

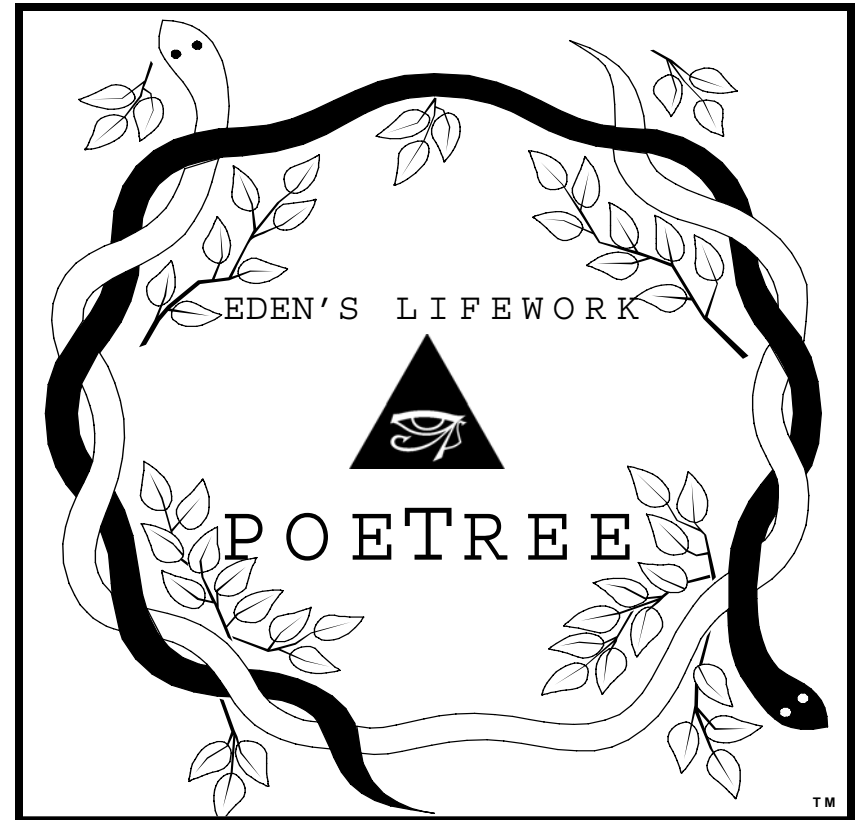
HEALING CHURCH.

Under the absolutist dogma of "statism/religionism" the citizen is expected to adopt the presumptive way of living which says in effect, "my country, right or wrong, my church, right or wrong". Such self-surrender is inauthentic and is the extreme practice of "fideism" which contents itself to accept whatever the controlling institutional authority requires. Collectively, humankind is the *wheatgrain of social complexity—the bread of civility*, the transubstantial body/soul of Church, of State. The Church is The Peoples' *House of Bread*—home, community—the place of "eucharistic" nourishment for all.

History is witness to deep flaws in institutional Church which have been cosmetically papered over. Through history, less than perfect people have been less than "sincere" and have falsified their institutions. The word "sincere" is from the Latin *sine cera* which means *without wax*. Wax has been used by sculptors of marble to cover over chinks and flaws so as to hide natural defects and man-made mistakes. A "sincere" sculpture is one with no covered up flaws in its marble. Institutions of religion need to acknowledge their flawed *marble* and need to restructure themselves with *sincere* (non-deceptive) material.

In sacralizing the "material", the resource substance of the spiritual, the whole of humankind, of Nature, is sacralized. Matter's *transubstantiation*, the sacrament of body/soul, is the holy work of common priesthood. As a priestly people, we cannot *sincerely* side-step vital materiality and exclude it from the *religious* purview. Such willful falsification violates the health and harmony of Earth-life and *essentially* defrauds the Church, The People.

Institutions that obsess to deny and hide their defects are not trustworthy. The Counter-Reformation prosecuted by the Roman Catholic Church was/is motivated in such denial; even now, significant elements of Pope John Paul II's Church cling adamantly to their Tridentine obsessions and fight the implementation of The Second Vatican Council. Catholic Christianity cannot countenance this contemporized counter-reformational obsession without deadly consequences. Catholic Church leadership must mentor faithfully the mind of Vatican II—a new creation—or continue in the inauthenticity and decay of past deceptions.



.....
EIGHTH BOOK
.....

II: THEOGENESIS "Disturbed Grounds"

SYLVESTER L STEFFEN

CAPITALIZING NATURE'S ECONOMIC/ECOLOGIC LINK.

Nature drives all economies. All real economic value obtains only from ecologic wealth, for all ecologic wealth is a gratuity of life networked in air, land and sea. The *natural* purpose of authentic economic capitalizing is to diversify and sustain wholistically life's gratuities to the advantage of network life. Network life's purpose is not to exploit disproportionately life's providence by giving advantage to one gratuity so that it may destroy others with impunity—as humans are presently doing. The wholistic preservation and diversification of network life is "authentic capitalizing" that is valid for all living systems, ecologically and economically. Ethics and morality are essentially grounded in balanced economic/ecologic relations. The wasting of network life by humans in the terminal exploitation of linked life is ultimately uneconomical, unethical and immoral. When the essential continuity of network life is compromised, all life is compromised—also compromised is human life/health, and the wholistic economy network-sustained in body-systems. Except business, government and religion are conformed to the ethics of authentic ecologic/economic relationships, they become a reckless troika driven by the consuming lusts of the ten-horned dragon. The ten deadly social sins of the New Genesis are ten horns on the doomsday dragon wasting Earthlife.

ON BEING CHRISTIAN.

None of us is free of regrets. We experience in our lifetimes occurrences hurtful to others for which we bear responsibility, whether done individually or as a member of some group. We must pray the personal forgiveness of others adversely affected by what we do and we must seek to repair the damage. Conversely, if we suffer wrongdoing at the hands of others, we must be forgiving, for as we forgive, so are we forgiven. If we would find peace of heart, we must put other hearts at peace. By so doing, our love for one another is publicly witnessed, and we are, as Jesus says, taken to belong to his "company". This is what it means to be "Christians", to be *Jesuits*. A "company" under any other aegis cannot claim credibly to be "Jesuit". Like Jesus, we are credible when our word truthfully corresponds with our work.

Our altruism toward one another should be *transparent as water, our heart's intention, as guileless as doves'*. Institutions that embrace such contradictory confessions as Joseph Fessio's and the Berrigan brothers' are stumbling blocks to *the least of these, my children*. Duplicitous manipulation in institutional service is not a virtue in Jesus' repertoire.

The wisdom of serpents is ZOOMORPHIC, knowing the light-dark difference between good and evil, and opting always the good. Jesus invites all to pursue this wisdom.

Status of Women

Father John Dietzen

Q. In speaking of how much we have to overcome regarding the role of women in church, you explain that St. Thomas Aquinas wrote that women are all inferior morally and mentally to men and that he somehow relates this to a similarity to animals. One friend who is supposed to know a lot of theology told me he does not believe St. Thomas would ever say anything like that. Can you tell me where remarks like this are found?

A. Anyone at all familiar with the history of Christian thought would know that statements along these lines are not unusual. To place the question in proper context, however, we need to understand two historical facts of life.

First, for much of the history of the human race, up until very modern times, in fact, prevailing biological teaching was that in human procreation women provide only a "nest" and growth material for new life. The only "active" part was the male seed, which totally determined the nature of the new person.

Second, again until fairly recent times (indeed theologians are still wrestling with how this attitude fits with what we know about human activities) in anything having to do with physical processes like generation of the species, these processes as they occur in animals, and "why" animals do them, were generally considered to provide the best insight on how and why they should happen in human life. Particularly did this affect Christian moral viewpoints on the purposes and moralities of sexual activity between men and women.

Knowing this helps us understand, even if we cannot agree with him, that St. Thomas (who died in 1274) was simply reflecting the best science of his day when he said that a woman is a misbegotten or defective male. ("mas occasionatus" I,99,2 ad 1; all references that I give here are to the "Summa Theologica".)

"The active power which is in the male seed is intended to produce a perfect image of itself, a masculine sex," he said. "When a female results it is either because of a weakness in this active power or because of some indisposition of the materials provided by the woman, or even from a change produced by an outside factor—for example, from south winds, which are humid." (!!)

(I,92,1ad 1)... received...from Aristotle.

Clearly such erroneous biology easily leads to other equally bizarre conclusions. Thomas says, for example, that women need the virtue of sobriety more than men "because there is in them a greater proneness to concupiscence... sobriety is more required in women..." (II,II,149,4)

These supposedly scientific conclusions led to spiritual implications as well. Women cannot validly be ordained to the priesthood, said Thomas, regardless of her other qualifications, since "no status of prominence can be signified in the feminine sex, because women have the status of subjection, and so cannot receive the sacrament of orders." (Supp.—39,2)

Similarly, a woman should not baptize, even in an emergency, if there are men around to administer the sacraments. (III,67,4c)

Unfortunate and faulty as one might find statements such as these, it seems to me one should hesitate in condemning too heartily Thomas and other great thinkers who accepted what was almost universally believed to be scientific fact. It illustrates, however, the kinds of baggage we need to sort out to understand better the relationship of men and women in human society and in church. Ultimately the answer for us appears in the fundamental equality between men and women as taught by Jesus and the rest of the New Testament, a position these theologians found it almost impossible to integrate with what they "knew" to be scientifically true.

Finally, to prove that the theologians of no particular religious denomination hold a monopoly on being wrong, I offer the classic analysis of Martin Luther (Table Talks") on the place for women: "*Men have broad shoulders and narrow hips, and accordingly they possess intelligence. Women have narrow shoulders and broad hips. Women ought to stay at home; the way they were created indicates this for they have broad hips and a wide foundation to sit upon.*" (Italics added.)

From Father John Dietzen's book "The New Question Box", Guildhall, Peoria IL 61651. Reprinted with permission.

EDEN'S LIFEWORk POETREE
A RECONCILIATION OF SCIENCE & RELIGION

NOVOGENESIS
PROCESS COSMOLOGY
The **Quantum-Faith** Trilogy

METAGENESIS
PROCESS METAPHYSICS
The **Quantum-Hope** Trilogy

THEOGENESIS
PROCESS THEOLOGY
The **Quantum-Love** Trilogy

THE HOUSE OF BREAD
ESSENTIAL EUCHARIST
The **Quantum Continuity**

E Schillebeeckx, *Christ the Sacrament of the Encounter with God*,
1963, Sheed & Ward, Kansas City, Missouri
G Schlichte, *Politics in the Purple Kingdom: The Derailment of
Vatican II*, 1993, Sheed & Ward, Kansas City, Missouri
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THE GENESIS OF REASON-BASED RELIGION

APPENDIX

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A Continuing Work-in-progress

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ON BEING DIFFERENT.

Perspective On Daunting Differences
Is Grounded In The Commonplace:
*"The More We Differ,
The More We Are The Same."*

Patriarchy's
Speculation Of Cultured Difference
Has Gone Too Far In Its Preference
To Isolate, To Differentiate,
To Self-Inflate Males To Regions
Beyond The Reach Of Females.

The Poverty Of Intellect Behind This Puffery
Is All Too Obvious Now.
Who Is So Blind As He Who Will Not See?
Self-Realized Identity In Quantum Reality
Can Perhaps Bring Men Down To Size.

GOD LIVES.

By Whatever Name Humans Frame,
Or By Whatever Immensity
Changing Consciousness Conceives,
The Creator Smiles
Upon And Within Creation
Unaffected By The Inanity
That Births And Kills God Conceptions.

Notions Of God
Are Born Daily And Die Daily,
And The "Divine Fact",
By Whatever Name,
Abba, Jahweh, Allah, The Force,
E,
Remains.
God Lives.

The *dancing owl* here represents the religious consilience of emotion and knowledge, of faith and reason—the transformational ground of wisdom. The computer construct above, by Monica Steffen, is inspired by the owl of Inuit Artist Kenojuk Ashevak. For information on Inuit Art contact: THE RAVEN GALLERY, 15290 Creekside Ct., Eden Prairie, Mn. 55346, or, DORSET FINE ARTS, 33 Belmont Street, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 1P9. Phone: (416) 961-0511, Fax: (416) 961-7749, email: dfa@interhop.net

SECOND THEOGENESIS

TRUMPET AT THE WALL.

Mutually Reinforced Megaliths,
Church And State,
Bureaucratic Power Brokers,
Schizoid Speculators,
Pit Without Pity
Soul Against Body
And Impose The Breach On Person!
Yet Another Wall
To Be Leveled By Clarion Truth's
Trumpet Call
Resounding The Ring Of Freedom,
Challenging Wall Surrounding Wall
Alienating All From All
In The Sanction Of Excommunication.

In The Thin Tinkling Of Their Symbols
Spiritualists Pray
Death To Death
But Fail To Recognize Death's Other Face,
The Essence Of Resurrection,
The Coming To Renewed
Symmetries Of Complexifying Life.

The Ocean Mass Of People-Consciousness,
Resource Of Baptismal Eucharist,
The Communal Conscience Serving Bread,
Pours Out Its Tide In Wordpower
And Pounds In Relentless Waves
Against Institutional Walls In Order
To Expose The Pretending Wizards
Hiding Behind Their Megaliths.

No Longer Can Kingdom Builders
Reject Keystone Truth
And Fabricate Discriminatory
Walls Of Separation That Serve
The Out-of-Sight Pretenders.

THE COURT OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

Seriously,
Conscience Is Always In Session.
Every Day
Is Judgment Day.
Every Moment
Is Judgment's Call.
Conscience Is Judgment's Voice
Weighing Decisions On Work's Evidence.
On The Evidence Of Our Fruits
The Court Rules.
True Work Is True Witness.
Empty Words Are False Witness.
Falsified Work Condemns.

We Are Daily Pelted
With Downpours Of Wordfall.
Surfeited Land Trails Off,
Helplessly,
In Waste-Full Word Rills.
Work Channels Them Into Stores
And Shores Up Erosive Run-Off.
When We Keep Current
The Findings Of Conscience
There Is No Ruling To Fear.
If We Skip Court Regularly
Ignorance Forever
Dogs The Future.
The Daily Verdict Of Conscious Court
Is Hope. Attend And Treasure The Experience.

EIGHTH BOOK

II. THEOGENESIS

Disturbed Grounds

ROOTS OF VIOLENCE.

Eventhough They Are Fraudulent Bases
Upon Which To Structure
Peace And Justice,
Control And Possession
Are The Adversary Presumptions
Upon Which Societies Proceed;
These Underlie Fundamentally,
Religion, Law,
Government And Business.
The Collaboration Of Distributive Power
Is The Non-Presumptive Base Of Love,
Not Centrist Control!

The Law Of Love Is Trashed
By The Adversary Presumption,
For Contention And Violence Are Its Outcomes,
Which Extinguish The Candor Of Love.

*The Quest Of Truth,
Even By Institutional Religion,
Is Now Secondary In Sanction
To The Adversary Presumption.*

Sanctimonious
Pretenders "At Bench" Defraud
Personal Conscience!

Except Conscience Is Exercised
Faithful To Truth,
Institutions Will Continue
To Victimize People And Earth
By The Deceits They've Devised.

By Their Fruits You Shall Know Them.

IGNORANCE AND ARROGANCE DECEIVE CONSCIENCE;
DECEIVED CONSCIENCE DISTURBS LOVE'S GROUND.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

DEAR ST. AUGUSTINE!

I Wonder If You Were Aware
That Even As You Were Writing Yours,
Central America And Other Nations
Had "*Cities Of God*" At Their City-State Zenith?
Forgive Me!

But To This Very Day
The Blueprinting Of Cities On Human
Arrogation Of A Presumed Divine Insight
Is An Exercise Of Bloody Horror.
In Faulting Nature And Trusting Rather
Their Own Speculations,
Humans Err Fatally,
For Nature Faithfully Blueprints
The *Country Of God*
Holding Accountable The Institutional
Presumption Of Man-Made Cities.

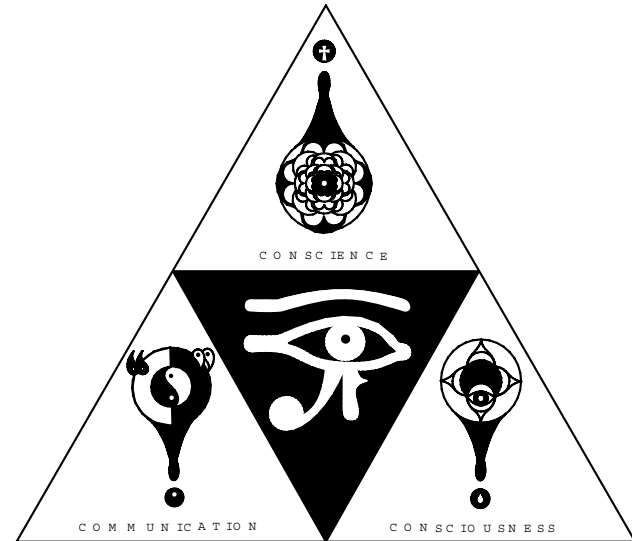
FREE FLIGHT.

Upon The Rare Air,
Accented By The Lighted Sky,
Freely Rising I Dare
To Spread My Eagle Wings Confidently
In The Face Of Black-Cloaked Crows
Who Contest My Daring
With Customary Habit
And Try Still To Conform My Flight
To Their Predictably Dull Wit
And Dry Will.

TIME TO PASS.

Clear Intersections
Open Options Ahead Of
Decision's Moment.

THE TRIMORPHIC RESONANCE CREATION'S SAPIENTIAL PARADIGM



WISDOM'S WORD TREE
(The Trimorphic Protennoia*)

COMMUNICATION-BASED FAITH

PERSONALIZED IN MALACHI

CONSCIOUSNESS-BASED HOPE

PERSONALIZED IN JOHN THE BAPTIST

CONSCIENCE-BASED LOVE

PERSONALIZED IN JESUS CHRIST

*Elaine Pagels, The Gnostic Gospels, 1981 Vintage Bks, Random House, Inc., NY, pp 65-6

IN LOVE I DEFER

*To Muse Erato,
To the Cherubim Chorus
And
To Flesh-Expressed Word.*

But I'm Confronted
By The Temple Invasion Of Merchants
And Moneychangers. In God's Temple!
Their Service I Sense Is Falsified
In Their Devotion To Gold Vaults,
Pillars Of Marble And Crystalline Towers,
And Given More To Profit Than To People.
The Temple's Deceptive Beacons Invite
The Bartering Of Life For Just So Much
Coinage In Business Self-Interest.
In God's Own Temple!

I Quake Before Jesus' Anger:
Get Behind Me, Satan!
You Brood Of Vipers!
Whited Sepulchers!
Get Out Of My House!
Tax Collectors And Prostitutes
Are Entering Heaven Before You.
You Shall Not Make My House A Den
For Thieves And Moneychangers!

Even Jesus Chose Not To Serve In The Temple.
Rather, He Chose The Company Of The Outcasts,
Of The Despised, Of The Diseased,
Of Widows And Orphans, Of Those
Whose Feet Never Touched Polished Floors,
And Whose Ears And Eyes Are Scandalized
By The Imposter Airwaves Broadcast
By Culture's Monoliths.
Idolatrously Sanctioned!

Jesus' Example Is Good Enough For Me.
Better To Serve The Company Of The Lowliest
Than My Own And Other
Small-Minded Conceits.
Jesus Rejects Satanspeak
For Soul/Substance Is Conscience And Bread,
The Birthright Of Every Person
Above The Claim Of Church And State.

SATANSPEAK.
(Lk 4, 1-13)

Left Wan And Wanting After Forty Days Fasting,
My Soul And Body Crave Answers.
Whence Came I? To What Purpose Life?
Whither My Return?

So Insistent Is My Want For Food
That I'm Tempted To Pray,
"Stones Become Bread!"
But Mind Reminds Me That
Not By Bread Alone Does Soul Live.

I Look Over The Fields, The Oceans,
The Orchards Bearing Abundantly What Most
I Want. Food. Food. Food.

My Senses Are Toyed With Delusion
And I Think

Those Earthly Kingdoms Are Mine To Play In!
Possessions Of Every Kind From Their Wealth
Which Others Need And I Can Control!
Abundance!

Meat Of Animals And Fruit Of Wildflowers!
The Power To Have Is Mine!

My Heart Is Tempted
To Grasp The Reigns Of Wildpower.
But Better Sense Tells Me

Such Power Is Better Reserved To God.
And I Put Behind Me The Speak Of Satan
Lest I Put God To The Test And Sin.

But Even The Triumph Of Altruism Itself
Tempts Me With Delusion.

I Feel Drawn To Temple-Service In The Holy City,
A Dignity Commanding Reverence For Saints
More Than Any Other! Temple Tradition,
Personal Confidence And Grace Promise Me
Ascent To Priestly Position And Security
From Threat Of Every Stone In The Way.

1. "Law For Sale"..1

<p>Mephistopheles' Exception..4 Frenzy for the Green..4 Snakes in the Pit..4 Hell..4 Heaven..4 Burnout..5 Stonehearted..5</p>	<p>Spiritual Burden..5 Out Damned Spot..6 Bad Trees/Bad Fruit..7 Junk-Bond Babel..7 The Way We Are..8 Chardin's Serious Subject..8</p>
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2. "The Unquenchable Fire"..9

<p>Greening the Poetree..10 Rome's Malfeasance..11 Curtainfall 1633..12 Obsession Possessed..12 Upset Descartes..13 Temple Violators..14 Radical Clericalism..14</p>	<p>Dread Exploitation..15 Quintessential Bureaucrat..15 1555: Rome/Augsburg..15 Betrayed..16 That Worry Word..17 Impeachment 1998..17 Blessed Are the Greedy..17</p>
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3. "The Satan Within"..19

<p>The Maddened Mind..21 Violence..22 Unmasked Deceit..22 Frustrated Voters..23 On the North Side..23 The Rape of Grass..25 Testosterone..26 Sum, Ergo Cogito..26</p>	<p>Neither Black Nor White..27 Higher Call..28 Liberated Spirit..28 Indulged Prayer..29 Confession..29 All in God..30 The Machiavellian Times..30 Tragic Choice..31 Liberté. Egalité. Fraternité..31</p>
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4. "The Kingdom Builders"..32

<p>The Dead Center..37 Spinning Wheel..38 Tomorrow..38 Outside the Wall..39 Plowing the Field..40 Idolatry's Barbarism..40 Dead Serious Make-Believe..41</p>	<p>Academe..41 Use It or Lose It..42 Oracle..43 Changing Genes..43 Down to Earth..44 Dependency..45 Spiritual High..45</p>
---	---

5. "Beyond Hard-Wiring"..47

<p>Final Judgment..49 Ewok the Cat..49 On the Sands of Time..50 Re-Active Church..50 Satanspeak..51 Dear St Augustine..53</p>	<p>Free Flight..53 Time to Pass..53 Roots of Violence..54 Trumpet at the Wall..55 On Being Different..56 God Lives..56</p>
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1. Law for Sale.

Perhaps more grossly than any other enterprise, "law" has become a prostituted profession, that is, a profession *obscenely* focused on profiteering without moral regard for societal consequences. On a broad scale, directly and indirectly, no other profession is positioned to have such access to national wealth and control over the commonweal as has the legal profession, for it writes the laws of the land, and it prosecutes, defends and judges violators of the laws it writes. Not all crime is adequately covered in law. "*Nemo est iudex in causa sua*". Not even law reliably judges the lawyer! No other professionals, except perhaps educationalists and religionists (professional marketers of *education/religion*), are in such a position to have such impact over the public for good or for ill, for, the public, rightly or wrongly, gives to them more than ordinary trust. The knowing abuse of public trust is a heinous crime even if the evidence is too subtle to alert public consciousness to the fact of it.

William T Braithwaite*, in his article "*On Legal Practice and Education at the Present Time*", states that commercial disputes are "the staple" of legal practice in America. Lawyers follow the money. The article quotes a "well known Chicago lawyer" who articulates the lawyer's first commandment as being the same as the prostitute's, namely, *to withhold services until the money appears*. Law has gone commercial. Law is big business. Justice is prostituted on the altar of legalized greed. Law is now a commodity that is obscenely profiteered. Law is made for lawyer profit at the expense of public trust.

In these times, state and national legislatures are peopled by lawyers who are willing to write laws in favor of the highest bidders. This is what the PACs (political action committees) are about. Lawyers engaged in the *lawmaking business* have an exclusive, non-competitive advantage, for, under the guise as agents "of the people" they are given virtually free license to write laws and to exercise accountability on the people, all paid for by the people, to the laws they write. Talk about "conflict of interest"! Lawyers are ready and willing to advocate on either side of the law without regard for truth, justice and the commonweal. To call our Country a "nation of laws" is surely true, but the slogan says nothing about *justice* under the law.

In real life, legal services in *process of law* are determined by access to money. Lawsuits are about money. When the polarity of positions is resolute against accommodation, litigation often results. It is the lawyer's stock-in-trade not just to advocate for one polarity against another, but to foment polarities, which they do shamelessly.

ON THE SANDS OF TIME.

The Dissembling People On Beaches,
Like So Much Pointless Litter,
Like Mindless Easter Island Monoliths,
Seaward Stares Seemingly Unaware
Of The Insistent Sea
Wave-Beckoning And Kneading
Infinite Returnings.
But, True If Strange,
Even Terns Turn
To Waving And Pursue Floating Arrows,
The Disassembled Crusts Of Truthful Bread
Served Upon The Straining Waters,
Credible Evidence Of Divine Providence
Caring Also For The Flitting Sparrows.

RE-ACTIVE CHURCH.

New Knowledge Freshly Rooted
In The Ongoing Experience Of Reality
Must Flower In Collective Wisdom
If Religion Would Inform Morality.

But It Is All Too Easy To See Today
That Churches Are Their Own Frustration,
For They Have Closed Their Way
To The Intelligence Of Ongoing Invention.

Because Churches Cling To Old Nearsight
They Fail To Acquire Pro-Active Insight;
Instead, They Re-Act Defensively
To Public Light Cast On Their
Cataractic, Myopic Blindness.

More Validly Than The Unreformed
Consciousness Of Centuries Past,
New Insights Might Recognize
Pernicious Diseases *Religiously* Informed.

FINAL JUDGMENT.

In The Final Analysis
 We Are Compelled To Admit
 That Any Description We Think We Fit
 Is Itself An Uncertain Symmetry
 Subject Anytime To Re-Arrangement
 By An Out-Of-Sight Hand Controlled
 By An Intelligence Beyond
 Any Puny Logic We Command;
 And That Individual Presence
 Is Gratuitous To This Power,
 A Courtesy
 That Demands Thanks And Respect
 For Gifts
 That For All We Know Are Ephemeral,
 But Believed Destined To Endure Eternal,
 Beyond Existences Here Experienced.
 Hasn't It Been The Common Belief
 Of People Of All Time To Anticipate
 Future "Heavens" That Integrate
 Symmetries Of The Personal
 Above And Beyond Individual
 Judgment And Authority?
 And Isn't That The Common Belief Still?

EWOK THE CAT.

Sometimes My Cranium Wants To Explode
 From Balloon Brain's Pressure
 Inflated In A Childhood
 Imprinted In Religious Absurdities.
 But A Short Talk With Ewok The Cat
 Quickly Takes Care Of That.

Today the culture of polarities has become the-way-of-life in America. Where tensions do not exist, but money is to be made by the presence of tensions, it is certain that some enterprising lawyer will invent a way to institutionalize polarities. Virtually every public profession (thanks to lawyers), whether medical, educational, business, recreational, legal, public employees, etc., all have membership associations that not only represent employees against employers, but foment amongst employees so as to gain advantages, sometimes valid but sometimes not, against the employer. I have yet to see lawyers in any serious number being interested in the advocating of personal accountability by citizens to each other and to *the commonweal* in restraint from litigation. Lawyer self-interest exploits the legal process. America is politicized on the adversary legal presumption.

A process flawed in its presumption is flawed in its consequences; victims of the legal flaw include truth, justice, public wellbeing and the individuals who expect redress and justice from the legal process. When, within societies, contentions are openly sanctioned and fomented amongst citizens as legitimate commercial enterprises, by societies' agents of civility (by lawyers who also become the judges), the social fabric is made to disintegrate at its very seams.

Perhaps no profession has brought *idolatry* to a higher artform than the legal—because of its broad-spectrum application in government, religion, education, business—*professionalism* itself. Culturally codified "cannibalism" is the "democratic" art-form of the American Republic; this *god of democracy*, the personal/corporate freedom to exploit, is the high god of societal self-deception. Fundamentally, it feeds the roots of cultural violence. Only by confronting this false god might societies globally begin to confront social injustice/violence. The commercializing and politicizing of *cannibalism* fly in the face of biology's strategy and of relational ethics, which teach sustainable diversification, mutual regard and a reciprocally beneficial resolution of differences. Symbiosis in the accommodation of differences is constructive in accomplishing beneficial outcomes—not disruptive ones. The fomenting of public agitation—on the adversary presumption of law—feeds the worst human instincts. Trust is trashed in the polarizing of opposites. Distrust destroys civility by its aggravation of contentiousness. Societal fomenting of internal, consumptive aggressions necessitates an army of lawyers. Perhaps the truest measure of social dysfunctionality is the ratio of lawyers to citizens; the more lawyers in the ratio, the greater the dysfunctionality.

Our passion to possess and to secure our possessions makes us easy targets for propaganda soliciting *patronage* (union lawyers)

and *protection* (insurance lawyers). The Christian mandate to be "our brothers' keeper" has nothing to do with spending money for union dues and insurance policies, rather, it is about communal devotion that shows our love and care for one another. The burning up of energies to purchase and protect possessions interferes with our performance of the Christian mandate, and it disables us with an insatiable appetite for more money.

Legalized gambling is a lawyer's opportunistic dream; public support for gambling is fueled by the illusion of getting quick and big money. Money-passion is what unions, insurance and lawyers are all about; it is what human impoverishment and Earth devastation are about. In Western societies predation has been given *religious* sanction; the predation by religionism isn't restricted to collaboration in business exploitation, but extends also to predation of the human person. Except religion itself at one time came to a "mercantile" conversion, it might still have a conscience sensitive to Nature, and indigent peoples might not now be devastated by colonial exploitation. The predation of women and children is a societal practice given license by the patriarchal structuring of societal institutions. Legalistic Roman Catholicism and Western Jurisprudence are founded on the same scriptures that are used to purvey monarchical elitism, male domination and consumerism. The consequences are telling.

In earlier evolutionary history, male possessiveness was the "brute instinct" for survival; species sustainability relied on male aggressiveness to ward off predators and to secure reproductive and family success. Thus, the compulsion of patriarchal dominion is deep-rooted in instinctive hard-wiring, specifically, in the avian-reptilian brain (amygdala-imbis). But violent, instinctual domination is no longer purposeful, for it is no longer needed for species survival and success. It is in fact counter-beneficial, for, the dominating success of the human species globally over all others now threatens humans themselves and the sustaining global network of interdependent species. Exploitation of male aggression is wasting global life.

Needed now is "human" living after the example of Jesus, namely, *in the experience of "divinity"* in the human estate, not of patriarchy. Societies need to soften the culture-hardened dogmata of instinctual reflex, if they would respond competently against self-destructive fixations. Such commonsense accommodation is precisely the competence and purpose of the cortical brain.

Absolutized *brute instinct* is anything but "religious", anything

ops (called up from the people, by the people and in the interest of the people) would bring to bear the *vox populi* in the governance of the Church. Vatican II inspired a renewed hope amongst the people for a newly vitalized (reformed) Church. However, since Vatican II, the ancient investment of dependency in the Vatican bureaucracy (Curia) still holds to its "hard-wired" habit and seems to have re-activated within the Church a *Tridentine recidivism* back to its static, absolutist mindset. The People has no involvement in calling up Church leadership. Nor does The People have an established forum within the Church by which to voice itself, except by protest. *By the institutional Church's own actual disregard for its own Conciliar decisions to change from its old habits of exclusion and top-down control, it accelerates its own alienation from the people—and by surrendering the day to its inquisitorial animus it shows itself undeserving of the people's trust for it does not deliver on its words.*

In the history of Roman Catholicism, no pope has been *globally marketed* to the extent that John Paul II has been. In 1979 our young family contributed significantly to the Pope's trip to Iowa. We do not regret the contribution even though we now believe that the people and Vatican II have since been betrayed by hierarchical recidivism. I find it inexplicable that this politically activist pope has dealt so harshly with the conscientious activism (Liberation Theology) of his priests, especially in Central and South America; a Freudian slip showing his Tridentine favor for the politics of power over powerlessness?

The advancing of societal consciousness (reflective faith) will not be intervened by the habituated hard-wiring of *old-brain instincts*, nor will public conscience be negated by the *hard-rock* of institutional dogma. It is in *The People's* exercise of personal conscience that the "Summum Bonum" may be experienced, for when the mind of the people (*Mens Populi*) is authentically informed and motivated, it conforms to God's Mind (*Mens Dei*). The People's conscience must come to prevail, for by its authenticity, the static, uninformed and incorrigible ways of time-fixed instincts come to be informed and cortically opened to the predicament of the new times.

The "new" cortical brain, *also in Christian heads*, is designed to move beyond the hard-wired instincts of the avian/reptilian brain. Globally, political structures, whether Church or State, also need to move beyond *linear* hard-wired instincts to *parallel* (distributive) authority. No single authority is so informed as to be able to muster all the wisdom necessary to accommodate locally to the ever increasing complexities and diversities of global life.

* **The Great Ideas Today 1989.** Encyclopaedia Britannica, Inc. Pp 44-100.

5. Beyond Hard Wiring.

The monarchical lording of linear (top-down) control over people is a tribalized form of political manipulation in which power is mis-ered and used by "the few" over "the many", even with the use of force and deceit. Knowledge is power. Manipulation is abuse of knowledge/power. The public dissemination of knowledge, if done without the qualification of a manipulative agendum, disseminates power. A well informed body politic can and must share knowledge and authority. A restrictively informed power center loses control when it lacks knowledge that is functionally purposeful. In many ways, this is the pathos of contemporary Christianity. But when the *power-structures-that-were* continue to control people on the same old presumptions—even when the people are advanced beyond them—then the old authorities become *hollow brass* and tragicomic in their powergames. For example, a bishop's arbitrary decision to *excommunicate* people of good faith because their faith-witness does not meet his conditions makes no more sense today than do stake-burnings. The bishop will not by his action panic people to change, rather, his panic frustration serves only to make institutional faith less credible in the public eye. Such action serves more to alienate the Church from the people, and the harm is to the Church institution more than to the people.

When a *national* governance politically dominates institutional religion, it frustrates that religion from ever becoming *universally* based. Thus, *Roman* Catholicism, institutionally dogmatized and nationalized, exposes itself as the root-cause of its own alienation, notwithstanding the *clerical* bureaucracy that is *radically* faithful in administering the institutional orthodoxy upon The People. Rome's counter-reformational theology of pre-Vatican II is no longer acceptable to The People for it comes from and holds to a consciousness that is no longer credible/workable in the present consciousness of *universal* cosmology, philosophy and theology—even today, however, the animus of the former *Roman Inquisition* seems to show through in the successor *Congregation of the Holy Office* under Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger. Grand inquisitorial condescension does not work.

The *Second Vatican Council* (Vatican II, 1960-1965) in principle, stated a formal break of Roman Catholicism from its exclusive (medieval) tradition of top-down governance by identifying "The People" as The Church, served by the institutional hierarchy. The affirmation coming from Vatican II is that the people's voice is God's voice: "*Vox Populi, Vox Dei*". The same Council adopted formally the governing principle of "collegiality", whereby the pope and the *college of bish-*

but socially conscionable, anything but intelligent and sustainable. The election of love and the real-life practice of love for one another might, on the other hand, liberate us from the imprisonment of self-aggrandizing object-passion and ameliorate the destructive exploitation of Earthlife. We must prefer the law of love over adversary law if we would avoid destroying the divine Order of Nature.

MEPHISTOPHELES' EXCEPTION.

"Decent" Devil Ire
Turns Up The Fire When Called By
The Title "Esquire".

FRENZY FOR THE GREEN.

Temple Floor Turmoil,
The Stock Exchange, Is Idol
Tower Of Babel.

SNAKES IN THE PIT.

Falling Deluge Tide
Brings Money Flood To The Arc;
Still No Olive Branch.

HELL.

The Child's Prison Place
Conformed By Self-Serving Mind,
Blind To Nature's Need.

HEAVEN.

Unconformed Child's Place
Confirms The Natural, Wild
Way Of Serving All.

BURNOUT.

Filling The Mind With Titillating,
Fictional Writing
Impoverished In Message
As It Is In Word,
Is As Vacuous As Exercising The Body
With The Gratuitous
Flare Of Self-Massaging.

The Trivialized
Religion Of Ego-Culture
Is Such A Futile Thing
For It Wastes Serious Energy.
It Is A Fruitless Life
Whose Interests Narrowly
Target Self.

STONEHEARTED.

Hard Of Habits And Bone
Are People Who Feed
On Tablets Of Stone.

SPIRITUAL BURDEN.

This Body Has Discovered
If Physicians Have Not
That Weight By Any Other Measure
Imposes Pain Less
On Muscles, Bones And Joints
Than The Strain Of Disjointed
Consciousness.

That Served So Well The Behemoths In Their Time:

*"Tempora Mutantur, Nos Et Mutamur
In Illis; O Quam Tempus Transit Gloriaque.
Attamen Felix Qui Potuit Rerum
Cognoscere Causas, Nil Enim Tam Difficile
Est Quin Quaerendo Investigari Possiet.
Proprium Enim Est Ex Aliis Periculum
Facito Tibi Quod Ex Usa Sit. Et Parvis
E Glandibus Quercus. Quis Serit Arbores
Quae Alteri Seculo Prosint;
Nos Et Pigmei Gigantum Humeris Impositi
Plusquam Ipsi Gigantes Videmus."*

I've Been Favored To Travel Backwaters
In The Company Of Giants Who Cavort
The Seas At Emerald Depths
—The Mixing Zone Of Metaphors—
That Struggle To Be Free Of Literal Tensions
Restraining The Escape Of Surface Water
And The Spread Of Gentle Rain.

The Descriptions Fitting Speech
Persisting And Now Compelling Consideration
Are Scripted In Felt Faith And Religion,
The Twin Peaks That Motivate Spiritual Highs
And Initiate The Tasks Of Divine Grace
Giving Ascendency To The Essential
Continuities Of Nature/Nurture That Relieve
The Pressures And Lows Of Life,
And Conquer
Not By Breastplate And Armor
But By Breastmilk And Honor.

[Translation:] Times change and in them we are changed; and like time, how quickly glory passes; but happy the person who seeks the causes of things, for nothing is so difficult but that it can be found in searching. It is well that one selects from others the options he might use—even as oaktrees do from the little acorn. Who plants acorns does so for another generation; so now we, like pygmies set on the shoulders of giants, see more than the giants themselves. [Adapted from *Lothair*, Thomas a Kempis, Virgil, Terence, Cecilius Latius And Lucan.]

DEPENDENCY.

The Body's Psychelectric Nerve Network
Is Its Spiritual Transmitter,
The Planetary Link, The Unitary Geodesic,
The Umbrella And Bowl
That Shields And Tracks Individual Satellites
And Provides Redundant Circuits In Parallel
Against The Catastrophe Of Power Outages.

The Interdependent
Connections Of Social Complexification,
The Back-Up Systems For Nerve-Cells,
Receiving And Sending Charged Radio Waves,
Empower Individual Cells And Person Against
Historical Dependency On Singleline Authority.

The Day Of Blind Faith,
Of Linear Dependency, Of Single-Source
Power, Wired-In-Series,
Has Given Way To The Age Of Informed Faith,
Diffuse, Multi-Source Power,
Wired-In-Parallel.
For The Most Part,
In Government And In Church
The Monarchy's Voice Is Replaced With Peoples',
Notwithstanding,
The Animus Of Authoritarian Resistance.

SPIRITUAL HIGH.

From Depths Immune To The Ephemeral
Wind And Waves, I Hear The Deep
Blue Voice Chant From The Cavernous Past
Distant Harmonies That Play In Spasmic Spells
And Plumb, In Language Profound
As Word Is Infinite, The Chasmic Recesses
Where Light Is Dampened In Echo-Swells,
And Beginnings Are Secured In Scriptures
That Tell The Way Through The Labyrinth,
And Resonate Presently The Same Intonations

"OUT DAMNED SPOT!"

This Is The Frantic Echo-Shout
Of Dirty Launderers! Of Rome Awash
In The Purple Stain Of Blood-Money!
Maiden Faith Is Virtue Victimized,
Mortally Spent On The Deceits
Of Mercantile Interests!

Jesus' Own Poor Children Of The World,
Pope John Paul One And Vatican II
Have Been Shamelessly Betrayed
By Vatican Conspirators,
Magisterial Pretenders.
Curial Paper Chasers.

Unclean Money Launderers,
You Have Betrayed The Grace
By Which You Claim
To Lave Others Of Their Sins!
Your Poison In Our Ears
Would Excommunicate Us Too.

How Long Will You Continue
To Put God To The Test?
Dispense With Patrimony's Dominion.
Especially In God's House.

Holy Jesus!
Throw The Money-Changers Out!

In Imitation Of Divine Openness
Open Yourselves To Good Faith
And Unburden The Church.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

BAD TREES / BAD FRUIT.

Over Time, The Jealous
Constructions Of "Machiavellian Professionals"
Have Become Towering Walls Of Separation

—Church-Rooted Pretexts Are Cardinal Constructs
For The Bloody Wars Of Dogma And Pretense,
The Witted Corporate Devices Of Instinctively
Selfish Internationalisms That Know No Limits
To Claims, Whether, To Land, To Sky,
To Water Or To People—

To The Point Now, That The Practiced
Incompatibility Of Philosophy And Theology
Has Merited Widespread Disregard
Because Of Their Loss Of Credibility.
Their Breach Of Faith Is The Unforgivable
Sin Against The Holy Spirit,
For Truth Is More Than Make-Believe,
Truth Is Soul/Substance.

JUNK-BOND BABEL.

Schooling Fish. Gagging Geese.
Warbling Wrens. Bloodfood Redwoods,
Essential Shelter, Towering Giants Of The Northwest.
Trees Are Gentle Stewards Of Wealth: Air, Water, Soil;
Are The Serendipitous Minds Of The Apocalyptic
Communities Reaching Heaven, Made Now
To Come Crashing Down To Feed
Slash-And-Burn Consumers. Hardened Egos,
Merchants Of Armageddon Explode,
Destroy And Consume.
No Match Are Nature's Defenses
Against The Forked Tongues And
Teeth Of Edenic Terrorists.
Army Ants Marching; Quills Of Porcupines;
Stinging Wasps; Viper Venom; Snake Rattle;
Armadillo Amor; All Are Sacrificed
To The Global Culture Of Death.

Disturbed Grounds

Is Shut Off From The Light;
And, The Nurtural Undertones Of Memes,
Advanced On Divine Presumption,
Dissemble In Stains Of Sandstone Scenes
Transparently Framed In Lead-Brain Confusion.

Western Arrogation Must Desist
From Lording The Melting Pot, If
Good Faith Would Prevail Over Bad!
Know That Negated Nature Is Still Open
To The Influence Of Altruistic Nurture,
For, Predisposition In The Genes Is Not
Predestination.

The Mind Of Civility, Of Inclusion,
Can Change Bad Faith To Good,
Notwithstanding The Deep-Rooted,
Memetic Proclivity Toward Exclusion,
Toward Instinct-Driven Incivility.

Alchemists All!
Know That Genes Advance On Memes,
And That Nature Advances On Nurture!
Which Explains The Deep-Textured Difference
In The Memetic/Genetic Canvas.
Sensible Color-Tone Is From Natural Oil,
Not From Stained-Glass Life Spoiled
In The Scenes Of Silicon-Stone.

DOWN TO EARTH.

My Preference Is To Trust Today
And Not To Speculate On Future Life,
For, Now-Life Already Offers Heaven
Too Awesome For Me To Fathom.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

ORACLE.

*Ibis, Redibis,
Et Nunquam, Peribis.*
More Ready Than Man Is Woman
To Accept The Fact Of Birth And Death.
Contradictory Male Liturgy Affirms Denial
In Celebrating Rituals That Deny Death.
Their Rituals Deny Those Who Deny Their Denial.
Thus, Together With Woman, I Am
Denied By My Religion's Ritual.
Ultimately, The Faces Of Life
In Womb And Tomb Will Not
And Cannot Be Escaped
Or Denied By Priesthood;
Nor Will Or Can Woman
Be Escaped Or Denied .

CHANGING GENES.

The Cultural Mix Of The Colonial West
Is The Impressionist Spread Of Memetic Nurture
That Is Darkly Intolerant Of Indigenous Difference.
Tube-Spread Oils On The Canvas Scene
Overlay The Natural Waterwash, And
Botch The Painting With Immiscibility.

Windows On History's Natural Divergence
Are Originally Good-Faith Likenesses,
For, The Depicted Events Are Themselves
Incidents Of Transformational Time/Place;
But, The Exportation Of Biases
Anoints The Religious
Artifice Of Orthodox Color
Preferred Over The Rainbow Mix,
Charges Nationalistic Polarity
And Violates With Singularity
The DNA-Charm Composing The Melting Pot.

The Substance Of Religious Objectification,
Collected In The Cave-Shade Of Subjective Vision,

Disturbed Grounds

THE WAY WE ARE.

The Crassness Of Human Greed
Even Exceeds
The Indignity Of Dungheap
Roosters Scratching
For The Remains Of Undigested Grains
And Pushing Triumphantly
Peers Off The Peak.

CHARDIN'S* "SERIOUS SUBJECT".

Christianity,
Self-Confirmed In Dualisms,
Institutionally Advances
A Self-Contentious Irrationality
That Disdains Material Reality
On The Habituated Belief
That By So Doing
It Cultures A Higher Spirituality.

Teilhard de Chardin:

". . . What is specially *serious* in this transformation-evolution quarrel is the frightening inertia of official Christian thought in accepting or, better furthering the advances of human consciousness and knowledge." (23 March 1930). Emphasis added.

". . . there are two opposed Christianities at this moment: a Christianity of disdain or evasion of the world, and a Christianity of development, or Evolution. No *subject* could be more crucial." (2 June 1952). Emphasis added.

* Claude Cuenot, Teilhard de Chardin, Copyright 1965 by Helicon Press, Inc., 1120 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD. 21202. Pg 259.

2. The Unquenchable Fire.

The thermal passion for truth remains unquenchable in the quantum metaphysics of the soul eventhough fires have been used violently to extinguish it. Arguably, one of the most significant burnings-at-the-stake occurred in Venice, Italy, under the auspices of the Roman Inquisition, in the year 1600. The victim was Nalo-born Giordano Bruno (1546-1600), a Dominican priest and a contemporary of Galileo Galilei (1564-1642). The burning of Bruno occurred only thirty-three years before the inquisitional condemnation of Galileo. Not only was Bruno victimized by hierarchical absolutism, but, an opportunity for the flowering of a less exploitive worldview based on open cosmological/theological insights was dashed. The 1500-1600s were a time of warring between cultural openness and the closedness of Church authoritarianism. The Church was unwilling to cede its traditioned control over the world of its times to any other worldview but its own. So it exercised whatever force it thought it had to in order to prevent the erosion of its self-serving authority. While in its counter-reformational effort the Church seemed to carry the day it has not been without catastrophic injury to its credibility.

Rene Descartes (1596-1650), being an *interested* and astute observer of the Church's harsh determination to destroy dissenters, determined to avoid exposing himself to the same terminal fate that fell upon his predecessors (Bruno and Galileo), so he worked out an accommodation between science and religion that appeased Church zealotry and kept alive Plato's split of separate turfs, the "spiritual" which remained the realm of Church, and the "material" which was conceded to science. The lie of this *schism of convenience* will no longer be countenanced by the public, and the Church will have to desist from its *de facto* sanction of this mortal divisioning. The accustomed blaming of Descartes for the misdirections of science since this time—still done by Church aficienados—is "disingenuous" if not totally deceitful.

What is so significant about Bruno? In apparently many ways he anticipated scientific views which now prevail, e.g., a cosmos that is centered *neither on the Sun nor on the Earth*. But he went much further. He envisioned a revolutionary metaphysics; for him the universe is a true unity—of common arising, of homogeneity and isotropy. His revolutionary science/philosophy established foundations for a knowledge-consensus that was potentially a real basis for a global unification; his philosophy would integrate the ethical, political and religious bases for ordering a symbiotic society—bases that were/are clearly in-

For, If Matters Of Distinction
Or Tenure Come Up,
There Are Academicians
Quite Ready To Defend
That The Earth Is Round!
And If Belief Is Expected Of Them
That The Earth Is Flat,
There Are Also Those Quite Ready
To Declare It That!

Religiously Faithful Academe Is Fixed
In The Mind Of The Cultured
Meme Of "Flat Earth Society".
And The Preachers Of Religion
Are Among Them!

If The Professional Mind Fixes
On The Advantaged Chance To Advance
Self-Serving,
Then Perhaps The Education Of Educators
Is Society's Paramount Problem.

By Some Ill-Fated Misfortune, Humans
Have Been Distracted From Socrates' Sense
That Education Is There To Put People On Track
With The Path Well Traveled
Through The Deep Past.
So When Academic Corruption Advances,
My "Corrupting" Advice To Students Is:
*"Don't Let Educators Interfere
With The Education Of Your Heart."*

USE IT OR LOSE IT.

Inactivity
Of Brain And Body Alike
Quickens Loss Of Both.

DEAD SERIOUS MAKE-BELIEVE.

Jesus' Temptation Reveals
Satan's Purple Appetite For Control
In The Kingdom. How Readily
Devil Power Dreamers
Employ Staged Pretense
And Learn To Hide Their Appetite's Edge
And Their Teeths' Intent.
As His Gift To Popes And Princes
Machiavelli Script And Coached
The "Hidden Agendum" Ploy,
The "How To" Craft:
How To Create And Manipulate
The Political "Satan Within"
The Kingdom, And How To
Satisfy The Temptation Dream
To Prostitute The Common Life.

ACADEME.

Doesn't Everyone
Acclaim The Ivory Fame Of Academe?
Or Do Some Dispute Their Claim
And Refute Them As Babelous Towers,
Idoltrous Architectures In The Face Of The Sun?

It Is Out Of Character For Me To Proclaim
That I Would Fly In The Face Of Academe.
Some Yea-Sayers Might Even Say, "*Preposterous!*
Outrageous! Totally Incongruous!
Perish The Cynical Thought!"

But I Must Ask, "*Has Public Deference
To Academe Become An Ectopic Culture
Of An Ill-Conceived Meme?*"

compatible with the closed/centrist view of the Church and its institutional absolutism. To the Church it was very clear that its whole belief system and its authority were at stake, as Robert Bellarmine, S.J., the chief inquisitional theologian to the pope, clearly understood. Bruno was another *satan* within the Church who was made a public example of the Church's determination not to give ground, and who continues to this day to be officially villified by Roman Catholicism. Notwithstanding the violent and unjust fate that befell Bruno, we are at a threshold of change, also within the Church, that may vindicate the open vision of Bruno and judge the wrongness of Church's closedness. The past four centuries of the Church's antagonism against science is a burden of its own creation, whose consequences are yet to be acknowledged.

Reference: Ramon G Mendoza, Phd., *THE ACENTRIC LABYRINTH : GIOR-DANO BRUNO'S Prelude to Contemporary Cosmology*. Copyright 1995. Element Books, Inc., PO Box 830, Rockport, MA 01966.

GREENING THE POETREE.

The Rainbow Is Religious.
The Light Pulsing Spectrum
Directs Life's Trafficways.
Each Color Is With Purpose.
Faith Is Red; Hope Amber;
Love Is Green. Purple Is
A Lowering Sky Outraging
The Dimmed Sea.
Darkness Relocates All.

A Poem Is A Leaf On
The Poetree Signaling
Its Rainbow Construction.
The Tree Is In The Leaf,
As The Tide Is In The Wave,
As Humanity Is In The Person.
No Poem Is More Complete
Than The Tree! But Absent
Deciduous You The Poem Remains
Incomplete.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

ROME'S MALFEASANCE.

In February Of 1633,
My Birth Year Anticipated
By Three Centuries To The Month,
Set Out Galileo Galilei
To Stand Trial In Rome
For Vehement Suspicion
Of Holding And Teaching
Copernican Doctrine.

In June,
The Verdict Of Guilt Was Formally Entered.
Characteristic Of Bureaucratic Footdragging,
It Took The Roman Catholic Church 360 Years
To Admit And Reverse
This Wrongful Verdict Of Guilt.
True To The Jesuit Warning,
When Taken Altogether,
The Teachings Of Luther And Calvin
Are Less Consequential Than Copernicus'
Displacement Of The Earth As The Reputed
Center Of The Universe.
Church Has Yet To Face Its Obligation
In Other Unjust Verdicts, And
To Re-Center Religion Wrongly Speculated
On Earth-Centered Cosmology.
While Rome Indulges Eternally In Rationalizing
To Insulate Its Dogma Against The Traumatic
Consequence Of Copernican Shock,
People Must Live In The Real World.
Still Formally Evaded By The Church
Is The Even Greater Shock
Of Einsteinian Doctrine Certain To Rock
The Complacent Church Bureaucracies.

Whom Next
Shall History Record As Judged Guilty
By The Inquisitional Church
For "Vehement Suspicion"
Of "Holding And Teaching"
Einsteinian Doctrine?

Disturbed Grounds

PLOWING THE FIELD.

The Hoarse Voice Cultivates
A Disturbed Response,
More Perhaps In The Hearer's Ear
Than In The Speaker's.
So I Deliberately Air My Throat
To Prevent Bothersome Static
From Disturbing The Carefully Cultivated Humor
Glistening On The Soil's Mirror Surfaces.
Turned Truthfulness Reflects Life's Seen Light;
But A Dry Cough Blasts
The Mirror Sheen Of The Turned Soil,
Blots Out Hopeful Light
And Returns Toil To Dust.
As Many Times Before,
The Ghost Is Gone With The Wind,
And The Hearer Misses The Message.
*"Better," I Think, "To Write Than To Speak,
For Too Often Out-Loud Words Are Hardly Heard."*
Being A Country-Dweller,
I Shouldn't Want To Be A Bad Reader,
Nor Should The City-Dweller Who Is Unschooled
In His/Her Own Soil Connection.

IDOLATRY'S BARBARISM.

Male Electionism Prides Divine Chosenism.
The Macho Ego Arrogates His Difference
And Enthrones Himself Above Equivalency.
Literally Enforced Chosenism Draws Its
Righteous Swords: Patriarchism, Dominion,
Kingdom-Building, Alienation, Suppression
And Consumerism. Its Polarized Poetics
Executes Adversary Politics, Adversary Law
And Adversary Religion. The Literal Word's
Cutting Edge Kills,
As Jesus Says.

OUTSIDE THE WALL.

Whether I Gaze Upon A Starry Sky,
Or Upon A Sea Of Grain Or Water Waving,
I See Sparks—Quarks Composing Poems.

The Sands Of Time Are Intricately Arranged
In Intimate Parts That Meld Interdependently
In The Harmonious Sequences Of Mystical Melody.

I Put Myself In The Whistling Mood Of Sandals
Worn By Genesis-Scriptures' Writers
Who Puzzled Over The Unsure
Footings Of Worlds Confronting Them;
And I Marvel At The Sand-Scenes
Depicting Their Worldviews.

Traditions Of Literal Speculation Now
Interpret Puzzle Depictions In Ways
Never Intended By Puzzle Poets.
Literal Narrowness Does Them Injustice.
Today's Rut Of Speculative Dogmata Imposing
Literal Meanings On Old Testament Poems,
Has Imprisoned The Faithful
In Wind-Driven Dune-Walls
For The Old Testament Panorama
Does Not Overlay The Modern Puzzle Scene.

Literal Pieces
Allow No Latitude To Their Assembly;
If Literal Applications Are Laid Improperly
On "First Adam,"
So They Are On "Second".
So, Faithful To Truth, I Try
The Cutting Of New Puzzle Pieces,
The Picturing Of New Sand Scenes,
That Are Open To Vision And Quarks;
And I Attempt To Avoid
Absurd Religion's Whistle In The Dark.

CURTAINFALL 1633.

Commonsense,
Faithfully Joined By Unified Living
In Personal/Universal Conscience,
Continues To Accommodate Truth
To Newfound Accordance.
But Practiced Dogma,
Grounded In Misrepresentation,
Trembles In Nervousness
From Threat Of Having Exposed
The Error Of Scripted Discordance.
Dogma Scribes Well Realized
That Their Composition Of Religious Score
Was In Imminent Threat Of Inundation
By Waves Of Goers Growing
Dissatisfied With Their Production.
So, In A Focused Burst Of Bombast,
Religious Actors Played Out
The Opera Of Their Speculations
And Succeeded
In Pulling Down The Curtain
On Galileo And On Truth.
In Cacophonous Confusion Eversince
Philosophical Minds Are Scrambled,
And For Some 300 Years
The Commonsense Pilgrim
Has Suffered The Abuse Of Uncommon
Disorientation.

OBSESSION POSSESSED.

The Consumptive Obsession To Have
Is Original Possession That We Make Our Own.
Obsessive Culture Possesses Humankind's Mind
And Consumes All The Good Earth It Can Find;
Not Satisfied With Its Possession Of This World,
It Carries Its Expectation To After-Life.
The Practice Of Religion Trivia-Possessed
Becomes Trivial Religion.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

UPSET DESCARTES.

Convinced By Copernican Sense,
But Unwilling To Be Convicted For It,
Descartes Cautiously Professed
The Sun, Not Earth, To Be
The Center Of This Planetary Universe.
And Though Sense Of Intellect
May Have Made Him Suspect
That There Is No Sharp Division
Between Mind And Matter,
Between The Observer And The Observed,
Between The Subject And The Object,
Nevertheless, He Reckoned It Injudicious
To Put Himself At Odds
With Church's Insistence On *God's*
Sharp And Absolute Dividing.

Chastened Too By The Undisputed
Power Of Monarchical Church,
He Feared The
Consequences Of Confronting With Science
The Church's Jealous Beliefs.
Timorously, He Opted To Delay
Publishing His "Le Mond",
And Prayed To Leave Satisfied
A Perilously Dissatisfied Church.

All Too Effectively
Rome Succeeded In Proving
To Professional And To Unprofessional
Who Possessed The Power,
Who Is "The Horse,"
And Who Is "The Cart."
Church Could Not Countenance Galileo
—And Bruno Before Him—
Putting The "Cart Before The Horse".

And Not Failing In Eyes
As Galileo Was,
The Public Did Not Miss
Rome's Lesson-Point.

Disturbed Grounds

SPINNING WHEEL.

Technology Is Man At The Spinning Wheel,
All Haste And Waste.
Biology Is Woman At The Spinning Wheel,
Patient And Conserving.

'Round And 'Round, Self-Seeking Spins,
Sometimes A Bulldozer,
Sometimes A Chainsaw,
Sometimes A Car On The Road,
But Always, The Spin-Off To Catastrophe
When Nature's Tolerances Are Ignored.
The Patient Process Of Nature Is Efficient;
It Avoids, By Evolutionary Inclusion,
The Re-Invention Of Its Creations
Under Conditions That Exist Briefly
And Are Thereafter Forever Gone!

Evolution Is An Arrow In Time,
And In Its Target Bull's Eye
Humans Are Circled
In Rings Of Interdependency.
Still They Dare To Trash Insensitively
The Patient Inventions Of Nature,
Undiscovered Species,
Holding Answers Essential To Human Health
And To The Continuance Of Life On Earth.
And So, They Quicken The Arrow
On Its Way To A Dead-Center Hit.

TOMORROW.

"Spend Today Planning For Tomorrow,"
I Was Told. Yesterday, I Celebrated Today.
Today, I Celebrate Tomorrow.
We Teach To Live For The After-Life.
And This Life? To Whom Does It Belong?
Surely, Tomorrow Suffices For Itself
When We Take Care
That Today, That Now-Life Does.

THE DEAD CENTER.

As a **coherent subjectivity** we individually share in the inherency of the Cosmic Conscience. The **exercise of conscience** is as much an *inherent right* of the "dispossessed" as it is of the "possessed"—the same is true for the **consciousness of conscience**. The **context of place** qualifies both *consciousness* (word) and the *exercise* of individual conscience (work)—the "**content** of context" is (should be) *truth* and *justice* in action—the perfecting component of soul/substance, of inter-personal relationships.

Absolute Gravity At The Center
Intends The Subjugation Of All Subjectivity
—The Compaction Of All Relationship.

Openness Collapses
When Subjectivity Rushes To Annihilation
At Objectivity's Dead Center.
The Density Compacted At The Pointcenter
Propagandizes Singularity;
Institutional Dogma Stone-Carves
Legalized Order
And Suffocates Openness.

The Gravity *Rock* At The Center
Is An *Ancora Morsa Et Mortifera*,
A Hook
Grappling From The Pointcenter.
Centrist Dogma Anchors
The Collapse Force,
Global Christianity's Implosional
Pax Romana.

Except For Subjectivity,
Except For Openness,
Except For Relationship
—*The Process Bases Of Theology*—
Religion Is Inauthentic.

Now It Would Be Left To Time
To Reveal Who Was Really Blind.
Science To This Very Day,
In Part, Due
To The Temerity Of Descartes,
Surrenders Turf
To Tunnel-Vision Of Old Church,
And Allows Its Insisted Claim
Separating Soul From Body,
God From Creation,
Faith From Reason, And
Theology From Science.

TEMPLE VIOLATORS.

Systematically, Merchant Bureaucracies
Are Emptying The Arc,
Are Sacrileging Eucharist By Sacrificing
Species For Profit.
Ships Sail, Not By Corporate Committees,
But By Captains.
Temple-Changers Will Pirate Your Treasure Too,
If You Let Them.

RADICAL CLERICALISM.

Prescriptive Lording,
Thoughtless Bullying Of The Minotaur,
Drives Conscient Person
To The Deep Denial Of The Sexual Self,
And Drives Woman
To Submerge Her Individuation
Under The Waters Of Inconspicuousness
So As To Avoid Violation.
The Withholding Of Her *Fiat*
Is For An Essential Good,
To Stay Death From Exploitation.

DREAD EXPLOITATION.

Panic Tubaing
In Frantic Wilderness, Moose
Calls The Rising Sun.

QUINTESSENTIAL BUREAUCRAT.

Bureaucratic Officialdom Clerks
Anachronistic Fideism And Musters
The Dutiful Militia Of "Absolute" *Isms*
Embraced By Fascism, Communism And Nazism.
Regardless Of Time And Uniform,
Dogmatized Officialdom Sees
By A Common Myopia
Whence It Arises, Namely,
By Patriarchy, Male Exclusivity, Asexuality,
Which Denigrate Femininity's Natural Virtues.

Hardwood! Hardheads!
Engrained In The Past.
Dead To The Present.
Prejudiced To Enforce Conformity,
To Chastise Ambivalent Choice
As The "Mortal Sin."
The Bureaucrat, Not Ambivalence,
Is The Slayer Of Personality.

1555: ROME / AUGSBURG.

Vigorous Persistence In Attacking
The Obscenities Of Authoritarian Church
Is No Less Virtuous Than Waffling Tolerance.
But, It's Time To End
The Centuries Of God's Folk Suffering
From The Polemical Rage
That Authoritarians Wage.
It's Time To Reconcile Luther And Erasmus,
And To End The Denominational Age.

hort onto the dispossessed a contentedness to bow to unjust control.) Militarism and religious dogmatism too often have a hellish liking for one another. By an extraordinary and subtle spiritual alchemy, Ignatius of Loyola seems to incorporate comfortably the militant mind into the religious/social—in disarming ways. Globally cultured "armageddon" now alienates nations, neighborhoods, families and individuals. Corporate consumerism drives societal alienation; societal alienation, driven by cultured distrust and corporately sanctioned greed, is shredding globally the fabric of networked life.

Authentic religious witness cannot side with corporate absolutism (whether of Church or State) that sustains itself by depriving others their human rights. Love's way in the *middle estate* moderates corporate extremes so as to serve the common good—including that of the materially deprived. The social polarization of people, including the Church's fomenting of polarities (dogmatic orthodoxies), contributes to the trashing and trivializing of religious truth and to the culture of corporate consumerism, a "culture of death".

At the threshold of the Third Millennium, a self-wasting global population must ask the hard questions whose answers might let it stop its own degradation and begin its own redemption. What is the "corruption" within? Who is the "satan" within? The corruption and the satan are one and the same. They are the animus of mindful ignorance and arrogance serving the gods of power and greed; they are corporate arrogance, harsh in its attitude of superiority, determined to control the lives of people; they are the religious mind closed to the inauthenticity of its self-electionism; they are the incorrigible self of society's dogma-set institutions which suppose their orthodoxies to be alone "true"; all these contribute to social violence. Harsh ignorance and arrogance (corporate absolutism) petrifies the civil grounds that would root love's flowering; all are victims of cultural incivility.

The open way of Jesus' teaching and example is true religion—not some institution that would define for and control people in their conscionable relationships. If institutionalized religion would be authentic, it will exemplify and teach as Jesus did. Jesus' "kingdom" claims the edification of *spirit and truth*, not of bricks and mortar. Jesus' kingdom is the edification of transcendent truth in living hearts, not in temple-centered power structures. Jesus did not and does not authorize institutions to judge and condemn. The presumption to judge usurps divine prerogative; such presumption is self-idolizing, self-defeating. Institutional religion cannot credibly continue to deny its sinful contributions to societal violence. If it does, so will continue the scandalous abuse of the faithful and Church's door-closing to truth.

history. Machiavelli's nostalgia for old despotic Rome schemed for a caesar-ruled Church. The *Medici* Pope Clement VII (1478-1534) unsuccessfully tried diplomacy to curb Protestantism. By the time of the *Council of Trent* (1545-1563), absolutism, e.g., grace only through ritual sacraments/priesthood, was the strategy of choice. Clerical hierarchy circled its wagon more tightly against Protestantism; its fervor for harsher measures spirited an ever more strident dogmatism. A contemporary of Hegel, Pope Pius IX (1846-1878), presided over the hierarchical sacralizing (Vatican I) of papal absolutism. The "*caesarist*" dogma of papal infallibility, a kind of papal canonization, muscled in papal primacy, was formalized. The patron saint of Catholicism's *papal caesardom* is the Inquisition's own Jesuit Robert Bellarmine, whose presentday equivalent is Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger. (*Jesuitical* and *machiavellian* have come to be English synonyms for "deceptive" and "manipulative".)

Armand Jean Du Plessis Richelieu (1585-1642), a cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church, had the opportunity to work a political strategy that advanced both French nationalism and Roman Catholicism. Cardinal Richelieu was the controlling power behind the Crown of the French King Louis XIII (whose Queen Mother was *Marie de Medicis*). Richelieu was able to set the powerbase of the Queen Mother against the powerbase of the King, and by so doing to establish himself as the person with political power. Richelieu is yet largely credited for making France a world-class colonial power.

The machiavellian scheme of pitting people against themselves for Church/State self-interest is an art whose subtlety is all too often prided as political virtue, e.g., *Opus Dei* in Franco's fascist Spain; this *art* is the exploitive way of life (death) in the Americas aftermath their colonization, such that the chasm between the power-brokers and the disempowered populace continues to widen. The common institutional dogmata of Church and State (academia) still drive the obsessions of exploitation. Institutional Church is yet perceived as being identified too closely with the moneyed and the empowered. Authentic Church, authentic priesthood, like Jesus, exemplify the *unobsessive* by keeping company with the poor and the marginalized. Church is inauthentic when it identifies with political power and wealth. The rich and powerful are sufficient unto themselves; Jesus did not seek them out, but when they came to him he exhorted them to higher virtue on behalf of the dispossessed.

As history shows, a religious dogmatism that controls public conscience can be politically as effective as police and soldiers. (Unchrist-like religion isn't above using the *imitation of Christ* in suffering to ex-

BETRAYED.

People-Trust And Birthright
Are Broken Violently
By The Brokers Of Greed And Dogma,
Whose Fraud Is Breaching
People-Health And Public Wealth,
And Is Making A Mockery Of Democracy.

When Governments See Fit
To Consort With (Har)Lottery
In The Conduct Of Its Business
Its Bankruptcy Is Obvious.
When Churches See Fit To Consort
With Insurance Houses To Promote
Its Dogmata Of Polarization
Its Bankruptcy Is Obvious.

What Citizen Would Expect
The Insult On Dignity That Exacts
Impoverishment And Compels
Iowa Fields Of Corn To Raise
Their Ears To The Gamblers' Din
In The Government Halls Of This Fair State?
And What Catholic Would Expect The Same
Insult From His Church's Bishops—
The Abusive Consumption Of The Hard
Earned Wages Of People To Propagandize
And To Polarize Them On The Hard
Ambiguities Of Personal And Social Choice?

The Violence Of One Abuse Is Not Resolved
By Being Polarized Against Another;
Raising A "Second Satan" To Fight A First
Escalates Violence.
Rampant, Cultured Violence
Violates Church And State,
Betrays Individual/Social Soul And
Trashes The *Middle Estate*.

THAT WORRY WORD.

Intervening God With The Imposition
Of Humanly Fictioned Limits Is "Sin."

"Sinlessness" Is Not To Fence-In
The Infinity Of Personal Time/Space.

In Every Way Except In Sin
Jesus Is The Same As Us;
Jesus Remains Forever
Open To Time/Space.

Our Call Is To Image God
By Living In Jesus' Openness.

IMPEACHMENT 1998.

The Republican Kettles In The Kitchen Congress
Clamored Over The Sophomoric Manner
Of The Chief Cooking Pot's Chase.
In Cacophonous, Partisan Judgment
Stoney Arrogance Proved Only
That Carbon On Self-Righteous Miens
Is No Less Telling Than
Guilt On The Chief Pot's Face.

"BLESSED ARE THE GREEDY."

Out-Of-Control Appetites
Have Brought The Culture Of Prostitution
To The House Of Mistress Justice Bedded
In The Corporate Halls Of Business Lawyers,
Who Advocate Lawyer Business
And Promote Each Other To Judges' Benches;
Who People Adversary Party Politics
And Polarize the Public Trenches;
Who, By Their Patronage Of Disparate Access
To Public Resources,
Destabilize Social Forces;

populace. (The Ignatian *Spiritual Exercises* are about mind-formation by means of a "casuistry" which was formulated to then prevailing theological and political presumptions; in its exercises *The Company* urges conformity by participants to the then Church mind. The *Spiritual Exercises* retain still their dated intent and content.)

Far from "hidden", the agendum of the Counter-Reformation came to be very much in the open. It meant to defeat the protesters. In its determination, the Counter-Reformation was unaccommodating. The *Roman Inquisition* engaged itself in seeking out and "correcting"—even with death and torture—the unrepentant protesters. Orthodoxy became the test; persecution and the prosecution of unorthodoxy were the remedy. The Church proceeded to shore itself up with uncompromising "walls of absolutism". Nothing short of institutional orthodoxy would be tolerated. Roman Catholicism chose as a remedy to harden itself theologically and psychologically against dissenters so as to dissuade from their "choosing" those who would differ from the institutional Church. The Church denied that it could sin, and so admitted no need for repenting anything. Dissenters were burned at the stake; drawn-out forms of violent torture were used to convince the laity and churchmen against the holding of unorthodox views.

But the persecuted victims now had an out; ships of colonial merchants were sailing to the "New World" and colonies were being established there. The New World was seen as an escape from religious/political persecution. But it wasn't completely. Jesuit missionaries (and others) also came on the ships to the New World. As the light cavalry of the counter-reformational popes, the Jesuits were committed agents of the Counter-Reformation also in the colonies.

A formal war against reformers was made the mission of the Councils of Trent (1545-1563) and the First Vatican (1869-?). These two Councils largely formalized the institutional dogmata of faith by which Catholics (until Vatican II) believed and practiced their religion. In their theology and psychology, the Jesuits and other missionaries who have followed after them are very much of the counter-reformational mind of Trent (Tridentine) and Vatican I (as was I by my eleven years of missionary schooling). But Pope John XXIII meant to reverse the Church's harsh misdirection; this he made the mission of The Second Vatican Council.

Machiavelli preserved in his philosophy a special fondness for the institutional model of ancient Rome that cultured a theocratic statism, which was later favored also by Hegel, a more recent philosopher of history. The likemindedness of Catholics/Lutherans, Romans/Germans, can trace its roots in the absolutisms of their philosophers of

protests within the Church were widespread. The old, established religious orders, e.g., Augustinians, Benedictines, Dominicans, Franciscans, etc., were active in protest movements. For example, Martin Luther (1483-1546) was a monk/priest (Augustinian) as were perhaps most of the "protestant" activists of the earlier times.

The founding of the Jesuits in Spain (1540), and their ascendancy, occurred in the historical context of protestations to church/state corruptions, and was for the purpose of counteracting the weakening of Church from religious mutiny. The Jesuits were first active in Spain, then in France and Germany, where by their efforts they sought to replenish the diminished priesthood. But the Jesuits were also the *avant-garde* for the developing merchant/missionary activism. Jesuit Founder Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), himself a soldier crippled by cannonshot, and his "company" came to be characterized as the *light cavalry* of the popes. Ignatian theology was not at all embarrassed by Ignatian martialism; one might conclude quite otherwise—that Ignatian martialism made the Jesuits the more welcome in Rome. That the First Pope Peter lost his ear to the sword—and was reprimanded by Jesus for taking up the sword—was no bar to Ignatian militancy; Jesuits pride identifying their missions under the sword and the cross. They vow to serve the papacy. Rome's patronage of the sycophant Company rankled(s) the older religious Orders who participated in church corruption but also sought its reformation.

In the first colonial outreachings of Spain and France the Jesuits were present; in the colonies of the Americas their presence is still with economic, political, social and religious consequence. The *earthly kingdom-building* focus of Jesuits/Christianity hardly seems reconcilable with the example and teaching of Jesus—it seems more reconciled to the political vision of Niccolo Machiavelli (1468-1527), a contemporary of Ignatius of Loyola.

It is likely that the political philosophy of Machiavelli (in his *Discorso* written for Pope Leo X, and in other writings) was known to Ignatius. Pope Clement VII (Cardinal de Medici) arranged to have Machiavelli commissioned to write *The History of Florence*. Machiavelli wrote his *Discorso* with the hope and expectation that it might be used by the popes to bring about political stability in Florence and the surrounding regions. For his *social* insight that all people are motivated by the same passions and psychological needs—which can be manipulated for purposes of political control—Machiavelli has come to be called the founder of the *philosophy of history*. The forming of a militia from the populace and having it exercise control over the people was a strategy Machiavelli advocated for Church/State's use to control the

Who Sanction The Pilfering Of Public Wealth
By The Stealth Of Legal Institution.
Herein Lie Hidden
The Busy Roots Of Fraud
And Public Destitution
Hallowed In Injustice Imposed
By Hollow-Robed Imposters
Posturing Paper Scams.
Is This What Blessing Is?
The Paper-Chase Of Legalized Wargames?

Lightning-Flash
Across Opposing Poles Depopulates
The Middle Estate
That Would Tolerate Opposites
And Would Accommodate The Dialectic Of Reason.
The Immunities Of Symbioses
Have Been Trashed By Contentions
Fomented On The Presumptions
Of Adversary Law.

The Injustice Is Lawyer Business
Shielded In Law To Profit
From Splitting The Middle
And From Pitting Both Ends Against It.
In This Deception
Life Is Disempowered! Disenfranchised!

People! Abhor The Vacuum Of Polarized Chaos!
Secure The Net Of The Middle Estate!
Of The Reasoned Weave Of Safety Inbetween
That Presumes The Law Of Interdependence
And Rather Bends And Binds Than Divide.
The Divisive, Imperial
Device Of Injudicious Greed
Is Stayed By The Virtuous Choice
That Prefers Common Wealth
Instead Of Giving It To Lawyers.
Law-Making In The Hands Of Non-Lawyers
Might Reduce Greed In The Practice Of Law
And Give Justice A Chance.

3. The Satan Within.

A public issue, highly prejudicial to social wellbeing, surfaced recently in a dramatic way during the 1995 California criminal trial of Orenthal J. Simpson, charged for a double murder. The issue in question is especially pertinent to these times since it goes to the grounds of public trust. There is a principle of commonlaw justice which reasons that *a corrupt sovereign is without authority to judge another's corruption*. What became an issue in the above mentioned trial was the "corruption" of the *prosecuting "sovereign"*, the State of California, in the person of its police, particularly one officer who lied before the court in giving his testimony, and who was argued to have had the opportunity to tamper with critical State's evidence. The distrustful conduct of this officer before the court contributed in no small part to the acquittal of the defendant because of the "reasonable doubt" cast on the proceedings by the officer's conduct. This commonsense legal principle has at the present time a renewed urgency for it seems to reopen the slavery wounds suffered by African Americans at the hands of European colonials. On the evidence, why should blacks trust whites? This deep-rooted social trauma of Americans of African origin grounds in white European predation, plain and simply, and it serves now to intensify racial dissensions. For its participation in predation and its past espousal of slavery, Churchmen's hands are also unclean; elitism and practices of thralldom haunt Church at the present time.

Violence diversifies its forms; a first form seeds its own destruction. In 18th Century France, Jacobin violence (Rousseau's absolutized "general will") invented the guillotine as the *final solution* to French monarchism. Assaults against the public take on many forms. One form is persistence in an absurdity which violates the logic of intelligence. The unsettling of trust is even deeper when the absurdity is a long held dogma of religion that has extended the sphere of its social impact beyond religion to the other institutions of society. A complex of deeply held absurdities (cultural memes no longer accepted by public consciousness), allowed to persist in social institutions, erodes the whole fabric of society. This is very much a root problem in Christian cultures. Roman Catholicism's political patriarchy, for example, carries institutional trappings of old despotic Rome. The despotisms of authoritarianism are entrenched also in the philosophy/theology of Western social/corporate politics, which offend the public sense of right. Institutions must change their philosophical/theological premises and bring their politics to correspond to a social sense of moral right, which can enable the healing of faith.

4. The Kingdom Builders.

Coincident with the global expansion of European colonialism was the global outreach of *Christian mission* to convert to its faith the indigenous peoples of the world. The mission outreach of Roman Catholicism was enabled by the mercantile outreach of European nations—a mercantilism still saddling Christianity.

The willful role of institutional Christianity with European nationals in their colonial expansion has become a globally corrupting worm; and, what may be even more devastating, Christianity seems yet, by its colonial/corporate connections, to sanction the global rape of Third World nations. The modern association of nationalistic colonialism with multi-national corporations, whose unmasked objective is corporate profiteering, seems obvious to reasonable minds; corporate links with the original colonials survive. It is arguable that except for Roman Catholicism's uninterrupted embrace of spoils from colonial/corporate kingdom-builders, the internal corruption of Christianity and its scandalous fractioning might not have happened, and colonial kingdom-building might effectively have been reprovved and prevented from working its genocidal sin on "mission" countries.

In fact and in consequence, the spiritual/material impact of colonialism on indigenous peoples has been cataclysmically devastating, for colonial control was/is crassly intentional in its institution of abuse over people and resources. The monarchical absolutism of Roman Catholicism identifies its *spiritual absolutism* with the *political*, whether in Europe or in the colonial missions.

The *de Medicis*, an established family of Florentine bankers and merchants, rose to power in Italy and the Roman Catholic Church for some 300 years (1400-1700), and succeeded in associating Catholicism with aggressive mercantilism. The *de Medici* mercantile/religious blood flowed in the veins of European kings and queens as well as in popes and cardinals. It isn't merely coincidental that the missionary outreach of Catholicism happened with the mercantilism of the *de Medicis*, rather, it is likely that the joined mercantile/religious expansion coincidentally arose from the technological/political opportunism of the times. It seems as if the Church's global missionary agendum was an activist strategy intentionally employed to defeat and distract from its institutional corruptions and from the public outcries for reform; though a strategy that the *best defense is a strong offense* may work, the global crises of today associated with European Christian colonialism and the counter-Reformation arguably expose its lie.

During the time of "the mercantilizing of Roman Catholicism"

TRAGIC CHOICE.

To Do,
 To Say "Aye" Or "Nay"
 Is The Manysided Choice Required
 Individually Of Informed Reason.
 Every Person Herself
 Is The Consequence Of Others' Choices,
 Some Good And Some Not So Good,
 As Are Global Catastrophes.

This Instant Is The Transcendent
 Continuum Of Choice
 Driven By Contingencies.
 Herein Lies The Ambivalence Of Good/Evil.
 The Destiny Of Transformation
 Is Programmed In Common Genetic Substance,
 No Matter The Temporal
 Symmetry Of Phenomena,
 Oak, Frog Or Human.
Holy Purpose,
 Earthsoul's Common Theology,
 Demands Pro-Opting,
 Eventhough, Its Ambiguity Destroys
 As Well As Creates,
 And Expects
 Conscious Wisdom's Ability To Discern
 The Better Choice And Consequence.

LIBERTE. EGALITE. FRATERNITE.
 (Openness. Impartiality. Community.)

Spellbinding Words Driving Cosmic
 As Well As Global Revolutions.
 Soul/Substance Enjoys Infinite Potential
 In The Transformational Event Horizons
 Inspiring Faith, Hope And Love.
 Self Conscious Dialogue Testifies That
 Jean Paul Sartre Isn't The Last "Total" Thinker.

The transformation of consciousness through time eventually exposes the lies cocooned inside misinformed presumptions. Real-world contingencies that frame the historical arena leave markers of their particular subjectivities and qualify over time the dialogic process as well as its outcomes. The uncovering of truth is in the process. The exposure of the lie hidden within the presumptions will in due course eventualize. Contrary to a belief long cultured, human nature is in fact amenable to be shaped, changed and transformed by the consequential experiences of pleasure/pain, right/wrong. Belief and behavior are both subject to change under insights of communication, consciousness and conscience. Human Nature is a "*subjectivity*" complex; it is not an incurably *corrupted absolute*, flawed inevitably by some personal, past failure of original parents to pass a onetime divinely administered test coincident with the origin of humankind. "*Original sin*" is *original to each person and common to all; it roots in choosing self-advantage to the disadvantage of other.*

Male Church politics that came to be reinforced also by St. Augustine's hardly well informed theology of sex, still misinforms Catholic sexuality and its dogma of humankind's "*naturally*" incurable *corruption*. A psychologically more factual consciousness is needed to sustain the credibility of Christian sexuality, for the *female reality* can no more be blamed—and isolated from the Godhead, from Church leadership—than the *male idol* can be allowed to monopolize standing in the Godhead, in Church. If by its *fatal sin in the Garden* humankind has been reduced to a "corrupt sovereign", then it is without competence to judge the "divine" nature of its own standing.

History indeed bears this out. Humankind (males) must be much less grandiose in its presumptive consciousness and needs to discover the evenhanded working of a non-sexist consciousness. The aberrant culture of misinformed tradition and its presumptive dogmata of "absolutism" seem unsustainable in the face of *subjective being/becoming*, which is a "metaphysics" consistent with consciousness informed in realworld experience. *Realworld experience* is truly a more reliable informer than misinformed absolutist speculations.

Commonsense trust now requires *sea changes* in religious belief and practice. Quantum connectedness in the transformational cosmos is a rising tide of public consciousness that will overflow the ancient walls that yet seek to dam its spread. The waters of public consciousness that wash clean the personal sense of conscience are stronger than the fires of institutional dogmata that would vaporize them; their tide cannot be dammed. Hard-nosed fixation in past social misdirection is presently the ghost of a threatening satan.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

THE MADDENED MIND.

Urban Congestion
Clamors Noisy Disconnection
And Scrambles Guidance-Memes
Into A Snarling Snake-Pit Of Tangles
That Unnerve Even The Stoutest
With Inability To Discern The Trustworthy
From The Disjointed Voices.

Hard Tracks In
The Jumbled Brain Detour
Nerve-Sense With Noises
At The Squealing Intersections,
Mad-Traveled With Racing Wheels
And Screaming With Angry
Horns Of Fictionally Attractive
But Mindless Machines.

The Paved Roads
To Macadam Lots Darkplot
With Profiteering Towers
To Channel The Traffic Of Tendershoots
To The Fastroad Of Moonraking Hustlers
That Sound No Quarter For
Rooting-Soil Tranquillity-Tuned
To Earthsounds
Wanting To Green In
The Nurturally Historied,
Natural Ground.

The City Isn't
The First Ground Of God's Choosing
Where Humans Come To True Soul.
Quite To The Contrary,
Chaotic Urbanization
Complicates The Journey.

Disturbed Grounds

ALL IN GOD.

In This Body I Possess
The Same Instincts And Compulsions
Possessed By Other *Animals*.

I Feel Warm Emotions' Power
Compel My Body Even As Sunshine
Explodes The Growth Of Seeds,
The Blossoms On Plants.

I *Thoughtfully* Harness
The Same Thermodynamic Energy
That Warms My Body And Theirs.
Beyond The Compulsion Of Body-Emotion,
I Am Conscious Of Resident Mind,
Commonsense,
Able Not Merely To Observe,
But Capable Also To Manage.

And So I Seek,
Above Sense And Consciousness,
Conscience,
That Graces Their Interactions
In Worthy Purpose

And Raises My Person
In The Holy Dialog Of Sacrament,
The Harmonic Orchestration Of Becoming
Composed In The Personality Of Other
On The Ascending Scales Of Conscient Trinity.

THE MACHIAVELLIAN TIMES.

Manipulatocrats
Mean To Threaten, Oblige And Control
For The Mean Purpose Of
Frightening, Demeaning, Enslaving
The People In A Political Hell.
Faithless. Hopeless. Loveless.

INDULGENCED PRAYER.

If I Would Be Honest, I Must Admit
That Beggars All Are We,
Graced By The Goodness Of All The Saints
Who Have Gone Before Us.
Others Suffer Even Now Just For My Being!
All You Holy Ones! Be Not Wrathful
For My Impositions, I Pray.
It Is My Intention And My Attempt
To Return In Kind To Others
That For Which I Am Indebted To Others.

I Know That No One
Is An Island Unto Her/Himself;
Nor Is Anyone Either Perfect Or Imperfect,
For Perfection Is *In The Process*.
Imperfection Is Grace Enabling *Becoming*,
Enabling The Virtue Of Tolerance.
I Beg You, My Sisters And Brothers,
Allow Me My Imperfections
Even As I Allow You Yours.

CONFESSION.

To Hold The Hurt Of Offense
Suffered At Another's Hand
Chews Out The Heart.

Forgive The Sin And Avoid
Retaining It,
Lest Your Heart Be Consumed.
*"Whose Sin You Retain
Shall Be Retained,
Whose Sin You Forgive
Shall Be Forgiven."*

Confess Your Sin To The Person Hurt,
And Seek To Save Their Heart And Yours.

VIOLENCE.

Human Residency In God's Kingdom
Is A Divine Inheritance.
Resident Violence
Usurps Inheritance With A Fraudulent
Coinage Of Its Own Casting, Whose
Counterfeit Faces Of Judgmentalism,
Dogmatism And Authoritarianism
Abusively Exact
A Tax Of Repressive Fideism
On The Rightful Heirs;
Such Violence
Is Personally Denounced By Jesus
And Is Less Deserving Than Caesar's Coin.
Gift! Not Charge Nor Payment Gains
Entrance Into The Kingdom.

UNMASKED DECEIT.

The Green Wealth Of Nature
And The Bare Bones Of The Hungry Masses
Are Appropriated Incongruously
By The Monolithic Minds Of Church And State
And Are Used To Build Pretentious Towers,
Idolatrous Babels,
Hard Rock Icons,
Whereby To Capture Popular Minds And Bodies.

The Truth
And The Lie Of *Strength In Numbers*
Are Now Exposed As Is The Need
For Open Communication
And Personal Altruism.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

FRUSTRATED VOTERS.

If You've Concluded
That Adversary Politics Work Against
Public Wellbeing, There's Something
You Can Do.
If The Voter's Choice Is A Man Or A Woman,
Vote Woman;
If Choice Is A Lawyer Or Non-Lawyer,
Vote Non-Lawyer;
If Choice Is An Incumbent Or Non-Incumbent,
Vote Non-Incumbent.
And Suggest To Others That
They Do Likewise
For A Change.

ON THE NORTH SIDE.

Remembering Its Gorgeous Bloom
I Shiver A Little
As I Box In Peat Moss
The Dormant Amaryllis Bulb
Wrapped To Keep Its Feet Dry
In Old Des Moines Print.
And I Muse
That As A Winter Passtime,
The Newspaper Is A Sleepy Substitute
For Nature.
And Although May
May Be Fast On Its Way, The Snow
Still Melts Too Slow On The North Side.

The Slippery Mess Of Political Press
Whether State Or Federal
Is Distressful And Can't Disappear
From The Scene Too Soon,
As Far As I Am Concerned.
On A Yesterday Unrecorded I Smiled
At A Duffy Printline On A Fluffy
Snow Column Tracked Up One Side
And Down The Other

Disturbed Grounds

HIGHER CALL.

Needed Now More Than Ever Is Priesthood
Dedicated To Advancing The Memetically Hidden Soul,
Rather Than To The Genetic Multiplying Of Bodies.
Already Too Little Soul Prevails In Too Many Bodies.

Personal Life Altruistically Lived
In The Conceptioning Of Virtue In The Souls Of Others,
And Foregoing The Reproduction Of Additional Bodies,
Is The Truly Holy Work Of Celibate Priesthood
That Is Sensitive To The Female Dilemma.

The Unbinding Of Subconscious Soul
Bound In The Genes Of Every Body,
Is The Lasting Grace Of Priestly Giving.
The Fruit Of This Priestly Service Amends
For Better All Life Forever.

The Live And Lasting Soul Birthed
From The Personal Gift Of Self Is
The Greater Conscience Gracing All Other.
Than This, No Greater Prize, No Greater Love,
No Greater Satisfaction Can Be Experienced.
It Is Heaven Consciousness
Passed On To Others Yet To Come,
And Awaiting Those Who Choose To Live It.

LIBERATED SPIRIT. (My "*Nunc Dimittis*")

A First Religious Lesson We Learn
Is That Earth-Dust We Must Not Covet,
For It Is The Spirit's Word Alphabet.
Imprison Mine Not In A Clay Urn.

SECOND THEOGENESIS

NEITHER BLACK NOR WHITE.

Conscience Is Ambivalent Light,
A Dawning Of Truth,
Not Black Or White,
But A Ray,
Gray Against The Darkness Of Night,
That Lends Its Valence
To Awakening Insight.

Tragic Gemini Shining
Twins Against The Sky,
Non-Violent Black.
Dallas' White Lonestar.
Memphis' Black Knight.
Angel City's Stellar Glimmer.
Briefly.
Once. Twice. Thrice.
Chastened. Sobered. Reflective.
Pent Up,
The Violence Of Poverty, Hunger,
Homelessness, Helplessness.
Reactions To Heedless Inaction.
Permissive Violence
Against Natural Law, Authority.
No Moral Counterbalance.
Uprooted Minds, Immature,
Destiny-Driven, Riotous
Anarchy's Witness
To Violence,
To Sanctioned Futility.

Explosive Death.
Implosive Death.
Pallid Patriotism
Righteous, Lily-White,
Kinship
Gray In Mourning.
Tattered, Blue-Denim Night.
Scapegoat Stars.
Eternal. Bright.

Disturbed Grounds

By Shifty Footpads Of Rabbits
And Raccoons;

The Drift Of Snow Is Now The Scoundrel
Press Of Freeze-Melt, Melt-Freeze.
The Once Fresh Snow Page Is Now
The Crumpled News Of The Ice-Age
Persisting On The North Side.

I Am Reassured Though To Know
That Come The End Of May
An Unpolitical Walk In The Woods Leafing
The Memoried Pages Of Trees
Will Be Reading More Rewarding
Than The Slushy Mess Of Press Melting,
Where The Cold Against Trickle-Down Sun
In The Shade-World Is Inhuman.

Even With Word Dodging Trickery,
Rascals And Thieves Aside,
It Doesn't Take A Prophet To Discover That
*"God Stretches Out The Heavens Like A Veil
And Provides A Superdome Under Which To Dwell,"*
(Is 40:22)

And Eventhough
Cold Feet Find Little Warmth In April
On The North Side Of The City Street,
And, Eventhough It Is Still Some Weeks
Until Grasshoppers Hatch
And Become Able To Snatch
The First Green
Sprouts Of Shooting Grass
And Consume The Wheatcorn
Before Coming To Flower.

It Is Still True
That God's Word Stands
Forever More Convincing
Than The Moonraking
Towers Of Pirating Babels.

THE RAPE OF GRASS.

In Violation Of The Natural Law
Fields Are Forced To Yield Life
For Profit.

And The Prophet Who Reproaches
Against The Sin Of Excess Gain
Is Unwanted In Churches.

Wrathful Grapes Stand With Grain
Against The Sin-Tax Of Tithing
Expected And Levied

Against The Land By Moneychangers.
By Their Confounding Of Mystery Grain,
Stain Is On Their Green Backs!

The Grain Germ Exposes A Green Blade
From Its Unthreatening Shield
And Shouts Defiance

At Once Profound And Obvious.

This Blade Is A Divining Rod,
A Driving Prod Of Culture
That Transfixes All Life
In Communion With God.

Placid But Convincing
Is The Grainsword Word,

For The Bread On Water Is Voraciously,
Viciously Possessed By Personal Selves
Passion-Conquered And Seeking
The Conquest Of Land, Of People
And Even Of The Triune
Process Of Transubstantiation
Involving All Creation.

We Bring On Death,
The Wage Of Sin,
By Our Demand
For Personal Profit
Against The Land.

TESTOSTERONE.

Dizzy Blind,
The Male Mind
In Self-Obsessed Reflection,
Is Youthfully Satisfied
In Its Alienated Pleasure.

Patriarchy
Narcissicly
Confirms Aged Satisfaction,
Youthfully Engrained— And Still,
An Alienating Pleasure.

SUM, ERGO COGITO.

The Disconnection Of Personal Soul
From Individual Body, Earthsoul From Earthbody,
Grounds The Global Disease Of Schizophrenia.

Would That Wimpy Descartes

Had The Backbone Of Bruno And Galileo!
Perhaps The Power Play Of Church Would Not
Then Have Succeeded; Humans
And All Life Then Might Have Been
Spared Self-Degradation.

The Avoidance Of Rushed Judgment
Might Have Revealed That Earth And Life
Arose From Cosmic Transformation,
And That The Capacity Of Life For Thought
Originates In Complexified Earth-Consciousness
—And Therefore—That Because Earth Is, I Am!
Because Earth *Thinks*, I Think!

Such An Awareness Demands Humility.

Such Awareness Does Not Allow

The Arrogation Of Independent Right To Self-Assert.
Descartes Bowed To Religious Arrogation's Prison.

In Yielding The Fencepost, He Jumped In
Choosing For Enclosure.

This Self-Imprisoning Choice
Might Well Have Closed Prisons
On Untold Numbers Of People To Come.