

**Von Kuehnelt-Leddihn Quotes John Adams on Democracy; Gary North on Envy; Christians Are Winners, Never Victims; Sophisticated Thought Is Based on Wisdom**

In the same work he wrote that “we may appeal to every page of history ... for proofs irrefragable that the people, when they have been unchecked have been as unjust, tyrannical, brutal, barbarous and cruel as any king or senate possessed by an uncontrollable power. The majority has eternally and without any one exception usurped over the rights of the minority. And he added in another passage, “All projects of government formed upon a supposition of continual vigilance, sagacity, virtue, and firmness of the people, when possessed of the exercise of supreme power, are cheats and delusions.” This tallies with his remark, “The proposition that the people are the best keepers of their own liberties is not true. They are the worst conceivable, they are no keepers at all: they can neither judge, act, think, or will, as a political body. Individuals have conquered themselves: nations and large bodies never.” Adams fired his heaviest artillery at democracy in the same work when he advanced twelve points, of which I quote only a few:

1. No democracy ever did or ever can exist.
4. That no love of equality, at least since Adam’s fall, ever existed.
5. That no love of frugality ever existed as a passion, but always as a virtue.
6. That therefore the democracy of Montesquieu ... [is] all mere fragments of the brain, a delusive imagination.
7. That his passion of love for democracy would be, in the members of the majority only, a love of the majority.
11. That in reality, the word democracy signifies nothing more nor less than a nation or people without any government at all. (pp. 67-68)

And in a letter to Jefferson he stated that “Democracy will envy all, contend with all, endeavor to pull down all, and when by chance it happens to get the upper hand for a short time, it will be revengeful, bloody and cruel.” John Adams saw clearly that private property was basically endangered by democracy which would almost always be in the hands of the lower and far more numerous part of the social pyramid.

In his letter to John Taylor he added, “If you give more than a share in the sovereignty to the democrats, this is, if you give them the command or the preponderance in the sovereignty, that is, the legislature, they will vote all property out of the hands of you aristocrats, and it will let you escape with your lives, it will be more humanity, consideration and generosity than any triumphant democracy ever displayed since the creation.”<sup>1</sup> (p. 68)

49. It was a biblical worldview that guided the Founders in the development of our national documents which established the United States as a Republic. Over the course of the last sixty years, it is the worldview of progressives that has encouraged a systematic departure away from the moral underpinnings of limited government and balance of power among its branches as proclaimed by the Declaration and the Constitution. The Republic has been transformed into a democracy and the democracy is presently in the embryonic stage of an oligarchy rushing posthaste toward tyranny.

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<sup>1</sup> Erik von Kuehnelt-Leddihn, *Leftism: From de Sade and Marx to Hitler and Marcuse* (New Rochelle, NY: Arlington House Publishers, 1974), 27-28. 66-68.

50. The cure for the failure of the pulpit and the biblical ignorance and resultant heresy of the parishioners is the transformation of the body politic back to the stability of its original republican form of government. This rests on an ever-increasing number of believers making the advance to the sophisticated spiritual life and the development of a biblical worldview.
51. This cannot be accomplished as long as envy remains the national sin of the American government and the majority of its people.
52. An insightful definition of envy was written by Gary North in 1983:

**True envy is one of the most insidious evils that can afflict a civilization. Envy is not mere covetousness, not just a desire to steal, or illegally obtain another person's goods; envy is that grinding resentment of another person's advantages. It is a sin that cannot be placated.**

**Envy is a destroyer. Jealousy or covetousness says, "He's got it, I want it; I'll steal it; I'll use it for myself." But envy says something worse: "He's got it, I want it, I know I can never get it; I'll destroy it so no one else can have it either." Modern socialism is the politics of envy. The socialist knows that there are not enough rich people to support all the poor people of this world. He knows that government programs of wealth redistribution cannot uplift the vast majority of men. But that doesn't convince him to abandon socialism. He likes socialism because he thinks it will make it impossible for the "wealth-poverty gap" to exist; not because the poor have risen but because the rich have been pulled down to the level of the poor.**

**Envy is the politics of economic devaluation. When envy becomes the foundation of politics the whole society is threatened. Men lose faith in the ability of civil government to protect their property and their futures. They become secretive. They hide their resources from prying eyes. They reduce their consideration of others, and their concept of brotherly love is abandoned.<sup>2</sup>**

53. These excerpts reveal that the loss of a biblical worldview causes the rise of a secular worldview. It sets in motion a downward spiral of society toward the lust for power on the part of government which is acquired and expanded by soliciting the sin of envy among its citizens. Socialism is the sin of envy on a national scale.
54. Envy is stoked by class warfare which motivates individuals to assume the mental attitude of a victim. Once a victim, always a victim. Once a victim is incorporated into a group then it becomes almost impossible for one to leave the organization without being categorized as a traitor. Special interest groups create victims in order to acquire power, but the loss of their victims would mean loss of power so: once a victim, always a victim.
55. It is beneath the Christian to assume the status of a victim. Christians are winners. When a person believes in Christ he has become a member of the heavenly community with *politeuma* privileges, a member of the royal family of God, and qualified to advance toward escrow blessings.
56. While still assigned to planet earth, the believer's duty is to grow in grace and serve the Lord Jesus Christ as a good soldier. This requires the isolation of distractions starting with one's sinful nature, its production, and its ramifications.

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<sup>2</sup> Gary North, *Successful Investing in the Age of Envy* (Fort Worth: Dominion Press, 1983).

57. Sophisticated thought cannot be developed in the soul of a person who considers himself a victim of another person, a system, or a disaster. The plan of God trumps any exigency, it holds no grudges, it orients and adjusts to circumstances, and does so with inner happiness.
58. Those who retreat into victimhood do so in reversionism. Victimhood is satanic in its development and application. A winner never assumes the position of defeat, is never insulted, and never offended.
59. PRINCIPLE:       There is no crying in Christianity!
60. Therefore, if you are playing the victim, if you are too lazy to get to church, if you are distracted by the fact you can't get organized to put doctrine on our Day-Timer, then you can never advance to the level of sophisticated thought because you don't know what you are doing.
61. Sophistication has to do with knowledge that is increasingly refined so that the believer can understand and manage complex issues.
62. Sophistication refers to a high inventory of ideas that enables the believer to make quality decisions that result in divine good production.
63. PRINCIPLE:       *Sophia* – wisdom – always denotes quality, never an activity.
64. Having a personal sense of destiny separates the believer from being a loser, a spiritual sophomore, and a wannabe. Knowledge amalgamated into wisdom produces spiritual self-esteem.
65. Wisdom results in self-confidence based on one's cognitive skills: conscious intellectual activity based on the quality of one's thinking, remembering, and reasoning from a biblical worldview.
66. The biblical worldview crystallizes in spiritual adulthood and spiritual self-esteem is the key to one's advance in the sophisticated spiritual life.