

彼得後書

1. Introduction

Sept.09, 2018

彼得後書 - 活在「無神意識」泛濫中

- Why did you pick the class? What are your expectations?
- 宗教在現今社會中日漸式微已是不爭的事實，人所追求的盡在今天。在這「乜都得」「乜都想要」的時代，宗教變得無關痛癢，上帝也被淪為哲學論題。聖經中的宇宙觀被科學理論不斷地挑戰，人倫道德的底線屢遭衝擊。在這「無神意識」泛濫及真理混淆的世代中，彼得後書的內容卻是意外地適切。儘管它只有短短的三章，它在基督教價值，信徒委身，屬靈成長，末世盼望等議題上卻有著獨特的教導。期盼透過研讀彼得後書，一起學習「如何作一個活在末世中的聖徒」；一起在「同流合污」和「獨善其身」之間找一個合神心意的平衡。

Common Elements in Sci-Fi Movies

- Robots
 - Wall-E, Terminator, Transformer
- Interstellar/Time Travel
 - Star Trek, Back to the Future
- Superpowers
 - Captain America, Superman
- Bodily Transformation
 - X-Men, Spiderman
- Alien
 - E.T, Close Encounter
- Post-Apocalyptic World
 - Mad Max, 28 Days Later
- Human...

Common Elements in Sci-Fi Movies

- People and Their Problem
 - Evil scientist wants to rule the world (most superhero movies)
 - Global issues (Wall-E)
- Technology and Its Problem
 - Machine tries to rule the world (Avengers – Age of Ultron)
 - Technology went wrong (Frankenstein)

Common Elements in Sci-Fi Movies

- Religious views in SciFi...
- Belittle faith and religion
 - Technology or human potential trumps faith and religion (Star Trek)
- Faith presented in different form
 - More powerful than technology (Star Wars)
 - “It’s an energy field created by all living things. It surrounds us and penetrates us; it binds the galaxy together.” Obi-Wan Kenobi
- Traditional religion almost not existing
 - Where is the Judeo-Christian God?
 - The personal God?

RELIGIOSITY AND ATHEISM - 2012

- A poll asked more than 50,000 people in 57 countries
 - Source: WIN-Gallup International GLOBAL INDEX OF RELIGIOSITY AND ATHEISM – 2012
- Question: Irrespective of whether you attend a place of worship or not, would you say you are a religious person, not a religious persons or a convinced atheist?
- Religious: 59%
- Not religious: 23%
- Convinced atheist: 13%
- Don’t know/refuse: 5%

Countries	A religious person	Not religious	A convinced atheist	Don't know
China	14%	30%	47%	9%
Japan	16%	31%	31%	23%
Czech Republic	20%	48%	30%	2%
France	37%	34%	29%	1%
South Korea	52%	31%	15%	2%
Germany	51%	33%	15%	1%
Netherlands	43%	42%	14%	2%
Austria	42%	43%	10%	5%
Iceland	57%	31%	10%	2%
Australia	37%	48%	10%	5%
Ireland	47%	44%	10%	0%
Canada	46%	40%	9%	5%
Hong Kong	38%	51%	9%	2%

Drop in Religiosity

Country	2005	2012	% change in Religiosity
Global Average	77%	68%	-9%
Vietnam	53%	30%	-23%
Ireland	69%	47%	-22%
Switzerland	71%	50%	-21%
France	58%	37%	-21%
South Africa	83%	64%	-19%
Iceland	74%	57%	-17%
Ecuador	85%	70%	-15%
United States	73%	60%	-13%
Canada	58%	46%	-12%
Austria	52%	42%	-10%

- Religious drop by 9% , Atheism rises by 3% (globally)
- Religiosity is higher among the poor

Household Income	A religious person	Not religious	A convinced atheist	Don't know
Low	66%	21%	7%	6%
Medium Low	65%	21%	9%	5%
Medium	56%	23%	15%	5%
Medium High	51%	24%	20%	5%
Top	49%	27%	19%	5%

- Religiosity is higher among low education

Education	A religious person	Not religious	A convinced atheist	Don't know
No/basic education	68%	20%	7%	5%
Secondary School	61%	23%	10%	6%
High level (e.g. university)	52%	24%	19%	5%

活在「無神意識」泛濫中

- 無神意識 **Godlessness**
- 泛濫 **Flooded/Submerged**
- 「去神化」的時代
- 宗教日漸式微
- 上帝變得可有可無

- **Anarchy** 無政府狀態
 - Greek prefix *an-* “without; the absence of”
 - Greek noun *archon* “master; ruler”
- **No Rulers, No Masters** 無王管

No Rulers 無王管

- Anarchy 無政府狀態
 - a state of lawlessness and disorder
- In the Godlessness climate
 - 上帝被矮化 Degraded
 - 真理被扭曲 Distorted
- Godlessness ... Lawlessness
 - Immorality

Godlessness ... Lawlessness

- The Truth became distasteful and offensive (反感和冒犯)
- Irish singer Hozier about “Take Me to Church”
 - Sexuality, and sexual orientation ... is just natural ... one of the most human things.
 - But an organization like the church, say, through its doctrine, would undermine humanity by successfully teaching shame about sexual orientation – that it is sinful, or that it offends God

彼得後書

- How do Christians survive in an unbelieving world?
- Reset/Renew/Reestablish our faith/knowledge in Christ