

“If you think your shoelace is a banana peel, I won’t tell you that you are wrong.” Those were the words from a young University student that I tried to witness to. If you think that he is a fluke, he is not. He is a post-modern who believes that all truth is valid truth. He, like millions just like him, claim that two people can have two opposing worldviews and still be correct. At least Pontius Pilate asked Jesus what truth is. Today, truth is whatever you want it to be.

Karl Marx declared, *“The first battlefield is the re-writing of history.”*

Friedrich Nietzsche proclaimed, *“I am afraid we are not rid of God because we still have faith in grammar.”* The Bible asks, “And if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?” Know what you believe. Know what is true. Read this book by Brannon Howse.

Todd Friel
Host of The Way of the Master Radio

By conducting the research and writing this book, Brannon Has done a real service on behalf of Christians. This book is an instant classic, a resource that should be on the shelf of every Christian. This is the kind of book you reach for many times in a given year to assist you in answering the questions you are asked by your children, friends and co-workers.

Tim Wildmon
American Family Association and Radio Network
President

Put Your Beliefs to the Test

**82 Questions That Reveal
Whether You Think Like a Christian
or a Modern-Day Liberal**

Brannon Howse



Worldview Weekend Publishing
Collierville, Tennessee

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to my son Logan Howse. Logan, I pray that you will always test every belief and idea to make sure it is consistent with the Word of God. I pray you will apply a Biblical worldview to every area of life. Logan, be a bold and courageous leader that defends and proclaims the truth of Christianity even in the face of America's ever-increasing hostility to Biblical truth.

With love and thankfulness for you,

Dad

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FOREWORD

DAVID A. NOEBEL

In the early 1990s James Dobson and Gary Bauer wrote *Children At Risk*. They revealed how Secular Humanism had become the predominant way of thinking in most of the power centers of our society including the universities, news media and entertainment industry among others. Ten years later Princeton's Robert George approvingly quoted James Kurth who identified "The Real Clash" within Western Civilization as between the "Judeo-Christian worldview" and "those who have abandoned that worldview." Those who have abandoned that worldview included feminism, multiculturalism, gay liberation and lifestyle liberalism. Ruth Tucker more than reinforces both Dobson and George when she wrote *Walking Away From Faith* in which she says that "Humanism is alive and well" and it is Secular Humanism that is the underlying reason why Christian teens are walking away from the Christian faith. It is this type of background that makes Brannon Howse's latest work so important. Howse details the move away from our Christian worldview (that has sustained America's religious foundations) toward a naturalistic, sex-worshipping, God-denying, evolutionary affirming Secular Humanism. This worldview is warring against Christianity in all areas and Christians need to fully understand this threat to their moral and mental wellbeing if they plan to survive and thrive. In light of this ongoing battle of ideas, beliefs, and convictions for the minds and hearts of Christians everywhere Howse's work is must reading and I cannot recommend it too highly...

David A. Noebel
Summit Ministries

FOREWORD

RAY COMFORT

There is no one like Brannon Howse. He is a walking encyclopedia of knowledge—a one-man Internet of information. He is clear proof of Intelligent Design. I thank God for him, not only because he is a personal friend, but because he is a bulldog for the truth.

The Bible is clear that we are to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, strength, and *mind*. We are to contend for the faith and expose every high and lofty thing that lifts itself against the knowledge of God. Brannon has used the Worldview Weekend conferences, his website, his radio program, and his guest appearance on many radio and television programs to reach multitudes with the truth and validity of a biblical worldview for all areas of life—law, science, economics, history, family, social issues, religion, and education.

Many former skeptics and critics have been so influenced by the case for Christ presented by Brannon Howse that they have surrendered their lives to Jesus Christ and even entered full-time ministry. He recently shared with me an e-mail one young man had sent to him. It speaks so clearly of the great need for Christians to lovingly present the truth of a biblical worldview that I want to share it with you:

Brannon, I took your worldview test a few years ago and ranked as a secular humanist worldview thinker. At the time, I got mad at it and mad at your organization. I took the test again just a few weeks ago and ranked as a strong Biblical worldview thinker. I knew I'd changed vastly in recent times, but never how much. I've become a new man since those few years back, and I'm happy for it....

I'd always been a strong believer in God's existence and the salvation found in Christ. However, I realize now that I never really understood it during all of those years. Even though I accepted the Bible as truth, looking back I realize how much I twisted meaning to find what I wanted to see instead of what was there. This "liberal theology" is due a lot, I believe, to the media

and societal structure in which we live. I have seen many, many others fall victim to it, as well as false doctrines such as theistic evolutionism. Thankfully, those misinterpretations are in my past and I now stand with the real truth in hand.

As I silently observe my college contemporaries, I see that they are like I once was—having a terribly skewed interpretation of God’s Word, or in many cases, even worse—they deny the Lord outright. Watching this, along with an even greater passion for the lost, inspired me to begin studying for the ministry. I’d spent about 12 years of my life preparing for and gearing towards becoming an attorney. Now, all I want to do is spread the message of our Lord.

The rest of my life is now dedicated to telling people the truth about the universe’s Creator, the fall, and our salvation through Jesus Christ the Lord.

I pray this man’s story inspires in you a great zeal for contending, defending, and proclaiming a biblical worldview. Nothing can transform a life like a relationship with Jesus Christ.

In his book, Brannon has done a wonderful job of articulating the scriptural perspective. To know how you think (and how to fix your worldview if need be), all you have to do is take his worldview test and then read Put Your Beliefs to the Test.

It’s my prayer that God uses this book to glorify His name and to reach the lost world with the everlasting Gospel.

Ray Comfort
September, 2006

Introduction—The Worldview Test

In 2002 I developed a test on Biblical perspectives that, in its first four years online, was taken by more than 50,000 people. My goal for the test was that it would be a service to thousands like you who want to know how their worldview rates according to Biblical standards and to make improvements if needed. The Bible tells us in Romans 12:2 not to be conformed to this world but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Unfortunately, many self-professing Christians think Biblically in some ways but like a liberal or Secular Humanist in others. Our Christian calling, though, is to bring *every* thought captive to the obedience of Jesus Christ.

Hundreds of those who have taken the test e-mailed me and asked if I would provide them with a detailed response for each question from a Biblical perspective. Thus this book was born.

If you haven’t taken the test yet, I recommend that you do it before reading this book. You can find the test at www.worldview-weekend.com (click “Free Online Worldview Test”). Let me caution you, though, that many people have scored poorly and gotten rather angry and defensive. I often receive e-mails from individuals who charge that Worldview Weekend test does not so much evaluate whether you think like a Christian but like a Republican. My response is that if one political party is closer to a Biblical worldview than another, then that is fine, but our standard of right or wrong is the Bible and Biblical principles, not a political party or mere human opinion.

While the Bible does not mention abortion, the lottery, euthanasia, the federal minimum wage, inheritance tax, or many other such issues by name, it offers clear commands and principles for each of these issues. Whereas the Bible says “do not murder,” this makes it clear that abortion is wrong. We are instructed not to take advantage of the poor, to be involved in get-rich-quick-schemes, or to covet. Hence, we can say the lottery is wrong. The Bible is a reflection of the character and nature of God, and we can have a decidedly Biblical worldview on the issues of our day by “studying to show ourselves approved.” In 2 Timothy 2:15 this direction is affirmed: “Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly

dividing the word of truth. Having command of a Biblical worldview does not come easy. It requires work—and a worker who studies.

As you read this book and the Biblical principles it illuminates, please understand that what *I* think as the author of this book does not matter. What matters is what *God* has said as the author of *the Book*—the Bible. If my book steps on some people's liberal toes and they get upset, they need to take that up with the Lord, not me. I have endeavored to write about the issues of our day from the perspective of what God has written.

By the way, after you've taken the test, you will get an instant score. You'll know immediately how your worldview stacks up in the areas of law, economics, civil government, religion, social issues, sociology (family issues), education, and science. Your worldview will be rated for these eight areas as one of the following: Strong Biblical Worldview Thinker, Moderate Biblical Worldview Thinker, Secular Humanist Worldview Thinker, Socialist Worldview Thinker, or Communist/Marxist/Socialist/Secular Humanist Worldview Thinker. You will also receive an overall worldview rating. And you'll find out how your worldview compares with others in your age category and those with a similar background. I promise you'll find your personal report very interesting and informative, so please make sure you complete all of the pre-test background questions that are necessary to the final evaluation.

Finding out “what happened on your test and why” is where this book comes in. The Table of Contents lists every question on the test, the correct Biblical answer, and where in this book you'll find the explanation for the answer. Since many questions cover related topics, quite a few are grouped together and discussed in a single explanation. Where you answered Biblically, you'll find encouragement in the explanations and likely gain some confidence for defending your position. Where you answered toward the non-Biblical end of the spectrum, I hope you'll see clearly how God's Word speaks and then take joy in your new clarity in understanding and applying His Word in your life.

My hope is that, as you read, you'll hunger for ever more depth of conviction about the Biblical view of life. To that end, I've included at the end of each section additional questions to prompt further thinking about the answers revealed in the book. I also want to invite you to one or more Worldview Weekends. The schedule of cities, dates, and speakers is posted at www.worldviewweekend.com. In addition, the site features a wide range of worldview books, videos, and teaching

material for elementary ages through adult that can be purchased at the online bookstore.

One more suggestion: For even greater encouragement on your faith journey, read this book, and then take the test again. Knowing the truth will set you free to enjoy more of God.

Thank you for putting your worldview to the test.

Sincerely,
BRANNON S. HOWSE
President & Founder
Worldview Weekend

SECTION 1—LAW

1.1— If God does not exist, all things are permissible.

True. (Test question #1)

More people have died prematurely during the past 100 years due to the idea that there is no God than from all diseases, natural disasters, and non-manmade causes combined. The no-God, humanistic worldview allowed Hitler, Stalin, and Mussolini to justify the murder of millions upon millions of people. More recently, you could add Pol Pot, Ho Chi Minh, and Mao Tse Tung, but even that would not exhaust the portfolio of unrestrained destroyers of humanity. If there is no God to which man is accountable, then the only standard is survival of the fittest or “might makes right.”

Yale University history professor Donald Kagan acknowledges the consequences of a worldview that says God is dead. Often called Nihilism, this philosophy is based primarily on the writings of Friedrich Nietzsche. Such thinking leaves a society, culture, or country at the mercy of whomever has won the latest coup, revolution, or invasion. But as Kagan helps us see, the problem is that this sort of thinking is not just “over there.” He warns:

[A] vulgar form of Nihilism has a remarkable influence in our educational system through our universities. The consequences of the victory of such ideas would be enormous. If both religion and reason are removed, all that remains is will and power, where the only law is that of tooth and claw.¹

If government is the highest authority—and all rights are given to people by the government—then what the government *gives*, the government also can take away. On the other hand, if our rights are given to us by a Creator, then they are “inalienable rights” for all people, all times, and all places as stated in the U.S. Declaration of Independence. Our God-given rights cannot justly be taken from us by government because they did not come from government. To be sure, rights can be infringed upon and violated but not taken away. Or, under the right circumstances, they can be protected and encouraged.

In his 1961 inaugural address, President John F. Kennedy proclaimed, “The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state

but from the hand of God.”

Similarly, President Harry Truman at an attorney general’s conference in 1959 claimed, “If we don’t have a proper fundamental moral background, we will finally end up with a totalitarian government which does not believe in rights for anybody except the State.”

Bill Federer, historian and prolific author, connects an individual’s belief to his or her religion because the actions of the government are influenced by the religion of those in charge:

Thus it follows, that as long as a person is doing “actions,” they have thoughts preceding those actions—and that collection of thoughts is that person’s “system of belief” or “religion.” As long as the government is doing “actions,” the government has thoughts preceding those actions—and that collection of thought is the government’s “system of belief” or “religion.” So there can never really be a separation of “religion” and government—as long as the government is doing “actions” there are thoughts or beliefs underlying those actions. The ACLU is not trying to be “religion” neutral, but, in fact, it is promoting a religion—a “non-deity based” secular humanist system of belief.²

The twentieth century was the most murderous 100 years in history, and it is due largely to tyrants and dictators who did not acknowledge any authority higher than themselves. Hitler killed as many as 6 million Jews and 5 million non-Jews during his Holocaust. Stalin likewise destroyed some 20-50 million people. Mao destroyed 70 million Chinese. The false “isms” destroyed 170 million lives in the twentieth century.

Our Founding Fathers believed that as soon as Americans cease to believe in God, they will be laying the foundation for a tyrant to take control, stealing our God-given freedoms. The Founding Fathers also believed that religion is vital to law, order, the security of liberty, and even good manners. While not desiring to establish a state church, they wrote again and again about the importance of religion. They really understood there to be a God to whom they were accountable.

- 1.2— One of the Ten Commandments is, “Thou shalt not kill”; thus it stands to reason that God is opposed to war and nations going to war. *False.* (Test question #2)**
- **The Bible states that the government does not bear the**

sword in vain. Numerous verses throughout the Bible make it clear that capital punishment administered by the government, for those that have committed capital crimes, is Biblically acceptable. *True.* (Test question #3)

The death penalty and waging war are two different aspects of one moral issue on which Christians are divided. We tend to think of them separately—we execute an individual for a crime or we go to war against a hostile nation—but from a Biblical standpoint, the two issues are closely related.

A few well-meaning Christians are pacifists and do not believe God wants them in the military. In case of war, being in military service would inevitably involve directly or indirectly killing people. For that reason, the American government allows true pacifists to claim “conscientious objector” status and avoid military service. Likewise, some serious Christians object to the death penalty, no matter what crime has been committed.

While these sentiments may seem admirable, it is a Biblical fact that God gives authority to governments to administer justice by means of capital punishment for murder and other serious crimes. It is also true that God directs the fates of nations through the exercise of judgment and war on those who have committed national evils.

Genesis recounts that God used capital punishment to judge a wicked and apostate world. He killed most of the earth’s population through a mega-flood, saving only Noah and his immediate family. Years later, in a precision strike, God blasted Sodom and Gomorrah for rampantly evil lifestyles.

In Exodus, God drowned Pharaoh’s army in the Red Sea to protect the Hebrews. Yet, never one to play favorites, He later broke open the ground and swallowed some Israelites who had been worshipping an idol and engaging in orgies.

God allows for killing another human being only in the cases of self-defense and capital punishment. Exodus 22:2, for instance, reads: “If the thief is found breaking in, and he is struck so that he dies, there shall be no guilt for his bloodshed.” And in Genesis 9:6 the responsibility for bringing justice to a victim of murder is given specifically to the assailant’s fellow human beings: “Whoever sheds man’s blood, by man his blood shall be shed; for in the image of God He made man.”

Some would argue that Jesus changed the way these things should be handled, but to show that capital punishment is still appropriate today, let’s look at the New Testament perspective. Romans 13:1-4 reads:

SECTION 2—SCIENCE

- 2.1— If the research and theory of a group of scientists contradicts the Word of God, the error is with the scientists, not the Bible.** *True.* (Test question #17)
- **Strictly speaking, evolution vs. creationism is not a scientific debate but a theological debate.** *True.* (Test question #18)

In contrasting scientific studies of the last several centuries with those that have gone before, the term “modern science” is the common way to refer to what we do now. Adherents to modern processes rightly pride themselves on the “scientific method,” which has brought about every technological revolution from airplanes to microchips. The bedrock of this science is observation and repeatable experimentation. Which means that, strictly speaking, no study of origins—naturalistic, theistic, evolutionary, or creationistic—is science in this way. Since none of us observed the creation of the world and we cannot repeat that event, the clash over the question of origins is not a scientific debate but a philosophical one.

Creationists, evolutionists, theologians, and humanists all have the same evidence, and the data is more like the puzzle pieces an archaeologist assembles from an excavation than like the observations in a chemistry lab. Another way to say it is that one view, naturalistic evolution, is just as scientific or not as the other, intelligent design. The central issue is the grid through which each interprets the information.

Since evolutionists have no evidence for macro-evolution, or vertical change, from one species into another, they have arbitrarily redefined evolution to mean horizontal change, an observable phenomenon correctly qualified as “micro-evolution.” Micro-evolution happens, but it is not one species changing into another. It is the changing of characteristics within a given species. An everyday dog breeding program can change the size of a dog, but this is horizontal, not vertical, change. The breeder starts with a dog and ends up with a dog—a bigger, smarter, prettier, dog perhaps, but a dog, nonetheless, not a small horse.

Despite their claims to the contrary, evolutionists have no unassailable proof that any species any time in history, anywhere on the globe has ever changed into some other species. That’s why they

SECTION 3—ECONOMICS

3.1— The most Biblically based tax system would be one built on a flat tax where everyone pays the same percentage of their income in taxes. *True.* (Test question #24)

The Humanist Manifestos call for punishing wealthy people by requiring them to pay a higher tax rate. Although the Bible teaches that we are not to covet, when the government takes from the rich through a punitive tax system, it is not only discouraging work but is coveting—and acquiring—money to which it has no ethically legitimate claim.

Humanists generally want to redistribute wealth through some form of socialism, but their goal is not even possible. While money can be redistributed, redistribution can never provide enough money to make everyone wealthy. When the government attempts to take from the rich to give to the “poor,” they really are taking capital from businesspeople who then are unable to expand their companies, start new companies, and create additional jobs which energize the economy. They are also less able to consume products themselves.

When fewer goods and services are purchased, people at all income levels suffer. If new cars remain on the sales lot, for instance, jobs are lost from the factory assembly line down to the car dealer. When home sales slump, wages disappear for the builder, the mortgage banker, realtor, home inspector, carpenter, concrete company, bricklayers, roofing company, landscaper, carpet layer, and movers. It is a fallacy to think the government can take by force from those with wealth in order to benefit the economy.

Consider another angle on the taxation issue as well. The Lord only asks for a 10% tithe of what we earn. I submit that if God requests only 10% of our income for His work, the government has no need of 50% or more. The combination of federal taxes, state tax, sales taxes, tolls, airline tax, car tax, property tax, gasoline tax, et al, is far more than 50% if you earn an average income. However, most Americans do not realize how much they pay in taxes because many are “hidden taxes”—meaning people pay them without recognizing them as taxes (such as an amount figured into the purchase price of a product).

Notice, too, that God did not set up a progressive tithing system where the more you make, the larger the percentage you tithe. David Barton offers this observation from Scripture:

SECTION 4—EDUCATION

- 4.1— Science, history, literature and other academic studies can be taught without a religious or philosophical foundation.** *False.* (Test question #33)
- **Biblically-minded Christians should look at issues as falling into one of two categories: the secular and the sacred.** *False.* (Test question #34)

Random House Unabridged Dictionary of the English Language defines *religion* as “a set of beliefs.” *Webster’s New World Dictionary* defines *religion* as “a system of belief.” The word *belief* is defined as opinions and “thoughts upon which people base their actions.” Since an individual’s worldview is the foundation of his or her values, and these values form the basis for behavior, it is clear that if you are alive and have a collection of beliefs, then you have a religion, and therefore *all* issues and *all* subjects are in some way religious, or sacred.

A few years ago I had a phone conversation with a man who was the acting president of a well-known religious organization. This man told me that he believed abortion is a moral and political issue but not a spiritual one. I was so amazed at his comment that I repeated what he said and asked if I had heard him correctly. This acting president of a Christian organization confirmed that I had heard him correctly. Fortunately, due to other comments made publicly that were in the same vein as his remarks to me, this gentleman was not confirmed by his peers as the official president of this religious association.

This gentleman’s belief that abortion is not a spiritual issue but a moral and political position is sadly typical of what many in today’s evangelical churches think. By contrast, I respect the honesty and intellectual integrity of many self-professing liberals and humanists who openly admit that they hold to certain ideas, beliefs, values, and ethics based upon a religious worldview. Too often, though, humanists deny a religious worldview as the foundation of their science, ethics, morals, values, economics, and law—while advocating a religion-free school system, government, and culture. The reality is that they simply want to replace America’s founding religious belief system—which has given us the longest running constitutional republic in the history of the world—with a religious system that has been the failed foundation of the former Soviet Union, China, Cuba, and North Korea.

Many who once called themselves “religious humanists” are

SECTION 5—FAMILY

5.1— Individual freedoms would be advanced and protected through a one-world government under the authority of the United Nations. *False.* (Test question #43)

The Bible and the Gospel of Jesus Christ are based upon moral absolutes. As a result, many individuals and organizations—including the United Nations—go to great lengths to suppress this truth for which they have such hatred. In 1995, for instance, the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization prepared the International Declaration of Principles on Tolerance that stated: “Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world’s cultures...it is not only a moral duty, it is also a political and legal requirement.”

There is actually a desire by the United Nations to make laws enforcing “tolerance.” That means if you were charged with being intolerant, you could be found guilty of a crime punishable by the state. The UN document goes on to say:

- “Intolerance is a global threat.”
- “Tolerance involves the rejection of dogmatism, and absolutism.”
- “Tolerance means that one’s views are not to be imposed on others.”

Note the use of the word “impose.” If the UN ever accomplishes its goal of making tolerance a legal standard, sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ could become illegal. In fact, many nations have already adopted this UN policy.

“Protecting children” becomes another doorway for UN incursion on individual freedoms. As a former board member of the radically liberal Children’s Defense Fund, now Senator Hillary Clinton actively supports the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. While the idea of “children’s rights” may sound nice, this is just one more effort by liberal agents of change to demean and negate traditional family values. In November 1973, *The Harvard Educational Review* published then Hillary Rodham’s radical views of children’s

SECTION 6—RELIGION

6.1— Adam and Eve were mythical characters who never really lived. *False.* (Test question #48)

Skeptics commonly complain that so many bad things happen in the world that it must be that God does not care. Often the “bad things” are used as an argument for atheism.

While there is great evil in the world, people who blame it on God have it backwards. None of the bad is God’s fault. It is *our* fault. *People* do the bad things, and it started with the first two people, Adam and Eve. They are clearly described in the Bible as historical characters whose actions had consequences for all people who have come after them. The account of what happened follows directly from the creation narrative and leads seamlessly into the chronological record that follows.

To see why evil is really our fault, you have to pay attention to what happened when Adam and Eve committed the first sin. Eve bought the lie of Satan that she could become like God Himself by eating the fruit God had told Adam and Eve not to eat. It set people up to think they could be in charge of everything—both good and evil.

Adam and Eve now had to suffer the consequences of their sin. The consequence was based straightforwardly on their choice to “do things their own way,” not God’s. This is how what we know as sin entered into the world. You could say that because of Adam and Eve, all humanity “wanted it this way.” And so came death, disease, suffering, and all sorts of evil. God had planned to provide everything they needed, but because Adam and Eve decided they didn’t want God around, they were forced to work hard to have food to eat, shelter, and clothes. Adam and Eve’s sin caused all of us to miss out on God’s plan that there would never have to be such evil in the world. Evil has its roots in the earliest history of mankind.

6.2— Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross but was *not* physically raised from the dead.

False. (Test question #49)

Roman executioners were very good at their job—too good to overlook a major point like leaving a capital criminal alive after being crucified. They were so brutally thorough, in fact, that it was common

SECTION 7—SOCIAL ISSUES

7.1— Ideas have consequences. *True.* (Test question #67)

The results that derive from a given set of ideas in any area of life are demonstrable. This pattern is exceptionally evident, though, in how the realm of ideas—in this case, educational and political philosophy—have wrought havoc in our public schools. Let me explain by telling several stories.

In the early 1990s, I met two education leaders from the former Soviet Union. They had come to the United States to ask American Christian Schools International, America's largest association of Christian schools, to train Russian teachers and students in Biblical worldview principles. As a result, ACSI sent hundreds of Christian schoolteachers and administrators, as well as thousands of Christian worldview books, to the former Soviet Union.

Along with many friends and colleagues, I told the one-time Soviet officials that they now had more religious freedom in their schools than we do in America. After hearing the facts about our situation, they were not only shocked but fearful for our country. They desperately wanted us to understand that America is following the path of Secular Humanism that had led their nation into godlessness and communism.

An element of their fear was legitimately self-serving. These Russian leaders were afraid that if America does not reject Secular Humanism and socialist ideals, the former Soviets would no longer have a strong, free, and virtuous America to assist them in the years to come as they seek to secure their freedoms and rebuild from the destruction of atheism and communism.

In sharing with our Russian friends how the Secular Humanist worldview is taught in our schools and how religious liberties are being stripped from American culture, we explained that many years ago humanistic liberals strategized about how to inculcate their worldview into the hearts and minds of as many Americans as possible. Their primary target became school children because of the long-term effect of changing the thinking of young people.

Just to give you a taste of how humanism and its spinoff ideas inevitably bring about the persecution of anyone who does not acquiesce to that viewpoint, let me highlight another especially significant case.

SECTION 8—HISTORY

- 8.1— The Founding Fathers had no Biblical reason in mind when they made America a constitutional republic instead of a pure democracy. *False.* (Test question #77)**
- **The more a government resembles a pure democracy the more disorder and confusion occur.**
True. (Test question #78)
 - **The original intent of our Founding Fathers was to create a form of government that was free to set its own policy only if God had not already ruled in that area. Our Founders believed that manmade laws were not to contradict the laws of God. *True.* (Test question #79)**

The Founders lived at a time when debating social philosophy was especially fashionable among intellectuals, and they could have chosen from a wide range of governmental forms in creating the American Constitution. However, they deliberately chose a system of government based on a standard that never changes even if—and particularly if—it is not consistent with what a deviant majority of the populace might desire.

Most Americans believe the United States originated as and now is a democracy, yet we are not. Our country was founded very intentionally as a constitutional republic. There are democratic elements in our system, to be sure, but the Founding Fathers were extremely determined that we not be a pure democracy. The pledge of allegiance states, “and to the republic for which it stands....” Yet, few Americans understand the critical distinctions between a democracy and a constitutional republic.

In his book *The Church at the End of the 20th Century*, the late Christian philosopher Francis Schaeffer called democracy “the dictatorship of the 51 percent.”

U.S. War Department Training Manual No. 2000-25 explains in its definition of democracy why this is so:

Democracy: A government of the masses. Authority derived through mass meeting or any other form of “direct” expression. Results in mobocracy [mob rule]. Attitude toward property is communistic—negating property rights. Attitude toward law is that the will of the