

THE WORSHIP OF “TIME”

Man has been described as a “worshipping animal”. Wherever he has left the ashes of his campfire he has also left some evidence of his belief in the “supernatural”. Each generation in each society has done this. When the wise men of the village, for example, could not explain thunder, they concluded that there must be a “Thunder God”. Over a period of time mankind conceived literally thousands of gods. Anything that could not be understood or explained was attributed to a “god”. When archeologists probe through the debris of some ancient civilization they will inevitably find the remains of an altar, image, or idol that these primitive people worshiped.

If the Lord should tarry, future generations will look at us with the same condescending patronage that we have had toward others. The ancient man who fashioned an idol out of stone was just as proud of his theory as the modern scientist is of his. Neither, however, has all the answers. It is impossible for the finite mind to understand or explain that which is infinite.

So the “modern” scientist has conceived the “god of time”. Anything that he or she cannot understand or explain is attributed to “time”. If a million years is not enough, then try a billion. If a billion years is insufficient, then pick a number large enough to pacify all doubts. The worship of time is no more scientific than the worship of a totem pole. Please note how offensive it is to question either “time” or the “totem pole” in the presence of devout worshipers.

The late Dr. Henry M. Morris wrote a book called “Scientific Creationism”. In this book he presented a wide variety of scientific evidence for a young earth. He wrote analytically about radiometric dating, the mineral content of the oceans, the decay of the earth’s magnetic field, the antiquity of man, etc. Perhaps the depth of cosmic dust is the most easily understood example. Hans Pettersson, writing in the *Scientific American*, concluded that the earth receives 14 million tons of cosmic dust each year. If the earth is a mere 5 billion years old, we should have a layer of cosmic dust all over the world approximately 182 feet thick. Some will remember the concern of scientists about our ability to land and take off from the moon for fear of deep dust. If the moon has been there 5 billion years it too should be wrapped in this thick blanket of cosmic dust. As you know, it is not! To postulate that the earth and the moon might be “young”, however, is considered as heresy by those who worship time. To deprive these modern “scientists” of time is to deny their god. Time, you see, is their explanation for the complexities of the universe.

One of the most tragic aspects of time worship, however, involves its utter futility. It cannot comfort the infant, guide the youth, or dry the tears of the aged and infirm. It has never inspired the building of a hospital or an orphanage. It has never stopped a war or reconciled enemies. It cannot tell the inquiring mind where it came from, what it is doing here, or where it is going. It has no blueprints for either home or society. It leaves its most ardent and enthusiastic worshipers bewildered and afraid when they approach the valley of shadows. It does not afford a single ray of hope for those who die. It ultimately deprives life of rules and values and offers no incentive to replace cruelty and aggression with compassion and love.

The god of time is blind, irrational, and uncompassionate. It is without a doubt the most illogical and deficient “deity” ever conceived. It deprecates the power and love and chains its worshipers in dungeons of deep despair.

A far more rational religion is to believe in an All Powerful God who is both loving and compassionate. He not only created the vast universe and gave each star a name, He also created you and me. He cares about us like a Father cares for His children. In order that we might accurately understand His nature He condescended to become a man. While clothed in human flesh he fed the multitudes, cleansed the lepers, healed the sick, and showed compassion for those who were lonely and afraid. The ultimate expression of His love, of course, was demonstrated at Calvary. After three days in the tomb He arose from the dead and some day He is coming again. At that “time” His angel will stand on the earth and the sea, raise his right hand to heaven, and declare that “time” shall be no more. At that “time” there will be no “time” to change. Now is the “time” to worship the True God for “today is the day of salvation”