

**The Inscrutable Question: Review of Satan's Strategy; Examples of Rhetorical Veils & Hidden Agendas; Satan is Ruler of this World**

- 25) The rhetorical veil of the crusaders: (1) Clean the environment polluted by irresponsible businesses and thoughtless citizens by declaring that almost everything causes cancer. (2) Preserve humanity's future by forbidding the retrieval of precious resources by converting private lands into national monuments. (3) Protect the balance of nature by placing hundreds of plants, insects, birds, fish, and animals on an endangered species list and restricting the use of private property to insure success. (4) Promote a fictitious problem such as global warming through a propaganda campaign so that government can control the activities of both businesses and citizens.
- 26) The conspirator's hidden agenda: The Fabian seizure of individual property rights, the gradual erosion of individual freedom, and the intrusion of an ever encroaching Nanny State by means of restrictive laws that micromanage every aspect of normal living.
- 27) When government is used to seize private property for the conspirators then their criminal lust is satisfied without having to deal with laws that prohibit theft. When human free will is thereby cancelled, the people become wards of the State run by the conspirators, who then decide each person's usefulness to the society as a whole. The crusaders acquire control of the law-making machinery and use their pseudo-philosophical rhetorical veils to conceal while advancing their hidden agenda: centralization of power by legal fiat.
- 28) The rhetorical veils of the environmental movement have always included animal rights, depletion of natural resources, and pollution of the ecosystem. But now religious motivations are being incorporated into the message. This is illustrated by the following column written by Dr. Margaret N. Maxey, Professor of Bioethics at University of Texas, Austin:

**Environmentalism: The New National Religion? Margaret Maxey, Ph.D.**

It merits our undivided attention that Fenton Communications (which orchestrated the Alar scare and scam) announced in June 1999 the ten-year objectives of its \$15 million campaign to implement the goals dictated by the National Religious Partnership for the Environment (NRPE).

Officially established in 1993, the NRPE is comprised of four "partners"-the U.S. National Catholic Conference, the National Council of Churches of Christ, the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, and the Evangelical Environmental Network.

In preparation for Earth Day 1996, private foundations had already provided NRPE with a budget of \$4.5 million with which to distribute thousands of "Environmental Awareness Kits." The NRPE's Secretariat in New York provides strategic planning under the executive directorship of Paul Gorman who claims that "caring for creation is a fundamentally religious imperative that transcends denominational differences and partisan politics."

Paulist priest Robert A. Sirico, president of the Acton Institute for the Study of Religion and Liberty, accurately observes that-despite such disclaimers-the NRPE and Fenton Communications are in fact pursuing an overt political agenda signaling the emergence of a modern political theology which is attempting to link religion, statist politics, and environmental extremism. This linkage seeks to acquire legitimacy under the mantle of a "confession of environmental sins" whereby humans repent for having violated nature's once-pristine condition present in God's Act of Creation of a Sacred Earth. The NRPE distributes a liturgy which expresses not only the extent to which humans are responsible for having corrupted God's Sacred Earth, but also a dramatic form of repentance: "God's creation is being abused and violated. . . [The Biblical reference to] having 'dominion over the earth' is used to exploit and destroy the earth. . . . We use more than our share of earth's resources. We are responsible for massive pollution of earth, water, and sky." In response to this sweeping confession, the congregation is supposed to chant: "We are killing the earth. . . . We are killing the waters. . . . We are killing the skies."

Since we now live immersed in a secular culture, we should not be surprised to see the revival of old forms of pagan earth worship and sentimental pantheism. Druid beliefs and practices have their modern counterparts. Earth worship in the form of Gaia was revitalized by James Lovelock two decades ago.

In Gaian theory, Earth itself is conceived as an autonomous super organism—living, breathing, and divine—whose forests and oceans are vital lungs which need protection and healing, as do endangered species of plants and animals. Mineral extractions are vilified as a "rape of the Earth."

Respect and reverence for God's creation is not only right and proper, but it is forever to be distinguished not only from a worship of false gods, but also from the replacement of God by an exaltation of Goddess Earth as the center of adoration.

The extent to which Environmentalism has become a New National Religion unto itself may appear to be a harmless exercise of religious freedom. This is far from the case.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 derives its legal legitimacy and political power from a virtual divinization of animals, plants and even rocks. Consequently its strict interpretation by the court system has entailed a legalized usurpation of private property.

The Wildlands Project, implementing a treaty awaiting Senate ratification, would require that our 50 states be replaced with 21 "bioregions" from which all human activity has been removed and sequestered into urban enclaves practicing "smart growth."

By executive order of President Clinton, the Clean Water Action Program claims that all watershed territories now fall under federal government jurisdiction and regulation. These legalized interpretations of laws and policies are indicators of how extensively the alleged "rights" of animals, plants and even rocks have been used to trump the inalienable and constitutionally-guaranteed rights of human beings.

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- 29) Remember that the master conspirator is Satan, whose hidden agenda is to control as many people as possible. Therefore, all categories of freedom come under his assault by those who voluntarily become his minions through a system of compartmentalization.
- 30) Documentation is necessary before we proceed into our central passages on the fall of Satan. Satan, the devil, or Lucifer is revealed to be the ruler of this world in a number of verses:

**Matthew 4:8** - The devil took Jesus to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;

**Matthew 4:9** - and he said to Him, "All these things will I give You if You fall down and worship me."

PRINCIPLE: You cannot give what you do not possess. The devil is revealed in this passage to possess all the kingdoms of the world. Luke 4:5-7 is a parallel passage to this one.

**John 12:31** - "Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world shall be cast out."

**John 14:30** - "I will not speak much more with you for the ruler of the world is coming and he has noting in Me."

**John 16:11** - "... the ruler of this world has been judged."

**2 Corinthians 4:3** - Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing,

**v 4** - in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving, that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God.

**Ephesians 2:2** - ... you formerly walked according to the course of this world according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

**1 John 5:19** - We know that we are of God and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

**Revelation 13:2b** - [CTL] The dragon [ the serpent, the devil, & Satan, Rev. 12:9 ] delegated to the Beast-Dictator his power [ over *cosmos diabolicus* ], his throne [ the system that backs it ], and his great authority [ over politics of the Revived Roman Empire of the Tribulation and over the global ecumenical religion ].

- 31) Satan's current status as "ruler of this world" is the result of the fall of Adam in Genesis 3. The creation of the human race was a part of the appeal trial of Satan. This appeal followed the formal trial of Satan and the fallen angels that found them guilty of sedition and sentenced them eternally to the lake of fire. The original fall of Lucifer was the genesis of the Angelic Conflict. Our study will now concentrate on the analysis of the two passages of Scripture that reveal all the details of his fall, (1) Ezekiel 28:11-19 and (2) Isaiah 14:12-17.
- 32) These two prophets take up the subject from different perspectives. Ezekiel takes a prospective view. He begins with the creation of angels and observes the prophetic flow of the Angelic Conflict until the end of human history. Isaiah takes the retrospective view. He stands at the end of human history and looks back over the Angelic Conflict to the point when Lucifer revolted against God. We begin with Ezekiel's prospective view of Satan's fall.