

How Did We Get Here???

Introduction:

Satan has always been trying to get mankind to believe that we can be like God, writing our own destiny and becoming the masters of our own fate.

“For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” - Genesis 3:5

Today we are going to trace the development of that lie over the last 200 years and see how it has almost come to full bloom.

The Influence of Philosophers

1. Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1712-1778)

- The key concept — “Be Authentic”

2. Karl Marx (1818-1883)

- The key concept — “Overthrow the Oppressors”
- The world is filled with Oppressors and the Oppressed (victims)
- Marx believed that two institutions gave legitimacy to the economic oppressors, the business owners, the bourgeois:
 1. The church (and its Scriptures)

“Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear.” - Ephesians 6:5
 2. The family

3. Sigmund Freud (1856-1939)

- The key concept — “Sexual Desires Are My Identity”

4. Antonio Gramsci (1891-1937)

- The key concept — “Deconstruction”

The Influence of Technology

- We used to think that the world was fixed, and we each needed to find our place in it. But technology has given us the illusion that we can shape the world to our wills.
 - Farming —
 - Medicine —
 - Transportation —

Other Key Influences

- The Birth Control Pill —
- Pornography —
- No-Fault Divorce —

All of the things above have reinforced the modern idea of “Be who you want to be”, “You are your own authority”, and “You can be like God.”

How Should We Respond to All of This?

1. Avoid the Twin Temptations of Pessimism and Optimism

- David predicted a final, world-wide rebellion.

“Why do the nations conspire and the peoples plot in vain? The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the LORD and against His anointed, saying, “Let us break their chains and throw off their shackles.” - Psalm 2:1-3

“The One enthroned in heaven laughs; the Lord scoffs at them.

⁵ He rebukes them in His anger and terrifies them in His wrath, saying,

⁶ “I have installed my king on Zion, my holy mountain.” - Psalm 2:4-6

“You [God’s king on Mt. Zion] will break them [the kings of the earth and the rulers who band together against the LORD and against His anointed] with a rod of iron; you will dash them to pieces like pottery.”

- Psalm 2:9

2. Get Prepared for What is Coming

“As long as it is day, we must do the works of Him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work.” - Jesus, John 9:4

- Every Christian, *every* Christian, needs to be a serious, active disciple of Jesus, and needs to be helping, in some way, others to be serious, active disciples of Jesus.

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