



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.

Executive Order Advancing Biotechnology & Biomanufacturing

On September 12, 2022, President Biden issued an *Executive Order on Advancing Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Innovation for a Sustainable, Safe, and Secure American Bioeconomy*. You can read the entire EO here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2022/09/12/executive-order-on-advancing-biotechnology-and-biomanufacturing-innovation-for-a-sustainable-safe-and-secure-american-bioeconomy/>

The EO begins: “It is the policy of my Administration to coordinate a whole-of-government approach to advance biotechnology and biomanufacturing towards innovative solutions in health, climate change, energy, food security, agriculture, supply chain resilience, and national and economic security.” The EO explains that biotech and such would be used to “develop genetic engineering technologies and techniques to be able to write circuitry for cells and predictably program biology in the same way in which we write software and program computers; unlock the power of biological data, including through computing tools and artificial intelligence (AI); and advance the science of scale-up production while reducing the obstacles for commercialization so that innovative technologies and products can reach markets faster.”

In December of 2017, Moderna’s former chief medical officer, Tal Zaks, told the world, “We have hacked the software of life.” He explained that mRNA gene-editing biotechnology would be incorporated into vaccines to treat and prevent all manner of illnesses.

This EO would affect Health and Human Services, the National Science Foundation, Homeland Security, and the Departments of Energy, Agriculture, Commerce,

and Defense. (Sources: Leo Hohmann, *World Net Daily*, *Technocracy News and Trends*.)

What can we do? First, read this Executive Order for yourself. Take note of the agencies, industries, academia, government and non-government organizations that will be involved. Carefully study the definitions included at the end of the EO, i.e. “life sciences.” Next, be better informed. Recommended resources include *World Net Daily* (“Biden launches new executive order that should give Americans ‘chills,’ 9-13-22), *LeoHohmann.com* (“Yuval Noah Harari spills the beans: ‘We just don’t need the vast majority of the population’” and “Biden’s Executive Order Designed to Release Transhumanist Hell on America”), and *Technocracy News and Trends* with Patrick Wood. Dialogue with members of our families and congregations.

Please pray that we, the Body of Christ, continue to stand on the Word of God the Creator and Redeemer of all human life... in Jesus’ name.

Transhumanism: A Religion for Post-Modern Times

Wesley Smith is Senior Fellow at Discovery Institute’s Center on Human Exceptionalism. He has written much about life issues such as abortion and euthanasia. The Christian needs to hear what Smith has to say following the Executive Order On Advancing Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Innovation for a Sustainable, Safe, and Secure American Bioeconomy.

He writes, “We are witnessing the birth of a new faith. . . . [I]n contrast to the orthodox Christian, Judaic, and Islamic certainty that human beings are made up of both material body and immaterial soul—and that both matter—adherents of the new faith understand that we have a body, but what really counts is *mind*, which is ultimately reducible to mere chemical and electrical exchanges. . . . [T]he new faith insists that the physical is all that has been, is, or ever will be. Such thinking leads to nihilism. . . . Where traditional theism promises personal salvation, the new faith offers the prospect of rescue via radical life-extension attained by

technological applications—a postmodern twist, if you will, on faith's promise of eternal life. This new religion is known as 'transhumanism.'"

Smith continues, "Transhumanism makes two core promises. First, humans will soon acquire heightened capacities, not through deep prayers, meditation, or personal discipline, but merely by taking a pill, engineering our DNA, otherwise harnessing medical science and technology to transcend normal physical limitations. More compellingly, transhumanism promises that adherents will soon experience, if not eternal life, then at least indefinite existence—in this world, not the next—through the wonders of applied science."

This, explains Smith, "is where transhumanism becomes truly eschatological. Transhumanist prophets anticipate a coming neo-salvific event known as the 'Singularity'—a point in human history when the crescendo of scientific advances become unstoppable, enabling transhumanists to recreate themselves in their own image."

Most importantly, writes Smith, "in the post-Singularity world, death itself will be defeated. Perhaps, we will repeatedly renew our bodies through cloned organ replacements or have our heads cryogenically frozen to allow eventual surgical attachment to a different body. However, transhumanists' greatest hope is to eternally save their minds (again, as opposed to souls) via personal uploading into computer programs. Yes, transhumanists expect to ultimately live without end in cyberspace, crafting their own virtual realities, or perhaps, merging their consciousnesses with others to experience multi-beinghood. Transhumanists used to repudiate any suggestion that their movement is a form of, or substitute for, religion. But in recent years, that denial has worn increasingly thin. For example, Yuval Harari, a historian and transhumanist from Hebrew University of Jerusalem, told *The Telegraph*, 'I think it is likely in the next 200 years or so Homo sapiens will upgrade themselves into some idea of divine being, either through biological manipulation or genetic engineering by the creation of cyborgs, part organic, part non-organic.' Harari is saying, "We do not need God, just technology."

Smith compels us to make the distinction between transhumanism and Christianity. Jesus tells us to clothe the poor, visit the sick and imprisoned, and so on. When we do these things to "the least of these," then "you have done it unto Me." Smith writes, "In

contrast, transhumanism's highest virtue is intelligence, which is why increasing human brain capacity is the movement's second most desired enhancement after defeating death." (Excerpted from "Transhumanism: A Religion for Post-Modern Times" by Wesley Smith, published in Action Institute.)

What can we do? Bear in mind that Biden's Executive Order "pivots the entire federal government to support, fund, advance, and embed transhumanism into the fabric of American culture, economy, and overall ethos" ("Transhumanism is the new one-world religion" by Leo Hohmann, 9-20-22) Now, think about this: "Transhumanism has evolved from an idea in sci-fi novels into a secular religion for many," observes Wesley Smith. "If transhumanism is a religion, then Biden has just instituted a state religion, which is in direct violation of the First Amendment." (Patrick Wood, editor-in-chief of Technocracy.news) Be faithful in teaching children that they are God's beloved creation and, even more, His sons and daughters because of what Jesus Christ has done for them. Help children understand that transhumanism does not increase the human capacity to love our neighbor. Read 1 Corinthians 13:1-7; John 13:34; Hebrews 13:1-2; Philippians 2:3; Ephesians 2:4; Colossians 3:12; Micah 6:8. Ask: If we could re-engineer ourselves beyond humanity, how would we expand our capacity to love? It is a spiritual and holy discipline, not a mechanistic endeavor, to become the creatures we long to be; indeed, were created to be.

Please pray to increase in our capacity to love, have mercy, and walk humbly with God... in Jesus' name.

Decomposing Human Remains

Gov. Gavin Newsom of California has signed "human composting" (also known as natural organic reduction) into law. This means that beginning in 2027 human composting would be an option for California residents who don't want to be buried or cremated upon their death. The process involves placing the body inside a reusable container along with wood chips and aerating it to allow microbes and bacteria to break down the remains. Approximately one month later, the remains are supposedly fully decomposed and turned into soil. Newsom says this is a "climate-friendly option."

What can we do? Read Psalm 139: 13-16; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, and Philippians 3:20-21.

Please pray to live and die as God's own... AMEN.

