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CELEBRATE AND DEFEND EASTER



Prelude¹



Christ on the Cross, showing the skies darkened, by the Danish painter Carl Heinrich Bloch (1834-1890).
Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Crucifixion_of_Jesus#mediaviewer/File:Christ_at_the_Cross_-_Cristo_en_la_Cruz.jpg. The image is in the public domain.

¹ The banner above is from <http://cccc-biblicalchristianity.com/liberty-tools/rejoice-radio/>. The banner at the end of the essay is from <http://morelikemomma.files.wordpress.com/2014/02/memygje.jpg>.

Easter is in trouble!

The Christian holiday that should be a joyous celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ for the remission of human sins has become a spiritual wasteland, a consumer paradise of candy and bunny imagery. Once upon a time America was a truly great, Christian nation. The now-not-so-great obamarized United States of America is still a Christian nation, despite all the efforts of particular interest groups to de-Christianize and secularize the nation. However, the ongoing project of secularism and multiculturalism is taking its toll. The three most obnoxious and significant groups waging the War on Easter are the atheists, the Muslims, and the liberal-progressives. Easter must be reclaimed by Christian believers from the forces that threaten it as a commemoration of the Christian belief in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. These are the same forces that threaten Christianity's place in America's culture and traditions.

Atheists: The commercialization of Easter is terrible enough. The frivolous indulgences in candy and cute imagery are not sufficient satisfaction for one particular group of perennial malcontents: militant atheists. Nothing is sacred for these God-mockers, who proudly proclaim their unbelief and contemptuously dismiss believers as being delusional to their cores. For these atheist people, it is not enough to simply not celebrate Easter. They have to go out of their way to attack how believers celebrate Easter and what Easter means within the Christian faith. This behavior is not unusual because militant atheists in America are always attacking God, the Church, the Bible, and traditional family values. Thus, it should come as no surprise that they have annually targeted Easter with one of their campaigns of agitation.

For the Easter of 2014, the group Concerned Women for America (CWA) posted a special display at the Wisconsin State Capitol in Madison, Wisconsin.



Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AcOOiZH3sVQ&feature=youtu.be>

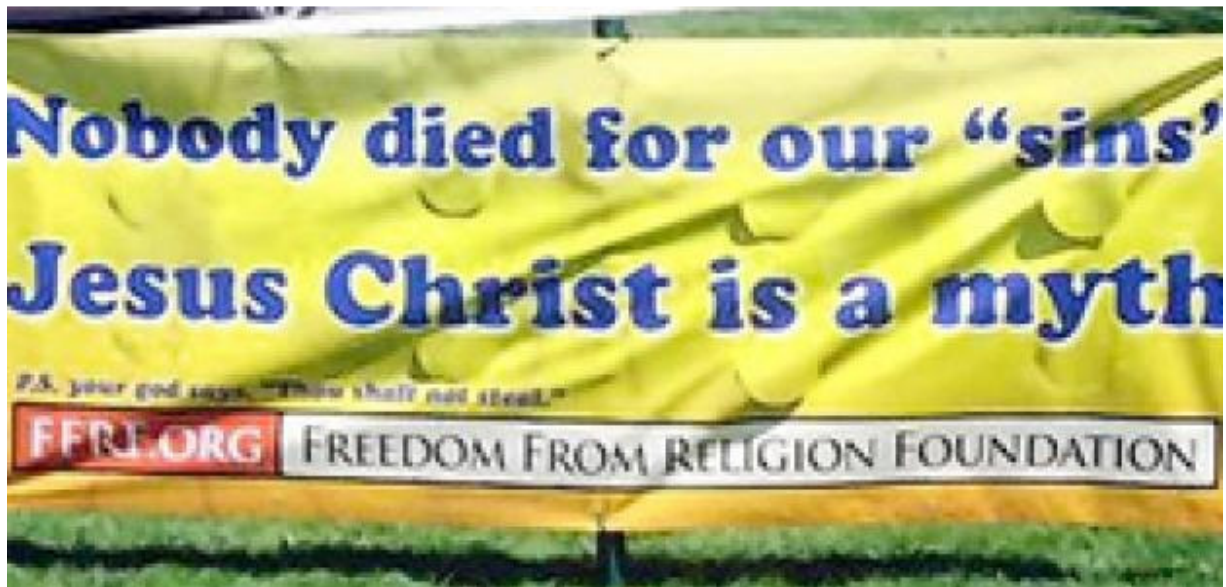
The display was designed to honor the true meaning of Easter, the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and to advocate for the equal rights for unborn babies.² The fact that the display both honored Christ and took a stance against the practice of murder that is abortion was ample information to draw the atheists out of the woodwork for the world to see like yellow jackets to a barbecue.

A militant atheist pressure group called the Freedom From Religion Foundation (FFRF) responded to the Concerned Women for America display by posting a truly

² Marie Brownie, *Atheists put anti-Easter sign in Capitol building: 'Nobody died for our sins, Jesus Christ is a myth.'* in *Christian Today*, April 17, 2014 at <http://www.christiantoday.com/article/atheists.place.anti.easter.sign.capitol.building.after.christians.put.cross.and.anti.abortion.literature.display/36870.htm>.

Michael Dorstewitz, M. *Easter brings out atheists contempt for Christians in 'repugnant' banner.* *Biz Pac Review*, April 19, 2014 at <http://www.bizpacreview.com/2014/04/19/easter-brings-out-atheists-contempt-for-christians-in-repugnant-banner-113456>.

revolting message of its own: a gigantic banner mocking Jesus Christ and his followers. The banner read: "Nobody died for our sins. Jesus Christ is a myth. P.S.: Your god says, "Thou shalt not steal."



Source: <http://nation.foxnews.com/2014/04/15/anti-easter-display-wisconsin-state-capitol>

The FFRF's own rationale for this disrespectful and childish fit of pique boiled down to nothing more than a ridiculous sense of being intimidated by the Christian Cross. In the words of their co-president Annie Laurie Gaylor: "It's unfortunate to see a sectarian symbol that is increasingly used as a symbol of political intimidation in our state capitol."³ But Annie Laurie Gaylor was not finished. She had to get in a crack at the traditional family for good measure. "It's also unfortunate to see women serving as a front for a patriarchal religion based on women's subservience and second-class status."

³ Freedom From Religion Foundation, *Nobody died for FFRF's Sins FFRF counters Wisconsin Capitol Easter display*, FFRF, April 14, 2014 at <http://ffrf.org/news/news-releases/item/20370-ffrf-counters-wisconsin-capitol-easter-display>.



Annie Laurie Gaylor, co-founder with her mother Anne Nicol Gaylor and John Sontarck, is co-president with her husband Dan Baker (right) of the organization Freedom From Religion Foundation.

Sources: http://www.who-is-hu.de/sites/default/files/imagecache/gallery_full/669/gallery-500_1182annie-laurie_gaylor.jpg; http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/6/66/Dan_Barker.jpg/200px-Dan_Barker.jpg.

This is nothing more than militant godlessness wrapped up with left-wing gender politics and the hysterical cult of self-created feminism. Annie Laurie Gaylor's claims about the women of Concerned Women for America are nothing more than a transparent attempt to discredit them based on their gender and the fact that the Concerned Women For America do not agree with her. No doubt if the Concerned Women for America had been men, she would have chided them for trying to *subjugate* women into a *patriarchal faith*. Any sensible person would think that the women of Concerned Women for America are capable of speaking for themselves and for their faith. After all, as it says in Galatians 3:28:

"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, *there is neither male nor female*: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."⁴

⁴ *The Holy Bible*, King James Version, The Gideons, National Bible Press, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, italicized emphasis added by the autor. All Bible references are this version.

While these godless troublemakers were technically following the law, as they obtained a permit for their disgusting display, it is still deeply troubling to see such disrespect and mockery of everything sacred.⁵ The key matter to understand, though, is that contrary to their own pronouncements on the subject, atheists are actually in their own manner *extremely* religious.

The retired Anglican Archbishop of Sydney, Australia, Dr. Peter Jensen said in his Good Friday sermon in 2010, atheism is actually a form of idolatry.

"As we can see by the sheer passion and virulence of the atheist – they seem to hate the Christian God – we are not dealing here with cool philosophy up against faith without a brain."⁶

The atheists love to peddle the line that they are the ones who see reality as it actually is. Of course, this makes them smarter, hipper, and generally more *edgy* than the presumably stodgy, staid, stupid Christian believers who blindly persist in worshiping an absurdly mythical deity. This is nonsense, and every single gimmick the atheists do or say in public to identify themselves as atheists proves it. If they were truly content and secure in their lack of belief in God, they would not need to be constantly in the faces of everyone who does believe in God.

To really comprehend this, compare how the atheists recruit their followers with how Christians seek to spread the Word of God. Christian organizations send out

⁵ Cheryl K. Chumley, *Atheists' Easter taunt to Christians: 'Jesus is a myth'* in the *Washington Times*, April 16, 2014, at <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/apr/16/atheist-group-sets-own-easter-display-jesus-christ/>.

⁶ News.com.au., *Atheists are believers who hate God, says Anglican Archbishop Peter Jensen* in *News.com.au*, April 3, 2010, at <http://www.news.com.au/national/atheists-are-believers-who-hate-god-says-anglican-archbishop-peter-jensen/story-e6frfkvr-1225848927144>.

missionaries to *take* the Gospel to others, the idea being to present it to them and give them a chance to respond. As Christ said,

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."⁷

This is how Christians are supposed to go about missionizing: give other people a chance to hear the Word of God and decide if they want to become Christ-followers. If they refuse, Christians let God deal with them, and Christians pray that the Holy Spirit will use any seed Christians might have planted in their hearts to someday turn them toward Christ.

This is precisely what the organization Concerned Women for America did at the capitol in Madison, Wisconsin. They were doing their part to help fulfill the Great Commission and call Americans to repentance from the national sin of abortion. No one had to pay that display any attention if they were not interested. If the display bothered people, they were free to ignore it. The message of Christ's loving sacrifice for the sins of a fallen humanity was proclaimed, along with the call to protect what are surely the most vulnerable members of any society: unborn children. That is the simple fact!

Atheists, on the other hand, if their own words and actions are anything to go by, always have to be in other people's faces. Where Christians have a message of hope and salvation to proclaim, atheists have only a spiritually hollow and intellectually shallow and pretentious *critique* of Christianity and other faiths. Because of this they have nothing else to serve. Hating God and belittling His people is their only strategy because it is the *singular line of thinking* that defines them. They are the very definition

⁷ Saint Matthew 28:19.

of one-trick ponies. Their whole belief system is consumed by their obsessive quest to oppose God and His people.

This is the difference: Christians proclaim the most positive message imaginable, the message that God exists, loves His creation, and sacrificed Himself for the remission of our sins so that we might be restored to the right relations with Him. What do the atheists have to offer instead? An utterly revolting, rude, and patently juvenile banner proclaiming that nobody died for our sins, and that Jesus Christ is a myth. Christians offer a chance to experience God's love. Atheists offer a chance to look down on other people with sneers and cold contempt, and to generally get in people's faces in propagandizing their self-proclaimed superiority.

The underlying reason for atheists' terrible behavior, Dr. Jensen argued, is an idolatry that constitutes self-worship. "It represents the latest version of the human assault on God, born out of resentment that we do not in fact rule the world and that God calls on us to submit our lives to him."⁸ Dr. Jensen is correct! Atheists are worshipping a golden calf of their own devising, an idol that, like all idols, ultimately represents the worship of self. In the 20th century alone, Dr. Jensen explained, godless idolatry gave us "Nazism, Stalinism, Pol Pot-ery, mass murder, abortion and broken relationships."⁹ Idolatry is listed with the

"works of the flesh", along with "adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness," and then "witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations,

⁸ News.com.au., *Atheists are believers who hate God, says Anglican Archbishop Peter Jensen* in *News.com.au*, April 3, 2010, at <http://www.news.com.au/national/atheists-are-believers-who-hate-god-says-anglican-archbishop-peter-jensen/story-e6frfkvr-1225848927144>.

⁹ Ibid.

wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like."¹⁰

Of course, the Scripture also tells us what the Spirit-filled life looks like:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."¹¹

This life has been made possible by Christ's sacrifice:

"And they who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."¹²

We are able to overcome the self because of what Christ suffered on the Cross, and because of His resurrection on the third day. This is why we celebrate Easter, and this is why the atheists are wrong. God exists, and Easter is the day on which we celebrate Him saving us from our own sinful, fallen selves. By cleaving to the true meaning of Easter, we can counter the spiritual darkness of selfish, idolatrous atheism, and be a true light to the world and a city upon the hill.¹³

In addition to atheists, there is another group of self-acclaimed do-gooders who are out to save the world according to their beliefs. The members of this group that has

¹⁰ Galatians 5:19-21.

¹¹ Galatians 5:22-23.

¹² Galatians 5:24-25.

¹³ Saint Matthew 5:14.

emerged to attack Easter in recent years are the followers of the so-called *Religion of Peace*

Muslims

As a description of Islam, the nomenclature *Religion of Peace* is about as ironic as calling Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany the *Nation of Peace*, as the events of the last 13 years (or the last 1,400 years) prove. Islam was never peaceful nor tolerant! Indeed, it is not even a religion because its characteristics are the same characteristics that describe a cult.¹⁴ Muslims, at least the ones who ascribe to being honest about what the evil tenets of their cult really say and do, savagely slaughter Christians, Jews, and anyone else they deem to be infidels (kaffirs). However, even those Muslims who are not so honest with themselves about what their vile cult preaches can still pose a threat to America's Christian heritage and traditions by demanding service to creeping sharia law.

In 2014, a kerfuffle erupted in the Dearborn Public Schools district when a Muslim family took offense to, of all things, an Easter egg hunt. The problem was that the Easter egg hunt had been scheduled at Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church in Dearborn, Michigan.

The Muslim father, Majed Moughni, said that the flyers made his children uncomfortable because of the church connection.¹⁵

¹⁴ *Islam: Cult or Religion?* at <http://www.faithfreedom.org/oped/sina50218.htm>.

¹⁵ Nirag Warikoo, *Muslim parent upset over school flyer promoting church's Easter egg hunt* In the *Detroit Free Press*, April 4, 2014, at <http://www.freep.com/article/20140404/NEWS05/304040016/Muslim-parents-upset-over-flyer-promoting-Easter-egg-hunt-at-church>.



Majed Moughni holds flyers given to pupils at Howard Elementary School in Dearborn. Photograph: Ryan Garza/Detroit Free Press. Source: <http://www.freep.com/article/20140404/NEWS05/304040016/Muslim-parents-upset-over-flier-promoting-Easter-egg-hunt-at-church>.

Of course, Heaven forbid that an Easter egg hunt should be held at – gasp – a church! Never mind that the church context did not involve a Christian service. Never mind that no one was forcing children to attend the Easter egg hunt. Never mind the fact that the flyers and the event were approved by the Dearborn Public Schools authority. Never mind any of that. The mere *fact* that it was at a church meant it was offensive! The pastor of the church, Pastor Neeta Nichols, was very clear that there was no part of the activity that involved an actual *Christian* message, a sad commentary on how far the project to secularize and commercialize Easter has come. "It's designed to be an opportunity to invite the community to come for a day of activity," Nichols said.¹⁶ The inescapable fact is that not even a secular, fairly godless Easter egg hunt is safe from a Muslim outrage.

¹⁶ Ibid.,



Pastor Neeta Nichols of the Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church in Dearborn, Michigan. Source: <http://cherryhillchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/neeta-nichols-200x300.jpg?189db0>.

Pamela Geller pointed out this latest exercise in Muslim grievance-mongering is an effort to impose Islamic supremacy *de facto*, and it is only one part of a much larger strategy. Even before this absurd controversy, Dearborn Public Schools had already caved to many creeping sharia demands. "Dearborn Public Schools have implemented a policy which fully accommodates student-led [Muslim] prayer in all the schools, as well as unexcused absences for students who leave early on Fridays for Jumu'ah prayers."¹⁷ At every turn, Dearborn's capitulations to Muslim students' demands have simply generated fresh demands. Not that any of this is surprising, of course, given Islam's program of domination. The entire *point* is to conquer American culture slowly from within. This slow process, often called creeping sharia, calls to mind the anecdote about the frog who does not realize he is being slowly boiled in a pot of water, because the temperature is turned up only a little at a time.

¹⁷ Pamela Geller, *Dearborn: Muslim parents angry over Easter egg hunt school flyer*, April 4, 2014 at <http://pamelageller.com/2014/04/muslim-parents-angry-easter-egg-hunt-school-flyer.html/>

In civilized countries, Muslims must operate by stealth and the actions of barbarians, slowly seeking to impose their project of domination on the host culture. In their own countries, however, Muslims can act with far fewer restraints against Christian minorities. The results are chilling. In 2005, a group of armed Muslims in the small village of Khambay, Pakistan, attacked a Christian church service.¹⁸ The attack took the life of one Christian, a man named Arshad Masih, and wounded six others. Sadly, this was not an isolated incident in Easter of that year. In Nigeria, the Islamic terrorist group Boko Haram stepped up its ongoing program of savage attacks against Christians just in time for the 2014 Easter week.¹⁹ It was in the course of this wave of attacks that the barbaric jihadists swept down on the Nigerian town Chibok and infamously kidnapped 200 girls. The United States Department of State responded by tweeting *#Bring Back Our Girls*, a statement from the Barack Hussein Obama regime that surely frightened Boko Haram and all other Islamic jihadists!

Of course, not content with their savageries in the northeastern part of Nigeria, Boko Haram militants have also carried out attacks in the nation's capital of Abuja. The group already controls half of Nigeria and parts of neighboring Chad.

As for this year's pre-Easter activities, Boko Haram has done the same as it did in 2014.²⁰ Moreover, Boko Haram, which means *Western education is a sin*, has pledged its allegiance to the terrorist Islamic State in Syria (ISIS) that controls half of Syria and

¹⁸ WND, *Muslims attack Easter service*, WND, March 30, 2005, at <http://www.wnd.com/2005/03/29589/>

¹⁹ Michael Carl, *Muslim violence surges for Easter week*. WND, April 16, 2014, at <http://www.wnd.com/2014/04/muslim-violence-surges-for-easter-week/>.

²⁰ <https://seeker401.wordpress.com/2015/03/26/boko-haram-kills-50-women-children-in-nigerian-town-and-captures-up-to-500/>

Northern Iraq.²¹ Placing these Muslim terrorist actions in perspective, we find that at least 1,233 separate attacks on Christians took place by Islamic jihadists between September 11, 2001 and as of this writing. These were not combat undertakings. These were Islamic/Muslim actions against kaffirs, particularly Christians for the mere fact that they were Christians.²²

The Holy Scripture tells us that we should expect this kind of anti-Christian hostility from those who are committed to opposing the One True God in the name of false gods. As the Psalmist says,

"Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing?"²³

Psalm 2 is a beautiful declaration of how God deals with defiance from rebellious and idolatrous peoples: He sets them at naught. As Christ said,

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven."²⁴

Today Muslims persecute Christians whenever they are able to do so, much as the pagans of the Roman Empire did during the days of the early Church. However, Easter reminds Christian believers of the hope and promise of salvation that they have in Christ. This hope and salvation is worth celebrating and defending.

²¹ *Boko Haram Pledges Allegiance to ISIS*, March 8, 2015, at <http://nypost.com/2015/03/08/boko-haram-pledges-allegiance-to-isis/>.

²² <http://thereligionofpeace.com/Pages/ChristianAttacks.htm>.

²³ Psalms 2:1.

²⁴ Saint Matthew 5: 10.

Liberal-Progressives



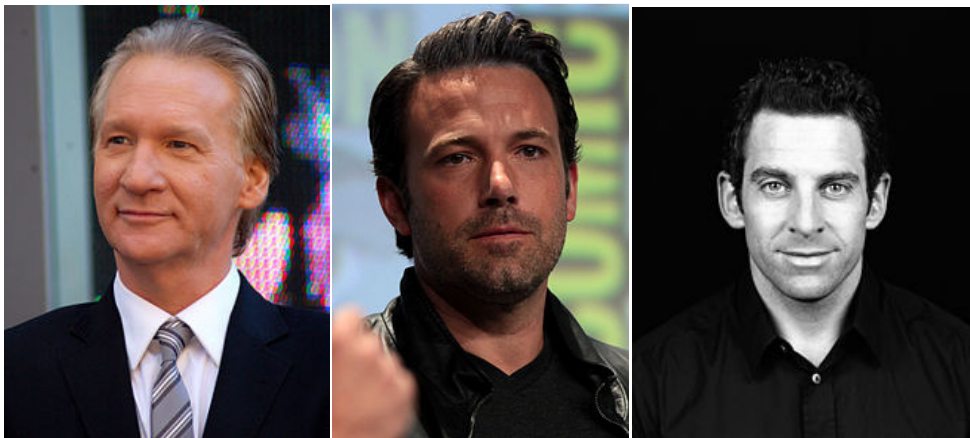
Bill O'Reilly and Laura Ingraham. Source: <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2013/03/22/bill-oreilly-and-laura-ingraham-issue-dire-warning-about-secular-progressivism-and-americas-future/>.

In addition to atheists and Muslims, liberal-progressives pose a considerable threat to America's Judeo-Christian heritage and the traditional celebration of Easter. Bill O'Reilly and Laura Ingraham say that the liberal-progressive *War on Easter*, a term coined by none other than Bill O'Reilly, is in many ways part and parcel of the godless, atheist assault on anything having to do with faith. Like the atheists, liberal-progressives will claim the mantle of *secularism* when it is conveniently in their interest to do so, which in practice means anytime they want to suppress an expression of Christian belief.²⁵

However, liberal-progressives are not all atheists, although most militant atheists are liberal-progressives of some stripe. This is why liberal-progressives are so frequently willing to whine about how Muslims are perceived in the West, as part of their broader program to impose *tolerance* and *politically correct degeneracy* on America. A

²⁵ Billy Hallowell, *Bill O'Reilly and Laura Ingraham issue dire warning about secular progressivism and America's future* in *The Blaze*, March 22, 2013 at from <http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2013/03/22/bill-oreilly-and-laura-ingraham-issue-dire-warning-about-secular-progressivism-and-americas-future/>

recent event actually demonstrates the difference between the godless, militant atheist position and the latte-sipping liberal-progressive position. In early October of 2014, the generally obnoxious Bill Maher actually did something useful for once: he had bleeding-heart actor Ben Affleck and radical, militant atheist writer Sam Harris on his television show talking about Islam.



Bill Maher

Ben Affleck

Sam Harris

Sources: http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bill_Maher; http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Affleck; http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sam_Harris.

Both Maher and Harris, to their credit, took a strong stance against the barbarism of the Muslim world, and – also to their credit – argued that liberal-progressives are inconsistent to the degree that they do not criticize Muslims. Harris, a man who has made his career attacking God and faith, still had the consistency to call out the odious and pernicious myth of Islamophobia. As if on cue, and to prove that both Harris and Maher were right for once, Affleck piped up and said that Harris's statements about Muslims were "gross and racist."²⁶

²⁶ Josh Feldman, *Maher tears into PC liberals: Where's your outrage on violent, oppressive Islam?* in *Media Ite*, September 26, 2014, at <http://www.mediaite.com/tv/maher-tears-into-pc-liberals-wheres-your-outrage-on-violent-oppressive-islam/>;

This is the liberal-progressives' program: nothing less than a full-fledged assault on the Christian, patriotic traditions of America. Anything having to do with Christianity, or anything having to do with taking pride in America and working to defend it, is anathema to liberal-progressives. What they offer instead is not necessarily atheism, but rather a crackpot, half-baked ideology of *tolerance* and *diversity*, generally packaged under those labels, but also referred to in terms of *multiculturalism*. The liberal-progressive, who may or may not be an atheist, is a fervent devotee of a whole raft of social and political positions designed to wage war upon Christianity, from gay marriage to hysterical, militant feminism to multiculturalism, and more at a whim.

As Bill O'Reilly explained, the liberal-progressive project is a secular one, at least when it does not involve enabling creeping sharia.²⁷ Their model appears to be the Scandinavian countries, long-time bastions of socialism, secularism, mass immigration, and now formidable bulwarks of creeping sharia. The reason the liberal-progressive lobby wages war on Christianity is because America is a Christian country and has always been. Destroying the power of Christianity in American society is a necessary step if a nationally secular but still *diverse* and *multicultural* ideology can be imposed. The liberal-progressives use political correctness as their way of imposing their feelings and sensitivities on other people. It is this process that is increasingly seeing all references to *Easter* replaced with *spring* in the public schools.²⁸ It is no longer

Rich Lowry, *Liberals can't handle the truth about Islam's woes* in the *New York Post*, October 7, 2014, at <http://nypost.com/2014/10/07/afflecks-affliction-liberals-mute-on-islams-woes/>.

²⁷ Hallowell, op. cit.

²⁸ Victor Medina, *When liberals attack! The War on Easter*. *Examiner.com*, April 24, 2011, at <http://www.examiner.com/article/when-liberals-attack-the-war-on-easter>.

acceptable for children to celebrate Easter in schools, because that would be too Christian! As the Holy Scripture says:

"If anyone teaches otherwise and does not consent to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ... he is proud, knowing nothing"²⁹

This is an excellent description of the liberal-progressives and their mindset. They are passionately opposed to the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. They are self-righteous and conceited in their commitment to *tolerance* of everyone except Christians. Defending the true meaning of Easter requires challenging these people and their positions and not allowing them to claim the moral high ground.

Conclusion

Atheists, Muslims, and liberal-progressives attack Easter because it is a symbol of something they thoroughly dislike. There is no *Follow the Golden Rule* in Islam. There is only Do Evil! ISIS and Boko Haram are not aberrations. Their terror activities are evil core elements of Islam practiced and propagandized by the original Muhammad. There is probably only a limited *Follow the Golden Rule* in atheism, the limitation being criticize Christianity as we atheists do. Liberal-progressives have a *Follow the Golden Rule* for liberal-progressives only. They do not care about views or persons who are not liberal-progressives, particularly Christians.

Atheists, Muslims, and Liberal-Progressives may have very little else in common, but destroying America's Christian values and heritage is certainly more than adequate to encourage them all to do some of the same things. Atheists are motivated by their

²⁹ Timothy 6:3-4

idolatry, an idolatry that constitutes self-worship. Muslims have been deceived by Satan via the messenger Muhammad and are worshiping a false god, named Allah, a pre-Arab pagan nomenclature for a moon deity. Liberal-progressives are for the most part either atheists or adherents to either New Age *spiritual* teachings, or else moderate, lukewarm versions of Christianity. In fact, all three groups have been deceived by Satan.³⁰ Because they have been deceived, all of these groups attack Christianity as the light of the One True God in a sinful, darkened world.

The most famous Bible verse is

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."³¹

It is such a commonly referenced Bible verse that it is easy to forget how powerful the truth of its proclamation is. The truth is that there is a God, contrary to the sneers and gibes of the atheists. Unlike the harsh, demanding and cruel false god of Islam, the One True God is a God of love. With God there is no place for sin. Unlike the wishy-washy *multicultural* approach to *spirituality* advocated by liberal-progressives who are not also atheists, the approach taken by the One True God in His Word is absolute, and contains both judgment and grace. As Paul declares:

"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."³²

³⁰ Saint John 8:44, 2 Corinthians 11:13-14; 2 Timothy 2:26.

³¹ Saint John 3:16.

³² Romans 6:23.

It is the good news of this gift that believers are called by God to share with the entire world, even though some will revile us for doing so. By standing firm in Christ against the forces of darkness, believers can reclaim Easter in our communities, and preach the glory of God to a fallen world.



A hovering depiction of the *The Resurrection of Christ* by the French painter Noel Coypel (1628-1707) done in 1700. Source: <http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/05/Noel-coypel-the-resurrection-of-christ-1700.jpg>. The image is in the public domain.



Rejoice Always³³

Rejoice, rejoice always,
for great things God has done.
He redeemed us and purchased our soul
with the blood of His own son.

Rejoice, rejoice always,
because Jesus washed our sins away.
He paid for them all on the cross
so we would not have to pay.

Rejoice, rejoice always,
for Jesus is the Master of everything.
He gives us peace, not as the world giveth,
that makes our heart to sing.

Rejoice, rejoice always,
when you are persecuted for Jesus name.
For great is your reward,
they treated the prophets of old the same.

Rejoice, rejoice always,
for the Lord is powerful and great.
He saved us by his mercy
so we could enter the pearly white gate.

Rejoice, rejoice always,
not that the devils are subject to you.
but because your name is written in heaven
with the believers few.



Frederick William Dame
Patriotic, Steadfast, and True
March 26, 2015

³³ http://cavaliersonly.com/rejoice_in_the_lord. The cross is from <http://megaemoji.com/news/es/most-popular-text-signs-and-symbols/input-type-cross-signs-%E2%9C%9E>.