

Finding True North 3!

I. SIMPLE PRIORITIES

Pondering the essentials, the things that produce and reproduce Eden, Heaven on Earth, a holy culture and civilization.

A. Saul to Paul

Saul of Tarsus —> Paul, an apostle of Christ, by the will of God.

This Jewish zealot, who encountered Christ, was transformed, and became the busiest of all the apostles, traveling, working, talking, praying, sending out, writing letters that altogether are less than 80 pages.

[Acts 19:11](#) And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹² so that even **handkerchiefs** or **aprons** that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their **diseases left** them and the **evil spirits came out** of them.

B. True North

Truth that outlives all the heresies and paganism, all the selfishness and anger of 2000 years.

1st week:

[Col 3:1](#) "If then you have been **raised with Christ**, **seek** the things that are above, **where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.**"

2nd week:

[Col. 1:27](#) *Christ in you, the hope of glory.*

This Week:

[Col. 2:3](#) **In Christ** are hidden **all** the **treasures** of **Wisdom** and **Knowledge**.... Hebrew - Wisdom. Greek - Knowledge

II. UNITING HEAVEN and EARTH

A. The Full Riches of Complete Understanding

Col. 2:1 ESV For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those at Laodicea and for all who have not seen me face to face, ² that their **hearts** may be **encouraged**, being **knit together in love**,

Agape Love unifies our shattered hearts

to reach **all the riches** of **full assurance**

No room for doubt COMPLETE UNITY

of **understanding** and the **knowledge of God's mystery**,

Comprehension-putting the puzzle pieces together. Full consciousness¹

which is **Christ**, ³ **in whom** are hidden **all the treasures** of **wisdom** and **knowledge**.

*Christ sums up in himself all Wisdom. Christ himself is 'the mystery² of God': not just **a clue** or **a key** to it, as though it were something other than himself. Everything we might want to ask about God and his purposes can and must now be answered with reference to the crucified and risen Jesus, the Messiah.*

Jesus Christ – God's Image, God's Wisdom, God's Mystery

B. Battle for REALITY - FOR TRUE NORTH

⁴ I say this in order that no one may **delude** you with **plausible arguments**. NIV **fine-sounding** NLT **well crafted**

1. The fine sounding argument of POLITICAL CORRECTNESS

Being careful not to use words, language, behavior, or even looks that might possibly offend someone else, their group, or even their cause. Sounds like plain old common courtesy, doesn't it?

But that's not what it is –

Being squeamish about words can mean being blind to realities. —
THOMAS SOWELL. **Slide 2**

¹ ἐπίγνωσις intensive, ... a deeper and more intimate knowledge

² secret plan

PC has become so pervasive in our culture, media, universities, and political discourse that facts and reason are inconsequential compared to PC - verbal lashes that can so easily discredit or destroy anyone disagreeing with you.

Example – It's not PC to describe the destruction of an unborn child as murder. The PC phrase is “a woman's right to choose.” Marriage is a “love relationship” between any number or combination of men and women, not an archaic commitment between one husband and one wife.

PC-ness is about control. Forcing people to use concocted terms defined by the political left obscures reality and purposefully creates confusion. It also puts people on the defensive by being constantly hyper-concerned about saying the wrong thing and being branded as a horrible, ignorant person.

TYRANNY through manners Slide 3

“Political correctness” has been in the making for about 100 years as a confluence of Marxism, socialism, and secularism. In 1919, the Hungarian Marxist theoretician Georg Lukacs asked, “Who will save us from Western Civilization?”

Response – a determination to overcome traditional Christian morality that embraced patriotism, religion, and family values. A plan to demonize and deconstruct Western civilization through promotion of anti-moral behaviors and replace it with Marxism.

By the 1930s, these planners were advocating the ***breakdown of traditional family***, undermining sexual norms and ***calling for sexual liberation*** and—in the words of **Herbert Marcuse**—a society of “polymorphous perversity.” **Erich Fromm**, – masculinity and femininity were simply social constructs that could be changed.

The concept that labor, productivity, and progress were not virtuous, and that hedonistic, human sensual happiness and leisure was a greater goal.

Freud's humanistic theories were used to encourage Baby Boomers to **abandon traditional morality** and **question all authority**.

Vietnam antiwar movement and the Revolution in drug use and sexual freedoms accelerated the breakdown.

“Do your own thing,” “Make love, not war,” and “Don’t trust anyone over thirty.” “If it feels good, do it” ...

2. The well crafted argument of TOLERANCE

This movement **became aggressively political to destroy and discredit our values in the public square.** To succeed, a new weapon was unleashed: **tolerance.** It would become **the new moral imperative,** but it’s not true tolerance at all.

This emotional appeal to be open to differences was **a tactic to exploit Christianity’s kindness.**

Tolerance very quickly morphed into **acceptance** — **it became politically incorrect to claim a moral high ground,** or to believe in **right and wrong,** all who disagreed were the evil ones.

Now positioned within politics, media, the entertainment industry, and most universities, the progressive Left would use the new **“liberating tolerance”** to advance its own brand of **intolerance.**

Marcuse defines ‘**liberating tolerance**’ as **intolerance** for anything coming from traditional values and tolerance for anything coming from the new left.”

If you don’t think so, dare to say the wrong thing, and you could have your life destroyed by the PC police, even if what you are saying is demonstrably factual and true.

If you dare **call someone a sinner,** or **some behavior a sin,** you will **be labeled as a hateful bigot.**

Hate crime legislation makes some crimes worthy of more punishment because of the PC mindset, not the actual act itself.

The consequence of this **perversion of justice** is pushing for the **punishment of politically incorrect thoughts and speech,** rather than a person’s actual actions.

If you don't want to participate in providing services for homosexual marriages or to perform abortions against your will, you can be **fired, fined** and/ or **forced to undergo re-education** or **sensitivity training** to ensure you now think correctly.

Darkness or Light? By our very nature, ***we are the light of Christ shining in the world.***

How do we fulfill the imperative to be **salt** and **light**?

IV. RESPONSE: OVERFLOW & STAYING FULL

Col. 2:6 Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, **7 rooted** and **built up in him** and established in the faith, just as you were taught, **abounding in thanksgiving.**

OVERFLOW with consciousness of His LIFE inside you! Enter His gates. Go low. Be bold

⁸ See to it that **no one takes you captive** by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and **not according to Christ.**

STAND FAST IN THE LIBERTY – Don't be enslaved

⁹ For **in him** the **whole fullness of deity** dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and **you have been filled in him**, who is the **head of all rule** and **authority.** [Slide 4]

STAY FULL – He's Lord of lords! You are in Him

PUT ON CHRIST! - **Crucified & Risen** anointed King and Priest

Col. 3:14 **put on love,**

¹⁵ And let **the peace of Christ rule in your hearts,**

¹⁶ Let the **word of Christ dwell in you richly,**

¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, **do everything in the name** of the Lord Jesus,...

Ministry PRAYER FOR FULLNESS PEACE OF CHRIST

Rom 15:13 May the God of HOPE fill you with all joy and peace as you trust him, so that you overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.