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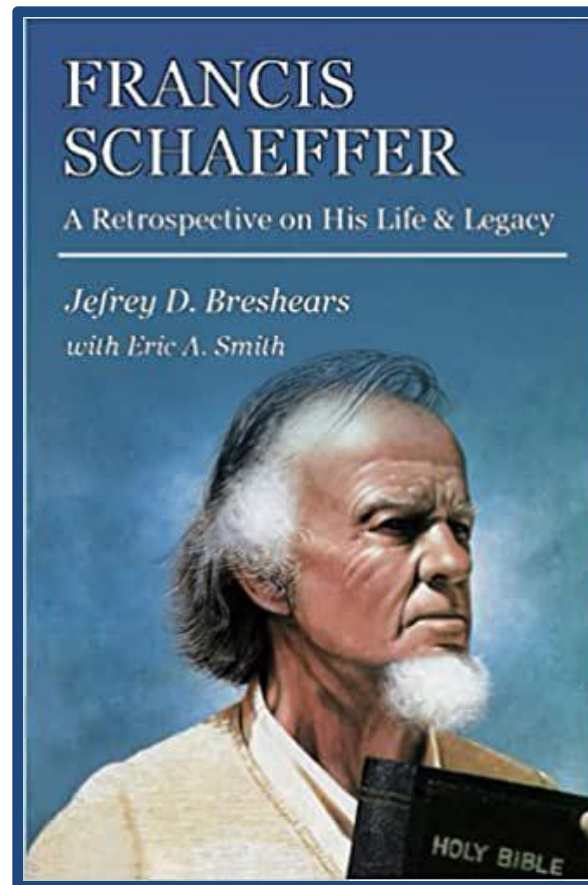
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FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

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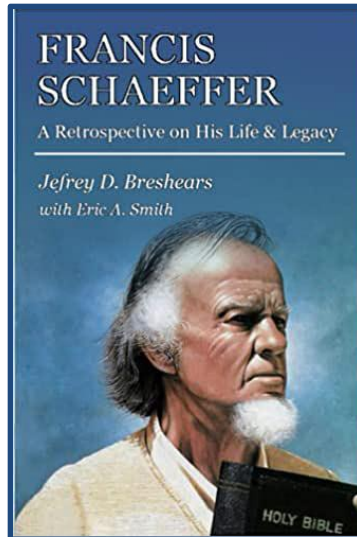
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**PHILOSOPHY &
APOLOGETICS**



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4. PHILOSOPHY & APOLOGETICS

“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- The reality of absolute Truth.
 - Truth is that which corresponds to Reality.
 - Truth corresponds to what is factual and rational.



- Aristotle:
*“To say of what is that it is,
or what is not that it is not,
is true.”*

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“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- Two sources of Truth:
 - (1) General revelation (natural theology).



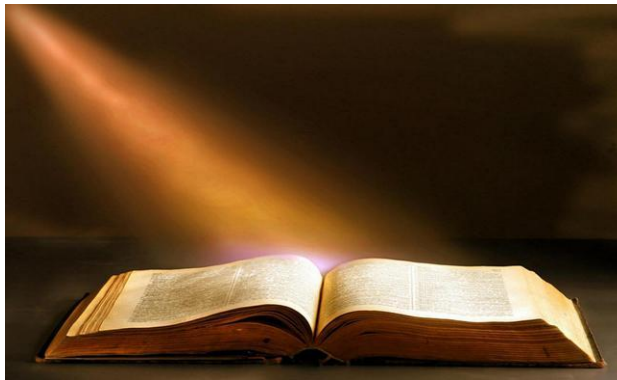
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“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- Two sources of Truth:
(2) Special revelation (revealed theology).



- “True Truth” is a coherent, consistent, and comprehensive system of belief.

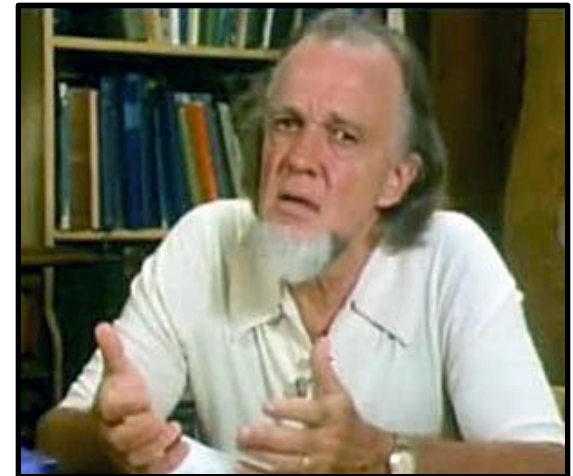
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“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- Francis Schaeffer in *The God Who Is There* (1968):
 - “The present chasm between the generations has been brought about almost entirely by a change in the concept of truth.... This change in the concept of the way we come to knowledge and truth is the most crucial problem facing Christianity today.”



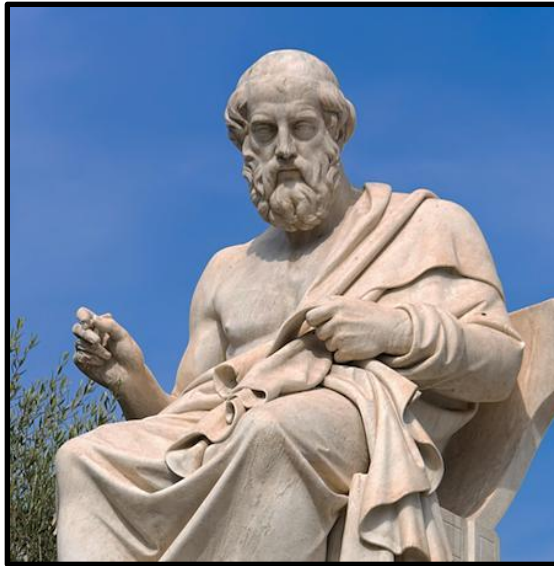
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“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- The Platonic triad of values:
 - The True
 - The Good
 - The Beautiful
- Cf. Phil. 4:8.



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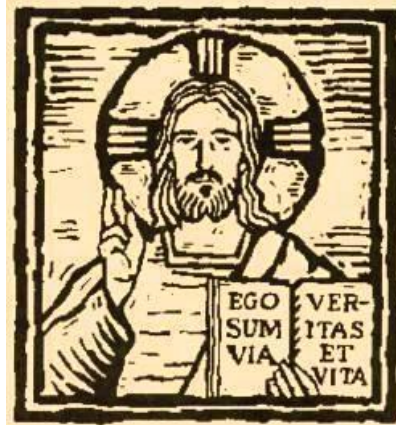
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“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- The basic Laws of logic:
 - The Law of Identity: ‘A’ is ‘A’
 - The Law of Non-contradiction: ‘A’ is not ‘non-A’
 - The Law of the Excluded Middle: “Either ‘A’ or ‘non-A’
- Jesus Christ:



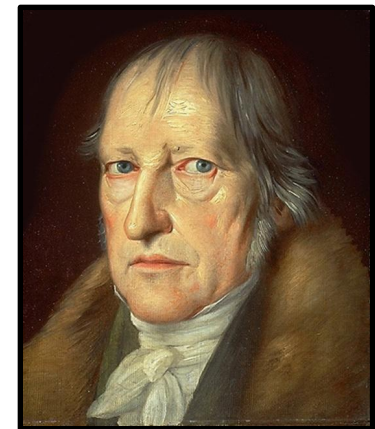
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“True Truth”

Thesis and Antithesis.

- The principle of thesis and antithesis.
- Humanistic reasoning is subjective and relativistic.
- The dialectical philosophy of G. W. F. Hegel (1770-1831).
 - The thesis/antithesis/synthesis model.
 - “Truth” is a concept that is constantly evolving.



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4. PHILOSOPHY & APOLOGETICS

“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- The only reason to be a Christian is if it is
- Apologetics provides factual evidence and rational arguments in support of the unique truth-claims of the Christian faith based on the historical, philosophical and theological reliability of the Bible.



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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- I Peter 1:13 – “Prepare your minds for action....
- I Peter 3:15 – “In your heart set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”
- II Cor. 10:3-6 – “We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God....”



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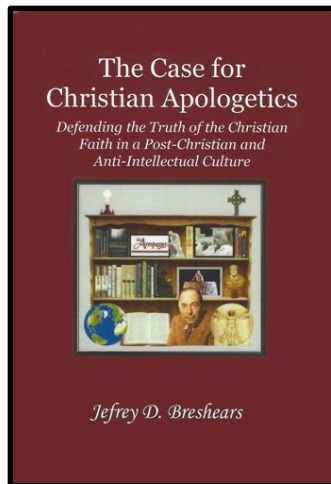
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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Two purposes of apologetics:
 - (1) To educate, edify and equip believers.
 - (2) To engage non-believers.



“Would you like to broaden and deepen your understanding of the Christian faith so as to more clearly and effectively explain and defend what you believe to both Christians and non-Christians? Very simply, that is the purpose and the values of apologetics.”

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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Reason must rule emotions.
- Conversion is the result of a heartfelt and transformational spiritual encounter with the living God through faith and commitment to Jesus Christ.
- Conversion is a spiritual phenomenon: the result of a living synergistic and symbiotic relationship between the convert and the Spirit of God.

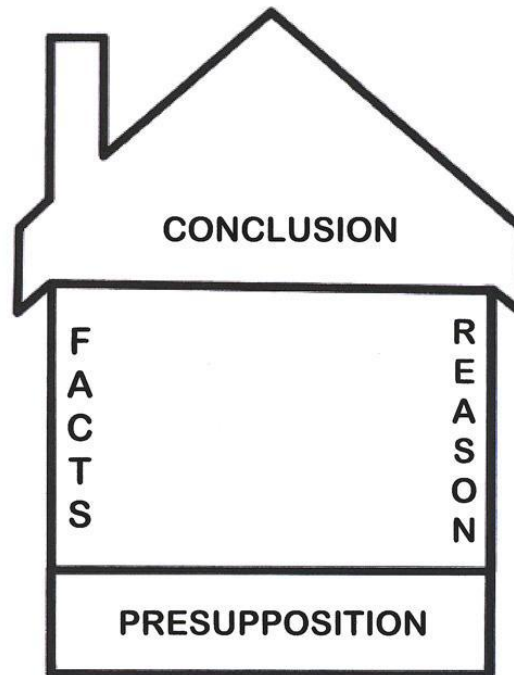
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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- “Taking the roof off.”



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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- “Taking the roof off.”
 - Non-biblical worldviews provide no foundation for a meaningful life.
 - Any beliefs that are True, Good and Beautiful are derived from a biblical worldview.
 - Rom. 1:18-32 and 2:5-11 – The spiritual and moral bankruptcy of non-biblical belief systems.

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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Predispositions and propositions.
 - Psychological and social factors.
- Predispositions: the result of a complex mix of individual factors: personality, moral convictions, mental and emotional states of mind, family life, environment, education, religious influences, life experiences, etc.



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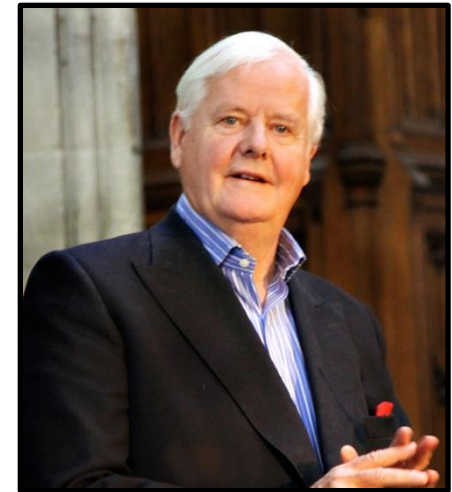
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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Predispositions and propositions.
 - Os Guinness: “Becoming a Christian is an authentic choice of a whole person; it involves reason, emotions, and will. It is in this sense that faith is more than rational.

[The Dust of Death]



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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Predispositions and propositions.
 - Thomas Morris: “Predispositions seem to be more constitutive of the person than any propositional beliefs which can be argued, evaluated, and changed. They in fact determine how arguments are perceived [and] how evaluations are made, and whether or not any belief changes result.... We cannot confidently argue people into the body of Christ. None of our arguments carries a guaranteed universal force...

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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Predispositions and propositions.
 - Thomas Morris: “... which can compel any ‘rational’ person to assent to the truth of the gospel. We are always dependent on something in our listener over which we have no sure control.”
- Apologetics *confirms* rather than *compels* belief.
 - Apologetics assures us that biblical faith is factual, rational and credible, and it exposes false (erroneous and illogical) beliefs that non-Christians hold.

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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Modern Western civilization presents entirely new challenges to the Christian faith.
 - Prior to the 18th century, Christians and non-Christians both believed that they could debate ideas on the bases of facts, evidence and reason.
 - Modern philosophers from Descartes to Kant and Hegel undermined the certitudes of the past.
 - “Truth” as relative and subjective.

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“True Truth”

Schaefferian Presuppositional Apologetics.

- Modern realities require that we consider both the propositional (intellectual) condition of those whom we encounter and their predispositional (psychological) condition.

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“True Truth”

The “Line of Despair.”

- Modern man’s “point of tension.”
 - The product of secular humanism: the sense of alienation and hopelessness in living in a godless and purposeless world.



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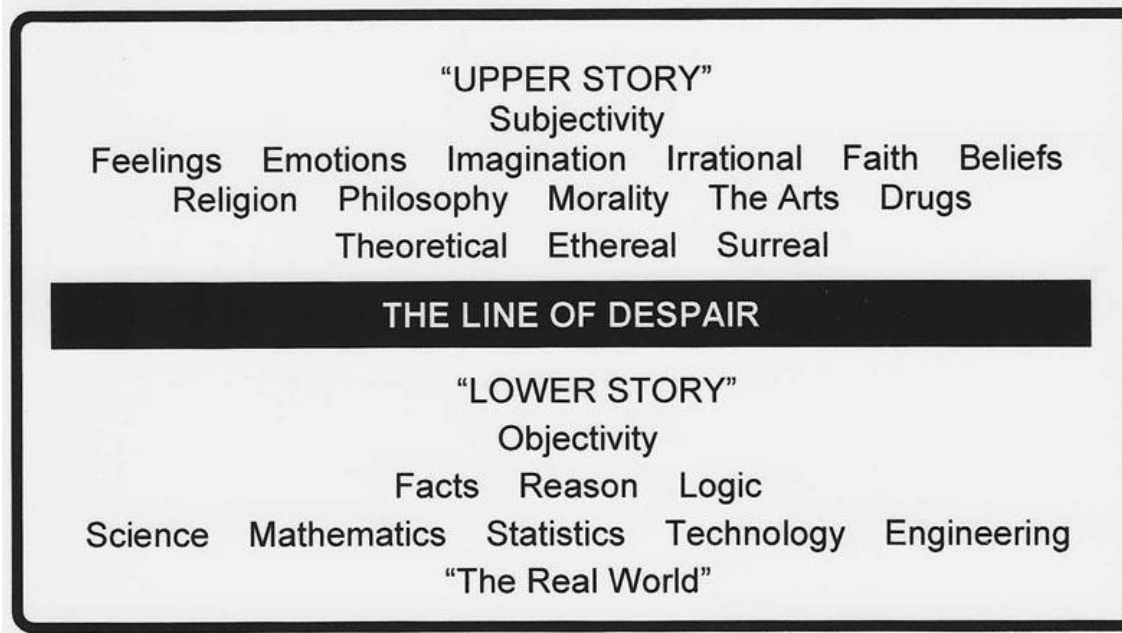
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“True Truth”

The “Line of Despair.”

- An artificial dichotomy: Faith v. Reason.



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“True Truth”

The Corruption of Philosophy.

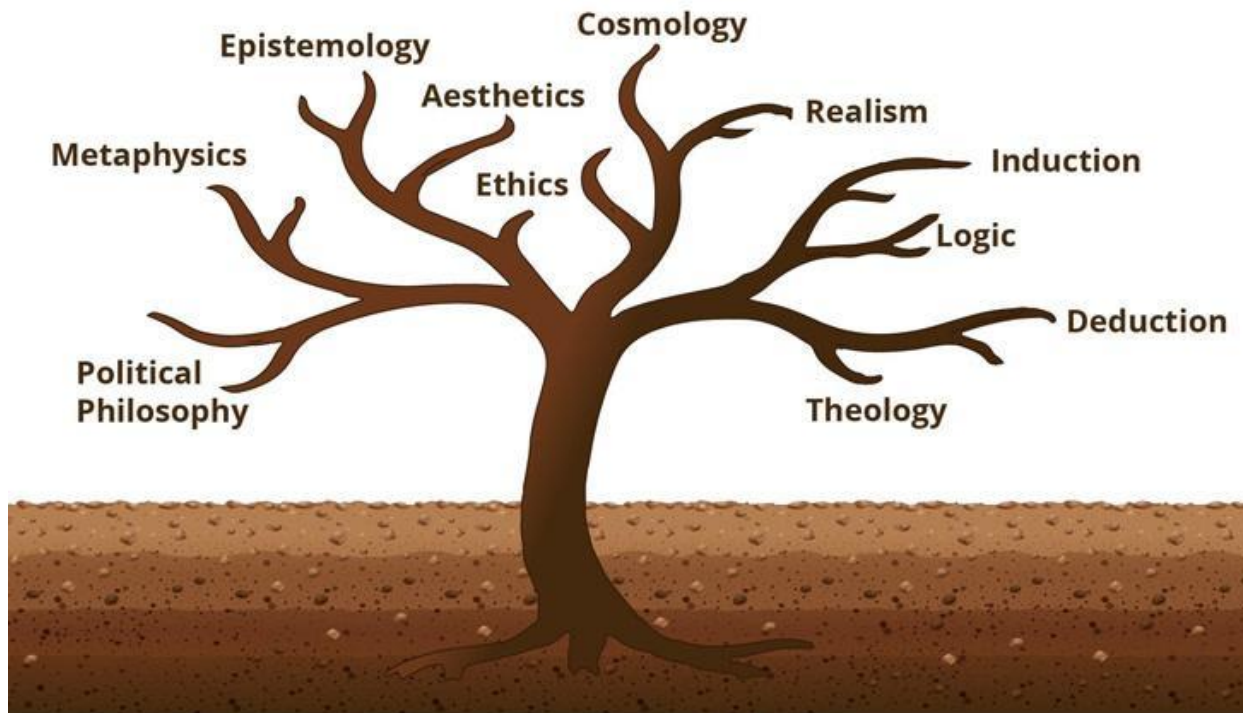
- (1) Metaphysics (Ontology).
 - The nature of being.
 - The reality of what exists.
- (2) Epistemology.
 - The reality of knowledge.
 - How can we know what is real?
- (3) Axiology (morality and ethics).
 - Fundamental precepts of right and wrong.

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Branches of Philosophy



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“True Truth”

The Corruption of Philosophy.

- FS: “Despite the damage done, many Christians and Christian leaders still do not know what is happening ... because they are not being taught the importance of thinking in terms of presuppositions....

“Historic Christianity stands on the basis of antithesis. Without it, historic Christianity is meaningless.... So for us, more than ever before, a presuppositional apologetic is imperative.”

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Natural Law: Some Basic Principles

- There is a God (or gods, or “First Cause,” or some unifying power or principle) that is responsible for the existence and maintenance of the universe.
- There is a moral law to which we are accountable.
 - Certain attitudes, speech and actions are objectively right and wrong regardless of our personal/subjective feelings about them.
- The sanctity of human life and a prohibition on murder.
- The rule of law (either a formal written code or informal customs).
- The right of self-defense.
- Private property rights.
- Protection from arbitrary government abuse or coercion.
- The virtues of wisdom, honor, courage, moderation, etc.

Source: Jeffrey D. Breshears, *Natural Law: The Moral Foundations for Social and Political Civility* (CentrePointe Publishing, 2011).

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Natural Law: Some Basic Principles

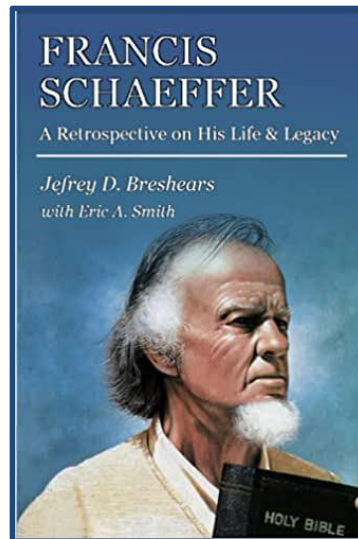
- Honesty in interpersonal relations and commercial transactions.
- Standards of social decency and propriety.
- Sexual restrictions: The sanctity of marriage, and prohibitions on sexual promiscuity, incest, and rape.
- Respect for one's parents, ancestors and elders.
- Proper protection and provision for children.
- The value of kindness, compassion, mercy, and forgiveness.
- The primacy of the common good over individual rights.
- The principle of reciprocity and a tacit acknowledgment of the Golden Rule.
- The summary principle: "Do good and avoid evil."

Source: Jeffrey D. Breshears, *Natural Law: The Moral Foundations for Social and Political Civility* (CentrePointe Publishing, 2011).

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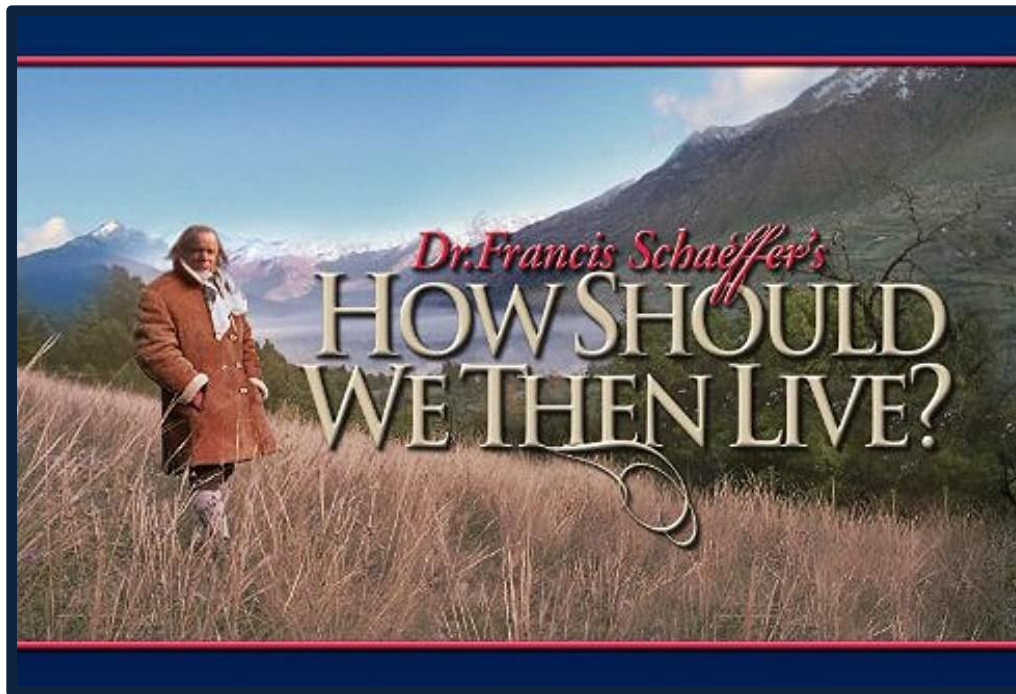
HOW SHOULD WE THEN
LIVE?



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5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Trajectory of Western Civilization
An Historical and Philosophical *Tour de Force*.

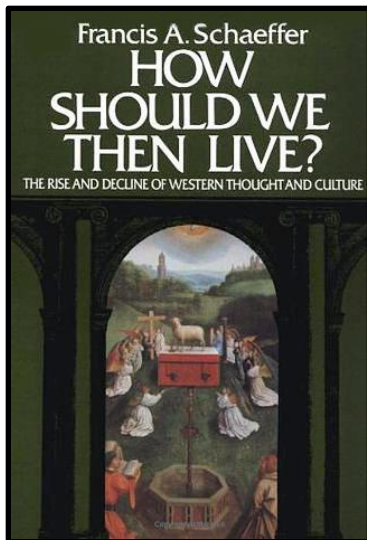


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The Trajectory of Western Civilization An Historical and Philosophical *Tour de Force*.



- Kenneth Clark's documentary, *Civilisation* (1969).
- Ezek. 33:1ff – the ministry of the watchman
- An overview of Western history and culture.
- The influence of the Enlightenment:
 - Secular humanism and theological liberalism.

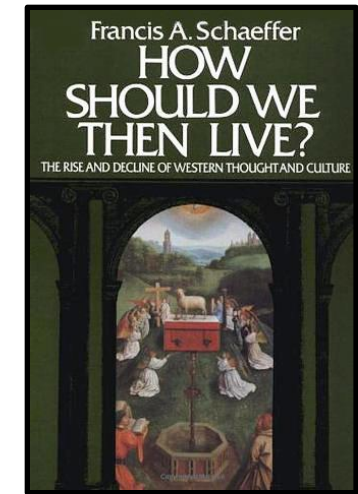
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization **An Historical and Philosophical *Tour de Force*.**

- Francis Schaeffer: “This book is an analysis of the key moments in history which have formed our present culture, and the thinking of the people who brought those moments to pass. This study is made in the hope that light may be shed upon the major characteristics of our age and that solutions may be found to the myriad of problems which face us as we look toward the end of the 20th century....



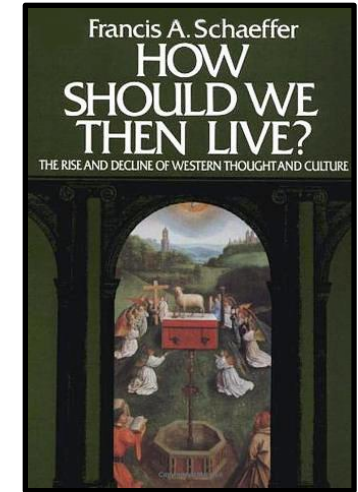
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization **An Historical and Philosophical *Tour de Force*.**

- Francis Schaeffer: “.... To understand where we are in today’s world – in our intellectual ideas and in our cultural and political lives – we must trace three lines in history, namely, the philosophic, the scientific, and the religious....”



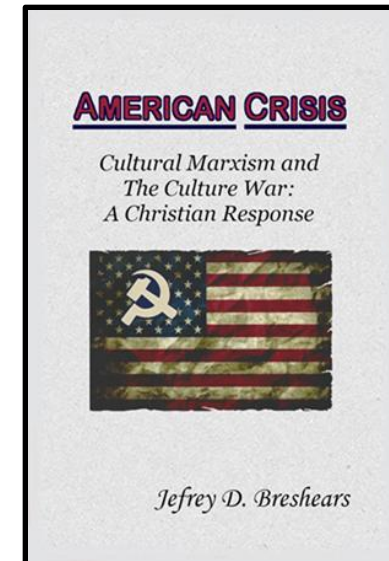
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Summa of Secularism.

- Jeffrey D. Breshears, *American Crisis: Cultural Marxism and the Culture War – A Christian Response* (2020).



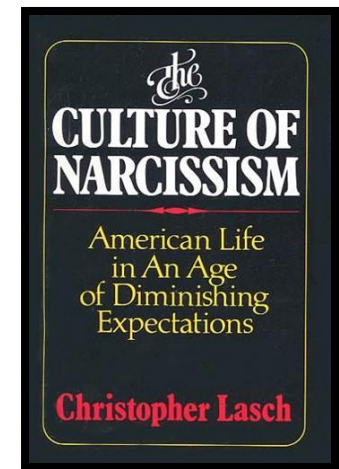
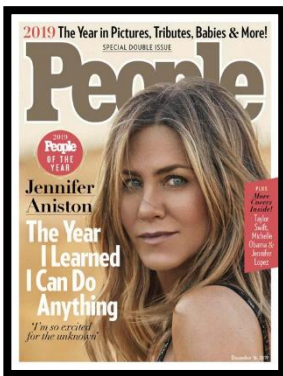
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Summa of Secularism.

- Christopher Lasch, *The Culture of Narcissism* (1979).
- Our therapeutic-fixated society.



- Theological narcissism:
 - Word of Faith (“Prosperity Gospel”) theology.

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization Christianity, Philosophy and the Arts.

- The philosophy and effects of modern art.
- Art as an expression of the artist's worldview.

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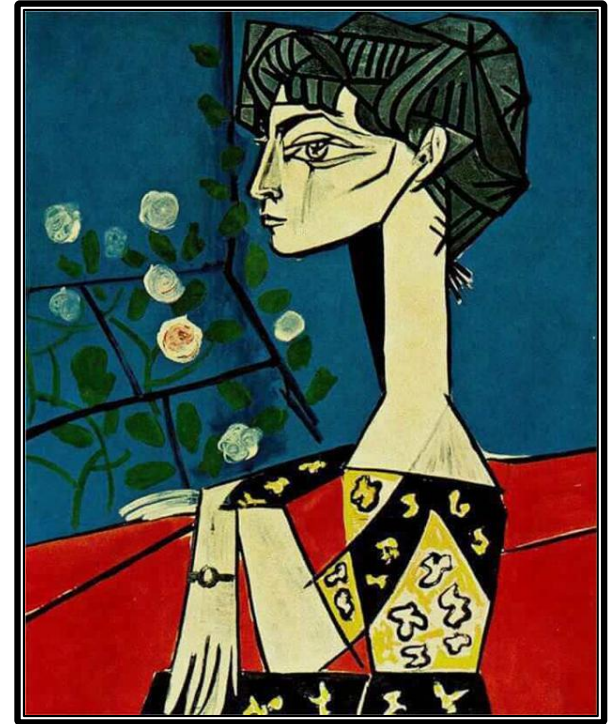
5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?



"The Old Guitarist" (1907)



"Dor Maar au Chat" (1941)



"Jacqueline with Flowers" (1954)

Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)

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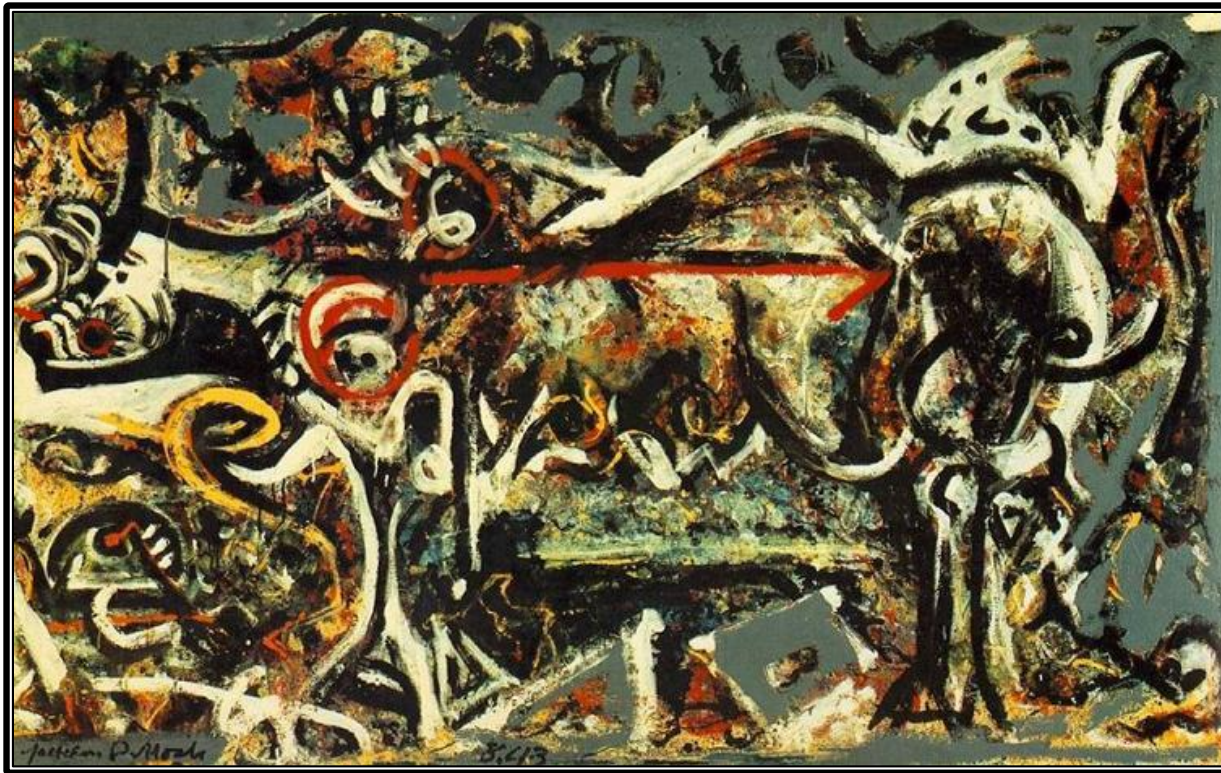
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Pablo Picasso: "Guernica" (1937)

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5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?



"The She Wolf" (1943)
Jackson Pollock (1912-56)

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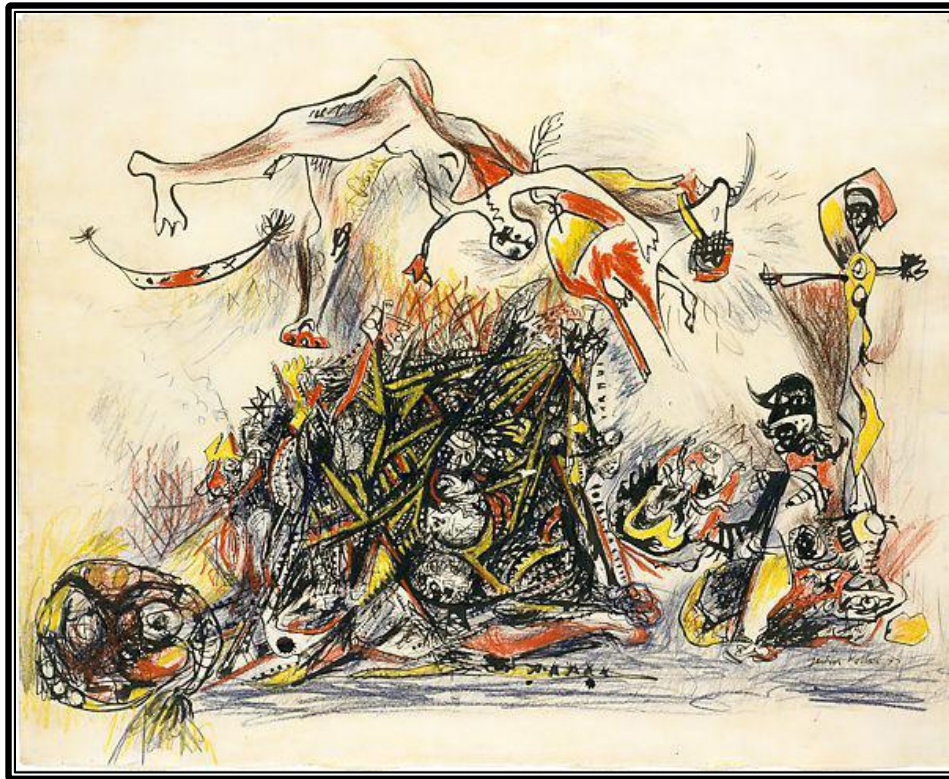
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"Circumcision" (1946)
Jackson Pollock (1912-56)

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5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?



"War" (1943)
Jackson Pollock (1912-56)

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5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?



"Convergence" (1953)
Jackson Pollock (1912-56)

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization Christianity, Philosophy and the Arts.

- Modern music:
 - Militaristic themes in the music of Richard Wagner (1813-83) and Gustav Mahler (1860-1911).
 - Avant-garde “expressionistic” music of Arnold Schoenberg (1874-1951).
 - Aleatoric “music” of John Cage (1912-92).

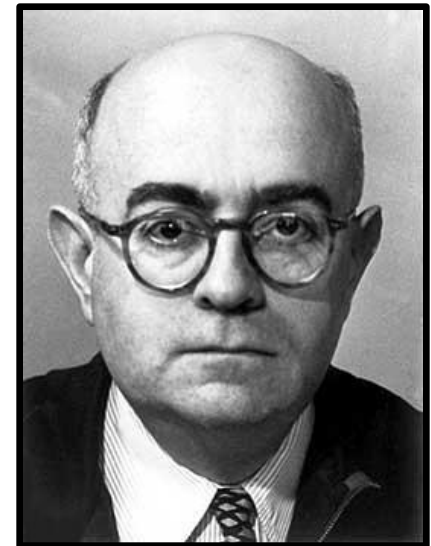
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization Christianity, Philosophy and the Arts.

- Modern music:*
 - Neo-Marxist “agitprop” folk music.
 - Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, *et al.*
 - Bob Dylan, Phil Ochs, *et al.*
 - Theodor Adorno (1903-69).
 - Dissonant music and the “estrangement effect.”



Theodor Adorno

* Ref. Chapter 5: “How Neo-Marxists Corrupted American Popular Music... and Culture,” in Jeffrey D. Breshears, *American Crisis: Cultural Marxism and the Culture War*.

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization Christianity, Philosophy and the Arts.

- Modern music:



- Discordant and chaotic “musick” with politicized, sexualized, obscene and violent lyrics.
- Heavy metal rock, punk rock, gangsta rap, etc.

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization Cultural Corruption.

- Erosion of Christian influences.
- Mainstream values: security and affluence.
 - Materialism, hedonism, wealth, status, success, power and influence.
- Countercultural values: sex and drugs and rock 'n' roll.

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization Cultural Corruption.

- Catastrophic consequences of the sexual revolution.
 - Breakdown of the nuclear family
 - Illegitimate birth rate
 - Divorce rate
 - Single-parent households
 - A pornophied culture
 - Pre-marital and extra-marital sexual relations
 - LGBTQ+ agenda
 - Same-sex “marriage”
 - Abortion “rights”

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Prophetic warnings:
 - Aldous Huxley, *Brave New World* (1932).
 - George Orwell, *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1948).
 - C. S. Lewis, *That Hideous Strength* (1945).
 - C. S. Lewis, “Screwtape Proposes a Toast” (1959).
 - Carl F. H. Henry, *Twilight of a Great Civilization* (1988).

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Carl F. H. Henry, *Twilight of a Great Civilization* (1988):
 - “A half-generation ago the pagans were still largely threatening at the gates of Western culture; now the barbarians are plunging into the mainstream. As they seek to reverse the inherited intellectual and moral heritage of the Bible,... we are engaged as never before in a rival conflict for the mind, the conscience, the will, the spirit,...



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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Carl F. H. Henry, *Twilight of a Great Civilization* (1988):
 - “... the very selfhood of contemporary man.
“We may even now be living in the half-generation before all hell breaks loose – and we will be remembered , if we are remembered at all, as those who gave their hearts and minds and very bodies to plug the dykes against impending doom.”



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The Trajectory of Western Civilization **The Totalitarian Temptation.**

- The authoritarian threat.
- Government elites, working with technocrats, educrats, mediocrats and corporate titans, push a secular socialist agenda that will marginalize and diminish any residual Christian and Natural Law influences.

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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Contributing factors:
 - Media bias.
 - Secularized education.
 - Computers and Big Tech.
 - The prospects of genetic engineering.
- NOTE: Christians, like everyone else, are *conditioned* (*influenced*) by the dominant social and cultural values standards of our time, but our beliefs and actions are *not determined* by these forces.

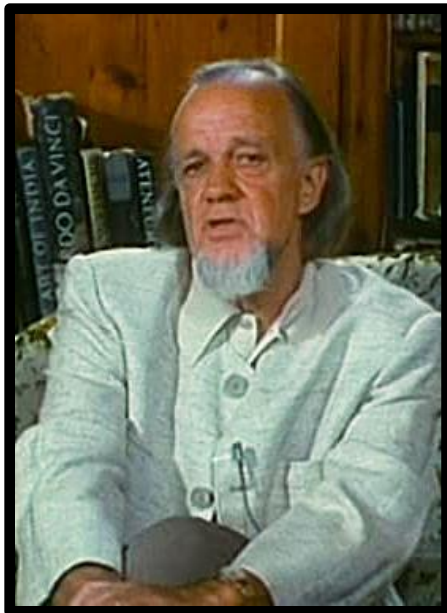
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Christian resistance:



Christians must resist a government that seeks to control more of our public and private lives at the expense of any residual Christian and Natural law influences.

The traditional moral consensus erodes, liberty degenerates into libertinism and chaos.

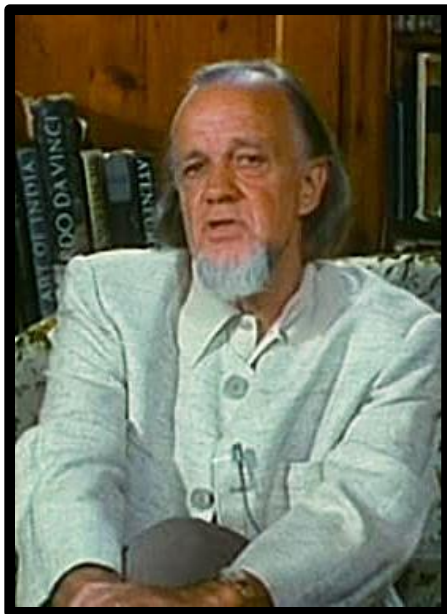
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The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Christian resistance:



An authoritarian elite “will gradually force form on society so that it will not go into chaos. And most people will accept it....

“Overwhelming pressures are being brought to bear on people who have no moral absolutes, but only have the impoverished values of personal...

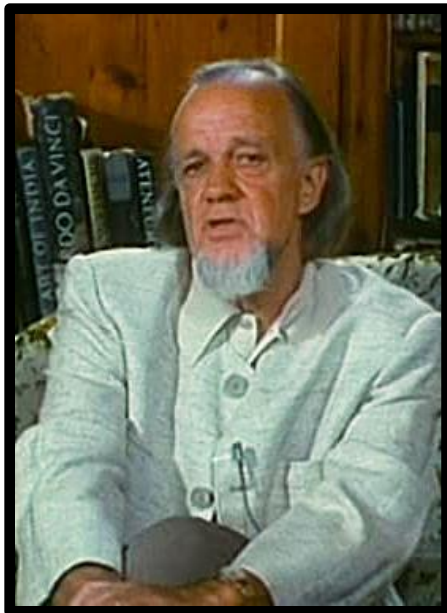
FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Christian resistance:



... peace [i.e., security] and prosperity. The pressures are progressively preparing modern people to accept a manipulative, authoritarian government.”

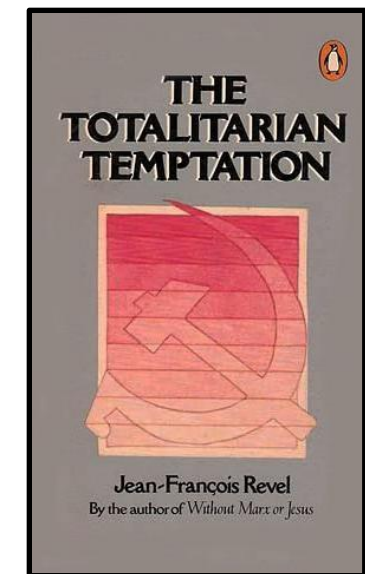
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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Jean-Francois Revel, *The Totalitarian Temptation* (1977).
 - The world is “evolving toward socialism.”
- Francis Sempa, “Revisiting Revel’s “The Totalitarian Temptation” (2022).
 - Social and cultural revolutionaries won the culture war by default.
 - By the time cultural conservatives realized what was happening, it was too late.



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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- The uniqueness of American history.
 - The Christian influences.
- The inevitable consequence of cultural deterioration: secular/socialistic authoritarianism (or totalitarianism).
- The only alternative: a spiritual revival of unprecedented depth and scope – and the recovery of a comprehensive biblical worldview.



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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

- Francis Schaeffer: “Will we resist the authoritarian government in all its forms? If we as Christians do not speak out as authoritarianism grows,... eventually we or our children will be the enemy of society and the states. No authoritarian government can tolerate those who have a real absolute by which to judge [the government’s] arbitrary absolutes.”

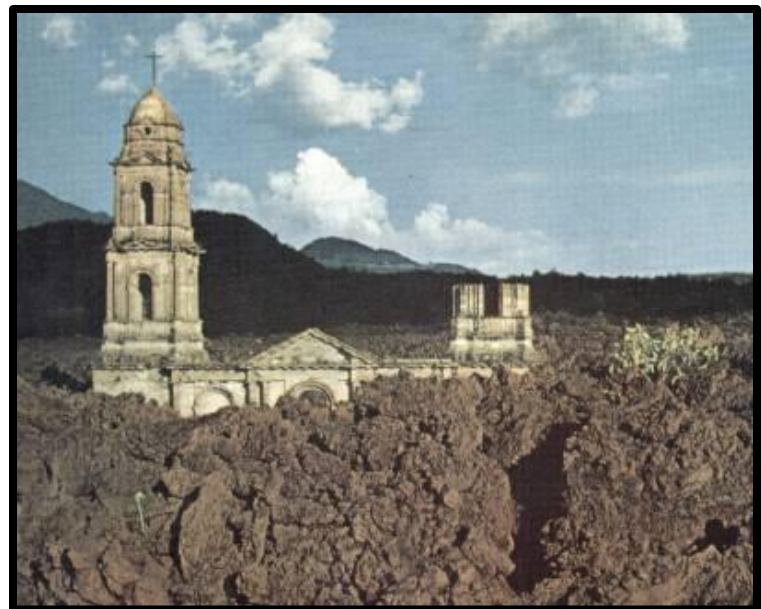


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5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

The Trajectory of Western Civilization The Totalitarian Temptation.

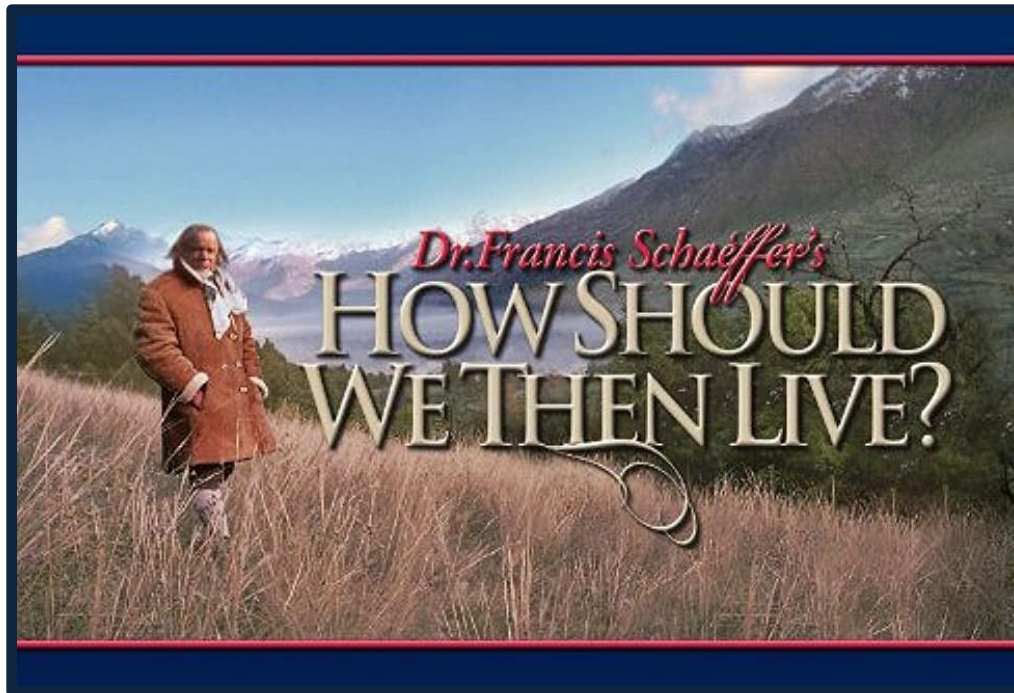
- The current state of the American church.
- FS: “Much of the church is of no help.”
 - The lack of commitment to wholistic discipleship.
- Lessons from Edward Gibbon, *The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*.



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5. HOW SHOULD WE THEN LIVE?

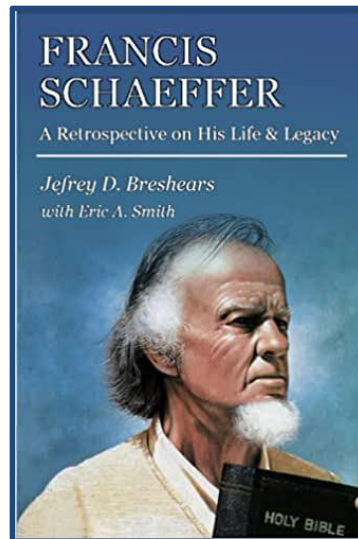
The Trajectory of Western Civilization
How Should We Then Live? The Impact.



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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

--- 6 ---

**CHRISTIAN
SOCIAL ACTIVISM**

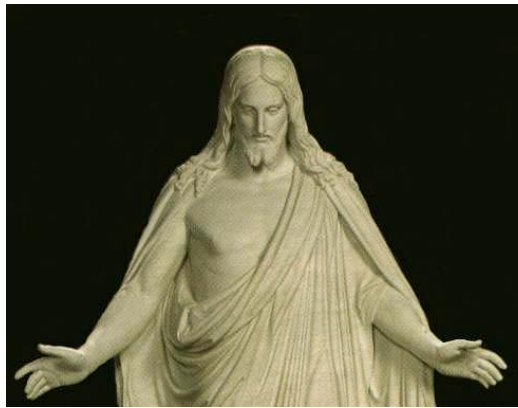


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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship Love and Politics.

- Theme: The Lordship of Christ over the whole of life.



- Christians have a responsibility to be well-informed and actively engaged in the great moral, social, and cultural issues so as to be a source of Love and Truth.

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship Love and Politics.

- The problem of pietism.
- Wholistic love.
 - Social and political involvement is one aspect of living out the “Greatest Commandment” and the “Golden Rule.”



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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship Love and Politics.

- Politics is a necessary component in life.
 - Laws and public policies are based either on the universal moral principles derived from Natural Law or else they are the arbitrary and tyrannical exercises of coercion by the power elite over everyone else.
- Political ignorance, apathy and non-involvement only empowers the most ambitious and ruthless elements in society.

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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship **Love and Politics.**

- *Consider...*
 - How can we love others if we are indifferent to the kinds of laws and public policies and programs that regulate (and often control) their lives?
 - How can we love others unless we are sensitive to, and attentive to, not only their spiritual and religious lives but also their physical, material, social, emotional, intellectual, and creative needs?

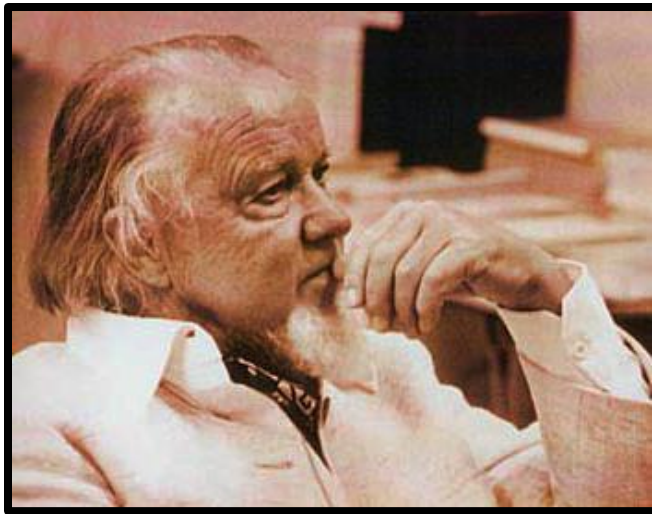
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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship

A Sacred Duty.

• *Consider...*



- Christian faith is more than a “personal relationship” with Christ.
- Christianity is a comprehensive biblical worldview that covers every aspect of life.

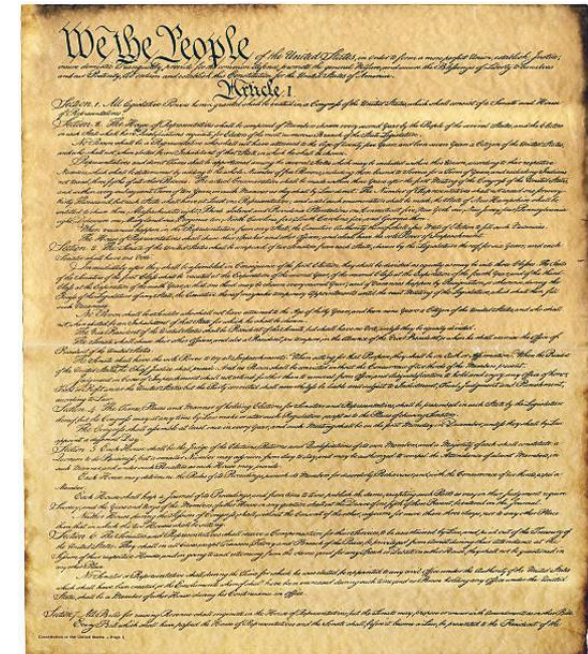
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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship A Sacred Duty.

- The purpose of government in a constitutional republic:
 - (1) Enact and enforce just laws based on “inalienable rights”: life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness in an equal opportunity society.



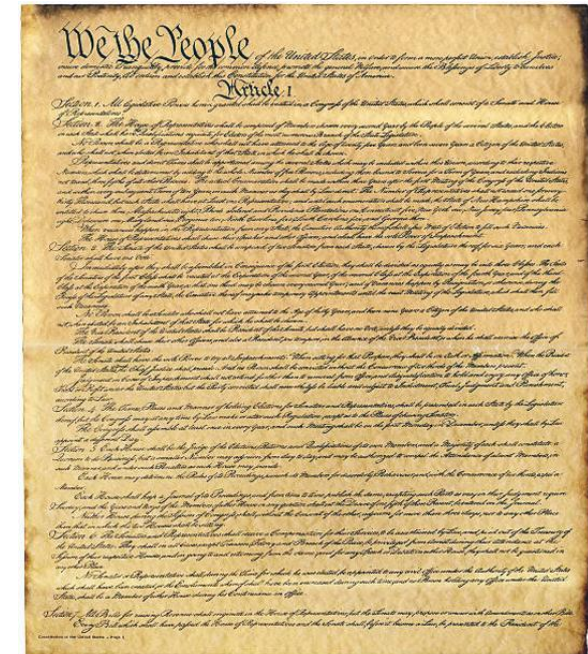
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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship A Sacred Duty.

- The purpose of government in a constitutional republic:
 - (2) Protect and defend citizens against all enemies, both foreign and domestic.
 - (3) Protect the nation's territorial sovereignty and integrity.



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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship A Sacred Duty.

- The realities of politics:
 - Politics is mostly about damage-control.
 - No manmade political ideology or party has a monopoly on truth, justice, reason and wisdom... but some are better than others!



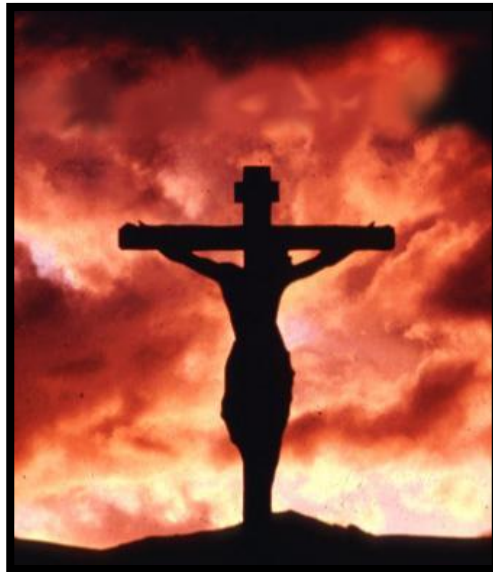
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Socio/Political Discipleship

A Sacred Duty.

- The Gospel – not social and political issues – is what ultimately matters most in this life.



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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship

A Sacred Duty.

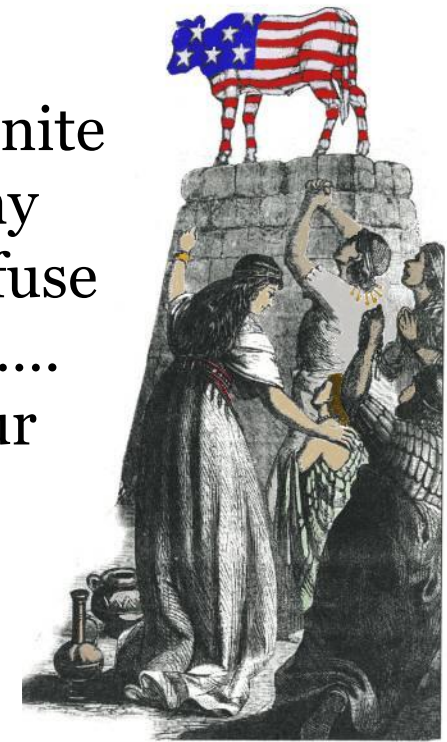
- The Gospel – not social and political issues – is what ultimately matters most in this life.
- *However...* the Main Thing is *not* the Only Thing.
- To avoid the citizenship responsibilities of Christian discipleship is indefensible.

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship A Sacred Duty.

- The problem of theocracy.
 - Francis Schaeffer: “We must make definite that we are in no way talking about any kind of theocracy.... We must not confuse the Kingdom of God with our country.... We should not wrap Christianity in our national flag.”

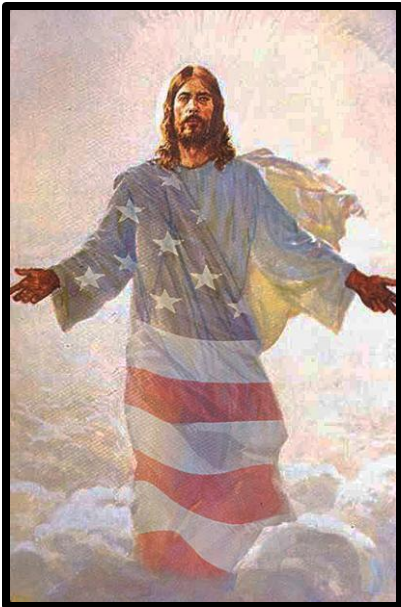


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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship A Sacred Duty.

- The problem of theocracy.
- Rousas John Rushdoony (1916-2001).
- Christian Reconstructionism.
- “Theonomy.”
- “Dominionism.”
- “Christian Nationalism.”



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Natural Law: The Moral Foundation for Social and Political Civility

Natural Law: Some Basic Principles

- There is a God (or gods, or “First Cause,” or some unifying power or principle) that is responsible for the existence and maintenance of the universe.
- There is a moral law to which we are accountable.
 - Certain attitudes, speech and actions are objectively right and wrong regardless of our personal/subjective feelings about them.
- The sanctity of human life and a prohibition on murder.
- The rule of law (either a formal written code or informal customs).
- The right of self-defense.
- Private property rights.
- Protection from arbitrary government abuse or coercion.
- The virtues of wisdom, honor, courage, moderation, etc.

Source: Jeffrey D. Breshears, *Natural Law: The Moral Foundations for Social and Political Civility* (CentrePointe Publishing, 2011).

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Natural Law: The Moral Foundation for Social and Political Civility

Natural Law: Some Basic Principles

- Honesty in interpersonal relations and commercial transactions.
- Standards of social decency and propriety.
- Sexual restrictions: The sanctity of marriage, and prohibitions on sexual promiscuity, incest, and rape.
- Respect for one's parents, ancestors and elders.
- Proper protection and provision for children.
- The value of kindness, compassion, mercy, and forgiveness.
- The primacy of the common good over individual rights.
- The principle of reciprocity and a tacit acknowledgment of the Golden Rule.
- The summary principle: "Do good and avoid evil."

Source: Jeffrey D. Breshears, *Natural Law: The Moral Foundations for Social and Political Civility* (CentrePointe Publishing, 2011).

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

The Political Scale

Political Orientations
Two Models

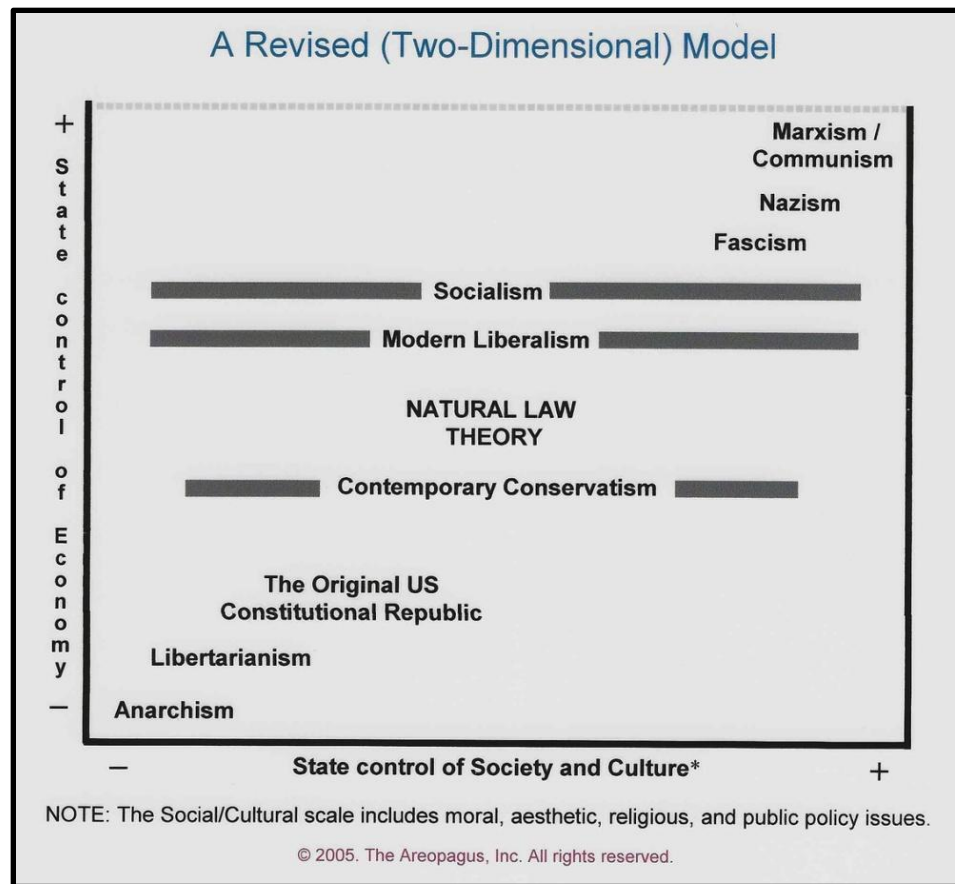
The Standard (Linear) Model



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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM



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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship

A Sacred Duty.

- QUESTION: Will the evangelical church and its leaders have...
the knowledge,
the wisdom, and
the courage
to confront the great evils of our time?

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6. CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTIVISM

Socio/Political Discipleship

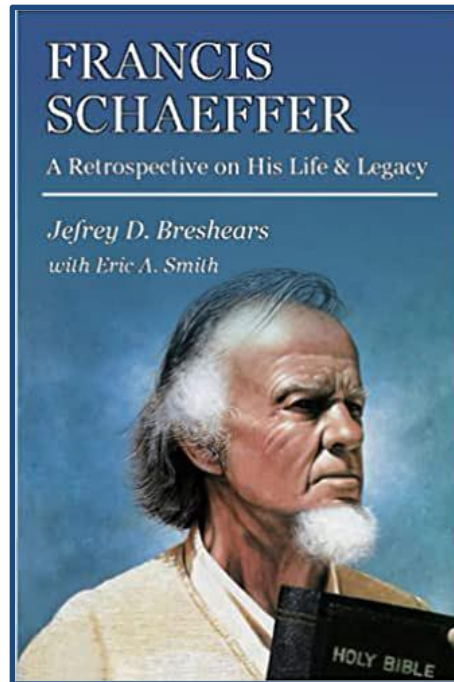
A Sacred Duty.

- Ranald Macaulay: “Western culture has sown the wind and is now reaping the whirlwind. But nothing in history is inevitable. Human beings, not machines, are what create history. Change is always possible... but the church would need to look very different from what it does now. As David Wells puts it: ‘The church must begin to form itself into an outcropping of a countercultural spirituality.’”

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

--- 7 ---

ASSESSMENTS



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7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Three Criticisms.

- (1) Schaeffer's philosophical, historical and artistic credentials.

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Three Criticisms.

- (1) Schaeffer's philosophical, historical and artistic credentials and assessments.
- (2) Schaeffer sowed “dissension and division” within “the evangelical community.”

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Three Criticisms.

- (1) Schaeffer's philosophical, historical and artistic credentials and assessments.
- (2) Schaeffer sowed “dissension and division” within “the evangelical community.”
- (3) Schaeffer politicized the faith in calling for Christian involvement and engagement in the controversial cultural issues of the late 20th century.

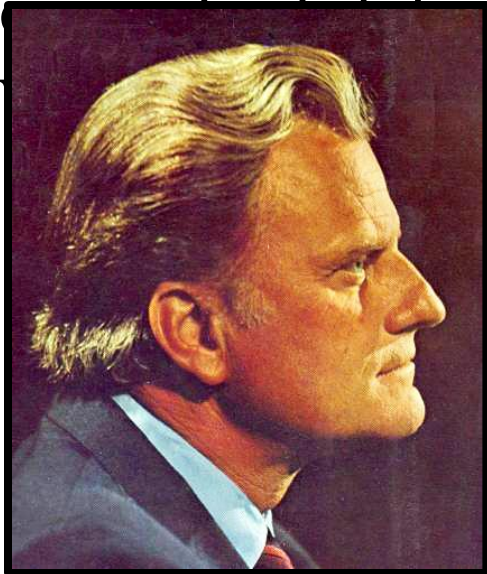
FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.

- Billy Graham: “He was truly one of the great men of our generation. He intellectual, but had a deep love for people and a profound commitment to evangelism. More than virtually any other thinker, he had keen insight into the major theological and philosophical battles of our time.”



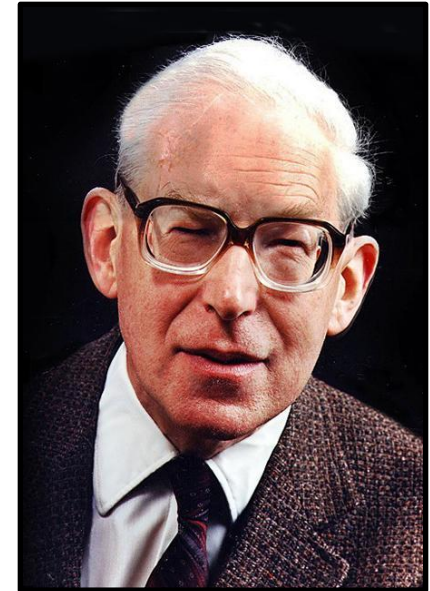
FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.

- J. I. Packer: “Francis Schaeffer was an amazing man – intellectually brilliant and set on truth, emotionally intense, devoted to God and compassionate; like Jeremiah, perplexed by the world , not because he didn’t understand it but because he did.”



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

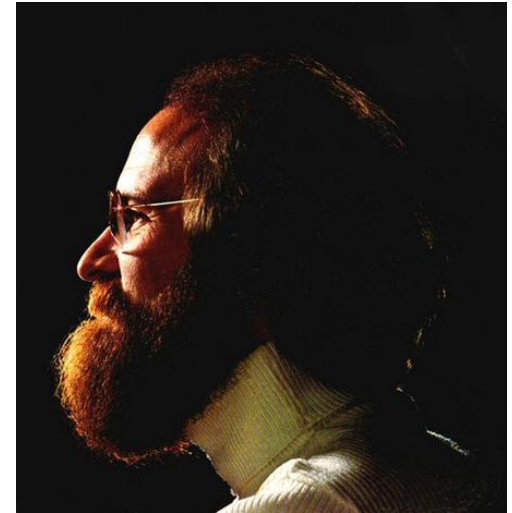
7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.

- John Fischer: “Francis Schaeffer was the evangelical conscience at the end of the 20th century....

“Schaeffer understood the existential cry of humanity trapped in a prison of its own making. He was the closest thing to a ‘man of sorrows’ I have seen.

“Francis Schaeffer was not afraid to ask, ‘Why are our most brilliant thinkers in despair? Why is our art so dark?... What process of thinking has led to this...



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

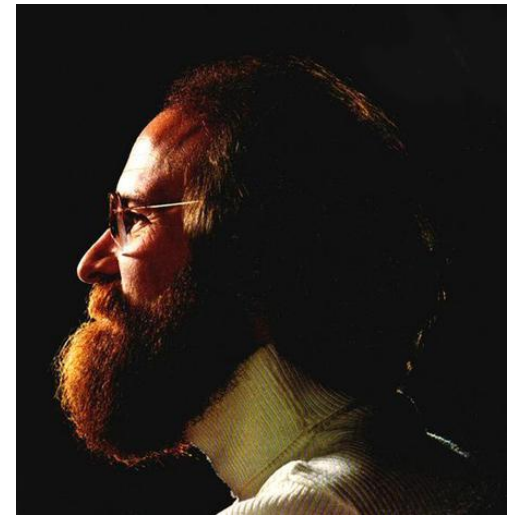
A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.

- John Fischer: “... ultimate denial of the value of human life?...

“Schaeffer was the first Christian leader who taught me to weep over the world.... Schaeffer modeled a caring thoughtful engagement with the history of philosophy and its influence through movies, novels, plays, music, and art.... These artists were only expressing the outcome of the presupposition of the modern era.”



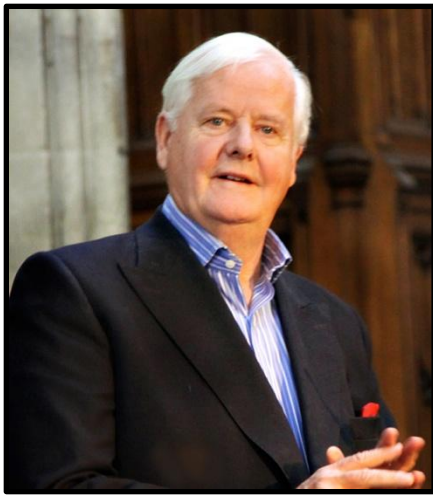
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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.

- Os Guinness: “I have never met anyone with such a passion for God, combined with a passion for people, combined with a passion for truth. That is an extremely rare combination, and Schaeffer embodied it.... He was quite simply the most brilliant and compassionate face-to-face apologist I have ever met.”



FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.

- Chuck Colson: “I am deeply indebted to Schaeffer for the huge impact he had on me over the years.... If he were here today, he’d be loudly decrying the church’s complacency, our comfortable sanctuaries, and our retreat from the culture.”

“Francis Schaeffer was one of the great prophets of the 20th century.”

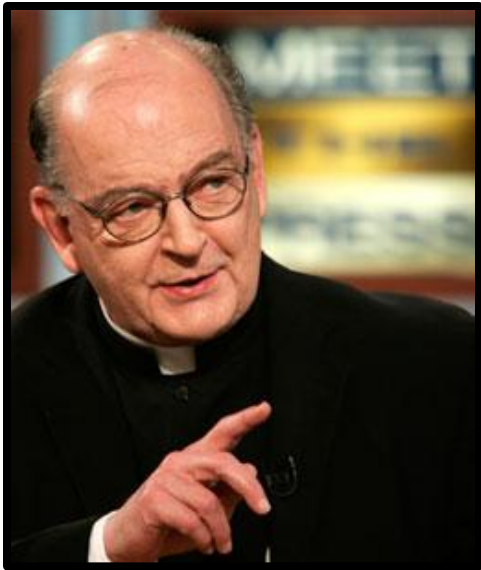


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7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.



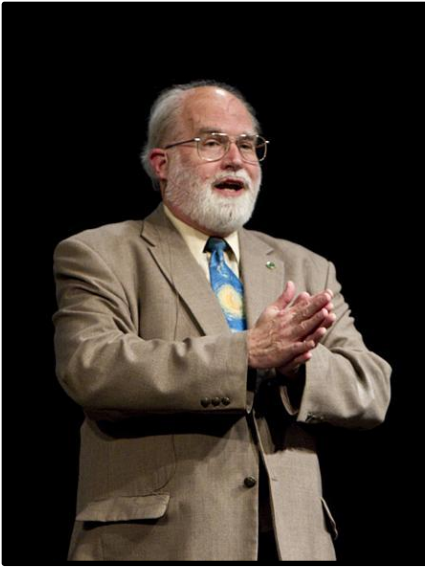
- Richard John Neuhaus: “In the evangelical community, Schaeffer’s influence was possibly only second... to that of C. S. Lewis.”

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.



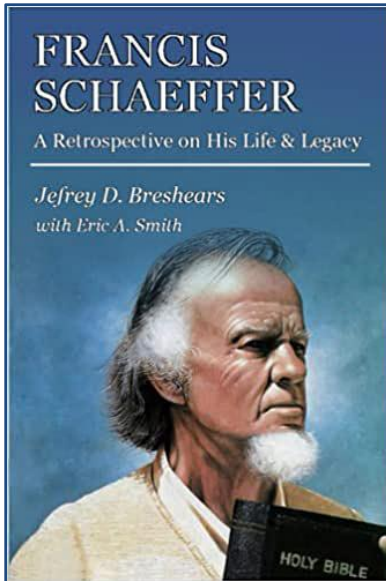
- Donald Williams: “Schaeffer has never been replaced by another voice of equal stature.”

FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

7. ASSESSMENTS

The Summa Legacy.



• Jeffrey Breshears: “To live faithfully and actively for Christ in contemporary post-Christian’ America, students and pastors alike are well-advised to read, absorb and interact with the thoughts, insights and the challenges they will encounter in the writings of two modern giants: C. S. Lewis and Francis Schaeffer.”

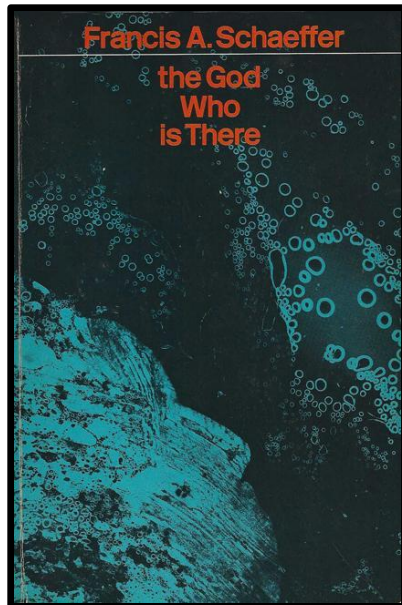
APPENDIX

FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

A RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

The God Who Is There (1968)



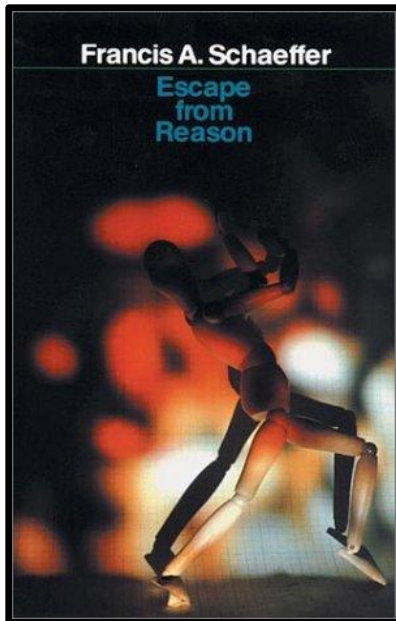
- A general analysis of the intellectual and cultural climate of the late 19th century and the impact of secular humanism on every area of life from philosophy to art.
- Basic theme: The existence and relevance of God, and how modern man came to first distance himself from, and ultimately disbelieve in, the God of the Bible.
- A comprehensive spiritual and apologetical approach to the Christian life grounded in the principle of absolute “True Truth”.

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

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Escape from Reason (1968)



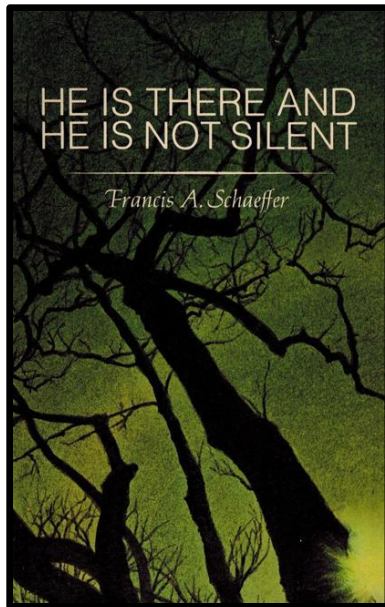
- A critique of the philosophy that underlies modern education, science, art and popular culture.
- Basic theme: How the rejection of God and the emergence of secular humanism has caused humanity to lose contact with reason and reality.
- Objective facts and reason must always prevail over subjective feelings and emotions.
- The Bible as the ultimate source for “true and unified knowledge.”

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

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He Is There and He Is Not Silent (1972)



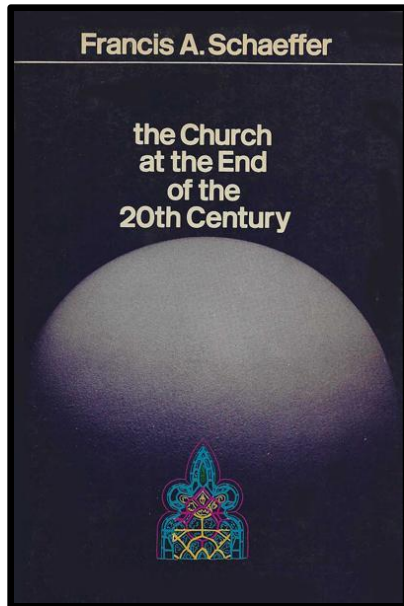
- Basic theme: The reasons to believe that God exists and that we can know Him personally.
- The Bible provides plausible answers for all areas of philosophical inquiry:
 - (1) ontology (metaphysics);
 - (2) epistemology; and
 - (3) axiology.
- Three options for the existence of the universe.

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

A RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Church at the End of the 20th Century (1970)



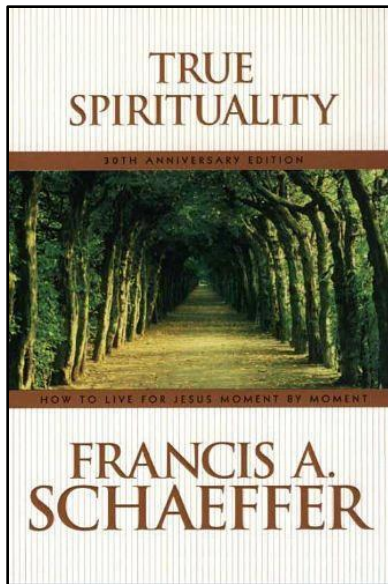
- Basic theme: Does biblical Christianity have a future as we approach the close of the 20th century?
- The true church faces formidable opposition:
 - Militant secular humanism;
 - Political totalitarianism (neo-Marxism);
 - The corporate/industrial complex;
 - Dishonest, agenda-driven media;
 - The technocratic elite and the agenda of scientism;
 - Etc....

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

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True Spirituality (1971)



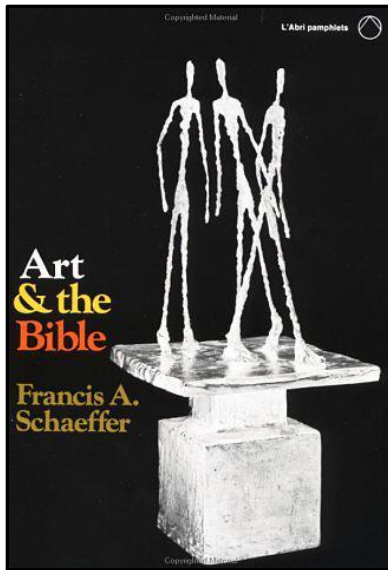
- The spiritual foundation for Schaeffer's life and ministry.
- Basic theme: Christianity is true, and it is as relevant to modern life as in the past.
- Based on Schaeffer's own spiritual and existential struggles, *True Spirituality* is one of the great spiritual classics of the 20th century.
- A primer in sanctification: what it means to follow Christ wholeheartedly and unreservedly.

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Art and the Bible (1973)

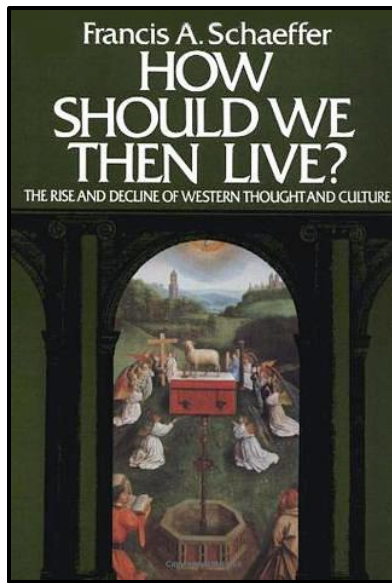


- Basic theme: The arts are an integral and creative expression of mankind having been created in the image of our creator God.
- A biblically-based philosophy of the arts that Christians should understand and celebrate.
- A critique of modern art: painting, sculpture, music, movies, theater, TV, etc – much of which promotes secularism, political propaganda and moral decadence.

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How Should We Then Live? The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture (1976)



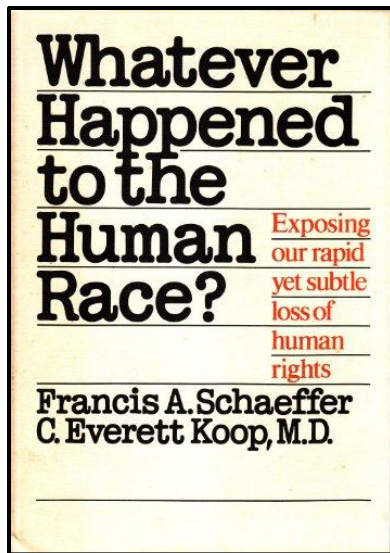
- Basic theme: The rise and decline of Christian-influenced Western civilization.
- A primer in philosophy, history, and a comprehensive Christian worldview.
- The impact of significant contributors to Western civilization from Plato, Augustine and Thomas Aquinas to John Locke, Thomas Jefferson, Karl Marx, Nietzsche, Vincent van Gogh and Bob Dylan.

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Whatever Happened to the Human Race? (1979)

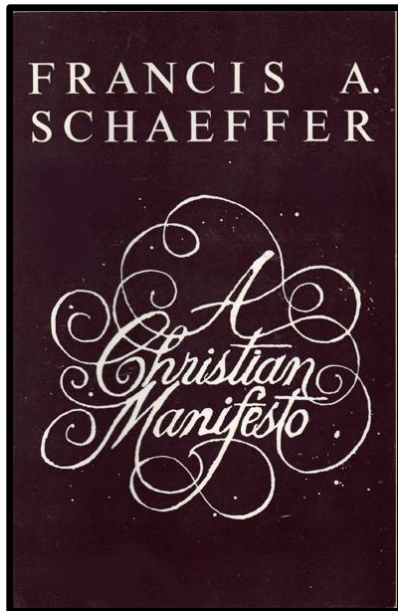


- Basic theme: The widespread implications and loss of human rights brought on by abortion, infanticide and euthanasia.
- Dedication: “To those who were robbed of life... during the dark ages of madness, selfishness, lust and greed for which the last decades of the 20th century are remembered.”
- The West has entered a new era of barbarism that can only be compared to the Nazi Holocaust.

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A Christian Manifesto (1981)



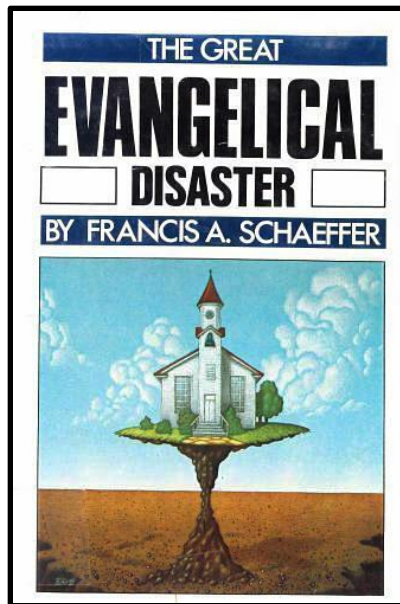
- Basic theme: A Christian worldview should condition how we think and act toward the full range of religious, social, cultural and political issues.
- An analysis of why morality and freedom are under assault in contemporary America and the West.
- The failure of Christian leadership to address and engage the great religious, moral and cultural issues of our time.
- Restoring the principle of *Lex/Rex*.

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A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY

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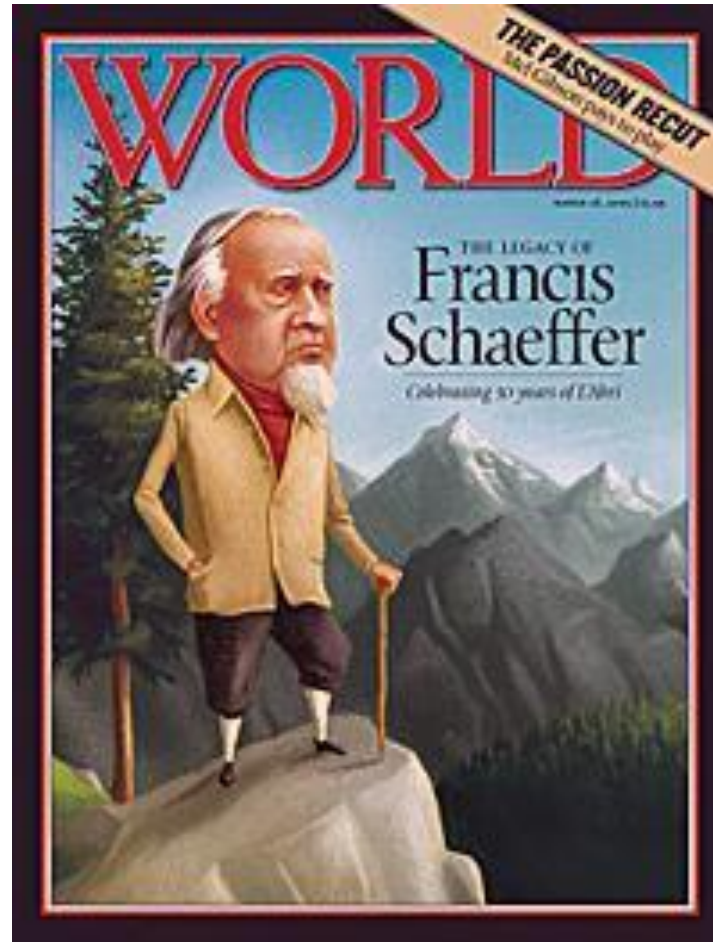
The Great Evangelical Disaster (1984)

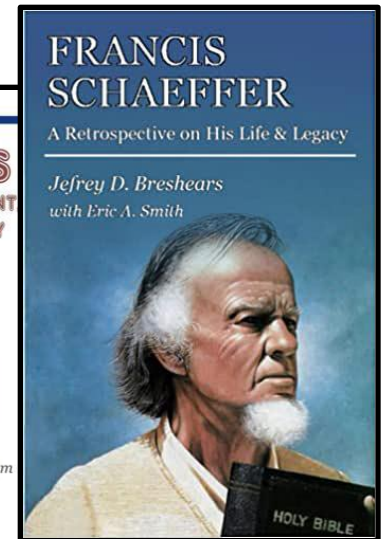
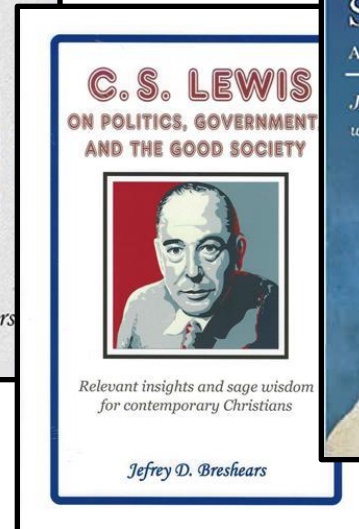
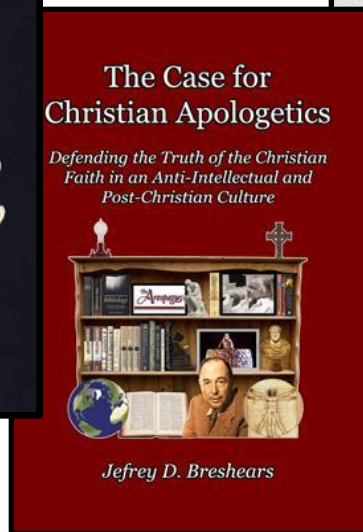
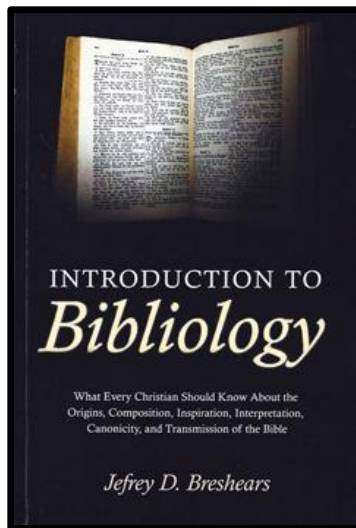


- Basic theme: The theological, moral and cultural seductions which evangelicalism must resist – especially in regard to the humanistic sexual agenda.
- Dedication: “To a new, young generation – and to those in the older generation – who will stand and be counted as radicals for truth and for Christ.”
- FS: The statement I am making in this book is perhaps the most important statement I have ever written.”

FRANCIS SCHAEFFER

A RETROSPECTIVE ON HIS LIFE & LEGACY





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