

The Slippery Slope of Entropy ...

or ...

The 2nd Law of Thermodynamics in Church and State...

The lie is the death of man, his temporal and his eternal death. The lie kills nations. Through their lies, the most powerful empires of the world were laid waste. History knows of no more unsettling spectacle than the judgment which comes to pass when the men of an advanced culture have rejected the truth, and are now swallowed up in a sea of lies. As was the case with fading pagan antiquity, where this happened, religion and law, poetry and philosophy life in marriage and family, in the state and society, in short, one sphere of life after another, fell sacrifice to the power and curse of the lie. Where man can no longer bear the truth, he cannot live without the lie. Where man, even when dying, lies to himself and others, the terrible dissolution of his culture is held up as a glorious ascent, and decline is viewed as an advance, the like of which has never been experienced. [page 1 of Hermann Sasse's *Christ and His Church -- Union and Confession*, Concordia Publishing House.]

In the Church

In the State

The Pious Lie

It is the hypocrisy by which a man lies to others and the intellectual self-deception by which he lies to himself that he believes in God.

It is the hypocrisy by which a man lies to others and the intellectual self-deception by which he lies to himself that he believes in the Golden Rule.

The pious lie evolves to ...

The Edifying Lie

The condition of the Church's confession when it no longer recognizes the Gospel as the kernal of historical truth in the inspired and inerrant Word of LORD God.

The condition of the State's patriotism when it proclaims choice as the central message of the Constitution which was written to demonstrate the need for tolerance.

The edifying lie evolves to ...

The Dogmatic Lie

False doctrines are established, taught and confessed as the Church continues in guilt-laden error and the traditions of men replace the Word of God while the people unite under this practice and say their amen.

Tolerance and license are established, taught and confessed as the State continues in blind error and the propaganda of choice replaces the propagation of citizens while the people pledge allegiance to these practices.

The dogmatic lie evolves to ...

The Institutional Lie

This lie is a legalizing of any and all other false doctrines made by those within and without the Church, and in doing so, will not tolerate intolerance and will condemn those who believe, teach and confess the objective truth of the Gospel.

This lie is a legislating of any and all lifestyles by those indoctrinated in a system of government that demands that there be choices for all, and will not tolerate intolerance, and will condemn those who oppose this tyranny of freedom.

The Solution

Reformation

Return

The Problem

The objective Word of God, which is the basis for reformation, is denied.

The objective truth, which is the basis for return, is denied.

... The great heresies die as little as does the devil. They return in ever new forms -- how many forms have Arianism and Pelagianism already taken! -- and accompany the church through the centuries of her history, as great temptations preparing her for the end times (1 Cor. 11:19; 2 Pet. 2:1). The ancient church knew this, and we will have to learn it once again from her. Thus the foolish and simplistic hope must be given up that the false doctrine, which has been acknowledged in modern church government as equally legitimate with the true doctrine, will finally disappear of itself. But where a church has made its pact with false doctrine and laid down the weapons with which it can and must fight heresy humanly speaking, there remains only the one last possibility for separating the church from heresy: the separation of the orthodox church from an image, which only bears the name "church," but in reality has nothing to do with the church of Christ.

This is the curse of the lie when it moves from being an ecclesiastical lie to an institutional lie. As far as human judgment is concerned, it makes the return to the truth impossible.

*Union and Confession
Christ and His Church,*
Essays by Hermann Sasse, page 6

The dark age is likely to intervene anyway. It is very unusual for one moral order to slide into another with no intervening chaos. There are many other symptoms. The excessive interest in eroticism is characteristic of the end of a civilization, because it really means a growing impotence, and a fear of impotence. Then the obsessive need for excitement, vicarious excitement, which of course the games provided for the Romans, and which television provides for our population. Even the enormously complicated structure of taxation and administration is, funnily enough, a symptom of the end of a civilization; these things become so elaborate that in the end they become insupportable because of their very elaboration. Above all, there is this truly terrible thing which afflicts materialist societies -- boredom; an obsessive boredom, which I note on every hand. Mine is, admittedly, a minority view; a lot of people think that we are just on the verge of a new marvelous way of life. I see no signs of it at all myself. I notice that where our way of life is most successful materially it is most disastrous morally and spiritually; that the psychiatric wards are the largest and most crowded, and the suicides most numerous, precisely where material prosperity is greatest, where most money is spent on education.

Jesus Rediscovered, by
Malcolm Muggeridge
1969, page 213