

“German Chancellor Angela Merkel said she would like the EU's constitution to make a reference to Europe's Christian roots” in 2013. The EU charter proposed in 2004 spoke of the “pre-Christian ancients” and the “Enlightenment” but was quickly abandoned.

A growing secularism is occurring in Europe.
49% of Americans attended church in 1990.
36% of Americans attended church in 2016.
18% of French attend church.
10% of Danes attend church.
18% of Britons attend church.
9% of Swedes attend church.

<https://www.pewforum.org/2018/05/29/being-christian-in-western-europe/>

Just what is “secularism”?

Broadly defined, it is the opposite of religion.
A conversion of religious things to civil
things.

In my youth I recall many sermons against “secular humanism” as the preachers sought to show us that we had to avoid an atheistic world view. There were lessons on the Humanist Manifesto, a document stating the principle beliefs of those who were atheistic and basically, sexually immoral.

I do not recall any of these which were tied to actual world events that would cause worry, however, the spiritual implications were and are quite clear. Those who fell under the sway of secular humanism would lose their souls.

Prov 14:12 There is a way which seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death.

As we consider this “European secularism” –
“Atheistic humanism ... reversed the view that
the Hebrew and Christian God was the source
human freedom and dignity and proposed that
this God was the obstacle to both.” - George
Weigle “The Cube and the Cathedral”

In the church of our Lord, we immediately recognize the common thought that springs from our lips as we sing praise to God.

“Praise God from whom all blessings flow ...

“O Thou fount of every blessing ...

“God is the Fountain whence, ten thousand
blessings flow. To Him my life, my health
and friends, and every good I owe.

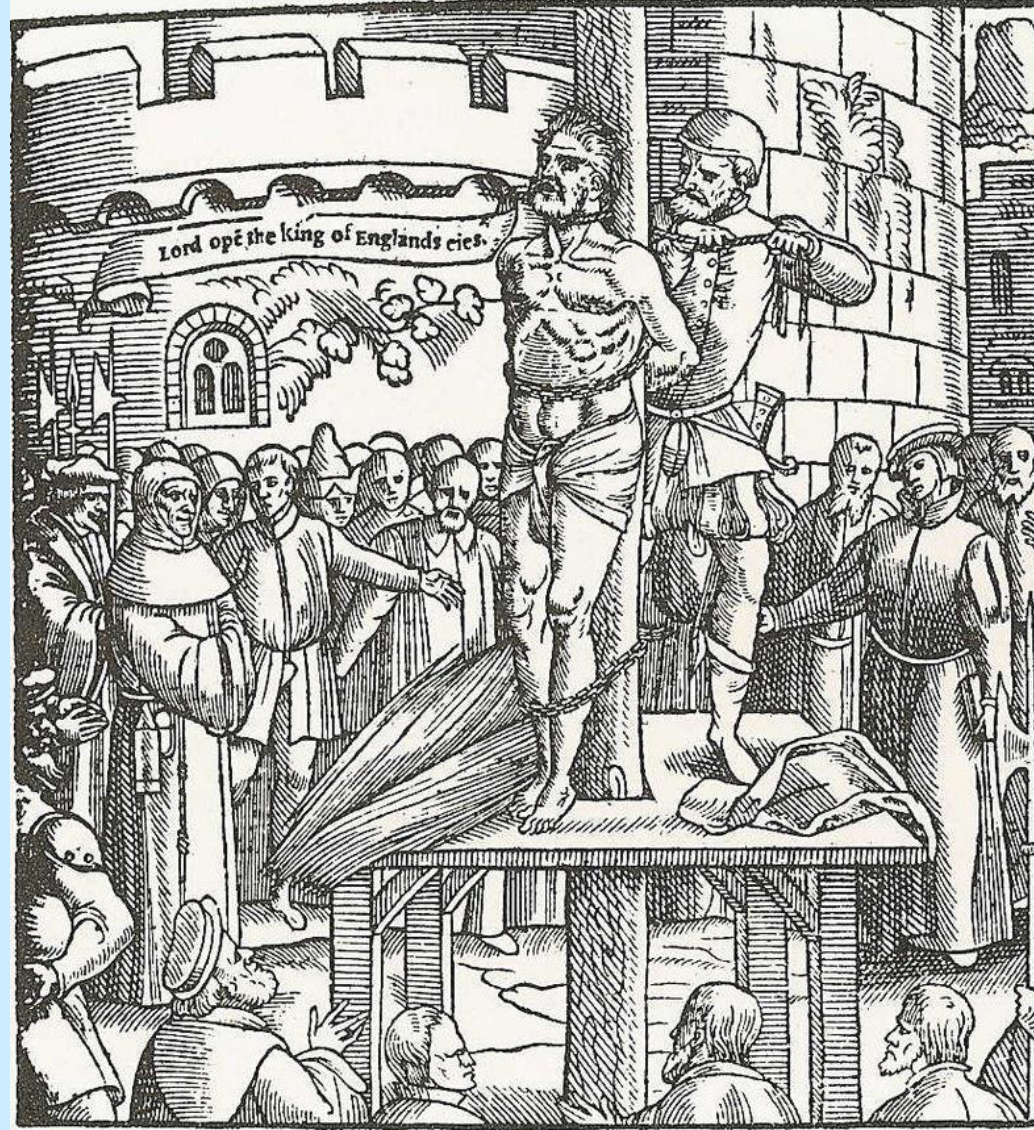
Jacob recognized God as the fount of every blessing – Gen 28:22 ... and of all that Thou dost give me I will surely give a tenth to Thee."

As we review the source of human freedom and dignity, we recognize the God of heaven calls for this recognition on our part.

Gal 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Acts 10:34 And opening his mouth, Peter said: "I most certainly understand now that God is not one to show partiality, 35 but in every nation the man who fears Him and does what is right, is welcome to Him.

There was and is in Europe a constant misunderstanding of this principle as royalty, priests and the privileged attempted to keep the “common man” from knowing, understanding and obeying the will of God.



Tyndale – “Lord open the king of England’s eyes”

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

Eph 3:4 And by referring to this, when you
read you can understand my insight into the
mystery of Christ,

1 Cor 1:26 For consider your calling,
brethren, that there were not many wise
according to the flesh, not many mighty, not
many noble; 27 but God has chosen the
foolish things of the world to shame the wise,
and God has chosen the weak things of the
world to shame the things which are strong,

“Europe’s problem ‘is also ours,’ and not only because it exacerbates differences between Americans and Europeans on matters like foreign policy. ... American high culture is vulnerable to the same kind of spiritual and philosophical amnesia that he believes has affected Europe.”

It is happening!! There is an increasing movement among some politicians in this country to deny that Christianity has anything desirable about it. They speak disparagingly of those who cling to the Scriptures.

1 Pet 4:4 And in all this, they are surprised
that you do not run with them into the same
excess of dissipation, and they malign you 5
but they shall give account to Him who is
ready to judge the living and the dead.

It was said that the Europeans have “reversed the view that the Hebrew and Christian God was the source human freedom and dignity and proposed that this God was the obstacle to both.”

We are reminded that “humanism lay behind the rise of the worst ideologies of the 20th century, communism and fascism.”

Fascism was a form of extreme nationalism, denying the force of Christianity in a nation's future.

Communism said that religion was the “opiate of the masses.” By putting all things in common and directing the people by a privileged class, Communists said that man could right the wrongs caused by religion throughout the centuries.

Ps 14:1 The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they have committed abominable deeds; there is no one who does good.

Without God, there is no hope. Without God, there is no reason for human dignity. Without God there is no future.

Communism has collapsed because of a misdirected fear of the only society in the world where God and his word were important in the lives of most of its citizens – the US.

Eph 4:1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord,
entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the
calling with which you have been called, 2 with all
humility and gentleness, with patience, showing
forbearance to one another in love, 3 being diligent
to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of
peace.

What can we do about the “American high culture is vulnerable to the same kind of spiritual and philosophical amnesia that ... has affected Europe.”

We cannot ignore it and hope it goes away.
We must redouble our efforts in the cause of
the Lord.

2 Cor 5:11 Therefore knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences.

Acts 28:22 "But we desire to hear from you what your views are; for concerning this sect, it is known to us that it is spoken against everywhere." 23 And when they had set a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God,

and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus,
from both the Law of Moses and from the
Prophets, from morning until evening. 24 And
some were being persuaded by the things
spoken, but others would not believe. and
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As we think about the philosophical changes in belief in God in those who are in power in our government, we must question whether our nation will indeed become a completely secular nation with a majority of our citizens forgetting that our nation was founded on Biblical principles.

2Co 5:11 Therefore knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade men, but we are made manifest to God; and I hope that we are made manifest also in your consciences.

Mat 28:18 So he came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. (19) So go and make followers of all people in the world. Baptize them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. (20) Teach them to obey everything that I have told you to do. You can be sure that I will be with you always. I will continue with you until the end of time." (ERV)