eliminating Rationalizations & Pragmatism

The second five chapters, (named “Replacement Strings”) provide explicit explanations on how to tune yourself up to play some sanctified soul music, by incorporating *biblical principles* into your *daily decision-making*. The fifth “Replacement String” is a seminar in print that divides the Christian lifestyle into Seven Days, so you can see which “Day” you’re on and what you need to do to move to the next day. You won’t want to miss this, but resist the temptation to turn to it now. It will make more sense if you work your way toward it by reading the preceding chapters.

Upon completing the text you will have “cut” the man-honoring non-Christian strings which may be currently influencing your daily decision-making and lifestyle, and replaced them with God-honoring Christian strings. The logical next step is to live a

“perfectly” obedient Christian lifestyle. Is that a possibility? Jesus thinks so, and Appendix One. “Be Ye Therefore *Perfect*...” explains how to do it.

Along the way there are helpful charts and illustrations. There is even a “Biblical Filter for Any Christian Curriculum (Home School, or Christian Day School) on the Parents Resource Page in the Fifth Cut, so you can make certain that your child’s education is *Christian*, and not merely *conservative* .

You should be able to make good use of the previous descriptions of Satan’s and Jesus’ preferred conditioned responses,* plus your answers to the “Personal Worldview Checkup” in determining just whose “life’s script” you are following. The main goal of the Checkup is to reveal the CAUSE behind your DECISIONS. Your daily decisions don’t happen in a vacuum. Something is motivating your approach to life, and the five topical areas of the Checkup will help you clarify what that motivation is. To go back to our sports analogy, if you have ever played in a team sport, you can probably recall a particular player who was, at best, having only average success at a position, until the coach moved him to another position, and all of a sudden his success rate increased dramatically. This could also be a benefit of taking the Checkup. You may discover that where you are currently spending the majority of your time and efforts could be better used in another vocation, because God has given you gifts that are better suited for that area.

WARNING: The manner in which some of the questions on the Personal Worldview Checkup are phrased give away the correct answer, but be honest with yourself and answer each question according to what your current worldview and lifestyle reflects. After all, you’re the only one who is going to see your answer sheet! This will provide you with as accurate analysis of your worldview as possible. The correct answer to each question will be discussed in the following chapters, so take a deep breath, hang on and enjoy the journey!

* You may well, have some additions and/or deletions to my generic “conditioned responses,” and if so please send them to me. I would very much like to see them (and perhaps even use them!).

Your Very Own, Self-Administered, Personal Worldview Checkup*

First Cut -- Education

1. What is man?
 - a. A biological accident.
 - b. A special creature made by God.
2. Should instruction be exclusively based upon absolute truth?
 - a. No.
 - b. Yes.
3. Should teachers instruct students in “basic and *relative* ethics” facts,” or in “basic facts and *absolute* ethics?”
 - a. Basic Facts.
 - b. Absolute Ethics.
4. Should students be taught the principles of self-government, or should they be instructed in how to work in groups to form a “consensus” or a “synthesis” of opinions through “Group Think?”
 - a. Consensus and/or synthesis
 - b. Self-government
5. The teaching of history:
 - a. Actual history should be revised to fit a politicized view that all cultures, at bottom are identical, since all religions are, at bottom, equally irrelevant.
 - b. The actual history of Western civilization (which is based upon biblical ethics) is contrasted with the history of Eastern civilization (which is based upon non-biblical ethics), because *only* God’s Word gives the correct principles on how to live and govern ourselves.
6. Is there such a thing as a “mind,” or are the only things “real,” those that can be “touched, seen, smelled, or objectively measured?”
 - a. There is no “mind.”
 - b. There is a “mind.”
7. Should the curriculum be child-centered, or Christ-centered?
 - a. Child-centered
 - b. Christ-centered

* Appendix Two has a “clean copy” of the Personal Worldview Checkup. Feel free mark your answers on this one and to make copies of that one and give it to your friends.

8. Students should be taught how to bring “glory and honor to God” in everything they do.
 - a. False
 - b. True
9. Christian education is:
 - a. An optional add-on to a child’s worldview.
 - b. It is an essential part of The Great Commission . (Matthew 22.37; 28.18-20)
10. How does a person become “wise?”
 - a. Be a good student; go to the best schools and sit under the best teachers, and learn from our experiences .
 - b. Study the Word of God.
11. What is the purpose of an education?
 - a. Prepare us for a paycheck.
 - b. Prepare us for life.
12. Who is responsible for the education of children?
 - a. The state
 - b. Parents
13. Where is the best place to educate students?
 - a. In a structured classroom .
 - b. Wherever we “sit, walk, lie down, and rise up.” (Deuteronomy 6.7)
14. Should teachers get to know the worldview of their students, or should they stick to the curriculum?
 - a. Stick to the curriculum .
 - b. Learn the worldview of the students.
15. Teachers should pray with and for their students.
 - a. False
 - b. True

16. When it comes to the issue of Christian education :
- a. Pastors should approach this in a pragmatic manner by not addressing it because it is a divisive issue and they will lose members (or their job!). Besides many churches have members (including officers) who are affiliated with the public schools and/or who send their children to the public schools.
 - b. Pastors should approach this in a pious manner by obeying God's clear commands and thoroughly explain the sin of sending Christian children to schools that hate God and only promote the worship of false religions. (Deuteronomy 6.4-7; Isaiah 36.9; 2 Corinthians 6.14; Matthew 15.14, etc.) In the process of doing this, the pastors are providing a testimony to their members that they practice what they preach by trusting-in and relying-upon God's sovereign control of His creation to honor our obedience and curse our disobedience.
17. Is it a sin to submit our children to programs and policies of non-Christians, and/or to join with non-Christians in business ventures?
- a. No
 - b. Yes

Second Cut – Civil Government

18. What does the separation of church and state mean?
- a. The church shouldn't have anything to do with the state, and the state shouldn't have anything to do with the church. Both should be entirely separate.
 - b. God gave each self-governing sphere (individual, family, church, state) particular responsibilities, and neither sphere should usurp any responsibilities of the other.
19. Should we depend upon the civil government to "legislate" us out of our cultural problems, or should we "self-govern" ourselves out of our cultural problems?
- a. Legislate
 - b. Self-govern
20. Our civil laws:
- a. Should be based upon man's opinions and "best guesses," which means sometimes there will be some "gray" areas when the courts administer justice.
 - b. Should be based upon God's absolute ethics as revealed on the inerrant pages of the Bible, which means there are only "black and white" areas of right and wrong behavior.

21. Our elected representatives should govern as:
 - a. Politicians
 - b. Statesmen
22. When we vote:
 - a. Do we vote for the “lesser of two evils,” or
 - b. Do we vote to “overcome evil with good?” (Romans 12.21)
23. Which economic policies do you favor?
 - a. Those which promote the socialistic “heavy hand” of civil government? or
 - b. Those which promote biblical capitalistic principles of self-government?
24. Do you see the role of civil government as:
 - a. Providing a wide array of social programs, including education? or
 - b. Defending us against attack and keeping our communities safe for us to live, work, play and raise our families the way we want?
25. We should “Render to Caesar:”
 - a. Everything he asks, because Jesus says so.
 - b. Only the things that are Caesar’s, because Jesus says so.
26. Should Christians be involved in civil government?
 - a. No, all politicians are crooks, and we should not dirty our hands in that field.
 - b. Yes, a Christian can bring honor and glory to God in all areas of life, and since God has given only *one* ethical code by which to live, Christian statesmen can help ensure that only biblical legislation takes place.

Third Cut – Worldview & Lifestyle

27. What does having a Christian worldview mean to you?
 - a. It helps me to know the differences between how Christians and non-Christians view the world.
 - b. It helps me to know the *descriptions* of the differences between a Christian and non-Christian worldview, plus it helps me know God’s *prescriptions* for how to deal with the various cultural issues.
28. In order to have a satisfying lifestyle:
 - a. We can depend upon our self-sufficiency, personal initiative, education and the practical application of our knowledge to an ever-changing value standard of relative ethics, or

- b. We can depend upon God's Word to sufficiently provide us with all the wisdom needed to live and govern ourselves successfully in accordance with an absolute and unchanging value standard.
29. When it comes to one's worldview and lifestyle:
- a. There two ethical value standards: a "religious" one to be used in our homes and churches, and a "real life" one to be used in our vocations and/or with non-Christians?
 - b. There is only one absolute and unchanging ethical standard for all areas of our life and for all the situations and circumstances in which we may find ourselves?
30. Is your worldview and lifestyle based upon:
- a. The 2nd Table of God's Law: Commandments 5-10 (honor those in authority, don't kill, cheat, steal, lie or be jealous)? Or
 - b. Upon both the 2nd Table and the 1st Table of God's Law: Commandments 1-4 (worship only the one true God of the Bible, don't make idols, or misuse the name of the Lord, and to keep the Lord's Day holy)?
31. When God tells us to "walk in *all* the ways that I have commanded you, so that it may be well with you," (Jeremiah 7.23) what does this verse mean to you?
- a. God made a mistake, He really didn't mean it, and we won't be punished if we only make an effort to obey those parts of the Bible that conform to our current worldview and lifestyle. After all, nobody is perfect!
 - b. Even though we are imperfect and will never be able to obey God perfectly, we should strive to do that because God never makes mistakes and means what He says. We should put forth our best effort, knowing that we will be blessed if we obey God, and cursed if we disobey Him.
32. I believe that:
- a. God exists for us.
 - b. We exist for God.
33. Who's "running the show?" Who's in charge of planet earth?
- a. Satan
 - b. Jesus
34. As Christians do we have a
- a. Hope to cope? Or a
 - b. Hope to conquer?

35. It is said that a “*text* without a *context* is a *pretext*,” and so is a “worldview and lifestyle without a biblical reference point, *pointless*.” This is why we should always ask before making any decision, or addressing any cultural issue:
- Is the *context* of my decision-making man’s word?
 - Is the *context* of my decision-making God’s Word?
36. Which statement correctly describes the Christian attitude?
- We should keep in our place and not impose our religion on others.
 - We should “boldly” and “confidently” live by God’s ethics at *all* times and in *all* places.
37. Which group of people controls history?
- Non-Christians
 - Christians
38. Are the times in which we are living “normal,” or “abnormal?”
- Normal
 - Abnormal
39. God’s Word is:
- Something soothing for our troubled mind.
 - A lamp to our feet.
40. How do we “enlarge the place of Christ’s tent?” (Isaiah 54.2)
- Be seeker-friendly and water down God’s Word so that we won’t offend non-Christians by using words such as “sin,” and “hell.”
 - Teach the whole counsel of God’s Word and trust in God’s sovereign control to bless the preaching of His Word.
41. Our duty as Christians :
- Rely-upon and trust-in the advice of *others* when they tell us that we are supposed to live and interpret the Bible within the framework of current events.
 - Trust-in and rely-upon God’s Word to guide and direct our daily actions.
42. Are we:
- Armed with God’s perfect counsel, and not dangerous?
 - Dangerous because we have the potential for changing our culture with God’s ethics, but don’t know *how* to go about it because many of our pastors have done a poor job of teaching us?

43. Is your daily testimony (lifestyle):
- a. About the same as the lifestyle of your non-Christian neighbors.
 - b. Significantly different than that of your non-Christian neighbors.
44. Do we live in an orderly, cause-and-effect universe, or in a universe where events happen randomly?
- a. A random universe.
 - b. An orderly universe.

Fourth Cut – Decision -Making

45. Is it possible for us to make correct decisions by depending upon our own wisdom and common sense?
- a. Yes, after all, God has given us a brain and the ability to communicate.
 - b. No, because Adam and Eve's disobedience impaired our ability to reason correctly. This is why we need to filter all of our decisions through a grid of biblical ethics. Thinking God's thoughts after Him is the only way we can be confident that we will arrive at correct decisions.
46. What is your opinion regarding God's Word?
- a. I have *respect* for it.
 - b. I have a *reverential fear* of it.
47. What is the "Chief Influencer" of your daily decisions?
- a. What's in it for *Me*? or
 - b. What's in it for *God*?
48. What's the *Context* of Your *Worldview*?
- a. It's pretty much the ethics of commandments 5-10: Honor those in authority, don't murder, cheat, steal, lie or covet.
 - b. It is a combination of all Ten Commandments, plus the application of the Case Laws that follow them, whereby Moses tells us how to live and govern ourselves.
49. What are the criteria you use to make your best decisions?
- a. The "prevailing opinion" of other Christians, plus my common sense and logic.
 - b. God's Word is the primary authority, but for those topics about which I haven't studied, I comply with what other Christians suggest.

50. Do you lean on *your* understanding, or upon *God's*?

- a. Are you going to mirror the way non-Christians live, making your daily decisions according to your wisdom, while *adding* moralistic ethics to your lifestyle in an external effort to win points with God? Or,
- b. Are you going to mirror the way the Bible commands you to live, with your external actions founded on the internal motivations of your new spiritual heart.

Total of "A" answers _____

Total of "B" answers _____

Multiply the "B" answers by 2 to get a numerical score. _____

Relax, there's no "pass or fail" score. As you have probably figured out, the "B" answers reflect a Christian worldview. Since each of us is completely "justified" in God's sight as soon as we repent and turn from living according to our rules, and begin living in accordance to His rules, and since each of us is gradually "sanctified" (made more holy) throughout the remainder of our life on earth, there is no "pass" or "fail" score for this test. The only thing that counts is to identify those areas of our worldview and lifestyle that need repenting of, and then to do so. This is the only way to bring glory and honor to our Lord, Savior and King, Jesus Christ, and it is also the only way to present a godly antithesis to the ungodly cultural agenda of our non-Christian neighbors. They *think* that they know how to live, but we, through the grace of the Holy Spirit who has removed the veil from our eyes ¹ *do know* how to live and govern ourselves and we are commanded to provide a daily testimony of how to do just that. ²

Each one of us grows at our own speed. So, instead of focusing on a particular *score*, we should be concentrating on the *process* of improving our current score so that we can be more consistent and effective servants of Jesus. This percentage score simply indicates to you the amount of biblically correct answers you selected. Your two-pronged strategy for walking in a more consistent manner with your Creator is to keep your strong areas strong ("B" answers), and to strengthen your weak areas ("A" answers).

A friend of mine says, "You never know what you look like until you get your picture taken." And now that you have had your spiritual "picture taken," and know your "score," are you so quick to dismiss the idea that up to now you may have been an unwilling *sleeping agent* for advancing the non-Christian cultural agenda by rarely, if ever, stepping back from your daily decision-making process to consider whether your daily decisions will honor man, rather than God?

God's Theological Coin

**ONLY
God's Word
Is True**

**Man's Word
Is ONLY
False**

We are all quick to say, "God's Word is *true*,"³ but we are slow to turn that theological coin over and admit what's inscribed on the other side: Man's word is *false*." However, there is no such thing as a one-sided coin, so we must remind ourselves that if our decisions do not conform to Scripture, they are false and won't work, no matter how much time, effort or resources we devote toward them. This will be discussed more in Replacement String 4, but for now let's proceed to the explanation of the answers to your Personal Worldview Checkup.

In your *process* of becoming more sanctified (holy), periodically ask yourself:

- ✓ Am I doing what I can to grow in God's grace and knowledge?
- ✓ Am I weeding out misunderstandings about what I believe the Bible to be teaching?
- ✓ Am I approaching Bible study with a "no holds barred" attitude of allowing God's Word to take me wherever it will?

God's Practical Application Coin

**ONLY
God's Word
Works**

**Man's Word
ONLY
Fails**

Notes

1 2 Corinthians 3.14

2 1 Corinthians 10.31; Colossians 3.17

3 Psalm 119.160; John 17.17

Introduction

Christians agree that:

- ❖ “We are more than conquerors.” Romans 8.37
- ❖ God’s will “will be done *on earth* as it is in heaven.” Matthew 6.10
- ❖ “He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” 1 John 4.4
- ❖ “The earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.” Habakkuk 2.14 And,
- ❖ “The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ and He shall reign forever and ever.” Revelation 11.15

Yet, the vast majority of us *live* as though none of these glorious truths are in the Bible and that we are merely a bunch of nice and polite cultural losers! Something is out of sync. Could it be our definitions? And could our definitions be different because of our *presuppositions*? Everybody is a *presuppositionalist*. You may be thinking, “Not only did I not know that I am a presuppositionalist ; I’m not certain that I even know what that word means!” That’s a fair response. A presuppositionalist is a person who presupposes a *conclusion* about a particular set of facts. For example, all Christians presuppose that God’s Word is true, because to not do so would be to invent a false religion, whereby they or someone else would be the ultimate determiner of truth. However, among Christians there are sub groups that presuppose certain *conclusions* regarding God’s Word. A large group, for example, presupposes that Satan rules the earth, so anytime they come across one of the numerous passages that describe how Christians will be blessed for living according to God’s agenda instead of their agenda, they say something to the effect: “This is a true statement, because all of God’s Word is true, but this particular passage is meant for a future (or past) generation.” They explain their presupposition by stating: “Just look at today’s events, how could anything good come out of all of the evil that is currently going on!”

Another group of Christian presuppositionalists approach such optimistic verses in the Bible with the attitude, “God’s Word is true, and I have been called to obey it, not edit it, so if His Word tells me that I can expect blessings from obeying it, and curses from disobeying it, I take that at face value and let God determine when He will bring about His intended results and when and how I and my family and community will be blessed. After all, *He* is in complete control of His creation and Jesus says that He came to ‘defeat the works of the devil.’¹ In other words, I am going to let God’s Word interpret God’s Word, not current events, or best-selling end times books, or TV preachers!”

There you have it: Two sets of Christians, both with the best of intentions, yet the worldview and lifestyle of one group is pessimistic about making a positive difference in their culture, and the worldview and lifestyle of the other group is optimistic about restoring culture to reflect biblical principles. If this were a book about the end times, this would be the perfect place to begin that discussion, but this book is about *carrying out our calling* in Christ’s Kingdom, and how we should, as God’s chosen people, conduct ourselves in order to provide a godly testimony to our non-Christian neighbors. Each of us would agree that we have been miraculously rescued from an unholy worldview and lifestyle. The discussions of the various answers in the Third Cut – Worldview &

Lifestyle, provide detailed descriptions of how we should go about our daily duties in a God-honoring manner. This book is not about *when* Jesus will return or *what* He is going to do when that happens, but *how we should live between now and then*. Despite what you may hear from the pulpit, or from TV, or in best-selling books, the Bible gives no definitive answer to *when* Jesus will return. Jesus Himself states, “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only.”² This means that anyone who thinks they might have a clue about Jesus’ return is only making a subjective *speculation*. On the other hand, God has caused His inerrant Word to be given and preserved through the centuries because it provides us with objective *revelation* about how we should live and govern ourselves. The question facing each of us is whether we’re spending the vast majority of our time basing our worldview and lifestyle upon objective *revelation*, or upon subjective *speculation*.

Let’s put this in terms of preparing for an upcoming game. We *know* the strengths and weaknesses of our opponent, because they are *revealed* in the films we have of their previous games. But we can *speculate* that they may put in a few new plays for their game against us. QUESTION: Would you prefer that your coaching staff spend most of this week’s practice preparing us for what our opponent *might do*, or upon what we *know* our opponent *will do*? The answer is obvious isn’t it? We could enter the game prepared for virtually every trick play in the book, and get blown away because we were neither prepared to defend the strengths of our opponent, nor to attack their weaknesses.

Nothing could be more pleasing to Satan than for us to be so consumed by *speculating* on when Jesus will return, that we neglect to do the very things that will lead to his ultimate demise.

You may know all of the “Christian” things to say, but if what you *say* does not reflect what you are *thinking*, be assured that sooner or later, *your actions will betray your thoughts*. Each of us wants to be successful. Nobody sets out to make a wrong decision, which means that if, in your

heart of hearts, you trust in *your word* and *agenda*, instead of in *God’s Word* and *agenda*, your decisions will reflect that. The purpose of *How to De-Program Yourself from All of the Blasphemous Ideas You Learned in Public School* is to assist you in making decisions that will reflect your trust in God’s Word and His agenda.

Do you think that it could be possible that you make your daily decisions as though you were a puppet on a string? “No way!” you reply. “I am an independent and self-reliant person.” While that may well be your personality, consider the fact that none of us has the time to think through every decision we make. Instead we depend upon a *framework* of experience and learning through which we can filter our many daily decisions. However, think back to how you developed your decision-making *framework*. After all, it didn’t just appear in your brain. Slowly and surely you developed it as you formed friendships and learned which actions were acceptable to them, and you also spent large chunks of your time sitting in a classroom where you were constantly bombarded with ideas and points of view that probably contradicted the ethical values you learned at home. But since they were coming from a respected source of

information, you tended to accept them without questioning their validity. As you became a teenager, you began to incorporate these ideas and philosophies into your daily actions and found that your parents were very much out-of-date. So you rebelled against their ethics. Welcome to the wacky worldviews of non-Christian teenagers!

By the time you got to college, you were determined to change the world with your *new-fashioned* ideas, because obviously your parents' *old-fashioned* ideas weren't working very well. But, then as the years passed, you grew tired of rubbing up against ethical brick walls, and discarded your liberal ideas and became a respected conservative member of society by pretty much "going with the flow" of events and not bothering to "rock the boat." However, as you've progressed from conservative child, to liberal young adult to conservative adult, you have maintained your decision-making frame of reference. Your days of picketing the administration building on campus may be a pleasant memory, but your method of arriving at what's good or bad behavior is still in tact. As sad as surrendering your idealism for the blandness of the status quo is, you are now doing something even more inglorious by attempting to live a God-honoring lifestyle while making decisions like a non-Christian! No wonder you are having trouble "putting off your old, unholy garments and putting on new holy garments!" ³

The basic elements of our decision-making frame of reference have been tightly wound around us by public education. Even many of the administrators of Christian Day schools have received their masters and doctorate degrees from non-Christian colleges and universities. The question is what steps have they taken to eliminate the non-Christian principles of philosophy and psychology that they learned as "gospel" in their God-hating graduate schools? And, are the books they use the same as the ones public schools use? Simply "baptizing" public curriculum with a morning prayer is not in any way, shape or form Christian education.

And what about some of the elements of *your* decision-making frame of reference? Elements that seem to you too correct to question, but which nevertheless, are inaccurate? Things such as:

- A better education will result in better citizens and less crime.
- Everyone should chip in through their taxes so that the civil government can "solve" our social problems.
- We shouldn't bother getting involved in the political process because Satan is "alive and well on planet earth," and any "improvement" we might bring about would only delay Jesus' return.
- Since our pastor is such a nice guy, we can completely trust him to teach us the truth and don't need to take time to meditatively study the Bible.
- Our constitution was written so long ago, that we need to view it as a "living document" that changes with the times.
- We shouldn't be judgmental because all of us are sinners.
- The only thing that really counts is whether a person is saved.

Again, are your decision-making strings being surreptitiously pulled by a "Queen of Diamonds," as was the case for the Manchurian Candidate? Or, are they being intentionally pulled by the "King of the Earth," our very own Lord, Savior and King, Jesus Christ?

More or Less

Have you ever wondered why:

- M-1:** The *more* money that is spent on public education, the *less* likely it is to improve?
- M-2:** The *more* our taxes are increased to pay for social programs provided by the civil government, the *less* effective they are?
- M-3:** The *more* politicians lie to us in their campaign promises, the *less* they do when we elect them?
- M-4:** The *more* credit we give to Satan for his influence on our culture, the *less* “Christian” it becomes?
- M-5:** The *more* we depend upon other Christians to tell us what the Bible says, the *less* effective we are in presenting a holy lifestyle to our non-Christian neighbors?
- M-6:** The *more* we allow our legislative representatives to tax us, the *less* personal liberty we have?
- M-7:** The *more* we disregard God’s absolute cultural ethics, the *less* court decisions are based upon the law and the more they are based upon legal technicalities?
- M-8:** The *more* hours we spend on our careers, the *less* harmonious our families become?
- M-9:** The *more* we spend preaching and teaching that personal salvation is the “single reason” that Jesus died, the *less* influence we have on our culture?

- L-1:** The *less* we instruct our children about the responsibility of every citizen to be self-governing, the *more* they demand that we provide for them?
- L-2:** The *less* our pastors tell us God’s prescriptions for improving our culture, the *more* our culture disintegrates?
- L-3:** The *less* we judge ourselves and our neighbors by God’s ethical standard, the *more* we become a disorderly culture?
- L-4:** The *less* attention we pay to Jesus’ command to not be “unequally yoked” with non-Christians, the *more* we are influenced by their worldview and lifestyle?

If any of these items appears to go against the grain of what you have been thinking as true, your decision-making frame of reference has some defects that need eliminating. Let’s look at a brief explanation of each of them:

M-1: Non-Christians believe that people act in the wrong manner because they are ignorant of how to act in the right manner. Hence, they believe that the *more education* a person has, the better he will act. Listen to what Horace Mann, the godfather of America’s public schools, said in 1841:

Let the Common School be expanded to its capabilities, let it be worked with the efficiency of which it is susceptible, and nine tenths of the crimes in the penal code would become obsolete; the long catalogue of human ills would be abridged; men would walk more safely by day; every pillow would be more inviolate by night; property, life, and character held by a stronger tenure; all rational hopes respecting the future brightened. **Michigan Education Report, Summer 2005**

By the 1850s, Mann's idealism was reflected in the popular slogan: "Build a school, close a jail." Here we are, more than a century and a half later and obviously things haven't quite turned out the way the proponents of a mandatory public school system planned. Christians should have known that such platitudes promising a virtually crime free environment were lies, because the Bible says we sin not because we are ignorant, but because we're *sinners*! A better education won't solve our problems, but only a better heart ... a new supernaturally implanted spiritual heart. 4

M-2: No matter how high taxes are raised to pay the civil government to provide the wide range of social programs, the amount of the needs seems to continue to increase exponentially. The result of this is that with each increase in our taxes, the amount of our personal liberty is decreased, because we are prohibited from spending our money as we would choose. The well-intended efforts by non-Christians are all for naught because God instructs us to handle the social service needs of a community through His self-governing spheres of the individual, family and church. The only responsibilities He commands the state are to defend us against attack, and to police communities so that crime will be reduced and we will have the liberty to live, work, play and raise our families according to God's instructions .

M-3: *Politicians* lie because they don't believe in absolute truth, so for them words have no intrinsic value and are used only to help them accomplish what they want. We should not be surprised at their lies, because by their own definition, *politicians* are liars. What should concern us is to be careful to elect *statesmen* to be our civil rulers so that they will legislate in accordance with what is right, and not according to what is expedient to keeping them in office.

M-4: When we erroneously define Paul's description of Satan as being "the god of this age" 5 to mean that Satan is controlling the actions of both non-Christians *and* Christians, instead of controlling *only* the actions of non-Christians, we are being disobedient as well as disrespectful to Jesus who came to earth to "defeat the works of the devil." 6 Throughout Scripture, we read that we will be blessed when we obey God's Word, and cursed when we don't. 7

M-5: Being lazy in our approach to Bible study is not an indication that we are recipients of a supernatural heart transplant. The sons of Korah proclaim, "As the deer pants for the water brooks, so pants my soul for You, O God." 8 Jesus tells us that we will keep His commandments "if we love Him." 9 It's pretty hard to keep His commandments when we don't even care enough to find out what they are. Such a disinterest in God will tempt us to seek out Bible teachers who teach us things we want to hear, whether it is true or not! The consequence of such disobedient behavior is that

our lifestyles will resemble the chaotic and confusing worldview of our non-Christian neighbors. By attempting to demote and confine God to the inside of our homes and churches, we end up living schizophrenic double lives where we have one set of ethics for the imagined “real world,” and another set of ethics for the imagined “religious world.” The truth, of course, is that God created a *universe*, not a *biverse* and that His ethics apply to *all* of our situations and circumstances.

M-6: As will be discussed, the civil government is one of the four God-appointed self-governing spheres, but to allow it to usurp responsibilities that God has assigned to the individual, family and church spheres, will result in continuing losses in personal liberties. The reason for this is that instead of following the perfect and self-liberating rules of our Creator, we are forced to follow the personally limiting rules of the state, because the less personal liberty we have, the more the state has, and for non-Christians “power” is synonymous with “success.”

M-7: Once we dismiss the idea of absolute ethics, the words in our law books become worthless. This means that winning the case becomes more important than bringing about justice. So lawyers (and judges) look for legal technicalities, rather than the rightness or wrongness of the charges. The comic strip character Pogo once stated, “When everybody is somebody, then nobody is anybody.” In the same way, once absolute ethics are dismissed, all ethics are up for grabs and the person with the most resources will usually determine the court’s outcome according to his or her preferred agenda.

M-8: It’s not nice to fool around with the instructions from the triune Godhead. Fathers are to rule their families and oversee the education of their children. It’s impossible to do that when he leaves for work before his children get up and returns after they go to bed. Obviously, such behavior not only affects his children, but his relationship with his wife. As the saying goes, “Money can’t buy happiness.”

M-9: While there is no doubt that our personal salvation is the single most valuable blessing we have, we greatly err if we believe that “being saved,” is the only purpose for our life. To the contrary, our salvation is only the *first step* of our walk with Christ. Doesn’t Jesus command us to pray that His Father’s will “will be done *on earth* as it is in heaven?!”¹⁰ And just who do you suppose will be responsible for bringing about His Father’s will if it isn’t *us*? Certainly we shouldn’t imagine that *non-Christians* will bring it about! While salvation is a gift, and we cannot earn it by our good works, once we are saved, we are expected to produce good works. Doesn’t Paul tell us that we are “created in Christ Jesus for good works?”¹¹ Even Jesus’ half-brother James tells us “Faith without works is dead.”¹² By incorporating biblical principles into our situations and circumstances we are enabled to “take dominion” over our culture.¹³ Conversely, by not living out our faith, we allow non-Christians to “take dominion” over us.

L-1: The apostle Paul proclaims, “If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.”¹⁴ Certainly this does not mean that we should shove our children out of the house if they are not bringing in some income, but it does teach that we should instruct them that we

have worked to produce the revenue to provide for our home, groceries, clothes, and that whatever their dreams are, they should be prepared to work to provide the capital to fund their own lifestyle, and not expect other people to help as in a socialistic economic system. The Bible invented self-governing capitalism.

L-2: During the early years of the American republic, pastors were the most influential people in their community. They preached the whole counsel of God and prepared their members to incorporate biblical ethics into all of their situations and circumstances. Sadly, too many of today's pastors are more content to incorporate their church to the state, than teach their congregations to incorporate their beliefs into their everyday actions. They timidly and shamefully hide behind the myth that they must incorporate with the state, when the first amendment to the U.S. Constitution says that any church is automatically tax-exempt without incorporating to the state. As will be explained, each of us makes decisions based upon what we trust-in, and pastors who readily incorporate their churches to the state are doing so because it provides them "cover" from having to instruct their congregation in the whole counsel of God's Word. They fear their congregations more than they fear God, so they have no trust in God to grow their church. They believe that only their ingenuity can do that. Their day of reckoning is coming, and so could be your day of reckoning, if you stay in such a church and continue to be deceived by their incomplete and erroneous teaching.

L-3: Our non-Christian neighbors insist that America is a religiously pluralistic country, where all gods are equally irrelevant. This is only natural for them to say, since they neither believe in the triune God of the Bible, nor in absolute truth, which would prove to them that our country did begin as an explicitly Christian country. Early America provided the freedom to worship any god a person wanted, but our civil laws only reflected the Bible's ethics. The pluralism myth has been so widely taught that many Christians conclude that it is wrong for anyone to judge anyone else. The question that must be asked of them, is if that is the case, why did God bother presenting and preserving the Bible for us with all of its information on how to live and govern ourselves?!

L-4: We continue to demonstrate daily that we have a very low regard for God's Word. Hence, we don't think twice about aligning ourselves with non-Christians in various projects. 15 Then we wonder why these relationships don't work out, or why we have been cheated, or taken advantage of. God is not fooling around. His Word is truth, and He means for us to live in accordance to it.

Notes

1 1 John 3.8

2 Matthew 24.36

3 Colossians 3.9-10

4 Ezekiel 11.19-21; 2 Corinthians 5.17

5 2 Corinthians 4.4

6 1 John 3.8

7 Leviticus 26, Deuteronomy 28

8 Psalm 42.1

9 John 14.15

10 Matthew 6.10

11 Ephesians 2.9

12 James 2.17

13 Genesis 1.26-28

14 2 Thessalonians 3.10

15 2 Corinthians 6.14