

# Faith In A Secular Age

A Secular Age Varieties of Secularism in a Secular Age Varieties of Secularism in a Secular Age Working with A Secular Age The Sacred in a Secular Age Toward Revision in the Scientific Study of Religion Secularism and the Pursuit of Transcendence, Volume II Pope Pius IX, Crusader in a Secular Age Religion in a Secular Age The Congregation in a Secular Age (Ministry in a Secular Age Book #3) A Secular Age Beyond the West The Atlantic Monthly Handbook of Christian Evidences The Secular Chronicle Belief in a Secular Age Forum and Column Review Reimagining Zen in a Secular Age Lloyd's Encyclopaedic Dictionary The Taylor Effect John Locke's Two Treatises of Government The Pastor in a Secular Age (Ministry in a Secular Age Book #2) Charles Taylor Michael Warner Michael Warner Florian Zemmin Stanley E. Porter Frank J. Coppa John Cogley Andrew Root Mirjam Künkler Alexander Stewart David Paternostro Andr® van der Braak Ian Albert Leask Edward J. Harpham Andrew Root

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york times book review a culminating dispatch from the philosophical frontlines it is at once encyclopedic and incisive a sweeping overview that is no less analytically rigorous for its breadth steven hayward cleveland plain dealer a thumping great volume stuart jeffries the guardian very occasionally there appears a book destined to endure a secular age is such a book edward skidelsky daily telegraph it is refreshing to read an inquiry into the condition of religion that is exploratory in its approach john gray harper s a secular age represents a singular achievement christopher j insole times literary supplement a determinedly brilliant new book london review of books

what does it mean to say that we live in a secular age this apparently simple question opens into the massive provocative and complex a secular age where charles taylor positions secularism as a defining feature of the modern world not the mere absence of religion and casts light on the experience of transcendence that scientific explanations of the world tend to neglect in varieties of secularism in a secular age a prominent and varied group of scholars chart the conversations in which a secular age intervenes and address wider questions of secularism and secularity the distinguished contributors include robert bellah jos® casanova nilüfer göle william e connolly wendy brown simon during colin jager jon butler jonathan sheehan akeel bilgrami john milbank and saba mahmood varieties of secularism in a secular age succeeds in conveying to readers the complexity of secularism while serving as an invaluable guide to a landmark book

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charles taylor s monumental book a secular age has been extensively discussed criticized and worked on this volume by contrast explores ways of working with taylor s book especially its potentials and limits for individual research projects due to its wide reception it has initiated a truly interdisciplinary object of study with essays drawn from various research fields this volume fosters substantial conversation across disciplines

we live in a secular age or so we have been told nevertheless the christian church strongly believes that we still experience and in fact are surrounded by acts of

transcendence encounters with god that often defy imagination and explanation and yet we do try to explain such phenomena whether theologically experientially biblically historically philosophically literarily or even or especially artistically these two volumes are more than just papers from a major conference on secularism and the pursuit of transcendence held at mcmaster divinity college in hamilton ontario they contain genuine attempts by people deeply engaged with their secular surroundings to explain what we mean by transcendence transcendence has been a longstanding topic among the best thinkers of this and previous ages and the same is true for these volumes which include contributions by charles taylor robert wuthnow merold westphal and christina gschwandtner but also by a wide range of others who address the question from divergent vantage points the responses vary as much as the orientations of those involved in the pursuit of defining not only what it means to live in our secular age but to be involved in the pursuit of transcendence or even to perceive the transcendent s pursuit of us

churches often realize they need to change but if they re not careful the way they change can hurt more than help in this culmination of his well received ministry in a secular age trilogy leading practical theologian andrew root offers a new paradigm for understanding the congregation in contemporary ministry he articulates why congregations feel pressured by the speed of change in modern life and encourages an approach that doesn t fall into the negative traps of our secular age living in late modernity means our lives are constantly accelerated and calls for change in the church often support this call to speed up root asserts that the recent push toward innovation in churches has led to an acceleration of congregational life that strips the sacred out of time many congregations are simply unable to keep up which leads to burnout and depression when things move too fast we feel alienated from life and the voice of a living god the congregation in a secular age calls congregations to reimagine what change is and how to live into this future helping them move from relevance to resonance

this book compares secularity in societies not shaped by western christianity particularly in asia the middle east and north africa

we are currently living in what has been dubbed a secular age religious affiliation has gone down leading to a phenomenon in the west known as the rise of the nones at the same time from the time of the gospels the church understands herself to be charged by jesus christ with the obligation to make disciples of all nations mt 28 19 recent popes have likewise affirmed that we are obliged to go out and propose faith in jesus to the world beginning with john paul ii a new evangelization has been proposed where the church evangelizes and makes disciples in places where christian belief once was common but has now waned this work seeks first of all to advance the project of the new evangelization evangelization cannot happen in a vacuum however and we must be mindful of what people find credible just as jesus did not berate thomas for his doubt but rather gave thomas what he needed for belief so too the church cannot merely berate the modern world for unbelief but give it what it needs for belief thus it is necessary that we first ask what people need to believe in general in the first chapter drawing heavily from charles taylor

s work a secular age we will get a feel for the conditions of belief in the contemporary world and then flesh out our notions by drawing upon various sociological and historical studies of current unbelief especially cristal manning s book losing our religion in the second chapter we once again begin with taylor focusing on the excarnate trend in knowing where starting in the enlightenment our senses feelings and experiences were obstacles to knowing we will then contrast this with the approach of 19th century british thinker john henry newman whose work grammar of assent sought to push back against these excarnating trends especially in the concept of the illative sense that he developed in the book finally we will explore how newman s personalism his grasp of the dignity of the whole person can be seen in how he proposes christianity for belief to others newman prioritizes reality over ideas and so will stress biblical images saints sacraments liturgy and history all as a way of gaining an image of the person of jesus from these images and experiences had by the whole person we may propose christianity in a credible manner and the church may continue to be faithful to her mandate from jesus to introduce him to all peoples

in reimagining zen in a secular age andr® van der braak offers an account of the exciting but also problematic encounter between enchanted japanese zen buddhism and secular western modernity over the past century using charles taylor s magnum opus a secular age as an interpretative lens as the tenuous compromises of various forms of zen modernism are breaking down today new imaginings of zen are urgently needed that go beyond both a romantic mystical zen and a secular mindfulness zen as a zen scholar practitioner andr® van der braak shows that the zen philosophy of the 13th century zen master d gen offers much resources for new hermeneutical embodied non instrumental and communal approaches to contemporary zen theory and practice in the west

the taylor effect presents an original and diverse collection of essays addressing charles taylor© tm s magisterial a secular age ranging from close and critical readings of taylor© tm s formulations and suppositions to comparative studies of taylor and various © interlocutors© tm to applied approaches utilizing taylor© tm s concepts to explorations launched from a taylorian foundation the 13 chapters comprise a multifaceted exploration of taylor© tm s multifaceted achievement given the vast synoptic sweep of taylor© tm s magnum opus the contributors represent a suitably diverse range of interests backgrounds and expertise© members of departments of philosophy literature philosophical theology systematic theology moral theology education and political science whose interests stretch from plato to girard phronesis to pedagogy deism to dogmatics medical ethics to aesthetics accordingly the taylor effect is not only one of the first major responses to a secular age the astonishing breadth as well as the quality of contributions will ensure that it remains a central reference point in any future discussion of taylor© tm s work

the past thirty years have witnessed a renaissance in lockean scholarship new work and new thinking has now recast our most basic comprehension of john locke 1623 1704 as a political theorist and of locke s two treatises of government as a historical document this collection of essays investigates the implications of the new

scholarship for our understanding of locke s political thought and its impact upon the liberal tradition john locke s two treatises of government has long been recognized as one of the great works of political philosophy three centuries after it was written students and scholars continue to study it for insights into the intellectual origins of the modern world and for a better understanding of such fundamental concepts as natural rights social contract limited government and the rule of law the seven essays in this volume explore various dimensions of locke s two treatises the introductory essay places the new scholarship in a historical context the next four essays show how this recent literature has affected our view of particular aspects of the two treatises its theory of politics its religious underpinnings its theory of rationality and its conception of the relationship between politics and economics the final two essays discuss how the new scholarship has changed our understanding of the impact of the two treatises upon political thought in the eighteenth and late twentieth centuries included at the end of the text is an extended secondary bibliography on john locke s two treatises these essays do not seek closure nor do they set forth a single correct interpretation instead they offer readers a deeper appreciation of how our view of locke s two treatises has changed over the last three decades and the importance of those changes in understanding of the liberal tradition a solid contribution to the literature bringing together some of the best new scholarship on locke and reflecting the diversity breadth and depth of the current debate on both locke and early liberalism the editor s selection clearly demonstrates there is no single orthodox reading of locke and conveys the intellectually lively debate that pervades the field today ronald j terchek author of locke smith mill and the liberal concept of agency

in faith formation in a secular age the first book in his ministry in a secular age trilogy andrew root offered an alternative take on the issue of youth drifting away from the church and articulated how faith can be formed in our secular age in the pastor in a secular age root explores how this secular age has impacted the identity and practice of the pastor obscuring his or her core vocation to call and assist others into the experience of ministry using examples of pastors throughout history from augustine and jonathan edwards to martin luther king jr and nadia bolz weber root shows how pastors have both perpetuated and responded to our secular age root turns to old testament texts and to the theology of robert jenson to explain how pastors can regain the important role of attending to people s experiences of divine action offering a new vision for pastoral ministry today

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