

From the Pastor



In our human history we have always tried to build Paradise on earth once we lost it due to Adam and Eve's original sin. History repeats itself in great tyrants hoping that their ideas are better than those carved by God. But Paradise has never come, and God is always there, gradually fulfilling His Divine Plan. If we see things from the perspective of how our history develops into the fulfillment of times then it can fill us with wisdom, interior peace, and a sense of purpose, because things make sense. But do we look at things this way?

The advances of modern science and technology tend to make us forget about this. Pleasures and power are so easy to find in our modern world that we can subconsciously start thinking again that maybe we can create heaven on earth, skipping over God's plan for history. St. Paul always remembered that "the world in its present form is passing away." (1 Cor 7:31)

The attempt to bypass God's plan for human history and create heaven on earth was at the root of the most hideous crimes of the twentieth century. Nazi fascism rejected Christ as the Lord of history and tried to put the nationalism in his place. It led to a World War, the atomic bomb, and the Holocaust. Marxist Communism rejected Christ as the Lord of history and tried to put human work in its place. It led to a multi-national Soviet empire of state oppression, the mass starvation of 20 million peasants under Stalinist Russia, and the death of another 20 million under Mao Zedung's "Great Leap Forward" in China.

Secular humanism has rejected Christ as the Lord of history and is trying to put radical individualism in its place. This has recently led to the moral recession that has fed the world's economic recession. And it has already led to a global resurgence of child slavery and human trafficking, not to mention the death of more than 45 million unborn babies through legalized abortion.

When we consider all these horrors, we can feel discouraged. But discouragement is not the right answer, because "the world in its present form is passing away." Christ is building his Kingdom even in the midst of the world's evils. He is giving meaning and hope to the drama of human history. And when we put our trust in Him and follow Him, we become part of the everlasting solution, not the passing problem.

+ *Father Roger*