



Berean Christian Fellowship

DEVOTIONAL 53.0

November 20
2014

Wait Not for the Human Spirit

“But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me” (Micah 7:7).

Someone who doesn't wait on the Spirit of God for Salvation waits on some other spirit—perhaps the spirit of Allah, Krishna, Buddha, or even Humanity. Those who wait on the “human spirit” are called humanists, and so Humanism is the “religion of humanity,” as the humanist Thomas Paine put it. They long for the human spirit to overcome its circumstances, celebrating human triumph and accomplishment “without” the aid of any god. Or as humanist George Elliot put it, “the idea of God...is the ideal of goodness, entirely human (i.e., an exultation of the human).” God then to them is a symbol of what humanity at its best aspires to be, and worship of God is a yearning for what we will one day make ourselves. This is why many humanists “tolerate” generic faith and may even practice a religion, though they oppose faith that is “exclusive.”

Our world has always had humanists, but the reality of death and the uncertainty beyond has kept their triumph in check. As death ends each human life, the only benefit humanists get out of life is to encourage humanity in its sad estate and work tirelessly for it to survive and thrive “as a species”—thereby its unquenchable collective “spirit” continues. This is a pretty glum outlook on life, but still they pour their energies into the sciences and the arts to give meaning to that life. Death, however, ends each individual's quest, and they will not admit Solomon's conclusion that a life dedicated to the human spirit is a life of vain futility (Ecclesiastes 2-3). Humanists have only ever shook their fists at death and dreamed of one day overcoming it—a dream cherished for

ages, till the dawn of the 21st Century made it a “real” possibility. Technology has given them what they believe is a fighting chance to realize this dream. This possibility has given rise to “Transhumanism.” With death rescinded, human potential is unlimited, which is why “trans-” means “beyond,” therefore, we see the rise of those who trust in something achievable beyond crippled humanity. They believe mankind's knowledge will finally accomplish salvation for itself from death and powerlessness (the effects of its own sin).

Transhumanism is the long awaited hope of humanism. Philosopher Zoltan Istvan writes that Transhumanists are to “attempt to do everything possible... to overcome human death and aging within 15-20 years—a goal an increasing number of leading scientists think is possible,” striving “to achieve omnipotence as expediently as possible.” Eternal Life and Omnipotence (all-powerfulness) is God's sovereign territory, but like Lucifer, Transhumanists believe, “*I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God...I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High*” (Isaiah 14:13-14). Thus the spirit that directs them is the spirit of Lucifer who looked to his own strength to accomplish what he desired: to make himself like God—all-powerful and eternal. Their fall will be like his.

As Believers, we know any attempt to make ourselves like God will only end in great Tribulation—a new Fall of man into eternal separation from the life and power that only comes from God. This is why **we wait on the God of our Salvation**, Jesus Christ, to transform us from our fallen state by His grace through the glory of His resurrection into eternal life to be like Him where He is. All the days of our struggle, we wait on God for our change (Job 14:14-22). Even so. Amen.

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