

## Appendix O – No God versus Sovereign God Futuristic Views

Everyone wonders what the future will be for our country, especially Tea Partiers who sense that we have been derailed by a segment of the population with a philosophy that parallels the cold war enemy we were fighting for decades (communism). Most of the leftists I knew during the flower-child era have grown up and abandoned such ill-conceived notions. But who would have guessed that millions of them would hang on to failed Marxist panaceas and eventually take over the reins of government? It's amazing how a series of elections can change everything.

Four ghastly ghouls - Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, Jimmy Carter and Barak Obama – are responsible for the greatest historical declines in American history.<sup>1</sup> The evils of Progressivism struck with little warning when Obama, perhaps the capstone of the movement, began his dismantling of the fabric of America.<sup>2</sup> Our race to become a 3<sup>rd</sup> rate nation is in full swing. Internal deterioration is occurring at an alarming rate. The post-mortem may be pronounced *before* the rapture occurs.

I recently read two futuristic books that include the United States in their predictions: *The Next 100 Years* (George Friedman) and *What On Earth is Going On?* (Mark Hitchcock). Both authors are occupied with the future – but from quite different premises. Friedman's view of the future is entertaining if you believe there is *No God*. I don't know if he believes in God or not, but "a divine presence in human affairs" is absent in his book. Hitchcock's view of the future is entertaining if you believe in a *Sovereign God*. The God of Christianity is active in the affairs of men and He has a plan in place that is unfolding exactly as designed.

If you require a middle-of-the-road view, the anthropocentric model is quite prevalent today. It's what I'd call the *deistic* view of God - one in which there is a God, but He does not intervene in human affairs. Since God is absent and man is determining the outcome of world events, the end has not been written. And since the end has not been written, there is no generally accepted vision of the future for this model. It's kind of *working itself out* by trial-and-error. Since God is essentially banished from His creation and man is in control of his own destiny, this philosophical view is decidedly anthropocentric rather than theocentric. A strict Deist would have a view of the future that closely resembles Friedman's, because a god that is no longer involved with His creation does not have a plan that is unfolding as designed.

Therefore, for purposes of contrast, I'm going to ignore this middle-of-the-road idea and compare the two completely different worldviews only. Here is a high-level comparison of the Friedman (F) and Hitchcock (H) prophetic scenarios:

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<sup>1</sup> Daniel 4:17 "The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomsoever He will, and sets up over it the basest of men."

<sup>2</sup> Obama is the epitome of Monty Python's *Black Knight*, who rationalizes his step-by-step destruction of the American economy as "Tis but a scratch," even though the arms and legs of the Middle Class are being cut off and the unemployed are bleeding to death.

### Friedman

The future of planet earth in its current state goes on indefinitely.

The USA is the #1 economic/military power for the next 100 years.

Russia becomes strong again, but then disintegrates internally.

Turkey, Poland and Japan become power blocks vying against the USA.

Europe remains splintered and weak due to the coercive power of the USA.

China fragments due to geographical and internal weaknesses.

Iraq is hardly mentioned at all, probably under US control.

Mexico becomes a major power and threatens to take over half of the USA.

Israel is barely mentioned in future events.

### Hitchcock

The future of planet earth in its pre-millennial state is very short.

The USA is decimated after millions of Christians “disappear” from earth.

Russia leads an Islamic coalition against Israel and is defeated by God.

Turkey is destroyed by God, Poland is controlled by the Antichrist, and Japan becomes inconsequential.

Europe unites and becomes the strongest power block under the Antichrist.

China sends 200 million men to the Middle East and is defeated at Armageddon.

Iraq becomes the center of world commerce and HQ for the Antichrist.

Mexico is totally irrelevant, or part of an American block.

Israel is the center of God’s plans for the end of this age.

You’ve got to admit that these predictive views of history are quite different. If there is no God, or if He is allowing billions of free wills to determine their own future (anthropocentric Deism), then Friedman’s scenario is quite plausible. If time is short and God is executing His prophetic plan without a *hitch*, then Hitchcock’s scenario is quite plausible. I’m sure you have guessed it by now, but I am in the Hitchcock camp. I do have a twist of my own, however, which is discussed in the chapter on *Battlefield Scenarios*.

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*The Next 100 Years: A Forecast for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, George Friedman, 2009, Anchor Books.

*What On Earth Is Going On?* Mark Hitchcock, 2002, Multnomah Publishers.

