

1. In his ADVENTURES WITH IDEAS, Whitehead says each culture/subculture seduces itself with a slogan word, and the word for the late American civilization is "freedom." I note that when we translate from the Teutonic to the Latin ["liberation"], we add an eristic touch: "freedom from." If we were to take the second step in the normal process of elating in English, viz. from Latin into Greek---producing "eleutherization"--would we move into the polar connotation, viz. "freedom for"? "Freedom" seduces to heady Prometheanism, and "liberation" to self-righteous and facile enemy-identification: what would "eleutherization" seduce to? Anyway, the whole idea is pernicious: ask anybody who feels threatened when somebody's cry infringes on the anybody's "rights." Also, the whole idea is necessary, given the God-given human potential. Also, the whole idea is dangerous, given God's own inalienable rights to eternal life, liberty, and glory...CONCLUSION: Biblical theology should come out of the closet and stop pandering to Movements' slogans.

2. "Movements" corrupt themselves with the illusion of purity, in their élan blind to their degenerate roots, their righteous posturings, their self-interested obscurations, their self-serving "logic," their to-others patent violations of truth, their ideologized unfairness to "the oppressor," their regressive tendencies, and their demonic potential. In short, I'm worried about women. And about men. In fact, about anybody on the make. (I'm worried even more about folks not on the make, but that's another speech.)

3. So McGraw Hill says cut out the synecdoche "man," and WSJ (10Oct74) gets--adding the Fr. radical slogan "Woman is the future of man"--the editorial headline "The Future of 'Man'" --an editorial I've seen reproduced in two other papers. Modern media quickly puff up any balloon till it bursts. CONCLUSION: Now, only an underground movement has a chance of surviving more than two years. [Real Xny has survived that by IMx, underground.]

4. Any Movement is in dynamic tension to the general infrapsychic movement of the culture/subculture in which the Movement is occurring. A Movement may capture the general psyche, or the general psyche may quench the Movement, or Movement/movement may run parallel in disengagement or running battle, or the two may modulate together into something new. Another psychosocial fact: movement/Movement try to maximize sanctional force, using motivators within and beyond the movement/Movement. Right now, Eastern hemisphere sanctions are inundating the USA from across the Pacific, striking first (what else?) California. If the WM (Women's Movement) absorbs any of this to-the-West alien energy, it may become even less friendly to Western religion (Judaism, Xny, and the civil religion) than it now is. On the other hand, the Yankee option ["freedom"] may partly yield to the Rome option ["power," as American did between WW2 and Watergate] or to the Athens option [humane "beauty"] or to the Jerusalem option ["holiness"]. Or HP [the Human Potential Movement], which is an East/West mix, may come to dominate with its holy words, e.g. "personal" and "potential" and "open." It's open season, and here we go! The zaniest, most wonderful time to be alive!

5. This morning in Breakfast for the Hungry Hearted--the subject being the hungry vis-a-vis triage--an engineer defined "freedom" as the process of "enlarging the radius of potential action" so as to increase the concentric circles of "options" or "alternatives." Since he was loud and adamant about his engineering image, the result was to decrease everybody's freedom. Oh, well. When it comes to freedom things are tough all over. Cheer up, we'll all soon be dead. [BHH is almost never that depressing; and anyway, we quit with Mt. 13's pearl of great price, the story of a pearl merchant whose greed and infatuation ruined him and, ironically, made him a model Christian. Things are that complicated--in fact, too complicated ever to justify our being discouraged.]

6. Equality? And Gore Vidal's Myron/Myra/Myron meandering. Integration/disintegration/re-integration? Apuleius' golden ass and the Isis theophany--to make him a male man!

7. Enough to convert the sensitive to feminism: reading "woman" in WID2 and/or OED--a catalog of horrors, in contrast to "man." WID2 has the tidbit that "man" is "probably" cognate with "mind," leaving [I suppose] women mindless, or at least man-dependent [wifmann, A-S] for their minds. Of course the problem is not just English and its predecessor, A-S--and not just Teutonic--and not even just I-E, the languages of the Eurasian land mass from Ireland through India. It's also semitic, biblical. And.... And.... And.... On top of all that, women will become increasingly seen as unclean for an entirely new reason, viz. their befouling earth-air-water with excess of offspring.