



Christian Citizenship

“You are the salt of the earth . . . You are the light of the world” (Mt. 5:13-16). One way to be salty and let our light shine is by being good citizens on earth. Our vocation as citizens of both the secular kingdom and God’s kingdom gives us the responsibility to proclaim God’s Word and care for our neighbors. We are called to engage the “public square” with our message of Christ’s mercy for all. Please pray for God’s will to be done... in Jesus’ name.

The Dark Side of AI: Transhumanism and the War Against Humanity

AI technologies are now shaping the world in which we live. All technology, however, carries the potential for both good and evil. Academy of Ideas has produced a video that explores the darker side of AI. If the dreams of AI enthusiasts are realized, explains the video, “the outcome could be the extinction of humanity or a nightmarish technological dystopia. For riding the wave of AI’s advancement is the fanatical ideology of transhumanism, which is embraced by many in the upper echelons of corporate, political and scientific power. Transhumanism promotes integrating technology into the brains and bodies of all humans.”

In his book, *Dark Aeon: Transhumanism and the War Against Humanity*, Joe Allen explains, “Transhumanism is the great merger of humankind with the machine. At this state in history, it consists of billions using smartphones. Going forward, we’ll be hardwiring our brains to artificial intelligence systems. Ultimately, transhumanism is a spiritual orientation—not toward the transcendent Creator, but rather toward the created Machine.”

Joe Allen writes, “In the same way an automated calculator can out-compete any human in a Math Bowl, a sufficiently advanced AI will blow humans away at calculation, persuasion, deception, replication, machine control, resource acquisition, institutional organization, military strategy, and pretty much any task it’s trained to perform in the ‘digital ecosystem’ . . . As AIs become even more complex and nondeterministic than they already are, they’ll be able to operate across the internet with greater autonomy. If allowed to improve their own computer code, these AIs could replicate and mutate like bacteria in an irradiated Petri dish. Once one learns a new skill, countless more would learn

instantly.” Ben Goertzel, a lead developer at OpenCog, whose software powers the world-famous robot Sophia, wrote that “. . . one thing that does seem likely, is that once machines smarter than humans are around, the era of human beings dominating the Earth will be gone.” (Excerpted from the transcript of *The Dark Side of AI: Transhumanism and the War Against Humanity*, Academy of Ideas, February 17, 2025.)

What can we do? Watch the 25-minute video, *The Darkside of AI*, provided free from Academy of Ideas. (Academy of Ideas is subscription only; however, they offer certain timely topics free via Youtube. You can watch *The Dark Side of AI* here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8lQbeMLgt6k>)

Invite others to watch and then discuss the video. Ask: In what ways is the Church prepared for the warp speed of AI and transhumanism? How do we prepare our children? After God’s Word, what resources do we have for use in preparation? Read *Dark Aeon: Transhumanism and the War Against Humanity* by Joe Allen. If you are a Tucker Carlson Network subscriber, listen to the interview with Ray Dalio about “America’s Civil War” and his predictions concerning AI.

(<https://tucker Carlson.com/tucker-show-ray-dalio>)

Dalio reminds us of the importance of human community. He may or may not be speaking to the Church, the Body of Christ, but we can and must.

Please pray for a faithful Church in this present world... in Jesus’ name.

Totalitarian Novels

Totalitarian novels depict regimes that exert complete and pervasive control over the lives of their subjects. In their novels, George Orwell, Aldous Huxley, Arthur Koestler, and C.S. Lewis imagine the terrible possibilities of unchecked modern tyranny. Christian citizens are encouraged to join Larry P. Arnn, president of Hillsdale College, and students of Hillsdale as they explore *1984*, *Brave New World*, *Darkness at Noon*, and *That Hideous Strength* during an eight-lesson, 4-1/2-hour length course offered by Hillsdale free of charge. The course includes four lectures and four conversations, each about 30 minutes long. It is structured with one lecture about each book followed

by a conversation between Dr. Arnn and the students about themes from that book. Study guides are provided to supplement each lecture. Lessons in the course are 1) 1984: Pain, 2) 1984 History and Language, 3) Brave New World: Pleasure, 4) Brave New World: Drugs and Genetics, 5) Darkness at Noon: Regret, 6) Darkness at Noon: Loyalty and Confession, 7) That Hideous Strength: Faith, and 8) That Hideous Strength: Science and Bureaucracy.

What can we do? Enroll in "Totalitarian Novels" to better understand the danger of totalitarian regimes and to find the courage to resist tyranny. Visit www.online.hillsdale.edu/courses/promo/totalitarian-novels. You can engage in conversations with other students on the dedicated discussion board or take the course at your own pace and in the manner that best fits your schedule.

Please pray for men and women who desire to serve, not rule... in Jesus' name.

IVF: A Victory for Families or a Commodification of Human Life?

President Trump's executive order aimed at expanding access to in vitro fertilization (IVF) is framed as a pro-family policy. The order states: "As a Nation, our public policy must make it easier for loving and longing mothers and fathers to have children." In line with this commitment, the administration has vowed to ease restrictions on IVF. However, while the order acknowledges that "implementation of these policies remains subject to legislative and budgetary considerations," Trump's actions are far outside his constitutional bounds (and those of Congress as well). The U.S. Constitution does not grant the federal government authority over healthcare and medical treatments. This includes reproductive technologies like IVF. Beyond constitutional considerations, the government-promoted expansion of IVF raises profound moral and bioethical concerns.

IVF replaces natural conception with a controlled medical process that requires hormonal stimulation, surgical egg retrieval, and lab-based fertilization. Women undergo ovarian hyperstimulation, receiving hormone injections to produce 10-15 eggs instead of the one or two released during natural ovulation. Once mature, doctors surgically retrieve the eggs from the sedated mother. Fertilization occurs in a lab, embryos are monitored for 3-7 days, and a select few transferred to the mother's uterus.

What are the concerns? **1)** IVF *manufactures* life. Human embryos are treated as disposable biological material. To increase success rates, far more embryos are created than will ever be used. More than one million frozen eggs and embryos are stored in U.S. fertility clinics each year. IVF produces far more embryos than will ever be born. An estimated 93 percent of all IVF embryos will never make it to birth. They will be discarded, abandoned, or used for experimentation. **2)** Egg donation in the U.S. has become a highly commercialized, selective industry that targets financially vulnerable women, but also seeks high-achieving students from elite universities, medical trainees, and women with specific ethnic backgrounds, offering "hundreds of thousands of dollars per donation cycle." This market-driven approach prioritizes desirable genetic traits. That reinforces eugenic undertones as the industry assigns higher value to certain eggs over others. Meanwhile, donors face significant health risks, including ovarian hyperstimulation syndrome (OHSS), which can cause severe pain, organ damage, and even death. Women are left uninformed about these possible consequences because long-term research on egg-donor health remains inadequate. Additionally, the U.S. fertility industry lacks oversight but enjoys government support. This allows profit-drive selection criteria to determine the value of human eggs. **3)** The cornerstone of IVF is surrogacy, an industry that turns pregnancy into a contract, reducing motherhood to a commercial service rather than a deep, human bond. **4)** IVF, which began as a medical solution for infertility, has opened the new frontier of selective reproduction. Parents can now screen for intelligence, disease resistance, and even personality traits. Among those funding selective reproduction are Peter Thiel and OpenAI's Sam Altman who pour funds into fertility startups like Orchid Health and Gattaca Genomics which openly market genetic selection. (Excerpted from "Trump's IVF Expansion: A Victory for Families or a Commodification of Life" by Veronika Kyrylenko, *New American*, February 20, 2025)

What can we do? Pay attention. Do our homework. Ask questions. Seventy percent of Americans currently favor IVF, but how many of us grasp its full implications? Is IVF only about helping couples to conceive? Will we engineer future generations based on arbitrary genetic preferences? How does history warn against pursuing genetic perfection?

Please pray that God's will, not man's, be done... in Jesus' name.

