

How to conquer the whole world for Christ

I would like to suggest my own program for the Calvinistic takeover of the whole world. It hails from my fusion of Calvinian predestinarianism and of Kuyperian cultural philosophy and of Van Tilian Trinitarianism and of Stokerian structuralism and of Edwardian eschatology and of Rushdoonyan reconstructionism. It is simply the execution of Genesis 1:28, in light of Matthew 28:19.

First and foremost, I believe we need to study the Bible -- before developing a doctrine of science. We need to start with the Triune God -- the real Former of culture. We must start with God's *aseitas* or independence -- yet recognise He is not a *Deus otiosus* or a lazy God.

He is the transcendent Creator -- yet also the immanent Maintainer. He is the Creator Who began everything -- and Who now, culturally, forms everything. He is: the Father, alias the Creator and Maintainer of all nature as the raw material for man's culture; the Son, alias the Recreator and Redeemer of all nature and of human culture (Proverbs 8 and Psalm 19); the Holy Spirit, alias the Completer and Ruler of all nature and culture (Psalm 33 and 104).

This is the Triune God. The Author of all things is the Father. The Giver of every good gift is the Son, the Mediator, the Logos. And the consummative Spirit of both nature and culture is the One Who created the world -- in order to make it; to make it through man; through the actions of man as the image of this Triune God.

I believe we must next move on from the Triune God -- to the unfallen Adam as His image. Adam was God's image in every respect -- spiritually, materially, culturally; in holiness or wholesomeness; in knowledge; and in righteousness or Law-keeping. Adam was a law-abiding person in respect of the cosmic implications of all Ten Commandments. The covenant of works was established with him. The cultural mandate was enjoined to him. This was imperative, and comprehensive.

Man was and is the dresser and the keeper; the developer and protector of all things; the custodian of the gold and the onyx-stone. He is the protagonist of mining and adorning; the name-giver to the animals and to his wife; the one who cares; the one who develops science and poetry; the one who needed to multiply in order to be able to "make" the Earth further through his descendants; the one entitled to ultimate cultural reward, eternal life and the eternal Sabbath, after his cultural labours in this life where he enters into the consummation.

I believe we next need to understand the teaching of the Bible regarding the Second Adam, Jesus Christ. His coming was already predicted in the Protevangelion -- which says that the Seed of the woman, our Saviour, would crush the serpent's head.

This has cultural implications. Christ is the divine *Logos*, and the human *logos*. He enlightened the Canaanites. Calvin tells us in his commentary on John 1 and John 8, and in Book II of his *Institutes*, and in his commentary on Genesis 4, that Jabal-Jubal-Tubalcain and the Cainites could only achieve what they did through the work of Christ -- and by His Spirit enlightening them without regenerating them.

Christ it is Who is the Ark of the nature-culture covenant. The Old Testament theophanies and the wisdom literature all point to Him. His earthly mission itself had cultural implications. His heavenly session, after His ascension into heaven, has further cultural implications.

Indeed, at the time of His second coming or *parousia* from Heaven, He will return to bring about the *apokatastasis toon pantoon*. The reconstitution (and the consummation) of all things.

Next, I believe we need to understand the teaching of Scripture relating to the Holy Spirit -- as the "Engineer" of man's cultural development. He is the Author of the "life-spirit" given to the unfallen Adam. For He, is one of the "Us" in Genesis 1:26 & 3:22 & 11:7 *etc.*

He is the *Ruach hayyom*, the Spirit of the day, in Genesis 3; the Spirit Who developed whatever was valuable in Cainite culture (according to John Calvin). He is the Spirit Who strove with man before the flood (Genesis 6); the Spirit of understanding and of art (Exodus 31); the regenerative and task-enabling Spirit (Ezekiel 37).

He is the poured-out cosmic Spirit of wind and fire and rain (of Acts 2). He is the comprehensive and fruitful Spirit (of Galatians 5). He is the gift-giving Spirit (of First Corinthians 12). In short, He is the cosmic; the all-embracing; the heavenly Spirit -- of re-creation. Yes, He is the Spirit of culture!

We need to understand the teaching of God's Word as it relates to the lost sinner -- totally depraved, yet still cultural. For Cain was a city-builder; Jabal, a cattle-raiser and an architect; Jubal, a musician; Tubal-Cain, a metallurgist; Nimrod, a hunter, imperialist, and a tower builder; Terah, an idol-manufacturer; Esau, a hunter; and Pharaoh, a constructor of a treasure city. Aaron crafted the golden calf; the Philistines were metal-workers; Hiram Abiff was an architect; Sennacherib a great soldier; Nebuchadnezzar an emperor.

Then there were the great cultural nations of Assyria, Egypt, Babylon, Tyre, Sidon, Greece and Rome. All of this needs to be studied in the Bible -- in the books of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Nahum, Luke, Acts, First Corinthians, Ephesians, Philippians, Titus, and especially, the Book of Revelation.

Important heathen persons also, such as Cyrus the Great, need to be studied. So too: the technique of idol-manufacturing; antichrist himself; and the false church. Indeed we also need to reflect as to whether there will be any culture in hell or not!

I believe we then need to take a look at what Scripture says about regenerate man as the renewed homo colens -- man the cultivator. Adam was an agriculturalist before and after the fall. Eve was the mother of all living, and the name-giver of her children. Seth and Enosh were involved in cultic worship -- i.e. worship using man-developed cultural forms. And then Noah was a shipbuilder, a nature-preserved, and a wine-farmer.

In Genesis nine, we find the renewal of the cultural mandate and the expansion of political governments -- as a high and a holy and a godly task. Job and Elihu were philosophers. Jacob was a geneticist and a cattle-breeder. Joseph was a statesman and an economist. Moses was a national leader and a writer and a lawgiver. Aaron was a diplomat. Miriam was a poetess. Bezaleel and Oholiab were artists. Joshua was a soldier/statesman. Caleb was a spy. The Judges were politicians. And Hannah was a poetess.

David was a poet, a soldier, and a statesman. Solomon was a philosopher, king, temple-builder and poet. Ethan, Heman and the children of Korah were singers. Joash, Hezekiah and Josiah were rulers and cultural reformers. Amos was a farmer. Daniel was a statesman. Esther was a queen. Ezra was a lawyer. And Nehemiah was a governor.

Jesus was a carpenter. Luke, a physician. Paul, a scholar and a tent-maker. And Zenos, a lawyer.

Among the callings in First Corinthians seven, we find Christian slaves, Christian freemen, Christian married people, Christian bachelors and spinsters, and Christian widows and widowers. All of them regenerate, whether they ate or whether they drank or whatever they did -- First Corinthians 10:31, they were and are to do all things to the glory of God.

Next, I believe we need to understand the teaching of the Bible as regards future cultural development. And especially its eschatological pattern and calling.

First of all, *diessets*, in this world here and now -- there is to be a future subjugation and an ongoing extension of godly man's control over the entire Earth to God's glory. First Corinthians 15; Ephesians 1; Colossians 1; Matthew 28:19 -- all linked up with Genesis 1:26-28.

The cultural achievements of the lost are to be exploited, and expanded and differently applied by us (the saved). Thus Noah inherited the ante-diluvian achievements; Melchizedek used the goods of the king of Sodom; Jacob annexed Laban's herds; Joseph and Moses utilised the treasures of Egypt; Joshua occupied the land of Canaan; Solomon used the cedars of Lebanon for building the temple, etc. Isaiah 27, 28, 54 and 60; Daniel 2 and 12; Amos 9; Acts 15; Micah 4; Revelation 17 and 18.

Moreover, the elect are called upon by Almighty God to do precisely this. Isaiah 11, 35, 40, 52 and 62; Ezekiel 36 & 37 and 40 through 48; Matthew 5:5; James 3; Revelation 3:18, etc. All nations are thus predestined to become cosmically-cultural Christian peoples in this life, before the second coming. Psalms 72 & 87 and 96 through 98; Isaiah 2, 11, 49, 65 and 66; Haggai 2; Zechariah 2 and 9; Malachi 1:11 and 4:2-3 etc.

But when we leave this life and go to heaven, this Christ-honouring culture is expanded even on the other side of the grave (*jenseits*). For in glory there will be cultural singing. Revelation 4 through 7, 14, 15 and 19. There will also be cultural worship. Revelation 4 through 6 and 15. There will be cultural adornment. Revelation 6 and 19. Indeed, there will be reigning. Revelation 20.

The *parousia* of Jesus Christ will involve a judgment over and a reconstitution of all of the world's cultures. Isaiah 24; Revelation 18; and First Peter 3. The New Earth will be inaugurated forever.

There will be an eschatological fusion of the heavenly life and the "new earthly life" -- as the consummation of our this-earthly life, to the glory of God. It will last forever and ever. There will be cultural joy, service and rulership. Romans 8; Second Peter 3; Revelation 2 and 3; Hebrews 11 and 12.

There will then be cosmos-embracing human law-keeping unto all eternity. Revelation 21 and 22:14-15. Indeed, all of it will be from, through and unto -- the Triune God! For our baptism will then have been consummated -- dynamically, and everlastingly.

Well now, so much for the general biblical outline that I think needs to govern us. We also need a strategy -- as we move forward toward this goal.

I think the strategy needs to centre around two main poles. First, subduing the entire Earth to God's glory in all that we do. Second, discipling all of the nations, and declaring to them all the counsel of God -- teaching them to subdue the entire Earth to God's glory in all that they do, as well as teaching them to communicate the Gospel to every man.

I believe that in doing this, we need to move from the common sense level just outlined -- to the theoretical level. We need to study each science. We need to start with the study of mathematics through geology under the inorganic sciences, and then to proceed down through the other natural sciences to the cultural sciences and then to the philosophical sciences and lastly to the theological sciences.

In each science, as we deal with it, we need to explain first its practical importance; then to give a historical account of the development of that science. And last, chiefly on the basis of empirical research, we need to indicate the theoretical structure of each science -- *i.e.* the triune nature of the practical, historical and doctrinal approach to each science.

Now, I'm not saying that all sciences always develop in this order -- from the practical through the historical to the theoretical. Spontaneous or intuitive theoretical formulations have sometimes stimulated historical research -- which has resulted in firm discoveries of much practical importance.

But I am saying that the Biblical and the logical way to study any science, is to proceed from the practical through the historical to the theoretical. Genesis 1:1-28; Genesis 2:19-20; Genesis 4:16-22; etc. I think we need to do this starting first with numbers and space and movement as the terrain investigated by mathematics; then with the men of mathematics as the ones who investigate that terrain and the manner in which it is investigated; and next to apply this approach to all of the sciences as we move up from mathematics through theology.

We need to start with the eternal Triune God above the time barrier in eternity. Then, under Him, we need to see creation in time and with time -- creation embracing everything that has been made; creation lasting as long, lineally, as does the world itself. We need to see that God created man as His image -- in time, and gave him His great Dominion Charter to subdue the earth and the sea and the sky.

This means to subdue the Earth meaningfully and epistemologically; to realize it at the common sense and experiential level (Genesis 2:15) . It then also means to go and analyze it at the specialized scientific-knowledge level (Genesis 2:19-20). And finally, it means to synthesize all of this -- to bring it all together at the general scientific knowledge level.

In analyzing in these sciences, we have what I shall call the analytical sciences -- man's systematization of God's total revelations in Scripture and in nature about functions and things governed by the inorganic sciences such as mathematics, surveying, mechanics, engineering, astronomy, physics, chemistry, and geology, *etc.* For God has told man to be lord over all the Earth.

Second, we need to analyze the animals and the plants in the organic sciences (microbiology, bacteriology, botany, agriculture, zoology, animal husbandry, veterinary science, animal psychology, etc.). For man is also to be lord over the plants and the animals.

Third, man is to study the humanitarian sciences (medicine, psychology, logic, history, linguistics, sociology, economics, aesthetics, music, art, law, politics and ethics). For all men co-image God.

And last, man is to analyse the theological sciences. They are sciences *sui generis* (bibliology, ecclesiology, dogmatology, diaconology, missiology and all of their sub-branches). For man is the image of God. Ecclesiastes 12:13 and Genesis 1:27-28. See diagram on next page.

So then, all of these natural sciences dealing with man's relationship to the inorganic the organic sub-human creatures; man's endeavours in the cultural sciences dealing with man himself; and man's undertaking of the theological sciences dealing with his relation to God -- form yet one more trinity reflecting the Ontological Trinity.

After this analysis has been undertaken, we reach the third stage -- that of synthesis. Realize; analyze; and synthesize. Here we reassemble, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, man's general scientific knowledge in the realm of philosophy (the science of the sciences of creation); and in the realm of theology (the science of the Creator to the extent He has revealed Himself to man).

All of this becomes an educational instrument at the disposal of godly man -- in promoting the coming of the kingdom through the future centuries. It will be preserved forever, on the New Earth!

Now when we promote God's kingdom in this way at the common sense level, and also at the scientific level (through both culture and evangelism) -- we need to see that we are disobedient Christians if we have not been trying to subdue the whole Earth, the whole sea and the whole sky (in our businesses, in our home life and in our national society) exclusively to the glory of the Triune God.

We are disobedient Christians if we have not been involved in attempting to christianize all nations everywhere -- including the Russians and the Red Chinese and the North Vietnamese just as much as the American Indians and the Mexican Americans and the American Jews. We are disobedient Christians if we have just been sitting on the fence waiting for the second coming of Christ. For God has clearly revealed that He would have us to subdue the Earth and to convert the nations -- rather than just to sit around and to speculate about the times and the seasons of the second coming.

Let us then admit that we have been disobedient Christians! But let us, right now, also resolve to obey God in the future -- for Christ's sake. We have the power to do this, the power of the indwelling omnipotent Spirit of God. At Pentecost, the Church received that power -- when the Holy Spirit came down. He gave and gives power to be Christ's witnesses in all that we think and do -- both here at home, and even unto the uttermost part of the Earth.

Christians today must be able to ward off the attacks of the devil and his agents. They must actually take the offensive. They are commanded to wield the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. With a secularistic society no longer optimistic as to its ultimate success -- humanist society more and more torn apart by doubt and despair -- today is perhaps the most favourable time of all since the French Revolution itself for us to launch a Christian counter-attack worldwide -- and to regain control of Western culture and to reprogramme the direction of future history -- Christward!

At present, between Christ's ascension and His second coming, the living Saviour is expanding His human dominion. We Christians are called by God to proclaim an anti-nihilistic cultural optimism. We are to attempt nothing less than the reduction of every facet of the culture of the whole world to the

recognition of the all-embracing Lordship of Jesus Christ. This is the implication of both the dominion charter and the great commission -- as Calvin himself so clearly taught.

This will involve, of course, the evangelization of the whole world and our own personal engagement in this. Together with this, it will also involve our own working for the recognition of the Ten Commandments as the supreme standard not only in the private lives of Christians but also in the public affairs of all nations.

The gospel of Jesus goes forth into all the world, conquering and to conquer. The Christians overcome Satan by the blood of the Lamb and the word of their testimony. The everlasting gospel is preached to every nation and kindred and tongue and people that dwells on the Earth -- until all nations shall come and worship Jehovah-Jesus.

Let us then evangelize all that we can -- condemning sin and upholding God's Commandments; preaching in the power of the Holy Spirit; preaching indiscriminately to friends and foreigners; commoners and kings; preaching to the entire man in terms of the dominion charter and man's daily work; testifying uncompromisingly in public and in private; patiently and very enthusiastically enjoining all-out dedication to the total kingship of Christ; and confidently labouring in the knowledge that the risen Saviour, through His power flowing from His heavenly throne into His Spirit-filled Church here on earth, shall overcome all opposition. Then, by and through the Church's powerful gospel-preaching and consistent living, Christ shall yet reduce His enemies to a footstool under His feet.

The doom theologians have pessimistically made a major contribution to the state of defeatism of many of the present-day people of God. These theologians have regarded the antichrist as a powerful end-time personal potentate and one-world dictator -- who either all but destroys the Church of Christ, or who alternatively enslaves all of the people of the world.

But, such, I believe, is not the teaching of the infallible Word of God. Indeed, the many "whomsoever" texts of the Bible themselves tend to militate against this position. There is no scriptural warrant in assuming that the lost will always numerically predominate over the saved. For the Word of God itself clearly prophesies that this very earth of ours shall yet become full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

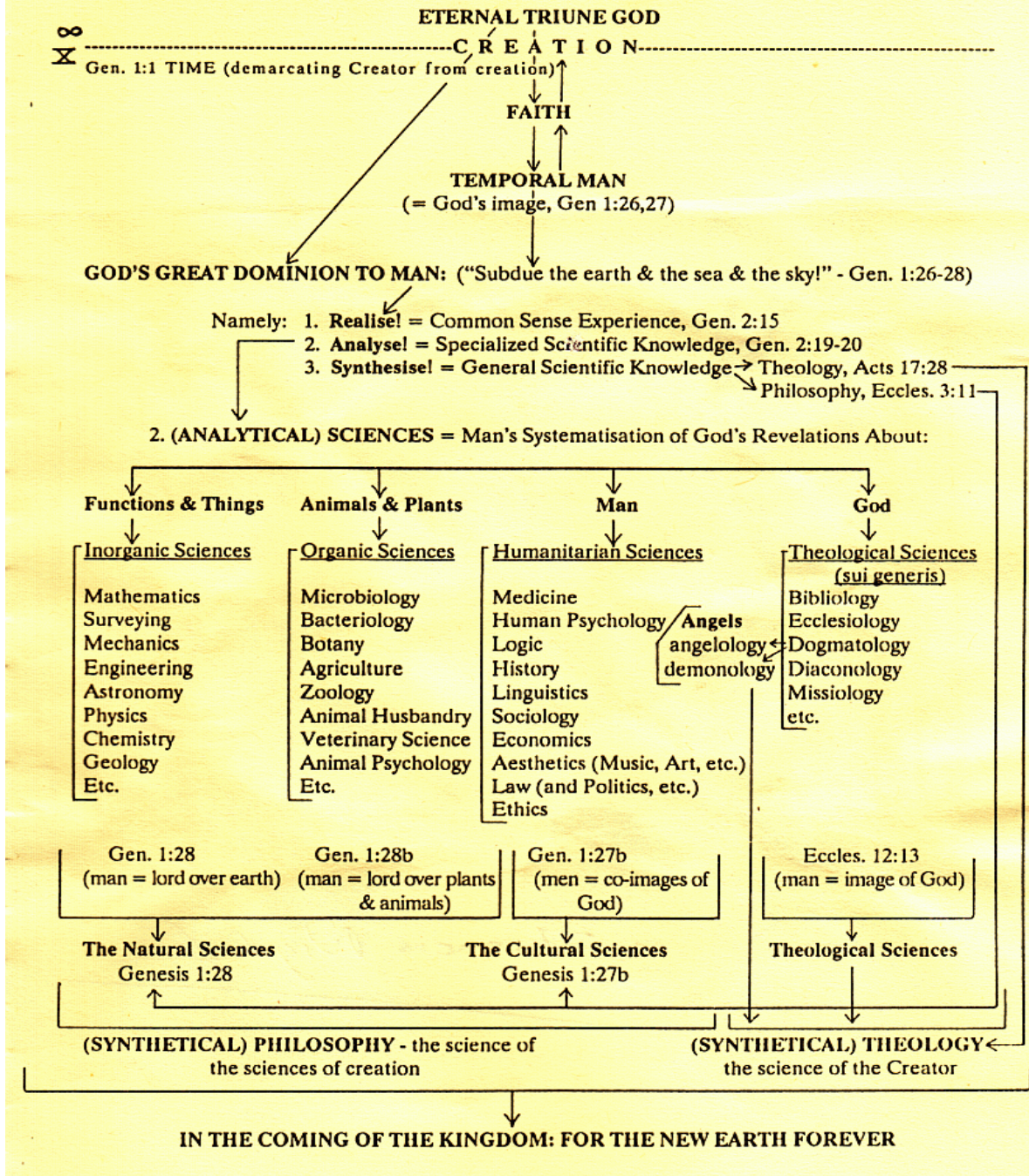
God did not create His earth in vain. He formed it to be inhabited; to be subdued; to be christianized; and to be filled with the knowledge of His glory. This teaching of Scripture, then, is not to hold on to what we have until Jesus comes. Instead, it is to conquer the whole world for Christ!

"O God, give Your judgments...to the King's Son!... He shall judge Your people!... He shall save the children!... They shall fear You as long as the sun and moon endure, throughout all generations!...

"He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the river unto the ends of the Earth!... Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him! All nations shall serve Him!...

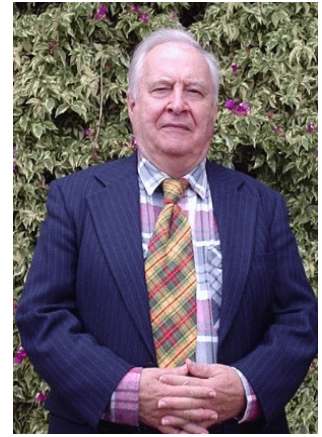
"His name shall endure for ever! His name shall be continued as long as the sun!... All men shall be blessed in Him! All nations shall call Him blessed!... Blessed be His glorious name for ever! And let the whole Earth be filled with His glory! Amen, and Amen!" Psalm 72.

LEE ON THE ENCYCLOPAEDIC INTERRELATIONSHIP OF THE SCIENCES



Most cordially, and for Christ's sake,

Rev. Professor-Emeritus Dr. Francis Nigel Lee



ABOUT THE AUTHOR ----->

Dr. Francis Nigel Lee was born in 1934 in the Westmorland County of Cumbria (in Great Britain). He is the great-grandson of a fiery preacher whose family disintegrated when he backslid. Dr. Lee's father was an Atheist, yet he married a Roman Catholic who raised her son Nigel in that faith. Yet, when Nigel was seven, his father led him into Atheism.

Preacher, Theologian, Lawyer, Educationist, Historian, Philosopher and Author, Lee has produced more than 723 publications (including many books) -- including also a multitude of long unpublished manuscripts. Apart from an honorary LL.D., he has 21 earned degrees -- including eleven earned doctorates for dissertations* in Education, Law, Literature, Philosophy and Theology.

Lee had the privilege of leading both of his parents to Christ, and seeing them embrace Calvinism. After his father's murder, Lee joyfully led his father's murderer in jail (and later also the latter's parents) to Christ. Though loving to study, Lee prefers to preach and lead folk to Christ.

A diehard predestinarian, Lee now lives in the Commonwealth of Australia -- where he was for twenty years the Professor of Systematic Theology and Caldwell-Morrow Lecturer in Church History at the Queensland Presbyterian Theological College. He and his wife Nellie retired in 2000. They have two children, Johanna Paulina who teaches at Parkridge High School and Anna Marie who teaches at Earnshaw State College.

* Th.D.: *The Covenantal Sabbath*

D.Min.: *Daily Family Worship*

D.R.E.: *Baby Belief Before Baptism!*

D.Jur.: *Women Ministers and Australian Litigation*

S.T.D.: *Rebaptism Impossible!*

D.Hum.: *Tiny Human Life - Abortion and IVF*

Ph.D.: *Communist Eschatology*

D.Ed.: *Catechizing Before Communion at Puberty*

D.Phil.: *Miracles - What and When and Why?*

D.Litt.: *Holinshed on the Ancient British Isles*

D.C.L.: *The Roots and Fruits of the Common Law*