

# The Culture

By Scott Huckaby  
3/3/2024



**For Discussion:** Victor Davis Hanson: A Culture In Collapse (zerohedge.com, 1/9/2024)

## Victor Davis Hanson: A Culture In Collapse

The signs are everywhere and cover the gamut of politics, the economy, education, social life, popular culture, foreign policy, and the military. These symptoms of decay share common themes.

<https://www.zerohedge.com/political/victor-davis-hanson-culture-collapse>

## What is significant about the decay of our culture?

The Culture is an important indicator of the collective spiritual condition of people. 2 Timothy 3:1-7 addresses degenerating society in the "last days."

- A culture war is raging around us. This provides Christians with great opportunities to help others see what the Bible says about the issues.

## What common themes are seen in the decay of our culture?

- Our descent is self-induced; it is not a symptom of a foreign attack or subterfuge.
- Our erosion is not the result of poverty and want, but of leisure and excess.
- We are not suffering from existential crises of famine, plague, or the collapse of infrastructure.
- Our decay is not the result of conservative traditions but is exclusively due to progressivism.
- Ultimately, our decay is due to the spiritual problem of turning away from God.

## What is progressivism?

Progressivism is the support for or advocacy of social reform. This sounds good because we surely need social reform but when this is taking us away from God, it is not the right direction!

## What trend do we see for our financial culture?

Its implosion seems to be imminent; only God in His mercy has kept it from completely failing.

- National debt: \$34T
- Inflation: 0 – 5.5%
- Taxes: ~50% of income in many places
- Petro Dollar under assault by BRICS
- Crisis: CBDC ready to be implemented
- Socialism: Own nothing, be happy (Great Taking)

## What is the prophetic significance of this trend?

- The third seal reflects terrible inflation (Rev 6:5-6)
- Tribulation economy will be socialist (Dan 11:24)
- The Antichrist will use the economy to control people through the mark of the Beast (Rev 13:17)

If we are close to the Tribulation, we will see the economic stage being set for it as birth pangs.

## What trends do we see in our military culture?

Americans have lost deterrence abroad.

- Confusion over why the USA fled Afghanistan
- Why did we allow a Chinese spy balloon over USA?
- Why was our reaction to the Ukraine invasion dependent on the magnitude of Putin's offensive?
- Why do Iranian proxies attack U.S. bases & ships in the Red Sea, apparently without fear of reprisal?
- Why is military recruitment & promotions based on race and sexual orientation rather than merit?
- Why did the top brass go after "insurrectionist" white males only to discover that none existed?
- Why did they drive out thousands requiring COVID vaccinations ignoring naturally acquired immunity?
- Why has military recruitment cratered?

## Do the trends in the US military make war more or less likely?

- Would Hamas have slaughtered Israelis on October 7 if the USA backed Israel with a strong military?
- What does this say about our own vulnerability to attack?

### **What is the prophetic significance of this trend?**

War is much more likely...

Matthew 24:6 – *you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet.*

Increasing frequency of wars and even the potential for wars is a birth pang of the Lord's return.

### **Why should we not be troubled by the birth pangs of wars and rumors of wars?**

What is "the end"? In context, this has to be a reference to the Tribulation. Despite Matthew 24 primarily being a message to Israel, this is also encouraging to God's people during the Church Age.

- "the end" could well have dual application to the times of the Tribulation and thus also refer to the Lord's return to earth when the opportunity to accept or reject Jesus as Savior will be over.

### **What trends do we see among the races?**

- Why with racial parity in income and racial intermarriage common, do we revert to tribalism?
- How is racially segregated dorms, safe spaces, graduations, and affirmative action not racist?
- Why lump together diverse ethnicities, classes, and values dubbing them "white," to smear them?
- When did race as the chief factor in our identities?
- When in history has a nation's "diversity" ever been preferable to its "unity"?

### **What is the prophetic significance of this trend?**

Increasing racial conflict is a birth pang...

Matthew 24:7 – *For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.*

The Greek word for "nation is "ethnos".

### **What trends do we see among the sexes?**

- How did the previously rare medical malady of gender dysphoria become a major civil rights issue?
- How did we allow men pretending to be women destroy female athletics?
- How is it now required to play along with the sexual fantasies of deviants?
- Why is it now acceptable to groom children to be transgender and keep is from their parents?
- Why is it OK for social media to shadow-ban posts they don't like and another private business refusing to bake a gay wedding cake is not?
- Why is the government now sanctioning child abuse?

### **What is the prophetic significance of this trend?**

The transgender philosophy is irrational and ironic that it is usually held by the "follow-the-science" crowd. It is a manifestation of the third phase of God giving people over to themselves...

Romans 1:28 – *And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting*

Transgenderism is also a manifestation of the spirit of the antichrist elevating the authority of the State over parents:

Daniel 7:25 – *He shall... intend to change times and law*

As Transgender philosophy becomes more pervasive in society abusing and mutilating children, it is sure to trigger God's wrath...

Matthew 18:6 – *whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea*

### **What trends do we see in the justice arena?**

- Massive looting is now largely exempt from justice in our major blue-state cities.
- Why even have security guards if the apprehension of thieves might seem racist?
- Different responses between the Jan 6, BLM & pro-Hamas riots indicate we have two sets of laws, based on ideology, race, and party affiliation.
- How have we allowed George-Soros-subsidized prosecutors to destroy civil society?
- George Floyd's death became proof of systemic police racism to justify defunding the police.
- How can a presidential candidate be removed from the ballot to save democracy based on an accusation that has never been proven?

### **What is the prophetic significance of this trend?**

Growing lawlessness is a birth pang...

Matthew 24:12 – *And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold.*

Indeed, the Antichrist is called the Lawless One who will be revealed after the Restraint ceases to curb lawlessness (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8).

### **What trends do we see in higher education?**

- Harvard was the world's most preeminent university, no longer due to president Claudine Gay.
- How did Ivy League degrees become mostly certifications of ideological and woke orthodoxy?
- Why did our elite universities destroy meritocracy, abolish SAT requirements, and require DEI oaths.

### **What is the prophetic significance of this trend?**

This is what happens when people turn away from God valuing human wisdom over biblical wisdom...

Romans 1:22-23 – *Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.*

People are made to worship God; if they don't, they will worship idols whether they realize it or not. Science is a huge idol in our day...

1 Timothy 6:20-21 (KJV) – *keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: Which some professing have erred concerning the faith.*

**Scientism** – The excessive belief in the power of scientific knowledge and techniques

### **What trend do we see in the sovereignty of the USA?**

- We have open borders, ~10M illegal aliens have entered the USA under President Biden; why?
- We yield to the authority of global entities such as the UN, WEF, WHO, etc. embracing policies like the Green New Deal (right out of Agenda 2030)

### **Why do the global visionaries want open borders?**

If there is to be a global government, you can't have national borders that mean anything.

- To make the USA less of a superpower due to causing economic hardship
- To dilute the Christian culture of the USA
- To bring in evil-doers who will cause a crisis so that martial law may be imposed

### **What is the prophetic significance of this trend?**

Yielding sovereignty to the world community of nations is what gives the Antichrist his power...

Revelation 17:12-13 – *The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.*

The mentality here is to undo the national distinctions that emerged due to the Tower of Babel; it is anti-God at its core:

Psalms 2:2-3 – *The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us."*

Among the bonds they seek to cast away are national borders...

Acts 17:26 – *He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth,*

*and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings*

### **What other indications of cultural decay are we seeing?**

- The devaluation of marriage
- Truth is relative (postmodernism)
- People easily offended by microaggressions, trigger words, political incorrectness, etc.

2 Timothy 3:1-7 – *in the last days perilous times will come: <sup>2</sup>For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, <sup>3</sup>unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, <sup>4</sup>traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup>having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! <sup>6</sup>For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, <sup>7</sup>always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*

### **What applications do we see from this discussion?**

- God is in control; things are falling into place.
- The decay of the culture are signs of Jesus' soon return!