

Challenges of Secular Humanism
Titus 2:11-14
By Russell Earl

Thesis: I want to show what challenges secular humanism places on the Christian and how we can overcome them.

- Intro:
1. Challenges, as viewed in the Christian world, anything in life that threatens your faith in God and your obedience to His commands.
 2. Tonight's lesson will look at how secular humanism threatens the Christian's faith and obedience to His commands.

I. Definition of terms & teachings of secular Humanism.

A. Secular Humanism defined

1. Webster's dictionary definition from secularhumanism.org – *Humanism. "Any system of thought or action concerned with the interests or ideals of people...the intellectual and cultural movemen...characterized by an emphasis on human interests rather than...religion"*
2. Secular humanism can be defined this way – "Anti-God".

B. What does Secular Humanism teach or stand for?

1. According to www.secularhumanism.org
 - a. "A comprehensive, nonreligious lifestance"
 - i. *secular humanism incorporates the Enlightenment principle of individualism, which celebrates emancipating the individual from traditional controls by family, church, and state, increasingly empowering each of us to set the terms of his or her own life.*
 - b. "A naturalistic philosophy"
 - i. ***"It holds that nature (the world of everyday physical experience) is all there is, and that reliable knowledge is best obtained when we query nature using the scientific method. Naturalism asserts that supernatural entities like God do not exist..."***
 - c. "A cosmic outlook rooted in science"
 - i. *"Secular humanism provides a cosmic outlook—a world-view in the broadest sense, grounding our lives in the context of our universe and relying on methods demonstrated by science. Secular humanists see themselves as undesignated, unintended beings who arose through evolution, possessing unique attributes of self-awareness and moral agency."*
 - d. "A consequentialist ethical system"
 - i. *Secular humanists hold that ethics is consequential, to be judged by results. This is in contrast to so-called command ethics, in which right and wrong are defined in advance and attributed to divine authority. "No god will save us," declared Humanist Manifesto II (1973), "we must save ourselves." Secular humanists seek to develop and improve their ethical principles by examining the results they yield in the lives of real men and women.*

II. Effects of secular humanism

A. On society

1. The effects of secular humanism are **severe**.
 - a. With their format for ethics sin reigns in many forms.
 - i. Abortion
 - ii. Same-sex marriage
 - iii. “If it feels good do it” attitudes
 2. The effects of secular humanism affect families
 - a. Teaching evolution instead of intelligent design
 - b. Teaching morals change person-to-person.
 - c. Teaching acceptance of alternate lifestyles; lets be honest tolerance is not what is being promoted, its acceptance. There is a big difference!

B. On the church

1. In keeping with our definition of secular humanism (“anti-God”), we know that secular humanism aims to destroy any sign of God; not just in schools or in colleges, but in every area of life, even in your own life.
2. It aims to make the church appear hostile to the world, when in truth the world is hostile to the church.
 - a. The teachings of the church are contrary to the actions & beliefs of world. As a result, these individuals strive to silence the church and its members in every form.
 - b. Secular humanism portrays the church as being filled with individuals who are too stupid to follow the secular humanism concept. They verbally teach that those of any intelligence do not or cannot believe in the God of the Bible.
 - c. The Bible is looked at as a flawed book full of ridiculous stories, impossible miracles that Christ is just some character that had numerous stories made up concerning His life.
 - d. We could go on and on!

III. Titus 2:11-12 & Secular Humanism

A. The Bible teaches righteous living that benefits everyone unlike secular humanism.

1. By denying ungodliness and embracing godliness we can resist the lusts of this world.
2. By embracing godliness we can live, as the Bible says;
 - a. Soberly – a sound mind
 - b. righteously – in agreement with God’s laws
 - c. godly in the present age – restraining ourselves from sin and pushing ourselves to be holy, as God is holy. **(1 Pt 1:15)**

B. The Bible gives us meaning to life.

1. The world keeps asking the question and never finds the answer.
 - a. The meaning to life for most people today is finding happiness.
 1. Through materialism
 2. Through physical pleasure
 3. Through physical fitness (for some it is an obsession)

2. The Bible provides lasting fulfillment.
 - a. Teaches us that materialism doesn't provide lasting happiness. (**Lk 12:15**)
 - b. Teaching us that physical pleasure can lead to sin and should be for the married. (**Heb 11:24-25**)
 - c. Teaches us that spiritual fitness leads to eternal life (**1 Tim 4:7-8**)

Application & Conclusion:

1. Much of the world today is "anti-God". With that being the case we must know what we believe and have the knowledge to defend it.
2. The world is anti-God, while Christians are anti-sin. For that reason we stand opposed to the world, and the world stands opposed to God.

3. Full Invitation

Hear – James 1:22, Romans 10:15,17

Believe – Jn 12:44, Jn 8:24, Mt 16:16

Repent – Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Luke 13:3

Confess – John 12:42, Romans 10:9

Be Baptized – 1 Pt 3:21, Acts 22:16, Col 2:11, Mk 16:16, Rom 6:3-4

Live faithfully – Rev 2:10,

Christians must:

Repent: Acts 17:20, Acts 8:37, Lk 13:3

Pray: James 5:16, 1 Jn 1:9