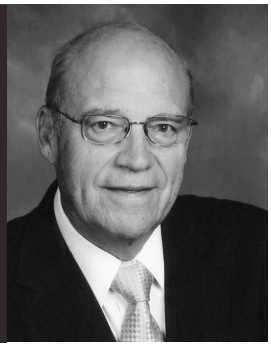


The Schwarz Report

66 Years Defending Our Christian Faith



Dr. Fred Schwarz | Volume 66, Number 11 | Dr. David Noebel

The Origin of Life

November 2026

by David A. Noebel

I just finished two very timely books. One by a Protestant (John C. Lennox). And one by two Roman Catholics. Lennox wrote *God's Undertaker*: *Has Science Buried God?* Michel-Yves Bollore and Olivier Bonnassies wrote *God: The Science, The Evidence*. And their conclusion after 800 enlighten pages—there is a God.

The twenty-first century scientific evidence is more than sufficient to prove there is a creator God. The days when science was used to prove there was no need for God to explain the universe and life itself are over. Wow, for new Christians this is exciting news. Older ones knew it all along. Even Newton, Copernicus, and Galileo knew! And former atheist philosopher Anthony Flew admits it too! These are exiting days.

Harvard's Richard C. Lewontin best summarizes the "no need for God." He writes, "We take the side of science in spite of the patent absurdity of some of its constructs, in spite of its failure to fulfill many of its extravagant promises of health and life, in spite of the tolerance of the scientific community for unsubstantiated just-so stories, because we have a prior commitment, a commitment to materialism [i.e., atheism]. Moreover, that materialism is absolute, for we cannot allow a Divine Foot in the door."

So how do our defenders begin to prove their position. In a number of ways that include a look at modern physics, chemistry, biology etc. But one of the most telling is a look at the origin of life and then decide if it is explainable by a) chance, natural selection and a little mutation; or b) a Divine Mind with an orderly design that is manifested in an orderly universe including life itself.

I quote from Bollore and Bonnassies: "The smallest living thing that we can currently imagine, even a little smaller than the smallest living thing known to date, would have a minimum size of 0.2 micrometers. This organism could only live, develop, and reproduce thanks to a very dense and organized internal structure. Inside its already complex cellular membrane, it would need, at minimum, a DNA genome of at least 250 genes, around 150,000 pairs of nucleotide bases assembled into very precise order. It would also need an RNA system and a ribosome to interpret the RNA. Finally, this complex system would have to be able to produce at least 180 types of proteins, dozens of enzymes, and locomotory organelles. All of this equipment just for a single cell, the tiniest one possible." (p 238)

Now Dr. Lewontin and probably most of his Harvard fellow profs would vote for a). But I know someone at Princeton by the name of Kurt Gödel who would vote for b). And Gödel happens to be one of America's finest mathematicians. He said "I don't think the brain came in the Darwinian manner." He also said that one day Darwin's "chance, natural selection et al" would be refuted rationally. I believe those days are closer than most atheists can imagine. And it isn't just the arguments from origin. There are also the findings from the fine-tuning of the universe (see Martin Rees' *Just Six Numbers*), thermodynamics, quantum mechanics, etc.

But here are more thoughts from some of the world's top scientists regarding our universe and life itself.

"Atomic physics has turned science away from the materialistic [atheistic] trend it had during the nineteenth century." Werner Heisenberg (1932 Nobel Prize)

"Certainly there was something that set it all off. Certainly, if you are religious, I can't think of a better theory of the origin of the universe to match with *Genesis*." Robert W. Wilson (1978 Nobel Prize)

"For a physicist, a single atom is so complicated, so pregnant with intelligence, that the materialist universe simply makes no sense." Alfred Kastler (1966 Nobel prize)

"It is a simple number close to 0.08542455…It's one of the greatest damn mysteries of physics. You might say the 'hand of God' wrote that number, and we don't know how He pushed his pencil." Richard Feynmen (1965 Nobel prize)

"One could perhaps describe the situation by saying that God is a mathematician of a very high order, and He used very advanced mathematics in constructing the universe." Paul Dirac (1933 Nobel prize)

"The world is just so wonderful that I can't imagine it just having come by pure chance." Arthur Schawlow (1981 Nobel Prize)

"The fine-tuning of the universe [centering around four fundamental forces all based on numbers] provides prima facie evidence of deistic [God] design. Take your choice, blind chance that requires multitudes of universes or design that requires only one." Edward Harrison U. of Mass at Amherst

"Speaking of the origin of the world brings us inevitably to think of creation, and, in considering nature, we find that it has an order too precise to have been determined by chance." Carlo Rubbia (1984 Nobel Prize)

"The precise adjustment of the initial conditions of the Universe is an indispensable element of the existence of the world. Through their discoveries, scientists encounter the divine Logos." John Polkinhorne Cambridge U.

"The observations and experiments of science are so wonderful that the truth that they establish can surely be accepted as another manifestation of God. God shows himself by allowing man to establish truth." David Barton (1969 Nobel prize)

"'On the Common Ancestors of All Living Humans' (November 11, 2003), which used mathematical modeling to calculate that the earliest common ancestor of all humans alive today could have lived between 2,000 and 5,000 BC.'" Douglas Rohde MIT

Unfortunately, I must report that both Drs. Bollore and Bonnassies not only disagree with Dr. Rohde but accept and promote the outdated Darwinian evolutionary theory. Humankind "arose after a long process of evolution that began with fish and successively gave rise to amphibians, reptiles, and birds." (p. 378). I agree with Dr. Lennox who insists that chance is a non starter; that natural selection is not creative; and mutations haven't even helped the fruit fly improve its standing. "Large evolution has never been observed, and we have no idea whether any may be in progress." (see Lennox, pgs.103-108)

I close with the Divine foot not only at the door, but within the whole suite—"Since what can be known about God is evident among them because God has shown it to them. From the creation of the world His invisible attributes, that is, His eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen being understood through what He has made." Apostle Paul, Romans 1:19, 20.

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims the work of His hands. Day after day they pour out speech; night after night they communicate knowledge. There is no speech; there are no words; their voice is not heard. Their message has gone out to all the earth and their words to the ends of the inhabited world. In the heavens He has pitched a tent for the sun. It rises from one end of the heavens and circles [lit. circuits] to the other end; nothing is hidden from its heat." Psalm 19:1-6

"Long ago you established the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands." Psalm 102:25

"For He spoke, and it [the whole earth] came into being; He commanded, and it came into existence." Psalm 33:9

"He alone stretches out the heavens and treads on the waves of the sea. He makes the stars; Arcturus, Orion, the Pleiades, and the constellations of the southern sky. He performs great and unsearchable things, wonders without number." Job: 9:8-10

Amen!

Fine-tuning by a Superior Tuner

by Michel Yves Bollore and Oliver Bonnassies

"What exactly are our four fundamental forces [electromagnetic force, etc.] and the numbers attached to them? Where do their respective values come from? It's a mystery. Their incredible fine-tuning still seems to be the result of a miracle.

"If the strong force has a value of one, the electromagnetic force is 137 times weaker. Then comes the weak force (0.000001), a million times weaker than its cousin, the strong force. Finally, gravity plunges into an abyss: one thousand billion billion billion billion billion times weaker than the strong nuclear force. How can we explain this incredible but highly precise fall of exactly thirty-nine orders of magnitude, rather than forty-three or thirty-five? Why have these constants maintained these same values since the birth of the Universe, rather than some other value? Where do they come from? No matter how hard we look, it is impossible to find answers—so much so that in the final analysis, as the Nobel Laureate Richard Feynman remarked regarding the value of the pure number that is the basis for the electromagnetic force: 'It's one of the greatest damn mysteries of physics.'

"The great theoretical physicist Dirac went beyond his militant atheism when he said in a 1963 issue of *Scientific American* something that soon became well known internationally: 'One could perhaps describe the situation by saying that God is a mathematician of a very high order, and He used very advance mathematics in constructing the universe.'"

—*God: The Science The Evidence*, p. 193-4.

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Rethinking Animal Rights

by Janet Levy

The Judeo-Christian ethos, often cited as the foundation of Western civilization and a core element of American identity, holds that humans are superior to animals. It holds that while animals act on instinct, we possess consciousness, a conscience, and free will to choose our actions and face the consequences.

While recognizing human superiority and hegemony, its moral code obligates us to treat animals with compassion. Animal rights activists do not think this is enough: they view the elevation of humans as speciesism, a form of discrimination as harmful as racism, sexism, or other biases.

British psychologist Richard Ryder coined the term, and Australian moral philosopher Peter Singer popularized it in his 1975 book *Animal Liberation*. Ryder believes that human exploitation of less intelligent species is fascist. Singer argues for species equality, contending that privileging humans is arbitrary and discriminatory because animals suffer pain as much as we do.

Species egalitarianism assigns the same moral weight to animals' interests as to those of humans. The implications are that meat eating is morally wrong; saving animals is equal to saving humans; and ecosystems must be protected from human activity.

This preposterous ideology gained traction in the 1990s with the concept of "rewilding," coined by Earth First! and contextualized by conservationists Michael Soulé and Reed Noss. Rewilding seeks to restore ecosystems by reintroducing large predators near human settlements and by creating wildlife corridors through those settlements.

To translate the ideology into action, Soulé and others founded the Wildlands Network (formerly the Wildlands Project) in 1991. It envisioned a network of "wildways," or corridors connecting protected wildlife areas across the country. Wildlife would have the right of way. Maps on the network's website show corridors for lions, wolves, bears, and other animals near residential areas, prompting people to move out.

The NGO's goals align with Agenda 21 and the U.N. Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), both outcomes of the 1992 Earth Summit, which called for 50% of the US to be designated as wildlands. To "protect endangered species," these wildlands would be off-limits to humans. Obviously, this will restrict property rights.

Surprisingly, these ideas have resonated not only with our unaccountable army of bureaucrats but also with elected representatives. Grand programs to "reverse America's wildlife crisis" have been established by ordinance in Los Angeles, Evanston, Minneapolis, Austin, and Albuquerque. Their impact on sovereignty, personal freedom, and property rights has been ignored.

Consider the Los Angeles program, initiated in 2023 and targeting a 36-square-mile area in the Santa Monica Mountains and foothills within the city's hillside communities. It established regulations and standards for private developments, limiting building height, area, and grading angles. Tinted windows were mandated to prevent bird collisions, landscaping was required to follow native standards, and fences had to be passable to small animals. The plan was intended to extend to other areas as well.

The program was halted in 2025 due to budget cuts and opposition from real estate developers and property owners. However, the Los Angeles region will soon be home to the Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing, billed as the world's largest. It will span 10 lanes of the busy US Route 101 between Agoura Hills and Calabasas, just outside Los Angeles, and is scheduled to open in December.

The $114 million project is funded by state, federal, and private sources: $77 million from the state, $2.5 million from the federal government, and $25 million from the Annenberg Foundation, plus contributions from the California Wildlife Conservation Board and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. In addition to building the crossing, the project will restore 14 acres around the freeway.

What is alarming is that, while prioritizing animals and ecology, programs like these ignore the dangers wildlife poses to humans: disease transmission, unpredictable behavior, property damage, and attacks. Previously, wildlife agencies would relocate or euthanize bears, lions, coyotes, and other species when human settlements expanded. Now, focusing on human safety is anathema.

Risks vary elsewhere, but in the Los Angeles hillside communities, the primary risk is attacks by mountain lions (or cougars) and coyotes. Of all states, California has the most attacks by wild carnivores. Cougar attacks are considered rare, yet four of the nine nationwide since 1994 have occurred in California. Wildlife managers have raised concerns since the 1980s, and wilding projects are likely to result in more human-animal encounters.

The following is a list of attacks by cougars and coyotes in California:

* In 2024, a five-year-old boy was attacked by a cougar while playing at a picnic table in a state park near Calabasas. Fortunately, family members scared the animal away, and rangers euthanized it.

* In 2021, another boy, also five, was dragged 45 yards by a cougar in his front yard. This occurred again between Calabasas and Malibu. The boy was saved by

his mother, who struck the cat with her bare hands. The cat was later shot dead by rangers.

* In 1994, a marathoner and mother of two was killed when a cougar pounced on her from behind while she was trail-running near the El Dorado National Park. That year, a school counselor on a hike was dragged off.

* In 2004, a mountain biker was killed in Whiting Ranch Wilderness Park near Irvine. His body was found after a cougar attacked two other bikers at the same location.

* Two brothers, Taylen and Wyatt Brooks, were hunting for shed antlers in the El Dorado National Forest when a cougar charged them. Taylen was killed in the attack. The family is fighting for protective legislation (SB 818), known as Taylen and Wyatt's Law.

* In 1981, a coyote dragged a three-year-old girl from her Glendale home. Her father rescued her and rushed her to the hospital, but she died of blood loss and a broken neck.

* A four-year-old boy sustained puncture wounds after a coyote attacked him while he stood in his grandparents' driveway. His mother scared the coyote off by screaming, grabbing her son, and running indoors.

In West Hollywood, coyotes have taken up residence in an unfinished condominium, now dubbed "Coyote Condo." There have been several sightings of coyotes in the neighborhood, and nights are disturbed by their howling. Officials say they are working with the property owner to resolve the issue in a "humane manner, consistent with the city's expectations."

The city follows a coyote "management and coexistence" plan that prioritizes non-lethal interventions. No timeline has been set to resolve the issue. Those who come to complain are told to file a report with the Department of Agriculture.

What policymakers seem unwilling to accept is that these animals are not victims of human oppression but predators. If they are not confined to wildlife habitats far from residential areas, they will attack humans and, over time, become habituated to such attacks.

But ignoring common sense, proponents of wilding projects and wildlife crossings are bent on granting animals free access to human habitations. Activists and policymakers espousing anti-speciesism are driven by a cultish zeal to accord sanctity to animals and to elevate them above humans.

This is antithetical to our Biblical foundations. Alongside the gender-identity madness, the aggressive pursuit of DEI over merit, and the replacement of critical thinking with Critical Theory at our universities, anti-speciesism is another salient feature of the attack on Western civilization and its values. It must be resisted.

—*American Thinker*, August 27, 2026

There Go the French

by Andrea Widburg

France's urban areas have extremely large Muslim populations. I mean, extremely large. Now, those same populations are rampaging through the streets, attacking people, and setting buildings on fire. This is an existential problem for France, and it's unclear whether the government will stop it and, if it doesn't, whether the French people (mostly disarmed, of course) will step up to save themselves.

Let me take this step by step. First, how big is the urban Muslim population across France? Because France is an aggressively secular nation, it does not officially collect religious data, so the numbers are estimates and can be a little confusing, as they encompass both urban centers and the suburbs ringing those centers. Still, the data are useful. I asked ChatGPT to assemble the available data, which you can see in the original article at *AT* and to see the caveats attached to this data and its source material.

> The total number of estimated Muslims in 8 major French cities and urban areas is 2,418,000.

Keeping that number in your head, especially for Marseille [estimated 220,000-290,000], consider this historically-based analysis that Michael Haltman compiled based on data in Peter Hammond's *Slavery, Terrorism and Islam: The Historical Roots and Contemporary Threat*:

> After reaching 20%, nations can expect hair-trigger rioting, jihad militia formations, sporadic killings, and the burnings of Christian churches and Jewish synagogues, such as in:
>
> Ethiopia—Muslim 32.8%
>
> At 40%, nations experience widespread massacres, chronic terror attacks, and ongoing militia warfare, such as in:
>
> Bosnia—Muslim 40%
>
> Chad—Muslim 53.1%
>
> Lebanon—Muslim 59.7%

Of course, at 60%, it's all over for any belief system other than Islam.

Now, combine that data with reports of riots across France. This AP report gives a little background:

> Thousands of arrests, hundreds of injuries, schools set on fire in France. When the summer vacation ended and the new term started just a month ago, few could have imagined that the academic year would so quickly descend into nationwide student protests—and turmoil.
>
> In a country beset by crises—both foreign and domestic—the eruption and rapid spread of protests

by unhappy teenage high schoolers caught France off guard.

Friday brought more of the scenes that have dominated streets this week: vandalism, garbage fires, teens confronting and taunting police. Officers charging, firing tear gas and making more arrests. By early afternoon, the education ministry reported protests impacting 560 schools.

Lest readers get upset, the AP hastens to assure them that (a) street protests are a common feature in France (that's true) and (b) that the high school students have a level of professionalism, right down to masks and goggles to protect against tear gas.

Ostensibly, the protests are about bad schools:

High schoolers are expressing broad grievances—mainly, schools are under-resourced, with dilapidated facilities and insufficient staff. Still, spending on education is one of the costliest items in the state budget that Macron's government proposed this week, with 65.5 billion euros ($74 billion) set aside for schools in the next year. That's more than the proposed 63.4 billion euros for defense.

Students also complain that school days, which often start at 8 a.m., are too exhausting and the university entrance system too complex. Some university students also joined the protests this week.

Yeah, maybe. But footage on the ground suggests that the protesters aren't students who want nicer buildings and better teachers. Instead, a lot of the footage suggests that the protesters are Muslim immigrants flexing their muscles:

Not coincidentally, the flags the protesters are flying aren't French at all...

It's ironic, really, that the French national anthem is La Marseillaise, named after the city in France with the largest percentage of Muslims and the most aggressive Palestinian...er, Muslim...er, student rioting.

As the AP report quoted above notes, the French police have been busy arresting the rioters. But I doubt the efficacy of that approach. I also doubt many, if any, will have serious jail time or any jail time at all. The left is allied with Islam, and the left fears Islam. That means Islam is in the driver's seat.

Given an anticipated weak French response, will the French population act? Despite France's periodically dismal war record since Napoleon's downfall (despite some victories, it's failed enough to be a standing joke), the French have been a warlike people, and darn good at it, too. Their generals have been awful, whether at Agincourt in 1415 or during WWI and WWII, but the French citizens used to be brave.

Are they still brave? And does bravery matter when you've voluntarily disarmed yourself in an orgy of virtue signaling, as all good citizens across Europe have done?

Currently, France has fewer than 12.7 million civilian-held firearms, compared to the 400 million or so in the US. Even adjusting for America's larger population, that works out to ~120.5 firearms per 100 people in America, and only ~19.6 per hundred in France. Are they going to throw champagne bottles and frogs' legs at rampaging "second- and third-generation migrants" who have a living culture of violence, rather than just a faded history of warfare?

Unrecognized at the time, Europe basically died in WWII. America kept it on life support for a long time, and it went through the motions of living. But once Europe embraced leftism and, through that, unlimited Islamic immigration, it began dismantling the very values that created it.

What's happening now is tragic to watch, but it feels terribly inevitable. The European train is already halfway across a collapsing bridge stretched high over a bottomless abyss.

—*American Thinker*, October 3, 2026

There Go the Canadians

by Eric Utter

Apparently, women must now be accompanied by a male guardian to enter at least one retail outlet in Ontario, Canada. If Canadian women want to enter that shop, they must act like they are living under Sharia Law.

If you must act like you're living under Sharia law, you are effectively living under Sharia law.

One would think this would send women's libbers into paroxysms of anger, but this is not the case, because, you know, "Islamophobia." Gotta be tolerant! Unless you are a Muslim.

Also in The Great White North, anything that you say, post, blog, or infer, can —and quite possibly will — be used against you via its ludicrous hate crime laws ("319, sub 2, 'Willful Promotion of Hate.'").

And some Muslims are using this to harass the natives.

Make no mistake, Canada is now a police state. No wonder it wants to join the likes of the U.K. as an Associate Member of the ~~Europeon~~ European Union.

What's more, opinions and *jokes* can now be considered threats and hate speech in the Deranged Dominion.

An Ottawan, an Albertan, and a Muslim walk into a bar. The bartender says, "How can I help you boys?" The Ottawan says, "Hey, don't assume our gender identity! I'll have a Shirley Temple." The Albertan says,

"I'll have a whiskey, straight-up, pardner." The Muslim says, "Alcohol is not halal! Mohamed forbids this!" And shoots the bartender dead. At which point the Ottawan, clearly extremely disturbed, warns the bar's patrons against "Islamophobia."

(Please don't send this post—or joke—to Canadian authorities. Or to the Democrat-Socialists of America, for that matter.)

In other news, not one, not two, but *three* Mohammeds have been charged with day care fraud in San Diego. There's a shock. (Minneapolis says, "Hold my [non-alcoholic!] beer, I've got this.")

I am beginning to wonder if there is a single legitimate Muslim-owned business in the United States. And, an overwhelming percentage of illegal immigrants receive government support.

And yet, ignorant, pseudo-tolerant, virtue-signaling clowns like Democrat Hallie Shoffner, running to unseat Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR), just told an Arkansas-based podcast that illegal alien field hands are so valuable she'd swap five US workers for a single one of them. She'd deport five American citizens to keep one illegal alien? And there are those who claim that Democrats do not favor illegals/immigrants over American citizens! Perhaps she is fond of her gardener and pool boy. And what has any American employee of Costco, Buc-ees, Amazon, Ford, or Netflix ever done for her? Or any that toil at her local restaurants, salons, pubs, schools, hospitals, or waste management companies?

Attention all non-communist, non-insane Americans: Democrats and their pathetic remoras in the mainstream media *really do* disdain you. Marxists *really are* on the march. Muslims, whether passively or aggressively, *really are* attempting a long-term takeover of this nation. Suicidal empathy *really will* destroy us if we let it.

I am utterly gob-smacked when I see how tolerant of evil a great many Americans have become. How O.K. so-called "feminists" and "liberals" and assorted other whackos and deviants are with the rise of Islam. And how relatively sanguine even many Republicans are with the rapid metastasis of Marxism.

We cannot be "tolerant" of ideologies that are trying to see to our demise, to put it politely, if we wish to survive. That should be obvious on its face. A society that welcomes, fetes, and rewards those who want to convert, enslave, or kill it, is obviously condemned to extinction.

—*American Thinker*, September 21, 2026

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The Cuban Situation

by Fay Voshell

Historian Paul Johnson, author of *Modern Times*, described the 1930s as "the age of the heroic lie." "Saintly mendacity" became its most prized virtue. Stalin's Soviet Union was built on sanctified fabrications that characterized communist ideology and practice.

The creation of Stalin as a communist messianic figure was part of the "saintly mendacity."

Johnson wrote that views of Stalin written in the years 1929-34 made strange reading. Enthusiastic supporters in media and political circles included H.G. Wells, who claimed "everybody trusts him." The American ambassador to the Soviet Union, Joseph E. Davies, described the brutal dictator: "His brown eye is exceedingly wise and gentle. A child would like to sit on his lap and a dog would sidle up to him." Chilean writer Pablo Neruda wrote he was "a good-natured man of principle."

The adulatory posture of the 1930s clerisy comprised of academics, politicians, and the press toward communist thugs remained scarcely unchanged into the late 50s and 60s.

As author Matthew Blackwell points out in his essay "Devastation and Denial: Cambodia and the Academic Left," the academic left of the 70s either evaded or completely refused to condemn the genocide committed by Pol Pot, who deeply admired Jean Paul Sartre's philosophy of violence as a tool of change.

Blackwell points out "the French cognoscenti had become entranced by Stalinism after the Second World War. Here was a group of bright, erudite people ready to tolerate the worst crimes as long as they are committed in the name of the proper doctrines."

The clerisy's elevation and support of a communist messianic strongman was also on full display when Fidel Castro rose to power in Cuba. On January 19, 1959, *Life* magazine ran an article featuring Castro's takeover of Cuba.

The article is titled, "Liberator's Triumphal March." It begins, "Down from the eastern hills where he had forged his big victory, Fidel Castro marched in tumultuous triumph through the towns and villages of post-Batista Cuba. He came not as a dutifully honored conqueror, but as a man ecstatically acclaimed by the people he had liberated."

Fidel is described as being greeted by throngs of people who threw flowers at his feet, listened to speeches in which he proclaimed "Now we are going to purify this country." The purification was to start with a group of "impartial, honest men."

The immediate need was for purification from the influence of the former Batista regime. A few heads had

to roll in order to create a new Cuba. The minor adjustment needed for purification of the nation was only just, as Castro's accomplices were "driven to fury by the indiscriminate torture and killing of their friends."

The rebels immediately executed 40 of Batista's accomplices and threw another 2,000 into jail.

Life magazine included a photo of one of the executions. The magazine's snuff photo was captured at the moment bullets hit Cornelio Rojas, Batista's chief of police. Rojas' hat was flying off, his face contorted. Immediately beneath the photo was an advertisement for Campbell's turkey noodle soup. "Have you had your soup today?" Further down, an ad for a refrigerator showed a fully cooked turkey on the shelf.

Whatever the nature of his crimes, real and/or supposed, Rojas received no trial. Nor were official or specific charges brought against him.

The new liberator of Cuba was aided by sidekick Che Guevara, whom *Time* magazine, in an article titled "Cuba: Castro's Brain," described as having a "sweet smile."

The *Time* article describes Che as creating the blueprint for Cuba's communist revolution:

> Che has taken three crucial steps. He has cut Cuba's main economic ties with the West and hooked them to the Communist world. He has started preparing for the war he expects the US to wage against him. And he has taken bold action to spread his revolutionary influence across the rest of Latin America.

Che's "bold action" did influence South America. He is still seen as a communist messianic figure who promises a wonderful future—after the violent destruction of the old order.

But the brutal truth of communist regimes is a tale best told by survivors.

One such survivor is Armando Valladares, whose book *Against All Hope* tells the truth of an oppressive regime still supported by naïve youths wearing T-shirts featuring Che Guevara—a man Valladares witnessed as taking a deep personal interest in the interrogation, torture, and execution of political prisoners

Valladares endured 22 years as a prisoner of the Castro regime. He was arrested in 1960 because of his opposition to communism and was not released until 1982, and then only because of the intervention of international leaders and human rights organizations. From his cell window, he witnessed the failed Bay of Pigs invasion. He was tortured. He listened to Castro's firing squads eliminate the opposition.

He remembers the West's infatuation with and promotion of Castro, recalling that at first Castro publicly promoted democracy. Valladares wrote that Castro appeared as a guest on the famous program "Meet the Press" on April 19, 1959. Journalist Lawrence Spivak asked Castro, "I want to know where your heart lies in the struggle between Communism and democracy. Whose side, where is your heart and where are your feelings?" Castro immediately responded, "Democracy is my ideal, really. . . I am not Communist. I am not agreed with Communism. . . There is no doubt for me between democracy and Communism."

The truth about Castro was soon apparent. Valladares wrote:

> Early in 1959, on January 21, to be exact, Castro gave a speech in front of the Presidential Palace in which he declared, "There will not be more than about four hundred henchmen and conspirators against the Revolution that we will execute." But many more than that had already fallen before the firing squads in those days of barbarity and death. On January 12, on a firing range located in a small valley called San Juan, at the end of the island in the province of Oriente, hundreds of soldiers from the defeated army of Batista had been lined up in a trench knee-deep and more than fifty yards long. Their hands were tied behind their backs, and they were machine-gunned there where they stood. Then with bulldozers the trenches were turned into mass graves. There had been no trial of any kind for those men. Many of them were hardly more than boys, who had joined the army because money and food were scarce at home. The mass execution was ordered by Raúl Castro and attended by him personally. Nor was it an isolated instance.

Fidel, Che, and Raúl: These have been the hellish messiahs anointed to rule over the Cuban people. The results of their dedication to their ideology have been manifestly apparent for decades. Cuba is in ruins.

However, as Secretary of State Marco Rubio has noted, the communist template for Cuba and its plans to revolutionize all of South America and to influence the people of the United States continue to this day.

In view of the brutal and hellish record of its failed communist messiahs, past and present, it is only right that the ideology and actions of the current government of Cuba be confronted and resisted by the United States of America.

The Monroe Doctrine should continue to be implemented.

Witness Armando Valladares, who is now 89 years old, would no doubt approve.

—*American Thinker*, September 26, 2026

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The Case for Capitalism

by James Moodey

The word *capitalism* was coined in the 1700s. The definition was vague. It generally meant "private property traded freely" or "free markets." However, most non-totalitarian countries had free markets, and these countries in Europe and elsewhere were not particularly wealthy. Their rural people were paupers living off the land, even in England, France, and the US at our founding.

We generally regard capitalism as creating wealth, but free markets are not what created the enormous wealth that occurred in the United States. I knew that and studied our economic history to find out: If it was not free markets, what was it? What specifically were the mechanics of "our capitalism" that created such wealth?

I found the answer. However, I also learned that capitalism cannot be taught without properly defining wealth.

Wealth of a nation is its amount of usable goods. I use the term *usable goods* to exclude paintings and other speculative items. Poverty is a lack of usable goods, such as clothes or food. A large supply of usable goods brings prices down and reduces poverty. We became wealthy because we produced an enormous amount of usable goods. But how did that happen?

Usable goods are created by factories. It is not the amount we pay factory workers that is important; it is the millions of hammers, shoes, and vehicles they produce that create wealth. Farmers and utility workers can be included with factory workers who produce usable goods for millions of people.

Cyrus McCormick's reaper would supply a large amount of food, but sales were difficult and slow. The reaper would break down on farms far away. McCormick had difficulty traversing the country making repairs and sales. He solved these problems by inventing a unique idea of setting up distributors. He shared significant profit with the distributors. They stocked the product locally, performed repairs, and made sales. Sales grew rapidly, and McCormick Reapers were supplied throughout the country. The United States became an exporter of food.

Here is the key to capitalism's success: When farmers tried to buy direct from McCormick, he refused and made them buy from their respective distributor.

Other manufactures, of home goods, saw McCormick's success and not only set up distributors, but added another discount to include retailers. Again, customers were sent back to the retailers. Retailing became a very profitable business. In the 1850s, general stores appeared in nearly every town.

It was not greed that made capitalism successful; it was nearly the opposite. It was the sharing of profits with all who sold the product.

Prior to this, women made their own soap, household goods, and clothes and tended their own crops. Men planted crops, hand-forged steel tools, and built what they needed. Rather than make their own goods, people began to buy them at a local store. Rural couples were unshackled from the centuries-old life of paupers.

Rural couples had been purchasing limited goods from peddlers who occasionally passed through their valley. Or they bought goods from catalogues. Returns of goods was an enormous problem, and single sales limited mass production at the factories, which kept prices high.

When couples found they could buy any goods they wanted at a general store, demand for home goods exploded. Prices for household goods and farm equipment fell due to the resulting mass production. Farm families soon found buyers for their excess farm produce, and those profits were spent on fast-declining prices of home goods. Men could afford farm equipment, and women bought dresses rather than made them. Rural people and the merchants became wealthy. America soon became known as the "land of opportunity."

Incomes were rising while prices steadily fell for decades, up to and including the Roaring Twenties. Introduction of the income tax reversed the trend. In the 1930s, the lowest income tax bracket was raised to 24 percent and the highest income bracket to 94 percent.

Capitalism is not simply free markets. We are not free to bargain for the price of milk in a store. We are not free to bargain with the factory. The epitome of free markets are barter societies in the Middle East. They are free to bargain with the retailer and the factory. High-volume factories cannot survive in a barter society, and those societies are mired in poverty as a result.

Capitalism is a self-perpetuating economic system designed to increase sales using a structure of profits for all who sell the product, and those profits are protected by the factories. That is what created millions of usable goods, reduced prices, reduced poverty, and created our great wealth.

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Founded in 1953, the Christian Anti-Communism Crusade, under the leadership of Dr. Fred C. Schwarz (1913-2009) has been publishing a monthly newsletter since 1960. *The Schwarz Report* is edited by Dr. David A. Noebel and is offered free of charge to anyone asking for it. The Crusade's address is PO Box 129, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. Our telephone number is 719-685-9043. All correspondence and tax-deductible gifts (CACC is a 501C3 tax-exempt organization) may be sent to this address. You may also access earlier editions of *The Schwarz Report* and make donations at www.schwarzreport.org.
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