

**Taking Captivity
Captive**



Rebecca O'Connor

From Barack Obama's "Audacity of Hope"



I was not raised in a religious household... Without the help of religious texts or outside authorities, (my mother) worked mightily to instill in me the values that many Americans learn in Sunday school: honesty, empathy, discipline, delayed gratification, and hard work. She raged at poverty and injustice. Most of all, she possessed an abiding sense of wonder, a reverence for life and its precious, transitory nature..."

SECULAR NATION SECULAR NATURE

Rom 8:6-7

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

KJV

The opening picture was from the Secular Humanist's ad to endorse Obama. After the election and in the Presidency, Obama stated that this was not a Christian nation. In the next breath he declared America to be a Secular nation having many diverse religions. Most people do not understand exactly what secular means.

My daughter [Meagan] had an idea of what secularism was at the age of seven years old. When the girls were young I made everything from scratch using natural ingredients like stone ground flour and carob to replace chocolate etc. I even made my own bread and crackers sprinkled with a little sea salt. Being raised in a Christian home along with healthy eating, healthy thinking was encouraged, and anything worldly or secular and humanistic was discouraged. We went to a friend's home, and there in a large apothecary jar were all kinds of chocolate bars and M&Ms etc. Meagan gasped and whispered, "Mom, she has secular candy." That is when I realized that she thought anything outside of stone ground wheat and carob to be sinful which she translated "secular". I explained that Hersey bars were not of any particular faith. Secular and chocolate are not related by definition. Secular is not a philosophy of no particular faith, but a philosophy that rejects faith. Those trying to influence by lulling the nation in monotone voice are deceptive in nature. Look at this deceptively worded description of Secularism:

SECULARISM: *"draws its intellectual roots from Greek and Roman philosophers.*

Secularism does not say there is no light or guidance elsewhere, but maintains that there is light and guidance in secular truth, whose conditions and sanctions exist independently, and act forever. Secular knowledge is manifestly that kind of knowledge which is founded in this life, which relates to the conduct of this life, conduces to the welfare of this life, and is capable of being tested by the experience of this life."

Sounds just like Obama: a lot of words saying nothing. I find it interesting to see the way "secular" is said in its most nonthreatening tenor, however it is not as harmless as it sounds. It is a jealous animal void of God or Godliness. It is an animal of the flesh, by the flesh and for the flesh.

Secularism according to the definition from the dictionary reads:

sec· u· lar· ism

Spelled Pronunciation [sek-yuh-luh-riz-uh^(OO)m]

-noun

1. secular spirit or tendency, esp. a system of political or social philosophy that *rejects* all forms of religious faith and worship.
2. the view that public education and other matters of civil policy should be conducted without the introduction of a religious element.

Definition for “**rejects**” in the same dictionary:

re· ject

Spelled Pronunciation [*v.* ri-jekt; *n.* ree-jekt]

-verb (used with object)

1. to refuse to have, take, recognize, etc.
2. to refuse to grant (a request, demand, etc.).
3. to refuse to accept (someone or something); rebuff:
4. to discard as useless or unsatisfactory:
5. to cast out or eject; vomit.
6. to cast out or off.

In other words, Christians are rejects rejected from the political arena. You will start to see the effects of a secular nation as your rights are squeezed to obliteration. *“This can’t happen in America.”* It might not have happened in the Old America, but we are under the new government that promised change. We went from One Nation Under God to a Secular Nation. Secularists want the churches, who make politically incorrect statements, to lose their tax exempt status. It is amazing to me how many churches Obama and Clinton campaigned in, but to preach the absolutes or the “Shalt Nots” are not to be tolerated. The government is taking away the right of free speech practiced within the confines of the church to teach or preach the values and absolutes of the Bible. A country which proclaimed equality for all now means equality for some.

Christians have no such equality. Secularists claim the right to free speech and can say what they want. Their words are not taxed. We may not speak our faith or pray in a public arena, and now if we teach certain absolutes the government threatens to tax our words!

Look at this political agenda I copied:

1. Termination of the myth of *equality for all*
2. Tax all churches
3. Remove any religious beliefs which have been incorporated in legislation
4. The freedom for all to live within a total environment of their choice

From everything you have already read thus far about secularism you can clearly see it in this agenda, yet I did not get this agenda from secularism nor humanism nor socialism. I got this political agenda straight from the Church of Satan [CoS]! They listed all information about themselves along with their statement, behavior, celebrations, etc. and political agenda. The world of "ism's" are in agreement and against God and Christians. Meagan was right after all, not about chocolate, but secularism is satanic in nature. Look again at the opening Scripture:

Rom 8:6-7

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

James 4:4

Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

Have you ever looked up the definition of politician?

pol· i· ti· cian

[pol-i-tish-uh>n]

1. *A person who is active in party politics*
2. *A seeker or holder of public office, who is more concerned about winning favor or retaining power than maintaining principles.*
3. *A person who holds political office.*
4. *A person skilled in political government or administration; statesman, stateswomen.*
5. *An expert in politics or political government*
6. *A person who seeks to gain power or advancement within an organization in*

ways that are generally disapproved.

I kid you not! Denny actually asked me if I had ever looked up the word politician. He challenged me to check it out. I knew they did this, but had no idea that it was truly the definition of who they were! Now that made me curious as to what a political organizer was since that was Obama's resume for the presidency.

These were the steps I found for a community/political organizer:

Step 1

Begin by taking college level Political Science classes. Your focus should be basic American government, such as branches of the government and how laws are made. Public policy classes would also be beneficial for your learning experience. The truth is that these classes are not a requirement, meaning that you can work as a political organizer without taking any such classes. However, these courses will give you the knowledge necessary to better perform your duties as a political organizer as well as increase the odds that you will be hired for such a position.

Step 2

Have a very outgoing personality. When working as a political organizer, you will be talking with many different people on a daily basis. These people will come from different backgrounds and have different agendas and ideas regarding what is best for the country. It's important that you are more than willing to discuss these things with people and also express your beliefs without wavering one bit.

Step 3

Contact your local political offices regarding grassroots campaign jobs. A political organizer is somebody who goes out and raises both awareness and funds for different campaigns. This can be done both on the street and door-to-door. There are also national grassroots organizations that you can search for on your favorite search engine.

Step 4

Be able to sell yourself and the campaign. Remember that politics is nothing more than selling something. Instead of selling a product, though, you will be selling either a candidate, political party or policy. You must be convincing to the people you will be speaking with or you will not be a successful political organizer. As with any sales job, the best way to learn this skill is by doing. Sure, you will take some bumps along the way, but in time you will find what works for you.

Step 5

Have the ability to lead both large and small groups of workers. A political

organizer will often take volunteers and other salaried workers out into the field for fund raising, petition signings, voter registration and other tasks necessary for the campaign. You must have the ability to motivate your workers on a daily basis and rally them when bad days occur.

Whoa Bessie! Do you see the steps Obama took in order to become the most powerful man in the world? He majored in political science and minored in sales and cheerleading! He had a choice of becoming a motivational speaker or the president. I am trying neither to be humorous nor sarcastic for it is all too sad.

I feel that if Obama had been a Mr. America pageant contender who gave the answer to the fishbowl question: "What would you do as Mr. America?" He would have answered, "I really couldn't say. That's above my pay-grade, but starting my own country would be really cool."

Now I am going to level with you, Reader. The end is not yet. It is the fault of voters in not making our potential leaders answer the questions. Yes, I know that they are swift at dodging the important questions, but that should not stop us from looking. We tend to transpose what is being said into what we hope it means rather than what it does mean. I am forever looking up words, and these are words that I assume to know but find that I have not really understood.

People's rights are taken from them when they do not understand their rights. The media is the education of the lazy who are spoon fed whatever dish they want you to digest lulling a nation of people into captivity. We have taken our blessings for granted and put our land up for sale. There are many secular nations, and none of them have been blessed as we have, but we decided to join them. We will be adding ourselves to the plagues, pestilences and famines in which they have all partaken.

The twentieth President of the United States, James Garfield [1887] warned the American people with these words:

"Now more than ever before, the people are responsible for the character of their Congress. If that body be ignorant, reckless and corrupt, it is because the people tolerate ignorance, recklessness and corruption. If it be intelligent, brave and pure, it is because the people demand these high qualities to represent them in the national legislature." He went on to say, "If the next centennial does not find us a great nation ... it will be because those who represent the enterprise, the culture, and the morality of the nation do not aid in controlling the political forces."

It is in these days that a man will eat the harvest he has sown. Now is the time, my Friend, to take your salvation seriously, for it will be our only saving grace in this captivity. Change what can be changed. Stand strong in the days ahead. This is no motivational speech; it is the Word of God.

TAKING CAPTIVITY CAPTIVE

Luke 4:18-19

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.
KJV*

When Jesus came to earth He began taking captivity captive. People had been bound by sickness, disease, and poverty. Jesus set the captives free by taking their captivity captive. People of no understanding were given Words of life. Dark prisons of blindness became bright and clear. He made crooked paths straight. I do not remember Jesus ever casting out a government, but He did bring a new government upon His shoulders. He healed the infirmed, chastised the religious and brought in the Kingdom of God. The only thing Jesus cast out were those principalities not of flesh and blood:

Eph 6:12

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

If you think about it, Jesus cast out neither kings nor pharaohs. Nothing earthly was cast out, killed or destroyed. Jesus was on a campaign mission to buy back what was stolen and cast out the thief. Everywhere He walked He told of the new government which is the Kingdom of God.

Matt 12:28-29

But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.

This Scripture is referring to the healing of a deaf mute, and we see two key principles:

1. Bind the strong man [principalities, powers, rulers of darkness...spiritual entities]
2. In order to spoil his house [kingdoms of captivity]

In other words, just as Eph 6:12 shows us that our enemy is fought in the spirit being spiritual in order to effect the kingdoms of this world. God's

Kingdom takes the captivity of kingdoms captive. Look at these examples:

Joseph=favored child of the Kingdom

1. Conquered the pit of death by living *Gen 37:20, 28*
2. Conquered slavery by becoming its foreman *Gen 39:2-4*
3. Conquered prison through God's gift of interpretation *Gen 39:21-22*
4. Became second to the most powerful pharaoh in Egypt *Gen 41:38-41*
5. Joseph took captivity captive!

Daniel=favored child of the Kingdom

1. Conquered slavery becoming a prince to the king *Dan 1:4-7*
2. Conquered fear by living his faith *Dan 1:8-9*
3. Conquered death in the lion's den by living *Dan 6:16-23*
4. Converted the king of a kingdom to bow in fasting and prayer to the Kingdom of God
5. Joseph took captivity captive

Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego=favored children of the Kingdom

1. Conquered slavery through knowledge, skill and wisdom from God *Dan 1:17*
2. Conquered fear through their faith *Dan 3:15-16*
3. Conquered death in a fiery furnace by living *Dan 3:26-29*
4. Conquered bondage by promotion *Dan 3:30*
5. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego took captivity captive

David=favored child of the Kingdom

1. Conquered being the least to becoming the greatest *1 Sam 16:10-11*
2. Conquered death at the paws of a lion and bear *1 Sam 17:37*
3. Conquered a giant by viewing God as gigantic! *1 Sam 17:45-46*
4. Was a fugitive from a king who became a king whose lineage birthed THE KING *Matt 1:1*
5. David took captivity captive

Jesus=favored Son of God

1. Conquered the oppressive kingdom of the Roman Empire and all kingdoms by ushering in the Kingdom of God
2. Conquered the sea by walking on it *Matt 14:26-27*
3. Conquered the wind, waves and storms by commanding them to obey *Mk 4:39*
4. Conquered death, hell and the grave by resurrecting *1 Co 15:22-28, Rom 6:9*
5. Conquered eternal damnation with eternal life for all children *John 3:16*
6. Conquered all kingdoms by leaving the Kingdom with God's children *John 14:12*
7. Jesus took captivity captive and gave us the solution and power to do the same

Whether taken into captivity of another nation or a situation or bound with

infirmity, we have been given the ability to take captivity captive! The only stipulation is to live within the Kingdom of God. Our living outside of God's Kingdom will keep us ever bound. Why do you think Satan is so busy about tempting us out of God's Kingdom? Satan wants us in a state of helpless abandon without power and provision. The enemy is defeated by the Kingdom of God so naturally conversion into the secular kingdom will defeat man. The Kingdom of God lives within the children who walk in it, speak it and live it even within a secular captivity.

No power, principality or secular oppressor can separate us from the love, Kingdom or benefits of our God. Did Jesus break the laws of the kingdom for the Kingdom? No, He even paid taxes to Caesar:

Matt 22:17-21

Tell us therefore, What thinkest thou? Is it lawful to give tribute unto Caesar, or not?

But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, Why tempt ye me, ye hypocrites?

Shew me the tribute money. And they brought unto him a penny.

And he saith unto them, Whose is this image and superscription?

They say unto him, Caesar's. Then saith he unto them, Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's; and unto God the things that are God's.

Interesting is the irony of that statement, in that while the coin was in the image of Caesar, Caesar was made in the image of God. Jesus was showing the "water cycle" of all things, and that no matter in what form it all comes it goes back around to God in the end. He is the Alpha and Omega of it all. Do you see that even in Jesus' statement in Matt 22:21 He is taking captivity captive. There is a freedom that no man can take from the children of the Kingdom. No man can capture your heart, but it is we who give our hearts. We may give it to kingdoms or THE Kingdom, but when our hearts fail for fear we are an impotent lot!

Luke 21:26

Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.

- *Hearts failing:* ἀποψύχω to *breathe out*, that is, *faint*: - hearts failing.

Most people translate this as meaning that there will be more death through heart attacks because of the shaking. Have you ever heard someone who is exasperated breathe out? The heart muscle does not faint, but the heart of the mind does:

Gal 6:9

And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

Heb 12:3

For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Luke 18:1

And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;

- **Faint:** ἐκλυῖω to relax (literally or figuratively): - faint.

We as Christians should never lay down and play dead just because things look hopeless. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego did not look worse for wear but healthier and wiser, heads and tails over the world. They were not the weenies at the roast!

I believe hearts failing for fear is two-fold. First our minds will fail with hopelessness, then our countenance will be drawn to impotence in the spirit, and once affecting the spirit of man it takes captive man's flesh as well. Even in church I have heard people get up and give a testimony in the voice of Eeyore [Winnie the Pooh's donkey friend]. We hear worn out testimonies from worn out people whose hearts are failing from fear. Where are the Daniels, Davids, Shadrachs, Meshachs and Abednegos? Do not let your hearts bow to the secular captivity. Take captivity captive. Walk tall with your head up. Look the giant right in the eye and tell of a gigantic God who is more than enough to sustain us through any time and situation in which we find ourselves. I love the way Paul puts it: *2 Cor 4:8-9*

1. *"We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed;*
2. *we are perplexed, but not in despair;*
3. *Persecuted, but not forsaken;*
4. *cast down, but not destroyed;"*

DON'T read that Scripture like Eeyore! Gird your loins like a Son of the Living God! Stand tall even if you are "5 foot nothing", and do not become faint, distressed, in despair, forsaken or destroyed! I did not vote for a secular nation, and I will not faint or bow to it. My heart is fixed upon the Lord:

Ps 108:1-6

O God, my heart is fixed; I will sing and give praise, even with my glory.

Awake, psaltery and harp: I myself will awake early.

I will praise thee, O LORD, among the people: and I will sing praises unto thee among the nations.

For thy mercy is great above the heavens: and thy truth reacheth unto the clouds.

Be thou exalted, O God, above the heavens: and thy glory above all the earth;

That thy beloved may be delivered: save with thy right hand, and answer me.

- Fixed כָּבַד to *be erect* (that is, stand perpendicular);. hence to *set up*, be certain (-ty), confirm, direct, faithfulness, firm, be fitted, be fixed, framed, ordain, order, perfect, (make) preparation, prepare (self), provide, make provision, (be, make) ready, right, set (aright, fast, forth), be stable, (e-) stablish, stand.

Rather than faint of heart, let your heart be fixed upon God's Word. Remember the example of Ezekiel? He saw a field of bones and began to speak, by God's instruction, for them to rise to life and stand. There was such a rattling of dry bones becoming moist and full of tissue and skin again. Born again from dried out bones and into resurrection life "a mighty army"!

Ezek 37:5-11

Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones ; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone.

And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them.

Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.

So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.

Then he said unto me, Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts.

Israel's heart failed for fear. They were not having heart attacks but the attack of hopelessness, distress, despair, feeling forsaken and destroyed. If you feel bone dried and lost of hope being cut off from your rights as a Christian through secularism or any other captivity of the flesh, then let me speak to you as Ezekiel:

"Bones come together, sinew and flesh come upon you, new skin for new wine, spirit man rise up and stand to your feet. You are the army who will take captivity captive! Start acting like it until you believe it. Amen!"

Our testimony is our conquering force along with the blood of Jesus [Rev 12:11]. **Arise, shine for thy light is come!**