

# ARISE & BUILD

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## REVOLUTION: DARWIN'S LEGACY IN TODAY'S HEADLINES

BY MARK RUSHDOONY



The most frequent subject of the discourses of Jesus was the Kingdom of Heaven. He would often begin with, “The kingdom of heaven is like...” or “...is likened unto...” Most of these analogies are specifically tied to the responsibilities of individuals and several describe the context of that duty as being when the master, or lord, was away. The emphasis was clearly on the responsibility of each individual citizen in the kingdom to further the lord’s interests as faithfully as if he was present and personally supervising. Such were “faithful” servants. The message is clear enough. Only those who act in terms of obedience to the commands of Jesus, the Lord of the Kingdom of Heaven, are truly faithful to their calling.

### STRONG WORDS

My father, Chalcedon founder Rousas John Rushdoony, often used extraordinarily strong words, many of which were easy targets for those who chose to construe him and his ideas in the worst possible light. For instance, an unusual term he used to characterize the actions of faithless Christians was “Moloch worship.” He was not suggesting anyone offered sacrifices to an idol. Bowing before a graven image is only one form of idolatry. Even when this was common, men knew that human hands had formed the image. Idols always represented a power that was considered real. The heart of Moloch worship (a form of Baalism)

was its ascription of power or *lordship*. Temples and priests were typically subsidized with public funds. It was in the interest of the state to sponsor Baal worship because it then shared in the power ascribed to the deity. Those modern Christians whose first loyalty or ascription of jurisdiction is to the state or its self-serving institutions (like government schools) were, my father said, effectively worshipping Moloch, the statist cult. He was referring to their failure to assume the Kingdom and lordship of Jesus Christ in their life as effective apostasy.

Another use of strong language that my father used was his reference to the need for Christians to be what he called a “governing class.” Many are quick to assume this was a desire for Christians to, minimally, assume a status by right or even to surreptitiously infiltrate avenues of power to command as taskmasters. What did he mean by a “governing class”?

My father frequently noted our tendency to understand language in terms of modern modes of thought. *Government* to modern man is the administration of civil power. He frequently emphasized the Biblical view of government as self-government under God’s law. This self-government the believer seeks to extend to his every act and thought. He is most attuned to the power not in any statist, civil realm but in the sovereign triune God. The believer governs himself in a strict self-discipline in obedience to God. He sees himself as having his primary citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven.

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The “governing class” my father envisioned was a body of Christians self-disciplined in terms of God’s law into a resource of character and vision. He was asking Christians to be ethical leaders in their homes, vocations, and communities.

## WORLDVIEW

Worldview is our “big picture” understanding about how our lives and history fit into the larger context. Worldview is our view of reality so it is necessarily religious because religion is our understanding of what is ultimate. Our theology is therefore necessarily linked with our worldview. If we assume the authority of a sovereign God, we do not exclude history from His Providence, and in fact look to its resolution in terms of an accountability to His eternal decree. If we hold to a dualistic view, one that sees the material world and history as the source of evil and an ethereal spiritual realm as the seat of God’s Kingdom, our view of earthly history may envision a very dark, pessimistic view of the progressive victory of evil. Such a view voluntarily surrenders all of history to evil to focus on an extremely limited concept of what is God’s. Man is a religious being and his theology of what is ultimate will control his worldview, which in turn drives his view of life and moral responsibility. I personally prefer the term “world and life view” to worldview because it references the necessary outworking of our basic faith.

## KNOWLEDGE AND ETHICS

There are many skills and facts to learn in life, but they can seem disjointed and random unless we can put them in a context that makes them seem relevant. Do you remember “story problems” from math lessons? Students rarely enjoy them because they required a broader spectrum of understanding and thought rather than just a mechanical tabulation. Some panicked at them. When I taught school I told my students that real-life math was a series of story problems. Seldom, I said, would they be presented with a series of arithmetic problems to tabulate; they

would have to surmise the correct math problem or algebraic formula to solve a real-world problem. Ignore “Bill,” or “Susan,” or the “farmer,” or “store owner” of the story problem, I said. “This is you and your problem. What arithmetic problem or formula will enable you to solve it?” Similarly, our world and life view enables us to see real-world problems for what they are and approach them with a calm sense of moral certainty, even if their resolution is not as simple as a math calculation.

Because a world and life view is necessarily religious, it will very quickly lead us to ethical judgments. Man was created in the image of God, so he cannot avoid the idea of morality. It is in this area that conflict with others arises because your ethics reveals the nature and hence the direction of your thinking. If we are going to have a confrontation about our worldview, it might just as well be over the basis of our ethics. As a college sophomore, I took an Ancient History course at a California State University campus near my home. The professor’s opening words were a question for class discussion, “Do you believe man is basically good or evil?” When no one volunteered an opinion, he quickly pointed at me and asked my opinion. I gave it, and the rest of the course (an intensive summer session that met for three hours a day for several weeks) pitted my opinion against the rest of the class. No one wanted to agree with any statement I made. They knew we had differing worldviews. Mine (coming from a Christian education) seemed as detached from reality to them as theirs did to me.

## MAKING ALL THING NEW

The Christian can believe in a resolution to evil because he believes in the power of God. How we see that happening may differ, but eschatology plays a pivotal role in our world and life view. Christians disagree on the timing of that resolution (such as the extent that it will happen within history) but they do believe it will come from the hand of God.

When men do not look to God for the definition of evil or implementation of justice, they assume both as their prerogative. Man is a creature of God so even in rebellion he must borrow God's categories of thought and action. Man cannot be free of God so he imitates Him. Man in rebellion tries to "be as gods knowing good and evil," right and wrong, for himself (Gen. 3:5). The problem is that ethics involves more than a definition. Sin needs atonement so men must also define the penalty for his self-defined evil. Someone, or some group, must pay for the evil defined by man. On the individual level, self-atonement leads to a self-loathing, self-destructive, and suicidal behavior. It's a form of self-punishment, a will to "pay" for their sins (by any name). We do not have to look too hard to see examples of people who lead self-destructive lives. "All they that hate me love death" (Prov. 8:36).

Not all are willing to see evil in themselves, however. A more dangerous social tendency is to define evil in others, whether a race, a class, or a political party. Then, the self-righteous direct their indignation at others who, it is insisted, must pay for the supposed sins identified. Much of politics is now assigning sin and guilt to others. False definitions of evil necessarily lead to false ascriptions of guilt and a recommended penalty as well as preventative measures. Conflict ensues and locks a society into a self-destructive path.

## **DARWINIAN REGENERATION**

Charles Darwin wrote after Karl Marx but was important in the development of Marxist thought because he gave an ostensible historical basis for the importance Marx placed on revolution. Darwin claimed that biological evolution came through random chaotic change and struggle. Violence enabled the stronger, more assertive to survive. This was the fundamental struggle of history, Darwin said, and it allowed biological evolution to proceed, so despite being ugly at times, it ultimately made man what he is. Karl Marx could then point

to Darwin to show revolution was not just inevitable, it was both necessary and benign because it was cathartic. If chaos and violence was the impetus behind biological development it was logical to see it as an essential means of social justice. Following Darwin, the modern liberal has embraced revolutionary tactics. These do not necessarily involve barricades in the street or Molotov cocktails, but the modern mind believes that the destruction of what they hold in contempt will lead to progress. The process of revolution is seen as removing that which seeks to maintain a status quo and retard advance. In this perspective, what is old is not worth conserving. It is defined as regressive and so needs to be removed for the march of progress to proceed. The belief is in the inevitability of evolution, progress as the magical outcome of repudiation and destruction. This theory of Darwin is now controlling our culture.

The Christian sees culture as the outgrowth of the moral and physical capitalization of individuals directly and society indirectly. They see that which is of value as worthy of being conserved, but value involves a moral component, so it is dictated by worldview. The humanist with a faith in Darwin's mythology will believe in progress as an inevitable process that can be accelerated by anarchy. As Darwin's biology ultimately was a faith in magic, so too the modern revolutionary believes that their destructiveness removes the old stagnation and allows for social progress. They see the revolutionary destruction as a cultural housecleaning. For the Christian, man's moral change by the Spirit is the means of his regeneration. For modern man following Darwin, regeneration is the destruction of all that is perceived as counter-revolutionary. To "conserve" the past is seen as impeding necessary progress, hence the modern contempt for "conservatives" whose use of that term is taken by "liberals" as an advocacy of a regressive ideology and resistance to the supposed forward-thinking of the "progressives."

## WHERE ARE THINGS GOING?

Our vision of the future is not merely ideological; it dictates every aspect of our lives. The vision Jesus presented us is of His Kingdom as Lord of heaven and earth. It was a world and life view that gives us a transcendent perspective on this world and our lives and on that part of His eternal providence we call time and history. His instruction was to think of our lives as the redeemed in terms of our citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven.

Man in sin is headed into a downward spiral; his life and civilization, without the grace of God, will reflect that death spiral. Cornelius Van Til's expression for man's direction in sin was "integration into the void." After Darwin, men seem to have fully embraced the looming void. A Christian eschatology of redemption and restoration has been replaced with a faith in Darwin's mythology of certain advance.

Our redemption is our recall to the faithful obedience abandoned by Adam and Eve. Jesus said He came that men "might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). Perhaps the most crippling theology in the history of the Christian faith is that which relegates it primarily to the personal realm. The Christian gospel and faith is very personal, but it is also purposeful; it enables the redeemed of God to find themselves in the far larger context of God's eternal purpose. The faith is also one in the restorative work of God. The larger context of our personal walk of faith is our citizenship in the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus has overcome the world, not just our personal death sentence (John 16:33). He rules and calls us to live in terms of that reality. History moves in terms of the eternal will of God, not Darwin's substitute, evolution.

My father initiated the modern theonomy movement in the 1960s. The word *theonomy* refers to God's law-word. The only way we can be faithful citizens of the Kingdom is to self-consciously

obey God's Word. Europe was a mess after the Renaissance. It was a culture in crisis. Homosexuality was common as were sexually transmitted diseases. The Reformation saved Europe from self-destruction; it was transformative because it emphasized the authority of the Word of God.

Twenty-first century man also seems bent on self-destruction because he is living in terms of a worldview that offers no ultimate meaning or hope. The hope of modern man is in the inevitability of evolution (he rarely speaks of the potential for devolution). He assumes a better future and assumes it will come through the process of violence and chaos. He believes in Darwinism so he believes in the destruction of all that impedes radical change as ethically not only necessary but noble.

Christianity must eventually return to a view of the faith beyond the personal. Essential to this is to understand our life and responsibilities in terms of the Kingdom of Heaven and its Lord Jesus Christ. We are not in a holding pattern until our death. We are to see ourselves as made in the image of God and recalled by His power to a newness of life. We must know ourselves in that light and then see our duties as citizens of His Kingdom, commissioned for service by His authority (Matt. 28:18-20). That is a world and life view that transcends us and gives our lives meaning because they can serve God's purpose of restoring all things to Himself.

In the world Darwin described, there could be no meaning or purpose so man's life could never find fulfillment. Darwin's was a false worldview, however, and one that will crumble to the dustbin of history, though it is now destroying much of the world around us.

Our worldview must be one of faith in the Lordship of Jesus Christ and the advance of His Kingdom, power and glory until every tongue confesses and every knee bows before Him. 🏰

# LIVING IN THE CROSSHAIRS

BY ANDREA SCHWARTZ



God's elect have always been in the crosshairs of the enemies of God. An example is Satan challenging God that Job was only faithful because God had blessed him. From a man-centered perspective Job was minding his own business, attempting to live righteously and guide his family similarly, and ends up being targeted with one misfortune and disaster after another. What we don't always consider is that one of the ways God grows His people is to allow adversity and trouble to visit them, in order for them to fulfill God's call and purpose for their lives.

I believe that there is an army in place that is the result of the *quiet* revolution that began in the middle of the last century, with the formation of Christian day schools and Christian homeschooling. Those given a godly education have grown into an impressive army of challengers to the "forces of darkness." Many were *quietly* grown in the families across America who refused to bow the knee to the state and turn their children over to the ungodly propaganda institutions training them to work toward the destruction of American culture.

R.J. Rushdoony asserted that Christians must be educated as Christians in order to stem the tide of humanistic destruction. Not only was a generation of young people steeped in Christian curriculum, many of their parents had received a statist education and learned alongside their children. These students were not content to remain silent and became part of the growing Christian Reconstruction movement with its theonomic understanding of reclaiming the culture.

It is time to pay attention to this generation of homeschool and Christian school graduates who grew up in an

age of social media, the internet, and video conferencing, etc., and who have mastered these tools. They bring to the battle new and innovative ways to influence and change people's minds. The baby boomer generation *must* hand the baton to this younger generation encouraging them with their strategies to gain the victory promised by Christ. We must have confidence in the way they were educated to be warriors for the Kingdom. We must trust the Holy Spirit and believe that our labors for the Lord were not and are not in vain. In addition, there are many the Lord delivered from the indoctrination of statist education who have first-hand experience of how the humanistic system that sought to bury their in-born knowledge of God and His law works. Along with Rushdoony's writings, God brought them mentors.

These children of the 80s, 90s, and 2000s are moving forward with a strong Christian foundation and we must believe that God's preparation will bear fruit. Their methods might be different from ours, but keep in mind that many of the "heroes of the faith" did not always have parents who saw their vision or agreed with it. Many took roads contrary to what their fathers envisioned, and God's Kingdom advanced.

Let me chronicle some of the victories that are in process that you may not be aware of. The obvious evidences of apostasy and revolution are being seized as opportunities for God's people to expose the deeds of darkness.

Before the Corona lockdowns (house arrest to some), topics that were rarely questioned by major segments of the population are now getting a voice. What I am about to chronicle should not be taken as an endorsement for any person or group. I want to show that there is a multi-pronged response initiated by God

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to demonstrate the failure of humanism and its inevitable collapse.

Just as violent protestors don't spring up from nowhere, the fruit of education in the Christian faith has produced a slew of both famous and ordinary people. You don't have to agree with all of the people I highlight or their strategies and tactics. My hope is that you think beyond your own capabilities or ideas and see how God is raising up His warriors.

There are individuals and groups coming to the forefront with a fearless posture, determined to share the truth rather than allow an evil bureaucracy to further enslave people. Groups like Frontline Physicians are not backing down when it comes to informing the public of actual rather than manufactured science. Their recent censorship by Big Tech has demonstrated that the ruling elite do not have the best interests of all in mind.

Big Pharma now has to deal with well-known figures like Ty and Charlene Bollinger, Robert Kennedy Jr., Del Bigtree, and Judy Mikovits who reveal the ingredients and side-effects of drugs and vaccinations, along with the liability-free pharmaceutical industry's lack of accountability for their products. There is extensive, well-documented material available in video, podcasts, and print that can no longer be classified as kooky or conspiratorial.

Men like Bill Gates and Anthony Fauci now have more critics who expose their depopulating agendas. Although there are many outlets that seek to censor this information, various venues remain open for serious investigation.

Most importantly, there are regular everyday physicians who are faithfully serving their patients without a lot of fanfare or celebrity-seeking behavior. Many are Christians who are not bowing the knee to Caesar, and actively serving the Lord.

Another issue that has come to light is the atrocity committed against children, whether for pornography,

molestation, organ harvesting, or satanic rituals. While these crimes have been ongoing, more people are talking about them as a result of documentaries. People like Tim Ballard of Operation Underground Railroad gave up lucrative careers to devote time and energy to rescuing children. With these efforts, this multibillion-dollar industry has been exposed and children are being rescued. These fearless advocates for children won't back down. Crimes that have been kept secret for so long are now being exposed.

The move to distance learning because of the Corona closures has given parents the ability to examine what and how their children were learning. Many have realized how little of value was going on in their children's classrooms, and have made the jump to homeschooling, while others are investigating private schools. Many who have been involved in encouraging people to remove their children from these hell holes are ready, willing, and able to step in and help these families. A virus that caused the closure of schools is preventing an even greater spiritual virus from continuously infecting the children of Christian families. This is God's merciful doing.

Those participating in the anarchistic social unrest that is occurring today got their marching orders from professors and administrators in colleges and universities that systematically have worked to undermine the Christian family and Christianity. When the on-campus instruction ceased, many parents and students rethought the "value" of going to a prestigious school at the cost of decades of servitude in paying off student loans. Men like Victor Davis Hanson have called attention to this corruption and have exposed the unholy alliance of universities and government bureaucracies. Mike Rowe and his organization provides educational alternatives that lead to meaningful and productive work, rather than "social justice" indoctrination that springs from the corrupt halls of modern education.

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More and more independent journalists and filmmakers have unveiled the status quo in Washington, D.C., and many state houses. Journalist Ben Swann tackles stories and issues many would rather avoid. People from various racial and ethnic groups are no longer walking in lockstep with liberals who could always count on their votes. Public figures like Candace Owen and Larry Elder are encouraging black people to align themselves, not with those who share their skin color, but those who share their faith and moral values.

The truth about abortion as a way to depopulate unwanted people groups and enrich others from the sale of human baby parts, has shifted the “prevailing opinion” that all Americans are for “choice.” Today, more and more young people don’t buy into the idea of a human in the womb being just a blob of tissue. They call themselves the Pro-Life Generation.

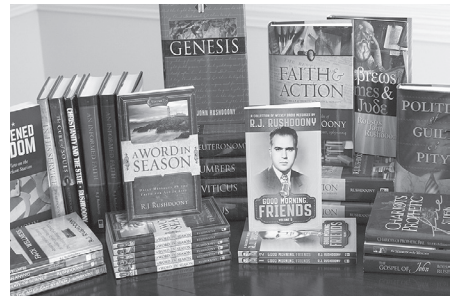
David Daleiden, of the Center for Medical Progress, orchestrated a comprehensive investigation into the selling of human fetal tissue by Planned Parenthood. He pursued his mission knowing full well the strength, power, and connections of his opponents. He, and those who teamed up with him, considered the cost when it came to the protection of the unborn, and haven’t backed down.

Lila Rose of Live Action grew up in a Christian homeschool. What began as a high school group of homeschooling friends, grew into an international organization. Lila became a thorn in the sides of abortion providers when she and others posed as potential clients, getting the staff at clinics throughout the country (on camera) to admit that they were in violation of laws and aiding pimps and sexual enslavement. Her fearlessness can only be attributed to the power of the Holy Spirit and her desire to answer God’s call.

We will always be in the crosshairs of those who hate God; we might as well pick up and use the weapons that

we have as believers. We are armed with the Truth that can turn the most rabid enemies of God into born again believers. Many of today’s most ardent followers of God’s Word were pulled from the ranks of communism, socialism, and a slew of false religions and cults. The people of God are far from powerless. Our opposition knows full well that the Truth sets people free, even though they want no part of Him.

We do live in the crosshairs because we battle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers in high places. Our greatest comfort in this is that when we are in Christ, our enemies become His enemies, and our victory is assured. We are a part of a great cloud of witnesses (Heb. 11) who lived in the crosshairs of God’s enemies, but triumphed. Let us accept our “privilege” of being among those whom God has chosen to be a part of this great fight—a fight that we know ends in victory. 🙌



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Since 1965, the Chalcedon Foundation has served as the founding and leading ministry for the message of Christian Reconstruction, which is simply the mission of advancing the Kingdom of God in every area of life. Now, fifty-five years later, the need for this message and ministry is greater.

Our objective is to help equip Christians to “take back” government from the state by means of Biblical self-government and to apply their faith to every sphere of life and thought. We’ve already

gained significant ground through helping to restore Christian education, but it’s time to move into other spheres by God’s grace, law, and power.

We desperately need your help to continue this mission, so please take a few moments today to prayerfully consider supporting Chalcedon with your tax-deductible giving. We’ve enclosed a self-addressed, postage-paid envelope to make it easy, and you can also donate online at:

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P.O. Box 158 • Vallecito, CA 95251-9989

Phone: (209) 736-4365

Fax: (209) 736-0536

email: [info@chalcedon.edu](mailto:info@chalcedon.edu)

[www.chalcedon.edu](http://www.chalcedon.edu)

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