

Father's Day
Novena now

University of Notre Dame
Religious Bulletin
April 4, 1932.

American Apologetics - III

Man - With a Capital M.

"Why do the adherents of these movements so continually stress two words? Those words are Light and Man (with a big M). The word Light means the Light of Nature as opposed to the Light of Christ, Reason as opposed to Revelation. The word Man means Humanity as opposed to God. Do these movements stand for something that is forming against the Church of God?.... We can no longer dismiss the humanitarian scheme as a chimera. It is something which is beginning to actualize in our very midst. Modern science is being prostituted in its service. Modern thought, as expressed in almost all de-Christianizing movements of the day, is everywhere converging towards that one idea - humanity as the supreme object of attentions and devotion: Man alone matters. The great god Man is growing beneath our eyes." - Owen Francis Dudley, The Church Unconquerable.

In other words, modernism has abolished the first three Commandments of the Decalogue; that pulls the teeth of the other seven.

Exhibit A. Bishop McConnell's survey of the Methodists in New York City shows that the majority favor sweeping aside doctrinal differences to unite with other denominations, want social service sermons, disbelieve in intercessory prayer, and favor the stand of the New York East Conference of the Methodists approving birth control, while a large minority attach no importance to the Virgin Birth of Christ, have doubts or complete disbelief in life after death, and want the Methodist Church to continue its political activities in favor of prohibition. Only 12% say they go to church out of a sense of duty to God.

Exhibit B. The Rogers Park Community Church came into existence yesterday when the secessionists from the Rogers Park Congregational Church met in a theatre and listened to a sermon by an attorney who used to be a minister. The lawyer-minister told his youthful audience that "modern religion... should be so broad as to have for its basis the idea of all humanity working together for human happiness." Instead of the old typical prayer, "Now I lay me down to sleep," he proposed the following modern one: "Now I rise me up to work, I pray the Lord no tasks I'll shirk. If I should die before the night, I pray my tasks shall be all right." -- All right. It's too bad the dear barrister-preacher never heard of the Morning Offering.

Exhibit C. "The Rev. Douglas Horton of the United church of Hyde Park yesterday discussed economic conditions during the time usually devoted to a sermon and condemned the 'essential planlessness' of the present civilization. He quoted the laws of economists as to the necessity of international planning. An open conference on the subject will be held in the church next Wednesday evening." -- Today's paper.

Take God out of man's life and man has left the selfishness of the pig without his porcine dignity, the ferocity of the she-bear without her love of offspring. -- And they still call them "churches," the places where they thus deify Man. Owen Francis Dudley goes on: "One instinctively recalls St. Paul's reference to the coming 'Man of sin... who opposeth and is lifted up above all that is called God...' Satan is no fool. 'You shall be as gods,' proved highly seductive in the Garden of Eden. It may prove equally seductive again. The Kingdom of Man, so widely urged today as the only means of achieving human happiness on earth, is the most alluring alternative to the Kingdom of God."

PRAYERS: Deceased - Gene ('30) and Wm. Kennedy's father; Horton Robarge's father; Norb Rasher's mother; Prof. Greene's sister; relatives of Chas. Monnot, Cleve Carey, Wm. Manard, Sister Bernardine, O.S.U., Jas. Simmons; friends of three other students. Ill: Ray Broderick; Dick Tobin's mother; Bill Roelne; Dean McCarthy's son Brian; a little daughter of John Montague, '23; Chas. Brucker's sister; relatives of Norb Schaller, Edw. Weinheimer, Richard Stoeckley; friends of two students. Six special intentions.

The Rev. Fr. ... deceased. (Architects)