J. Stokseth¹ THE NEW WORLD ORDER FROM A CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Genesis 1.26–28

Without God - no human values?

In order to discuss the term "human values", one has to have a definition or a common agreement of what the term "human" means.

The term "human values", often used in the West, can be seen as a non-religious, disguised re-writing of the term "Christian human values", as an attempt to include people of other religious or ideological beliefs into "a common ground". Despite alle our differences, we are all humans?

Christianity has been the common value system for almost thousand years in our part of the world. However, in the current process of altering a state or culture from a Christian to a secular one, "human values" are considered to be of higher quality and of having a more universal touch than the former "Christian values".

In the Christian faith there is a definite, historical starting point: God's creation of the world and his creation of man and woman within this framework. This is, so to speak, the Old World Order, in contrast to the New World Order; God as the definer of what is ethically and morally right or wrong, humans as the divine, created subjects leading a life within this framework, and finally the animals, birds, insects and plants as the objects used in this process. Nature is for man to take advantage of. "Mother nature" – is a poetic, but distractive term for most religious people.

To put it bluntly: Christians believe that humans come from God, atheists believe humans come from the sea. This difference in opinions will probably be an obstacle to an agreement about what human values are.

Without God – there is no such thing as a human being – only beings

The short, but decisive quotation from Genesis 1, lays out a foundation for the basics for an easily understood value system.

This value system began to emerge in the West during the reign of the Roman Emperor Constantine the Great (AD 306-337), when he replaced the old religion of the empire with the Christian faith.²

This transition was probably the most decisive factor in the history of women's liberation and emancipation.

Until this time polygamy was common, but Christianity introduces equality between the genders, one man should have only one woman, and they had equal God-given value, even if their function and status differed. It was also stated that slaves had human values, as God had created every man and woman in his image.

In an atheistic world order, every being represents only different stages in the development of different spices. This means that there is not necessarily any principally difference in value between an animal and a human being – since they are both arbitrary beings and result of an arbitrary evolution.

The axioms for a value system, according to the Christian faith

1) Humans are unique and equal – they are below God, but above animals and plants.

2) Humans are created as two genders: man and women – with specific tasks "to be fruitful and multiply".

These two axioms and other Christian principles have been the foundation for the West for centuries. The modern West is now struggling with these basic principles in its quest for a new foundation and a New World Order, and there are some written examples of this attempt to legitimize this New World Order:

1) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights with its 30 articles, where the last one states: "Nothing in this Declaration may be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person any right to engage in any activity or to perform any act aimed at the destruction of any of the rights and freedoms set forth herein."³

2) The UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, with 17 goals and 169 targets. Who, except politicians and bureaucrats are able to know, remember and take advantage of this framework?

3) The World Economic Forum's Manifesto: (WEF) "The Forum engages the foremost political, business, cultural and other leaders of society to shape global, regional and industry agendas."⁴ From where do they take their mandate?

Common for these three examples is that they are based on an atheistic world order – and will therefore struggle to be accepted as binding within a Christian, Jewish, Mus-

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³ Universal Declaration of Human Rights. URL: https://www.un.org/en/ about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights (accessed: 17.05.2023).

⁴ The Davos Manifesto. URL: https://www.weforum.org/the-davos-manifesto (accessed: 17.05.2023).

lim, Hindu and Buddhist beliefs. The obvious reason is that every religion considers their own sacred texts, prophets and tradition superior to a secular state's laws and guidelines. When there is a conflict between the two – the religious laws will take precedence in the eyes of the believers. Whereas a secular state has the opposite view – its laws are considered to be above the religious laws, thus implying that the secular state is the guarantee for the different religions' equality and religious freedom. The secular, atheist belief is that these two points of views can merge. However, the American Declaration of Independence states that "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal" – and in this respect we can observe reminisces of the Old Divine World Order here and there.

The existence of Universal Human Values – is not a universal belief

For people with a religious belief – there is nothing "universal" with the UN Charter of Universal Human Rights – since it does not have the authority outside itself. The only universal aspect is found when the Charter coincide with values found within the particular religion itself. Then it has authority meaning, not because it is in the Charter, but because it is found in his or her religion.

The West does not define precisely what their value system is based upon, other than their own written documents based on thorough discussions and work, but with no basis in any religion.

Clearly, the West's history the last millennium is based on Christianity, but this Christian belief has to a great extent eroded. The laws of the West is based on atheism – and the hope and belief is that the rest of the Christian, Muslim, Buddhist, Jewish and Hindu world will eventually drift away – towards atheism and pragmatism – if religious people are "enlightened" by science and mass media. The current, western mass media, influenced by the views of the advocates for a New World Order, is one of the strongest means to influence the masses.

If we look into the crystal bowl, we may see that the notion of "human" will be challenged if, or rather when, we face the morally and ethically problems with cloned humans, or when we see a merge of humans and machines into transhumans, or if we enter into an industrial production of fetuses, making traditionally family life redundant. Will these new forms of post-humans – still be considered "humans" in the judicially sense of the words? Will these human-like robots have to comply with the judicially framework of the state? Is this a road we are willing to take? Is the pressure towards acceptance of transgenders only a warm-up for the acceptance of transhumans and cyborgs? Time will show.

The West is a shrinking entity and is becoming less relevant?

What the Collective West does not seem to fully take into account – is that it comprises only about 17% of the world's population, steadily shrinking – and that the rest of the world, to a great extent, has a religious value-system that will not easily be replaced with a new system – although religions also eventually see changes.

The New Ethics of the West seems to have no limits or moral boundaries other than "what is scientifically possible." Gender, family, right or wrong, the value of a human being, sacred rituals or sacred texts are mere old, historically views and phenomena, and the new guideline is what is politically and economically viable.

With the emerge of a multipolar world and with a shrinking population and economy the atheistic West seems to face a future with less relevance.

Nations and cultures with different religions – will probably have an easier task of understanding each other, than a secular nation or culture will have in understanding different religious cultures. The reason is that different religions often have a common understanding that there is something in other people's religious beliefs that are sacred. There is something called good and evil, and there is an authority higher than mankind that are binding to the followers of the particular belief. A possible strategy for the atheistic advocates of the New World Order is to divide and conquer. Division, strife and clashes between religious groups has a long history, and it might be tempting for globalists to encourage the use of these mechanisms as a means to strengthen their own position?

In the End

From this follows that the idea with different, sovereign states that organize their legal framework in accordance with their religion, culture and customs is probably a better idea than letting an outside body like UN or EU, blend everything together with no borders, no genders and no religions – and hope for the best.

Chaos and diversity – is probably a world order only politicians and the economic elite will be able to benefit from. So maybe a multipolar world with sovereign states governed according to their own religious beliefs is what will come out of these turbulent times? The traditionally Western Democracy has maybe reached the end of the road.