

Oracles

Previous postings from the Wm. Thomas Sherman Info Page 2018.



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## TENETS

\*If we ever experienced a problem anywhere, it came about, in some degree, due to certain wrong assumptions, either co-present with, or just prior to the given problem's actually taking place.

\* Unless you believe in God, the One, and or the infinite, every assumption is contingent.

\* PROCESS (or if you prefer spirit, or activity) PRECEDES IMAGE. Image may, to some extent, (and sometimes almost perfectly) represent process. But process is always superior to and always more real than image. If process precedes image this might suggest also that mind precedes matter and energy.

\* Everything we believe, or say we know, is based on a *factual* or *value* judgment. Both kinds of judgment always entail the other to some extent, and nothing can be known or exists for us without them.

\* No fact or purported fact is true or false without someone to assert and believe it to be such. If an assertion or claim is deemed true or false then, and we are thorough, we should ask who is it that says so (or has said so), and what criteria are (were) they using? There is no such thing as "faceless" truth or reality -- at least none we are capable of knowing.

\* You can't escape reason. If you aren't rational yourself, someone else will be rational for you; nor do their intentions toward you need to be friendly or benevolent.

\* *Every* point of view and opinion has its truth to it -- even the most abhorrent and unacceptable to us. This said, we are naturally inclined to assume that some opinions have much greater truth to them than others. Even so, what little truth there is in any point of view must, at least at some juncture, and certainly with respect to issues of heated controversy, be justly and reasonably respected. Why? Because we would not be honest (and therefore not truthful) if we didn't.

\* *Ultimately*, and when all is said and done, thought without heart is nothing.

\* Most, if not all, of society's very worst problems arise from (certain) spirit people and those who listen to them -- whether the former comes in the shape of "God," angel, devil or what have you. It is these people who are most the source and cause of real unhappiness. If then you chance to have contact with such, while having (one assumes) overcome their lures, deceptions, and pretenses of benevolence and higher knowledge, I recommend that this (i.e., "unhappiness" or "unhappiness itself") is what you call them. Blame and curse them for (most) everything wrong; for it is it is they who have been and are the ruin of everyone and everything (that is, if anyone is or could be said to be so.)

### Mottos:

*"When you can face me, I'll consider taking you seriously."*

*"Millions for defense; not one cent for tribute!"*

*"The whole of the city is at the mercy of a gang of criminals, led by a man who calls himself the Kid. And I'm the only one who can find him for you."*

*Note.* The "oracles" are given, top to the bottom of the text, in order from the most recent to the very earliest entry (just as originally presented at gunjones.com); the very first you see below then is the last entered at the website, while the very first entered for the year is given as the last item in this text.

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[ch. 11]

And since, as you dare not deny that these deities of yours once were men, you have taken it on you to assert that they were made gods after their decease, let us consider what necessity there was for this. In the first place, you must concede the existence of one higher God — a certain wholesale dealer in divinity, who has made gods of men. For they could neither have assumed a divinity which was not theirs, nor could any but one himself possessing it have conferred it on them. If there was no one to make gods, it is vain to dream of gods being made when thus you have no god-maker. Most certainly, if they could have deified themselves, with a higher state at their command, they never would have been men. If, then, there be one who is able to make gods, I turn back to an examination of any reason there may be for making gods at all; and I find no other reason than this, that the great God has need of their ministrations and aids in performing the offices of Deity...

~ Tertullian (c.160–220 AD), *Apology*

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A: We said we would suffer you, didn't we?

B: But that isn't enough. I want you to like me too.

A: [Pause, looking at each other] That's impossible.

B: All right then be prepared to have all of your lives completely ruined and torn apart by scandal. I have it in my power to do this.

A: [Again looking at each other] We know.

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You think that person is God or at least a god, but let me ask you this. How many people do know (particularly thinking people) that actually like him?

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I know it is hard to believe, but sometimes everybody (or what we think of as "everybody") is wrong.

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Proven to be nothing better than a crackpot and a fanatic.

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If it didn't work out for Jesus, it damn sure isn't going to work out for you.

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Imagine if Jesus actually were dead.

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Heaven can help us all the better the more we are like them. And after all, if a man can become more of a devil, why can't he become more of an angel? But what is Heaven. Well, try this definition: Heaven is what Hell is not (i.e., not lying, cheating, bullying, pretending, etc.)

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When society invests in devils (and they do, the way some athletes spend money on steroids), it makes it harder for those who would be virtuous to stay in business.

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[On 2 Cor. v. 16. "And if we have known Christ after the flesh."]

And so far, he says, no one any longer lives after the flesh. For that is not life, but death. For Christ also, that He might show this, ceased to live after the flesh. How? Not by putting off the body! Far be it! For with it as His own He shall come, the Judge of all. But by divesting Himself of physical affections, such as hunger, and thirst, and sleep, and weariness. For now He has a body incapable of suffering and of injury.

As "after the flesh" in our case is being in the midst of sins, and being out of them is to be "not after the flesh," so also after the flesh, in the case of Christ, was His subjection to natural affections, and not to be subject to them was not to be "after the flesh." "But," he says, "as He was released, so also are we." Let there be no longer, he says, subjection to the influences of the flesh.
~ Clement of Alexandria (c.150–c.215), [Fragments](#)

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Universally, the Christian is friendly to solitude, and quiet, and tranquility, and peace.  
~ Clement of Alexandria (c.150–c.215), [Fragments](#)

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The ghoulish commands his followers to encourage degradation, torture, violence. What he frowns upon is right reason, honesty, happiness, etc.

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They may prevent you from being happy, but if you truly have it in you to be so, hold on to it with all your life, and if you are a moral person of faith you can and should do so; for nothing is more valuable.

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Time and again you will find that they who reject the sacredness of the written word are ones least to be trusted, especially in times of trial. For when words are not sacred, lying is always easier.

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A: I could not be rational and honest (on that subject) your honor.

B: Why not?

A: Because the god would not permit me.

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Too often one of the problems in a democracy is that people tend to defer to those with power and riches, even if those possessing such are criminal: in other words raw material power and wealth first; justice and freedom second.

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Life exists in the world, true, but it only lives in the spirit.

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They will cure the world of terrorism, global warming, or what have you, but who is there who is specifically teaching the world to be rational (as opposed to merely rhetorical)?

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What is needed to cure the world of the greatest of all evils (whatever such may be) is a professional baby sitter.

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"Now see, *you are* a happy cat," I said. He replied "I am, *sometimes*."

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In puzzling, as it happens of late, over the mysterious death of silent film actress Olive Thomas, and knowing what I do about criminal spirit and witchcraft people, I am very strongly inclined to conclude that Thomas' accidental ingestion of poison was deliberately

caused by witchcraft people punishing Jack Pickford for not joining or being more friendly and receptive to them. According then to this theory, the death was an accident yes, but a planned and contrived one; intended to hurt not Thomas, but the husband.

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[Posted on Face Book]

"We are members of a democratic faction that has been forced into the desert by Zontar..."

If good and drunk, this 1947 sci-fi epic is arguably one of the greatest serials ever made, and I bet not even Fred has seen this one, and I saved every episode to DVD. With world peace at stake, two, not one, bald scientists, moon men dressed as romans and medieval footmen, twilight performances by tried veterans Charles King and Wheeler Oakman (and don't miss ingénue, uncredited Noel Neill as "Lula!"), a seductive moon queen, and a super hero without costume, super powers, or a dual identity -- "Brick Bradford" is IT for tuning in on 1947-1948; that's right; right after WWII but before the Fifties, the time that Time forgot! Don't miss it!

See: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5GnHGve-38>

["Brick Bradford Serial - Chapter 01"]

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I added a new section on Henry Livingston. Jr. to my "Forgotten Poems and Poets" article, and which as noted previously is also included in my *Continental Army Series...Odds and Ends*; either of which can be found at:

"FORGOTTEN POEMS AND POETS," PART I-IV

[http://www.gunjones.com/Forgotten\\_Poems\\_and\\_Poets\\_of\\_early\\_America.pdf](http://www.gunjones.com/Forgotten_Poems_and_Poets_of_early_America.pdf)

~or~

<https://www.scribd.com/document/345059539/Forgotten-Poems-and-Poets-of-Early-America-1776-1805>

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*THE CONTINENTAL ARMY SERIES...Odds and Ends*

[http://www.gunjones.com/CAS\\_odds-and-ends.pdf](http://www.gunjones.com/CAS_odds-and-ends.pdf)

~or~

<https://www.scribd.com/document/338894482/THE-CONTINENTAL-ARMY-SERIES-Odds-and-Ends>

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[or 502.html]