## A Prophetic/Theological Condemnation Of Koranolatry And Bibliolatry



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A prophetic/theological condemnation of Koranolatry and, in the *faux*-Christian orbit, its analog, Bibliolatry, is required. The issue is an ancient one: idolatry, the result of the

constant impulse in man to over-value himself and results of his and/or nature's creative and self-transcending capacities.

The relevant topic is the distinction between civil law, which can be both accomplished and enforced, and religious law, which can be neither accomplished nor enforced, nor is meant to be.

Making religious law civil law -- which is the perversity the nonestablishment clause of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States aims to prevent -- is an ancient error, called idolatry, especially in Semitic societies.

The first great existential/doctrinal fight in the Christian orbit -- doctrinal fights always pertain to existential matters -- as recorded in the Bible, is between those who wanted to make religious law civil law -- called Judaizers by modern scholars -- and those who said no, religious law expresses our essential nature, not our existential condition, and so it

must be used as a reminder of who we really are, not as a rule for how to navigate this sea of ambiguity called life.

Sharia, like the Ten Commandments, Sermon on the Mount, etc, is religious law. It cannot be accomplished or enforced, and when effort is made to do either, despair -- see Luther -- and desperation -- see Saudi "religious police" and the Vatican's Inquisition -- are required for the futile and therefore brutal execution of it.

One problem is, American Christianity is shot through with Bibliolatry, right from the start. Americans are idolaters not only in pop culture but, more dangerously, in their religious assumptions, practices and preferences.

The Separatists and later the Puritans sought to make religious law civil law. They came here to accomplish that mission -- and failed, as must happen. Their failure birthed the "other" New England religious movements, which were prolific, though all related to Unitarianism. Unitarianism was an early indicator of directions to be taken at its source, Harvard College, which was founded as a Puritan Seminary.

Harvard's Unitarianism, in its iterations through the years, to include the American version of Fabian Communism, is chiefly responsible for the triumph of "Communist," "progressive," "liberal," "humanist" education and politics in the United States. Communism itself, both Bolshevik and Fabian, is a religious heresy based on trying to make religious law civil law.

Harvard University today is to the United States as the Papal Inquisition was to Medieval Europe and the Roman Inquisition was to Europe of the Renaissance.

Our "Christian Fundamentalists," also, descend from these New England Separatists as well as from continental radical evangelicals and German Protestant Orthodoxy. Their Bibliolatry, of various specifics, makes them heretical Christians.

So to counter Koranolaters installing Sharia in place of the constitutions of all the countries of the world -- their goal -- we in the United States are on weak grounds morally because historically and still strongly we sponsor our own version of idolatry of a sacred text. We call it "Christian Fundamentalism" or "Evangelical Christianity" but it is neither. It is a sectarian movement descending from mixed sources and taking the form of revivalism and biblical literalism, which is to say, entertainment and Bibliolatry.

The word Fundamentalism refers to German Protestant Orthodoxy of the 17th Century. Pat Robertson, Jimmy Swaggart, Oral Roberts, Jim Bakker and their would-be copiers blend Fundamentalism with an emphasis on personal autonomy from radical evangelicals of the Reformation and an emphasis on revivalism from the Great Awakening(s) in New England and the American South.

Today, so-called Christian Evangelicals or Christian Fundamentalists are elements of the entertainment industry, not members of the Church.

That Evangelical or Fundamentalist Christianity is a major political support for a necessary and productive operation to drain and clean the Middle East cesspool accounts in part for the bitter partisanship we experience regarding not only that operation but also the question of human nature and destiny in general.

The full accounting for "Christian Fundamentalism" and "Evangelical Christianity" must include also a general, justified and reasonable existential resistance to the triumph and tyrannical hegemony of philosophical positivism in the large organizations and mechanisms of modern American society. The crunch is coming at the point of land use, foreshadowed by recent demands in England to turn over land to the purview of "Sharia" administered by clerics. That demand is here also and its purveyors take pleasure and strength from the fact that our public discourse deliberately lacks address to the "Offense to Islam" ideology and its use in blackmail.

Despite their occasional good thinking on matters of interest to their guild or their employers, our columnists -- the "commentariat" someone calls it -- really are ignorant regarding radical phenomena.

The word radical means rooted and is properly used as a symbol for something with its own source of existence, its own origin, as from depths and ground. Who is not radical is not alive because they have no source.

Journalists or writers self-promoting and politicization of trivialities as matters requiring public thought, discussion and decision are a disservice to the nation.

And where are theologians in the public arena? Are there theologians who deserve the name and to be heard? The existence of those questions measures the poverty of our estate as a nation. No nation can live off its root in the Divine Life. It connects with that root or it dies.

Since the crunch is at the point of land use, here is a <u>land use idea for</u> religions that can be justified from the doctrine of compelling government/public need used recently by the United States Supreme Court in ruling for the City of New London, CT, in a question of private land use. To implement this or any other idea for answering the compelling need in question, a deep, broad approach must be developed to illumine and overcome the integrated networks that will oppose the idea.

There are two compelling government/public duties: keeping the peace, including warding off internal and external attacks, and guaranteeing

land use for building up (Greek *economos*) culture. The word economics does not mean "making money" and economics is not about "making money." Economics is building up all aspects of culture including financial affairs and much more besides.

These compelling government/public needs should be aimed at properties owned by "religious organizations," to include properties on which stand churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, etc. With a few exceptions, land currently guaranteed to "religious organizations" should be guaranteed to general economic purposes. All governmental jurisdictions must guarantee that they are. This need is actually a necessity for keeping the peace, as is explained in the essay To Religion Parks From Religion Wars and its amplification here.

Bring those who assert that religious law is civil law under genuine civil law. Wake 'em up!

Religious groups should be assigned space in a religion park that is owned by the city/county, which receives dues from each religious group as from renters, or, as a new condo type in which the governmental entity holds the majority vote.

Perhaps one park of one or two full blocks for each area of 27K-citizen. One central prayer hall for all, quiet, that can hold 2700 people max and one building, holding 270 persons maximum, for each of the religions, to include all of their respective sects and denominations. That is, one building only, to seat 270 people, for each major religion. Let the sects and denominations of each religion get along together with each other in that building. The rest is park and schools, or better, ecumenical retreat facilities, a lovely, quiet place to just be. Make the religions live together and make the sects and denominations within religions work together.

The two compelling government/public needs mentioned above drive this solution to head off Koranolaters (promoters of Sharia as civil law) and Bibliolaters (promoters of Ten Commands, Sermon on Mount, etc. as civil law) before they start gun fights in our streets and spread even more intimidation through our schools, churches, corporations and governments than already they do.

Idolatry is the most dangerous threat to culture because it spawns fanatics. Only idolatry of one form or another can spawn fanaticism. Idolatry occurs in all religions and always starts from idolatry of a sacred text, taking its descriptions of man's essential nature -- expressed in those texts as religious law -- as comprising civil law, about which, in fact, sacred texts are silent because they are incompetent, being otherwise purposed.

Man can neither fulfill nor enforce his potential, which is expressed in religious law and which he experiences, rightly, as unambiguous. Man not only can but must fulfill and enforce his actuality, which is expressed in civil law and which he experiences, thankfully, as ambiguous.

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