## Today's Woke "Thought Police"

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The consensus in the Western world today is that we live in an enlightened, well educated, and relatively prosperous era of man's history. Beneath this facade, there are trends confirming the current status quo will not continue because we have failed to learn from the consequences of past history. One of these trends is the "Woke" movement that will punish those who do not subscribe to their point of view on any given political, religious, or cultural subject. They believe their opinions are morally superior to anyone who is ignorant enough to disagree with their version of reality. In fact, they can be so intolerant that they will use various forms of intimidation to force their opinions on others. Left unchecked, the ramifications of this intolerance are profound as history has proven. Inevitably, people belittle one another, attack one another, and countries can be torn apart in the process. This has already occurred many times in the past, and often the ruling classes are responsible for initiating the process. The Spanish Inquisition is just one example of this, and if we don't learn from it we are doomed to repeat it in one form or another.

The tribunal of the Holy Office of the Inquisition, commonly known as the Spanish Inquisition, was established in 1478 by Catholic monarchs Ferdinand II of Aragon and Isabella I of Castile. It was intended to maintain Catholic orthodoxy in their kingdom and to replace the Medieval Inquisition, which was under Papal control. It became the most substantive of the three different manifestations of the wider Catholic inquisition along with the Roman Inquisition and Portuguese Inquisition. The Spanish Inquisition operated in Spain and in all Spanish colonies

and territories, which included the Canary Islands, the Kingdom of Naples, and all Spanish possessions in North, Central, and South America. According to modern estimates, around 150,000 were prosecuted for various offenses during the three-century duration of the Spanish Inquisition, out of which between 3,000 and 5,000 were executed.

The Inquisition was originally intended to identify heretics among those who converted from Judaism and Islam to Catholicism. The regulation of the faith of newly converted Catholics was intensified after the royal decrees issued in 1492 and 1502 ordering Jews and Muslims to convert to Catholicism or leave Castile. The Inquisition was not definitely abolished until 1834, during the reign of Isabella II, after a period of declining influence in the preceding century.

(en.wikipedia.org>wiki>Spanish\_Inquisition).

So when anyone was labeled a "heretic", the courts could step in and rule against that person, or persons. These so-called heretics were reported to the authorities by friends, neighbors, employers, and even family members.

A similar process of labeling someone a "heretic", and then working to get public and government opinion against them, was utilized effectively in the case of Jesus Christ vs the Jewish Religious Establishment. The Jewish religious leaders attempted to discredit Christ numerous times, but for the sake of brevity we will look at just one example. In this example, the ruling religious class was concerned that Christ's teachings, combined with his miracles, would undermine their relationship with the people, as well as the favor they enjoyed with the Roman authorities. Therefore, they decided to label Christ as a fraud, despite the good works he was performing.

They brought to Christ a man, mute and demonpossessed. <sup>33</sup>And when the demon was cast out, the mute spoke. And the multitudes marveled, saying, "It was never seen like this in Israel!" <sup>34</sup>But the Pharisees said, "He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons." (Mt. 9:32-35).

Christ pointed out that these religious elites were simply trying to discredit his work. He then pointed out that their actions would end up causing division in the country, rather than bringing everyone together.

If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup>And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. <sup>28</sup>But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>29</sup>Or else how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. <sup>30</sup>He who is not with me is against me, and **he who does not gather with me scatters abroad** (Mt. 12:26-30; cf. Heb. 2:14-15; emphasis added).

This is the same tactic used by many in the "woke" movement today. They strive to shame people, who in many cases are doing good work, because these people do not subscribe to the "woke warriors" current worldview. Just as the "woke warriors" manipulate public opinion to achieve their goals today, so the Jewish religious leaders stirred up the crowds in order to discredit Jesus Christ, which was their goal.

Then they sent to Christ some of the Pharisees and the Herodians, to catch him in his own words. <sup>14</sup>When they had come, they said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true, and court no man's favor; for you do not regard the person of men, but teach the way of God in truth. (Therefore) is it lawful to pay taxes to

Caesar, or not? <sup>15</sup>Shall we pay, or shall we not pay?" But Christ, knowing their hypocrisy, said to them, "Why do you test me? Bring me a denarius that I may see it."<sup>16</sup>So they brought it. And he said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" And they said to him, "Caesar's." <sup>17</sup>Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Pay to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" And they marveled at him (Mk. 12:13-17; Ed. note in parenthesis).

Then the whole multitude of the religious elite arose and led Christ to Pilate. <sup>2</sup>And they began to accuse him, saying, "We found this fellow perverting our nation, and forbidding people from paying taxes to Caesar, saying that he himself is Christ, a King." (Lk. 23:1-2).

From then on Pilate sought to release Christ, but the Jewish religious leaders cried out, saying, "If you let this man go, you are not Caesar's friend. Whoever makes himself a king speaks against Caesar." (Jn. 19:12)

The woke movement today also works on people's emotions to stir them up against those who oppose them, no matter the cost to those who get in their way. As recorded in scripture, Christ was "thrown under the bus" by a misguided friend who betrayed him to the so-called authorities who supposedly taught the difference between what is right and wrong. The problem is, these same "authorities" were the last people you should turn to if you really want to know what is right and wrong (Mt. 23:2-4). This same principle often applies to today's woke authorities.

Before his death, Christ was literally ripped apart by the instrument of the religious zealots, and that instrument was the Roman army. Forty years after Christ's death and resurrection, the city of Jerusalem was destroyed. The comparisons are striking and if today's woke warriors continue unchallenged, they will destroy many people's lives and divide the very countries they currently call home. And as Christ pointed out, when a kingdom is divided it cannot continue to stand.

When any group or movement attempts to control how people think, it is no different to what occurs in political systems such as Communism. In fact, Communism cannot continue to function without various forms of manipulation, and disinformation, as part of its overall "thought control" agenda. In a November 18, 2018 article in the New York Times entitled, "Mind Control in China Has a Very Long History", James Leibold wrote,

China has built a vast network of extrajudicial internment camps in the western region of Xinjiang, where Uighurs and other Muslim minorities are made to renounce their culture and religion, and are forcibly subjected to political indoctrination. After long denying the camp's existence, the government now calls them benign training centers that teach law, Mandarin and vocational skills – a claim that has been exposed as a disingenuous euphemism in an attempt to deflect criticism for gross human rights abuses. But the camps, especially their ambition to rewire people, reveal a familiar logic that has long defined the Chinese state's relationship with its public; a paternalistic approach that is designed to forcibly transform them.

It is not just minority ethnic groups that the Chinese Communist Party aims to control. They also have programs designed to manipulate the thoughts of their own population. In an article by Aaron Sarin (freelance writer; Sheffield, England; <a href="mailto:Twitter@aaron sarin">Twitter@aaron sarin</a>), it becomes clear what the goals of the leadership are,

Another of Xi's tools is the now-infamous Social Credit System, in which all citizens will be assigned a score based on their behavior, and as part of this process the People's Republic of China is to become the most extensive surveillance state the world has ever seen. Almost all actions and transactions will be recorded by an elaborate network of cameras, artificial intelligence, and facial and voice recognition software. In April 2018, a young man wanted for "economic offenses" had his face identified from a concert crowd of 60,000.

The Party's indoctrination project relies heavily on the so-called "Great Firewall of China" which is the country's massive online censorship system. The firewall makes it impossible to search for banned topics — and there are many of these, ranging from the great dissident and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Liu Xiaobo all the way through to the cartoon bear Winnie the Pooh, who was censored for his supposed resemblance to Xi.

So one of the consequences of "woke thought control and manipulation" is a country in which its citizens no longer enjoy true freedom. Therefore, it is vital that open discussion and debate remain respectful and indeed encouraged, despite differences of opinion on any given subject.

In the spirit realm of the rebellious angels, its leader is a master of media manipulation with its associated mind control. He is so effective that he deceives everyone to one degree or another.

So the great dragon was cast out (of heaven), that serpent of old, called the Devil and **Satan**, who **deceives the whole world**; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him (Rev. 12:9; Ed. Note in parenthesis).

## (SATAN) WHO MADE THE WORLD AS A WILDERNESS AND DESTROYED ITS CITIES, WHO WOULD NOT RELEASE HIS PRISONERS.

Isaiah 14:17; Ed. Note in parenthesis

Therefore, everyone under his influence is described as being in a prison of Satan's making.

(Satan) who made the world as a wilderness and destroyed its cities, **who would not release his prisoners** (Isa. 14:17; Ed. Note in parenthesis).

So any movement can he hijacked by Satan and then used to cause division and, sadly, the majority of mankind cannot see the connection (Eph. 6:12). Therefore, a permanently divided county will be the ultimate consequence of the Woke movement if alternative opinions are shut down through "shaming", "intimidation", and "media manipulation".

This document is the collaborative work of individuals who believe God's truth should be given freely (Mt. 10:8; 1Cor. 2:12; 2Cor.11:7; Rom. 10:14-21) and the message of the one true God should be made available to all nations (Mt. 24:14) as a prerequisite to the return of Jesus Christ as King of kings (Mt. 17:10; 19:17; Mk. 9:11; Lk. 1:17; Rev. 19:11-16).

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