

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

By

Dr. W. B. Disney

Culture = the social characteristics of thinking and behaving in and of a group.

The group maintains those characteristics and thinking by its influence upon itself and enlarges its adherents by its influence upon others.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

- Most cultures have based their social characteristics and behavior upon a core set of values and principles (worldviews) which are deemed to best fulfill the well-being of the individuals and the group and fit their reality perspective.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The existence of different cultures based upon differing worldviews produce tensions between the cultures and competition for adherence and assets. There become strategies, tactics, and actions for one to overcome and even eliminate the other by persuasion or force or both; by overt means or by covert means or both. That means wars and rumors of wars.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The American nation was originally greatly influenced culturally by the polarizing influence of the Biblically affected religious organizations. The Christian worldview, formed by the core set of values and principles from the Bible, was a very strong influence upon a significant portion of the population, especially the leaders who are generally considered the founding fathers.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The American culture of freedom was based upon the principle that God loved man and suffered, sacrificed, and died for every single person's benefit. This exalts each and every person. It grants him inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

This produces the notion that government's duty is to ensure those rights. The early leaders and founders of the nation were convinced that freedom and dignity afforded to the citizens of the nation could not occur outside a Biblically affected people and could not long endure without the general retention of that core set of values and principles that come from the Bible.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

**“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” John 8:32**

**“Sanctify them through thy truth: Thy word is truth.”**

**John 17:17**

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

**“Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.” John Adams**

The reason that the system that gives us liberty is very fragile and tenuous, and requires constant vigilance, is because the exercise of rights without restraint brings license, which then brings chaos and necessitates extreme governmental constraints, which then ends liberty.



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Therefore, for liberty to exist there must be adequate self-restraint in the general population.

Only the Biblical religion has successfully produced the moral bent in those affected which causes them to be suitable for the liberties transferred to them by God. The government must also be operated by persons of the same moral influence that restrains the general population. Otherwise, the government ceases to be a protector of liberties and instead, becomes oppressive of those liberties.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The motivation of the Biblical Christian religion to influence people to moral living is not terror and loss of their souls, but more of love and respect and appreciation toward God for His mercy and grace.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Thus, a person fulfilling Biblical moral principles in life acquires a sense of fulfillment and satisfaction within themselves rather than a sense of oppression and bondage. Moral decadence tends to lead to cultural and personal degradation which further leads to a sense of bondage and emptiness and cultural decline, especially loss of human dignity and liberty.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

When the Biblical moral principles and practices of a nation decay, then tyranny is just around the corner. Since those core principles and practices that produce liberty come from the Bible, then the fountainhead and primary source from which the principles and practices of liberty pour is the true church.

**“...the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” 1 Timothy 3:15**

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Only the true church is able to keep alive the core principles and practices that produce liberty. The true church was begun by Christ, charged by Christ, and empowered and guided by Christ to be the pillar and ground of truth. All other but the Biblical practices and principles stifle human social, technological, and economical development and generally lead to bondage and ruin. Thus, vibrant, Biblically functioning, New Testament churches are the most important elements of the culture of freedom.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

They are the hot spots that source the truth, sustain the truth, and spread the truth that produce and sustain the general culture of freedom.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

This culture of freedom and dignity of citizens in America, based upon Biblical principles, has set to flight the opportunity and motivation for a nation's citizens to express their incentives and ingenuity to produce and give in a way the world has never seen.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

This culture of freedom, based upon Biblical truths, has produced the technological and economic engines that have blessed the entire world and extended freedom's aspiration to the downtrodden victims of all other cultures.



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

It has undoubtedly produced the most widespread benefits to the most persons the world has ever known. In spite of the lack of perfect implementation of Biblical principles and practices, it has been so effective that its people are the most compassionate and generous toward others and have not endured comfortably the oppression of the downtrodden minorities.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

For instance, in America, the institution of slavery against the black man was overturned at great cost, mostly by the sacrifice of enormous bloodshed by the white majority. Most of human history tells the story of relentless genocide and/or cruel exploitation of minorities.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Even today, that can be seen in regions where other than Biblical Christians are in the majority, or where one ethnic group or race is in the majority over another.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

More Christian missionaries have swarmed out of this culture of liberty, preaching the gospel of Christ with a desire to set at liberty the oppressed by sin, than any other time or place in history. It becomes obvious why we, as Christians and churchmen, should be so concerned with retaining the culture of freedom that allows the expression of the gospel of grace and the virtues of living a Christ-like life.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

First, the existence and expansion of such a culture comes from the practice and principles of the Bible. Second, the practice and principles of such a culture of liberty are compatible with and enhance the success of the commission of the church. Third, it contributes to the best possible outcome for the well-being of the most, both in this life and the world to come.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

These benefits and successes of freedom in North America are not due to superior, natural resources, nor race, nor anything of superior land or attributes of people. Instead, it is due to a superior Biblically based culture, designed and blessed by God, where people of all lands and races have come and flourished in that freedom.

It can be said that America has been an exceptional nation because its people have been blessed by an exceptional God through His exceptional book.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

There are multitudes of other cultures that are at war with the Biblical culture of freedom, and they are based upon other sources of values and principles—producing other worldviews, all leading to tyranny and oppression.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

However, there are really only two primary sources of values and principles—that is, Christ and the anti-Christ. The war between them has been constant since the angelic rebellion against God.

We know it has affected man from the beginning by the influence of spirits upon mankind and the counter cultures (world system) produced by them.

**Ephesians 2:1–3**



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Satan provides the design of the world system, which produces a multitude of cultures, all intended to hinder the spread of the Christian faith and the Bible, and thus, the culture of freedom. Each different culture of anti-Christ embodies a different strategy or combination of strategies to work his defeat of Christ. Some strategies involve force. Others involve persuasions which undermine the core values and principles of the scriptures.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

It is apparent from the small amount of secular history that we have retained, and the Biblical record, that there has been such conflict, and there has been an ebb and flow of the state of affairs resulting from that conflict. We can see some of God's strategy and tactics to retain truth and Satan's strategy and tactics to destroy truth by destroying the cultures of truth and the people and documents and monuments of truth.

During the 18<sup>th</sup> century, the truth was given an opportunity to expand in North America and enlarge into a great culture of freedom.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

That culture, generally expressed “**way of life**” was won and has been defended by force of arms against those who would overthrow freedom by force of arms. In those encounters, we have been holding our own until fairly recently in our history. That slippage is the result of moral slippage on the part of American leadership.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The ultimate deciding weapon in the outcome of cultural warfare, which can affect the outcome of whether a given culture will prevail in its warfare with other cultures, is not force, but persuasion. In fact, persuasion is the only legitimate weapon the Christian culture is allowed in gaining new adherents and retaining the old.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

True Biblical principles and core values do not allow us to gain adherents by coercion. In some instances, the Bible indicates approval to expand territory or retain territory by force of arms, but it never justifies gaining adherents to faith by forceful coercion. We can legitimately gain and retain adherents to faith only by free choice through persuasion.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

One of the counter cultures to the true, Biblically-guided Christian culture has been the pseudo-Biblical culture, which has taken the Biblical identity but held anti-Biblical principles and core values. They have attempted to spread their culture by coercion and force.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

This has created a lot of confusion among persons of non-Christian cultures concerning what are the true core values and principles held by true Biblical Christians. Examples would be church-state combines involved in inquisitions and conquests with conversion by threat of torture and executions. It's doubtful that anyone has ever been converted to true Christianity by coercion since a true conversion occurs only by the exercise of free will.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Our founding fathers and early generations of our nation understood the warfare that was constantly at play to overthrow freedom and the necessity that there be a general knowledge of Biblical truth among the population in order to retain freedom.



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

They had just established a nation dominated by that culture of truth out of conflict with darkness. They knew the struggles, dangers, and the tenuousness of their accomplishment—and the value of eternal vigilance. They understood the times and what they should do.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

So, they set a powerful strategy to win any war involving persuasion. They established an educational principle that a knowledge of Christ and Biblical truths should be the center of every education. Even the great universities were initially centered on those principles.

Innumerable monuments were set up throughout the nation to extol and sustain those Biblical principles from which freedom flows. But, time marches on.

Men become preoccupied with the blessings of freedom and forget due vigilance. In our times of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we find an ironic and tragic situation in our nation.

Most of the very institutions of education that were set up by Christians to train leaders to sustain and reinforce our culture have been captured by the enemies. Their strategy has been to use our freedoms to attack us in our most vulnerable point—namely, the naïve, ill-prepared youth—through the nation's educational centers and use those centers as their own strongholds of persuasive warfare.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Not having the values and principles of the Biblically-based Christian culture, they have no scruples against deception and stealth to gain control of the critical institutions of persuasion. Upon gaining control, they unscrupulously discriminate against Christians for positions in education and in other institutions. Not according the same fairness or freedom that the Biblically based culture accorded them, they have effectively cast out all Christian expression from public discourse.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Also, those monuments of truth throughout the land are being outlawed because of anti-Christian influence through their control of government.

It has been historically true that as anti-Biblical cultures have consolidated themselves in a position of power, they have cut off the Bible from the masses and have persecuted even unto death those adhering to the true Biblical principles.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

For our forefathers, dualism was not a way of life for most influential people. (They did not express religious feelings and convictions and live one way in the church houses and another way outside of church houses.) They tended to express their religious principles and values openly and in all settings. They did not seem to feel intimidated to express their true religious feelings anywhere, especially in government and public settings.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Not so in our day, for most influential people feel intimidated to express their true religious feelings anywhere, especially in government and public settings because of the force of anti-Christian's cultural correctness of the new order.

Even though our enemies have not yet been able to overcome us by force of arms, they are weakening us in our will and ability to fight. It is apparent that we've lost much that our forefathers gave us of the founding core principles and values of our nation (things that are necessary to the retentions of our freedoms).

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The reason is that while many of us were occupied hitherto, Satan has relentlessly and successfully warred against the Godly culture from within by the strategies and tactics of persuasion and not by force of arms. Our enemies have taken advantage of our freedoms, especially of speech, and we may be losing our freedoms because we are losing the battle and war of persuasion.



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

In their persistency, the enemy has developed a large company of those who have a clear sense that there is a war, whom are well-equipped with knowledge of their principles and values, and whom have strong convictions and determination to win the war.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

They have formed strategies and tactics of persuasion, including seeking control of all assets of persuasion, seeking to capture control of the education of youth, seeking control of news and entertainment media, seeking control of government on all levels (legislative, executive, judicial, and bureaucracy), and seeking control of the great foundation and trusts, etc.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

On our side, there is a stunning and paralyzing prevalence of confusion and complacency. There are just a few who seem to sense and care that true, pitched, cultural warfare is taking place, and especially a war that, if lost, will mean the loss of their freedoms and way of life in general.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

It will be the same as if a conquering army had invaded and taken over the country. The enemy of freedom has been very successful. Even now they control most weapons of persuasion, which tips the field in their favor. They are not guided by fair play and the value of dignity of life and the Biblical moral principles of truth. Deceit, injustice, oppression, etc., are acceptable. “The end justifies the means.”

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Often, we on our side, who would war against the enemy, find our hands and mouths taped in our power of persuasion and influence to retain and expand our Christian culture from which freedom flows.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Our side has not been well taught and does not understand the issues of our times and what we ought to do. That is why there is confusion and no real will to fight among us. The pillar and ground of truth has become an inadequate fountainhead of truth to produce effective salt and light. The churches understand there is a war, but apparently not an understanding of the times, in order to know what the church ought to do. **1 Chronicles 12:32**

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The churches should have developed, foremost, whatever it took to keep their adherents as aware of the spiritual war as their forefathers were. They should have taught plainly how it was playing out in the culture and of the dire consequences that loss of the war would bring.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The church, as the fountainhead of the culture of freedom, should have thoroughly equipped their people to be disciplined men and women, enabled to understand the times with the ability and propensity to go into the community (all sectors) as participants, with the attitude to win souls, to influence the culture through living a Christian lifestyle, and to fight the cultural war by advancing the cause of Christ.



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Understanding the times includes understanding what the strategies and tactics of the enemy are! (We should not be ignorant of his devices.)

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Timely strategies and tactics should be formed to effectively counter the strategy and tactics of the enemy in order to hold or recapture control of education and indoctrination of the youth, and to regain control of all instruments of persuasion including news media, entertainment media, government (legislative, executive, judicial, and bureaucracy – from the city level through the federal level.) We are not proposing that churches get involved in politics, but people affected by the gospel and Biblical morality as American citizens of a representative government should get involved and exercise their influence.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

There should be a burning determination in every Christian to aid and abet in that cause, based upon a sense of the war and unthinkable consequences of its loss. Such attitude and conviction should be fostered into cultural attitudes at large through all those persuasive strongholds which the enemy now holds, but which we could recover in the power of Christ and in pitched determination and sacrifice.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Thus, in our discipleship process in the churches and in the educational bastions which our Christian culture still holds, as well as through any and all other processes of influence, not only should we stress the warfare and the strategies and tactics of our enemy, but we should also stress counter-strategies and tactics that our own culture should apply. Then, we must put out a strong call for soldiers of the cross to go into the mainstream for the purposes of recapturing lost strongholds and strengthening those strongholds that are left.

**Revelation 2:25, 26; 3: 1-3**

The forces of freedom must marshal the spiritual, technical, and financial resources with determination to implement those goals now and at all cost.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

Some specific goals are the following: buy up and operate ABC, CBS, NBC, the New York Times, etc.; gain leverage by placing our people into major university policy and teaching positions; do the same for the public primary and secondary schools; and, do the same for political, judicial, legislative, and bureaucratic slots. We must recover control of the great foundations and distribute to and fund great causes. Again, this is not a call for churches to do these things in the realm of state and commerce, but for Christian disciples and enlightened within the churches to do as they go forth outside the churches with all legitimate endeavors of education, trade, media, government, etc.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

We must live our lives with greater purposes than manufacturing, buying, and selling services and widgets, motivated by self-aggrandizement. We must insure that the nation under God with government of the people, by the people, and for the people shall not perish from the earth; a system that is generated by the knowledge of and application of the truths of the Bible, the Holy Word of God—the God who is the omniscient, omnipotent, omnipresent, righteous, just and loving One. He, above all others, knows exactly how things should be done for the best outcome and benefit of those He loves.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

**“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16**

**“...I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” John 10:10**

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

We must understand the gospel which changed our souls' inclination and eternal destiny. We must recover the principles of what is the Christian lifestyle and why we, as Christians, should live that lifestyle. Living that lifestyle counters the anti-Christian cultural effluvium that comes as a result of moral decay.



# Cultural Influence & Warfare

We must understand the importance of taking up arms against aggressors who would destroy our liberty and way of life by force, be willing to be a soldier of our flag, and give our lives in that cause.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

But, why should we send our people as soldiers—at-arms to fight for our freedoms and then allow our freedoms to be lost at home by neglect of our moral duties? We must be soldiers of the flag, but we must, and much more so, be soldiers of the cross (not in the mold of the violent and unbiblical crusaders, conquistadors and inquisitioners, but in the love, kindness, and goodness of Jesus Christ).

Alexis Charles Henri Clerel de Tocqueville, the French political thinker and historian best known for his *Democracy in America*, said “America is great because America is good.”

If we do not stand up as soldiers of the cross, then all the efforts and sacrifice of all those who have struggled and sacrificed, even to the point of giving their lives for the flag and her freedoms, will have struggled and sacrificed in vain. If the soldiers of the cross do not sustain the values and principles in our culture that produce liberty and which without liberty cannot be maintained, all is lost, and we decline into tyranny.

# Cultural Influence & Warfare

The American cause will become a bygone ripple in the flow of history. MAY GOD FORBID!!—and may we, as Americans, decide to use our freedoms, so preciousy bought, to preserve freedom.

**“Freedom is not free!”**